

The Society has been singularly fortunate in the acquisition of "Inverlea House" (formerly the residence of the late Judge Dennistoun), situated in an isolated position in Inverlea Park, overlooking the River Otonabee, and quite conveniently situated as to distance.

The use of the building has been granted free of charge to the Society by the executors of the estate of the late Mrs. Nicholls, and has been found admirably suited for present requirements, both as a home for the Society and the beginning of a museum. Funds are now being raised to furnish the building, and the members hope that before the end of this year the nucleus of a museum will be fairly under way.

In regard to material for the museum, the Society has already made a beginning, and as soon as the necessary fittings and furniture have been procured, a very fair array of curios and historical relics will be placed in position.

This Society has the honor of claiming as its Honorary President, the venerable and cultured authoress, Mrs. Catherine Parr Traill, who, although in her ninety-seventh year, takes a lively interest in the affairs of the Society, and has on more than one occasion attended meetings, taking part in discussions. The Society is indebted to Mrs. Traill for the gift of a valuable and interesting collection of Indian relics. Having spent sixty-seven years of life in the vicinity of Peterborough, she is familiar with the early settlement of the town and county, and, with her wonderfully clear memory and fund of anecdote, she has been of the greatest assistance to the Society.

This Society is desirous of drawing the attention of the Provincial Association to the pre-historic mounds situated on the north shore of Rice Lake, within thirteen miles of the Town of Peterborough, referred to by Mr. Boyle in his annual report for 1896-97 to the Minister of Education. Although this may not be exactly a subject for an Historical Association to consider, a resolution of this Society was adopted, requesting the Ontario Government to make an appropriation to cover the cost of purchasing the property and preserving it from vandalism; but no action has yet been taken so far as this Society is aware. As these mounds are pronounced by Mr. Boyle to be of great Archæological value, no time should be lost in securing them from further mutilation.

An effort has been made by this Society to have the Archæological section of the British Association visit these mounds, and enquiries were made of the Reception Committee in Toronto as to the advisability of having an excursion to Rice Lake, but that committee did not extend any assurance to this Society that such an excursion could be arranged for.