

wisdom in our halls ; and if the time has come when these halls shall no more echo with their tones of eloquence, or be enlivened by their happy turns of thought, the blame rests, not with the Ontario Literary Society, but, with the Public of Toronto. When we first made the attempt, while there was novelty in the thing, we had no reason to complain of the support received ; but, when the charm of novelty had worn off, and the people became accustomed to hear that talented strangers were amongst them, they often left us to bear the mortification of introducing these men to a miserable house, and the heavy pecuniary loss of bringing them so far. We feel, however, that we have done our duty towards our fellow-citizens—done far more for them than prudence, or our own interest would suggest ; and if they are to have any more opportunities of listening to those distinguished men, it must be under happier auspices than ours. Still, perhaps, we ought to feel that *any* appreciation of our efforts should afford encouragement to all who are hoping for an increase of literary tastes in this young country—so young, perhaps, and so busy, that we should be very well satisfied with *any* evidences of such tastes, and make large allowances for the shortcomings of a people, whose whole history, it has been said, may be told in the biography of that venerable and distinguished Judge, who has but now closed a career of such varied, untiring, and honorable usefulness ; whose talents have shone so conspicuously throughout the whole of our Colonial existence, and have, for the third of a century, adorned the highest position a colonist can aspire to.