

spirit, I cannot refrain from remarking, that in case of any civil commotion, the feeling which has sprung up amongst us at these Literary Meetings will nerve us in the defence of our dearest rights, and cement us into a phalanx, firm as that Roman Band, which threatened the life of the Etruscan King Porsena.

I have nothing to report as to the Dramatic proceedings of the past year, a remark which I trust not to have to repeat in my next "Report."

Suffer me in conclusion to cast a look towards the future. And there, as from an eminence, I behold a prospect rich in beauty and promise. I see our little grain of mustard seed, spreading into a good and widely extending tree. Our books increase, their quality and quantity at last entitle them to be called a Library. A Club House is built, and we, the original Members, recall with gratulation and complacency the time when we thought that Forty Members constituted a numerous society. Our feelings on such an occasion will be similar to those which an old settler in Montreal *now* experiences, when contrasting its splendid quays, its numerous public buildings and general advancement in civilization, with the comparative rudeness and simplicity of his younger days. To show that these expectations are not problematic or my views over-coloured by too sanguine a temperament, I need only allude to the infancy of similar Institutions in the old world. The Society for the encouragement of Arts, consisted at its commencement of only 12 Members, illustrious neither for their birth nor influence. The Royal Society was similarly weak in its early days, and owes its origin to a Club that met in Dr. Wilkins's Rooms at Wadham College. I cite these instances that Members may not ridicule the idea of this Club ever rising into a leading Literary Institution.

In my last report I indulged in a strain of thankfulness that since the formation of the Club, we had not lost a single Member by the hand of death. May we be enabled to assert the same fact (which by the goodness of Providence we are still allowed to repeat) at the return of *this* Anniversary, and not only so, but to say, that this So-

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