

We are delighted to see him in such robust health, and we wish him long years for the continuance of those labors that have enriched the literature of our province.

There is another matter, somewhat incidental to our meeting to day. In the pride of our friendship for our host there arose a desire that our posterity should know the manner of man to whom we gave our love, and honored for his worth; and, who returned our love and reverence with such constant loyalty. So we commissioned a clever artist to paint his portrait. With cunning hand, Mr. Wickenden has performed his work, and the result is now before us on the easel as life-like to the original as brush and paints can make it.

We now ask our host's acceptance of this portrait, with our love and best wishes; and, also, as a slight testimonial of our obligation to him for his unwearied labors in making our Province and City known of men the world over.

Our friend can lay claim to forty-five years of unremitting toil in the broad domain of science and literature, the gathering of rich stores of material for volumes that are a source of joy and pride to every loyal Canadian, be he or she of French or English extraction. With skilful art he has told the story of that early heroic period under French domination when Governor Frontenac and devoted missionaries, each in their way, carried on the crusade of civilization from East to West.

In "Quebec, Past and Present," and in "Picturesque Quebec," the stirring and romantic history of the old city is fascinatingly set forth. In the "Maple Leaves" series—volume upon volume, we have the folk-lore, traditions and customs of French Canada in entertaining form; and, here, we might add that Sir James is loyalty itself to his French extraction. Has he not written four of his most important works in that tongue; "Ornithologie du Canada," "Les Pêcheries du Canada," "Chasse et Pêche," and "Monographies et Esquisses."

He has supplied the foundation stones with which some of our clever novelists have built their romances. Wm. Kirby, the immortal author of "Le Chien d'Or," received his inspiration for that work from some sketches written by Sir James. It was he who called Sir Gilbert Parker's attention to his sketch of Major Stobo as the basis of a romance; and, as a result, Parker wrote "The Seats of the Mighty."

No writer within our ken has so unstintedly, so ungrudgingly given to others from out his store as Sir James has done, for literary jealousy is as foreign to his nature as it is dominant in that of others. He has always been the wise guide and counsellor to those struggling up Parnassus' heights. Learned societies, the world over, have honored our friend by inscribing him on their rolls of members. The Royal Society of Canada,