

this time, with more than half a dozen of the better-known ones. These are Crémazie, Fréchette, Le May, Garneau, Routhier and Sulte, each distinct from the other, in style, touch and motive. Joseph Octave Crémazie deserves, perhaps, the special title of national poet of French Canada, but Louis Honoré Fréchette, whose versatility and fancy rise to great heights, is not far below him. There are few prominent novelists, as I have said, of either French or English origin. The name of James de Mille, a New-Brunswicker, stands out prominently, but his fiction is little tinged with the Canadian flavor. Among the French, we have only Chauveau, Marmette, Bourassa and Le May.

Literature in Canada, owes much to the various literary and historical societies, which exist in nearly all the chief towns of the Dominion. The parent of them all is the old Literary and Historical Society of Quebec, which was founded in 1824, by the Earl of Dalhousie, then Governor-General. This institution owns many rare manuscripts and printed books, relating to the early history of the country, and every year its treasures are explored and investigated by historians and enquirers from all parts of the Continent. The Society has published some valuable memoirs, transactions and manuscripts in French and in English, and these are held in high repute by scholars everywhere. In Montreal, Toronto, Halifax, St. John, N. B., and Winnipeg, similar societies enjoy a flourishing and useful existence. Four years ago, the Marquis of Lorne, founded the Royal Society of Canada. The membership was limited to eighty men, and the objects of the society may be thus described: firstly, to encourage studies and