

learning and science of our portion of this Dominion. We desire to enroll amongst our members all those of our countrymen who engage in original research in any department of knowledge, and who may be supposed to have occasionally some chance of extending the bounds of some science, solving doubts, usefully discussing disputed questions, putting forth theories worthy of consideration, or in any other way leaving the impress of independent thought and truth-loving inquiry on any of the subjects in which man is interested. If any one has observed a new object, a new fact, or a hitherto unperceived relation between objects or facts; if any one can interpret what is thought obscure, or by sober argument show the fallacy of what he deems erroneous; if any one can devise a new application of science to art or human convenience; if any can throw the light of accurate and recondite learning, aided by acuteness and ingenuity, on the obscure records of past times, or by the suggestions of judgment and taste can elevate our enjoyment of beauty in nature and art, we desire all such to help us, that the record of our proceedings may be enriched, and our country may be honoured in the productions of her sons. But we are not permitted to make such as these our only objects. In some states of society, especially in older countries, this might well be; but in the condition in which we live, our design of promoting knowledge implies an attention not only to its accumulation, but to the increase of its influence, by drawing around us and associating with us the intelligent and cultivated whom the various business of life does not allow to become masters in any one branch of learning or science, but who well understand the value of such pursuits, and can appreciate and enjoy what comes under their notice in respect to them. It is our aim and business to associate together all the higher culture of the country, for improvement and enjoyment, derived from the best sources. We are not insensible to, nor do we as individuals fail to recognise, the claims of societies specially intended to spread more widely through the community means and incitements for improvement; but we choose for our sphere the higher departments and higher results of knowledge. We feel that ours is a distinct and an important object, and one worthy to be worked out with zeal and energy.

The young are too readily attracted by the gaities of life, which they allow to absorb too much of their time; or if they are happy in forming domestic ties, they are sometimes held by them so closely as not only wisely to resist the interference of follies, but even to give up the most