

this Society and of the York Pioneers took luncheon together, and excellent papers were read.

A number of new local societies have been formed, and affiliated with this Society. There are in all nineteen societies now in affiliation. The regular membership has been largely increased. Besides printing the Annual Report and the Report of the Exhibition Committee, a second volume of the Society's "Papers and Records" has been published under the title of "The United Empire Loyalist Settlement at Long Point, Lake Erie." The author, Mr. L. H. Tasker, M.A., has given the Society the benefit of his study and researches in connection with an important portion of the Province. The volume is appropriately illustrated.

The Society is hampered in its operations for want of funds. Abundance of material of historical value is on hand which ought to be printed, but our means are inadequate. It was considered expedient that a delegation should wait on the Provincial Government for the purpose of presenting the Society's claim for an increased grant. The application was strongly supported by letters from the presidents of local societies. Mr. A. Pattullo, M.P.P., to whose kind offices we were already indebted in connection with the incorporation of the Society, introduced the deputation, which included a number of members of the Legislature representing both political parties as well as other persons of position and influence. The Government was unable to accede to our request, and it remains for the various societies to continue to press upon their representatives and upon the administration the needs of the Society and its claims for increased public aid. Meanwhile we cordially and gratefully recognize the interest shown in our work by the Government and the Provincial Parliament in renewing the annual grant made during the years 1898 and 1899.

The question of the preservation of historic sites has engaged the attention of the Council. We have continued to urge upon the Dominion Government the advisability of placing the military reserve at Fort Erie under the care of Queen Victoria Niagara Falls Park Commissioners. A counter proposal to lease it for the benefit of the residents of Buffalo has been opposed by the local historical societies and prominent historical students on both sides of the frontier, as I understand. The council of our Society has cheerfully and actively co-operated with the local societies, and I am glad to be able to say that there appears to be no immediate danger of the lease being executed.

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