

INTRODUCTION.

DURING the history-making period of Canada in the early part of the present century, men were too busy to write history. The sword was their weapon, not the pen, and when peace was restored after the border warfare, farms that were wasted had to be cultivated, houses that were destroyed by fire had to be rebuilt, and ruined industries had to be restored. During this period, when stirring events were fresh in men's memories and relics of the great struggle were to be found on every hand, no one had leisure or interest enough to write an account or collect the memorials of the heroic deeds of the immediate past. History and News, necessary as they are to one another, have never pulled together or been very fast friends. News belongs to that indefinable Present, which has no real existence, but is only the ever-advancing border line between all that has been and all that is to be. News is ardent, requisitive and hopeful. History lags behind, tries to choose its pace, to select and order its material and to dominate over the

silent, still and unresisting realm of the once mighty Past. But, unfortunately for the early history of Canada, news-gathering had not in those early days become a profession or calling, so that History has to grope in the dark and seize such waifs and strays as have escaped the destroying finger of time. It is still a fact, however, that even after the lapse of nearly a century much important information is being unearthed by the indefatigable labours of the enthusiastic members of the various Canadian Historical Societies, and from time to time papers of great value are read—and pigeon-holed. It is the object of the HISTORICAL QUARTERLY to collect these papers and put them in an abiding form for the education of the growing generation and to furnish a wealthy storehouse of facts for the Canadian historian. We solicit the hearty co-operation of all those who love Canada, who reverence her past and look with hopeful eye to her great and rapidly developing future.

THE EDITOR.