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THE Canadian Institute is making a praiseworthy effort to collect and permanently preserve reliable data respecting the political and social institutions, the customs, ceremonies, beliefs, pursuits, modes of exchange and devolution of property and office which prevail among the Indian tribes of Canada. Knowing that the advance of civilization is yearly diminishing the sources of this information, the Institute seeks to secure the co-operation of every person who has the means of acquiring facts bearing on any of the sociological questions concerning the aborigines of this country. It is hoped that by the active and hearty assistance of those who take an intelligent interest in the Indian tribes, much light may be cast upon the origin and development of government, and upon legal, social and economic progress. The circular issued by the learned society referred to, contains a somewhat elaborate classification of the points on which light is desired, and we refer those interested to that circular for fuller information than our space will admit of.

DR. LAVELL, the Warden of the Kingston Penitentiary, stated in the course of an address a few days ago, that of fifty-eight convicts who have come into his custody since the beginning of the present year, only one is over fifty years of age, while fifteen are between twenty and twenty-five, and thirteen are under twenty. At least two-thirds of the new convicts are under thirty. The Warden questioned the thirteen young criminals as to the causes which led them into crime, and found that they began with disobedience to parents, evil associates and Sabbath breaking. The general prevalence of illiteracy amongst the criminal classes is striking. Two-thirds of these convicts are unable even to read. One of the most ominous signs of our day is the lack of respect which children are allowed to show towards their parents; and the latter, in the face of the foregoing facts, by neglecting to exact proper respect for and deference to themselves and to enforce obedience, are paving the way for disobedience to the laws of the State, and a career of crime on the part of their children. Our schools are the enemies of crime, and every effort should be made to diminish illiteracy. It is to the advantage of the community to educate children when young, rather than to imprison them when they grow up.