

of your Society, and while, no doubt, frequently mistakes have been made, yet it is my sincere hope that my exertions, on the whole, have proved beneficial to your Society.

And now, on the eve of my retirement from office, I feel it my duty to make a few observations on such matters as have come under my notice, and which may prove of interest and advantage, not only to your future officers, but to the Society at large.

Your Society was formed in the month of May, 1836, having a membership of 62 persons—the Honorable Wm. Allan being the first President. Of the original members of the Society, thirty-five have been removed by death, four still remain on the books of the Society as active members, and the remainder have gone to reside in other localities.

Since the formation of your Society one thousand and seventy-five persons have had their names enrolled on the books as members, and at present 377 persons constitute the membership of the Society.

In the year 1837 the Society was presented with a pair of flags—the Scotch Standard and the Red Lion—by the Hon. Wm. Allan, who was then the President of the Society.

Your Society was also in the year 1846 the recipient of a set of Bag-pipes, the donation of the Hon. Isaac Buchanan, now of the city of Hamilton.

In the year 1849 Lord Elgin, then Governor-General of Canada, presented the Society with his own portrait, which is still in a good state of preservation.

And the "Sheep's Head Snuff Mill," which, although the last donation to the Society, is not the least valuable, was in 1857 bestowed upon the Society by the late John