

dollars for the construction of a road through the Niagara peninsula until the policy of the United States Government was understood. The authorities and people of Hamilton were, it is said, well satisfied with the arrangements that Mr. Van Horne made known to them.

It is surely permissible to assume that the unusually successful Exhibition at Sherbrooke denotes a general improvement in farming methods in the Eastern Townships. Some years ago when he gave evidence before the Select Committee on Agriculture, Mr. G. Larocque, of Beaumont, Bellechasse County, mentioned some of the chief defects that retarded the progress of the Quebec farmer. The land, he said, was too little worked over, the ploughing too superficial, hasty and sometimes unseasonable. The harrowing left much to be desired, and wooden harrows were still occasionally used. Ditches and trenches were neglected and noxious weeds ran havoc in the fields. The stables were not sufficiently spacious, nor were they well lighted, and the ventilation was faulty, though, on the whole, animals were better treated than in the past. Now, when Professor Fream visited the Townships, he was pleased with much that he considered progressive. He was gratified to find such thriving centres as Sherbrooke, Richmond, Compton and other places. The climate he thought well adapted for mixed agriculture—the raising of fruits and vegetables, as well as cereals. But, in his opinion, grazing and stock-raising were the most noteworthy features. “The rich grasses and clear streams help to make it a good dairying country, and some of the best butter produced in the Dominion is made here, while the cheese is of excellent quality. He was glad to see butter and cheese factories so steadily increasing. He found it an admirable district for raising stock, and was charmed with some of the Hon. M. H. Cochrane’s pure bred herds.” This testimony from an expert like Professor Fream cannot but be gratifying to those who have the welfare of the Townships at heart—testimony confirmed by the recent Sherbrooke Fair, which was a credit to that city, to the important district of which it is the metropolis, and to the whole Province of Quebec.

THE AMERICAN SCIENCE ASSOCIATION.

Reference has already been made in our columns to the thirty-eighth annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, which was held in Toronto from the 28th of August to the 3rd of September. This is the third occasion on which that learned body, which comprises many Canadians, has met on this side of the border—previous meetings having been held in Montreal in 1857 and 1882. The late meeting was not marked by the presence of so many pre-eminently distinguished men of science as were present at Montreal in 1882. Nevertheless, there were many in attendance whose names are well known in the realm of science and who are doing good work in adding to the sum total of human knowledge. Among the distinguished men who were present may be mentioned Prof. T. C. Mendenhall, chief of the coast and geodetic surveys of the United States; Prof. Goodale, assistant to Prof. Asa Gray and his successor as professor of botany at Harvard; Prof. White, the well known palæontologist of Washington; General Garrick Mallory of the United States bureau of ethnology; Prof. Fernow, chief of the forestry

bureau of the United States; Ed. Atkinson, of Boston, an authority on scientific cookery; Dr. Atwater, chemist, of the same city; Captain H. C. Taylor, vice-president of the Nicaragua Canal Co.; Jas. Hall, of Albany, the well known geologist; Prof. Dana, Prof. Selwyn, director of the Canadian Geological Survey; Sir William Dawson, Sir Daniel Wilson and many others.

The meeting was a most successful one, thanks to the efforts put forth by the local committee, which embraced most of the leading citizens. In point of attendance it was one of the most successful ever held. The number of members and associates who registered was 424, of whom 45 were from Toronto, 29 from other parts of Canada, and 350 from the United States. The number of new members added was 201, and 72 Fellows were elected. Two hundred and twenty-seven papers were submitted, of which 199 were read. This means a great deal accomplished, but as the association is divided into sections, the work in the different departments is going on simultaneously. The sections are as follows: A, mathematics and astronomy; B, physics; C, chemistry; D, mechanical science and engineering; E, geology and geography; F, biology; G, anthropology; H, economic science and statistics. Each of these is presided over by a vice-president and has its own secretary. Botanical and entomological clubs were also formed and made several excursions in search of specimens. A general session was held each morning, after which the sections met and heard such papers and took part in such discussions as were laid down on the daily programme. Two public lectures were delivered in the pavilion of the Horticultural Gardens, one by Professor G. H. Gilbert, on the geological history of Niagara Falls; the other by H. Carrington Bolton, of New York, being an account of four weeks spent in the desert of Sinai. The former was of special interest, from the fact that a number of the members, with their friends, were to visit the famous cataract the next day. Mr. Bolton had previously dealt with the scientific aspect of the desert of Sinai in a paper read before one of the sections, and his lecture was simply a running comment on a number of well executed photographs projected on a screen, the views having been taken by himself during his tour. On another evening a promenade concert was given in the pavilion, and garden parties and afternoon teas were innumerable. Two excursions were arranged for Saturday, one to Niagara Falls, the other to Muskoka lakes, where Sunday was spent. Each was attended by a goodly number. The city bore the expense. Several other trips were arranged for after the meeting closed, that of greatest interest being to the Sudbury copper region. A number availed themselves of the opportunity to visit this interesting geological district. The afternoon of the last day was marked by a large garden party in the grounds of the Government House, given by the mayor and corporation, and the closing session was held in the evening in the spacious hall of the Y.M.C.A., when the gratitude of the members to the people of Toronto was expressed in a comprehensive vote of thanks, backed by speeches from some of the more prominent members.

Nor must the mead of praise be withheld from the ladies of Toronto. While the sterner sex were discussing abstruse problems in the province of science, the members of the Ladies' Committee were looking after the wives and daughters of the members and showing them the sights of the city. That these attentions were appreciated was shown

by the fact that a resolution of thanks, signed by thirty-three of the visiting ladies, was submitted at the closing meeting.

Mr. F. W. Putnam, of Cambridge, Mass., who has filled the office of permanent secretary for over twenty years, was re-elected for the ensuing term of five years. He fills in an able manner an office which is no sinecure. Mr. T. C. Mendenhall, of Washington, chief of the United States coast and geodetic surveys, ably presided, and retires from the head of the association. He is succeeded by Prof. Geo. L. Goodale, of the Botanic Gardens, Cambridge, Mass.

The general meetings of the association, as well as of the sections, were held in the buildings of the Toronto University, which were admirably adapted for the purpose. Toronto has the name of being a literary and educational centre, and that city certainly showed its appreciation of the honour done it by the association in the handsome manner in which it entertained the visitors. The study of science in Ontario has, doubtless, received a great impetus from this meeting.

The next meeting of the association will be held at Indianapolis, Ind., in August, 1890.

LITERARY NOTES.

John G. Whittier, the poet, says he expects to live to be a hundred, though he is not anxious to live so long.

Dr. Paul Lindau, editor of *The Rundschau*, has published “Lace,” a romance of Berlin life.

The September number of *Our Little Ones and the Nursery*, is, as usual, full of charming stories for the young.

F. C. Philips, the author of “As In a Looking Glass,” is in destitute circumstances and has been sued for non-payment of rent.

Several of the volumes of poems recently published in England bear new names. The list of hitherto unknown aspirants for poetic fame in late American catalogues is also large.

The second part of Sir J. C. Barrow’s somewhat dogmatic, but not unmeritorious poem, “Mary of Nazareth,” has just been issued from the press of Messrs. Burns and Oates. Title and publishers reveal the faith to which the baronet is attached. Not long since we gave a sample of his style.

Mr. W. Blackburn Harte, for sometime connected with the *Star* and *Gazette* of this city, and recently engaged on the editorial staff of the *Toronto Mail*, has decided to abandon militant journalism for more distinctively literary work. An article from his pen will appear in a forthcoming number of the *Cosmopolitan* magazine.

A work of importance to writers of every class is Mr. J. G. Hargreaves’ lately published “Literary Workers.” The book, as its name implies, is intended mainly for literary aspirants. “Its purpose,” says the author, “will be answered if it affords any genial stimulus to readers who may wish to rank among toilers of the pen.”

The friends of Mr. Arthur Weir in this city will be sorry to hear that he is about to change his residence to Detroit, where an important position in the domain of science awaits him. In crossing the frontier (which is really all that he does) Mr. Weir is deserting neither Canada nor Canadian literature. He has promised to let us hear from him from time to time, and we shall always be glad to learn of his success.

Among recent publications in England is a new translation of “Faust,” by Alfred Henry Huth. The *Literary World*, in its review, says: “Nearly every new version adds something to our better comprehension of Goethe’s masterpiece, not to speak of the pleasure we derive from the reading of the same work presented to us in a new form.” Though not pronouncing Mr. Huth’s version faultless, the critic find much in it to commend.

We had the very real pleasure, on Wednesday last, of a call from Mr. William Sharp, the English poet, novelist and critic. There are cases in which it is better for us not to meet with authors whose works we admire. Mr. Sharp is as far as possible from being one of such cases. After meeting him we understand the magnetism that he exercises over many friends. In person he is handsome, in manner prepossessing, and altogether a delightful and instructive companion.

The following is the inscription on the memorial stone which records the last resting place at Mentone of the historian, J. R. Green:

Here lies
John Richard Green,
Historian
of the
English People.
Born December 12, 1837,
Died March 7, 1883.
He died learning.