

altogether), were initiated by the same individual, myself. One being for the meeting in Toronto in 1897, which was started by correspondence with leading men in Toronto immediately after my return from the Edinburgh meeting in 1892. The other for Winnipeg, as the Rev. Dr. Bryce very kindly indicated, when bringing forward the resolution last year in this society; I had been waiting for months previously to make the suggestion to him at the meeting of the society, in connection with what is now the third city in population in Canada. How ably and successfully he has organized the movement we all know. I can therefore speak with conviction when I say chance, although the chances were perhaps increased by the fact that I was connected with both the R.S.C. and the B.A.A.S. as chairman of committees of both.

What however is not a matter of chance but is due to the forethought of the Duke of Argyll, and to the corporate character of the society he founded, is, that a member who lived the retired life of a University Professor, sunk fathoms deep in lectures, as most professors were in universities days, and very many are now, should have had the opportunity to emerge occasionally, and through the gathering together of his colleagues from other parts of Canada and the backing and encouragement which they gave him, should have been able to influence the Parliament to pass such large measures for the safety of our ships on both oceans, and of the lives of our sailors; and twice to initiate the movements for bringing across the Atlantic to Canada one of the greatest scientific associations of the world.

Have we not here plain encouragement to members who from their position see, and dislike to see, Canada lagging behind on any line of national development, and are willing to undertake the laborious and often disheartening task of trying to quicken the action of the people and the government.

Central Position of Canada.

There is an additional and a strong reason for an amendment in our regulations or bye-laws so as to make specific allotment of the responsibility I advocate. It is the central position of Canada in the Empire. I have made an estimate of the time and expenses of travelling from London to Australia and New Zealand or vice versa and if any one else will do the same, he will find that they are greater than to South Africa, and so great as to preclude, in general, visits of a body of University Professors to or from those countries. But professors from Australia and New Zealand could get to Winnipeg and back in the limited time at their disposal and, no doubt, they will be invited. Besides, and this is no small advantage, the American Association can, as on former occasions, so choose its place of meeting for the year, that visits may be in-