

History of British America, indispensable to every student of the subject. It has established its reputation wherever science is cultivated, and is now a recognized medium of communication between Naturalists in Canada and in foreign countries. It is only to be regretted, both for the sake of the interests of science and of the publishers of the work, who have heretofore issued it without any expense to the Society or any public aid, that it should not be more extensively circulated. When we consider the difficulties experienced by scientific periodicals both in Britain and the United States, it is not surprising that a scientific journal in Canada should be slenderly supported. Still I think that, if the value of the articles contained in the *Naturalist*, and the importance of sustaining it, were properly understood, its subscription list would be largely increased. I earnestly commend this matter to the attention of members of the Society. It will be proposed in connection with this, in the Report of the Council, that a new class of members should be created in connection with the Society, namely, non-resident ordinary members, who should pay a subscription equivalent to that for the *Naturalist*, and should enjoy the advantages of the meetings and museum of the Society, during any visits they might make to the city. In this way I have no doubt that something might be done toward the introduction of a taste for Natural History, as well as toward the extension of the circulation of the "*Naturalist*." It is to be hoped that these subjects will receive the early attention of the officers of the Society.

In conclusion, gentlemen, allow me to say that in cultivating here the amenities of science, and directing our attention and that of others to the works of God, we are in our humble way doing something for the welfare of this country. We are seeking to mingle the pursuit of merely utilitarian objects in the development of the resources of this country, with higher and more philosophical conceptions of nature. In the midst of many perturbed social and political elements, we are studying things that make for peace, and which are for the common benefit of all: While we are so constantly drawing closer the links of connection between ourselves and kindred institutions in other parts of the great empire to which it is our happiness to belong; and while, in common I believe with

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