Mr. Baillargé's lecture, on Wednesday evening last, before the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec, proved once more how very interesting, even in a popular sense, an otherwise dry and abstruse subject, may become, when ably handled.

The lecture showed the relationship of geometry to all the industries of life. He traced its origin from remote antiquity, its gradual developpment up to the present time. He showed how it is the basis of all our public works, and how we are indebted to it for all the constructive arts ; its relationship to mechanics, hydraulics, optics, and all the physical sciences. The fairer portion of mankind, said Mr. B., have the keenest, most appreciative perception of its advantages and beauties, as evidenced in the ever-varying combinations so cunningly devised in their designs for needle tracery, laces and embroidery. He showed its relationship to chemistry in crystallization and polarization ; to botany and zoology in the laws of morphology ; to theology, and so on. In treating of the circle and other conic sections, he drew quite a poetical comparison between the engineer who traces out his curves among the woods and waters of the earth, and the astronomer who sweeps out his mighty circuits amidst the starry forests of the heavens. The parabola was fully illustrated in its application to the throwing of projectiles of war, also as evidenced in jets of water, the speaking trumpet, the mirror and the reflector, which, in light-houses, gathers the rays of light, as it were, into a bundle, and sends them off together on their errand of humanity. In treating of the ellipse, this almost magic curve which is traced out in the heavens by every planet that revolves about the sun, by every satellite about its primary, he alluded to that most beautiful of all ovals—the face of lovely woman. He showed how the re-appearance of a comet may now be predicted even to the very day it heaves in sight, and though it has been absent for a century, and how in former ages, when these phenomena were unpredicted, they burst upon the world in unexpected moments, carrying terror everywhere and giving rise to the utmost anxiety and consternation, as if the end of all things were at hand. In a word, Mr. Baillargé went over the whole field of geometry and mensuration, both plane and sperical ; a difficult feat within the limits of a single lecture ; and kept the audience, so to say, entranced with interest for two whole hours, which the president, Dr. Anderson, remarked were to him as but one ; and no doubt it must have been so to others, since Mr. Wilkie, in seconding the vote of thanks proposed by Capt. Ashe, alluded to the pleasure with which he had listened to the lecture as if, he said, it were like poetry to him, instead of the unpromising matter foreshadowed in the title. Mr. Baillargé next explained in detail his stereometrical tableau, which we hope to see soon introduced into all the schools of this Dominion. He showed how conducive it will be in shortening the time heretofore devoted to the study of solids and even to that of plane and convex superficies, spherical

trigonom
wing, th
dows, an
had beer
corrobor
immense
blems w
can now
generally
many pe
tures,) w
be perfo
the use
knowled
acquaint
He show
builder
the form
domes,
drons, v
eathwor
cuttings
Roman
the cam
door or
or arche
the cam
sun and
received
Educati
ducing
Mr. Van
on the
granting
that Me
tary of
in Fra
next ge
tion con
tion and
Mr. Gia
the Hon
say : "
" tion
" toute
Univer
" plus
" corps
" de sa
" géné
" delig
" super
Newton
" the t
" the
" form
" Mr.
" instr
that "
" short