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AY THE HON. G. W. ALLAN, M.L.C.

Read before the Canadian Institute, January 8th, 1859.

GENTLEMEN OF THE CANADIAN INSTITUTE,—After an absence of more than two years from Canada, I find myself again placed, by your kindness, in the office which I had the honor of filling when last among you. In resuming the Chair as your President, permit me to express the very great gratification which I feel at being thus assured, by your choice, of your continued confidence in the earnestness and sincerity of my desires for the advancement and prosperity of the Institute.

I rejoice to have it in my power to congratulate my brother Members on the continued success which has marked the Society's career, and the increasing support which it attracts year by year, as evinced by the large accession of new Members, and the many valuable additions to the Library and Museum.

I had indeed hoped, that on my return to Canada I should have found the Institute installed in a permanent home of its own, in a building worthy of the high objects of the Society, with suitable accommodation for its library and increasing collections in natural history, geology, and other departments of science.