

tawa requires, an institution that shall be a home, a meeting place, open daily, for its literary and scientific people; consequently the generosity of our wealthy men need not go in search of an opportunity of bestowing on the city a further very material benefit. I do not like to make comparisons between ourselves and the people living to the south of us, but we must admit that their opulent citizens appear to vie with each other in donating moneys for the public weal directly, as in the case of public libraries, or educational institutions, and indirectly through facilitating the work of such societies as ours.

A building such as I have in view could be erected for \$50,000, and its further maintenance could undoubtedly be borne by those interested in intellectual progress.

Think of the number of literary and scientific men in Ottawa, who now are merely entities, no link, no binding element between them, no gravitating point, no magnetic field surrounding them, but compelled as individual atoms to float through space and off the stage without having discharged their duties and responsibilities to themselves and to their fellow citizens as they ought. Such men as a rule have but slender means, and in any large undertaking must look for assistance to the wealthier men of the community. I am not pleading exclusively for the Ottawa Literary and Scientific Society, I am pleading for all our men and women who are devoting much of their time to intellectual work, be it of a literary, historical, economic or scientific character. The day of the recluse is past; co-operation, commingling of thoughts, combination of efforts, are the watchwords for advancement; and let no one for a moment imagine that