

PRESENTED  
BY  
R. W. GEARY,  
President of Lundy's  
Lane Historical Society  
1933

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1894.

**Seventh Annual Report**  
—OF THE—  
**LUNDY'S LANE**  
**Historical Society.**

JULY 25, 1894.

**T**HE Executive Committee of the Society again have pleasure in presenting the annual statement of its proceedings during the past year before members and the multitude of friends assembled on this memorable day.

We need scarcely say that besides the erection of a national monument and another in memory of Laura Secord, both on this old battle-ground, the Society's chief object is also to establish and strengthen the spirit of patriotism among all classes of people in Canada, by circulating patriotic literature, by public lectures and readings, by collections of historic relics, by occasions of notable anniversaries, by military reinterments, etc., etc.

We are to day reminded that seven years and more have passed since the formation of the L. L. H. S., that it has survived "the day of small things," and is full of encouragement to go on with zeal according to its ability in the work begun, assured of continued success.

During the period of the Society's seven years' existence many hundred pages of Canadian history, essays, etc., have been published

and largely circulated in England, the United States and Canada: The 3rd edition of "The Battle of Lundy's Lane" has just been issued this month. It is much enlarged and improved. To the able and vigorous writers who have done so much work and labor of love the Society feels most gratefully indebted. Letters of commendation and press notices are very frequent in reference to each book issued under its auspices.

Not only may we refer to the Society's publications, but we have also great pleasure in referring to a series of historical papers, of about 200 columns, which have appeared and are still continued in the (weekly) *Welland Tribune* newspaper, by Capt. Cruikshank, in relation to the U.S. Revolution; also to another most interesting series of documents, etc., of 1812, hitherto unpublished, which have appeared in the columns of the (weekly) *Welland Telegraph*, by Capt. Cruikshank; also to a series of letters, by an unknown writer, in the *Welland Telegraph*, relating the stirring events of 1837. Gladly would we wish to see these excellent series printed in book form.

The committee also desire to notice the very recent publication of a bright and most interesting volume of 350 pages, entitled, "A Veteran of 1812," (Lieut. Fitzgibbon, the hero of Beaverdams, 1813) by Miss Fitzgibbon, grand-daughter of the hero. This volume is an important addition to what has been written of the war of 1812 and the rebellion of 1837.

Canada has a history—a splendid history, at which we need not blush nor feel ashamed; it needs only to be unfolded and brought to light that all men may read and learn more about U. E. Loyalists and others, the pioneers and settlers of Canada one hundred years ago, and about her defenders, her statesmen and people ever since. But here we must remark that the process of unfolding the pages of Canadian history has hitherto been very slow. The reason is obvious. More help is wanted—County Council help and Provincial Legislature help. The archives of Ontario and the records of counties are numerous and precious. Biography of useful lives is interesting and instructive—no other secular reading is more so. The County Council of Welland, one alone among many, has done well in publishing "A Century of Municipal Records," a large and useful work, by Capt. Cruikshank. The same council has lately donated \$100 to the L. L. H. S. to assist it in its work. The Society desires on this occasion to publicly thank the County Council of Welland for its recent handsome donation to its funds. It is a well known fact that each state across the border-line has long since acted upon this plan of an annual grant of money to assist in producing one or more volumes of State historic value every year, thus cultivating intelligence and patriotism among their people.

#### THE LUNDY'S LANE (NEW) OBSERVATORY.

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an outcome of the Society's work. From the high tower the view of the landscape for many miles is full of grandeur, and the history of the Niagara district teems with interest and lasting impressions to visitors.

#### MONUMENTS (National or Individual).

Monuments of a national character or of individual renown are expressions of a people's gratitude. The committee are not yet able to say how soon active steps will be taken for the erection of two monuments on this old battle-ground, one in memory of the men of 1814 who fell here, and one in memory of the heroine of the Beaverdams, Laura Secord, whose grave is also here.

#### NEW MANUSCRIPTS.

Wm. Kirby, Esq., of Niagara, has written and prepared for the press a history of Niagara, which includes a period of 250 years.

A. Strother, Esq., of Lundy's Lane, recently procured while in England copies of documents and papers relating to various battles and incidents of 1812-14, along the Niagara frontier; also to U. S. efforts to secure the full trade of the West Indies, etc., at that period.

Capt. Cruikshank has placed before the Society another of his historic productions, "General Drummond's Winter Campaign of 1813."

Canon Mackenzie, of Chippawa, has written a valuable paper on the progress and enlightenment of the world by English, Irish and Scotch people. One part of this able essay has been lately read before the L. L. Society.

The L. L. H. S. acknowledges with sincere thanks the active services of the above named gentlemen in behalf of its work—the study and circulation of Canadian history and kindred subjects.

To collect material is only one part of the Society's work which cannot be fully done without expense; to print and publish also require funds greater or less in proportion to the amount of work to be done. It is only by means of publication that such a Society can offer any reason for its existence. Until the Provincial Legislature can grant us yearly help (or dollar for dollar as to public libraries) we fear that we must be content with doing little work, and our zealous and able writers will have no reasonable encouragement to continue their labors.

#### NEW HISTORICAL SOCIETIES.

The Bay of Quinte and Trenton Society;  
The Frontenac and Kingston Society;  
The Beaverdam and Thorold Society.

We gladly welcome these young Societies to the list of kindred organizations in Ontario within the past year. It has been well said that our young people should be given every opportunity, as at DeCew's Falls and Beaverdams last June 23rd, to obtain a knowledge of

the locality in which they live, of their home and surroundings, then of their country and afterwards of the world at large. Their historic interest should extend outwards, but it must begin at home and expand. To make the history of a country complete every locality must furnish its part. Narrow-minded partizanship must be excluded, but patriotism cultivated to its fullest extent and citizenship raised to every high and noble Christian standard. "Honor all men ; love the brotherhood ; fear God ; honor the King"—1 Peter, ii, 17.

In conclusion, the committee of the L. L. H. S. would take this opportunity of soliciting the earnest co-operation of friends, especially of the old families of the Niagara district, who may be able to furnish valuable letters and records of early days yet in their possession, and by contributing other historic relics associated with the long past, which will always be of great interest and value to the patriotic people of this country.

Contributions of historic value will be gladly received by Jas. C. Hull, manager of the Lundy's Lane Observatory and curator of the new museum.

The annual subscription of \$1 from members or other friends to the Society's general fund is also earnestly solicited, payable to Jas. Wilson, C. E., secretary-treasurer of the L. L. H. S., Niagara Falls South, Ont.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

