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A PIONEER MISSIONARY.

IN our last number we gave some notes of early travelling in the North-West in 1859 as experienced by Mr. Buckingham. In continuation of the subject we have pleasure in recording the experiences of the Rev. Dr. Black, the pioneer missionary of that country. The following reminiscences connected with the early days in the North-West settlement cannot fail to be of abiding interest, and with such a reliable chronicler as Professor Bryce, we reproduce them with confidence in their truthfulness.

They form the subject of a paper recently read by Professor Bryce in the Knox Hall, Winnipeg.

"I remember well my first meeting with Dr. Black. It

was near the end of October, 1871. That year the General Assembly had resolved to establish a college in Manitoba, and the Rev. Mr. Fletcher, the Commissioner, had been in Ontario during the Summer, in its interests, and now we were returning. From a point 60 or 70 miles on an incomplete railway from St. Paul, we took, some 400 miles distant from Winnipeg, our leap into the wilderness. The covered stage, drawn by four horses was our conveyance. The prairie roads were beautiful and we bowled along at a fine rate. Soon we reached the upper waters of Red River, crossed to the west side, and then, after a short run, back to the east side. The Northern Pacific Railway had not yet reached Red River. Five or six days' ride brought us to Winnipeg. We crossed the Assiniboine, passed Fort Garry, which was then a point of remarkable, even tragic interest, as the spot where the Scott murder had been committed in the year before. Down Main street we came and alighted at Davis House, which proved too full to accommodate us. There was no other place that we knew of in Winnipeg, and Winnipeg itself was a little wretched looking village of some 300 souls. Those of us who were new comers had not entertained very high expectations, but I confess that the one wide street without grading, without a sidewalk, running between two rows of log houses, no two of them alike, all isolated and positively ugly, caused my heart to sink in looking on this as the future scene of action. So Winnipeg affording us no shelter, we started out about 8 o'clock that night, as the sky was clear and the roads good, to walk to Kildonan Manse. On arriving there, we met the pastor of Kildonan who had been looking anxiously for our coming. He was a quick-moving, active man, then of about 29. Of medium size, he was of a wiry make. His heavy head of hair was turning a little gray. He had on moccasins. His face beamed with a kindly smile when he spoke, and his gestures were rapid and well marked.

We talked late into the night of our journey, of the Assembly, of Red River, and of the future. There was plenty of work awaiting us, he informed us. My companion was to occupy Portage la Prairie. The College must be begun immediately. We retired to rest in Kildonan's hospitable manse, and soon enough found that there was plenty to do in the spiritual harvest field of this new land. On the following Sabbath we attended one service in Kildonan, being in Winnipeg the other part of the day. Kildonan Church struck us as something different from what we were accustomed to even in our oldest Canadian settlements. It is just in shape and general appearance like the country parish church in Scotland, as if indeed Kildonan in Sutherlandshire had been transplanted to Red River. I remember well the high pulpit, now gone, and Dr. Black ascending it in gown and bands, and feet shod in moccasins, which everybody wore then, and which the doctor, to the end of life, preferred to shoes. The church manse, school and partly finished college building, were the visible embodiment of Presbyterianism on Red River.

Our missionary pioneer saw little, or comparatively little change in the Red River settlements between 1851 and 1870. Progress was very slow. There were those in the settlement who would have preferred to have it so remain. As I remember hearing Dr. Black once say, "There are some animals that prefer to lie in peace at the bottom of the pool, to be undisturbed." It is true during this period the village of Winnipeg was begun. An adventurous mortal named McKenney, was the first who dared to face the adverse public opinion that it was impossible to live away from the river bank. This revolutionary event took place in the year 1863, when the building now used as an auction room on the corner of Main Street and Portage Avenue was built. It was prophesied that it could not withstand the wind, and would be swept away. It did not require props. Further, it was

in a swamp, and in Spring it would need to be built with a boat to float in. It was compared in other respects to a Noah's Ark in appearance.

The second building was built by Mr. Drewes on the opposite—now Donaldson's—corner. The settlement up and down the river from Winnipeg consisted of houses along the river bank, each one on a narrow strip running back, as in Lower Canada. The houses are chiefly log and generally thatched. The better houses of the well-to-do usually had a roof with four facets, known as a "pavilion" roof, or as I once heard it called up the Assiniboine by an incorrect speaker, a "rebellion roof."

The settlers manufactured almost all the articles they needed. While all farmed a little, one was a carpenter, another a blacksmith, another a weaver, and so on. Their furniture was chiefly home made. There was not a chair to be bought or borrowed in Winnipeg in 1871. The new settlers chiefly used boxes or trunks to sit upon. It was a common belief that brick could not be made in the country. There were few chimneys. There were some of mud, but a bit of stove-pipe was the common resource. Dr. Schultz had erected the low brick buildings where the pottery stands shortly before 1871, but popular opinion consigned them to speedy destruction by wind and frost. The ceilings of houses were done with wood, and plaster was looked on as a doubtful and dangerous innovation. The people of the country, were, many of them, engaged in "tripping," *i. e.* in taking loads of fur in St. Paul on the famous Red River carts, which came back laden with merchandise. They all kept cattle; and some fine herds, now disappeared, were there to be seen upon the plains. I have seen large bands of native horses, some of which though five and six years old had never been in a stable. Hay cutting was begun on a certain day. It was illegal to begin sooner. At 12 o'clock at night the settlers were scattered over the plains, and soon as 12

was past of the appointed day, each cut around as wide a space of grass as possible, and that was his, and was so regarded. The Hudson's Bay Company was in the habit of taking eight bushels of wheat only from each settler, and this, except to supply the Indians, was the only market. There was little inducement to farm. Accordingly the influx of Canadians even in 1871 raised the price of provisions and made food scarce. I can remember a load of provisions arriving at Christmas from St. Paul by sleigh and being so great a boon, that the little newspaper of the time announced as having come:—"a supply of Turkeys, hams, and other delicacies."

During winter we were cut off from the outside world. Sheriff Ross is said in early days to have got the *London Times* for the year, and to have read through one every day, being just a year behind. The mail then came once a month. In 1871 it was twice or thrice a week. In winter we saw once an interval of twenty-one days without a mail. There was no telegraph. We cheered ourselves with the reflection that "if we didn't know anything about our friends, they did not know anything about us," the loss being mutual. The merchants used all to run out of certain lines of goods toward Spring. Salt has been known to have been exhausted; coal oil also, and so on. The common mercantile answer to the enquiring purchaser for all articles not on hand was: "We expect them in by the first boat." Arithmeticians used to calculate that to hold all that every merchant expected would take a fleet of a dozen boats as large as the one long wished-for vessel. The arrival of the first boat was certainly the event of the year, and you breathed freely after its arrival as being again a citizen of the world.

Such was the Red River in which our pioneer missionary spent the first twenty years of his ministerial life. It is noticeable that all who passed through it looked back to it now with fond regrets. Life moved slowly, but men were thus

saved from the immense pressure of the present. There was a sort of rural, Eden-like simplicity among the people, contrasting with the business sharpness and keenness of the present. The people had fewer wants, and few people were overwhelmed with debt. But there are no Elysian fields any more, and the halcyon days are past.

In a life of thirty years in a new country one is called on to pass through times of trial and distress. In the life of Dr. Black such periods are not wanting.

The first year after his arrival the Red River broke forth from its limits and for miles the Red River Valley became one vast lake. The site of the city of Winnipeg was entirely submerged, a thing that has not happened since. The subject of our sketch then occupied the manse erected by the Selkirk settlers, and which still stands, though somewhat out of repair. Dr. Black used to point out the water line of the flood about the base of the windows of the manse. The people were in consternation. It did them little good to be told that the floods of 1826 were a great deal worse. The settlers saw the river gradually rise till it surrounded their homes; by and by houses and barns that could not withstand the force of the water, especially in Point Douglas, across which a swift current ran, were seen floating down the stream. Almost all the settlers, among whom was their minister, went back from the river several miles and were encamped on the rising ground of Little Stony Mountain. Last year Ex-Judge Thom related to me his experience during the flood. He then dwelt in the building now occupied by the Bishop of Rupert's Land. The occupants of the house were driven to the second story, and dwelt there till the flood, which arose from the jamming of the ice, allowed the waters to escape. The people were to be congratulated that very few lives were lost. A contrast to the floods we are constantly hearing of, such as that on the Missouri two years ago, or on the Mississippi, or during this very

season in Germany. When the waters were assuaged, the Kildonan pastor and his people returned to their homes, and as in the days of Noah, erected their altar on the dry land again. They were not prevented from sowing grain and reaping a harvest that year.

The contiguity of the Red River to wide districts of Dakota, Iowa, and Utah has, during the last seventy years, been a source of danger. In the vast deserts of the Western States, myriads of grasshoppers spring up as if from the parched soil of the sandy plains. When these pests are excessively numerous in the States named, some band of the excess fly toward the boundary and cross the line. In 1868, having been seldom present during the preceding forty years, the grasshopper appeared from the South-West on the Red River. The destruction of the crops ensued. The kindness of the people in Canada and elsewhere manifested itself in sending relief. On the Committee of Relief for distributing the supplies sent, our pioneer was an active and useful member. The Kildonan people were a thrifty and well-to-do people, and few instances were known of their receiving aid. Upon the clergy the work of the Committee largely fell, and only those who have been through it can tell the expenditure of sympathy, and the anxious care there is in a year of national calamity.

—It has recently been discovered that the faded ink on old parchments may be restored by moistening the lines of writing with a solution of sulphide of ammonia. The writing will turn quite dark, and if on parchment will retain the color. Records treated in this way in the Museum of Nuremburg being still in the condition as immediately after the application ten years ago. On paper, however, the restored writing gradually fades again, but may be restored at pleasure by fresh applications of the sulphide.

—Some French papers report that on the night of the 25th October last, a thief abstracted from the Musée at

Grenoble a collection of medals in gold which have been valued at 800,000 francs. They were contained in thirty-five cases, all of which were opened with false keys except one, which was forced. In all, 1,911 medals have been, it is said, taken away by the thief or thieves. The intrinsic value of the metal stolen is estimated at 20,000 francs. Access was obtained by an unguarded door in the basement.

A MAKER OF "RARE" GOLD COINS



THE other day, says the Topeka (Kan.) *Commonwealth*, United States Attorney Hallowell was riding in a car when a man passed a gold coin on Matt Cleary, conductor of the train, and noticing that it was old looked more closely at it, when he discovered that it was a bogus coin in one sense. Deputy United States Marshal Smith was aboard the train, and Col. Hallowell directed him to arrest the man. He gave his name as Arlington, and was locked up in the gaol at Olathe for the time being and brought to this city last night by Deputy Marshall Smith. When searched at Olathe he was found to have seven more of the bogus coins in his possession. They are duplicates of old coins, issued 1794, 1805, for numismatists, or purchasers of old coins, for the purpose of forming a collection. The coin our reporter saw bears date 1805 and is very neatly minted, of a good yellow color, like the genuine old coins, when brass was used as alloy, instead of copper, as now. It is not charged that the coin is not worth \$5, because it is gold; therefore it is not counterfeiting, but it is the manufacture of a coin of a similitude to the coin of the United States, and punishable. The coin is worth to a numismatist about \$100, and it will be seen that the manufacture and sale of a number of them would net the operator handsomely if he were not detected.

LETTERS OLD AND NEW.



WITH all the improvements of the last fifty years in making and sizing paper, and in closing and securing letters, still there is a charm about a quaint old letter of half a century ago that is rarely found in one of the telegraphic notes of the present day. Not only is there a charm which might be given by the respectable age and probable associations of an old letter, but there is an air of dignity and quiet style that is commonly wanting in more modern letters, notwithstanding the later adjuncts of heavy calendered paper, embossed crests, and shapely envelopes. The old letter as it comes out of its trunk in the garret, is almost a patent of respectability for its writer. With its rough surface so full of ridges and uneven spots, one wonders it could ever have been written upon; with its carefully worded address, the Ministers and Esquires and all the titles inserted with great precision; with its old-fashioned stamp, the like of which many a fine old gentleman has licked and grumbled over because it would not stick; and, above all, with its great seal of wax, bearing the heavy impression, perhaps, of a coat-of-arms, perhaps of some family emblem cut in a ring, perhaps only the imprint of a coin—with all these things to recommend it to the present generation of lovers of old things, the old letter is grand, and stately, and attractive. Unfolding the intricate creases that make an envelope of the back of the sheet, the contents keep up the impression created by the exterior. The penmanship is rigid and formal as the style of the letter, and the wording, even when written by a husband to his wife, as dignified as if addressed to his sovereign. The beginning solemnly with "My dear wife," and the courtly ending of "Permit me to subscribe myself your affectionate husband,"

are so in contrast with the brief and hurried phrase: of the modern letter, one can hardly help but wonder what model sort of husband he was, this writer of the old letter with the great seal.

Fashion has carried the style of letters through many stages of show and expense, and at last has brought it back to almost the severe plainness of fifty years ago. Crests and coats-of-arms and undecipherable monograms have had their day and have gone to take their places beside the great wax seals. It was in the wax impression that crests and shields and armorial bearings first made their appearance on letters, and for some years he was a very obscure gentleman, even in America, who had not some device to affix to the backs of his letters. With the introduction of the envelope and its gummed flap the wax disappeared, and stationers were kept busy embossing the designs of the seal upon the tops of letter-sheets. There were great coats of arms in many colors and gold; crests, always with some appropriate Latin motto; first in the left hand upper corner of the sheet, then in the middle of the top. Birds of the air and beasts of the field were made to do duty as family tokens, till scarcely a living thing was left untouched from the Lion of the tribe of Judah down, save only that one animal with prominent organs of hearing. Then followed the era of initials, immense W's and R's sprawling over half the page, sometimes embossed, oftener printed in colors, and nearly always with vines and flowers climbing in an impossible way over the character. Initials were succeeded by monograms, the more intricate and undecipherable the better. After the monograms came a deluge of crests. Every artisan and petty tradesman bloomed out with a crest if he could afford to have the die engraved. After the crests, chaos in the form of lilies and roses, sunflowers, and all the gorgeously colored flowers of the garden. This was only a reaction. Zoology had been exhausted, and fashion took to botany. Then

were brief reigns of many styles, chief among which was the day of the week printed in raised letters across the upper corner of the sheet. There was no beauty in this, but it was at least useful in letting the recipient of an undecipherable note know upon what day it was written.

After all these changes came the sensible style now in use. No crest, no monogram, no gilding—nothing to indicate that the sender is second cousin on his mother's side to the half sister of an Earl, or heir apparent of one of the sovereigns of Ireland. A plain square white envelope, without a mark upon it, except the address and the postage stamp. The paper a note-size sheet of unruled Irish linen or the American imitation, which is nearly as good, unsized, and with just one line of lettering to relieve its pure white surface. This letter is for use more than for ornament. It is simply the address from which the letter is written. "Eleven thousand Fifth Avenue, New York," for instance, printed across the right-hand side of the top of the sheet, sometimes in black, oftener in some deep color. This line is usually engraved, and is stamped into the paper so as to make a raised surface, and it is generally done in some appropriate gothic or old English letter. Under this single printed line the date is written. It is the first fashionable design used on letter paper for half a century that is sure to be understood instantly by every one who sees it, and it is the first letter ornament of the slightest use since the days of the old wax seal. It is a combination of simplicity and utility that deserves a longer existence than has been enjoyed by any of its predecessors in the mode. Written in the large, free hand now affected by young ladies on this paper, without a particle of gloss, and without a suspicion of the perfumed sachet, a fashionable letter of the present day is almost as stately and dignified as one of the old ones written by our forefathers.

JAPANESE COINAGE.



HERE are two mints in Japan, a paper money mint at Tokiyò, and a metallic mint at Osaka ; the latter, one of the largest and most complete in the world. It, like the other public works of the new era, was organized by foreigners, but, of the foreign stuff, only two remain, the chemist and assayer, and the engineer, with a Japanese staff of 602 persons, including a doctor. The total value of the coinage struck for 1870 to the date of the last report exceeds £17,000,000.

The gold coinage is mainly confined to 5 *yen* pieces, which are nearly equal to the English sovereign. The silver coins are the *yen*, the trade dollar, and 50, 20, 10, and 5 *sen* pieces. In the year ending 30th June 1879, 92,073 gold coins were struck ; of silver *yen*, 1,879,354 ; of the trade dollar, 32,717 ; of 10 *sen*, 201,509 ; and of the 5 *sen*, 2,894,201. The copper coins are 2 *sen*, 1 *sen*, $\frac{1}{2}$ *sen*, and 1 *rin*, and of these 83 millions were struck. There was, however, a deficiency in "small change," because of the quantities of small silver coin sent by government to China and the Straits Settlements, where it was sold at a considerable discount. The value of the coinage for the year was £686,911, and the total value struck at the Osaka mint since its commencement exceeds £17,000,000 sterling. The Government paper money in circulation, which consists of notes from 10 *sen* upwards, amounts to £22,675,598 ; but in addition, £7,000,000 notes have been issued by the Japanese banks, not on the security of a certain quantity of coin, but on that of government paper. The depreciation of this government paper is a very disquieting symptom—the discount occasionally reaching 52 per cent. People naturally infer that Government credit is bad, the paper issues being based insufficient metallic reserves. During my journeys in Japan I never saw a gold

coin in circulation ; small silver coins were difficult to obtain even in Yokohama, and from Nikkô northward, except at Nûgata. I never saw any silver, or a single copper coin of the new coinage, the circulating *media* being paper, under a *yen* in value ; the large, oval *tempo*, and the old *rin* with a hole in the middle, my own specimens of the new silver and copper coinage being regarded as curiosities, marked preference being shown, as in Scotland, for "notes," no matter how old or soiled.

"Unbeaten Tracks in Japan."

HISTORICAL SOCIETY, WINNIPEG,



THE annual meeting of the Historical and Scientific Society was held recently beginning at 4 o'clock, when the following members were present: Mr. A. H. Witcher, 1st. Vice-President; Rev. Prof. Hart, 2nd Vice-President; Rev. Prof. Bryce, Corresponding Secretary; Mr. W. H. Hughan, Recording Secretary and Librarian, and Messrs. L. M. Lewis, R. E. W. Goodridge, Wm. Pearce, C. N. Bell, Jos. Greenfield, E. L. Byington, J. H. Panton, W. E. McLellan, R. Houston, J. H. Panton and John Cape.

On motion of Rev. Prof. Bryce, Mr. A. H. Witcher, 1st Vice-President, was chosen to occupy the chair in the absence of Mr. Alex. McArthur, President.

Messrs. Allan McDougal, C. E., and Maurice W. Britton were by ballot elected members of the Society.

The following report of the Executive Council was read by Rev. Prof. Bryce, Corresponding Secretary, and adopted by the Society.

ANNUAL REPORT.

The Executive Council begs leave to present the report for the year. The past year has been one of great prosperity in the Society. There have been no spasmodic efforts

after public recognition, but the Society has steadily pursued its work of bringing to light the facts concerning the wide field of our operations—"the regions lying north and west of Lake Superior."

MEMBERS.

During the past year that fast friend of our Society and of the North-West, Consul Taylor, was elected a "life and honorary member" of the Society.

Two corresponding members were added to our list, viz.: Rev. A. B. Baird, M. A., of Edmonton, N. W. T., and Mr. N. H. Cowdry, of Regina, N. W. T. Both these gentlemen are men of education and high culture. Interesting papers are expected from them. Twenty-seven ordinary members have been added to the Society during the year. Of these, two were ladies. Your Executive Council would state that it is not for the purpose of swelling the numbers of the Society, nor yet out of mere compliment that the Society has decided to admit ladies. It is believed that there are ladies of education, literary habits and good powers of observation who might be of much service in producing papers on the manners and customs of the native tribes, on matters of North-Western history, or in the scientific department of the Society; as in botany or Indian remains. All workers will be cordially welcomed.

GRANTS IN AID.

During the year the Society received grants from the Provincial Government of \$200 and from the City Council of \$500. The Society is glad to have its efforts to advance the interests of our country, and authoritative statements of its history and resources, recognized by the bodies giving these grants. The thanks of the Society are due to the Provincial and civic authorities for the assistance given.

RECOGNITION ABROAD.

It is extremely gratifying to your Executive Council to observe that our efforts have not passed unobserved in the

older centres of population. Several of the learned Societies of the East have given us favorable notices in their proceedings, and one, the *Canadian Antiquarian*, in its journal, published our annual report in full; the Royal Society of Canada, founded during the past year by His Excellency, the Governor General, as a rallying centre for the culture of literary inclination of Canadians, has done our Society the honor of making us one of the fourteen learned societies affiliated to it. We are called upon in consequence of this connection to elect a Representative who shall attend the meeting of the Royal Society in Ottawa in May next, and prepare for that body a statement of any original work done by our Society during the year.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The society received during the year a very interesting paper from its corresponding member at York Factory, Mr. Joseph Fortescue. Mr. Fortescue dealt with certain papers of considerable length, which appeared in the public prints of Winnipeg, purporting to be founded on certain old and valuable papers in the possession of the commanding officer of the Fort (Mr. Fortescue himself) by a Mr. Rolland, who had visited York Factory. Those papers were simply from an old copy of the Voyages of La Perouse, found about the Fort. Mr. Fortescue at some length stated the groundlessness of the hope so often expressed that documents of value may be found at the Company's posts throughout the country; as, through the renewals of these buildings during the past two centuries, such a thing is most unlikely. An interesting communication was received from our corresponding member at Edmonton, the Rev. A. B. Baird, already mentioned. Mr. Baird's communication related to the occurrence of coal and iron at Edmonton, and described the manner in which these deposits are found. The coal is a lignite, hard and dark, and does not seem so subject to the disintegrating influence of the air as that from the Souris. It

is estimated to contain from 60 to 70 per cent. of carbon or heating power. The iron was clay ironstone, and was found in nodules in a stratum overlying the coal. There seems practically no limit to its extent. The Corresponding Secretary of the Society forwarded a specimen of this ironstone to his friend, Professor Chapman, in Toronto and the following was found to be the analysis of ore:—

Carbonate of iron.....	54.28
Carbonate of Manganese.....	1.34
Carbonate of magnesia.....	4.22
Carbonate of lime.....	6.77
Sesquioxide of iron.....	12.26
Phosphoric acid.....	0.68
Sulphuric acid.....	0.41
Combined water.....	2.14
Hygroscopic water.....	0.73
Insoluble argillaceous matter.....	17.23
	<hr/>
Total.....	100.06

Metallic iron, 35.74 per cent.

This is a better variety of ironstone than that worked as the Scotch black band and in Staffordshire, England. The only question needing solution is whether the amount of phosphorus in the ore is great enough to make the iron cold-short or of sulphur to make it red-short. Mr. Baird was tendered the thanks of the Society for his paper and specimens.

In the Autumn of 1882, Mr. Strong, a resident of Winnipeg, offered to make a collection of fish to be sent to the Smithsonian Institution. The Express Companies carried them free to Washington, for which our best thanks are due. The contribution was duly acknowledged and our Society was invited to signify what exchanges it desired. The

Council asked for specimens in such of the following fields as could be spared:

1. Insects destructive of vegetation.
2. Seaside specimens.
3. Fossils of coal, measures of the tertiary period, and specimens of the varieties of coal.
4. Remains from the mounds of the Mississippi and Ohio.

Notice has been received by the Secretary that a shipment of marine invertebrates, all properly classed and labeled will be forwarded.

The Council has also sent out its reports and publications to a long list of corresponding societies, and likewise to our honorary and corresponding members.

CONTRIBUTIONS.

Holding a first place among those who have been generous to the Society is the Smithsonian Institution. During the past year there has been received no less than 36 publications to be added to the 150 previously sent by the Institution to the Society. To the several Departments of State at Washington the Society is indebted for ten volumes during the past year. The Department of Agriculture is especially worthy of notice in this respect.

PROVINCIAL NEWSPAPERS.

The reading room has been well supplied with newspapers and the best magazines. The newspapers are carefully filed, and during the past year, though the archives of this department only extend back three years, the applications for leave to consult the files by the courts, by lawyers, reporters and others have been continuous. The Society desires to acknowledge its sense of the generous contribution free of charge of the Provincial newspapers from their publishers. These papers have been received, a number of them since their first issue, and are carefully filed away, and form most

valuable material for history and evidence.

PAPERS READ.

There have been nine original papers read during the year, several of them of importance, being fresh investigations and having a permanent value. The Society is glad to receive from its members well prepared papers on any subject, even though they may be outside the scope of the Society. Such papers stimulate thought and keep up interest in the Society. The names are given first of the papers on general topics with their dates of delivery.

GENERAL PAPERS.

1. On energy, by J. H. Rowan, Esq., on Feb. 23rd, 1882.
2. Critique on Caroline Fox's "Memoirs of Old Friends," by A. Macarthur, Esq., on March 23rd.
3. Synopsis of Taine's "English Literature," by the late Mr. David Cowan, April 13th.
4. On Free Public Libraries, by T. C. L. Armstrong, M. A., L. L. B., on October 19th.

HISTORICAL AND SCIENTIFIC.

During the past year the five papers on the special work of the Society have been of a high order of merit. Those read after the resumption of work succeeding the summer vacation have all been published at the expense of the Society. As has been stated, a number (about eighty) are sent to our exchanges. The remainder are disposed of at a small price. The following are the papers:

1. Journal of Robert Campbell, Esq., read by Consul Taylor, April 5th, 1882. Mr. Campbell is a retired Chief Factor of the Hudson's Bay Company and has been half a century in the North-West. These extracts are of the date of 1882-3. Mr. Campbell is an honorary member of this Society, is a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society, and the discoverer of the source of the Yukon River in Russian America.

2. (Published). "The Causes of the Rising in the Red River Settlement—1869-70," by Alexander McArthur,

Esq., President of the Society, read October 5th, 1882. This paper is written by one who passed through the Red River troubles. At the close of the paper an animated discussion took place as to the attitude taken by the various classes of the Red River community.

3. (Published). Lecture on "Arctic Regions and Hudson's Bay," by Dr. Rae, London, Eng., delivered October 14th. The lecturer gave an account of his personal experiences in searching for Sir John Franklin. For his success in finding first traces of Franklin he and his companions received the reward offered by the Admiralty of £10,000. His expedition was overland. Dr. Rae was sanguine as to the successful navigation of Hudson's Bay.

4. (Published). "Gleanings from the Geology of the Red River Valley," by J. H. Panton, M. A., read December 28th. Mr. Panton was formerly Professor of Science in Guelph Agricultural College. The paper dealt with geological formations of Red River Valley — the silurian. He also described at length the features of the drift deposits. At the close of the paper an interesting discussion took place as to the nature and quality of the water of the Red and Assiniboine Rivers and the wells obtained in this drift deposit.

5. Paper on "The Winnipeg Country; Its Discovery and the Great Consequences Resulting," by Rev. Prof. Bryce, Corresponding Secretary, January 25th. The object of this paper was to show the part taken by Verandrye in discovering the Lake Winnipeg region and the influence this had in stirring up English merchants, the Hudson's Bay Company, the Montreal merchants and the Nor'westers to activity in exploration. The close of the paper gave a number of deductions as to the course of trade, favoring the city of Winnipeg as the probable great business centre of the North-West.

THE LIBRARY.

The Library has been largely made use of during the

past year. Many books of the circulating library are in constant use while the reference library of the Society is continually being consulted. The books taken out by readers were 2,466 volumes during the year, against 2,525 for the previous year. The Executive Council have had a very earnest desire to increase the Library by the addition of new books and the important works of reference. The subscriptions to the Library have been seriously interfered with by the consideration of the free public library scheme the public having the prospect of the larger enterprise have not continued their annual subscriptions to the circulating library.

The Society appointed a small committee to wait upon the City Council for the purpose of inducing that body to undertake a free library in Winnipeg. This committee was cordially received by the Council and the City Finance Committee was appointed to confer with the committee of the Society. This conference took place and the Finance Committee recommended the matter to the Council. The end of the civic year having come, the matter was left over for the new City Council to deal with. The confusion connected with their entry to office, and the attention since necessary to the financial affairs of the city have prevented the completion of the scheme for the library. It is to be hoped that the matter may soon take definite form and that by the middle of the year a much needed and useful agency may be in active operation in our city. No more useful thing for ourselves than a collection of 10,000 good books could be undertaken, and the effect of such an institution in drawing attention to our advantages as a city for intelligent and cultivated persons to find a home in must be great indeed. The Society offered the Council the use of its general and reference Library of some 3,000 volumes under certain conditions, thus forming a good nucleus for the collection. The Executive Council recommends that the new Executive Council continue to keep the matter

before the Aldermen and citizens as a thing most deserving of present attention.

OBITUARY.

During the year we have had the mis-fortune to lose two of our members, viz, His Lordship, Chief Justice Wood and Mr David Cowan. We join in the universal sorrow, which was so generally expressed when Chief Justice Wood was removed from our midst. His Lordship took an active part in the formation and incorporation of our Society. We had the honor of having him as our first President. Previous to his election as President he was Chairman over the preliminary meetings, which eventuated in the organization and establishment of our Society. His Lordship also favored us with several papers and his inaugural address as President, in which he sketched the growth of true history, and delineated the rise of intellectual activity and liberty of thought among the chief nations of the earth. This is the anniversary of the day, on which he delivered that address (13th Feb., 1880.) The Chief Justice also read before the Society a paper on Cosmogony and Chronology.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. H. WHITCHER,
Vice President.

GEORGE BRUCE,
Cor.-Secretary

THEASURER'S STATEMENT.

The following statement by the Treasurer Mr. R. L. Hunter of the receipts and expenditure; for the year was read by Mr. L. M. Lewis:—Balance to credit in Imperial Bank Feb. 1st, 1882, \$431.22; insurance company for losses by fire, \$103; municipal grant \$500; Government grant, \$500 proceeds of Dr. Rae's lecture, \$93.50; members dues, historical library, \$459.95; total, \$1,783.67. Expenditure—Paid Geo. Winks ten months rent to Feb. 1st, \$300; Mr. Hughan twelve months salary, \$600; draft in New York re library fittings and book-binding, \$37.58 fire insurance \$60 printing annual report, \$14; magazines and paper for library, \$105.18

printing Dr. Rae's and Mr. McArthur's lectures, \$44; fuel and light, \$52.25; book-binding, postage, stationery and sundry printing, \$83.08; advertising, \$13.50; balance at bankers, \$474.08.

The statement was certified to by Mr. R.E.W. Goodridge, Auditor, and was adopted.

ELECTION OF COUNCIL.

The following fifteen gentlemen were elected members of the Executive Council for the ensuing year; Rev. Prof. Bryce, Messrs. A. H. Whitcher, Alex. McArthur, R. E. W. Goodridge, L. M. Lewis, Ald. George H. Ham, W. H. Hughan, Rev. Prof. Hart, J. H. Panton, T. C. L. Armstrong, Dr. Cowan, C. N. Bell, H. M. Howell, R. H. Hunter, and R. Houston.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The officers of last year were all re-elected as follows:— President, Mr. Alex. McArthur; 1st Vice-President, Mr. A. H. Whitcher, 2d Vice-President, Rev. Prof. Hart; Corresponding Secretary, Rev. Prof. Bryce; Recording Secretary, Mr. W. H. Hughan; Treasurer, Mr. R. H. Hunter.

On motion of Mr. McDougall, seconded by Mr. Panton a vote of thanks was tendered the President and officers and members of the retiring Council for their services during the past year.

On motion of Capt. Lewis, seconded by Mr. Bell, it was resolved to refer to the Executive Council the appointment of a delegate to the Royal Society which is to meet in May next Mr. Goodridge was on motion of Capt. Lewis, seconded by Prof. Bryce, appointed Auditor for the ensuing year.

The meeting then adjourned.

—"Coins are serious monuments of public use, bearing on them indications of time and place, either quite exact, or, at least, approximative. This is an immense advantage of theirs over all other monuments. By studying the types, the styles, the inscription of coins, we may gain a key to the interpretation of all other antiquities."

M. de Longpérier.

THE COINS OF THE SIX KINGS OF SYRIA, NAMED SELEUCUS.

BY ROBERT MORRIS, L. L. D.



NUMISMATIC students are often embarrassed in attributing the various coins of the *Seleucidae* as they are styled, to their respective subjects. The names being spelled alike in all and a general resemblance running through the portraits and in the make-up of the specimens it is important to have some easy method for distinguishing the one from the other. I propose therefore a brief article under this head not at all exhaustive but rather suggestive, trusting that the reader will gain some benefit from my experience in this difficult class of Oriental monies.

The first Seleucus, surnamed *Nicator* and the founder of the royal line styled the *Seleucidae* began his royal career October 1st B. C. 312, and established the *Seleucidan Era* as "the Year One". Numerous coins are formed with Greek numbers referring to the year of his coronation. His reign was highly successful and thus he acquired his title *Nicator* "the conqueror". He died B. C. 280. His coins in all the metals are numerous, for he patterned after his great Master *Alexander Magnus* in issuing unlimited numbers of these historical leaflets. The head of Pallas on the obverse is common and BAS SELEVKOS in Greek letters for "King Seleucus" is impressed upon them. Coins in silver and bronze have the same legend. The student finding only the name SELEVKOS may attribute the coin to NICATOR with two chances out of three of being correct.

The second Seleucus styled *Callinicus* was crowned B. C. 246 and reigned until 226. His coins have no legend different from those of the 1st Seleucus, so the surest method of distinguishing the two is to compare the portraits. These are widely different as a comparison will show.

The third Seleucus, styled *Ceraunus* comes in B. C. 224 but he maintained his place only 3 years and his coins are consequently more rare. They often have SVR for Syria.

The fourth Seleucus styled *Philopator* reigned from B. C. 187 to 175 and his coins are rather common, I think in handling a dozen specimens of the monies of the *Seleucidae* that 6 will be *Nicators* and 3 *Philopators*. His nickname *Philopator* is often found on his coins and the dates calculated by the Seleucidan Era, for instance LR=136.

The fifth Seleucus began his reign in B. C. 125 but continued only a few months. Few specimens of his coins have reached this country. Portraits of Cleopatra are usually found upon them.

The sixth Seleucus, styled *Nicator Epiphanes*, was crowned B. C. 96 and reigned two years. His coins are in general, easily distinguished by *Epiphanous Nicator* in Greek letters, either in whole words or in abbreviations. These coins are more common than any of the others save the First and Fourth.

I am aware that the reader, puzzled over a handful of these Seleucidan coins, will find little relief from my suggestion in this article. But this is the best I can do for him, after a critical examination of the work, (*No. 183* of my Numismatic Collection) entitled *Seleucidarum Imperium sive Historia Regum Syriae Ad fidem Numismatum accommodata per J. Foy-Vaillant 1732*. I find a Seleucus with the face like Alexander's and the lion skin over the head I accredit it to the 1st Seleucus. I should expect upon the reverse to see Jupiter seated, or a dust throwing Bull, or a chariot drawn by 4 elephants. If instead of the lion's skin, the head has a cincture of the ribbon (or diadem) with a prominent nose it is *Seleucus II*. I should expect to find on the reverse Apollo erect, holding an arrow, or a warhorse.

The 3rd *Seleucus* is so much like the 2nd that it demands

a critical eye to distinguish between them. The chin is more prominent, the nose less. *Seleucus IV* has so peculiar an appearance that once seen he will always be recognized. As remarked before, out of every 12 Seleucidan coins I should expect that 6 of them would be of the 1st Seleucus and 3 of the 4th. A favourite device upon his obverse is the prow of a galley and behind the portrait on the obverse the *acrosterium* or ornamental figure on the bowsprit of the galley.

The coins of Seleucus V. are so rare that the reader will be fortunate indeed to find one. Vaillant, in his exhaustive volume fails to figure or describe one. The 6th Seleucus also known as Antiochus VIII. may be recognized by the protuberance of his chin.

These old pieces are usually large and well struck. The artists were Greek and particularly skilled in drawing portraits and figures of animals. Nothing can exceed the fire displayed in their chariot scenes. But in their drawings of deities there appears a want of ingenuity. I suppose every artist in this department of drawing was shut up to the standard forms given him and forbidden to make any improvements or changes of any sort. If this is not a good theory, I shall be happy to accept a better one.

La Grange, Kentucky.

—“I should so like to have a coin dated the year of my birth,” said a maiden lady of uncertain age to a male acquaintance. “Do you think you could get one for me?” “I am afraid not,” he replied. “These very old coins are only to be found in valuable collections.” And yet he cannot see why, when he met the lady the next day, she didn't speak to him.

A MYSTERY OF THE GULF.



THE mysterious lights in the Gulf and the Lower St. Lawrence, those sure precursors of a tempestuous fall with grievous shipwrecks, were unusually brilliant during last season. The light of Cape Maria Cascadie has blazed almost every night since May 15. In the Baie des Chaleurs, the Point Mizzenette light has been seen nightly by hundreds of people from the settlements of New Bandon, Grand Anse, Caraquette and Salmon Beach. The *habitant* says they are supernatural manifestations marking scenes of wreck and murder, or warning the sailor of great tempests, while the English settlers think they are the Will-o'-the-wisps of the ocean. What ever they may be, it is a fact established by the experience of a century that when they blaze brightly in the summer nights the fall is invariably marked by great storms. One would think on looking at these mysteries from the shore that a ship was on fire. The heavens behind are bright and the clouds about silvered by the reflection. The sea for half mile is covered with a sheen as of phosphorus. The fire itself seems to consist of blue and yellow flames, now dancing high above the water and then flickering, paling and dying out only to spring up again with fresh brilliancy. If a boat approaches it flits away moving further out, and the bold visitor pursues it in vain. At the first streak of daylight it vanishes in the form of a mist, and is seen no more until darkness again sets in. These lights are bright when there is a heavy dew, and are plainly visible from the shore from midnight until two in the morning. They appear to come in from the sea shoreward and at dawn retire gradually and are lost in the morning fog.

Paridis the French pilot who took charge of the British fleet under Admiral Sir Hovenden Walker when it sailed up the St Lawrence from Boston to seize Quebec in 1711,

declared he saw one of these lights just before the armada was shattered on the 22nd of August, in fact he said it danced before his vessel the Neptune, all the way up the Gulf. Walker's squadron comprised the flagship Edgar, 70 guns; the Windsor, 60 guns; the Montague, 60 guns; the Swiftsure, 70 guns; the Monmouth, 70 guns; the Dunkirk 60 guns; the Humber, 80 guns; the Sunderland, 60 guns; the Devonshire 80 guns; the Enterprise, 40 guns; the Sapphire, 40 guns; the Kingston, 60 guns; the Leopard 54 guns; and the Chester, 50 guns; with no less than seventy transports, of which the Despatch, Four Friends, Francis, John and Hannah, Henrietta, Antelope, Hannah and Elizabeth, Adventure, Rebecca, Martha and Hannah, Johannah, Unity and Newcastle were from New England ports. On leaving Boston Sir Hovenden drew from Governor Dudley rations for 9,385 Englishmen, seamen and soldiers and 1,786 colonists on board the fleet. On the 20th August when they lay off Egg Island, on the north shore of the St Lawrence, having just cleared Gaspe Bay, a dense fog fell upon them. The Admiral ordered the vessels to keep together and soundings were taken every half hour, but the land gave no bottom. On the night of the 22nd Paradis lost his head and signalled for the fleet to close upon shore. While they were moving slowly a dreadful gale arose and as Sir Hovenden said in his journal which was published in London in 1720: "We soon found ourselves amongst rocks and small islands, fifteen leagues further than the log gave, when the whole fleet had like to have been lost." "But by God's good providence," with extreme hazard and difficulty, we escaped. Eight transports were cast away and had I not made the signals as I did, but continued sailing it is a question whether any ship or man had been saved." After the wreck the roster showed only 8,878 survivors. The Labrador shore, says the historian Charlevoix, was strewn with bodies of at least a thousand

soldiers including two complete companies of the Royal Guards and many more of the Marlborough veterans, whose corpses were easily distinguishable by their scarlet coats. It was suspected that Paradis had wilfully cast the fleet away. In his defence, as found in the writings of Mere Juchereau, he pleaded that he saw the moving lights when they first made Gaspe Bay and told some of the high officers that heaven had ordained a terrible catastrophe, "so clearly and with such vividness did the celestial fires burn not only by night but often when there was a fog through the day." The disaster saved Canada to France for the time being and the pious colonists reared many churches in gratitude to Notre Dame des Victoires. The court of Queen Anne went into mourning, and Sir Hovenden exiled himself to South Carolina, where as a French writer quaintly said, "he wrote numerous apologies for the disaster with which God had been pleased to visit the English fleet." The flagship *Edgar*, with 470 men blew up at Portsmouth on her return from the Gulf which was "further evidence of God's displeasure at the invasion of New France."

Every great wreck that has taken place since Sir Hovenden's calamity has been preceded, if tradition is to be believed by these mysterious lights; or rather they have warned the mariner of the fatal storm. When the Gulf gives up its dead there will be a vast muster. In 1797 the French warship *La Tribune* was lost, with 300 souls. In 1805 the British transport *Nacus* went down with 800. In 1831 the emigrant ship *Lady Sherbrooke*, from Derry to Quebec, was lost, only 32 out of 273 passengers being saved. In 1847 nearly 200 Irish emigrants with the brig *Carrick* and 240 more on the *Exmouth*. Two hundred and twenty-five souls perished in the wreck of the *Hungarian* on the 19th February, 1860; 35 in the *Canadian* on the 4th of June, 1861 and 237 when the *Anglo Saxon* was lost in a fog off Cape Race on the 27 April 1863. How many fishing boats and coast-

ers have gone down with all hands leaving no sign, it is not safe even to guess. This fall (1882) if lights are to be believed—and the Gulf fishermen say they cannot lie—storms of unexampled fierceness will rage from the autumnal equinox until the winter is past. Should augury be fulfilled perhaps it may be worth while for meteorologists and seafaring men to enquire into the source and origin of these strange watchmen of the deep.

MEDALS OF THE REIGN OF LOUIS XIV.

(Continued)

BY JOSEPH K. FORAN, GREEN PARK, AYLMER, QUE.



EDAL. LXXVII.—Charles I. Duke of Lorraine celebrated for his valor and warlike ability was none the less famous on account of his inconsistency and frivolity of mind, which latter characteristic finally brought on his ruin. As quickly as he signed a treaty with France he broke it. After the Peace of the Pyrenees, the King generously restored him his States. He placed Marsal in the hands of France as a guarantee of his fidelity. However, as usual, he broke his engagement and Louis, in person proceeded to Metz, and marched against Charles. The Duke met the King and gave orders to have Marsal restored and re-signed the treaty. The third time in three years.

On the medal we see Charles as the god Proteus, who in fable, had the power to change himself into any form he desired and was only known by his strength. The Legend reads:—*PROTEI ARTES DELUSOE* meaning, *the artifices of the new Proteus rendered useless*. In Exergue:—*Marsalium Captum, M. DC. LXIII. Marsal taken in 1663.*

LXXVIII. Medal.—This is one of the gems, as to design and workmanship. The Swiss have had an old alliance with France, which they always renewed when its date of expiration was approaching. The last was under Henry

IV, for himself and his son, afterwards Louis XIII. In the Church of Notre-Dame the alliance was renewed by Louis XIV, for himself and the Dauphin. Cardinal Antoine, Grand Almoner of France is represented holding on the King's *Prie Dieu* the book of the Gospels. The King places his hand upon it and one of the Ambassadors does likewise. The legend is FOEDUS HELVETICUM INSTAURATUM, meaning, *the renewal of the alliance with Switzerland*. In Exergue is the date 1663.

LXXIX. MEDAL.—This medal is of peculiar historical interest although very simple in itself. France has ever been styled by Catholic nations the "first daughter of the church," and strange to say she never under Kings, Emperors, Presidents or Consuls, could agree with Rome. Here is an example. In 1662 the Corsicans in the Papal Guard insulted the French Ambassador. At Pisa a treaty was made whereby Louis XIV agreed to forget the injury if the Pope would order every Corsican soldier to leave the army and forbid them ever to become members of any military body inside the Papal States.

The Pope did so and a monument was erected in Rome in commemoration of the event. On the Medal is a pyramid. Rome is represented, as in olden days, in the form of a goddess with a helmet and spear and on her shield is the word ROMA. She is sitting at the base of the Pyramid. The Legend reads: OB NEFANDUM SCELUS A CORSIS EDITUM IN ORATOREM REGIS FRANCORUM, which means:—*Monument erected in expiation of the horrible attack made by the Corsicans on the French Ambassador*. In Exergue the date 1664.

(N.B. How strange the ways of God and the destiny of peoples! In later days a subaltern of Corsica sat on France's throne and hurled his mandates against the power of Rome.)

LXXX. MEDAL.—The Battle of Saint Gothard is one

famous in the history of Europe. Eighty thousand Turks entered Hungary and carried terror to the very doors of Germany. On the banks of the Raab under the shadow of St. Gothard, the French charged the Infidels on the left and the Imperial army, under the Count of Monticuculi swept down on their right. The river was bridged with their slain. The French took eleven pieces of artillery. Victory is seen carrying a veil bespangled with lilies and holding a palm in her hand, under her feet is a turban, bow, arrows, &c., The legend is, GERMANIA SERVATA, meaning, Germany saved. In Exergue, TURCIS AD ARRABONEM COESIS M. DC. LXIV. *The Turks defeated by the Raab 1664.*

LXXXI. MEDAL.—The workmanship of this medal is very unique and beautiful. Amongst the many conditions of pardon which Louis imposed on the pope to expiate the crime of his guards, one was that the papal legate, Cardinal Chigi should repair to Fontainebleau to present in person, to the King, the excuses of the Vatican. On the medal we see the King and the Legate in his Majesty's room seated upon a sofa. The Legate, with the Cardinal's hat on, reads from a paper the conventional form of excuse. The legend is, CORSICUNE FACINUS EXCUSATUM. In Exergue, LEGATO A LATERE MISSE M. DC. LXIV. Meaning, *Satisfaction for the Corsican attack, made by a legate a latere, 1664.*

LXXXII. MEDAL.—Establishment of manufactures. Minerva is represented with tapestry &c., around her, the legend reads; MINERVA LOCUPLETATRIX, meaning, *The Kingdom enriched by the arts*, of which Minerva is the symbol. In Exergue, ARTES INSTAURATÆ M. DC. LXIV. *The arts re-established. 1664.*

LXXXIII. MEDAL.—The re-establishment of Navigation. A vessel is represented in full sail. The legend reads, NAVIGATIO INSTAURATA.—*Navigation re-established 1665.*

LXXXIV. MEDAL.—France already had commercial relations of great importance with the West Indies. The King

desired to extend also into the East the commerce of his Kingdom. A colony was sent to Madagascar. The medal is bold in design and beautiful as a work of art. The colony is represented, as among the ancients, by an ox. The ox has a hump on his back like those seen in that Island. He is beside a huge tree of a kind peculiar to that region. The legend is;— COLONIA MADAGASCARICA; i.e., *The Colony of Madagascar*. In Exergue; 1665.

LXXXV. MEDAL.—The troubles during the minority, and the many wars, placed some gentlemen in possession of properties they had no claim upon and gave them power to play the tyrant on a small scale. The King then established a tribunal called *les grands jours* or "The Great Days." This Tribunal had exceptional and extraordinary powers to deal with those land robbers. On the Medal is Justice holding in one hand a sword and scales and by the other raising a woman who represents the persecuted princess and who is sitting by the wayside imploring protection. The legend is; PROVINCE INJURIS POTENTIORUM VINDICATAE, which means; *The Provinces delivered from the oppression of the Great*. In Exergue the date 1666.

LXXXVI. MEDAL.—After Peace was established the King formed a great number of military companies. This medal is really an extraordinary piece of workmanship. It represents a whole company of Musketeers in review before the King. The legend reads; DISCIPLINA MILITARIS RESTITUTA; *re-establishment of military discipline*. In Exergue the date 1666.

The four medals that follow are, in all likelihood, the best designs of the whole series, of course from such a number of very beautiful pieces of art it is difficult to choose the most perfect. Like walking along a gallery of Art, each painting seems the best of all until you meet the next one. However, the works of an inferior artist can be easily distinguished from those of an Angelo, or a Domenichino al-

though they may hang on the same wall. So with the medals. They are all very beautiful but we consider these four the most perfect.

LXXXVII. MEDAL.—The death of the Queen's Mother. The marriage of Louis XIII with the Infantine Anne the daughter of Philip III, of Spain took place in 1612. For 23 years she had no children. Finally Louis the Great was born. She was regent during the minority. On the medal is the Tomb over which rises a pyramid surmounted by a crown and in its face is a picture of the Queen. At either end of the Tomb is a seated figure, one represents Religion holding on her knee the model of the Church of Val de Grace which the Queen built. The other represents the science of government, holding a rudder and having her foot on a globe. The legend reads; ANNÆ AUSTRIACÆ MATRI CALENDISSIMÆ. meaning; that the King had this medal struck *in honor of Ann of Austria his mother, the object of so much honor.* In Exergue; OBIT VIGESIMO JANUARIII M. D.C. LXVI. *Died the 20th January 1666.*

LXXXVIII. MEDAL.—While France was in almost constant war, and troubles assailed the country from end to end literature was flourishing. Never has France seen, and perchance never will she again see such an age of triumph as that of the seventeenth century. On the obverse of this medal a new figure of the King is represented. Longer hair and a more manly face distinguishes it from the former stamp. On the reverse we see the liberality of the King under the form of a woman holding a cornucopia. Four young children represent the genii of the Four Arts. Eloquence holds a lyre; Poetry has a trumpet and a laurel wreath; Astronomy is measuring a globe of the heavens; and History seated on a heap of books is writing. The legend is; BONÆ ARTES REMUNERATÆ, meaning *The fine Arts recompensed.* In Exergue the date 1666.

LXXXIV. MEDAL.—He established an academy of Arts.

An assembly of men most learned in all the sciences, who met twice each week in the large hall of the Louvre to promote the interests of the country. On the medal is Minerva seated; around her is a sphere, a skeleton, a furnace scrolls of paper &c., &c., representing Astronomy, Anatomy, Chemistry, Geometry, Mechanics, Physics, and all the other branches of knowledge. The legend reads; *NATURE INVESTIGANDE ET PERFICIENDIS ARTIBUS*; and in Exergue, *REGIA SCIENTIARUM ACADEMIA INSTITUTA M. DC. LXVI*. Meaning; *Royal Academy of Sciences, destined to seek out nature's secrets and render perfect the Arts, 1666.*

XC. MEDAL.—Help sent to the Hollanders. Pallas is seen beside an altar covering Holland with a shield on which are the arms of France. The legend reads *RELIGIO FOEDERUM*, meaning, *Religious observance of treaties*. In Exergue: the words; *BATAVIS TERRA, MARIQUE DEFENSIS. M. DC. LXVI*. *Holland rescued by land and by sea, 1666.*

XCI. MEDAL.—A woman dressed as an American Indian, at her feet a shield with England's arms on it, and leaning on a buckler bearing the arms of France. The legend is: *COLONIA FRANCORUM STABILITA*; meaning, *The french colony established*. In Exergue: *ANGLIS EX INSULA SANCTI CHRISTOPHORI EXTURBATA*, M. DC. LXVI. *The English chased from the Isle of Saint Christopher 1666.*

Having commented so fully on some of the foregoing medals we find it difficult to place any more within our limited space. So far we have given ninety-one medals and are consequently one third of the way through. Perchance there is no more easy and more instructive means of rendering immortal the actions of any great man, than thus commemorating each event and handing down to posterity in the form of medals the story, which if merely confined to books would soon be lost.

Before closing this article we would desire to make a remark. It seems very strange that we have so many persons

of culture and education in Canada who are familiar with many branches of antiquarian knowledge and yet who never attempt to impart it to others. Why not give a helping hand to such a magazine as the *Antiquarian* and so fill its pages that instead of every three months we may see it monthly? It is to be hoped that in the not distant future, a good number of contributors will spring up. Such a publication is a stone requisite in the construction of our grand Canadian Nationality!

THE MAPPEMONDE OF SEBASTIAN CABOT.

THE library of Harvard College, in Gore Hall, has recently been enriched with a photographic facsimile of the large map of the world in the National Library in Paris, known as the map of Sebastian Cabot. This interesting memorial was discovered in Germany, about the year 1844, in the house of a Bavarian curate, and through the good offices of M. de Martius, was in that year purchased for the Paris Library. It is a large elliptical *mappemonde*, engraved on copper, 1 metre 48 centimetres in width, 1 metre 11 centimetres in height. Along each side of the map—that is to say, outside the circle—is a table 30 centimetres in width; the first, on the left, inscribed at the head, *Tabula Prima*, and that on the right *Tabula Secunda*. On these tables are 17 *legendes*, or inscriptions in duplicate—that is to say, in Spanish and in Latin—printed and pasted on the map. Each legend in Latin immediately follows the Spanish original and bears the same number. Besides these 17 inscriptions there are five others in Spanish which have no Latin *exemplars*. The ancient map, composed, as we shall see further on, in the year 1544, while Cabot was yet living in Spain, contains geographical delineations of discoveries down to about that period. In representing the northeast coast of our continent, Newfoundland is laid down as a group of islands; and we easily recog-

nize the River and Bay of St. Lawrence, Cape Breton, and the Isle of St. John. The west coast of America is delineated as far north as latitude 35, California being drawn from the wellknown chart made the pilot Castillo, in 1541. To the north of this, of course, is the unknown region; for nobody then knew certainly whether America and Asia were one continuous continent, or were divided by straits, and the conjectures of geographers were at variance. But the interest in this map centres principally in its inscriptions; and, though the most of these contain little of value in a geographical or historical point of view, a few of them are of special significance. The seventeenth inscription, by turning it into English, reads as follows: "Sebastian, Captain and Pilot-Major of his sacred Imperial Majesty, the Emperor Don Carlos, the fifth of this name and the king our Lord, made this figure extended on a plane surface, in the year of the birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ, 1544, having drawn it by degrees of latitude and longitude, with the winds, as a sailing chart, following partly Ptolemy and partly the modern discoveries, Spanish and Portuguese, and partly the discovery made by his father and himself: by it you may sail as by a sea chart having regard to the variation of the needle," &c. Then follows a discussion relative to the variation of the needle which Sebastian Cabot claimed to have noticed. Here we have the declaration that the map was made by Sebastian Cabot, Pilot-Major of the Emperor Charles V., and in the year 1544 at which time we know he was living in Spain and held the office. And this is accompanied by the statement, that, in making the map, he was guided by the discoveries of his father, John Cabot and himself. Inscription No 8 reads thus: "This country was discovered by John Cabot a Venetian, and Sebastian Cabot, his son, in year of our Lord Jesus Christ, MCCCCXCIV [1494.] on the 24th June in the morning, which land they called '*prima vista*', and a large Island adjacent to it they named the Island of St John they discovered it on the same day," &c.—*Science*.

TWO ANCIENT FORTS.

RUINS OF PREHISTORIC EARTHWORKS IN THE
MICHIGAN WOODS.

HERE are two of these forts, and an examination of the upper one, which is situated on a high bank near the river, and about twenty-five feet above the water, showed the enclosure to regular in form, round or rather oblong, the longest distance being north and south. The works consist of a ditch and earth embankment, which was found to be about five hundred and twenty feet in circumference, and about five feet from the bottom of the trench to the top of the embankment, which appears to have been greatly reduced in height by exposure to the elements. Inside the embankment the ground is level save where trees grew, and there have been some large ones. There are four entrances to this enclosure, one facing each of the cardinal points of the compass, these entrances or gateways are about wide enough to admit the passage of a waggon. Instead of the trench being completed around the entrance, and bridging the same it terminates on each side of the passage-way, where a narrow strip of ground appears not to have been disturbed. These openings were undoubtedly protected by gates. On top of the embankment was a rampart of logs with a palisade. There can scarce be any doubt of this, as the remains of charred wood are found in different parts of the embankment. On the right hand side of each passage-way leading out of the embankment is higher than in other places. About eight years ago the pine timber here was cut off. By counting the rings, or yearly growth, on a pine stump which stood on the embankment, it was found to contain 264, which together with the eight years since the tree was cut, makes this work at least 272 years old—long before the days of the Jesuit missionaries, or the first whites that history records, which was in the year 1641—238 years ago. Thus it will be seen

that the date of this work is anterior to the first permanent English settlement upon the American continent, and about the day of Queen Elizabeth of England. The timber that now stands within the surroundings has grown since the erection of this fortification; for the trees found within this enclosure and those surrounding appear to be of about the same general size and age. Within about 60 rods overlooking this work, are situated hills that rise perhaps 100 feet above the surroundings, showing that the builders of the defence did not expect artillery to be used against it. The other fort which is larger of the two, is situated three miles further down the river, and is much more impressive in appearance. Like the other this is situated near the river on a slight eminence, and contains the same general characteristics—four entrances at right angles—north, south, east and west. Here the embankment in some places is ten feet high. The circumference in this work is over one hundred feet. As in the other case, trees grew on the embankment, and within the enclosure there was one above four feet in diameter. In the centre of the western gateway stands a large hemlock tree, and the surroundings are covered with a thick heavy growth of timber. One tree which had been cut down near the edge of the enclosure was over four feet in diameter, and by counting the successive rings or circles of wood was found to be 390 years old. Farwell (Mich.) *Register*.

PROFIT ON COINAGE.



CONSIDERABLE source of profit to the United States government is the amount of paper money, and coin, which is never presented for redemption. Much of this is destroyed by fire. Some of it is buried or hid in places known to no person alive. a large quantity of the coin is melted to make sterling silverware. Considerable amount of both paper money and coin are exported, never to return. Not long ago a United States bond, issued 1819, was presented at the sub-treasury in this city. The interest on it had ceased over fifty years. It had

come back from Europe through Baring Brothers. The outstanding principal of the public debt of the United States last year was nearly \$2,000,000,000, chiefly represented by bonds and treasury notes. It would be, of course impossible to say how much of this will never be presented for redemption, but some idea may be formed from the fact that \$57,665 of it was issued so long ago that the date is not recorded, it appears in the report as 'old debt' that may safely be put down as profit. There is an item of \$82,525 of treasury notes issued prior to 1846. Some of them were issued nearly fifty years ago, and will not in all probability, ever be presented for redemption. One thousand one hundred and four dollars of the Mexican indemnity of 1846 has never been claimed. The last of the fractional currency was issued under the act of June 6, 1864 yet although nearly twenty years have elapsed \$7,077,247 has not been presented for redemption. Some of it is still used by banks and merchant for transmitting small sums by mail. Several New York banks have considerable sums of fractional currency which they distributed for accommodation of their customers.

As to the coin the government derives a considerable profit from it. The silver in 1000 silver dollars is on an average about \$803.75. The coinage of a silver dollar costs about one and one quarter cents. The total costs of 1000 silver dollars to the government is therefore \$816.75. Since the organization of the mint in 1783 127,190,618 silver dollars have been coined on which the government has received a profit of over \$23,000,000.

In the same period \$122,758,410 was coined into half dollars. At the same rate of cost for coinage the government profited \$19,395,769 on these. The total silver coinage on the government since 1793, is \$347,766,792. Estimating the profit on the halves and quarters subsidiary coins at the same rate as the dollars, the total profit received by the government on its silver coinage has been about \$64,000,000. In the coinage of the five cent nickels the government reserved

to itself the liberal profit of 50 per cent. This gave to the government last year a handsome revenue of over \$100,000 from nickels alone. The wide margin between the intrinsic value of the five cent nickel and its face value led to extreme counterfeiting. Several years ago an assay was made of some of the counterfeit nickels and it was discovered, that the counterfeiters had put into their coin more valuable metal than the government uses in making the genuine coins.

NUMISMATIC AND ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY OF MONTREAL.



THE usual monthly meetings of the Society have been held regularly, with an average attendance and many interesting facts in Canadian history have been discussed. At the Annual Meeting held in December, after routine business, the election of officers for the ensuing year was held over to an adjourned meeting, which was duly held and the election proceeded with, with the following result:—

HON. P. J. O. CHAUVEAU, F.R.S.C.	<i>President.</i>
HON. JUDGE BABY - - - -	<i>1st Vice-President.</i>
HENRY MOTT - - - -	<i>2nd Vice-President</i>
J. A. NUTTER - - - -	<i>Treasurer.</i>
A. C. LYMAN - - - -	<i>Curator.</i>
ROSWELL C. LYMAN - - - -	<i>Secre.ary.</i>

Editing Committee:—H. MOTT, J. A. NUTTER, and, A. LAROCQUE.

EDITORIAL.



WE regret to make an appearance with another apology to our Subscribers for a delay in the issue of the present number, but for various reasons it has been impossible to publish it earlier; rather than have any further delay we close with a few pages short off our usual limit, which will be given in our next issue.