

Annual Report

OF THE

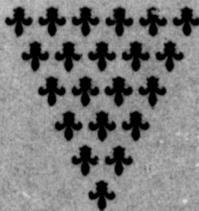
Pioneer

AND

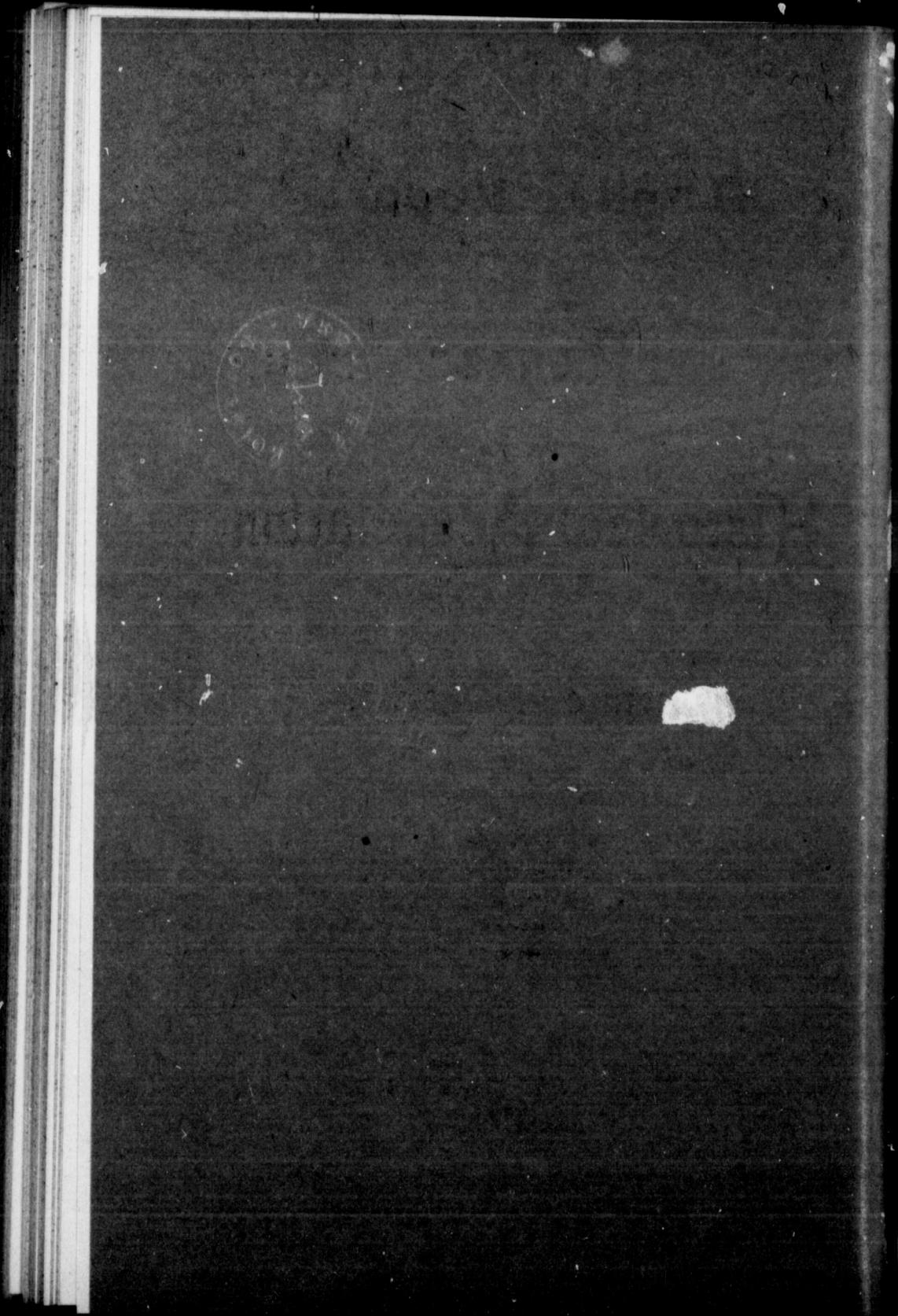
Historical Association

OF THE

Province of Ontario.



1897.



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Pioneer

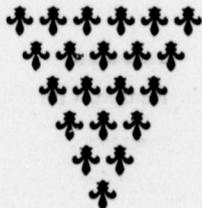
—AND—

Historical Association

—OF THE—

Province of Ontario,

Canada.



ORGANIZED AT TORONTO,

September 4th, 1888.

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MERCURY JOB PRINT, QUELPH

## *Officers.*

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### Honorary Presidents.

Rev. Dr. Scadding                      Rev. Canon Bull, M. A.

### President.

J. H. Coyne, B. A.

### Vice-Presidents.

1st. W. H. Doel, J. P.                      2nd. Rev. Dr. W. R. Parker

### Honorary Vice-Presidents.

Eli Crawford, Peel	Rev. P. L. Spencer, Thorold
Judge J. A. Ardagh, Simcoe	F. J. French, Q. C., Grenville
Geo. H. Mills, Wentworth	W. Atkin, Elgin
Lt.-Col. H. C. Rogers, Peterborough	Mrs. Curzon, Toronto
Miss Carnochan, Niagara	

### Treasurer.

Wm. Rennie, Guelph

### Secretary.

J. B. Reynolds, Guelph

### Executive Committee.

J. H. Land		D. B. Read, Q. C.
A. F. Hunter		Thos. Morphy
	J. Brant-Cero	

### ***By-Laws.***

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1. The President shall be, *ex-officio*, chairman of all meetings, ordinary and special, when he is present.

2. In the absence of the President, the Vice-President shall preside, but in the absence of both, then the chairman of the Committee or other member of the Association as shall then be nominated by the members present, may preside, and said chairman shall, for the time, be clothed with all the powers of the chairman.

3. In case of two members rising at the same time to address the meeting, the presiding chairman shall decide who has the floor.

4. Any member addressing the meeting shall do so through the presiding chairman, and shall not occupy the floor more than fifteen minutes without permission.

5. At all meetings the chair is to be taken punctually at the hour appointed, and in case thirty minutes elapse without a quorum, the meeting may stand adjourned until such time as the members may name and appoint.

6. It will be the duty of the Secretary to keep the minutes of all meetings of the Association and read them at the next meeting, in order to their correction and confirmation; to conduct all the correspondence of the Association. It will also be the duty of the Secretary to make a full annual report, at the regular or adjourned annual meeting, of the proceedings of the Association for the preceding year.

7. The Treasurer shall take charge of all funds and keep a correct account of the same, disbursing them under the direction of the Association, being prepared at any regular meeting with a statement of the finances, and making an annual report at the regular or adjourned annual meeting.

## Constitution.

1st. This Association shall be called the "Pioneer and Historical Association of the Province of Ontario, Canada."

2nd. Its objects shall be to unite the various Pioneer and Historical Societies of the Province in one central head or organization, thereby the better to promote intercourse and union of all such societies, for the better preservation of historical and other records and memorials of the Province, for the forming of new societies and such purposes, and for the promoting and extending the influence and benefits thereof. Also, this Association shall publish an annual report, containing the names of all the members of each and every affiliated society, with such other matters as may be required, each such affiliating society to receive copies thereof.

3rd. Its membership shall consist of delegates from all the various Pioneer and Historical Societies of the Province, of such as are now in existence, and of those that may in the future be formed.

4th. The affairs of this Association shall be managed by a President, two Vice-Presidents, a Secretary, Treasurer, and an Executive Committee of five; all of whom shall be appointed from among the regular members of the Association; the officers being, *ex-officio*, members of the committee, all of whom shall hold office until their successors are regularly appointed.

5th. An annual general meeting of the Association shall be held at such place in Ontario as shall be appointed at each preceding annual or adjourned annual meeting, such annual meeting to be held on the first Wednesday in June in each and every year, to receive the annual reports of the Association, and taking proper action thereon; for the nomination and election of officers, the committee and two auditors, and to transact such other business as may be required. Five members to form a quorum; for the committee, three.

6th. It is not the intention of this Association to exercise any control in governing or directing any of the affiliated societies, or in any way to interfere in their private working; but in case any question is referred to this Association by any of the affiliated societies, then it will be competent for this Association to consider and decide upon any such question or reference.

7th. No portion of the Constitution or By-Laws of the Association may be altered, added to, or repealed, until approved of by two-thirds of the members present at the meeting; and for such proposed alteration, adding to, or repeal, notice thereof shall be given to the Secretary in writing and signed by such requirer, at least one month before the said meeting; and the Secretary shall immediately, on reception of said notice, send copies of such proposed alterations, adding to, or repeal, to each member of the Association.

8th. Each and every affiliated society shall pay into the funds of this Association an annual sum, as dues, of ten cents for each and every member of such society; but when the number of members of such society exceeds one hundred, then no further annual dues, namely, than ten dollars per annum for such affiliated society, will be required; said dues to be due and payable at each annual meeting, and if not paid, the delegates from such society will not have a vote until such arrears are paid.

9th. Honorary members not living in Ontario may be elected on the recommendation of the Executive Committee, but such honorary members shall not vote or hold office except as an auditor. Nor shall such honorary members have a voice in the regular business of the Association, except by permission.

10th. A special meeting of the Association may be called by the chairman upon a requisition signed by three members, which meeting shall be competent to entertain no business except such as it is called for.

11th. No subjects involving differences in religion or politics will on any account be considered proper for discussion.

12th. Each and every affiliated society may send to this Association not more than five delegates, but as soon as nine different societies are represented, this section of the Constitution will be null and void, and section 12 will read as follows, viz.:

Each and every affiliated society will be represented in this Association by one delegate regularly appointed by such affiliated society, the Secretary of this Association being notified in writing by the Secretary of such society of the appointment, with name and address of same.



## *Tenth Annual Meeting.*

The tenth annual meeting of the Pioneer and Historical Association of the Province of Ontario was held on Wednesday, June 2nd, in the Town Hall at Niagara.

The President, Rev. Canon Bull, took the chair. Delegates and others present:—Rev. P. L. Spencer, Eli Crawford, W. H. Doel, J. P., Mrs. S. A. Curzon, Miss Carnochan, Wm. Rennie, J. Brant-Cero, H. Pafford, J. H. Coyne, Mrs. Col. Leigh, Rev. J. C. Garrett, Mr. Kirby, James Wilson, Alfred Ball, Capt. Garrett, Mrs. Walton, Mrs. Scales, Miss S. Mickle, Mrs. James Bain, Miss Lawrence, E. D. Cameron, Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Brantford, and the Mayor of Niagara.

The President opened the meeting by inviting the Mayor and others to the platform. His Worship, in a few pleasant remarks, welcomed the visitors to the old historic town of Niagara.

The minutes of last meeting were read and approved. Then the Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were read, and the Treasurer's statement approved.

The Historical Society of the Town and County of Peterborough was formally affiliated. Reports from the affiliated societies were read by delegates.

It was moved by Mr. Coyne, seconded by Mr. Kirby, That for the purposes of the Association each tribe of the Six Nation Indians be entitled to send a representative to the meetings of the Association.—Carried. Mr. E. D. Comeran responded to the resolution.

Mr. W. H. Doel gave the following notice of motion:—That the twelfth clause of the Constitution, now reading "each and every affiliated society will be represented in this Association by one delegate," be amended to read: "each and every affiliated society may be represented by three delegates."

The election of officers for the ensuing year was then proceeded with. Rev. Canon Bull was nominated for re-election as President, but declined in favor of Mr. J. H. Coyne. Mr. Coyne was accordingly elected President. The list of officers will be found on page 2 of this report.

The following communications were presented from the Niagara Historical Society and the Niagara District U. E. L. Association:

That the Association of Pioneer and Historical Societies be asked to cooperate with the Niagara Historical Society in taking steps to procure some memorial of the landing of the United Empire Loyalists at Niagara.

The Niagara Historical Society asks this with all the more confidence, inasmuch as the respected President of the Association two years ago proposed that there should be something erected, either in the form of a cairn of stones, with the names of the families inscribed on them, or a monument of some kind to commemorate an event so important in the history of this country, and which has helped so much to mould the history of this Province, having introduced an element truly loyal to the British throne, and ready to shed their blood in defence of British institutions.

*To the President and Members of the Pioneer and Historical Association of the Province of Ontario, assembled at Niagara-on-the-Lake :*

We, the members of the Niagara District United Empire Loyalist Association, desire to convey our best wishes to you assembled at Niagara, the landing place of our forefathers, and the scene of many important events in the history of the North American continent. Hoping you may continue in the good work so important to us all, and necessary to a country's welfare.

A very pleasing feature of the meeting was the presence of Mr. E. D. Cameron and a large number of Indian delegates. These names are given below. Interesting addresses were delivered by a number of the Indian delegates.

**INDIAN DELEGATES.**

NAMES.	INDIAN NAME.	MEANING.
E. D. Cameron, Supt	De-has-wa-ha-twa	Dispense darkness.
Joseph Hill, Secretary	Sa-ko-ha-ryes	The biter.
Wm. Rup, Interpreter	Ken-wen-des-hon	These days.
A. G. Smith	De-ka-nen-ra-neh	Double column of men.
J. W. M. Elliott	De-yonh-heh-gwen	Double life.
Joob Martin	De-hen-na-ka-ri-ne	Carrying his horns.
Wm. Smith	A-tya-do-ha-ron-gwen	Off the stilts.
Peter Powless	Sha-de-ka-ri-wa-di	Words of equal import.
Nicodemus Porter	De-yo-ha-gwen-da	Breathing hole in ice.
George Hill	O-nen-ho-ken-yon	Shelled corn.
John A. Gibson	Ska-nya-da-re-yo	Handsome lake.
George Gibson	De-yo-nin-ho-ka-ra-wen	Open door.
Benjamin Carpenter	Des-ka-he	More than ten.
Abram Charles	De-ka-en-yon	Observer.
Mr. Echo	A-hih-hon	Spiller.
Alex. Hill	Kat-ko-da-yen-don	Elder reeds.
Nelles Morture	Wis-cum-orh-ol	New Canoe.

The Niagara Historical Society and the U. E. Loyalist Society took advantage of the presence of the Six Nation Indians at the meeting to present addresses to them, speaking in highly complimentary terms of the noble part taken by their people in Canadian affairs and in Canadian citizenship, mentioning especially Pauline Johnson and Dr. Conhyateka.

Mr. Cameron, on behalf of the Six Nations, invited the Association to hold their next annual meeting at Brantford, at the Reserves.

On motion the invitation was accepted.

The President then delivered his annual address. He was followed by Rev. P. L. Spencer, who addressed the meeting in an interesting manner on the Importance of Historical Associations, and explained the proposed township history about to be published by the Thorold and Beaver Dam Association.

The Rev. H. C. Garrett, who was present, postponed his address on account of the lateness of the hour.

The meeting adjourned shortly before 6 p. m.

The Association met again at 8 p. m., in the Court Room, which was well filled, there being about 200 persons present, including many of the prominent citizens of Niagara and the surrounding country.

On motion of Mrs. Curzon, seconded by Miss Carnochan, it was resolved that the Secretary be requested to prepare the Annual Report to the Royal Society of Canada, and that Mr. Ernest Cruikshank be the delegate of this Association to the Society's annual meeting at Halifax on the 22nd inst. In the event of his being unable to attend, then a delegate shall be named by the President and Secretary.

Miss Carnochan moved, seconded by Mr. J. Brant-Cero, that the Rev. Dr. Scadding and the Rev. Canon Bull be elected Honorary Presidents of this Association. Carried.

Moved by Rev. Canon Bull, seconded by Mr. J. Brant-Cero, that Mrs. Curzon, Miss Carnochan, and the Secretary, be a committee to prepare a loyal address to Her Majesty the Queen on the occasion of the completion of the 60th year of her reign, and that the same, after being suitably engrossed and signed by the Officers of the Association, be forwarded to Her Majesty through the proper channel.

The motion was carried with enthusiasm, the delegates and the audience rising and singing the National Anthem.

The President then announced that the Council of the Six Nations being present through their authorized representative Chiefs would now hold a regular meeting of Council, presided over by the Superintendent, Mr. E. D. Cameron, for which purpose it would be necessary to hand over the entire conduct of the proceedings to Mr. Cameron and the Chiefs. The delegates and visitors within the bar therefore retired to other parts of the hall, their places being immediately taken by the Council according to the precedence of the tribes. The Superintendent occupied the chair, and invited the President and ex-President of the Association to occupy the seats of honor to his right and left as visitors. The other chairs on the platform were occupied by the

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Acting Speaker, the Clerk, and the Interpreter. The proceedings of the Council lasted until shortly after 10 p. m., when they were formally concluded, and the President resumed the chair.

The President then announced that the next meeting of the Association would be held in September, at Toronto, on the Industrial Exhibition grounds during the Fair, and the annual meeting on the first Wednesday in June, 1898, at Ohsweken, on the Reserve, and after some brief references to the approaching Jubilee Celebration, declared the meeting adjourned.



## *The Presidential Annual Address, 1897.*

Niagara, Wednesday, June 2nd, 1897.

*Ladies and Gentlemen :*

Your attendance here to-day is very gratifying. The Secretary's Report, with mention of the addition of a few more local Historical Societies to our list within the past year, is also very cheering ; it indicates a progressive interest in loyal and patriotic Canadian history, such as we have been promoting. The presence of a delegation of Chiefs from the Six Nations, Brantford, affords us a very sincere pleasure, and leads us to hope that they will annually take part in the work of this Association. To their braves, in the war of 1812-14, is chiefly due the preservation of Canada to the British Crown.

The annual meeting of the Association, we feel sure, continues to afford to all who have watched it from the first, an increasing pleasure. The celebrity of a place like Niagara, serves to enliven a genuine interest in historic incidents and names belonging to it, revives memories, and rekindles the spirit of loyalty and patriotism in our breasts.

We have visited, in convention, the landing place of the first pioneers of York county, where the new fort now stands as a memorial outside of the Queen City of Toronto. We have enjoyed a visit to Brampton, where pioneers and loyalists began work in 1783 to open out what is now the wealthy county of Peel. Hamilton was the place of our last meeting, "the Ambitious City," the chosen sight also of early settlers in Wentworth county, whose descendants in 1837 were called "The Men of Gore," the name of the District at that period ; and Niagara receives our Association to-day. Thanks to the zealous Historical Society of this place for the cordial invitation sent to us last year to come and see and hear of this most famous place. We are told on good authority ( W. Kirby, F. R. S. C. ) that Niagara has a record of history beyond that of almost any town in North America. We are told :

"Its beginnings are lost in the mists of antiquity. The relations of the Jesuit Missionaries, written in 1640, tell of the old Indian town of Onghiara, the principal town of the lost nation of the Neutrals, who had lived here from time unknown, when they were visited by the missionaries of the Jesuits. Onghiara was the predecessor of Niagara on the site of the present town. Nearly fifty years after its discovery it was visited by the famous explorer La Salle, who built a trading post on the present site of Fort Niagara. This country remained under the government of France until 1759, when Fort Niagara was besieged and taken by General Prideaux, who fell in the siege, and by Sir William Johnston, his second in command. The siege was a most memorable event in American history. Its possession by the English

until 1796 and the events that occurred there during the war of the Revolution form a distinct period of deep romantic interest. Then came the memorable settlement of Niagara by the United Empire Loyalists, who left the old colonies to live under the British flag, by whom the town of Niagara was again founded in 1783. The history of the town, which in 1792 received the name of Newark from Governor Simcoe, is of great interest to the whole Province as the seat of government and legislation for some years, and the principal place for commerce in Upper Canada. The war of 1812 led to its utter destruction. It was burnt down by the enemy on their flight from the frontier in December, 1813. Its rebuilding after the war, under its restored name of Niagara, and the many subsequent events which have occurred here, are subjects of much interest."

I have more than once spoken of Niagara, and of one thing in particular in connection which deserves attention—the erection of a memorial to mark the landing place of U. E. Loyalists in 1783. Such memorial would be significant, just as when Samuel, the prophet of old, "took a stone and set it between Mizpeh and Shen, and called the name of it Ebenezer, saying, 'Hitherto hath the Lord helped us.'"—I Samuel 7 : 12.

There are times and seasons when we ought to take a retrospective view of Providential dealings in order that fervent gratitude may be stirred up towards Him who directs and controls the issues of human life, as seems best in His sight.

#### THE GREAT REIGN.

This year of 1897 will be always regarded as the *annus mirabilis* in British history, the 60th year of Queen Victoria's reign. Under God's providence it has been long and happy, glorious and prosperous. With fitting enthusiasm it will be celebrated in all parts of the Empire. Congratulations will, we are quite sure, be heartily given by other countries and sent to Windsor Castle, and by none more readily, we believe, than by the people of the great American Republic; they at least will bear a cordial testimony to the integrity, piety and purity of Britain's Queen. Her people of Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all her colonies and dependencies, with one consent bear a joyful testimony to a reign so long and beneficent. Britain's colonial administration is a marvel, her colonizing power is always successful. India is marvellously ruled. The recovery of Egypt under British rule is almost without precedent in the world's fiscal history. Her flag has benefited the people wherever it floats; it has brought Christianity, civilization, order and justice and prosperity with it.

Is it not then something to be able to say that in the week of commemoration, beginning on the 20th of June next, 360 millions of British subjects and millions of people of other nations can exclaim with perfect sincerity and honest enthusiasm, "God Save the Queen?"

In these democratic days some people may have a notion that the Throne of England is more ornamental than useful, but that notion is a foolish delusion. True, the Queen of Great Britain does not appoint men to offices in the civil service; she has no authority to do such things; she does not impose the royal veto upon the manifest will of her people. Yet, the Queen as a matter of fact, is of powerful authority, and though the limitations of sovereignty encompass her, she is powerful but not arbitrary, she is influential but not autocratic.

You have only to be in England and see the Queen received by the people whenever she appears in public, and any notions about the waning popularity of royalty will encounter a great shock. As for the cost of royalty and the groans of reluctant ratepayers, you must make allowances, first, for political catch-cries, which most people can see through, even when they are bellowing them; and, secondly, for the cost of Governments not monarchical in countries which need not be named, and then you will see that the bogie of maintaining a regal state is not such a terrible bogie after all, and that, by certain comparisons, it is rather an economical bogie."—*Arthur Warren in Hamilton paper, 1896.*

The occasion of this year's enthusiastic celebration is one without a parallel in our history, or in any national history. No other British monarch has resigned so long. The average length of reign during the last 600 years of English monarchs is about 21 years. No other monarch in any land, since the dawn of history, has reigned so well, and continued so steadily to grow in the admiration and love of her subjects as Victoria, Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, of Canada and all the British dependencies from east to west, and also Empress of India.

May it please God to spare the life of our gracious sovereign for many years, and finally, after this life, having wisely served her generation, may she attain everlasting joy and felicity through Jesus Christ our Lord.—Amen.

Let me add a passing thought. It is this: As we have attained a high position among nations, let there be a continuous effort to keep what we have won, and never to sink below the level which it is the boast of Queen Victoria's reign to have attained.

#### LITERATURE.

Of one thing we are most certain, that the press everywhere will this year fairly teem with volumes of literature relating to the Great Reign of Her Majesty. Every department of human life in the Empire will be represented. In the realms of art and literature it might be claimed that this reign had surpassed any preceding it, though there had been two great reigns of literature before it, of which the Elizabethan had produced the greatest poetic genius of all times. "Books are a guide in youth, and are entertainment in old age." Without knowledge of history the present cannot be understood nor the future

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#### OUR SCHOOL CHILDREN.

In connection with the coming celebration of Her Majesty's Great Reign, the young people of Ontario will take an active part. The Minister of Education has provided that at every school house the children may attend on a certain day for celebrating the event in some worthy manner. We are glad to know that an interesting and useful volume on the subject of the Great Reign will be ready for distribution among school children at a small cost by the board of trustees or by private liberality.

#### HOW CANADA IS GOVERNED, OR CIVICS IN OUR SCHOOLS.

Although it is rather late on our part in mentioning this subject, which is the title of a new and valuable work from the able pen of Dr. Bourinot, F.R. S.C., Ottawa, we feel it a pleasant duty to speak of it at the present time. The subject is most important, and is felt to be so in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and British Columbia, where it has been placed on the list of works to be read by teachers of both public and high schools. We trust that it will be speedily adopted, if not already, in Ontario and Quebec provinces.

#### CANADIAN ARCHÆOLOGY.

This Association has an able ally in David Boyle, Esq., Archæologist, Canadian Institute, Toronto. For many years he has been a zealous student and successful finder of relics and landmarks of early years, and an interpreter of early traditions of this country. While he has been a diligent worker in archæology, and has a rich collection in the museum of the Canadian Institute, it is very cheering to know that co-workers are now coming to his aid, among whom is A. F. Hunter, Esq., of Barrie, Ont. These gentlemen last October spent a few days at one point at least of interest in the township of Innisfil, near Barrie, which invited their attention. There they traced a serpent-shaped mound, and fully proved it to be a relic of the Ancient Mound-Builders. In September, 1896, the discovery of an egg and serpent mound by Mr. Boyle in the Rice Lake District, near Peterboro', led Mr. Hunter to persevere in investigating the Innisfil mound. It is 1230 feet in length ; the average height is between five and six feet, and is 25 feet wide at the base. It is evidently the work of a prehistoric people, and most probably was associated with ideas of worship, and similar in purpose to those found in the old world.

#### ARBITRATION BETWEEN GREAT BRITAIN AND THE UNITED STATES.

Perhaps we are stepping aside from the special purpose of this Association in referring to this subject. Our apology is, that as British Americans we are intensely interested in everything that makes for peace and cordial friendship between the two great countries. We refer to the subject of

arbitration not only for the sake of Christianity, but also on account of the common heritage, language and kinship which the people of Britain and the United States claim; and we also refer to it as one of the great heartfelt desires expressed many times by Her Majesty that there shall be peace, that a recognized tribunal be established on a high, honorable and firm basis, for the settlement of all serious questions likely to arise and disturb the amity of the two countries.

We do not forget that the first message conveyed by the Atlantic cable, July, 1866, was from Her Majesty to the President of the United States; that message was, *peace and good-will*.

At the opening of Parliament January 18, this year, the Queen in her Speech from the Throne, said:

"It is with much gratification that I have concluded a Treaty for General Arbitration with the President of the United States, by which I trust that all differences that may arise between us will be peacefully adjusted. I hope that this arrangement may have a further value in commending to other Powers the consideration of a principle by which the danger of war may be notably abated."

Unfortunately that ratification on the part of the United States has not yet been signed, but postponed, but we trust not for long.

President Grant, of the U. S., when visiting Newcastle, England, in 1877, said these famous words: "I will not speak of the British and American as two peoples, because in fact we are one people with a common destiny, and that destiny will be proportionate to the friendship and co-operation of the brethren dwelling on either side of the Atlantic."

Let us seek peace; let us pray for peace; let us cultivate the spirit of good-will among all nations, and if our fervent prayer be unanswered, and our efforts fruitless, and there be no peace, but jealousy, strife and hatred, then shall such "prayer return," as once said the King of Israel, "into mine own bosom."

#### THE DISCOVERY OF AMERICA FOUR HUNDRED YEARS AGO.

The discovery of Canada first, and later on that part now the United States by the two Cabots, father and son, will be commemorated very shortly in Nova Scotia. The Royal Society of Canada and a large representation of the British Association of England will unite in observing the occasion. Invitations have been received by us to be present. The day will be memorable. Records will be preserved. History will be enriched. The dawn of England's bright day in the reign of Henry VII. will be seen to have increased to a noon-day brightness in the reign of Victoria.

The same event—the Cabotian discovery of this continent—will be duly celebrated, also, in Bristol, England, this month. From that port the two

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Cabots sailed on their great enterprise 1497. Celebrations will be numerous in the United States and Canada. Our Province of Ontario will celebrate the occasion by an Exhibition of much magnitude at Toronto, which will, we are sure, elicit profoundest interest on every side.

In conclusion I beg sincerely to thank the Association for the high honor conferred upon me as president for the past three years. I now retire from the office and leave it to a successor who will occupy it with distinguished ability and greater zeal than I can claim to possess.



## *Secretary's Report.*

The Provincial Pioneer and Historical Association is rapidly increasing in numbers and influence, and in intelligent, well-directed, unanimous effort. Just a year ago, two new societies were affiliated—Niagara and the Woman's Historical Society of Toronto. At this meeting you will be asked to affiliate another new society—that of the Town and County of Peterborough. The number of affiliated societies, including Peterborough, is at present eleven—York, Peel, Simcoe, Wentworth, Lundy's Lane, Thorold and Beaver Dams, Grenville, Elgin, The Woman's Historical Society of Toronto, Niagara and Peterborough. These, with the exception of Grenville, Elgin and Peterborough, are central, mostly clustering about the "Head of the Lake" and representing regions old in story. But while the most fruitful historic ground is thus represented, there are other grounds in this Ontario of ours that would well repay tillage. There is not a community in our Province that has not its pioneers and its places of legendary interest, and that cannot furnish some tale of heroism, hardship or adventure. How can these rapidly decaying treasures be preserved for the perpetuation in succeeding generations of those most wholesome sentiments—admiration and gratitude?

The work done by affiliated societies during the past year will be set forth in the various reports. The Provincial Association, at the meeting held last September, appointed a committee to obtain a grant from the Legislature as specified in the minutes. On February 15th last your secretary addressed the following letter to Rev. Dr. Parker, one of that committee:—"At the September meeting of the Historical Association of Ontario, a committee consisting of Rev. Canon Bull, yourself, Dr. Scadding, and Mr. J. L. Hughes, was appointed as a delegation to wait on the Ontario Government and ask for financial assistance in carrying on the work of the Association. Rev. Canon Bull is ill, and I have authority from him to ask you if you can take charge of the matter, confer with the other members of the committee, and present the case before the Government.

"I am requested to remind you that the purposes to which the appropriation, if granted, will be applied are mainly two, viz: the publication of local histories, and the erection of a monument to Governor Simcoe, in Queen's Park."

Dr. Parker replied stating that he would, with the other members, present the matter to the Legislature. No report has been received by your secretary from the committee. A grant, however, of \$3,000 (\$1,000 City Council) was made, and the matter will doubtless be reported at this meeting.

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At the September meeting it was decided that each affiliated society be requested to prepare a report of the year's proceedings, to be read at the annual meeting. Pursuant to this enactment, the following circular was addressed to the societies:—

“The next annual meeting of the Provincial Pioneer and Historical Association will be held on Wednesday, June 2nd, in the Town Hall at Niagara-on-the-Lake. The business meeting will begin at eleven o'clock a. m.

Each affiliated society is requested to contribute to the interest and success of the meeting as follows:—To send one delegate. (See section 12 Constitution.) To prepare an annual report of the doings and condition of the society—this report to be read at the annual meeting. To suggest the name of a member of the society who will read a paper or give an address at the annual meeting.

The undersigned requests that the secretary of each affiliated society will send him, not later than May 25th, the name of the delegate appointed, the name of the member who will contribute to the program, and a copy of the year's report above referred to. The following societies have responded, some of them rather tardily, so that you will have the pleasure of listening to more papers to-day than the program indicates—York, Peel, Simcoe, Lundy's Lane, Thorold and Beaver Dams, Elgin, Niagara, Peterborough. We are pleased to record that Mr. J. Hampden Burnham, of Peterborough, and Mr. J. H. Coyne, B. A., of Elgin, in addition to those mentioned on the program, have agreed to read papers at the annual meeting. The reports presented will speak for themselves.

In conclusion, your secretary begs to add that the duties of his office, in this rapidly growing Association, are becoming year by year more arduous. Gratuitous duties are too often neglected or deferred by a busy man, when the many details of his occupation demand most of his time and attention. The writer is grateful for the opportunity of being so intimately connected with the work of a society so disinterested and unselfish in its aims; he is glad to have met men whom it is a privilege and a pleasure to know. The work itself has been a pleasure. But, in all sincerity, he believes that the duties of the office deserve more attention than he has been able to give. He therefore begs to suggest that a lady or gentleman of some leisure and considerable enthusiasm be appointed to attend to the duties of the secretaryship for the ensuing year.

J. B. REYNOLDS.

## *York Pioneer and Historical Society*

The annual meeting opened at 2 p. m. The President, Dr. Scadding, in the chair. Fifteen members present.

### OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT.

#### President.

Rev. H. Scadding, D.D.

#### Vice-Presidents.

1st. Wm. Rennie

2nd. Eli Crawford

3rd. D. B. Read

4th. W. H. Doel

5th. C. McCaffry

#### Treasurer.

E. M. Morphy

#### Secretary.

R. Playter

#### Executive Committee.

Dudley Jessop, Chairman

John Wilson

George Charlton

T. W. Elliott

T. E. Champion

Capt. W. McLean

John R. Bull

A. Willson

Miss FitzGibbon, Secretary of the Woman's Canadian Historical Society, was present and gave a resume regarding the Simcoe monument presented to the Local Legislature a short time ago, and spoke of the warm manner in which it was received by the members. When Miss FitzGibbon had finished, a warm discussion as to the kind of monument to be erected was engaged in. There was a variety of opinions as to what the cost should be, but all agreed that it should surpass in beauty all the monuments in Queen's Park at present.

The question of holding the meetings of the society at a later hour was thoroughly discussed, but they finally decided that the present hour of meeting was the most suitable for the majority.

For the past year the average attendance of members at the monthly meetings was 24, being two monthly above the past year. The number of deceased amount to eleven, as follows:—Thomas Taylor, John Duncan, T. W. Anderson, Sidney Hamilton, Thos. Humberstone, J. Iredale, Quetton St. George, John Baxter, S. H. Defries, J. C. Fitch, and John Fipps. The new members that have joined the society during the year amount to 23, their names are Jas. McMillan, E. H. D. Butler, Neil McEachren, Rev. W. J. Mackenzie, Robt. Lawson, John Kemp, Wm. Kelly, J. G. Hodgins, Rev. Dr. Hodgkin, Col. R. B. Hamilton, B. B. Hughes, Wm. Greenside, H. J.

Gray, Capt. W. Fahey, James Eagin, C. A. Denison, Wm. Close, James Cruikshank, R. T. Coady, W. J. Bull, A. Barker, and W. Anderson.

At the April meeting the question of the proposed monument in honor of Governor Simcoe was introduced. Mr. D. B. Read read a paper by the President, entitled "A Prelude to the Story of Castle Frank, Toronto." It was announced at the May meeting that the Government had voted \$2,000 towards the erection of a monument in honor of Governor Simcoe.

The President, at the June meeting, mentioned that the day of our meeting was the birthday of King George the III, being the 4th of June.

The annual excursion took place on the 18th, when the society enjoyed a very pleasant outing at Lorne Park. At the June meeting Mr. Charles Durand gave a brief but most interesting address on his reminiscences of public life in Canada since 1820. He was listened to with attention and highly applauded.

At the August meeting the President was formally presented with a gold-headed cane, accompanied with an address, which he kindly acknowledged. The Log Cabin book-shelf at last exhibition consisted of an early pioneers' collection of travel-books, the result of tours made years ago, with maps, views, etc. The meeting of the York Pioneer Society in their Cabin on the grounds during Exhibition is always an interesting event, and Saturday's gathering was no exception to the rule. Dr. Scadding's address was full of reference to past events, concluding with the expression of a wish that further memorials of early days of Canadian settlers might be gathered for the instruction of future generations. A very interesting sketch was given by Mr. D. B. Read, being an account of the massacre of the Hurons, on Georgian Bay, by the Iroquois in 1649. At the November meeting the President exhibited a large sized wood-cut engraving of the coat-of-arms granted to the Canada Co. in 1830.

Miss FitzGibbons gave an encouraging report of the Ladies' Historical Society, and stated that they had run up to three figures in numbers. The President called upon the members to exert themselves to the utmost to render the great Cabot celebration of 1897 a thorough success, in addition to the monument to be erected in honor of Governor Simcoe, the founder of the City of Toronto.

## *Peel Pioneers' Society, Brampton.*

*Organized November 12th, 1887.*

### OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 1897.

#### President.

Eli Crawford.

#### Vice-Presidents.

1. J. P. Hutton

2. George Cheyne

3. John Ballantyne

4. Robert Lowes

5. William Smith

#### Secretary.

Luther Cheyne.

#### Treasurer.

R. H. Hodgson.

#### Execut'ive Committee.

1. Thomas Murphy

2. George Corkett

3. John Smith, M. P. P.

4. James Jackson

5. Wm. A. McCulla

6. Thomas Wilson

7. N. V. Watson.

The Peel Pioneer Society hold their annual meeting on the 2nd Thursday in January, and monthly meetings on the 2nd Thursday in each month at the hour of 2.30, in the office of the Peel Farmers' Insurance Company.

Average attendance for the past year, 12.

#### List of Members, May 21st, 1897.

1.	Ballantyne, John	Dec. 10th, 1887.
2.	Black, Anthony	Aug. 30th, 1890.
3.	Crawford, Eli	Nov. 12th, 1887.
4.	Cheyne, Luther	Nov. 12th, 1887.
5.	Cheyne, George	Dec. 10th, 1887.
6.	Corkett, George	Dec. 10th, 1887.
7.	Dobson, Thomas	Mar. 8th, 1888.
8.	Hutton, J. P.	Nov. 12th, 1887.
9.	Hodgson, R. H.	Nov. 12th, 1887.
10.	Jackson, James	Nov. 12th, 1887.
11.	Lowes, Robert	Nov. 12th, 1887.
12.	Lougheed, Allan	June 12th, 1889.
13.	Murphy, Thomas	Dec. 10th, 1887.
14.	McCulla, W. A.	Dec. 10th, 1887.

- 
- 15. Perry, Jesse ..... Feby 9th, 1888.
  - 16. Smith, John ..... Aug. 13th, 1889.
  - 17. Smith, Wm. .... Aug. 13th, 1889.
  - 18. Watson, N. V. .... Mar. 19th, 1893.
  - 19. Wilson, Thomas ..... April 9th, 1896.
  - 20. Wilkinson, Wm. .... May 13th, 1897.

Several interesting papers have been read at our monthly meetings during the past year and which is stimulating the members to take a greater interest in the attendance of our meetings.

The initiation fee has been reduced to 50c and 25c per year for annual dues thereafter, which entitles each member to a copy of all printed matter issued by the Society during the year.



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## ***Simcoe County Pioneer and Historical Society***

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***Organized November 6th, 1891.***

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**OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 1897.**

**Honorary President**

Hon. J. R. Gowan.

**President**

Judge J. A. Ardagh.

**Vice-Presidents**

Judge W. F. A. Boys      Dr. C. E. Jakeway      Mr. G. H. Hale

**Secretary**

Mr. A. F. Hunter

**Treasurer**

George Sneath, Esq.

**Auditor.**

Mr. J. Darby

**Executive Committee**

F. F. P. Pepler, Q. C.

Wm. H. Hewson, Esq.

Mr. Alex. Smith

Mr. S. L. Soules

**Delegates to Provincial Association**

Rev. Dr. W. R. Parker

Mr. A. F. Hunter

The proceedings and work of the Society are published in detail in the local press of the county.

Those eligible for membership must have attained the age of 21 years, and consist of (1) those who resided in the County of Simcoe prior to Confederation, July 1, 1867, or their descendants, who shall be known as Pioneers, and also (2) natives of the county, and (3) those who have been resident in the county for five years previous to their application for membership.

The membership fee has been fixed at 50 cents per annum.



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***Wentworth Pioneer and Historical Society***

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**Organized January, 1889.**

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**OFFICERS FOR 1897.**

**President**

George H. Mills.

**Vice-Presidents**

F. W. Fearman

Judge Muir

**Secretary-Treasurer**

J. H. Land

**Corresponding-Secretary**

Justus Griffin

**Executive Council**

Hon. D. MacInnes

F. M. Carpenter, M.P.

W. F. Burton

Adam Brown

Alex. McKay, M.P.

Hon. J. M. Gibson

Rev. Mr. Fessenden

John Pottinger

H. McLaren



### *Lundy's Lane Historical Society.*

The Lundy's Lane Historical Society consists of a few zealous members. "Lundy's Lane" is an illustrious name,—since July 25, 1814. The Society has of late years kept up a watchful care of the place where many brave men fought and fell nearly eighty-three years ago. It has promoted the erection of a National Monument which now stands on the old hill and bears this worthy inscription :

"Erected by the Canadian Parliament in honor of the victory gained by the British and Canadian forces on this field on the 25th July, 1814, and in grateful remembrance of the brave men who died on that day fighting for the unity of the Empire." 1895.

The Society will soon celebrate its tenth anniversary since its organization. The mode of celebrating was changed last year. Instead of having the usual large and expensive demonstrations of former years, always at the battle-ground, the Society will reverently visit the place at an early hour (9 a. m.), on each anniversary, and decorate well-known graves; and afterwards proceed by an excursion to some other historical locality, and by this means will seek to enliven public interest in the study and cultivation of Canadian History.

#### LUNDY'S LANE HISTORICAL PUBLICATIONS.

During last year the Society added two volumes to its already long list,— "Documentary History," Part I, p. 215, by Capt. Cruikshank; and "The Annals of Niagara," by W. Kirby, Esq., F. R. S. C., p. 270. Very shortly, this year, will be issued Part II, "Documentary History," by Capt. Cruikshank.

These two volumes of documentary papers may be justly regarded as the most important of all its publications, and should therefore be widely circulated and placed in public and private libraries. Several United States and Canadian writers of high position have spoken in highest terms of the compiler, and the good effect which his writings have had in order to a clearer and better understanding as to the relative positions of United States people and British Canadians. The present publications will prove a very valuable addition to historical Canadian literature.

Of "The Annals of Niagara," by W. Kirby, we have pleasure in saying that it is full of delightful interest to British readers, and has already obtained a wide circulation. The old town of Niagara has a record of history beyond that of almost any town in North American.

## FINANCES.

The Lundy's Lane Historical Society has spent about \$1,500 within nine years, for printing, re-interments, cleaning grounds, and at the unveiling of the new monument in 1895.

## THE SOCIETY'S WORK IN THE FUTURE.

The existence of the Society mainly depends on its literary work, and of possible usefulness in support of the greater Association of Pioneer and Historical Societies in Ontario. As to its literary work it is enough to say that the Legislative Assembly of Ontario has recognized its value by three liberal grants to its funds. The County Council of Welland has also given liberal aid. Letters from England, the Maritime Provinces and the United States are frequent, all bearing witness to the value of the Society's historical literature. Such encouragement is gratifying to the Society, and bids its members not to be weary in well-doing.



## ***The Thorold and Beaverdams Historical Society.***

### **OFFICERS.**

#### **Honorary President**

Capt. James

#### **President**

Rev. P. L. Spence

#### **Honorary Vice-Presidents**

John H. Thompson

Mrs. James Munro

#### **Secretary-Treasurer**

A. W. Reavley, B. A.

#### **Corresponding Secretary**

Miss Amy Ball

#### **Historian**

Mrs. James Munro

The Thorold and Beaverdams Historical Society held during the year a large number of meetings.

On the 24th of June, 1896, a public meeting was held to commemorate the Battle of Beaverdams. A programme of patriotic speeches and songs was provided. A banner was presented to the Boys' Brigade by Miss Fitz-Gibbon, and a very successful meeting was the result.

In 1897 no public meeting was held on the anniversary of the Battle of Beaverdams, all energy being concentrated on the celebration of Her Majesty's Jubilee, which came so near the date of the battle that the Society judged it wise to hold no celebration this year.

The Society has during the year undertaken the preparation and publication of a history of the town and township of Thorold. This work, a somewhat ambitious one, is all complete with the exception of portions of three chapters. The Society hopes to have the work published and bound ready for delivery in autumn. The time of the Society has been taken up in reading the various chapters and investigating doubtful points. The Society received a grant of \$50 from the County Council to aid in bringing out the local history.

From the above you may glean such facts as you deem worthy of mention in your annual report.

Yours truly,

A. W. REAVLEY,

Secretary-Treasurer.

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***Grenville Pioneer and Historical Society***

— —  
***Organized May 30th, 1891.***

— —  
**OFFICERS FOR 1897.**

**President**

F. J. French, Q. C.

**Vice-Presidents**

H. A. Fraser

E. H. Whitmarsh

**Secretary-Treasurer**

F. A. Knapp

**Delegate to Provincial Association**

D. B. Read, Q. C.



## *The Elgin Historical and Scientific Institute*

The officers elected for the year 1897-8, are the following :—

**President**

W. Atkin

**Vice-President**

Jas. A. Bell

**Secretary-Treasurer**

W. H. Murch

**Curator**

J. W. Stewart

**Editor**

Judge Ermatinger

**Council**

Judge Hughes

Jas. H. Coyne

E. H. Caughell

Dr. H. H. Way

K. W. McKay

F. M. Griffin

M. A. Gilbert

J. Wilkinson

The work of the Society since the last report has been principally confined to examining the historical sketches of settlement in the various school sections, and awarding to the successful competitors the medals so generously offered to the Institute by Mr. Jas. S. Brierly, editor of the *St. Thomas Journal* and the *Montreal Herald*. This work is only partially proceeded with, and will take a year or two to complete. Sketches of settlement have already been published for 33 school sections out of a total number of 110. Medals for the best Township Histories are also offered, but only one out of seven has so far been awarded.

When the list of prize sketches is completed, they will be arranged in book form and bound for distribution by the Institute, pursuant to the arrangement with Mr. Brierley.

The Institute held its annual outing at Port Stanley on the 27th August, 1896, when, besides a number of suitable addresses by members of the Institute, a paper on the "Administration of Justice in the Early Days of the County of Elgin" was contributed by His Honor Judge Hughes.

Arrangements have been made whereby the medals already awarded will be publicly distributed by the Institute at Port Stanley on the 22nd inst., on the occasion of the celebration of Her Majesty's Jubilee, by the united schools of the County of Elgin and City of St. Thomas.

*The Woman's Historical Society of Toronto*

*Organized November 19th, 1895.*

**OFFICERS.**

**Honorary-President**

Mrs. Kirkpatrick, wife of the Lieut.-Governor of Ontario.

**President**

Mrs. S. A. Curzon.

**Vice-Presidents**

Mrs. Forsyth Grant

Mrs. James Bain

**Treasurer**

Miss C. N. Merritt

**Secretary**

Miss FitzGibbon.

**Executive Committee**

Mrs. Morrison

Mrs. Edward Leigh

Mrs. W. Cummings

Miss Beard

Mrs. Walton

Miss S. Mickle

In presenting the second report of this Society, which was formed for the express object of rousing a patriotic interest in the preservation of historic records and annals and a more lively appreciation of the value of a better knowledge of the history of Canada among her people, we have the satisfaction of being able to say that the measure of success arrived at during the past year is very encouraging. Although the small fee charged for membership has precluded the Society being able to emulate other societies of longer standing in the publication of valuable papers or the republication of historical documents, the Society is indebted to the editors of the *Toronto Globe*, the *Mail and Empire*, the *World*, and, while it existed, *The Week*, for the use of their columns to that desirable end. The *Canadian Magazine* has also welcomed papers read by members of the *W. C. H. S.* to its columns.

During the past year seven regular meetings have been held at which the following papers have been read:—

“On the Study of Canadian History,” by the President.

“The Customs and Quaint Ceremonies of the Early Churches in Canada,” by Miss E. Yates Farmer.

“A Page from the Early History of Newfoundland.” by Mrs. J. D. Edgar.

“Some Reminiscences of Old St. Andrew’s,” by Mrs. W. Hamilton Merritt.

"Concerning Dates," by Miss Sara Mickle.

"Notes on the History of the Chateau Bigot," by Miss Nellie Spence.

"On Cabot," by the President.

"Something about our Canadian Indians," by the Secretary.

"An Ancient Mode of Indian Divination," by Mrs. C. Clifton Cameron.

"Some Records of the Servos Family," by Miss C. N. Merritt.

Three open meetings have been held, to each of which the public have been cordially invited, and, with the exception of one, when the weather was exceptionally bad, these invitations have been well responded to. Addresses were given on these occasions by the Hon. the Premier of Ontario, Mr. A. S. Hardy, the Hon. the Minister of Education, Mr. G. W. Ross, Sanford Evans, Esq., Barlow Cumberland, Esq., O. A. Howland, M.P.P., J. S. Willison, Esq., and J. Castell Hopkins, Esq. An interesting and valuable paper on the "Philosophy of Indian Women's Work," by David Boyle, Ph. D.; an original poem by Mrs. Edgar Jarvis entitled "A Romance of the U. E. Loyalists," and "A Page from Canadian History," with lantern slide illustrations by the Secretary.

In order to attract more attention to the works of Canadian authors a reading from one or other of the most prominent has been given at the meetings and added much to their attractiveness. The following were among the selections made:—

"Queenston Heights," a poem by Mrs. S. A. Curzon, read by Miss Alexandrina Ramsay.

"The Injun," by Barry Dane (John Logan) by Miss C. N. Merritt.

"Old Man Savarin," by E. W. Thomson, by Mrs. Charlotte Morrison. This was repeated by special request at the following open meeting.

"Our Lady of the Snows," by Rudyard Kipling, by Miss C. N. Merritt.

The Society has also been the recipient of several autograph copies of works on Canadian history and of some valuable documents which have been placed in their hands for safe keeping. We are indebted to Mr. Jas. Bain, jr., Chief Librarian, for the privilege of keeping our strong box in the safe of the Public Library. We hope, however, that some more energetic effort may be made during the coming year for the erection of a building in Toronto which may provide suitable quarters and fire proof depository for valuable collections of papers and historic relics which may then be exposed for the benefit of the public and thus keep alive an interest in the history of our past. Many things have been promised as exhibits if such a building is provided and the increasing need of a lecture room large enough to accommodate the numbers enrolled in this and sister societies in Toronto is becoming every day more

apparent. The Society, which had only 35 members in December, 1895, now numbers 170 regular members, 43 honorary members and 10 corresponding members, a total of 223.

The Society has been invited to send a delegate to the meeting of the Royal Canadian Society to be held at Halifax on June 21-6, and before closing this report we would express our grateful acknowledgments of all the kind encouragement we have received in our endeavors from the many prominent men who are members of the Royal Society, especially to the Secretary, Dr. J. G. Bourinot, C.M.G., and to those others who have lent their aid in any way toward the success of our undertaking. We are hopeful that, though our growth in membership has been rapid, it has also been stable, and that we may yet do much good work in realizing our ambitions, as set forth in the preamble of our constitution, to rouse a patriotic faith in all things Canadian, and foster that love of country in our people from which, and through which, alone a country lives and prospers, taking her place with dignity among the nations of the world.



## Niagara Historical Society

Organized November, 1895.

*Motto: Ducit Amor Patriæ.*

### OFFICERS.

#### Patron

Wm. Kirby, F. R. S. C.

#### President

Miss Carnochan

#### Vice-President

Henry Pafford

#### Secretary

Alfred Ball

#### Treasurer

Mrs. A. Servos.

#### Curator

Russel Wilkinson

#### Committee

Rev. J. C. Garrett  
Jno. D. Servos

Jas. B. Secord  
W. F. Seymour, B. A.

Mrs. Ascher

#### Honorary Vice-Presidents

Peter Whitmore

Mrs. Roe

Charles A. F. Ball

#### Delegate to Provincial Association

Henry Pafford

#### Honorary Members

Dr. Scadding  
Capt. Cruikshank  
R. O. Kinkle

Rev. Canon Bull  
Capt. M. Kinkle  
Wm. Gibson, M. P.

Maj. Hiscott, M. P. P.

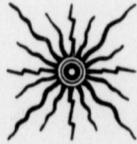
The regular meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month. The anniversary meeting on the 17th September, the day when the first Parliament was held in Niagara. The annual meeting on the 13th October. There have been several open meetings when papers were read, two by Capt. Cruikshank, "The Taking of Fort George," and the "Seven Months Occupation of Niagara by the Americans." One by Miss Carnochan, "A Slave Rescue in Niagara Sixty Years Ago." One by Jas. B. Secord, "Life and

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Rev. J.

Times of Governor Simcoe." One by Hon. J. G. Currie, St. Catharines, on "Brock and the War of 1812," and one by J. D. Servos on "Historical Societies." The anniversary, 17th September, was very successful. A poem dedicated to the Society by Mrs. Curzon was read, a paper by Canon Bull, addresses by Miss FitzGibbon, Capt. Cruikshank, Rev. J. C. Garrett, Col. Currie, Maj. Hiscott, Rev. P. Spencer were given. A remarkable and valuable exhibit, for which we were indebted chiefly to the zeal of Mr. Jno. D. Servos, consisting of documents, flags, weapons, old silver, Indian relics, old papers, etc., was much commended. The graves of some of them who died in defence of Niagara, May 27th, 1813, were decorated. A room has been kindly allowed us in the Court House, and a museum is being formed, there being already several hundred articles, the most valued historic articles being General Brock's cocked hat, a sword surrendered at the taking of Fort Niagara, copies of *Upper Canada Gazette*, 1794. Many pictures of Niagara in early days, and many books and papers printed in Niagara have been collected, and from the nucleus of what we hope may be a large and valuable collection. Our first pamphlet, "The Taking of Fort George," by Capt. Cruikshank, for which we secured an old engraving, has been well received, and we are about to print another pamphlet. We are pleased to know that we are to be honored with the meeting here on June 2nd, of the delegates of the Historical Association, and feel grateful that so much has been accomplished during the last year and hope to do still more in the future.

Delegate :—Henry Pafford, appointed Thursday, May 13th. Address:—Rev. J. C. Garrett, at Association meeting, 2nd June.



## *The Town and County of Peterborough Historical Society.*

This Society was formed at a public meeting held in the Town Council Chamber, Peterborough, on Dec. 7th, 1896, at which the following resolution was adopted:—

“That the ladies and gentlemen present now form themselves into an Historical Society, to be known as “The Town and County of Peterborough Historical Society,” and to be in affiliation with “The Pioneer and Historical Association of Ontario.”

The following Officers were elected:—

**Honorary President**

Mrs. C. P. Trail, of Lakefield

**Honorary Vice-Presidents**

Rev. V. Clements

H. T. Strickland, Esq.

**President.**

Lieut-Col. H. C. Rogers

**Vice-Presidents.**

Mrs. Dunlop

J. Hampden Burnham, Esq.

Wm. Claxton, Esq.

**Secretary**

T. A. S. Hay, Esq.

**Treasurer**

Miss Halliday

**Executive Council.**

J. M. Irwin, Esq.

Miss Lundy

Lieut.-Col. Bell

C. Fessenden, Esq.

Mrs. Aylmer

E. B. Edwards, Esq.

Mrs. Greenwood

The Society was inaugurated with a membership of thirty, and now has fifty paid up members on its roll.

Six regular meetings and seven Council meetings have been held, at which the attendance was fair. Several papers of an interesting and historical nature were read at meetings.

Shortly after inauguration, a suggestion was made that a museum in connection with the Society should be founded, which met with general approval, and steps were immediately taken to procure a suitable building.

The Society has been singularly fortunate in the acquisition of "Inverlea House" (formerly the residence of the late Judge Dennistoun), situated in an isolated position in Inverlea Park, overlooking the River Otonabee, and quite conveniently situated as to distance.

The use of the building has been granted free of charge to the Society by the executors of the estate of the late Mrs. Nicholls, and has been found admirably suited for present requirements, both as a home for the Society and the beginning of a museum. Funds are now being raised to furnish the building, and the members hope that before the end of this year the nucleus of a museum will be fairly under way.

In regard to material for the museum, the Society has already made a beginning, and as soon as the necessary fittings and furniture have been procured, a very fair array of curios and historical relics will be placed in position.

This Society has the honor of claiming as its Honorary President, the venerable and cultured authoress, Mrs. Catherine Parr Traill, who, although in her ninety-seventh year, takes a lively interest in the affairs of the Society, and has on more than one occasion attended meetings, taking part in discussions. The Society is indebted to Mrs. Traill for the gift of a valuable and interesting collection of Indian relics. Having spent sixty-seven years of life in the vicinity of Peterborough, she is familiar with the early settlement of the town and county, and, with her wonderfully clear memory and fund of anecdote, she has been of the greatest assistance to the Society.

This Society is desirous of drawing the attention of the Provincial Association to the pre-historic mounds situated on the north shore of Rice Lake, within thirteen miles of the Town of Peterborough, referred to by Mr. Boyle in his annual report for 1896-97 to the Minister of Education. Although this may not be exactly a subject for an Historical Association to consider, a resolution of this Society was adopted, requesting the Ontario Government to make an appropriation to cover the cost of purchasing the property and preserving it from vandalism; but no action has yet been taken so far as this Society is aware. As these mounds are pronounced by Mr. Boyle to be of great Archæological value, no time should be lost in securing them from further mutilation.

An effort has been made by this Society to have the Archæological section of the British Association visit these mounds, and enquiries were made of the Reception Committee in Toronto as to the advisability of having an excursion to Rice Lake, but that committee did not extend any assurance to this Society that such an excursion could be arranged for.

