

1899-1900



'Deeds Speak.'

ANNUAL REPORT

... of ...

The Womens'

Canadian Historical Society

of Toronto



ORGANIZED NOVEMBER 19th, 1895.

INCORPORATED FEBRUARY 14th, 1896.

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The EDITH *and* LORNE PIERCE
COLLECTION *of* CANADIANA



Queen's University at Kingston

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Womens' Canadian Historical Society
OF TORONTO,
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Organized November, 1895.

Incorporated February 14th, 1896.

MADAM PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS—

In submitting the Annual Report for 1899-1900, I have endeavored to keep in view a careful consideration of the cost of printing, in order that by making it a brief epitome of the work of the year, there may be funds available to defray the additional cost of printing one of the papers submitted at the meetings.

The year has been an eventful one in Canadian history, and though we have been able to add very little to the funds raised for the benefit of the men who have shared in the war, and have given their lives and services to the preservation of the integrity of the Empire, as a Society we have given our mite to the Patriotic and Red Cross funds, and have been asked to place in our records, as an historical society, notes of historic events connected with the sending of the first Red Cross Commissioner from Canada to the seat of war.

Nine meetings of the Executive and eight regular meetings have been held. At the latter, the following papers have been submitted:

"War of the Conquest subsequent to the Fall of Quebec, 1759,"
by your Secretary.

"First Three Years of British Rule in Canada," by Mrs. Jeffers
Graham.

"On the Treaty of Paris," by Mrs. J. A. Paterson.

"Sir Guy Carleton and His Administration," by Miss Catherine
Fleming.

"The Coming of the U. E. Loyalists," by Miss Josephine McCallum.

"Some U. E. Loyalist Houses," by Miss Sara Mickle.

"Sir William Johnson at Niagara," by Miss Constance Boulton.

"Some Elections and the 'Battle of Hastings,'" by Mrs. Chamberlin.

"Historic Sketch of Canadian Women in Art," by Mrs. Dignam.

"Conditions in Lower Canada before 1837," by "Seranus" (Mrs. J. W. F. Harrison).

"Three Rivers," by Mrs. S. G. Wood.

"Some Notes on the Blackfoot Reserve, Indian Customs and Habits," by Miss Curzon.

The following recitations have been given: "*Resurgam*—An Incident of 1881 in Pretoria, Africa." Recited by Miss Edith Moodie.

"Last Service of the Canadian Contingent, Cathedral, Quebec," by Mrs. Yarker. Read by Mrs. S. G. Wood.

"De 'ittle Cure of Calumet," by Drummond. Recited by Mrs. Jas. George

One open meeting was held, on June 8th, in the Public Hall of the Education Building by permission of the Honorable the Minister of Education. At this meeting the portrait of our first President, Mrs. S. A. Curzon, which the Society had had painted by Miss Laura Muntz, was unveiled by the Honorable the Premier of Ontario, Dr. Ross.

In performing the ceremony, Dr. Ross paid a most fitting and appreciative tribute to the late Mrs. Curzon, and the value of her work in arousing a patriotic interest in Canadian history and the spread of a wider knowledge of its value among our people, and congratulated the Society upon having so good a portrait of their first President.

Mr. J. H. Coyne, President of the Ontario Historical Society, also spoke in terms of praise of the late Mrs. Curzon and her work. Miss Sara Mickle, as Convener of the Portrait Committee, had received a number of letters from the honorary members, in which a gratifying appreciation of the work undertaken and of the work of our first President, was expressed. Miss Beverly Robinson (Mrs. Houston) kindly added to the attraction of the evening by singing Tosti's "Spring." She was accompanied by Mrs. Edward Cronyn.

A report of the annual meeting of the Royal Society of Canada, at Ottawa, was submitted by your Secretary, also a report of the annual meeting of the Ontario Historical Society, by Miss Farmer.

Exchanges have been received from the Royal Society of Canada, Vol. IV., new series, transactions for 1899. This volume is of particular value to the Society, as about two-thirds of its pages are devoted to historical research and information; the annual report and two small volumes of papers and transactions of the On-

tario Historical Society; a number of copies of the annual report of the Local Council of Women of Toronto; Handbook of Women Workers of Canada, published by the Dominion Government for distribution at the Paris Exposition, and compiled by the National Council of the Women of Canada; from the National Council; the *Educational Monthly*, from the editor; Report and Transaction, from the Manitoba Historical Society; Transactions Nos. 6 and 7, Early Schools in Niagara, Historic Houses, etc., from the Niagara Historical Society; several copies of the *Courier du Livre*, and a specimen copy of the first number of *North American Notes and Queries*, from the editor, Raoul Renault, Quebec. As this last publication, issued quarterly, is of particular interest and on the lines of the work of the Society, I would respectfully recommend that it be taken regularly by the Society.

Correspondence with requests for copies of the publications of the Society have been received from the Public Library, Cleveland, O., the State Historical Society, Wisconsin; the New York Historical Society and the State Historical Society of Northern Indiana. These applications have been responded to and the copies sent post paid. Their receipt has been acknowledged by formal post card, but in no one instance have the exchanges offered been received by your Secretary.

According to the arrangement made with the former editor and proprietor of the *Canadian Home Journal*, published in Toronto, the five copies per month subscribed for have been received; and up till the April issue the official report of your meetings appeared in its columns as furnished by your Secretary. The following papers read at the meeting were also printed in its columns, the members who submitted them kindly permitting their publication:

"The History of the Jesuit Pear Trees," by Miss Jean Barr, Windsor.

"Three Rivers," by Mrs. S. G. Wood. The value of the latter being much enhanced by illustrations.

Owing to the sudden stop in the issue of the *Journal* and its subsequent change in ownership, no reports have been sent for publication. The present proprietor has supplied the five copies paid for. Of these five copies, one has been sent to the Ontario Historical Society and the others loaned to various members of the Society; not, however, to the extent the members are entitled to receive them. Owing to the change in ownership and management, as well as an interregnum of three months, during which the *Journal* was not issued from the press, no reports have been supplied them of the meetings held in May, June or October. The year for which the subscription is paid expires with this month. The continuation of it, or the acceptance or not of it, as the organ of the Society for the coming year, will require to be taken into your consideration.

Your Secretary had the honor of representing you at the meeting

of the Royal Society of Canada, in May, at Ottawa. You were represented at the Ontario Historical Society in June, at Hamilton, by Miss Farmer, Miss Curzon and Mrs. Henry Thompson. At the meetings of the Toronto Local Council of Women by your representatives.

In connection with the affiliation of the Society with the Toronto Local Council of Women, I was asked to go as a representative delegate from it to attend the annual meeting of the National Council of Women of Canada, held in Victoria, B.C., and, as representing a Society whose aim and objects are a study of, and the encouragement of, a wider patriotism and appreciation of the value of Canadian history and national pride in her people, I was given a number of opportunities of bringing the work of your Society and aims before large audiences, and of rousing an interest in that better knowledge of the importance of a true patriotism. At Winnipeg, Brandon, Vancouver, and Victoria, a place was given me in the programme of the meetings held there. The result of these opportunities of addressing members and delegates from so many widely scattered cities there met together, has been the formation of Historical Societies in Victoria, B.C., on the one hand, and in Charlottetown, P.E.I., on the other; a renewal of interest in the older societies, and the prospect of smaller local societies being established in other places in the near future. This is one great advantage of belonging, through the medium of the Local Council, to a national organization.

Thirty-two new members have been added to the regular membership roll; two have been withdrawn owing to change of residence, and we have had to mourn the loss of two regular members, and of one honorary member by death.

With reference to one of the subjects in which the members were asked to interest themselves, and by doing so make their patriotism of practical value, it is within the province of this report to note our appreciation of the increase of a better knowledge among our people of the value of home manufactures, and how the consequent demand for them has had an appreciable influence upon the increase of the output of our mills; and it is a source of congratulation to a patriotic society, whose members endeavored to add their mite to the guidance of public demand in this direction, that whereas three years ago the response to enquiry for home fabrics was that none were handled, that they found no purchaser, and that the retail houses imported all their stock, now the home products and manufactured goods are given a prominent place, and are increasing in demand.

A collection of newspaper cuttings relative to the meetings, work and objects of the Society is in your Secretary's hands, and it will be necessary to provide a scrap-book for their keeping and indexing.

Donations received during the year are: Calendar, from the Manufacturers' Life Assurance Co., Two volumes, entitled, "Montcalm et

Levis," by M. L'Abbe Casgrain, from the author; a copy of the *Quebec Gazette*, being the printed transactions of the Quebec Historical Society, 1873, from Mrs. Chamberlin.

It is to be regretted that owing to the Society having no suitable place to display the various relics, books and papers that have been given it, or placed in its charge, the members derive no benefit from their possession.

The Society has had to mourn the loss of one of its oldest and most interested members in Mrs. Mary Walton, and of a valued honorary member in the late Colonel John Hunter Duvar, of Hernewood, P.E.I., the author of "Roberval" and other poems; and within the last few days the oldest member of the Society, Mrs. James Strachan, has passed away. When, at the first meeting that was called to consider the organization of the Womens' Canadian Historical Society in Toronto, Mrs. Strachan signed her name in the little red book, which our modest anticipations thought would be sufficient for our needs, she wrote the date of her birth (1823), saying: "I think I should, because I am the oldest member of your Society." With her has passed away from among us one of the brightest personalities representative of a courteous, refined, and historic past; a busy, helpful, useful, beneficent life, a loving, sympathetic gentlewoman. And in the sudden grief-stricken death of her life-long friend, Mrs. Diana Jarvis, the highest tribute was not wanting to a beautiful life. No page in our local history carries with it a more pathetic record than that of the service in St. James' Cathedral on November 15th, 1900, when the two, who had been "girls together," one the bridesmaid of the other in the sunshine of youth, and united in death, were borne to and placed side by side on the altar steps of the church they loved, and with whose history their lives and historic names had been so intimately interwoven, and the beautiful service for the dead was read for each and both at one and the same hour.

Before closing my report, I would like respectfully to draw your attention to the need of undertaking some definite work which will result in additions to our archives that may be of benefit to future historians: the collection and classifying of old papers, records, local traditions, reminiscences of old settlers, relics of historic interest, photographs or drawings of old houses, which belong to the local history of the past, now being removed to make way for the rapid development of our modern prosperity. The placing of tablets or memorial inscriptions on the sites we may leave to the Canadian Club, who have begun their work so well; but preserving the history of the houses, and some notes of their occupants may be undertaken by your Society. I would suggest the appointment of conveners of sub-committees for the different branches of this work, and, following the example of the Ottawa Historical Society, in establishing a "Question Drawer and Information Bureau," to which items of

interest may be contributed at each meeting, and the whole edited and submitted at the close of the year. I would also recommend that a volume of "Transactions," be printed early in the coming year, in order that application may be made to the Ontario Government to place the Womens' Canadian Historical Society, on the same footing as the other historical societies in the Province, and make them a grant of at least one hundred dollars to enable the Society to print more, and carry out other branches of work, which the small funds at its disposal render impossible. The work already done by the Society will, I believe, justify such an application.

All of which is respectfully submitted by

MARY AGNES FITZGIBBON,

Hon. Secretary.

Portrait Committee.

The portrait of our late President, Mrs. Curzon, has been painted by Miss Laura Muntz, A.R.C.A., and was presented to the Society at the regular meeting on June 8th. We desire to thank the honorary members who so willingly helped us to accomplish this, and the regular members who also subscribed to the fund. Our thanks are also due to Miss Muntz, who generously made the painting of the portrait largely a labor of love.

SARA MICKLE,

Convener of the Portrait Committee.

Obituary Note.

At his late residence, "Hernewood," Cascumpec, Prince Co., P.E.I., on January 25th, 1899, John Hunter Duvar, author of "Enamardo," "Roberval," "The Court of Oberon," and many other literary works. Mr. Hunter Duvar was one of the earliest nominated honorary members of the Historical Society, and took a kindly interest in its success. He presented a copy of "Roberval" to its library.

Treasurer's Report, 1899-1900.

RECEIPTS.

Overdue fees for 1898 (eighteen).....	\$9 00
Regular fees for 1899 and 1900 (one hundred and sixty-five).....	82 50
Fees paid in advance for 1901 (eighteen).....	9 00
Fee for 1902 (one).....	0 50
Total fees (two hundred and one).....	\$101 00
Proceeds from sale of Transaction.....	0 50
Balance from last year's account.....	33 15
Interest.....	0 34
Total.....	\$134 99

EXPENDITURES.

Subscriptions to <i>Home Journal</i>	\$5 00
To Miss Mickle, for portrait of Mrs. Curzon (contributions, etc.).....	3 31
To Briggs Publishing Co., for printing.....	32 55
To Briggs Publishing Co., for Transaction.....	14 00
To Toronto Ladies' Branch Red Cross Society, funds for Second Contingent to South Africa.....	25 00
Six dollars given from private subscription. Total \$31 00.	
Secretary's account.....	4 93
Affiliation Fee to Local Council.....	2 00
To Caretaker for theatre of Normal School for evening meeting in June.....	3 00
Piano.....	2 00
To Secretary in payment of invitation cards, stamps, flowers, cab, etc.....	6 64
To Caretaker, for room in Education Building for afternoon meeting (eight).....	8 00
Post cards for unpaid fees (ninety-three).....	0 93
Total.....	\$107 36

Income.....	\$134 99
Expenditures.....	107 36
Balance.....	\$27 63

Audited and found correct.

S. M. GRANT MACDONALD,
JESSIE M. BAIN, *1st Vice-President*, } *Auditors.*

The sum of one dollar was received from Mrs. J. A. Paterson, Mrs. Torrington, Mrs. McLeod, Mrs. Benjamin, Mrs. Arthurs, Mrs. McPhedran, Lady Edgar. Two dollars from Mrs. Chadwick.

Officers.

<i>Honorary President</i>	MISS MOWAT.
<i>President</i>	MRS. FORSYTH GRANT.
<i>1st Vice-President</i>	MRS. JAS. BAIN.
<i>2nd Vice-President</i>	MRS. EDWARD LEIGH.
<i>Treasurer</i>	MISS EVELYN COX, 8 Wellesley Place.
<i>Corresponding Secretary</i>	MISS FITZGIBBON, 94 Willcocks Street.
<i>Recording Secretary</i>	MISS E. YATES FARMER.
<i>Executive Committee</i>	MRS. S. G. WOOD.
	MISS BEARD.
	MISS MICKLE.
	MRS. HENRY THOMPSON.
	MRS. J. A. PATERSON.
	MISS ELLERBY.

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REV. DR. WITHROW, F.R.S.C.	REV. PROF. BRYCE.
O. A. HOWLAND.	THE VERY REV. DEAN HARRIS.
G. R. PARKIN, C.M.G., LL.D.	HIS HONOR JUDGE PRINGLE.
DAVID BOYLE.	D. B. READ, Q.C.
COL. G. T. DENISON.	J. A. MACDONALD.
REV. CANON BULL.	ALEXANDER MUIR.
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SIR SANFORD FLEMING, K.C.M.G., F.R.S.C.	DR. CANNIFF.
	E. G. NELSON.
L'ABBE CASGRAIN.	BENJAMIN SULTE, F.R.S.C.
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MISS LIZARS.	
N. F. DAVIN, M.P.	MRS. J. W. F. HARRISON ("Seranus").

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MRS. HENRY McLEOD, Ottawa, Ont.	
MISS SEYMOUR, Ottawa, Ont.	MRS. DAWSON KERR, St. Thomas, Ont.
MISS C. A. MERRITT, St. Catharines, Ont.	MRS. PATON, Chicago.
MISS McLAREN, Perth, Ont.	MRS. CARTWRIGHT ALLEN, Millbrook.
MISS M. E. RIORDON, Port Hope, Ont.	

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 Mrs. Arthurs.
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 Mrs. John Duggan.
 Mrs. Henry F. Duck.
 Miss Eva Dunn.
 Lady Edgar.
 Miss Eby.
 Miss Ellerby.
 Miss Elliott.
 Miss Ellis.
 Miss Mary Evans.
 Miss E. Yates Farmer.
 Miss Fergusson.
 Miss FitzGibbon.
 Mrs. Fleming.
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 Miss Catherine Fleming.
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 Mrs. Galbraith.
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 Mrs. Jeffers Graham.
 Mrs. Gundy.
 Mrs. Wm. Gundy.
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 Mrs. Hodgins.
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 Mrs. Julius Lang.
 Miss Laing.
 Mrs. Lash.
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 Miss Grant Macdonald.
 Mrs. Robert McMaster.
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 Miss Bessie Macmurchy.
 Miss M. Macmurchy.
 Miss MacCartney.
 Miss McGee.
 Mrs. Gordon McKenzie.
 Miss Ada Mackellar.
 Miss Minnie McKenzie.
 Mrs. T. J. McLaren.
 Mrs. Geo. McMurrich.
 Miss McMurrich.
 Mrs. McPhedran.
 Mrs. Hamilton Merritt.
 Miss Merritt.
 Mrs. C. N. Merritt.
 Mrs. McIntyre.
 Miss Mickie.
 Mrs. Charlotte Morrison.
 Mrs. Monaghan.
 Mrs. Murphy.
 Mrs. Arthur Murphy.
 Mrs. Mutch.
 Mrs. Julius Myles.
 Mrs. Nevitt.
 Miss Nevitt.
 Mrs. Nixon.
 Mrs. O'Reilley.
 Mrs. O'Brien.
 Miss O'Brien.
 Mrs. Osler.
 Mrs. E. B. Osler.
 Mrs. J. J. Palmer.
 Miss Palmer.

Mrs. J. A. Paterson.
 Mrs. Parkin.
 Mrs. George Perry.
 Mrs. A. G. Plummer.
 Miss Playter.
 Mrs. Prowse.
 Mrs. Rennie.
 Mrs. Riddout.
 Miss Riddell.
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 Mrs. Geo. Reid.
 Miss Rolph.
 Miss Nina Rolph.
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 Miss Rowand.
 Miss Sanderson.
 Mrs. Savigny.
 Mrs. Crawford Scadding.
 Mrs. Scales.
 Miss Schulte.
 Miss Scott.
 Mrs. Small.
 Mrs. J. H. Smith.
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 Mrs. Clark Steele.
 Mrs. Stratford.
 Mrs. H. Strathy.
 Mrs. Sullivan.
 Mrs. E. A. Smith.
 Mrs. Lizars Smith.
 Lady Thompson.
 Mrs. Henry Thompson.
 Miss Thompson.
 Mrs. Todhunter.
 Mrs. Torrington.
 Mrs. Totten.
 Mrs. Grant Tyrrell.
 Mrs. Ten Broecke.
 Miss Teefy.
 Miss Alice Teefy.
 Miss Vankoughnet.
 Mrs. Welch.
 Mrs. Warren.
 Miss Walton.
 Mrs. Wardrope.
 Mrs. Williamson.
 Mrs. Williamson.
 Mrs. Wilkie.
 Miss Alice Williams.
 Mrs. S. G. Wood.
 Miss Wood.
 Miss Workman.
 Mrs. Wyatt.
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