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PIONEER

... AND ...

Historical Association

... OF THE ...

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

CANADA



ORGANIZED AT TORONTO

SEPTEMBER 4th, 1888

1877

# Historical Association

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**OFFICERS**


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**Honorary President**  
REV. DR. SCADDING

**President**  
REV. CANON BULL

**Vice-Presidents**  
REV. DR. SCADDING, York  
ELI CRAWFORD, Peel  
GEO. H. MILLS, Wentworth

JUDGE J. A. ARDAGH, Simcoe  
CAPT. JAMES, Thorold  
F. J. FRENCH, Q.C., Grenville

**Secretary-Treasurer**  
WM. RENNIE

**Corresponding-Secretary**  
J. B. REYNOLDS, B.A.

J. H. LAND  
D. B. READ

**Executive Committee**

THOMAS MORPHY

JOHN A. ORCHARD  
A. F. HUNTER

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**DELEGATES**


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**York Pioneer and Historical Society**  
REV. DR. SCADDING      W. H. DOEL, J.P.      WM. RENNIE

**Simcoe County Pioneer and Historical Society**  
REV. DR. W. R. PARKER      MR. A. F. HUNTER

**Grenville Pioneer and Historical Society**  
D. B. READ, Q.C.

**Peel Pioneer Society**  
ELI CRAWFORD      THOS. MORPHY

**Wentworth Pioneer and Historical Society**  
F. W. FEARMAN      JUDGE MUIR

**Lundy's Lane Historical Society**  
REV. CANON BULL      JOHN A. ORCHARD

**Thorold and Beaversdam Historical Society**  
REV. P. L. SPENCER

**Historical Section of Canadian Institute, Toronto**  
DR. CANNIFF      J. G. RIDOUT

## 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

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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, or ten dollars, 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.

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## The Pioneer and Historical Association of the Province of Ontario, Canada

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The Eighth annual meeting of the Pioneer and Historical Association of the Province of Ontario was held on 5th June, in the Court House at Brampton.

Rev. Canon Bull, the President, took the chair.

Among those present were Messrs. Eli Crawford, Luther Cheyne, Rev. W. Walsh, R. H. Hodgson, Wm. H. Doel, 1st Vice-President; Wm. Rennie,

Secretary-Treasurer ; D. B. Read, Q.C. ; James L. Hughes, Capt. E. Cruickshanks, J. A. Scarlett, Mrs. Curzon, Miss FitzGibbons, Thos. Morphy, Rev. J. Thompson and others.

The minutes of last annual meeting were read and adopted. Also the minutes of the special meeting held on Sept. 14, 1894, in the Simcoe Log Cabin, Exhibition Grounds, Toronto, were read and adopted.

The Secretary-Treasurer read the following report, which was adopted:—

Although the Pioneer and Historical Societies in Ontario are yet few in numbers, the indications are that several more will be organized during the present year and will make application to be affiliated with this association. It is to be regretted that the Executive Committee has not found it convenient to meet during the year to attend to the important business assigned it by the association. A position on the committee is no sinecure. There is much work to be done before a monument in memory of Governor Simcoe can be secured, and the time has arrived when preparations should be made to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the discovery of North America by John and Sebastian Cabot.

Moved by Mr. Morphy, seconded by Mr. Read, "That the President be allowed his disbursements in connection with the Society." Carried.

Moved by Mr. Hughes, seconded by Mr. Crawford, "That this Society has learned with much pleasure that the first of a series of historical paintings representing events connected with the history of Canada, has recently been completed by Mr. John D. Kelly, of Toronto, and that the painting is to be reproduced and issued by Mr. E. E. Sheppard as a supplement to the Christmas number of *Saturday Night*, in December, 1895. The Society notes with much gratification the fact that a Canadian subject by a Canadian artist is to be so widely disseminated throughout the Dominion, and would strongly recommend that this and similar pictures be placed in the Public and High Schools of Canada." Carried.

Moved by Mr. Scarlett, seconded by Mr. Read, that the words "unless the said Presidents already hold office in this Association," be added to the notice of motion given by Mr. Hunter at the last annual meeting.

Moved by Mr. Doel, seconded by Mr. Hughes, that the Presidents of the various affiliated Societies be the Vice-Presidents of this Society, except such as already fill an office. Carried.

A motion by Mr. J. L. Hughes to the effect that Canadian subjects painted by Canadian artists should be placed in the Public and High Schools was carried.

The question of where the next annual meeting should be held was then discussed, and Hamilton selected.

A resolution was adopted requesting the affiliated societies to send delegates to co-operate with the committee of the Canadian Institute in making arrangements for the celebration of the 400th anniversary of the discovery of Canada, and that the Historical Association be represented on the general



committee by the officers of the Association and one member from each of the local societies.

Letters of regret at inability to be present were sent by the following:—  
The Governor-General, Lieutenant-Governor Kirkpatrick, Hon. Geo. W. Ross, Rev. Dr. Scadding, Mr. A. F. Hunter, Rev. P. L. Spencer.

Rev. Cannon Bull then gave an exposition of the objects and aims of the Association.

Mrs. Curzon followed with a paper on "Early Times in York and Peel." Capt. Cruickshanks reviewed in a singularly felicitous manner what had been done in the way of historical research in Ontario during the past ten years.

Miss FitzGibbons, who has recently returned from England, told of the greatly increased interest taken in the old country in everything Canadian.

Mr. James L. Hughes urged that there should be introduced into the school books, flags and pictures, which would keep alive and develop in the children the feeling of loyalty to country and Queen.

The following officers were elected:—

**Honorary President**

REV. DR. SCADDING

**President**

REV. CANON BULL, M.A.

**Vice-Presidents**

REV. DR. SCADDING, York

JUDGE J. A. ARDAGH, Simcoe

ELI CRAWFORD, Peel

CAPT. JAMES, Thorold and Beavertams

GEO. H. MILLS, Wentworth

F. J. FRENCH, Q.C., Grenville

**Secretary-Treasurer**

MR. WM. RENNIE

**Corresponding-Secretary**

J. B. REYNOLDS, B.A.

**Executive Committee**

J. H. LAND

JOHN A. ORCHARD

D. B. READ

A. F. HUNTER

THOMAS MORPHY

Meeting adjourned.

The following are addresses delivered by various members of the Society:

## Pioneer and Historical Association of Ontario

**Address of the President, Rev. Canon Bull, M.A., at the Annual  
Meeting held at Brampton, on June 5th, 1895**

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—This association of representatives from local historical societies in Ontario was organized in Toronto in the year 1887, under the Presidency of the Rev. Dr. Scadding. It is much to be regretted that the reverend gentleman is unable to be with us to-day. His high attainments and varied abilities, so much appreciated in other like circles, have done much for this association in presenting its work and usefulness before the public. Well did he deserve the vote of thanks passed and the many kind words expressed on his declining re-election at the last annual meeting; and fitting is it that the name of Dr. Scadding should still stand first on the list of members as the honorary president. Thus he is retained among us as a co-worker, a genial friend, and a valued counsellor.

Although only eight years have elapsed since the foundation of the association, and although the increase in its membership has depended upon the formation of new societies and their affiliation with the senior organization, we believe that the day has arrived when the name and usefulness of the Pioneer and Historical Association of Ontario have become practically manifest.

In the maritime provinces of Canada, and in those States which lie to the south as far as Florida, an earnest and patriotic interest in early American history has been shown for many years, and the names of French and English discoverers and of original settlers have been most carefully preserved and their memories piously honored to this day. Such names are those of Jacques Cartier, Champlain, Sir Walter Raleigh, Sir H. Gilbert, Henry Hudson, Chevalier de la Salle, and Frontenac.

The history of the province of Ontario, formerly Upper Canada, began but a little more than a century ago; and yet, though brief, it is a splendid and precious history to us. There are, however, records which take us back to much earlier times, and which relate to all this western country, even to that beyond the Rocky Mountains, and to numerous Indian tribes whose descendants are now our fellow-subjects, living in unity, peace and concord with us, and devoted to the same flag and the same British institutions as ourselves. We are anxious to see those records brought to light and published for the advantage of both white men and red.

Within the past few years in Ontario much work has been done in rearing with a view to clearer recognition the noble structure of this history of the province. It is for that purpose this association exists. The second article of its constitution is in these words:

"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, for promoting and extending the influence and benefits thereof."

But further than this, the chief purpose of the association is to foster the spirit of British Canadian nationality, which shall remain strong and steadfast for generations to come. That was the spirit of the United Empire loyalists and others of 1783, the pioneers and founders of this and each maritime province.

Strong indeed and steadfast was each province in itself for long years under the British flag; but stronger than ever are these provinces now in the bond of Confederation, consummated in 1867. The same spirit held together, united as one man, the brave and successful defenders of Upper and Lower Canada during the period of 1812-14, again in 1837, again in 1866, again in 1870 when Louis Riel rebelled in the Northwest.

But we were referring to the work of the association being to preserve historical records, to keep alive the memories of the pioneers and loyal defenders of this country.

At the same time we are not unmindful of others filled with just the same spirit, persons who are fellow-workers with us in the study and cultivation of Canadian history, or who have been such in recent years. My memory fails to recount all the names, but among writers eminent in their day were Hon. W. H. Merritt, Rev. Dr. Egerton Ryerson, Francis Parkman and J. C. Dent. Again, at the present time there are Dr. J. G. Hodgins, Dr. Canniff, Captain Cruikshank, Rev. Dr. Scadding, Mrs. J. D. Edgar, Mrs. Curzon, Miss Fitz-Gibbon, Professor Bryce, D. B. Read, Q.C., W. Kirby, F.R.S., O. A. Howland, M.P.P., Chas. Durand, Miss Carnochan, Rev. E. J. Fessenden, Dr. W. H. Withrow and Canniff Haight. I must not fail to mention Dr. Kingsford, of Ottawa, and his most valuable history of Canada, which has reached its seventh volume and will probably reach twice that number before its completion. It is a great work and labor of love. Moreover, I ought not to seem to omit from the list of able writers belonging to this province the name of the Hon. G. W. Ross, biographer of the late Hon. Alex. Mackenzie, statesman and prime minister of Canada, or the names of G. M. Mercer and Joseph Pope, separate and independent biographers of the late Sir John A. Macdonald, statesman and prime minister of Canada. Further, I should not neglect to note the fact that a gentleman is now engaged in writing the biography of the late Sir John Abbott and the late Sir John Thompson, both distinguished statesmen and prime ministers of this Dominion. Besides these eminent names (and I shall regret the circumstance if I have unconsciously omitted

any) I wish briefly to speak of two useful societies—the Canadian Institute, of Toronto, and the Hamilton Association—whose publications on art, science and literature, hold a very high place of merit. I fear, however, that the printed results of the work of these organizations are too little known outside their respective districts or circles. They are highly valuable and should find ready entrance into the public libraries of Canada.

The local historical societies now in affiliation with us are:—

1. The York Pioneer and Historical Society, Toronto, established 1869.
2. The Peel Pioneers' Society, Brampton, 1887.
3. The Niagara Historical Society, Niagara.
4. The Lundy's Lane Historical Society, Niagara Falls Village, formerly Drummondville, 1887.
5. The Wentworth Pioneer and Historical Society, Hamilton, 1889.
6. The Simcoe County Pioneer and Historical Society, Barrie, 1891.
7. The Grenville Pioneer and Historical Society, Prescott, 1891.
8. The Kingston and Frontenac Historical Society, Kingston, 1893.
9. The Bay of Quinte District Historical Society, Trenton, 1893.
10. The Canadian Club, Hamilton, 1893.
11. The Thorold and Beaverdams Historical Society, Thorold, 1894.

These societies, we are assured, are doing their own local share of work, a work interesting and profitable to the public, and are greatly aided in their efforts by the local press, without exception. To confirm this statement I need only read from the *Hamilton Spectator*, of May 25th, Senator MacInnes' remarks made at the recent annual meeting of the Royal Society of Canada at Ottawa. In presenting the report of the Wentworth Historical Society, he stated: "One of the objects which the society has had in view is to create an interest in the history of Canada. That a greater interest has been awakened is evidenced by the fact that kindred associations are now formed. The Canadian club, composed of rising young men of the community, is very active in disseminating information by frequent lectures and the reading of papers concerning the history of the country, especially of Upper Canada, now the province of Ontario."

In recounting these numerous societies of Ontario and thinking of those of other provinces, it has occurred to me that there is a grand field at once open for the publication of a monthly British Canadian magazine devoted to the history and biography of the long past and the hopeful present of the Dominion. An editor would be needed in each province properly to carry out the idea of such a magazine.

#### THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF CANADA.

It is a pleasure and a duty to refer to this wider and more influential organization, as its name denotes. It is akin to the British Association of England, whose members bear distinguished names or are zealous in the study of art, science and literature. The Royal Society of Canada was founded in 1881 at Ottawa by the Marquis of Lorne, who during his administration as

Governor-General of Canada showed in this, as in other matters, the deep interest he took in the development of the art, literature and science of the Dominion.

Having received an invitation from the honorary secretary of the Royal Society to send a representative of this association, with a general statement of its work and progress for presentation at the great annual meeting on the 15th of May last, at Ottawa, I prepared a report, which was duly presented by Capt. Cruikshank, delegate from the Lundy's Lane Society. I also sent an appendix, which was chiefly compiled from our last annual report, and which contained brief reports from all our local societies. I did this in order that each separate organization should appear as a living society zealous in its work. I beg to place before you a copy of that report.

It is a very gratifying pleasure on this occasion to mention the progress made in erecting in Canada monuments both of a national and of a personal or individual character, as expressions of a people's gratitude and loyalty. At Lundy's Lane a monument will be completed in a few weeks in memory of those defenders who fell in battle on July 25th, 1814. Similar memorials have been undertaken by the Dominion Government to be set up at Chrysler's farm, near Prescott (Nov. 11, 1813), and Chateauguay, Que., (Oct. 26, 1813.)

Kindly permit me, fellow-members, to suggest a few points for your consideration to-day.

1. How shall we seek best to promote a lively interest in the cultivation and study of local history, of provincial history and of the history of this continent since its discovery 400 years ago? Looking back in imagination during that period, over this continent, may not each one of us exclaim, "Behold what great things the Lord's hand hath wrought."

2. How shall we best seek to extend the usefulness of this annual convention held on the first Tuesday of June in each year, according to its constitution?

I suggest the following means:

(i.) By holding the annual meeting elsewhere than at the centre of the province, e. g., at Kingston and Belleville in the east; at Hamilton, Brantford, Woodstock, and London in the west.

(ii.) By the appointment of a committee of management to invite speakers and other guests on each occasion.

(iii.) By securing an annual grant from the Provincial legislature to meet necessary expenses.

3. How can we best proceed to enlist the sympathy of county councils and obtain their co-operation, as well as secure the interest of the literary societies that exist in connection with the high schools of the Province?

4. How shall we proceed to encourage the publication of useful pamphlets of local, provincial, or general interest, and to add them to public and high school libraries?

Among our young people we all feel that a truly patriotic spirit should be cultivated. A knowledge of history, therefore, is necessary. This knowledge should embrace things far and wide, but it should first concern itself with things at home. The records of counties and the chronicles of the province are numerous and useful for this purpose of home education. They are very precious. They are footprints of the past. We have seen too few of them. Large volumes of the archives of Canada have been published at Ottawa, but they need much amplification and explanation. The municipal records of a century relating to the county of Welland have been published and have proved of deepest interest to the people of the Niagara district.

5. It must not be forgotten at this meeting that the 400th anniversary of the discovery of the continent of America will soon occur, and that it will be necessary for us to assist (D.V.) in a worthy celebration of it in 1897. I am sure you will enter heartily into co-operation with the provisional committee soon to be appointed in Toronto for making proper arrangements for the commemoration of an event so fraught with interest to the people of this continent. Think of the tremendous contrast between *now* and *then*. Think of the unfailing hand of Providence controlling, directing or bringing to naught the actions of men from the time when John Cabot, on board an English ship commissioned by an English king, reached *Prima Vista*, probably Labrador, and when he named the opposite island, now Newfoundland, St. John's, on June 24th, 1497. Think of the Seven Years' war, extending from 1752 to 1760. Think of the great political, or national, divisions formed since that time and now contained by this immense American continent in the north and southeast and west. Think especially of this great northern portion of it, stretching from ocean to ocean and steadily developing into a Greater Britain. A writer in the *Orillia Packet*, of October 5th, last, speaking on the subject of a celebration for the year 1897, remarks:

"Hitherto we have been advertised to the outside world principally, and in many instances solely, as a great pastoral country, a field of productive agriculture, and few realize or know anything of our history, of the march of civilization of the last hundred years, that we have something in the great country between the oceans—the larger half of the North American continent—besides fur and wheat, fruit and cheese. The exhibition association will attend to the success of the industrial portion if the idea is carried out, and it will rest with the Historical Societies and individual interest in Canadian history to work up the other portion. That it can be done, and done well, I have no doubt. Until the idea of the historical exhibitions was started in London and an interested search made for the relics of the Stuart and Tudor periods, no one realized the number that were in existence, or the interest in history their bringing to light would rouse. It will be the same in Canada, and relics of the past bearing upon the history of the country will be found and saved from loss and destruction—relics which will add considerably to the authenticity of our records and traditions, be proofs of the loyalty, the progress and the patient plodding endurance which makes for civilization and the

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higher life and Canada what she is to-day. If the lines followed by the Society of Antiquaries in England are followed, relic entrusted for exhibition to a committee formed from the Historical Societies in Canada insured against loss, a brief authenticated account of each published in a catalogue, the historical section will prove not only interesting but profitable both to the exhibition association and their visitors."

Before concluding allow me to add two suggestions:

1. The adoption of a motion that this association may be convened a second time in each year on a day occurring during the continuance of the great exhibition in Toronto. The second meeting thus proposed may be for the transaction of business left unfinished at the annual meeting, or for taking up any new business of which due notice has been given.

2. The adoption of a rule to elect a new man as president of the association at each annual meeting, in accordance with the old adage, "A new broom sweeps clean."

There are many men around us, able and willing, thoughtful and loyal, who, if brought out one by one, year after year, to preside over this association and to watch its interests and its work, would impart to it fresh vigor and an increased measure of usefulness. Let me add one more word. Narrow partizanship we would exclude from our association, but loyalty and patriotism we desire to promote. This principle is briefly comprehended in words sacred and inspired: "Honor all men, love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king." (I. Peter, ii, 17.) I have no need to dwell upon this sacred text, but only to express a passing thought. Loyalty is to be grounded on piety. To be good citizens men must begin with being good Christians. Honor to kings and all in authority, is to be based on the fear of God, by whom kings rule and whose ministers they are. It is no easy task, no light duty, to fulfill a true citizenship. We must ever charge ourselves with the necessity of watching self—our motives, our purposes. Here in the Dominion of Canada we are loyal, i. e., law upholding and law abiding. To quote the language of a Toronto daily paper of May twenty-fourth last, the spirit of which is that of every Canadian print without exception: "No one who reflects on the history of the reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria will refuse a tribute of congratulation on her 76th birthday. Here in Canada, at any rate, there is scarcely any need to suggest a loyal celebration of the occasion. We remember that it is the birthday of one who has well filled her place in the nation's annals, and that, not only in England but throughout the whole civilized world, her name is honored. Her influence has always been on the side of purity, high-mindedness and noble manners. Those who know the influence of the British court through all the ramifications of British and colonial society, will recognize the part which her majesty has so well filled. As we join hands, therefore, around the world and celebrate the day, we can sing the national anthem with a heartiness and sincerity in which there is no tinge of reserve."

We are encouraged as British Canadians by a reign so happy and so glorious.

"Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is the whole duty of man." "Happy are the people that are in such a case, yea, blessed are the people who have the Lord for their God."

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### Mrs. Curzon's Address

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In 1792 when Col. John Graves Simcoe received his appointment as Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of Upper Canada, the area we are to-day most interested in was little more than virgin forest, through which roamed the red man, the trapper, and the voyageur, each intent on his own end, the chase, peltry and trading. Down on the shore of Lake Ontario, a stone's throw from the picturesque Humber with its beautiful bay, the French traders from Tadoussac had early built a fort; a fort, not as we understand the term to-day, but a strong-hold and defence against their rival traders, the English. From the lines of this rude post a great tract of country, fertile and in portions well-cultivated by the peace-loving Hurons, spread back on to Lake Simcoe, when, at Penetanguishene and Michilimachinac, other posts or forts where they might trade, existed. This whole track was called the Mississaga tract or territory, and through it a fine Indian trail from Lake Ontario to Lake Simcoe—or as it was then called Lac la Clie—ran. Portions of this trail may still be traced through High Park, one of the chief places of resort for our Toronto people.

This great tract of land was acquired by the British Government from the Indians, not by war, nor chicanery, as many people in their ignorance sometimes freely assert or assume, but by honest purchase. In *The York Almanac and Royal Calendar of Upper Canada* for 1825, published by Charles Fothergill, Esq., printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty, "A Sketch of the Present State of Canada," drawn up by Mr. Fothergill himself, it is stated "The new Townships (meaning Toronto, Trafalgar, and Nelson) are formed out of recent purchases by Government from the Indians, who received their payments annually in clothing, ammunition, and such articles as they required."

"A statement of some of these purchases shows the Mississaga purchase to have been 648,000 acres for which they were paid £552 10s. per annum. Up to 1820 there had been five of these purchases, *i. e.*, the Lake Huron; the Mississaga; the Rice Lake; the Long Wood; and the Mohawk purchases, comprising in all 4,680,390 acres at an annual charge to the Government of



£3,512 10s., which is defrayed by an appropriation of part of the amount received for fees or grants of land to emigrants. This system, Mr. Fothergill remarks, prevents any complaints or even a murmur of any kind from the Aborigines of the country, who live on the best terms with their white neighbors."

When, or on what terms the Indian title was extinguished, as it necessarily had to be in the course of years, I am unable to state, but all may be sure it was done equitably and justly after the manner of an able and honest Government dealing with its subjects, whether of its own or a different race. Of the rapid growth of the Home District, to which district the future York and Peel belonged, an economic statement in the Almanac quoted above, gives ample proof. In a "Return for the Home District, 1824, of statistics in the assessment rolls, we find it stated, "The Townships for which the following return is made are York, Vaughan, King, Whitchurch, Uxbridge, Gwillimbury, E. & W., North Gwillimbury, Georgina, Markham, Toronto, Scarborough, Pickering, Whitby, Chinguacousy, Etobicoke, Albion, Caledon, and Tecumseh.

Of Uncultivated land.....	282,550½ acres
“ Cultivated land.....	51,937½ “
“ Square timber houses, one story.....	231
“ Additional fire places.....	22
“ Square timber houses, two stories.....	65
“ Additional fire places.....	27
“ Brick and stone houses, one story.....	8
“ Additional fire places.....	20
“ Framed houses, one story.....	415
“ Additional fire places.....	155
“ Framed, brick and stone, houses of two stories	192
“ Additional fire places.....	344
“ Grist mills, one run of stones.....	21
“ “ Additional ssones.....	11
“ Saw mills.....	66½
“ Merchants' shops.....	50
“ Horses of 3 years and upwards.....	2,160
“ Oxen of 4 years and upwards.....	2,478
“ Milch cows.....	5,871

This statement does not contain the whole of the statistics given in this connection, but figures are wearisome hearing, and enough has been said to show that our pioneer fathers—and mothers—were hard at work.

Of this more immediate area we are told in Heriot's Travels through the Canadas, published at Quebec, 26th August, 1806. "To the westward of the Garrison of York are the remains of an old French Fort called "Toronto"—its first name, as we are reminded in Rev. Dr. Scadding's monograph on this

Fort—was Fort Rouillé, so called after the officer who superintended its erection as a set-off against Fort Oswegatchie or Oswego. “Adjoining to this situation there is a deep bay receiving into it the river Humber, between which and all the head of Lake Ontario, the Tobyco—spelled T-o-b-y-c-o,—the Credit and two other rivers, with a number of smaller streams form that immense body of water. These abound in fish, particularly in salmon, the *salmo trutta*, or salmon-trout, is, of course, here meant, for which the Credit is celebrated; a house of entertainment (of which more hereafter) for passengers is established on the banks of this river. The tract of territory between the Tobyco and the head of the lake, is frequented only by erratic tribes of Mississagas, which descend from the northward.”

I called your attention just now to the name Etobicoke, as expressed by Mr. Heriot, who was Postmaster-General of Canada at the date of his visit to the Western Province, and an educated man, by the spelling Tobyco. Proper names more than any other words are distinguished by a universal comparison in their spelling, they are for the most part of arbitrary formation in themselves, governed by no rules of the language of the nation or people to which they belong, and in consequence each person who finds it necessary to express them either officially, as in documents, or in literary connection as travels, &c., gives the sound he has caught phonetically, and every observer must have seen how extraordinarily the human ear differs even among the same people in properly catching sounds. I have had the opportunity afforded me by the courtesy of Mr. Bain, Chief Librarian of the Public Library, of Toronto, who placed at my service a volume of letters to the Surveyor-General, 1793-1802, of amusing you a little with the wonderful variations of the name Etobicoke accomplished in these official communications of the Government to Hon. D. W. Smith, Surveyor-General.

A letter dated 17th July, 1798, spells the word as we do at present, E-t-o-b-i-c-o-k-e, but on the 7th Dec. of the same year, Capt. Stephenson requests of His Honour, the President, to be allowed to locate 75 acres of the military lands allowed him in the Township of *Tobisco*.

On the 24th Dec., 1798, Henry Hutchins, a discharged Ranger, asks His Honour's permission to locate his 300 acres in Vaughan, the Township of *Tobecoak*, being very full.

How desirable this fertile township appeared to the settler even at that early date is thus evident.

Next, William Taulton Farewell—step-son of Sergeant Crandford—prays your Honour's permission to locate his 200 acres, for which he has conformed with all the regulations in No. 10, *tobicoke*, the initial capital letter being neglected.

His Honour, Peter Russell, then President of Upper Canada, had a very business-like method of dealing with such applications as the above, unless the applicants were men who had some exceptional claim on his attention. On the ordinary request he merely wrote on the application itself “Allowed”

or "Permitted," attaching his own signature. Thus a wonderful amount of red-tape was saved, the circumlocution office had not then found a footing in Canada, though I am sorry to say it did at a later period.

Dec. 17, 1796, the Hon. Peter Russell, in his own hand, directs the Hon. D. W. Smith to allot to Sergeant Hill, of the Queen's Rangers, the land granted to him in *Toby Cook*.

Here one is half inclined to think the Hon., the President, amused himself at the expense of Sergeant Hill, for in a letter immediately following he says to the Surveyor-General, "Dr. Gamble being desirous of exchanging some lots he has in Darlington for the same quantity in *Etobicoke*," spelling the word correctly. This letter contains a bit of general news—it is dated 13th March, 1798, and says, "but I am afraid difficulty may attend the business (the exchange desired) until the latter Township (*Etobicoke*) be surveyed," showing that the work of survey did not—indeed, how could it?—keep pace with settlement.

On 23rd March, 1799, Hon. Peter Russell forwards to Hon. D. W. Smith, a memorandum in Council by which he is authorized to reserve Lot No. 3, in range D, of *Tobecoak*, for the accommodation of Dr. Gamble. We will lay the blame of the relapse into phonetic spelling on one of His Honour's Secretary's, seeing we do not know him. But a further letter to His Honour, the President, from Mr. Gamble, gentleman, gives us another variety of spelling yet, for he asks for his grant in the Township of *Tobbicoe*, and thus describes the location he wants: "Fifty acres West side of the Humber, one hundred and fifty on the Mimico, or the creek next the Humber."

It is, however, very satisfactory to find, on good authority, not only the correct spelling, but the origin of this name of the beautiful Township given. In the history of York County, published by C. Blackett Robinson in 1885, Mr. Cave, of Thistleton, is quoted as saying that he "remembers the old Indian, *John Etobicoke* and his squaw, after whom the Township was named.

I do not think there will be an individual present to-day who will not be glad that a memory of a people, once the occupiers of the large tract from which, by the hard pressure of a different civilization from their own, they have almost, perhaps entirely, disappeared, has been so far, and we will hope for ever, appropriately preserved. But time will not permit me to say a great deal more on the interesting subject of the early times of our two counties, York and Peel, once one in assessment, now in a sense divided, yet remaining one in heart as this meeting proves to-day. I cannot close, however, without quoting from a *Directory for the County of Peel*, which I found in our Public Library. These Directories and Gazetteers deserve more than the attention usually bestowed on them they are so full of the past, of incident, history and romance. I love to get hold of one, and in this one for Peel I found among numerous items of settlement, County Court records and other matters what I have long been looking for, how the heroic Laura Secord became acquainted, or rather, as I ought to put it, had the opportunity of becoming acquainted with her husband. She was an Ingersol, a daughter of Mr. Thomas Inger-

sol, who came hither from Massachusetts, at the request of Governor Simcoe. In the records of the Sessions commencing 14th July, 1812, is to be found the following:

"Jan. 16th, 1813, Charles Ingersol, son of the late Thomas Ingersol, of the River Credit, applied to the court to be allowed, jointly with his mother, Sally, a tavern license for the Government House at the River Credit, stating that his father had kept said house for some years. Granted." The Secord's, of whom there were several brothers, had mill and other property in the Township of Etobicoke, as well as in Niagara and other parts of Canada, and thus it is easy to see how the meeting of the young people, James Secord and Laura Ingersol would happen. I might say much more on this family, but must not indulge myself to-day, because I wish to wind up at home—Brampton. The directory I have quoted does for me what I could not do myself, having less knowledge of your town than I could wish. It says;

"Brampton was a very pretty and interesting place in 1820. The Etobicoke meandering through the streets, its banks green with leeks"—I did not know the Etobicoke was so Welsh before—"but spotted with early spring flowers. There were then only two streets in Brampton, Hurontario street, and the side road between Lots 5 and 6, now Queen street. And the Etobicoke proceeded on its course, wandering and curving, crossing and recrossing the streets as if in doubt of the proper course to Lake Ontario. Or shall we not rather say, as if it were enamoured of its surroundings, and loth to lose itself in the great sea of fresh water that would end its course.

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Miss FitzGibbon spoke for a few minutes upon the strides that a knowledge of Canada and things Canadian had made in England during the last twelve years; of the wide interest felt in the country, its capabilities and its history, and the good work done to further this end by the members of the Imperial Federation League in London. When, as formerly, a lad who had failed in his examinations or was considered incapable of success at home was sent out under the idea that he would "do very well in Canada," thus making the country virtually a "dumping ground for their incapables." Now they realized it was necessary to send their best to compete with the Canadians. Miss FitzGibbon had had the privilege, during her recent visit in England, of talking about Canada to a large and appreciative audience at the great Doulton Ware Works, at Lambeth, London, under the auspices of the proprietor, Sir Henry Doulton, who was also an energetic Imperial Federationist, and of reading a paper at a meeting of the East Anglican Literary Guild, in which she had shown by reference to the past history of Canada and her knowledge of Canada and the Canadians of to-day, that there was as little probability of Canada being annexed to the United States at the present time, or in the future, as there had been in the past. Although the Guild had not a large membership they were men with wide influence, principally clergymen in the agricultural districts and small towns in the county.

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## Mr. O. A. Howland's Address

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### National Celebration of the Four Hundredth Anniversary of the Discovery of Canada

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Your assistance is requested in the formation of a broadly representative Committee for the purposes above indicated. The four hundredth anniversary of the landing of John Cabot on Cape Breton will arrive on the 24th of June, 1897. It was the first discovery of the continent of America. It took place under the English flag, and heralded the course of English and French explorations along the Atlantic Coast and following the line of the St. Lawrence River and Gulf, the Great Lakes, and the Mississippi. It was due to that discovery and those explorations that the Northern Coasts and the interior of the continent were made known to European nations, and became the scene of vigorous French and English colonization. To Canada, whose soil was the scene of Cabot's landing, appropriately falls the duty of honouring the memory of the discoverer. It is felt that the anniversary should be commemorated, both as that of an historic event of world-wide interest, and also as marking the accomplishment of an important consummation in the national career of Canada. The union created in 1867 has extended until it covers the northern half of the continent from Atlantic to Pacific. In the course of thirty years the Dominion then inaugurated has become firmly consolidated into a self-contained, and self-reliant nation, looking forward hopefully and resolutely to the utilization of vast resources. Its relations with the Imperial organization of which it forms a part have also rapidly ripened within the same period. The complete Federal autonomy of Canada within her own borders has been asserted and may now be said to be fully recognized. Her right to a participating voice in the negotiation, in the name of the Crown, of all international treaties, conventions, and controversies which affect her interests, is now practically conceded. When Canadian representatives are not actually present, as in the case of the Washington Treaty and the Behring Sea arbitration, it is well understood that the Crown will not hereafter act without due consultation with Her Majesty's Canadian advisers. In this sense a Federal centre of action also exists in substance if not in name. As an integral part of the Empire Canada has thus assumed her position, and has entered into the cognizance of foreign powers. The constitutional lines of development are settled, and further progress will be matter of detail. Time and occasion, therefore, seem to meet for celebrating the conclusion of a great and interesting era of political development, along with the event in which it has its beginning. It will be an appropriate demonstration of our substantial unity and permanency as a nation, notwithstanding diversities of origin and

varieties of religion and opinion existing in our population. The Empire and the nations of the world may be becomingly invited to assist at the ceremony, as the Festival of Canada's coming of age.

The history of Canada may be regarded as the history of the series of European settlements attracted into the great northern estuary of the continent, the Gulf of St. Lawrence, spreading along its coasts and tributary waters, overflowing into the territories westward to the Pacific Ocean, and ultimately becoming grouped under the united government and common name of Canada. The history of Canada is the history of that Northern Mediterranean; of the various migrations and settlements; of rivalries and conflicts which attended its occupation by men springing from different European races; and of unification, first by fortunes of war, afterwards by the peaceful co-operative processes of time.

A general scientific interest as well as a local patriotic interest attaches to the occasion. The study of the principles of national genesis is a branch of social science. Of the spontaneous growth and organization of a nation Canada is one of the most remarkable object lessons in modern history.

There may be indicated three different characters for the celebration now proposed.

First. It is to be a commemoration of an historical and geographical event; the discovery of the Continent of North America.

Secondly. It will take the character of a great Canadian patriotic celebration, commemorating the historic development, materially and politically, of our country, now taking its permanent place as one of the states of a great Empire, Federal and Republican in substance, under the forms of an ancient and illustrious monarchy.

Thirdly. It is intended to illustrate, by a collection of historical exhibits, the course of northern continental discovery from the St. Lawrence gateway westward, and southward, along the St. Lawrence River, the Great Lakes the Mississippi and the Western plains, and the development of social and political civilization traceable from the colonization of North America. Such a purely historical international exhibition, on a fitting scale as now proposed, has never yet taken place.

A general Industrial World's Fair would probably meet with a cold response in Canada, and from other countries. On the other hand, a purely historical exhibition is quite within the limits of our means, and of our claims upon the attention of the world.

For this international historical exhibition ample accommodation has been offered free of expense by the Government of Ontario, the University of Toronto, Victoria University, and the Ontario School of Science. Their magnificent buildings, all in close proximity, and adjacent to Queen's Park, Toronto, are placed at the disposal of the preliminary local committee.

It is proposed that the proceedings of the year should not be unduly limited in locality or in form as the following outline would suggest.

The Royal Society will undertake the placing of a monuemnt on Cape Breton on the 24th July, 1897.

It is hoped the descendants of the Governors under the French régime and also of the English Governors of the former Provinces, together with the Governors-General of Canada still living, may be present in Canada on the occasion. They might be conducted by an international procession of war ships in a commemorative pilgrimage, following the route of Cartier and Champlain from Cape Breton to Montreal. The track of the discoverers may thence be followed up the valley of the Ottawa to the Great Lakes; the guests arriving in Toronto in time to open the International Historical Exhibition during the month of July, 1897. A reunion of the descendants of the U. E. Loyalists and of the Sons and Daughters of the Revolution may be also arranged, to join, along with the representatives of France and every portion of the Empire, in celebrating the century of progress which has followed upon a century of conflict.

The meeting of the British Association at Toronto in September, 1897, will add lustre and interest to the concluding proceedings of the year.

It is for these objects that a national committee is in process of formation.

The subject of commemorating the anniversary in some form was referred to in an eloquent and able paper read before the Royal Society of Canada by Dr. S. E. Dawson, on the subject of Cabot's landing, and in the Secretary's Report for 1894. Almost simultaneously the Historical Societies of Ontario and the Canadian Institute (Toronto) took up the matter. They originated the proposition of an historical exhibition. A preliminary committee has been formed of members of the Canadian Institute to which have already been added representatives appointed by the Senate of the University of Toronto, Victoria College, Trinity University, Queen's University, The Royal Society of Canada and the Historical Society of Montreal. Thus the committee is in process of being speedily completed into a broadly representative national body. It is desired that it should include all the Universities, Colleges, Societies and Institutions of an historical, learned or public character in the Dominion, after which like bodies throughout the Empire and foreign societies and governments will be invited to lend their assistance in contributing to the success of the exhibition.

As the time is none too long for the necessary organization and preparation it is hoped that prompt action will be taken by all the leading bodies whose concurrence is sought in forming the National Canadian Committee.

## Mr. Cruickshank's Address

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### The Progress of Historical Studies in Canada 1885-95

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The several Centennial celebrations held in commemoration of the settlement of the loyalists, in 1884, gave an impulse to the study of local history which has been largely sustained by the publication of annual reports on the Canadian Archives prepared by Dr. Douglas Brymner. The establishment of the Archives office in 1872 under its present able chief has been the means of bringing together, classifying, and placing at the service of the student a collection of historical documents unrivalled on this continent both for extent and importance, and increasing rapidly from year to year. In 1884 Dr. Brymner began his calendar of the now celebrated Haldimand Collection comprising 232 volumes, which was completed in 1889, and has been followed by calendars of 30 volumes of Colonel Bouquet's papers, and 317 volumes of the Colonial Office Records prepared by the same indefatigable hand.

The extent and value of the work thus performed may be imperfectly judged from the fact that these calendars cover 3,857 printed pages in royal octavo, and that it involved the attentive perusal of 579 MS. volumes from which they were prepared. In addition to this, several series of documents of great value on the settlement of the loyalists, the Northwest trade, negotiations with Vermont, French republican designs on Canada and the political agitation of Justice Thorpe in 1806-7, have been printed entire for the first time.

American historical societies have made good use of the privileges so generously extended to all-comers at the Archives office in marked contrast to the narrow policy pursued by the United States Government in such matters, and have expended large sums in transcribing and printing documents. Among these the Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society easily holds the first place, having published documents covering no less than 1,116 octavo pages in volumes 9, 10 and 11 of their collections, while volumes 15 and 16 of the same series, containing no less than 1,497 pages, are entirely made up of papers drawn from the same source. Indeed, it may be said that nearly everything of genuine historical interest published of late years by this Society has been obtained from the Canadian Archives.

The publication Committee justly remark that "the example of the Canadian Government in securing all that can be secured from these sources (England and France) relative to its own most interesting early history is not only worthy of all praise but also of imitation by all the border States, as well as by the United States.



The Wisconsin Historical Society has also published documents from the Canadian Archives covering 226 octavo pages, while the Vermont Society has printed a series relating to the obscure negotiations between General Haldimand and Ethan Allan in 1780-1, forming 200 pages of the second volume of its collection.

These extensive publications make the work of most Canadian societies seem insignificant in comparison.

The Nova Scotia Historical Society has, however, published four small volumes containing in the aggregate 724 pages, and in 1894 the New Brunswick Society issued the initial volume of its collections forming 152 pages. The Literary and Historical Society of Quebec has published four volumes, which, however, contain little of historical significance.

The Society for Historical Studies, of Montreal, has published Gerald Hart's essay on the "Fall of New France," and the Chateauguay Literary and Historical Society W. D. Lighthall's meritorious account of the battle of Chateauguay. The Government of Quebec has printed no less than eight stout volumes of historical documents relating to French Canada. Several very valuable historical essays, both in English and French, have appeared in the transactions of the Royal Society.

Coming to Ontario we find that the Canadian Institute and the Canadian Military Institute, of Toronto, have printed several papers of value, but the purely historical societies with a single exception have accomplished little in the way of publication beyond the usual annual report. The Centennials Committee did good service in printing the list of United Empire Loyalists obtained from the Crown Land Office.

The formation of numerous local historical societies in affiliation with the Provincial Society is an encouraging sign. These may most effectually promote historical research by collecting and printing documents relating to their respective localities, and the preservation of records and objects of historic interest. An excellent example has been set in this direction by the publication of "Simcoe's Letter to Sir Joseph Banks," and "Capt. Littlehale's Journal," by your Honorary President, the venerable Dr. Scadding. A series of documents illustrating Canadian history published in a form similar to the admirable "Old South Leaflets," would be of great value and might well be undertaken by this Society.

The Manitoba Historical and Scientific Society has published seventeen numbers of its transactions containing several papers of much historic interest.

In forming an estimate of the work of individual authors the first place must unquestionably be assigned to Dr. Wm. Kingsford, whose valuable and comprehensive History of Canada is now approaching completion. Two smaller works from the same pen, "Canadian Archæology," and the "Early Bibliography of Ontario," also deserve attention.

The learned Clerk of the House of Commons, Dr. J. G. Bourinot has published a "Manual of the Constitutional History of Canada," "Federal

Government in Canada," "Canadian Studies in Comparative Politics," and "Local Government in Canada," all books of great importance. Mr. Wm. Houston has edited an excellent collection of "Documents Illustrative of the Canadian Constitution." Withrow's "Popular History of Canada" has passed into a second edition. J. C. Dent's "Story of the Upper Canadian Rebellion," and M. Gerin Lajoie's "Dix Ans au Canada," edited by Abbé Casgrain, are notable contributions to the history of a critical period. O. A. Howland's "New Empire" deserves the attention of all thoughtful and patriotic Canadians. L. R. Masson's "Les Bourgeois de la Compagnie du Nord Ouest," describes in a very attractive manner the fortunes of a once famous trading company. Mrs. Edgar's "Ten Years of Upper Canada," Frazer's "Pen and Ink Sketches," and Caniff Haight's "Country Life in Canada Fifty Years Ago," deserve special notice.

The valuable collection of notes contained in "Canadiana" and the appendix to Mrs. Curzon's "Laura Secord" have a distinct historic value.

Local history has been enriched by such excellent works as Judge Pringle's "Old Leuenburg," J. A. Macdonell's "Old Glengarry," Dean Harris' "Early Missions in Western Canada," J. H. Coyne's "Country of the Neutrals," A. F. Hunter's "History of the County of Simcoe," Rev. R. Ker's "Memorial of the Parish Church of St. George" and Miss Carnochan's "St. Andrews."

In biography Adam's and Pope's lives of Sir John Macdonald, Hon. G. W. Ross, Alexander MacKenzie. D. B. Read's lives of Breck and Simcoe, and Miss FitzGibbon's "Veteran of 1812," have added materially to our fund of historical knowledge.



## York Pioneer and Historical Society

Office Bearers, Elected 5th March, 1895

**President**

REV. DR. SCADDING

**Vice-Presidents**

1ST. WM. RENNIE

2ND. ELI CRAWFORD

3RD. D. B. READ, Q.C.

**Treasurer**

E. M. MORPHY

**Secretary**

ROBERT PLAYTER

**Committee of Management**

CAPT. D. F. JESSOP, Chairman

CAPT. J. MCGANN

JOHN WILSON

GEO. CHARLTON

T. W. ELLIOTT

T. W. ANDERSON

CHAS. MCCAFFRY

J. A. SCARLETT

W. H. DOEL, J.P.

THOS. TAYLOR

**Delegates to Provincial Association**

REV. DR. SCADDING

W. H. DOEL, J.P.

WM. RENNIE

The York Pioneer and Historical Society hold their annual meeting on the first Tuesday in March in each and every year, and their monthly meetings on the first Tuesday of each month, in the Canadian Institute, Toronto, at 2 p.m. All members are cordially invited.

The average number of members attending monthly meetings was 22. The number of deaths 9.

At the annual meeting of 5th March the President reported that he had received friendly replies from the Commissioner of Public Works and the Attorney-General, on the subject of a monument in honor of Governor Simcoe.

The following papers and speeches were given:—

A paper by the President, entitled, "Mohawk and Seneca set right."

Interesting anecdotes of the well-known Shepherd family were related by Mr. Chas. Durand.

Mrs. Curzon read a poem on "The Pioneer's Log Cabin."

D. B. Read, on the chief characteristics of the Canadian people.

E. M. Morphy, on "Amusing Incidents in Muddy York," and a paper on "Gen. Brock."

Chas. Durand and D. B. Read each gave a short history of Gov. Simcoe.

## Simcoe County Pioneer and Historical Society

Organized November 6th, 1891

### Officers for the Year 1895

**Honorary President**

HON. J. R. GOWAN

**President**

JUDGE J. A. ARDAGH

**Vice-Presidents**

JUDGE BOYS

DR. C. E. JAKEWAY

MR. G. H. HALE

**Secretary**

MR. A. F. HUNTER

**Treasurer**

GEO. SNEATH, Esq.

**Auditor**

MR. J. DARBY

**Executive Committee**

F. E. P. PEPLER, Q.C.

WM. H. HEWSON, Esq.

MR. A. SMITH

MR. S. L. SOULES

**Delegates to Provincial Association**

REV. DR. W. R. PARKER

MR. A. F. HUNTER

The past year has been distinguished by the publication of the minutes of Simcoe County Council for the years 1843-48. These had never been printed. They form an interesting volume of history relating to this county, and the County Council for 1895 is deserving of the highest praise for its liberality in making this expenditure. The work is a volume of some 500 pages.

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.

## Peel Pioneers' Society, Brampton

### Officers for the Year 1895

#### President

ELI CRAWFORD

#### Vice-Presidents

1ST. J. P. HUTTON

3RD. JOHN BALLENTYNE

2ND. GEORGE CHEYNE

4TH. ROBERT LOWES

5TH. CAPT. I. BAIN

#### Secretary

LUTHER CHEYNE

#### Treasurer

R. H. HODGSON

#### Executive Committee

1ST. THOMAS MORPHY

4TH. JOHN SMITH, M.P.P

2ND. THOMAS HOTTLY

5TH. JAMES JACKSON

3RD. GEO. CORKETT

6TH. JESSIE PERRY

7TH. 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 p.m., in the office of the Peel Farmers' Insurance Company.

This Society was organized November 12th, 1887, average attendance for past year 12.

Several interesting papers have been read at our monthly meetings throughout the past year.

The initiation fee is \$1.00, and 50c per year for annual dues thereafter, which entitles each member to a copy of all printed matter issued by the Society during the year.

## Thorold and Beaverdams Historical Society

Organized June 5th, 1894

### Officers for the Year 1895

**President**

CAPT. JAMES

**Vice-Presidents**

1ST. REV. P. L. SPENCER

2ND. MRS. MUNROE

**Secretary-Treasurer**

A. W. Beavely

**Corresponding-Secretary**

Miss Amy Ball

The work of the Society during the last year included a grand historic picnic, held on the last anniversary of the Battle of Beechwoods, at Decew Falls; to be repeated (D. V.) the coming anniversary, on the veritable battle ground of Beechlands, less than a mile from the town of Thorold; letters to the Minister of Militia, pleading for a portion of the fund appropriated to building monuments on the battle-fields of Canada; an application to the County Council for a grant of \$25 towards a library; deputations to search out and locate the exact site of the Battle of Beechwoods.

Papers were read by Mrs. A. McFarland and Miss Amy Ball.

Ordinary meetings are held on the first Wednesday of every month, in the Mechanics' Institute at 8.45 p.m.



## Lundy's Lane Historical Society

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### Officers for the Year 1895

#### President

REV. CANON BULL, M.A.

#### Vice-Presidents

1ST. JOHN A. ORCHARD

2ND. CHAS. PATTON

#### Secretary-Treasurer

Jas. Wilson, C.E.

#### Corresponding-Secretary

VEN.-ARCHDEACON HOUSTON, M.A.

#### Executive Committee

ABEL LAND

JAS. C. HULL

GEO. HEDERSON

JAS. A. LOWELL, M.P.

JOHN A. LAW

J. Y. ROBERTSON

THOS; BOWMAN

GEO. SIMPSON

### Annual Report

The Lundy's Lane Society has pleasure in reporting continued interest in the study of local and Provincial history.

It has just issued the second edition of "The Fight in the Beechwoods or Beaverdams of 1813," and intends shortly to issue another pamphlet of, perhaps, General Drummond's Winter Campaign, 1813. The gift of \$200 from the Provincial Government, lately received, and aid from the generous County Council of Welland will materially encourage the society in its work of printing historical literature hitherto unpublished.

During the winter season a successful attempt was made to unite the Society with the Literary Society of the Stamford High School. The Society mentions this new effort in order that it might be imitated by kindred societies. The purpose is laudable—to get young people interested in the history of their country.

The Society reports the beginning of the erection of a monument at Lundy's Lane, by the Dominion Government.

## Wentworth Pioneer and Historical Society

Organized January, 1889

### Officers for 1895

#### President

GEORGE H. MILLS

#### Vice-Presidents

1ST. F. W. FEARMAN

2ND. 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

The Society holds ordinary meetings on the first Tuesday in each month at 8 p.m.

The annual meeting for 1895 was held on Friday, June 7th.

The following is the Secretary's report:

In submitting his 5th report, the Secretary takes pleasure in calling attention to the improved status of the Society, and to the important work accomplished during the year. For though there have been no papers read or open meetings held, yet the efforts of the Society have received substantial recognition at the hands of the Provincial Legislature, and of the County Council, the former having considered the Society's petition favorably, and granted the sum of \$100 towards the publication fund, while the latter provided a like sum, to be given for a prize for the best essay on the "History of the County of Wentworth," nominating W. H. Ballard, M.A., Alex. Pirie, and Thos. Stock, as judges.



On receiving assurance from the Minister of Militia, that designs had been adopted, and tenders called, for the erection of monuments at Lundy's Lane and other points, with the prospect of Stoney Creek being provided for in the near future, a committee was appointed, and after some time spent in looking over the battle ground, a commanding spot was selected for the proposed monument, on the north side of the stone road, at the place where a number of those killed in the battle were buried. Through the generosity of the owner, Mr. Smith, the cost will be but a trifle.

At the request of the Society, the City Council has donated space for the memorial for Burlington Heights, in Harvey Park, to consist of a monument, and memorial rustic building, the latter to contain rooms for the museum, and meetings, and a fire proof vault for the safe keeping of the documents and relics. If living rooms are added, the caretaker of the Park will act in that capacity for the Society free of cost.

Owing to many unforeseen circumstances, the organization of the "Ladies Standing Committee" was unfortunately delayed till this spring. It has now been effected, however, with Mrs. W. E. Sandford as President, Mrs. John Calder as Vice-President, Mrs. Teetzel as Secretary, and Mrs. E. Martin as Treasurer.

This committee has generously volunteered to see that the necessary funds for the erection of the memorial building are raised, and they will deserve the lasting gratitude of this Society, and of the community on the accomplishment of this work. The success of the scheme is assured when undertaken by them.

The usual report to the Royal Society of Canada, was prepared and presented by the Society's delegates to its meeting, Hon. D. MacInnes and Alex. McKay, M.P.

The Society is indebted to Dr. Bourinot for a copy of the proceedings of the Royal Society, and the parliamentary reports, blue books, votes and proceedings of the House of Commons and Senate of Canada.

Rev. E. J. Fessenden, rector of the Ancaster Church, read a very interesting and well-written paper on "Niagara from Queenston to Chippewa." It dealt with all the points of beauty and of a historic nature between these points.

## Grenville Pioneer and Historical Society

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Organized May 30th, 1891

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### Officers for 1895

#### President

F. J. FRENCH, Q.C.

#### Vice-Presidents

1ST. H. A. FRASER

2ND. E. H. WHITMARSH

#### Secretary-Treasurer

F. A. KNAPP

#### Delegate to Provincial Association

D. B. READ, Q.C.

