ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

ONTARIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

1898.



TORONTO:
WARWICK BRO'S & LUTTER, 68 and 70 Front Street West.
1898.

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OFFICERS FOR 1898-9.

Honorary President, - Hon. G. W. Ross, LL.D.,

Minister of Education, Toronto

President, - - James H. Coyne, B.A., St. Thomas.

1st Vice President - - D. B. READ, Q.C., Toronto.

2nd Vice President - J. OJIJATEKHA BRANT-SERO, Hamilton.

Ex-officio Vice Presidents (REV. DR. SCADDING, Toronto.

(Presidents Miss Janet Carnochan, Niagara.

REV. CANON BULL, Niagara Falls South

ELI CRAWFORD, Brampton.

of Judge J. A. Ardagh, Barrie.

F. J. FRENCH, Prescott. .

W. H. MURCH, Woodstock

REV. P. L. SPENCER, Thorold.

LADY EDGAR, Toronto

Societies.) John D. Servos, Niagara.

R. W. SAWTELL, Woodstock.

Secretary - - DAVID BOYLE, Education Dept., Toronto.

Treasurer - - B. E. CHARLTON, Hamilton.

Local

Council:

MARY A. FITZGIBBON, Toronto.

J. H. LAND, Hamilton.

W. H. DOEL, Eglinton.

A. F. HUNTER, M.A., Barrie.

T. H. PARKER, Woodstock.

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FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

ONTARIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

[Pursuant to a resolution of the Pioneer and Historical Association of the Province of Ontario, Mr. James H. Coyne, the President, nominated a Committee consisting not only of members of that Association, but of others who, although interested in historical matters were not delegates of affiliated Societies, and therefore not admissible as members according to the constitution, the purpose of which Committee was to consider means for widening the basis of membership; to formulate a more systematic plan of work; to communicate with the Government with reference to obtaining financial aid; to arrange for a permanent central office. and to report to the Association.

This Committee met at the Education Department on the 30th of March, ult., and resolved to report in favor of the scheme drawn up by the President, with one or two minor exceptions.

A general meeting of the Pioneer and Historical Association was held at the same place on May 23rd following to receive the report of the Committee. Local Societies represented were the York Pioneers, Lundy's Lane, Grenville, Thorold, Elgin, Niagara, Simcoe (county), and the Women's Canadian Historical Society of Toronto. The U. E. Loyalist Society, Toronto, was also unofficially represented.

The Committee's report was taken up clause by clause.

By more than a two-thirds majority the name was changed to THE ONTARIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY, and most of the other changes suggested by the report of the Committee were adopted nem. con.]

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ANNUAL MEETING.

The eleventh annual meeting since the date of original organization was held on June 1st, at Ohsweken, on the Six Nation Reserve, in the County of Brant.

Extensive preparations had been made for this meeting by the Superintendent and Council of the Six Nations. Carriages belonging to the Indians on the Reserve and driven by their owners, met the trains from east and west at Brantford and Onondaga, and drove the delegates and visitors to the Council House, a distance of ten and four miles respectively.

The President took the chair in the Council House at 11.30, there being fully two hundred Indian Chiefs and "warriors" present, besides about eighty white people, mainly delegates and members of local historical societies.

The President, having announced in general terms the object of the meeting, called upon Mr. E. D. Cameron, Indian Superintendent, to address the meeting, which he did briefly, confining himself to an interesting statement respecting the method followed by the Indians in conducting business during meetings of their Council.

Chief Dekanenraneh, (A. G. Smith), Speaker of the Council of the Six Nations—a Mohawk, next extended a hearty welcome to the visitors in an eloquent and vigorous speech, evoking the applause of the audience.

The President made a suitable reply acknowledging the welcome on the part of the Society.

The delegates present were:

Six Nation Indians, Dekanenraneh, (A. G. Smith) Mohawk or Ganienga; Skanyodyo, (John Gibson) Seneca; Katkodayendon, (Alex. Hill) Onondaga; Deyohagwende, (Nicodemus Porter) Oneida; Deskahe, (Benjamin Carpenter) Cayuga; Rariwityatah, (Richard Hill) Tuscarora; and Nelles Monture, Delaware.

York Pioneer and Historical Society, Wm. Rennie, Rev. Dr. Blackstock, and W. H. Doel.

Lundy's Lane Historical Society, Rev. Canon Bull, M.A.

Thorold and Beaver Dams Historical Society, Rev. P. L. Spencer and J. H. Thompson.

Elgin Historical Society, Judge Ermatinger, J. H. Coyne, and

Mrs. W. Y. Emery.

Wentworth Pioneer and Historical Society, Geo. H. Mills, B. E. Charlton, and F. W. Fearman. The Women's Auxiliary of this Society was represented by Mrs. John Calder and Mrs. Fessenden.

Grenville Poneer and Historical Society, D. B. Read, Q.C.

Niagara Historical Society, Miss Janet Carnochan, Alfred Ball, and Alex. Servos.

Women's Canadian Historical Society of Toronto, Miss M. A. Fitz-Gibbon, Miss E. Yates Farmer and Mrs. Brant-Sero.

Oxford Historical Society, T. H. Parker, George R. Pattullo, and R. W. Sawtell.

The United Empire Loyalist Society of Niagara, John D. Servos, Mrs. Servos.

The United Empire Loyalists of Toronto were represented (un-

officially) by Mrs. Benj. Hills and Mrs. Thomas Hills.

Others present were, the Very Rev. Dr Harris, Dean of St. Catherines; Mr. John Calder and Miss Calder, and Mrs. Waddell, of Hamilton; Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Clarke, Miss M. MacLean Hellewell. Mrs. Davids, and Miss Riddell, of Toronto; Mrs. Ermatinger and Mrs. Coyne, of St. Thomas; Mrs. Ball, of Niagara; Mrs. J. Rose Holden, of Hamilton; Mr. J. B. McKenzie, Brantford; Dr. McMahon and Dr. A. Hamilton, Toronto; Miss Thompson, Miss Fleming, Miss Coulter, Mrs. J. H. Rogers, Rev. Mr. Edgar, and Mr. James Mitchell, of Cayuga; Mrs. Park, Mrs. Cameron, sr., Mrs. E. D. Cameron, Miss Peacock, Mrs. R. T. Whitlock, Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Howell, Colonel Gilkinson, Mr. Park, and Dr. Secord, of Brantford.

At 12.30 the meeting was adjourned for luncheon, provided very sumptuously by the Council of the Nations, under the management of Mrs. Garlow. Nearly a hundred guests were entertained in this

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way by the Indians.

During the intermission a meeting of the Council was held for the election of members, when on motion of Mr. Brant-Sero, seconded by the Rev. Canon Bull, the following gentlemen were elected members of the Society, viz., Rupert E. Kingsford, M. A., Barrister, Toronto; Prof. Augustus S. Vogt., Toronto; Rev. John R. Teefy, LL.D., Superior of St. Michael's College, Toronto; John Henderson, M.A., Head Master of Collegiate Institute, St Catherines; W. J. Robertson, M.A., Col. Inst., St. Catharines; Hon. J. G. Currie, Registrar, St. Catherines; Hon. James Young, Galt; J. B. McKenzie, Barrister, Brantford; J. H. Coyne, B.A., Registrar, St. Thomas, and J. Ojijatekha Brant-Sero, Hamilton.

On the resumption of business in the afternoon, the Oxford Historical Society was affiliated with this Society, on motion of Mr. F. W. Fearman seconded by W. H. Doel, and on motion of Mr. Geo. H. Mills, seconded by Mr. J. O. Brant-Sero, the United Empire Loyalist Association of Niagara, with headquarters at Virgil, was affiliated with this Society.

The President read letters expressing regret on account of inability to attend the meeting, from His Excellency the Earl of Aberdeen, Governor-General of Canada; His Honor Sir Oliver Mowat, G. C. M. G., Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario; the Hon. A. S. Hardy, Q. C., LL.D., Premier of Ontario; the Hon. G. W. Ross, LL.D., Minister of Education; W. Kirby, F. R. S. C.; Gilbert Parker, Dr. Douglas Brymner, C.M. G., Dominion Archivist; Major E. Cruikshank, and the Honorable James Young.

The President next delivered his annual address, the reading of which was frequently applauded.

On motion of Canon Bull, seconded by Dean Harris, LL.D., the thanks of the Society were tendered to the President, who replied in appropriate terms.

The Rev. Canon Bull moved, seconded by Dean Harris, that the reports of affiliated Societies be taken as if read.—Carried.

The President announced that steps were being taken by Lady Edgar and others to form a Women's Historical Society in the city of Ottawa.

Mr. Wm. Rennie, Treasurer, presented his report, which on motion of Mr. W. H. Doel, seconded by Mr. J. H. Thompson, was adopted.

Miss Fitz-Gibbon directed attention to a resolution passed at a former meeting respecting the preservation of old fort walls at Quebec, Fort Erie and elsewhere. Mr. Servos and Miss Carnochan spoke on the same subject.

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Moved by the Rev. Dr. Blackstock, seconded by Miss M. A. Fitz-Gibbon, that the thanks of the Society be tendered to Mr. Wm. Rennie for his very valuable services as Treasurer of the Pioneer and Historical Association of the Province of Ontario for many years, and that Mr. Kennie be presented with an engrossed address to this effect.—Carried.

The President named Mr. D. B. Read, Miss Fitz-Gibbon and the Secretary a committee to draw up a suitable resolution of thanks to Mr. Rennie.

Mr. W. H. Doel moved, seconded by Miss Carnochan that, whereas Mr. Rennie, whilst treasurer, appears to have disbursed of his own

moneys for various expenses incurred on behalf of the Society, the same ought to be refunded by the Society, and that Mr. Rennie be requested to send in a memorandum of the amounts so paid by him, which sum the Treasurer is authorized to pay over to him.— Carried.

Moved by the Rev. Canon Bull, seconded by Judge Ermatinger, and carried, that the Ontario Historical Society desires to express its sympathy with the Niagara Historical Society in the project of erecting some memorial of the landing of the United Empire Loyalists at Niagara, and pledges itself to help by any means in its power to carry out this laudable object.

Mrs. Fessenden moved, seconded by Mr. Geo. H. Mills, that this Historical Society support the idea of a "Flag Day" in our schools, and that the Honorable the Minister of Education be requested to appoint such a day for all the schools in the Province.—Carried.

On motion of Mr. Geo. H. Mills, seconded by Miss Fitz-Gibbon, it was resolved that the cordial thanks of this Society be tendered to the Six Nations for their generous hospitality to-day, and for the opportunity they have afforded us of meeting on this historic ground on the occasion of the annual meeting.

In response to this resolution Chief Nelles Monture, a Delaware, delivered a very dignified and eloquent speech. Mr. Brant-Sero also addressed the meeting in Mohawk.

As the time was too short to permit of papers being read in full, Rev. Canon Bull gave a summary of one he had prepared.

Papers were then handed in upon the following subjects:

- 1. Early Missionaries to Canada, Rev. Canon Bull, M.A.
- 2. The Descendants of Thayendanegea, (Captain Joseph Brant) J. Ojijatekha Brant-Sero.
 - 3. Patriotic and National Societies, John D. Servos.
- 4. The Monument to Commemorate the Landing of the U. E. Loyalists at Niagara, Miss J. Carnochan.*

*Since the meeting a paper has been received from A. F. Hunter, M. A., on British Immigration into Upper Canada, 1825-1837. The Editorial Committee will issue from time to time, in pamphlet form, such papers contributed to the Society as are deemed of general interest. All papers contributed are submitted to the Editorial Committee under whose direction such as are deemed of general interest will be printed from time to time, the Committee having authority to publish in full, to print summaries or portions only, or to retain the M.S.S. unprinted among the records of the Society in cases where immediate publication is not practical or expedient, having regard to financial or other considerations.

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Short addresses were delivered by Miss Fitz-Gibbon and Mr. D. B. Read, after which Miss Carnochan gave an epitome of her paper on the proposed U. E. monument at Niagara, and read the following original sonnet on the subject:—

A stately monumental pile build high
Where lauded on our sloping smiling shore
Those loyal souls, who suffering nobly bore
That they and theirs "God save the King!" might cry
With steadfast heart and voice, heard far and nigh—
Matron and maid and son and sire who tore
Themselves from pleasant hearths and homes—nay, more,
From silent graves, where loved ones peaceful lie.

Build, then, a shaft, "plain for all folk to see" To tell that every spot is hallowed ground, Veined by the blood of those who fain would be Yet Britain's sons, as witness many a mound. Forget not we the red man, our ally, For faith like his, nor gold nor land can buy.

Officers for the year were then elected, viz., President, (re-elected) J. H. Coyne; 1st Vice-President, D. B. Read, Q.C.; 2nd Vice-President, J. O. Brant-Sero; members of Council, J. H. Land, W. H. Doel, A. F. Hunter, T. H. Parker, and Miss M. A. Fitz-Gibbon; Treasurer, B. E. Charlton.

The proceedings closed by all present joining in singing the National Anthem.

The new Council met immediately, and elected David Boyle as Secretary.

On motion on Rev. P. L. Spencer, seconded by Mr. G. H. Mills, it was unanimously resolved that the Rev. Dr. Scadding, the Rev. Canon Bull, and Dr. J. G. Hodgins, Historiographer of the Province, be honary members of the Ontario Historical Society.

Note.—It should be mentioned in connection with the motion of Mrs. Fessenden respecting the institution of a "Flag Day," that at the last meeting of the Educational Association of Canada, held in Halifax, Nova Scotia, the Hon. G. W. Ross, Minister of Education for Ontario suggested the propriety of making May 23rd of each year "Empire Day," a day on which should be recounted the glorious achievements of peace and ceeds of war on the part of Britain in every portion of the Empire, but especially in America, with particular reference to the history of each Canadian province in which the day is observed. The Association very heartily adopted the suggestion and made recommodations accordingly.

YORK PIONEER AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Niagara, June 2nd, 1897.

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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.—Rev. W. W. Colpitts.

Executive Committee.—Dudley Jessop, Chairman, John Wilson, George Charlton, T. W. Elliot, T. E. Champion, Capt. W. McLean, John R. Bull, A. Wilson.

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 follow:—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, Robert 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.

NIAGARA HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Organized 12th December, 1895. Motto—" Ducit Amor Patria."

OFFICERS.

Patron—Wm. Kirby, F. R. S. C.
President—Miss Carnochan.
Vice-President—Henry Paffard.
Secretary—Alfred Ball.
Treasurer—Mrs. A. Servos.
Curator—Russel Wilkinson.

Committee—Rev. J. C. Garrett, Miss Clement, W. F. Seymour, Mrs. Asher, John D. Servos.

Honorary Vice-Presidents-Mrs. Roe, C. A. F. Ball.

In presenting the second report of our Society, we rejoice to be able to state that gratifying progress has been made in several directions. Regular meetings have been held, and we were honored by Niagara being selected for the annual meeting place of the Provincial Historical Association on the 2nd of June 1897. We were very much pleased to welcome among them a deputation of Indians from the Reservation near Brantford, who in the evening conducted a council meeting (according to established ritual) in a dignified and interesting manner. An address of welcome was read by the President to the

Indian deputation, and also a motion asking the sympathy and assistance of the Association in regard to the project of erecting a monument of some kind in commemoration of the landing of the United Empire Loyalists on our shore. A grant of fifty dollars was made to form the nucleus of a fund.

At our annual meeting, on the 17th September, addresses were given by our Patron, Mr. Kirby, Mr. Coyne, the President of the Provincial Historical Association, Mr. Boyle, the Provincial Archaeologist, and Mr. Brant-Sero, of Hamilton. Mr. McKenzie, of Toronto, read part of a fine drama on the capture of Fort Niagara in 1759 by Sir Wm. Johnson. The special subject of discussion was the project of erecting some memorial at the landing place of the U. E. Loyalists and the speeches all referred to this.

The graves of some of those who fell in battle here on the 27th May 1813, were again decorated.

Since November 1896 the historical room has heen open to the public for two hours every Saturday, and over four hundred visitors have recorded their names; many from distant cities. This has materially benefited our Society, affording an opportunity for the sale of our pamphlets, and has led to numerous contributions to our collection, and increased interest. We have now on our walls eighty frames containing pictures or documents. There are at present about eight hundred articles, some of them very valuable relics, nearly all relating to this neighborhood, but some have been sent from Manitoba, Wisconsin and Scotland. Our collection is particularly rich in pictures of the town, papers, pamphlets and books printed here in early days.

A short historical article has appeared each week in the local paper, with list of articles contributed. Cases and frames have been donated, and to Mr. Boyle, of the Ontario Archæological Museum, Toronto, we are indebted for much valuable advice and assistance.

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Two pamphlets have been issued during the year, making three since our formation, and a fourth is in the press, each containing illustrations. A grant from the Provincial Government has been given us also a small grant from the County Council, otherwise we would not have been able to publish as extensively as we have done.

A partial catalogue has been printed and five hundred circulars sent out to members of the U. E. Loyalist families re monument, and we intend to petition the Dominion and Provincial Governments for assistance. The circulars ask advice as to form of monument, and it

has been suggested that in view of the increasing size of our collection that a permanent building (with shaft or tower attached) to be our historical room would be most appropriate.

We also, as part of our work, petitioned Government with regard to preservation of landmarks at Niagara and Quebec, and hope to see a more general interest in all that pertains to the history of our country, assured that by the development of this feeling we shall secure truly loyal subjects, loving Canada, and proud of her history, and ready to help to make that history more glorious still.

The pamphlets issued by our Society are:

No. 1.—Taking of Fort George, by Major Cruikshank, with illustration of Niagara river, 27th May 1813.

No. 2.—Centennial poem, by Mrs. Curzon; Fort Niagara, by Canon Bull; Slave Release in Niagara, 1837, by Miss Carnochan, with three illustrations.

No. 3.—Blockade of Fort Niagara, by Major Cruikshank.

LUNDY'S LANE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Niagara Falls, Ont. April 19th, 1898.

The Lundy's Lane Historical Society continues to give attention as far as possible to the cultivation and study of the early history of this part of Canada, and rejoices in the fact that two other local societies, one at Niagara-on-the-Lake, President, Miss Carnochan, and the other at Thorold, President, Rev. P. L. Spencer, are zealously cooperating, and doing good and substantial work in their respective districts of this Peninsula.

The L. L. H. S. has great pleasure in stating that its two recent publications. "The Annals of Niagara" by W. Kirby, F. R. S. C. and "Documentary History" Part II by Major Cruikshank have been well received by students of history. The latter work is particularly valuable, comprising (with Part I.) over 500 pages of hitherto unpublished *Documents* relating to the War of 1812-14. Part III of similar documents also, a second Edition of a memoir of the heroine Laura Secord and a second Edition of "The Servos Family" by W. Kirby, F. R. S. C. will be publications of the present year.

The L. L. H. S. is again greatly encouraged in its work and labor of love by liberal aid received from both the Ontario Legislature and the council of the County of Welland unanimously voted by those distinguished bodies at their recent sessions.

The L. L. H. S. deplores the delay of the erection of a suitable memorial to the famous Laura Second of 1813. In publishing a second edition of her memoir by the gifted authoress Mrs Curzon, the Society hopes for a speedy revival of zealous efforts towards the erection of a worthy and durable monument to the memory of a brave and most worthy woman. The L. L. H. S. again appeals to loyal Canadian people for donatious to the fund required.

OFFICERS.

President—Rev. Canon Bull, M.A.

Vice-Presidents—John Lawe, Charles Patton.

Secretary-Treasurer—James Wilson, C.E.

Corresponding Secretary—Ven. Archdeacon Houston, M.A.

Executive Committee—Abel Land, J. G. Robertson, Chester C.

Misener, D. H. A. G. Cooke, Jas. C. Hull.

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PEEL PIONEER SOCIETY, BRAMPTON.

OFFICERS.

President—Eli Crawford.

Vice-Presidents—1st, J. P. Hutton, 2nd, George Cheyne, 3rd, John Ballentyne, 4th, Robert Lewis, 5th, Wm. Smith.

Secretary—Luther Cheyne.

Treasurer—R. H. Hodgson.

Executive Committee—Thos. Murphy, James Jackson, George Crokett, John Smith, Wm. Wilkinson, Thos. Wilson.

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

This Society was organized November 12th 1887. A number of interesting papers were read throughout the past year.

Average attendance, 14.

SIMCOE COUNTY PIONEER AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY 1897-8.

During this year the Society was fortunate enough to secure an interesting paper from Geo. Sneath, Esq., on "A few notes on the township of Sunnidale as I found it fifty years ago, and my journey to it." This was read on March 30th.

On April 11th several members made a trip to the Willow Creek Landing and found some relics supposed to belong to the time of the

Short biographical notes of the first residents of Barrie (1832-37) have been obtained from the oldest inhabitants and recorded with the aid of a stenographer. These notes have been filed in the Society's

The officers and delegates for the current year are the same as in last year's report.

Members, 30.

OFFICERS.

Honorary President—Hon. J. R. Gowan, Senator.

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., Alex. Smith, Esq. Wm. H. Hewson, Esq., Mr. S. L. Soules.

Delegates to Provincial Association—Rev Dr. W. R. Parker, Mr. A. F. Hunter.

ELGIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

The efforts of the Society have been directed exclusively during the past year to a continuation of the work of securing historical sketches of the school sections, villages and townships of the county. About fifty sketches have already been printed in the St. Thomas Evening Journal. This work will be continued until a history of every neighborhood in the county has been secured, when it is the intention of the society to have these sketches indexed and bound in volumes, so that we may have a comprehensive history of the county.

On Jubilee Day an Educational Picnic was held at Port Stanley, fully 10,000 people being present. The officers of the Elgin Historical Society on that occasion publicly presented the 35 medals, already awarded, to the successful competitors for historical sketches of their school sections. Stirring patriotic addresses were delivered by His Honor Judge Hughes, James H. Coyne, President of the Provincial Historical Association, W. H. Murch, School inspector Atkin and others.

The society are making efforts to secure quarters in the new City Hall, where they hope to have their exchanges, reports and archæological collection systematically and conveniently arranged.

President-W. H. Murch.

Vice-President—James A. Bell.

Secretary-Treasurer-K. W. McKay.

Editor-Judge Ermatinger.

Curator-J. W. Stewart.

Council—Judge Hughes, W. Atkin, J. H. Coyne, F. M. Griffin, M. A. Gilbert, E. H. Caughell, Dr. Way.

TOWN AND COUNTY OF PETERBOROUGH HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Peterborough, Ont., May 25th, 1898.

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OFFICERS.

Honorary President-Mrs. C. P. Trail.

Honorary Vice-Presidents-Rev. V. Clementi, H. T. Strickland.

President—Lieut.-Col. H. C. Rogers.

Vice-Presidents—Mrs. Dunlop, J. Hampden Burnham, Wm. Claxton.

Secretary-T. A. S. Hay.

Treasurer—Miss Halliday.

Executive Council—J. M. Irwin, Lieut.-Col. Bell, Mrs. Aylmer, Mrs. Greenwood, Miss Lundy, C. Fessenden, E. B. Edwards.

The past year has been uneventful with our society, with exception of the dedication of our museum, which ceremony took place on June the 22nd, 1897, on the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee celebration.

The building, although unfinished, was thrown open to the public. A party of members were on hand to receive the people. A large procession composed of all the societies in town marched to the building, where speeches were made by the President, members of Parliament, clergy of all denominations, and others. After which the executors of the Nicholls estate handed the lease of the building to the President free of rent on condition that the proposed institution be named "Victoria Museum," and that it be kept open for five hours a day during six months in the year. A happy incident occurred during the ceremony. The Queen's message was handed to the Mayor, who read it aloud to thousands of her loyal subjects assembled on the lawn in front of the house. It is scarcely necessary to say that the message called forth a tremendous volley of cheers.

The society has held eleven regular and three special meetings during the year, at which some interesting papers were read by members.

Although we have a large membership on our roll, the active membership is rather small, there seems not to be sufficient interest in the society and too many other attractions. However, the few who take pleasure in historical matters are working quietly and faithfully to carry out the aims and objects.

The museum is growing steadily, but slowly. It is in the hands of a good committee composed of representatives of the town and county councils, the society and the "Nicholls Bank trustees."

During the year the society issued a circular to the pupils of the public and separate schools of the county, offering prizes for essays on the early settlement of their respective townships.

I enclose a copy of this circular, also one relating to Victoria Museum.

THOROLD AND BEAVERDAMS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Thorold, May 23rd, 1898.

OFFICERS.

Honorary President—Capt. James. President—Rev. P. L. Spencer.

 ${\it Honorary~Vice-Presidents}{\it --} {\it John~H.~Thompson,~Mrs.~James~Munro.}$

Secretary-Treasurer—A. W. Reaveley, B.A. Corresponding Secretary—Miss Amy Ball. Historian—Mrs. Jas. Munro.

The Thorold and Beaverdams Historical Society held a large number of meetings during the year. Most of these were attended by a committee of active workers, who had in hand the preparation of a history of the town and township. The delegates of this Society will give fuller details of the publication at the coming meeting in Brantford.

The Society received a grant of \$50 from the County Commissioners.

Instead of the usual celebration of the battle of Beaverdams, this Society joined its forces to those of the town council and school boards to observe in a fitting manner Jubilee day, which came on 22nd June, just two days before the anniversary of Beaverdams.

THE WOMEN'S CANADIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF TORONTO.

Organized November 19th, 1895.

OFFICERS.

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President—Lady Edgar.

Vice-Presidents-Mrs. Forsyth Grant, Mrs. James Bain.

Treasurer—Miss E. Yates Farmer.

Secretary—Miss Fitz Gibbon.

Executive Committee-Mrs. Morrison, Mrs. W. Cummings, Mrs.

Walton, Mrs. Edward Leigh, Miss Beard, Miss Mickle.

The Society has much gratification in being able to report a noticeable increase in membership and in the general interest taken by the members in its work and ambition. During the year 1897-8 eight regular meetings, and eight ordinary and three special meetings of Executive have been held. At the regular meetings the following papers have been read:

"Historic Homesteads (Sillery Manor and Beverley House.)"

By Mrs. Forsyth Grant.

"At what hour the Battle of Queenston Heights was fought." By Mrs. S. A. Curzon.

"Early reminiscences of the social and domestic life of 1800 to 1806." By Miss Lefroy. These were gleaned from unedited recollections of the late Mrs. Breckenridge, née Mary Warren Baldwin.

"The development of a national literature." By Mrs. Fessenden.

"On historical societies and their work." By Dr. Canniff, an honorary member.

"The expulsion of the Acadians." By Miss Constance B. Laing.

"The historical interest attached to the walls of Quebec."

"The tradition of the Jesuit pear trees on the Detroit." Miss Jean W. Barr, Windsor, a corresponding member.

"The Six Nation Indians of the Brant Reserve." By Miss E. Yates Farmer.

In accordance with the desire to attract attention to the works of Canadian authors extracts from the following were read:

"A Centennial Poem." By Mrs. S. A. Curzon. Read by Miss Alexandrina Ramsay.

"How Bateese Came Home," "Dr. Habitan," and "When Albani Sang," from Drummond's "Habitant," read by Mrs. Morrison.

"The Parting of the Ways," Anonymous. Read by the Secretary. In addition to the regular meetings two open meetings have been held, one on December 10th 1897, at which His Excellency the Governor-General and Lady Aberdeen did the Society the honor of attending. An able address by Mr. J. H. Coyne, President of the Provincial Association, (now the Ontario Historical Society), and Mrs. (now Lady) Edgar's Presidential inaugural address were delivered. lency and Lady Aberdeen also addressed the meeting, and a short paper entitled "Lady Colborne's Bazaar, or School life in Upper Canada in the Thirties," was read by the Secretary. This paper was compiled from the unedited journal and recollections of Mrs. Graves, a descendant of General Schuyler and of a U. E. Loyalist house.

Miss Sara Mickle and the Secretary having been appointed a committee to organize extra meetings to be held in the evenings of the third Tuesday of the month, the following papers were read:

"The Cabots and their voyages." By Miss Sara Mickle.

"Jacques Cartier and his discoveries." By the Secretary.

"Champlain the explorer." By Miss McKenzie and Miss Hellewell.

"The Indians of Champlain's time." By Miss Ellerby.

"Champlain the Governor." By Miss Logan.

"Sir William Alexander." By Miss Sara Mickle.

"Sir David Kirke." By Miss E. Yates Farmer.

It was not anticipated that any original work could be done in these papers, the desire being rather to draw attention to the original documents and publications from which the history is derived and to read extracts from rare books not generally available to the ordinary student.

The Society regrets that owing to the lack of necessary funds it has been unable to publish a Transaction during the past year. Several papers, particularly those compiled from original papers, contain material which would warrant their publication.

In order to draw attention to current Canadian literature lists of books being published by Messrs. Copp Clark & Co., and the William Briggs Publishing House were furnished to the Secretary. These were posted at the meetings, special attention being directed to those of an historical character. Another branch of work undertaken by the Society is an endeavor to arouse a patriotic encouragement of our native manufactures. The need for this was laid before the Society by Mrs. Williamson in a most able address, in which the speaker emphasized the fact that the Society was not formed only for the study of past history and preservation of records and relics, but that, as they were also making history, a unity of national purpose and a high ideal of loyalty and patriotism in her people would alone sustain our country in her high position among the nations. Instances were quoted where goods actually manufactured in Canada were labeled "imported goods," and of retail dealers' assertion, that if labeled "Canadian" they could not sell them. The result of this appeal has been the receipt of a number of patterns of a great number of fabrics made by different home manufacturers, accompanied by most gratifying letters from the proprietors thanking the Society for their patriotic efforts to build up the country and wishing them every success in their good work.

The Society is also indebted to the editor of *The Canadian Home Journal* for the use of a page in that journal to be devoted entirely to the Society's interest and reports of their meetings or other publications. Through this medium it is hoped branch or other historical societies may be formed.

The Society is indebted to the Council of the Canadian Institute for valuable aid in permitting meetings to be held in their buildings. The room is small, the membership roll is increasing in length, and better accommodation than the building can furnish will be needed in the near future. To this end it will be necessary to make application to either the Government or the Provincial Society for aid.

The membership list was increased from 170 regular members to 228. Miss Kathleen Lizars, author of "In the Days of the Canada Company" and "The Humours of '37," has been added to the honorary members, 44 in number, which, with 10 corresponding members, makes a total of 282.

The Society has received a number of valuable pamphlets and books and has been able to reply satisfactorily to several applications for information on historical data required by members of sister societies in the United States.

The Society is affiliated with the Toronto Local Council of Women and had the honor of sending a delegate to the Royal Society of Canada at the meeting held at Ottawa May 24-8.

U. E. L. ASSOCIATION OF NIAGARA DISTRICT.

Headquarters, Virgil, Ont.

Organized March 1st, 1897.

OFFICERS.

President—John D. Servos.

Vice-Presidents—Joseph Clement, Daniel Cooper.

Secretary—Murray Stull.

Financial Secretary—Edward Anderson.

Treasurer—Jacob M. Fields.

Executive Committee—G. B. Wilson, Robert Cashman, Abram North, F. B. Stevens, Fred Stevens.

Ladies' Committee-Mrs. Mary Servos, Mrs. Joseph Clement.

Honorary Members-Rev. S. J. Woodruff, Rev. Dr. G. H. Cornish, Rev. J. C. McFarland, Mr. G. A. Lane, Major Hiscott M. P. P., Wm. German M. P. P., Wm. McCleary M. P., Wm. Gibson M. P.

The objects of the Association are similar to those of other historical societies, and especially to gain information of the Pre-Loyalists of which there are many families in the District of Niagara. We have had several open meetings at which papers have been read, and an original patriotic poem read by J. M. Fields. We have also, under the auspices of the Association, accumulated material for a free public reading room in the village, something which has long been desired. There have also been some entertainments under its auspices.

Those eligible for membership are the descendants of U. E. Loyalists.

Associate members, the wives or husbands of regular members. The constitution requires the union jack to be hoisted whenever the Association meets.

OXFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

OFFICERS.

President-R. W. Sawtell.

Vice-Presidents-F. R. Ball, Q. C., T. H. Parker, J. M. Ross, Embro. Librarian-Jas. White.

Sec. Treas.-W. Munro.

Editor-G. R. Pattullo.

Council—A. H. Wilson, Rev. Dr. M. Kays, Col. Cowan, Jas. Sutherland, M. P., Andrew Pattullo, M. P. P.

Last year was our first year. During the summer of 1896 I called the attention of the public, through the columns of the Sentinel-Review. to the importance of such an organization in order to collect matter relative to the early settlers, and take steps towards its preservation.

I had contributed nearly fifty sketches of the early settlers of Zorra in Nissouri to the paper myself, and both Mr. Pattullo and your servant again and again dwelt upon the prime importance of such work.

Later on W. S. McLay, B. A., of McMaster, wrote a letter covering the same ground, and so by repetition and insistence we compelled action of some sort. We organized early in '97 and from the beginning there was more or less apathy. This we have lived down, I think, and now we have over thirty members all much interested and many of them active workers in our rank. I proposed affiliation, thinking it was a step in the right direction, and I am sure that our whole membership think so too now.

Papers read during our meetings so far have been decidedly valuable, and as we preserve them in our society's scrap-books until we are able to publish in pamphlet form, they must prove the nucleus of what may be of lasting value to our future collectors of historic details.

The papers read were:

- "The early Settlement of the County," R. W. Sawtell.
- "Our Pioneer Fathers," Rev. D. McKay.
- "The History of the Chesterfield Presbyterian Church," Jas. Henderson.
- "Rise and Progress of Thamesford Village," D. Lawrence.
- "Early Blenheim and Blandford Settlers," C. Stevenson.
- "The Amish Community in East Zorra," G. Smith, B. A.
- "The Early Settlements near Princeton," Col. Cowan.
- " Primitive Man," J. M. Wintemberg.
- "Regal and Vice Regal Visits to the County," R. W. Sawtell.
- "The North American Indian," J. M. Wintemberg.
- "Indian Occupation of Nissouri," L. D. Brown.

REPORT TO THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF CANADA.

To The President and Members of The Royal Society of Canada:

GENTLEMEN, - "The Ontario Historical Society" is the new designation nation adopted by the organization formerly known as "The Pioneer and Historical Association of the Province of Ontario "at a special meeting held at the Education Department, Toronto, on the 23rd day of May 1898.

At the same meeting the basis of membership was widened, and the scope of the Society's objects considerably enlarged.

As originally constituted the Society was composed of one delegate from each of the affiliated local pioneer and historical societies, now eleven in number, and was intended to unite these into "one central head or organization". The number of delegates has been increased, and provision has been made for the admission of ex-officio, life, honorary, and corresponding members. Ex-officio members are:

His Excellency the Governor General.

His Honor the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario.

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs.

The Minister of Education.

The Dominion Archivist.

All who have held any of the said offices.

All University Professors of History in Ontario.

The Directors of all Provincial or Municipal Archæological Museums in Ontario.

His Excellency the Governor-General and Sir Oliver Mowats Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, acceded in the most cordial manner to the request that they should become Ex-officio members.

The Minister of Education is Honorary President of the Society, and thereby its relation to the educational work of the Province is indicated.

The Society's headquarters are in the Education Department Building, and the Provincial Archæologist, Mr. David Boyle, has identified himself with the organization by accepting what is perhaps the most onerous and responsible of its offices—that of Secretary. From our connection with the educational system of Ontario much mutual advantage may result.

By the recent amendments the Association has greatly enlarged its aims. It has resolved to undertake and prosecute as rapidly as its resources will permit the original investigation and publication of

historical material relating to Ontario, including the reminiscences of pioneers, maps, journals, letters and other documents, whether preserved by individuals or in the public archives, the translation of important works written or printed in French, the reprinting of rare or costly books and pamphlets of general interest, the collection of information relating to the ethnology of Ontario, and generally to endeavor to place before the people of Ontario and historical students all available facts relating to the history of the Province. A systematic plan of work will be sketched and as far as practicable followed out, so that the best results may be obtainable.

To aid us in our undertaking, the Provincial Legislature, on the recommendation of the Government, voted at its last session a grant of \$500, which, it is hoped, will be followed by other grants in future

years according to our needs and deserts.

We enter upon our wider sphere of operations under favorable auspices, and trust that as a printing society and as an educational force the organization may prove its usefulness in the promotion of historical study.

In addition to the special meeting for the amendment of the constitution, the Society held the usual September meeting on the site of the old Fort Rouillé at the Toronto Industrial Exhibition grounds, at which a paper by Miss Mary Agnes FitzGibbon on "Literature in Canada" was read, and addresses were delivered by the Rev. Dr. Scadding, Rev. Canon Bull, M.A., Sir Mackenzie Bowell, Senator, Mr. E. F. Clarke, M.P., Mr. J. J. Withrow, President of the Industrial Exhibition, Mr. D. B. Read, Q.C., Mr. Whitmarsh, and others.

The admission of the Six Nations of the Grand River Reserve as an affiliated historical society is an incident worthy of special notice on account of the possible results which may accrue, not only to the Indians themselves, but also to all who are interested in the history and customs of the native races. The council of the Six Nations invited the Association to hold its next annual meeting on the Reserve, and the invitation was cordially accepted. The meeting is to be held at Ohsweken, near Brantford, on the 1st June and amongst its members will be the duly accredited representatives of the Confederacy.

This is believed to be the first instance of an aboriginal community formally identifying itself with a society for historical purposes.

The officers elected at the annual meeting held in June, 1897, were as follows:-

Honorary Presidents.—Rev. Dr. Scadding, Rev. Canon Bull, M.A. President.—James H. Coyne.

Vice-Presidents.—W. H. Doel, J. P.; 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. O. Brant-Sero.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

JAMES H. COYNE,

President.

DAVID BOYLE,

Secretary pro tem.

Dated at Toronto, May 25th, 1898.

THE ONTARIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

THE PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL ADDRESS.

Ladies and Gentlemen,—The present meeting marks an epoch in the development of this Association. The recent amendments to the Constitution, the place of meeting, and the pleasant and unusual surroundings, all contribute to the significance of the occasion. Since our last annual gathering the Pioneer and Historical Association of the Province of Ontario has changed its name for one which is shorter, and it is believed not less expressive or comprehensive—The Ontario Historical Society. But it is still as much as ever a Pioneer Association.

The main purpose of the amendments was to provide a wider basis of membership, and at the same time to enlarge its aims and objects and usefulness.

Heretofore the Association has been composed exclusively of delegates, one from each affiliated historical society, with special provision for the case of the Six Nations. At the September meeting the number of delegates from each local society was increased from one to three, and more recently the addition of the following classes of members has been authorized: ex-officio, life, honorary, corresponding, and annual members. The list begins with the distinguished names of

His Excellency the Governor-General and His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, both of whom cordially acceded to our request to become ex-officio members. The addition to this class of members of the names of the Superintendent General of Indian Affairs, the Minister of Education, the Dominion Archivist, University Professors of History and Directors of Archæological Museums, ought to be productive of beneficial results. The Minister of Education is, by virtue of his office, Honorary President. In this way we indicate our relationship to the educational work of the Province, whilst at the same time recognizing the special interest which the present Minister, the Hon. Dr. Ross, has taken in our work.

Persons may become annual members on payment of a small admission fee. For the present it is not expected that any annual fee will be exacted, although power is given to the Executive to impose one, if, in future years, it should be deemed expedient. It is also expected that, for a time at least, the annual assessments upon local societies for the purposes of this Association will be dispensed with, a like power however being reserved as in the case of annual members.

The new Constitution provides for a permanent office and a Secretary in permanent charge. This will meet what has been found to be an urgent necessity. We need a "local habitation" as well as "a name." It will now be possible to begin the formation of a historical library and museum. The other advantages of a central office for correspondence and consultation are too obvious for further specification.

ORIGINAL WORK.

The Association will continue as heretofore to form "a central head or organization" for local Pioneer and Historical Societies, but will also be expected to undertake on some systematic plan original work in the collection, exhibition, preservation, and publication of all kinds of historical material, as well as the collection and preservation of archæological remains. One of its most important functions will be that of a printing society. It is believed that the usefulness of the organization will be largely increased by its entering upon this wider sphere of operation.

AFFILIATION OF THE SIX NATIONS.

An interesting incident of the Niagara meeting was the attendance of seventeen representatives of the Six Nations for the purpose of inviting the Association to hold its next annual meeting on the

Grand River Reserve. The invitation was heartily and unanimously accepted. A resolution was passed affiliating the Six Nations with the Provincial Association, and, at a regular special meeting of the Council of the Reserve represented by the Superintendent and Sachems present, held in the historic Court House of the ancient capital on the same evening, the affiliation was after a long and interesting discussion formally ratified. Those who were so fortunate as to be present were strongly impressed with the dignity, the courtesy, the oratory, the moderation in debate, which characterised the proceedings of the Indian Council. Our meeting to-day is in compliance with the cordial invitation then extended. We are here as guests of the Six Nations. But we are also in a sense their hosts. We welcome them to onr Kanonsionni, our "Long House." For the first time their council is represented at this meeting by a delegate from each of the tribes formally appointed and sitting as a member of our society. The simple fact that the confederated nations have publicly evinced a desire to associate themselves in the promotion of historical study is in itself significant. Already foremost in intelligence, in physique, and in military prowess, they have taken a forward step which distinguishes them still more from the other native communities of America. They are, it is believed, the first aboriginal community on the continent to manifest such an interest. The results, in a deeper and more intimate knowledge of the history, archæology, traditions, customs, and folk-lore of the American Indian will be looked for with sympathetic interest by historical students and men of science in every land. On the other hand the Indians themselves should derive much advantage from the forward movement. An earnest attempt to co-operate in studies so important and beneficial cannot but tend to elevate the Iroquois and Delawares, the Nanticokes and Tuteloes, to a higher plane of culture and civilization. The result depends upon their own zeal and persistency, much more than upon the encouragement of their white brothers.

THE EXPLORATION OF THE GRAND RIVER DISTRICT.

From many points of view, to-day's gathering is worthy of being regarded as an important event in the annals both of the Six Nations and of this Association. We are met upon historical ground. When Champlain visited the shores of the Georgian Bay at the beginning of the 17th century, the north shore of Lake Erie including the district in which we are now assembled, was occupied by a numerous population, kindred in race and language to the Hurons and Iroquois. Taking no part in the wars between the latter they were called by the French

the Neutrals. To the Hurons they were known as Attiwendaronks, "or people of slightly different speech." The Recollet missionary De la Roche Daillon visited them in the winter of 1626-7; the Jesuit Fathers Brebeuf and Chaumonot made a more extensive exploration in the winter of 1640-1. These were the first recorded visits to the Neutrals. There can be little doubt that these pioneer missionaries and explorers traversed what is known as the County of Brant; the records of their travels are translated in Dean Harris's interesting books on the early missions and summarized in Parkman's works. Sanson's map of 1656 must have been based upon the reports of the Jesuits. River is for the first time outlined upon this map, which also shows a Neutral village on the west bank nearly opposite Brantford. Evidently intended to be the chief post or station in the proposed "Mission of the Angels", which the Jesuits had resolved to establish among the Neutral Nation, the village is designated "Our Lady of the Angels". The map also shows that the priests had extended their missionary tour of exploration through the Counties of Elgin, Kent, Essex, and Lambton, and given names of Saints to at least four Indian Villages in the western part of the peninsula. A copy of the Ontario portion of Sanson's Map is given in Mr. Boyle's last report. Nearly thirty years had passed by, when in the beginning of October 1669 two Sulpitian priests, Galinée and Dollier de Casson, with their followers, after a tedious passage over the long portage extending from Burlington Bay through Westover to the Grand River, arrived at some point between Paris and Galt, passed on down the River to Lake Erie, and then coasted along the shore of the inland sea to Port Dover,* where they sojourned for the winter and took formal possession of the Territory in the name of King Louis the Fourteenth. These were the first white men who descended the Grand River, or who wintered on the shore of Lake Erie. Only a few days before their arrival at the river, the famous Joliet had made a still longer Portage from Port Stanley, or near it, to Brantford on his way to Montreal, and a remarkable meeting had taken place at Westover between him and the equally famous La Salle who had so far accompanied the Sulpitian priests. As a result of Joliet's information, the proposed route and destination of the Sulpitians had been altered, and La Salle had decided to abandon for the time his intended exploration of the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers. Marquette and Joliet's discovery of the latter stream, and La Salle's exploration of the great

^{*} General John S. Clark agrees with the writer in this identification. The General identifies a spot near Westover with the site of the Iroquois village, Tina-oua-Toua, where the meeting between Joliet and La Salle took place.

Father of Waters were, of course later achievements. Galinée's Map shows, opposite Brantford and somewhat up the River, the sites of four former Neutral Villages, with extensive hunting-grounds stretching westerly.

PORTAGES.

Subsequent maps and memoirs refer to well known portage routes through this district from Burlington Bay to the Thames River, and to Lake Erie. In the immediate neighborhood of the site of Brantford, long prior to the introduction of white settlers, great trunk roads existed, which were well known highways of travel and transportation as familiar to the native hunters, warriors and traders as are the great main lines of railway to the Canadians of to-day. Trails leading to native towns and villages tapped these main highways at convenient points. General John S. Clark of Auburn is the leading authority upon the location of these trails and of ancient village sites, whether in Ontario or the State of New York.

IROQUOIS AND OJIBWAYS.

The destruction of the neutral villages by the Iroquois in the middle of the 17th century was followed shortly afterward by incursions of the Ojibways from the upper lakes and by encounters between them and the Senecas. The conflict was terminated by a treaty of peace whereby the contesting races recognized each other as brothers. The old Neutral country was surrendered to the Iroquois as hunting grounds, and the old time friendship was permanently renewed. In the course of time the Iroquois appear to have withdrawn from the province over which thereafter for a hundred years the Mississagas roamed as, in a certain sense, its occupants. The survivors of the Neutral nation had, in accordance with the fixed policy of the Iroquois confederacy been incorporated with the nearest tribe, the Senecas, and their descendants are perhaps with us at this gathering.

THAYENDENAGEA AND THE SIX NATIONS.

At the close of the Revolutionary war in 1783, the Mohawks who under Thayendenagea had sided with the British, were called upon to decide whether they should remove to the north of the St. Lawrence where lands were set apart for them by the King, or to the valley of the Genesee, where the Senecas invited them to settle. The loyal allies of the British did not hesitate long. In the words of Captain Brant,

they were determined to "sink or swim" with the British. A portion of the tribe settled upon the Bay of Quinté, but arrangements were made whereby the greater number under Brant established themselves here upon the banks of the Grand River in order that they might be at the same time near their allies and brothers, the Senecas, and under the protection of the red-cross flag. Provision was also made that those of the other confederated nations who preferred to live under British protection should receive lands in the same reservation.

The county of Brant and the city of Brantford will perpetuate for all time to come the name of the redoubtable war chief of the Six Nations, even if it were not embalmed in the pages of history. The noble monument which portrays the form and features of Thayendenagea in the city park is not only a fitting memorial of a great man but a proper acknowledgment of the indebtedness of Canada and of the Empire to the Six Nations for their loyalty to Great Britain under trying circumstances.

Students of heredity will be interested in the information that Brant's record of public service was continued by his son John Brant, who was not only a British captain, but also occupied the responsible position of a superintendent of the Six Nations, and before he died was elected a member of the Provincial Legislature of Upper Canada.

The settlement of the Mohawks and of a large portion of the other confederated tribes in the territory of southwestern Ontario, from which their ancestors had driven the Neutrals more than a century before, and which had for a long period been recognized on maps as the Iroquois hunting grounds, was a home-coming interesting in itself and important in its results. In the war of 1812, as during the war of the revolution, they fought on the side of the British, and gained allies for the latter among their brethren west of the Ohio. Their services at this critical period were freely rendered and frankly acknowledged by the British Government. To the red as well as to the white loyalists is due the credit which belongs to those who preserved Canada as an integral portion of the great empire.

"THE IROQUOIS BOOK OF RITES."

Mr. Hale's work, entitled "The Iroquois Book of Rites," has made the world acquainted with the fact that the Iroquois possess what may be called a native literature. The reader cannot fail to be impressed with the distinction won by the Iroquois amongst all the native races, the perfection of their language, their relatively high stage of moral and intellectual development, and the lofty ideals of the founders of

"The Great League" and of "The Long House." No student of the history of the native races can afford to be ignorant of Mr. Horatio Hale's book, or of the kindred work of Dr. Brinton based upon what may be called the literary remains of the Delaware race, who on this reserve are incorporated with the Six Nations, the literature familiar to Americanists under the name of "The Walam Olum," or the "Red Score of the Lenâpé."

HIAWATHA AND THE GREAT PEACE.

It is startling in Mr. Hale's book to be told that the titles of the original founders of the league, with the one exception of Dekaniwidah, have continued in unbroken succession for four hundred and fifty years. It is possible that we have present with us to-day the successors in title of Hiawatha himself, the illustrious founder of the league, Otatsehte, the Oneida chief, whose union with Dekanawidah was the beginning of the league, Ototarho, its original titular leader, and of the other fifty Sachems of the Long House, still known and recognized by the historic native names. Reading Mr. Hale's book one easily shares the writer's enthusiasm, as he describes the original design of Hiawatha and the beneficent operation of the Great Peace, which, including at first only the Five Nations, was intended to be merely the nucleus of a great peace society, which should ultimately embrace the entire continent.

No higher political ideal has perhaps been evolved by any statesman than that which was wrought out by the great chief. Poetry has cast a halo about his name. Longfellow's poem, beautiful as a work of art, is of course not history. As is well known, he transforms an Onondaga chief into an Ojibway hero, and interweaves the legends relating to each with puzzling results.

But the tradition of the Five Nations has handed down incidents, partly historical and partly, of course, mythical, which lend life and color to the story of Hiawatha's achievements, and make him a real personage to our imaginations. It has become part of the world's literature how the Onondaga Chief, in his mysterious white canoe, suddenly appeared amongst the Mohawks, how he won Dekanawidah, and afterward through him the Oneida Otatsehte, to his plan of universal peace, how the movement spread until the Five Nations, previously separate and hostile, Mohawks, Senecas, Oneidas, Cayugas and Onondagas, accepted the message of the missionary of peace, and even the objections of the Onondaga Chief, Ototarho, were at last overcome; how the great work was completed, the Great Peace established;

and how then, Hiawatha, his life's work accomplished, paddled away again as mysteriously as he had come, and he and the white canoe were seen no more forever.

As to his historic existence and the main facts of his life work, Mr. Hale had not a doubt. The federal compact which still unites the Six Nations is, according to this distinguished writer, the natural development with but slight changes of the organization effected by this great Iroquois statesman four hundred and fifty years ago.

OHSWEKEN.

Our place of meeting is known by the Iroquois name of Ohsweken. An inquiry into its etymology ought to be of interest. It would appear to be connected with "Swege" the name by which the Grand River was known in early times, and even as lately as a century ago, with "Ochsweege," one of the early native names for Lake Erie, and with Oswego and Oswegatchie. A branch of the Chippewa River is known by the name of Oswego. Other names of the Grand River given in old maps are "Tina-Toua," "Urse," "Turcot," "Rapide," and in the later English maps "Ouse." In one of Bellin's maps of 1755 it is called "L'Urse ou Grande Rivière." In 1795, according to the Duc de la Rochefoucauld Liancourt, it was called the "Miami," as well as the Grand River. I am informed* that the derivation is from Ouse, "river," we (pronounced as in weigh), ken, "dwellers there." name, if this explanation is correct, would mean "Dwellers there by the Ouse or River." It is also said that the name is applicable to the entire Reserve. Ohsweken is, perhaps, the original Iroquois name of the river itself, or of those who dwelt upon its banks. The English appellation, Ouse, may be a mere corruption of the Iroquois name for the river, as shown in the French form "Urse."+ "Tina-Toua," or "Tina-oua-toua," is said to have the same meaning as "Attiwendaronk," the name given to the Neutrals by the Hurons, signifying "People of slightly different speech."

^{*}Note.—My informant as to etymology of Ohsweken and Tina-Toua is Mr. J. O. Brant-Sero, of Hamilton, Ont., a Mohawk. Dean Harris, in his interesting remarks at the meeting, mentioned the circumstance that Joseph Brant's residence in New York State was called Ohsweken.

⁺ The same root may, perhaps, occur in Ohio, which means "Beautiful River," or according to Mr. Hale, more anciently, "Great River," the form for "river" being given by him as "Ohia." Perhaps, however, the name of the English Ouse may have been given to the Grand River independently of the Indian appellation.

INDIAN CUSTOMS AND FOLK-LORE.

The connection of the Six Nations with our Society may be productive of immediate beneficial results. Under the direction of the Minister of Education, Mr. David Boyle has for some time been prosecuting investigations upon the Reserve with a view to throwing light upon the religion, the customs, and the folk-lore of the Six Nations. His report will make these known to all students interested in Indian races. The work he has undertaken may be greatly furthered by the hearty co-operation of the chiefs, warriors, and women of the Reserve. They will no doubt feel the responsibility resting upon them as affiliated with this Society to give him full and accurate information, so that when the printed book appears it may contain a trust-worthy and authoritative account of the matters referred to.

We are all engaged in this work for the love of the work and the good of the whole people. The national pride of the Six Nations as well as their interest in the subject will no doubt assure their hearty sympathy and active help to inquiries which are intended to make the literary and scientific world acquainted with the religion, the customs, the traditions, the achievements, and the possibilities for the future of the great confederacy.

A famous story represents Tecumseh as distinguishing the characters of Brock and Proctor by saying, "Proctor says to Indians, Go and fight the Americans; Brock says to Indians, Come and fight the Americans." Our Society invites its Indian members and friends to study and record their native history, customs and traditions, but does so rather in the spirit of Brock than of Proctor. We say to them, not "go and study your history," but rather, "come and let us work together in preserving your records and ours." And yet, as I have already intimated, the result in their case, as in ours, will depend largely, if not altogether, upon their own earnestness and persistency in the work they have undertaken, rather than upon our help, willing as we are to further their exertions.

NEW SOCIETIES.

One of our most urgent duties will be to cover the Province with local nistorical societies at all important points. I have the pleasure of announcing that since our last annual meeting a society has been formed at Woodstock, and others are being organized at Ottawa and Simcoe. At each of these centres there is much valuable and interesting material to be collected, arranged and preserved by publication or otherwise.

MEMBERS.

The Society is now in a position to elect members, like other similar organizations. Nominations are passed upon by the Executive Committee. A considerable number have already been admitted since the 23rd May when the constitution was amended. Circulars will be sent to a large number of people throughout the Province urging them to send in their names. Members will be entitled to our publications, and to equal privileges in every respect with the delegates of local Societies.

RECENT EVENTS.

I have dwelt at some length upon the special circumstances and associations which render the present meeting one of peculiar significance. To avoid trespassing upon your indulgence it is necessary to resist the temptation to enlarge upon events of national and universal interest. In an annual address, however, I may be pardoned for briefly mentioning one or two.

THE JUBILEE.

The year 1897 witnessed a splendid demonstration of the grandeur, power, and resources of the British Empire. Never was there a more sincere expression of affectionate loyalty than that which welcomed the Sixtieth Anniversary of the accession to the throne of the exalted lady who still represents the majesty and might of Britain's sway. Among the self-governing colonies which took part in the demonstration, Canada occupied easily the foremost place, and everywhere its Prime Minister won golden opinions by his skilful oratory and effective diplomacy as well as his winning personality. Pride in the achievements of the race was tempered by the enlarged sense of imperial responsibility so nobly voiced by the uncrowned laureate of the Seven Seas,—

If drunk with sight of power, we loose
Wild tongues that have not Thee in awe—
Such boasting as the Gentiles use
Or lesser breeds without the law—
Lord God of Hosts be with us yet,
Lest we forget, lest we forget.

THE CABOT AND CANTERBURY ANNIVERSARIES.

The simultaneous celebration at Bristol and Halifax of the four hundredth anniversary of Cabot's discovery of the Continent of America was a noteworthy event of special importance to students of Canadian history. The ceremonies which marked the six hundredth anniversary of the landing of St. Augustine in England were a remarkable proof of the continuity of English Institutions and of the expansion of the Anglo Saxon race and influence, as well as of the growth of Christianity throughout the world.

BRITISH SCIENCE ASSOCIATION AND BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

The year 1897 is further memorable on account of the highly successful meetings of the British Science Association at Toronto and the British Medical Association at Montreal. The essential unity of what is popularly called the Anglo-Saxon, but more properly perhaps, the Anglo-Celtic race, was impressively manifested at these gatherings. They may be said to have contributed in no small degree to that feeling of solidarity to which so gratifying expression has recently been given by the press and public men of every part of the English speaking world.

ANGLO-SAXON ALLIANCE

The simultaneous threatenings of aggression upon the interests of the United States and Great Britain have called forth from the people of both nations a united and spontaneous reply affirming the unity of the British race, and repeating the sentiment of an American poet of a past generation:

While the manners, while the arts,

That mould a nation's soul

Still cling around our hearts,—

Between let ocean roll,

Our joint communion breaking with the sun;

Yet still from either beach

The voice of blood shall reach,

More audible than speech,

"We are one!"

MR. GLADSTONE.

The Queen's Jubilee itself, or the threatened dangers to the two great English-speaking nationalities could hardly produce a greater sense of the bond of sympathy which unites the race, than has the recent death of Mr. Gladstone. The most distinguished political name of this century, as Lord Salisbury said, has been removed from the world. The greatest Parliamentarian of whom history makes record, or to use the words of Mr. Balfour "the greatest member of the greatest deliberative assembly of the world, so far as seen", one of the most

wersatile scholars of the age, a statesman who filled almost a century with the dominance of his lofty personality, influencing for great moral ends the course of the world's history, an orator whose voice thrilled like a clarion the universal heart of man, when liberty or human rights demanded a champion, has laid down his earthly laurels and quitted the arena forever.

- "Now is the stately column broke,
- "The beacon light is quenched in smoke,
- "The trumpet's silver voice is still,
- "The warder silent on the hill."

Eminent in many things, he will perhaps, to borrow again the language of the British Premier, be chiefly famous to posterity as leaving behind him the memory of a great Christian statesman, and a great Christian man. Who will now arise to fill the place of the great Commoner of England, who only the other day, laden with years and honors, nobly dying as he had nobly lived,

* * * —gave

His body to that pleasant country's earth,

And his pure soul unto his captain Christ,

Under whose colors he had fought so long?

In Greece, Armenia, Bulgaria, Italy, Ireland, his death is felt as a personal loss by the common people. In every part of the Empire of Britain he is mourned, but nowhere perhaps more than by his "kin beyond the sea", to whom his eloquent appeals for the unity of the Anglo-Saxon race were often and fervently addressed.

CANADA.

In Canada death has removed from the scene of action a number of distinguished men. Special mention may be made of Cardinal Taschereau and Mr. Dalton McCarthy, the one eminent in the church, the other in the state, opposed to each other in their views upon important subjects, but both sincerely admired by Canadians of all classes for noble qualities of head and of heart.

LEGISLATIVE GRANT.

The Legislature at its last session granted without dissent the sum of \$500 to the Association. It is hoped that this grant will be repeated and increased in future years as our necessities and the quality of our work may entitle us to such recognition. I am glad to be able

to record this substantial and gratifying manifestation of approval on the part of the Provincial Government and Parliament of the work we have undertaken. For the initiative in recommending this grant we have to thank the Hon. Dr. Ross, Minister of Education, who has in various ways shown a warm interest in our Society.

THE FUTURE.

Your new Executive will have the task of setting the new Constitution in practical operation. We should advertize the existence of the Society and its objects. The Province should be covered with local historical societies. Individuals should be urged to become life or annual members. The reminiscences of pioneers should be written down and preserved to posterity. Historical records should be collected, arranged and preserved. The available funds should be devoted as far as possible to popularizing our work by the publication and distribution of original historical papers, or by reprinting rare or costly books. Too much must not be expected at once. Progress to be lasting should not be too hasty. But we may reasonably hope that the annual meeting for 1899 will be able to show "something accomplished, something done."

It has been deemed expedient to wait for the amendments to the Constitution before expending the Government grant.

A systematic plan will have to be framed by the Executive, and certain important questions of principle as to the disbursement of the Society's moneys in research and printing, etc., settled before beginning operations, if the best results are to be attained. A provisional scheme of work has been printed, which may be of assistance to the new Executive in settling upon a plan.

CONCLUSION.

We rejoice that the founder of our Society, and its first President the Rev. Dr. Scadding, is still spared to us. It is the earnest prayer of all that he may long continue amongst us, crowned, as now, with

"That which should accompany old age,
As honor, love, obedience, troops of friends."

Dr. Scadding may be called the father of historical research in Ontario. To him and my immediate predecessor, Rev. Canon Bull, M.A., the Society is under great obligations for their most valuable services in launching the organization and guiding it safely through the shoals and reefs of its first nine years of existence.

I feel that I cannot close without acknowledging gratefully the services of the Officers and Executive Committee, as well as of the special Committee upon the amendments to the Constitution, many of whom were not members of our Society, but like the rest willingly gave their aid in perfecting the plan of reorganization.

It is with especial regret that I refer to the approaching severance of the official relations of His Excellency, the Governor-General, with the Dominion of Canada. It is but a little over four years since he assumed the high office of Her Majesty's respresentative in the northern half of this continent, but so heartily and earnestly have the Earl and Countess of Aberdeen entered into the spirit of their responsibilities, that they may be said to have identified themselves during this brief period with every movement for the religious, moral, educational, and industrial welfare of the Canadian people. By their arduous and continuous labors for the good of others they have established themselves in the hearts of the people on this as on the other side of the Atlantic. In the reorganization of The Ontario Historical Society, His Excellency's name is first on the list of members. He is unable to be with us to-day, but has sent the most cordial wishes for the success of the meeting. I would recommend that proper steps be taken before their departure for presenting an address expressing this Society's appreciation of their Excellencies' services to Canada, and regret at their severance of official relations with its people.

His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor is also unable to be present, but like the Governor-General has sent a message of warm interest in the Society's work. Sir Oliver Mowat's name is a household word in every home in Canada, and especially in Ontario. After occupying the position of head of the Government for a longer period than any other Premier in the British Empire has done, he crowns a distinguished career of great public usefulness with the highest dignity to which in Ontario a subject can attain. Long may he continue to represent his Sovereign as Governor of the most important Province of the Empire.

We are indebted to the chiefs, warriors, and women of the Six Nations for the invitation to hold the present meeting at Ohsweken, and for the generous hospitality with which they have received us. I am sure that they have added most pleasurable and grateful recollections to our memory of the annual meeting of 1898, and that their delegates will always be welcome at future meetings of the Society.

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The expediency of holding a winter meeting at which papers on historical subjects might be read and ideas exchanged by discussion and friendly intercourse for a day or two, is worthy of the consideration of your new Executive. If held during the meeting of Parliament at Toronto, it might be beneficial in acquainting the members of the Legislature more intimately with our objects. Rare books and other objects of historical interest might perhaps be collected and exhibited for the occasion A luncheon or dinner might add, not merely to the pleasant character of the gathering, but to its usefulness in bringing fellow workers in the same pursuits into closer social relations.

EPITOME OF CHIEF DEH-KA-NEN-RA-NEH'S SPEECH.

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I, as Speaker of the Council, have the honor of welcoming you to our Council fires. In the name of the chiefs and warriors of the Six Nations, I bid you welcome. We thank the Great Spirit under whose care you have been preserved from all dangers and perils on your journey, and I pray that He will guide your councils here, and protect your homeward steps. We welcome you not as strangers, but as brothers whose forefathers fought side by side with ours in the past, in defence of our country—as brothers whose fathers were devoted and loyal through many dangers and difficulties, privations and sorrows to this land and country, and to the throne of Great Britain, our great ally over the water—brothers who are with us still in loyalty and love to the same flag under which our fathers fought and fell.

We welcome you; we will, to speak figuratively, pluck the thorns from your shoes and wash your feet in pure cold water to refresh you. We would throw out to you many words of all that is in our thoughts of you to-day, but the time will not permit me to speak them. We hope to benefit much by the deliberations of your council-meeting to-day, and we hope that you, in turn, will carry with you to your own homes and people a better knowledge of your red brother, that you will know now that he has benefited by the years of settlement, civilization and educational advantages, and is not behind in the progress of all things good in this country.

We bid you, therefore, a true welcome to our Council House to-day.—[From a report of the Annual Meeting of the Ontario Historical Society at Ohsweken in The Canadian Home Journal].

EPITOME OF CHIEF NELLES MONTURE'S SPEECH.

MR. PRESIDENT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,-I did not expect to be asked to speak here, but I am sure I feel honored in addressing this meeting, the first of the kind ever held in Canada, or, perhaps, in the world. As Indians, we are proud to belong to the Six Nations, a confederation that has always been loyal to the British crown, under which we have enjoyed so many privileges. Our affairs have been well managed by the Government, and our condition on this Reserve is steadily improving. Our Superintendent performs his duty well. This office, as you know, has always been held by a white man, but, while we acknowledge that there was a time when the appointment of a white man was necessary, we now think that among ourselves, and of our own blood, there are men capable of filling the position with credit and dignity. As a Delaware, I welcome the white brothers and sisters to Ohsweken and to our Council House. I trust your Council fires will burn brightly, and that you will return to Toronto and other places satisfied with your visit. Once more I welcome you in the name of my people.

MEMBERS.

Ex-officio.

His Excellency, the Right Honorable The Earl of Aberdeen, Governor-General of Canada, Ottawa.

His Honor The Honorable Sir Oliver Mowat, Q.C., LL.D., G.C.M.G., Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario, Toronto.

Hon. Clifford Sifton, Supt.-Gen. of Indian Affairs, Ottawa.

Hon. Geo. W. Ross, LL.D., Minister of Education for Ontario, Toronto.

Dr. Douglas Brymner, C M.G., Dominion Archivist, Ottawa.

Rev. Geo. M. Wrong, M.A., Professor of History, University of Toronto.

W. B. Munro, M.A., LL.B., Professor of History, Queen's University, Kingston.

Rev. O. Rigby, M. A., Professor of History, Trinity University, Toronto. Albert H. Newman, D.D., LL, D., Professor of History, McMaster University, Toronto.

A. R. Bain, M.A., LL.D., Professor of History, Victoria University, Toronto. Rev. D. Sullivan, O.M.I., Professor of History, University of Ottawa.

J. W. Tupper, M.A., Ph.D., Professor of English Literature and History, Western University, London, Ont.

David Boyle, Director Provincial Archæological Museum. Toronto.

HONORARY.

Rev. Henry Scadding, D.D., Toronto.

Rev. Canon Bull, M.A., Niagara Falls South.

J. G. Hodgins, LL.D., Historiographer of Ontario, Toronto.

ELECTED.

James H. Coyne, B.A., St. Thomas.

Rupert E. Kingsford, M.A., Barrister, Toronto.

Prof. Augustus S. Vogt, Toronto.

Rev. J. R. Teefy, LL.D., Superior of St. Michael's College, oronto.

Very Rev. Dean Harris, LL.D., St. Catharines.

A. F. Rutter, Toronto.

George N. Morang, Toronto.

B. McEvoy, Toronto.

E. J. Hathaway, Toronto.

John Henderson, M.A., St. Catharines.

W. J. Robertson, M.A., St. Catharines.

Hon. J. G. Currie, St. Catharines.

Hon. James Young, Galt.

J. B. Mackenzie, Barrister, Brantford.

J. Ojijatekha Brant-Sero, Hamilton.

C. C. James, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Toronto.

A. E. Lang, M.A., Toronto.

Rev. D. B. Macdonald, Bendale.

Miss Janet Carnochan, Niagara.

Mrs. N. E. Manning, Tyrone.

Rev. Dr. William Briggs, Toronto.

E. S. Caswell, Toronto.

DELEGATES.

		- LEGALES				
Wm. Rennie, York Pi	oneer and	Historian	Gasist-	п .		
Rev. Dr. Blackstock,	"	"	Society,	Coronto		
W. H. Doel,	**	"	"	"		
Rev. Canon Bull, M. A Rev. P. L. Spencer, T	Lundy's	Lane His	4			
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J. H. Thompson,	66	Deaver 1	am's Hist	orical S	ociety, Thorol	ld.
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Jas. H. Coyne, B.A.,	**	"	y, St. Tho	mas.		
Mrs. J. H. Coyne,	"	"	"			
Mrs. W. G. Emery.	"	"				
Geo. H. Mills, Wentwo	orth Pione	on and II:				
B. E. Charlton,	"	er and H	storical So	ciety, H	lamilton.	
F. W. Fearman,	"	"	"		• • •	
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Mrs. Fessenden, Wenter iliary), Hamilton.	worth Pio	neer and	Wint			
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D. B. Read, Q.C., Green	ville Pion	peer and U	int!			
Miss Janet Carnochan, Alfred Ball	Niagara H	listorical S	ociotra N:	ociety.		
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Alex. Servos,	"	"		"		
Miss M. A. FitzGıbbon, Miss E. Yates Farmer.	Women's	Canadian !	Tiet Casia			
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Mrs. Brant-Sero,	"		"	"	"	
T. H. Parker, Oxford H	listorical S	ociety. W	ondetools		Hamilt	on.
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R. W. Sawtell, "	"		**			
John D. Servos, U. E. I Mrs. J. D. Servos	Loyalist So	ciety of N	iagara Ni	arana		
Mrs. J. D. Servos, "			is	agara.		