

Literary and Historical Society of Quebec

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 10th JANUARY, 1906

QUEBEC, 10th January, 1906.

The annual general meeting of the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec was held on Wednesday morning, 10th January, in the Library of the Society, at 10 o'clock. There was a good attendance of members. Major Wood, President, in the Chair.

Those present were, John Hamilton, P. B. Casgrain, George Lampson, S. Lesage, Lt.-Col. Turnbull, Dr. Harper, T. C. Aylwin, Fred. C. Wurtele, K. G. Fraser, W. Clint, Captain Boulton, R.N., James Morgan, A. Robertson, W. S. Bennett, T. A. Piddington, J. Horan.

After reading the minutes of the last meeting, the Recording Secretary, A. Robertson, Esq., submitted the annual report of the Society for the past year.

ANNUAL REPORT

QUEBEC, 10th January, 1906.

To-day, as the senior society in Canada, we enter our 83rd year with the satisfaction of being engaged in work which we are striving to make at least equal to the best achievements of our past career. 1775—that fateful year for both French and English-speaking Canada—is still the main object of our research. In 1903, under the presidency of Sir James LeMoine, a committee was formed to deal with the erection of his-

torical tablets to commemorate the heroic defenders of Quebec, who repulsed the attacks of Montgomery and Arnold. Before the close of 1904, the two splendid bronze shields, for which the Dominion Government made a special grant of \$1,250, were in position. We are glad to be able to report that these tablets have been strongly commended by our late and present Patrons, the Earl of Minto and Earl Grey, the latter of whom personally inspected them last summer. They have been welcomed with universal approval in Canada and in other parts of the Empire, and we rejoice to see that they have met with generous recognition by the intelligent public of the United States. In this connection we would add that when the old and well known wooden sign—*Montgomery Fell*—was taken down by a departmental workman, our President, whose action was unanimously approved by the Council, tried to have it repaired at the Society's expense and placed over the exact spot in front of where the barricade had stood. The Government, however, undertook this themselves, and replaced the sign in its old position.

The principal results of our work on 1775, since the erection of the tablets, has been the publication, in the spring of 1905, of verbatim reprints, in a volume entitled "The Blockade of Quebec in 1775-6 by the American Revolutionists" (*Les Bostonnais*). The contents comprise: 1. The Journal of Thomas Ainslie; 2. The Journal of an unknown Diarist; 3. The Orderly Book of the British Militia at Quebec, 1775-6; and 4. The Nominal Roll of the French Canadian Militia serving at Quebec during the siege. The preface gives a full account of the successful efforts for the erection of the tablets, and is illustrated by photographs specially taken to show the inscriptions both by themselves, on a large scale, as well as in position on the sites once occupied by the barricades at *Près-de-Ville* and *Sault-au-Matelot*.

We have much pleasure in reporting that this volume has also been a great success whatever it has found its way, and that both the late and present Governors-General have expressed their warm approval after a

personal inspection. The experiment of sending out a few review, or presentation, copies has proved equally encouraging. Two such copies have already exerted considerable influence over two forthcoming histories of prime importance. One is the new American history of Canada which is being written by Mr. Frank Tracy, literary editor of the Boston Transcript. The other is what promises to be the greatest and most authoritative "History of the United States and its People," a magnificent work in twelve volumes, which Dr. Avery has been preparing for eighteen years and of which the Burrows Brothers are already beginning the actual publication. Several other copies are now doing their work equally well in many influential quarters, and altogether, they cannot fail to have a far-reaching effect in making this momentous turning point in Canadian and Imperial history both better known and better understood.

The Society was ably represented at the annual meeting of the Royal Society of Canada last spring, at Ottawa, by our Librarian, Mr. F. C. Wurtele. The report we then presented is to be found at p. cxv. of the Minutes of Proceedings of the Royal Society of Canada for 1905-6. It is matter for congratulation to learn that our account of the tablets excited deep and widespread interest among the assembled members and delegates, and that our suggestion for organizing a Canadian Landmark Association was enthusiastically adopted on the spot, by motion of a Past President of the Royal Society, Sir James Grant, whose seconder was the actual President of the Historical Section, Mr. W. D. Lighthall. The wording of our suggestion is in part, as follows:—

Name—The Canadian Landmark Association.

Object—To preserve memorials of great events and persons, to mark historic sites by monuments and tablets; and, in general, to safeguard those landmarks of nature or man which ought to be kept as heirlooms for posterity.

Method—"One for all, and all for one," by concentrating the widespread general interest of all kindred

societies and individuals on each one particular effort to carry out the object of the Association in any part of Canada.

His Excellency the Governor-General has been graciously pleased to signify his willingness to become Patron of the Canadian Landmark Association so soon as it shall have been suitably organized.

Mr. Lighthall has kindly suggested that our Society should commence the organization in Quebec; but our President, believing that the basis should be an all-Canadian one from the very beginning, has considered it more advisable to leave the public initiative entirely to the Royal Society. In any case, we respectfully beg to recommend the strenuous pursuit of this most desirable object to the incoming Council and to all the members of our Society.

We have fortunately been instrumental in helping to save the Martello Tower overlooking the St. Charles. The municipal authorities intend to use it as a police station and keep it intact. We are glad to see a strong and growing body of well-founded opinion becoming more and more alive to the need and advisability of preserving the splendid landmarks of Quebec. We do not wish for a moment to oppose any real modern improvement in our midst; nor do we wish to have any object carefully preserved merely because it happens to be old, and irrespective of its use, beauty or historic interest, for we remember that nearly everything which is now an historic monument to us once served some useful purpose for a bygone generation of our fellow-citizens. But we shall always prevent by every means in our power, any wanton disfigurement of Nature or destruction of these works of man which remind us of a worthy past. And to do so more effectually we would ask our own members, and all Quebecers, to remember the motto, *je me souviens*, and to take up the cause of the Canadian Landmark Association as both a duty and a privilege. With such an Association keeping watch and ward over all that the present only holds in trust for posterity, we should be doubly armed against every wanton attempt to level down the high and rare

distinction of our most favored city “into the catalogue of common things.”

The Librarian's and Treasurer's reports deal fully with their own departments. But we should like to mention specially that since we have now paid off the \$475 for the new book-cases, according to our agreement with Morrin College, the whole of the College book grant of \$250 will be available for its proper purposes during the present year. Dr. Douglas' generous grant of \$500 will be divided, as before, between the book fund and the publishing of original documents. The question of a new catalogue has been considered; but as there are no available funds, we must, for the present, be content with the card-catalogue which has been so carefully compiled by the Librarian and his assistant, and which is also the indispensable preliminary to a printed catalogue. Of course, there can be no question about the advisability of a new printed catalogue, and we recommend that this work be taken in hand as soon as funds for it shall have become available.

With regard to our general financial position, we have to report that we still carry a residuary indebtedness which we shall pay off, so soon as possible, out of the realization of an investment which we are free to use at our discretion. We hope to obtain, as on former occasions, a special grant from the Provincial Government in aid of the work of publishing the documents relating to 1775. Our deputation was kindly received by the Prime Minister, who acknowledged that our work was one of national importance.

It affords us great pleasure to report that not a single member has died or resigned in 1905, that only three have left the city, and that thirty-three new members have been elected. This means an addition of thirty to our membership and of \$120 to our annual subscriptions.

We desire to publicly acknowledge the special kindness of our Honorary President, Dr. James Douglas, in giving us a most interesting lecture on “Education in Quebec in the 17th Century,” on the 26th of Jan-

uary, to the great delight of one of the largest and most appreciative audiences we have ever had.

We would beg leave to remind our members that Quebec is to be honored by an exceptionally brilliant gathering of savants from every part of the world, and by one whose specialty should appear with peculiar force to our sympathetic interest, since it is the study of the native Indian races of America. We desire to express an earnest hope that many of our Society will take the opportunity of becoming temporary members of this International Congress of Americanists, during its session here in next September.

In conclusion we would venture to remind our French-speaking fellow citizens that our society has always been, and still is, one in which they will find themselves most warmly welcomed; one in which many French-Canadians have occupied the most distinguished positions, from our foundation down to the present day; one in which they would already find several members of their own race and creed; and, finally, one in which the common intellectual interests of all Quebecers will always find a common home.

The whole respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM WOOD,

President.

• WILLIAM CLINT,

Council Secretary.

The report of the treasurer shows that an income of \$400 was derived from a capital of \$8,700 of the Endowment Fund, and 718 from subscriptions. To the book fund there was the annual grant of \$250 from Dr. James Douglas and \$250 from Morrin College. Dr. James Douglas also subscribed \$250 to the publication fund. The Board of Governors of Morrin College also granted the Society free rental for the use of the rooms.

REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN

The Librarian begs to report 762 accessions to the Library during the past year, composed of 245 bound, 227 unbound volumes by donation and exchange. Fifty one maps, and 239 volumes purchased, eighty of which are works of fiction.

The thanks of the Society are due to some twenty-five kind persons who have presented the Library with valuable books, among whom may be mentioned, Miss J. Stevenson who sent in seventy-seven excellent works from the library of the late James Stevenson, some-time President of this Society; Dr. James Douglas for "Old France in the new World"; J. Theodore Ross, Esq., for a handsome set of 26 reference volumes "The 19th Century Series," Major James Morgan for two large elephant folios, "Monographie de la Cathedral de Bourges," one of which is filled with beautiful colored engravings of all the painted windows in that sacred edifice; the New York Historical Society, for 17 volumes of its historical collections to complete the set on our shelves; Rev. Dr. Bethune for his monographs on Entomology, and the Journals of the General Synod of Canada; and T. J. Moore, Esq., for the "Heart of the White Mountains."

The number of books loaned to members exceeds that of the previous year by 900 volumes, making in all 2828 volumes, of which 138 remain out beyond the 14 days specified in the By-Laws, and in this connection, members should not forget that others are waiting to read these same books, especially the new purchases.

The classification of the issues is as follows:—

Fiction, 1858 volumes; current magazines, 250; biography, 202; travel, 164; history, 138; general literature and miscellaneous, 112; poetry and drama, 34; science and art, 26; French works, 23; natural history, 21, a total of 2858 volumes.

As soon as the book grants are received from Dr.

Douglas and Morrin College, the book committee will make out the list for new purchases, when the recommendation book will receive first attention.

All respectfully submitted,

FRED. C. WURTELE,

Hon. Librarian.

QUEBEC, 30th December, 1905.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Dr. J. M. Harper and S. Lesage, Esq., were named Scrutineers; the election of officers was proceeded with and resulted as follows:—

Hon. President—Dr. Jas. Douglas.

President—P. B. Casgrain.

Vice-Presidents—J. Hamilton, D.C.L., G. W. Par-melee, D.C.L., J. T. Ross, Lt.-Col. Turnbull.

Treasurer—James Geggie.

Recording Secretary—A. Robertson.

Corresponding Secretary—A. H. Cook.

Council Secretary—W. Clint.

Librarian—Fred. C. Wurtele.

Curator of Museum—Rev. P. M. O'Leary.

Curator of Apparatus—Geo. Lampson.

Additional members of Council—Sir James LeMoine, Major Wood, C. Tessier, S. Lesage.

On taking the Chair, President Casgrain thanked the members for the honor conferred upon him and paid a tribute to the retiring President, Major Wood, saying the Society needed more members of his stamp and new blood. The Chair could not have been better filled during the term just closed. He would do his best.

A vote of thanks to Major Wood was then proposed by S. Lesage, Esq. and Lt.-Col. Turnbull and unani-mously carried.

Presidents of the Literary and Historical Society

1824.....	Sir N. F. Burton, Lt.-Governor.
1828.....	Hon. Mr. Reid, Chief Justice.
1829.....	Lieut. Frederick Baddeley, R. N.
1830.....	Hon. Jonathan Sewell, Chief Justice.
1831.....	“ “ “ “ “
1832.....	Hon. Andrew Stuart, K.C.
1833.....	Hon. W. Sheppard.
1834.....	“ “ “ “
1835.....	Joseph Skey, M.D.
1836.....	Rev. Daniel Wilkie, LL.D.
1837.....	Hon. Andrew Stuart, K.C.
1838.....	“ “ “ “
1839.....	Wm. Kelly, M.D., R.N.
1840.....	“ “ “ “
1841.....	Hon. Wm. Sheppard.
1842.....	Hon. A. W. Cochrane.
1843.....	Hon. Wm. Sheppard.
1844.....	G. B. Faribault, Esq.
1845.....	Hon. A. W. Cochrane.
1846.....	John C. Fisher, Esq., LL.D.
1847.....	Hon. Wm. Sheppard.
1848.....	Hon. A. W. Cochrane.
1849.....	G. B. Faribault, Esq.
1850.....	“ “ “
1851.....	“ “ “
1852.....	“ “ “
1853.....	“ “ “
1854.....	“ “ “
1855.....	E. A. Meredith, Esq., M.A.
1856.....	W. Andrew, Esq.
1857.....	“ “ “
1858.....	G. B. Faribault, Esq.
1859.....	“ “ “
1860.....	E. A. Meredith, Esq., M.A.
1861.....	“ “ “
1862.....	John Langton, Esq., M.A.
1863.....	“ “ “
1864.....	“ “ “
1865.....	“ “ “

1866.	Com. E. D. Ashe, R.N.
1867.	“ “ “
1868.	Hon. P. J. O. Chauveau, LL.D.
1869.	Prof. James Douglas.
1870.	Dr. W. J. Anderson.
1871.	J. M. LeMoine, Esq.
1872-3.	Dr. W. J. Anderson.
1873.	Com. E. D. Ashe, R.N., F.R.S.
1874.	Prof. James Douglas.
1875.	“ “ “
1876.	James Stevenson, Esq.
1877.	“ “ “
1878.	“ “ “
1879.	J. M. LeMoine, Esq., F.R.S.C.
1880.	“ “ “ “
1881.	“ “ “ “
1882.	“ “ “ “
1883.	Hon. D. A. Ross, Q.C.
1884.	“ “ “
1885.	G. Stewart, D.C.L., F.R.S.C., F.R.G.S.
1886.	“ “ “ “
1887.	“ “ “ “
1888.	“ “ “ “
1889.	“ “ “ “
1890.	“ “ “ “
1891.	“ “ “ “
1892.	Cyrille Tessier, Esq.
1893.	“ “ “
1894.	Archibald Campbell, Esq.
1895.	“ “ “
1896.	Rev. Rev. R. W. Norman, D.D., Dean of Quebec.
1897.	“ “ “ “
1898.	P. B. Casgrain, Esq.
1899.	“ “ “
1900.	William Wood, Esq.
1901.	“ “ “
1902.	Sir Jas. M. LeMoine, D.C.L., F.R.S.C.
1903.	“ “ “ “ “
1904.	Major William Wood, F.R.S.C.
1905.	“ “ “ “
1906.	P. B. Casgrain, Esq.

Literary and Historical Society of Quebec

FOUNDED IN 1824
Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1851

PATRON:

HIS EXCELLENCY, THE RIGHT HON. EARL GREY, G.C.M.G., BARON
GREY OF HOWICK, GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF CANADA.

VICE PATRON:

SIR LOUIS A. JETTÉ, K.C.M.G., LIEUT.-GOVERNOR, PROVINCE OF
QUEBEC.

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JAMES DOUGLAS, D.C.L., Spuyten Duyvil, N.Y.

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The Earl of Aberdeen.
The Earl of Derby.
The Marquis of Lansdowne, G.C.M.G.
The Duke of Argyle.
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Revd. Charles Rogers, LL.D., F.S.A., Scotland.
Sir Gilbert Parker, D.C.L., M.P., London.
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John Reade, F.R.S.C., Montreal.
James Ashbury, Esq., England.
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Henry Philips, Jr., Philadelphia.
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Ottawa.

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Wm. C. Lane, Harvard University, Cambridge, U.S.
Lt.-Col. George T. Denison, F.R.S.C., Ottawa.
Sir James Grant, K.C.M.G., F.G.S., F.R.S.C., Ottawa.
S. E. Dawson, Litt. D., F.R.S.C., Ottawa
Sir Louis A. Jetté, K.C.M.G.

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Church, F. W., M.D., Boston.
D'Abbadie, Antoine, Membre de L'Institut de France, Paris.
Denham, Edward, New Bedford, Mass., U.S.
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France.
Lighthall, W. D., M.A., B.C.L., F.R.S.C., Montreal.
Madrazo, Don Pedro de, Secretary General of the Royal Academy of History, Madrid, Spain.
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Winship, Geo. Parker, Providence, R.I., U.S.A.

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Atkinson, W. F. V.
Anderson, Capt. P. H.
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Andrews, F. H.
Atkinson, H.
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Champion, C. P.
Clint, William.
Cream, R. F.
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Cook, W.
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Bennett, S. Sloan.
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Brown, John.
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Dunn, S. H.
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Dobell, William.
Doucet, A. E.

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Gagnon, Philéas.
Gale, George.
Grant, Gordon.
Graham, Miss E. Maud.

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Hunt, A. F.
Holloway, Frank.
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Hance, J. B.
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Hoare, Mrs.

Irvine, Miss.

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Joseph, Montefiore.
Joseph, Andrew C.
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Judge, Edmond.

Kennedy, Harold.

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LeMoine Gaspard.
LeSage, Simeon.
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Lanctot, Charles.
Lindsay, Lt.-Col. Crawford.
Lindsay, W. P.
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McLimont, J. C.
McLimont William.
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McLennan, Francis.
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Neilson, Lt.-Col. J. L. H.

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O'Leary, Rev. P. M.
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Petry, Capt. W. H.
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Pope, Miss Louisa.
Price, H. M.
Parke, Dr. C. S.
Parmelee, G. W., D.C.L.
Price, William.
Price, Henry.
Pentland, C. A.
Pigot, J. C.
Power, William, M.P.
Piddington, T. A.

Quebec Bank, Quebec staff.

Robertson, Alexander.
Ross, J. Theo.
Rea, David.
Ray, Lt.-Col. Walter J.
Ritchie, John.
Renfrew, Gordon.
Ross, F. W.
Rhodes, Armitage.
Reed, William.

Stewart, Robert.
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Smith, H. H.
Stuart, Gus. G.
Sewell, E. D.
Shaw, William.
Simons, William.
Stavely, Harry.
Stevenson, Miss J., (North
Hatley).

Stevenson, Miss E.
Scott, James G.
Smith, R. Harcourt.
Scott, Lt.-Col. B.A.
Sharples, Capt. J. J.
Scott, A. E.

Turner, Hon. R. D.
Turnbull, Lt.-Col. J. F.
Thomson, G. H.
Thomson, D. C.
Thomson, Andrew.
Tessier, Cyrille.
Thomas, W. S.
Tremaine, Miss L. L.

Veasey, Arthur.
Verret, Hector.

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Winfield, Jos.
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Wade, E. Harper.
Walcot, C. W.
Williams, Very Rev. Dean.
Wood, Miss Helen G.
Willis, Henry.
Watson, David.
Winn, Miss H. E.
Whitehead, A. B.
Wurtele, Lt.-Col. Ernest F.
Williams, Rev. G. H.

Young, John.

LIFE MEMBERS.

Sharples, Hon. John.
Carbray, Felix.

Wurtele, Fred. C.

BY AGREEMENT.

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Clint, J. H.
Breakey, John.
Gray, Lt.-Col. Frost Wood.
Miller, Archibald.
Geggie, D. H.
Thomson, Andrew.

Dean, W. R.
MacNider, James.
Cook, A. H.
Ross, J. Theodore.
Barclay, Rev. J., D.D., Mont.
real.
Clarke, Revd. Wylie C.

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- P. B. CASGRAIN.....*President.*
- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| JOHN HAMILTON, D.C.L..... | } <i>Vice Presidents.</i> |
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| J. THEO. ROSS..... | |
| LT.-COL. J. F. TURNBULL..... | |
- JAMES GEGGIE.....*Treasurer.*
- ALEXANDER ROBERTSON.....*Recording Secretary.*
- A. H. COOK.....*Corresponding Secretary.*
- WILLIAM CLINT.....*Council Secretary.*
- FRED. C. WURTELE.....*Librarian.*
- REV. P. M. O'LEARY.....*Curator of Museum.*
- PETER JOHNSTON.....*Curator of Apparatus.*
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| SIR JAMES LEMOINE, F.R.S.C..... | } <i>Additional Members</i> |
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| CYRILLE TESSIER..... | |
| S. LESAGE..... | |
- W. H. PETRY.....*Auditor.*
- J. W. STRACHAN.....*Curator of Library.*