Forecasting.

Some day as now the world shall reawake;
The city from its brief, dream-tortured sleep
The country, from its slumber pure and deep,
To songs of birds in every flowering brake;
And men light-hearted, or with hearts that ache,
Shall rise and go what they have sown to reap;
And women smile, or sit alone and weep
For life once sweet, grown bitter for love's sake.

But we, that day, shall not be here—not we;
We shall have done with life, though few may know.
Between *us* then shall awful stillness be
Who spake such words of bliss, such words of woe,
As winds remember, chanting fitfully—
Chanting as now—above *us* lying low.

—Philip Bourke Marston, in the Atlantic.

QUEBEC, WEDNESDAY, JAN. 20, 1892.

HERE AND THERE.

We hope that there is no truth in the rumor, which reaches us from Ottawa, about the future of Mr. MACKENZIE BOWELL. It is said that that efficient and hard-working Minister is about to retire from public life. This he should not do. Throughout his long political career, he has proved himself to be a man of sterling and upright character. His name has never been associated with scandal in any form. He has carried on the affairs of his Department, with marked ability, and skill. While not an orator, he is a good, plain, practical speaker, and his knowledge of Parliamentary law and practice, is extensive and far-reaching. The House could ill spare his services. His absence from the Council-room would be a serious oss indeed. Among the members on both sides of politics, he is respected and esteemed. As the Montreal *Star* says:—

"Sir JOHN MACDONALD had no more valued colleague, nor the Dominion a more upright Minister than he. Always a strong partizan and a hard fighter, he had his enemies in the ranks of the Opposition; but during the driving rain of scandal that has drenched the country during the last year not a drop fell either upon him or his department. Montreal has had as much to complain of as any because of the undoubtedly capricious administration of the Customs law, but the Minister was never accused of using his almost unequalled opportunities 'to take toll' for personal or party purposes."

On Saturday morning, a young man of respectable parentage, was arrested at the Post Office, charged with a grave offence. The sad experience of others, it seems, has little or no effect in the way of preventing crime. Within the last few months, the Post Office officials have been called on to arrest, and secure the punishment of several thieves. But letters have continued to go astray, and petty peculations have not ceased. This last case may or may not have a good effect, as a deterrent of further misconduct. This miserable pilfering is a crying disgrace to our city. The thief is sooner or later caught. His punishment is terribly severe. But new thieves appear on the scene with shocking regularity, affording proof, in a striking manner, of the perversity of human-kind, which declines to profit by the example made of others. It is too bad.

The *Electeur* on Saturday morning announced editorially, that it had authority for stating, that the Lieutenant-Governor of Quebec had notified certain Liberal families of this city, that it would be agreeable to him were they to absent themselves, in future, from the Spencer Wood receptions. While nobody in his senses would believe such a story, it is, nevertheless, only proper that a most unqualified denial should be given to it. During MR. ANGERS's occupancy of Spencer Wood, very many entertainments of a social nature have been given. In no single instance has political partisanship dictated the name of the guest who should be invited to the function. Cards have been sent out with a lavish hand, and every guest ushered into the rooms has been greeted with a courteous and cordial welcome. When quasi-public receptions have been held by Madame ANGERS, both His Honor and his wife have united to make all feel perfectly at home, race, creed and politics being altogether unknown for the time. Of course, no one expected Mr. ANGERS to do otherwise. As the Head of the Province, partyism fills no place in his mind. But outside of that, he is a gentleman, and those whom he asks to his house, or to his table, are invited on personal and social grounds, and to welcome them properly, and treat them civilly, have been, on such occasions, his main and only object. It is a pity that our contemporary should, for political purposes, make such a mean and paltry attack on His Honor. Innuendoes of that sort can do no good. They only recoil on the head of the man who makes them. In the present instance, there is not a tittle of evidence to sustain the base and contemptible charge. The whole story has been made out of whole cloth, and with the evident intention of keeping people away from Madame ANGERS's, New Year's "at home," now, however, indefinitely postponed, owing to the sad death of the young Duke of CLARENCE.

The relations between political parties, not only here, but in Ontario, are very much strained. But that is no reason why the politicians and their newspapers, should forget the amenities due to women. Not long ago, a miserable falsehood was circulated by the Ottawa *Free Press*, about the alleged gift of a diamond necklace to a lady, occupying a high position in this city. Prompt steps were taken to compel the offending editor to retract his statement and apologize. He did both, and in addition, gave to the public, the names of the informants, who, to gratify political spite, had deceived him with a story, as false as it was improbable. To save his own skin, the editor took the unpalatable dose, and abjectly apologized, though, it is said, his wry face and squirmings, were exceedingly pitiable. The other offenders endured the publicity of their offence, for punishment,—no light punishment either. The other day, the Toronto *Globe* published a shameful libel on Lady MACDONALD. The injured wife of Canada's greatest statesman and Premier, at once instructed her counsel to demand explanations and an apology from the *Globe*. The editor wrote out and published a half-hearted explanation, in which he said that it was a good thing for Lady MACDONALD, that the charge against her fair name had been made, as it afforded her the opportunity of denying it. Of course, such wretched drivel as this could not be accepted, and Mr. FERGUSON demanded an immediate retraction the next day, or a suit for substantial damages would be entered. The *Globe* weakened, got down on its marrow-bones, and declared amid tears, that it was very, very sorry for what it had done. But why attack the ladies? They are not political opponents, and their sex should protect them from coarse abuse, and vile aspersions.

Then again, what is to be gained by calling Sir ADOLPHE CARON, "a dandy dude," the Hon. A. G. JONES, "Old Haul-down-the-flag JONES," the Hon. CHAS. H. TUPPER, "that young pup TUPPER," Sir CHARLES TUPPER, "the great stretcher," Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN, "the king of boodlers," the Hon. Mr. BEAUBIEN, "Quinze cent BEAUBIEN," Mr. W. R. MEREDITH, "Orangeman MEREDITH," etc, to say nothing of Quebec's "BALMACEDA," our Provincial "CÆSAR" and the Canadian "CZAR." What the people want is argument, not nicknames. Leave nicknames to the boys. We are on the eve of a great political crisis. In Quebec Mr. MERCIER and his colleagues are on trial before the people. In Federal politics Mr. ABBOTT is experimenting. In eight counties bye-elections will be held for seats in the House of Commons, in less than ten days. Prepare for them. In this Province, seventy-three counties will be called upon to speak in about six or seven weeks' time. We say to the politicians and their organs, and the electors, quit calling names. Get to work, teach the people their duty, and show them how to vote, and for whom to vote. The public must be educated to the actual condition of things, and no time should be lost in doing it.

Actions Against Newspapers.

The Hon Horace Archambault has taken actions of damages for $5,000 each against the *Gazette*, *Minerve*, *Star* and *Monde*, on account of statements published by those newspapers in connection with the Austin transaction.

Threatening An Arrest.

Mr. Austin Mosher, correspondent of the Toronto *Empire*, in Montreal, has stated that he had instructed his attorneys to demand a retraction of the statements, published in *Le Canadien*, reflecting on him, and in default of this being done, to have Mr. Tarte arrested.—Montreal *Witness*.

A Political Possibility.

A curious result may flow from the undertaking given by the DeBoucherville Ministry to amend the Mining Act at the next session for Mr. Mercier, if by any chance he is returned to power, and will probably decline to make the amendment called for. The time for the disallowance of the Act having expired the Minister of Justice would in such an event find himself worsted without any remedy.—Montreal *Witness*.

Liquor's Doings.

A VICTIM ONLY SEVEN YEARS OLD.

La Patrie reports a very sad case from the parish of St. Elzear, county of Beauce. Arthur Moisan, aged seven years, went with a little friend to visit the neighbors the day after New Year's. In one of the houses the child was given some liquor, and the master of the house being called out shortly afterwards, the two little boys helped themselves again from the bottle of liquor which had been left on a bureau. When the child Moisan tried to get up and walk he could not do so, and his companion helped him home, where he died the following day in great agony from congestion of the brain, brought on by alcoholic liquor, according to the verdict at the coroner's inquest.

The Sister of Mrs. T. De Witt Talmage to Marry William J. Bok, of New York.

William J. Bok, the business manager of the Bok Syndicate and brother of Edward W. Bok, is about to break the shackles of liberty and bachelorhood and take unto himself a wife. The lady is Miss Bessie Whittemore, the youngest sister of Mrs. T. De Witt Talmage. Miss Whittemore was born and educated in Brooklyn. She is a brunette, with refined expression and sweet voice. She is an accomplished scholar and translator, has traveled all through Europe, and is very proud and fond of her distinguished brother-in-law.

At Eastertide their friends may expect to hear wedding bells.—New York *Mail*.

She Was Well Known Here in Year's Gone By.

Says the St. Johns, (P.Q.,) *News*:—"A definite link with the past was broken by the death of the widow of the late Hon. Judge Dunkin, at Lakeside, near Knowlton, last Saturday. Mrs. Dunkin, who by her association with the great national events recalled by the mention of her husband's name, has acquired a definite place in the history of the Dominion, will also be greatly missed for her own sake. The memory of her patience under suffering and of her piety, will long remain as a precious heritage to those who were admitted to her circle of acquaintances. For over eighteen months Mrs. Dunkin had been practically confined to her room, owing to the effect of a succession of shocks apparently epileptic in character, and it was to a seizure, superinduced probably to in[illegible] that she finally succumbed. According to a request of hers, the funeral service was held in Montreal last Tuesday."

Fortress Hotel Company to Wind Up.

The adjourned meeting of the shareholders of the Fortress Hotel Company, for the purpose of considering a proposition to wind up the Company's affairs, was held yesterday afternoon at the Quebec Exchange. There were present: Messrs. R. R. Dobell, E. J. Hale, N. K. Connolly, T. H. Norris, R. Campbell, P. V. Valin, W. Vincent, L. S. Odell, G. R. Renfrew, L. Evans, T. Beckett, S. Stevenson, S. H. Dunn, F. Gunn, V. Boswell, J. Boswell, J. T. Ross, Wm. Shaw, E. Jones, A. J. Behan, G. T. Davie, J. H. Botterell, Hon. P. Garneau, J. H. Holt, C. Duquet, S. J. Shaw, R. Borland, G. Seifert.

It was moved by Mr. R. R. Dobell, seconded by Mr. G. R. Renfrew,—That the Fortress Hotel Company be wound up at once, and that the amount in the Bank be divided and paid back to the subscribers in proportion to their interest, less the expenses incurred.—Carried.

Moved by Mr. R. Campbell, seconded by Mr. C. Duquet,—That the present Board of Directors be and are hereby appointed liquidators.—Carried.

The meeting then adjourned.

The Mother of Cities.

THE MONTREAL HISTORICAL TABLETS.

Montreal is, historically speaking, the mother of cities. Here will be marked the birthplace of Bienville, the founder of New Orleans, and the homes of La Salle, of Du Luth, and of La Mothe Cadillac, founder of Detroit. Here will be shown the eyrie of Mackenzie, discoverer of the Mackenzie River, and first European to cross the Rocky Mountains. Dollard lane will have its glorious legend made plain upon it. The ancient town walls will be made easy to follow. The Recollet Gate, where General Hull and his army were brought in prisoners, and the Quebec Gate, where the same was done with Ethan Allan, will receive tablets. The position of the armies at the time of capitulation will not be forgotten. Neither will a variety of strange traditions, miraculous and horrible—such as the Veronica-like legend of the Pere le Maistre, whose head was cut off by Iroquois, but imprinted its image upon a handkerchief, and thereby haunted and addressed them until the conversion of his murderer.—*Toronto Week*.

Morrin College

RECEIVES GENEROUS AID.

Mr. Frank Ross and Mr. John Theodore Rose have donated respectively the sums of $2,000 and $1,000 per annum for three years to Morrin College, which is now in straitened circumstances. At a meeting of the Governors held yesterday afternoon it was decided to accept this offer, and inasmuch as this sum of $3,000 is still insufficient to enable the College to continue, an endeavour wil be made to collect at once $2,000 additional to make in all $5,000 per annum, without which it will be impossible to carry on any longer the useful career of this, the only English College in Quebec. The Revd. Mr. Love was appointed the acting Vice-Principal of the College, and the most prominent of our citizens will be waited on in the beginning of next week and asked to aid the institution. If at the end of three years the College is still going on well and is successful, a substantial endowment of at least $100,000 is promised to enable it to keep on its feet. It is to be hoped that this appeal will be liberally responded to and at once, and the institution thus enabled to continue its service of usefulness.

Proffered Testimonial to the Connollys.

The contractors for the Kingston graving dock, Messrs. N. K. and Michael Connolly, have completed their work, and the new dock is pronounced by expert engineers to be one of the finest in the country. The people of Kingston were so pleased that they recently tendered a complimentary dinner and public testimonial to the Messrs. Connolly, but these gentlemen refused both, and in a letter to the Kingston *News* the contractors, while thanking the people of Kingston, said that they simply performed their duty in connection with the graving dock contract and could not see how the people were placed under any obligation to them, but on the contrary owe a deep debt of gratitude to the people of the Limestone City, especially the merchants and other business men, who generously supported them through their many difficulties that they had to contend with during the prosecution of the work, and now that they have done their work to the entire satisfaction of all concerned in accordance with the obligations they had assumed when signing the contract, all they want is a fair and equitable settlement and the only testimonial they wish for is to be paid their legitimate dues.

Literary and Historical Society of Quebec.

ANNUAL MEETING.

13th January, 1892.

The annual general meeting of the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec, was held on Wednesday morning, 13th instant, in the Library of the Society, at ten o'clock. There was a good attendance of members, Dr. George Stewart, F.R.G.S., President, in the chair. After reading the minutes of the last monthly meeting, the Council Secretary, W. C. H. Wood, Esq., submitted the annual report of the Society for the past year:—

LITERARY AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF QUEBEC.

ANNUAL REPORT.

QUEBEC, January 13th, 1892.

The Council of the Society submit herewith, for the information of the members, their annual statement, for the year 1891. To this report are appended the returns of the Treasurer and Librarian, which, it is hoped, will prove satisfactory. By death, the Society lost last year, two of its most prominent members, citizens of high character and integrity, viz:—Chief Justice, the Hon. Sir Andrew Stuart, and J. W. Dunscomb, Esq., for many years Collector of Customs at this port. Both gentlemen were closely identified with the fortunes of the Society in earlier days, and up to a very short time ago, their zeal and interest in the aims of the Society, were unabated. Sir Andrew Stuart was ever willing and eager to advance the cause of historical research, and the study of letters. Mr. Dunscomb was always in call, and his great abilities, allied to a fine literary taste, were at the disposal of the Society at all times. With regret we have to announce, that twelve members have seen fit to send in their resignations. But, on the other hand, the Society has gained eleven new members. The active membership is 181 while in 1891, it stood at 184. Six gentlemen were made corresponding members, viz., General James Grant Wilson, New York; J. G. Bartholomew, F.R.G.S., London; Wm. L. Stone; Rev. Moses Harvey, LL.D., F.R.S.C.; Charles W. Darling, and James Goudie.

During the year, a course of lectures was held in the rooms of the Society, and attracted very good audiences. The President, Dr. Stewart, opened the course, on the 27th January, with an address on the life and writings of Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes. On the 10th March, Mr. F. C. Wurtele, Librarian, read a paper on The English Cathedral of Quebec. He was followed on the 26th of March by Mr. W. C. H. Wood, Council Secretary, who lectured on Novels. Mr. Archibald Campbell, N.P., one of the Vice-Presidents, read a paper on the 31st March, on the *Royal William*, the pioneer of ocean steam navigation, and Mr. W. A. Ashe, F.R.A.S., Corresponding Secretary, closed the lecture season, on the 17th April, with an account of a trip to Labrador, with notes on the projected Labrador Railway.

The Council, on the recommendation of Archibald Campbell, Esq., loaned to the great Naval Exhibition held in England in May, the model of the *Royal William*, the first steamer to cross the Atlantic by steam alone. The *Royal William* was built in Quebec City, and the model was presented to the Society many years ago. It attracted much attention at the Exhibition, and the Honorary Secretary, Captain Sir Alfred Jephson, R.N., thanked the Council for the privilege of placing so appropriate and interesting a relic on view.

All the Historical Societies of Canada have done good work during the past year, and very many papers of great historic interest have been read in each. Most of these have been published in the Transactions and Proceedings of the several bodies. The principal Historical Societies in the Dominion are the Royal Society of Canada, the Historical Society of Nova Scotia, the Historical Society of New Brunswick, the Historical Society of Manitoba, the Society of Canadian Literature of Montreal, Société Historique of Montreal, Numismatic and Antiquarian Society of Montreal, Society of Historical Studies of Montreal, Cercle Littéraire Francais of Montreal, Institut Canadien of Quebec, Canadian Institute of Toronto, Literary and Scientific Society of Ottawa, Institut Canadien-Francais of Ottawa, Hamilton Association, of Hamilton, Ontario, Wentworth, Historical Society of Hamilton, Ontario, Cercle Catholique of Quebec, and our own.

The Royal Society of Canada held its tenth general meeting in May, at Montreal. This was the first time that that body ever held a meeting away from Ottawa. The session was largely attended, and there were many delegates from other learned bodies, from all parts of Canada and the United States. The Literary and Historical Society of Quebec was represented by Vice-President, the Very Rev. R. W. Norman, D.D., D.C.L., Dean of Quebec, who presented a report, which the Royal Society will print in its yearly volume of proceedings.

Last year, we published a volume of transactions, covering the sessions of 1889 to 1891. Separately were also published a copious index of the lectures, papers and historical documents published by our Society, with a list of the unpublished papers read before the Society, from 1829 to 1891,—the work of our indefatigable Librarian, Fred C. Wurtele, Esq.,—and journal of the voyage of the Brunswick Auxiliaries from Wolfenbüttel to Quebec, by F. V. Melsheimer, Chaplain to the Duke of Brunswick's Dragoon Regiment, Minden, 1776. The Journal was presented to the Society by Wm. L. Stone, Esq., of Jersey City, N.J., author of the Life and Times of Sir Wm. Johnson. For the translation, into English, of the first part, we are indebted to Mr. William Wood, Council Secretary. Mr. Stone furnished the translation of the second part. The Society hopes to be in a position to publish a volume of transactions this year also.

Several new books and periodicals have been added to the library, and a handsome new carpet has been put down. The room is now heated by hot water. These evidences of prosperity have only been realized by the strictest economy, and the Council hope that the members will strengthen them, by inducing citizens who are not now enrolled in our books, to send in their names for membership. Our library is rich in books, manuscripts and valuable historical documents, the reading room is well supplied with first-class periodicals, in English and French, the museum, though small is interesting, and the course of lectures, annually provided, should attract all the cultivated and studious. Members pay but four dollars a year for these privileges, and there is no reason why our membership should not, at least, be duplicated, before the year 1892 has passed away.

The Council hope that the Government will see its way to continue the grant of five hundred dollars, this year, as usual.

On Thursday, the 12th of November, 1891, by special invitation, the President represented the Society, at the ceremony of unveiling the memorial erected by the citizens of Quebec, to the memory of the late Major Charles J. Short and Staff Sergeant G. Wallick, of "B" Battery, Canadian Artillery. The exercises marked a deed of heroism which the people of Quebec will long remember with gratitude and pride.

In conclusion, it may not be out of place to mention here, that during the past year, the President has answered the following number of historical queries, viz., seventy-three from Canada, fifty-eight from the United States, nineteen from the British Isles, two from Calcutta, one from Spain and eleven from France,—all relating to our local and provincial history. Some of the questions were very trivial, but the greater part of them necessitated careful examination of authorities, and various public documents.

GEORGE STEWART,
President.
WILLIAM WOOD,
Council Secretary.

REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN.

The Librarian begs to report that 1,862 volumes have been issued to members during the past year, which is an increase of 300 volumes over last year, viz:—

Total number of books and magazines taken out of Library during the year 1891.

BOOKS.

Fiction	517	
Historical	507	
Biographical	112	
Educational and scientific	99	
Voyages and travels	82	
Prose works-essays	54	
Poetical works	44	
Miscellaneous works	138	
		1,253
Magazines		609
		1,862

There have been 556 accessions to the library, consisting of 55 bound and 352 unbound volumes by donation and exchanges with other Societies, and 149 volumes by purchase; among the latter are new sets of Sir Walter Scott and Thackerey. From the reported requests by our members for the latest written works of fiction of high standard, the Librarian would suggest that bound copies of such works be procured as soon as possible after their publication. The mainstay of the Society is the library, and there being no restrictions in either the charter or by-laws concerning the purchase of books, the requirements of the members should at least be favorably considered by the new Council. A card catalogue has been commenced and so far 2,600 volumes have been entered and numbered. There are still some 12,000 remaining to be done, and the work, which was stopped by the alterations to the room, will be resumed at once and pushed on as expeditiously as possible. According to new arrangements with the lessors a hot water heating apparatus has been placed in position, which, together with the new carpet has added greatly to the comfort and appearance of the library, and it would be a further improvement were the tables recovered in leather.

The model of ss. *Royal William* loaned to the Royal Naval Exhibition has arrived by ss. "Toronto" and will be in its old place tomorrow.

F. C. WURTELE,
Librarian.

Quebec, 31st December, 1891.

Literary and Historical Society of Quebec in Account with Edwin Pope, Treasurer.

DR.

To cash paid for books and periodicals	$226 49	
To cash paid for printing and binding	315 29	
To cash paid for rent and assurance	397 50	
To cash paid for light	44 28	
To cash paid for salaries	200 00	
To cash paid for miscellaneous	165 77	
		$1,349 33
To balance		66 50
		$1,415 83

CR.

By balance from 1890	$139 13	
By transactions sold	13 00	
By newspapers "	37 70	
By members' subscriptions, 1890	398 00	
By members subscriptions in arrears	328 00	
Government grant for 1891	500 00	
		$1,415 83
		$1,415 83

Quebec, January 12th, 1892.

EDWIN POPE,
Treasurer.

Examined and found correct.
Quebec, 12th January, 1892.
WM. S. BENNETT.

On motion of Cyr. Tessier, Esq., seconded by Col. J. E. Prower, the Council report was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Peter Johnston moved, and Mr. W. A. Ashe seconded, the motion that the report of the Librarian be adopted as it stood.

As an amendment, it was moved by Mr. Archibald Campbell, seconded by Mr. Cyr. Tessier, that the Librarian's report be adopted, save that portion recommending the purchase of written works of fiction, leaving to the Council to purchase such works, as they deem fittest for the object of the Society, as formerly. The amendment was carried. The following letter, sent in by James M. LeMoine, Esq., was read in connection with this subject:—

SILLERY, 13th January, 1892.

To the President and Members of the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec, in Annual General Meeting Assembled.

MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN,

Having been absent from the city, on the 11th inst., when the several reports for the year were discussed at a special meeting, I was debarred from suggesting any amendment and therefore avail myself of this opportunity.

It is said one report, asks for the admission on our tables, in the library, for additional light current literature, such as the popular novels of the day; if so, I respectfully beg to enter my formal protest against this measure.

We ought to bear in mind that when this Association was formed, many and many years ago, at the Chateau St. Louis, under the auspices of the Earl of Dalhousie, our Governor General, the aim of the founders was not to found for the citizens of Quebec a circulating library.

Such eminent scholars as Chief Justice Sewell, G. B. Faribault, the Honorable Jerome Demers, Andrew Stuart, Q.C., Dr. John Charlton Fisher, Commanders Bayfield and Ashe, the historians Garneau, Ferland, Casgrain, John Langtan and their successors have arrived at a higher grade of information, than what is generally supplied by popular novels. To their joint efforts was granted each year by Parliament a generous subsidy, for prosecuting researches in science generally and especially for publishing new and useful information on the history of our common country; this annual subsidy has been the life stay of our Society for years, we at the present owe to it, we may say, the very existence of our Association.

There can be no doubt but that we will lose it, as soon as the object for which this institution was formed, is lost sight of.

In venturing so far, I think I am expressing the views of several members, but also of a larger class of outsiders, students of science and history, Historical Associations spread over the whole continent, who each year enquire for and purchase the historical publications put forth by our Society.

As one of the oldest members and one whom you have honored with your confidence, I am proud to say—and who, I hope has not forfeited it, I beg to protest formally against the introduction in the library of light novels of the day and ask for a vote of the members on this point, if necessary.

I regret that an imperative call of duty prevents me from being present in person to urge these views.

Respectfully yours,
J. M. LEMOINE.

The election of officers for the ensuing year was then proceeded with. The retiring President, Dr. Stewart, briefly thanked the members for the confidence which they had reposed in him, in electing him for seven years in succession to the high office which he had just vacated. Col. Prower and Mr. P. B. Casgrain were appointed scrutineers. The result of the elections is as follows:—

President—Hon. H. G. Joly de Lotbiniere.
1st Vice-President—Wm. Hossack, Esq.
2nd Vice-President—Very Reverend Dean Norman, D.C.L., D.D.
3rd Vice-President—Cyr. Tessier, Esq.
4th Vice-President—A. Campbell, Esq.
Treasurer—Edwin Pope, Esq.
Librarian—F. C. Wurtele, Esq.
Recording Secretary—T. Ainslie Young, Esq.
Corresponding Secretary—Wm. A. Ashe, Esq., F.R.A.S.
Council Secretary—W. C. H. Wood, Esq.
Curator of Museum—Wm. Clint, Esq.
Curator of Apparatus—C. B. Langlois, Esq.
Additional members of the Council—Dr. Geo. Stewart, F.R.G.S., P. B. Casgrain, Esq., Peter Johnston, Esq., and J. M. LeMoine, Esq.

Mr. W. S. Bennett was appointed Auditor, and J. W. Strachan, guardian of the rooms.

Messrs. J. Ferguson and Stuart Oliver were elected Associate members.

At the request of Mr. Campbell, Dr. Stewart vacated the chair, and Mr. P. B. Casgrain was called thereto. The following resolution was then put to the meeting, and carried amid much enthusiasm:—

Moved by Mr. Archibald Campbell, seconded by Mr. William Hossack, and

Resolved,—That ever since the organization of this Society, the oldest in the Dominion, having among st others for its object, the advancement of the arts and sciences in this Province—as expressed in the Royal Letters Patent granting its charter—if we look at the distinguished names of those that have occupied the chair of President since 1830, when the Honorable Jonathan Sewell, then Chief Justice and a member of the Executive and Legislative Councils of the Province, was its first President under its charter, down to our time, it has evidently been the policy of our predecessors, as it has been our own, to select as first officer the most efficient man, him who had adorned the sphere of or walk in life best adapted to his predilections, whether as a learned jurist, eminent member of the medical profession, erudite historian, skilful naturalist, laborious antiquarian, prominent banker or celebrated journalist and which policy dictated to the members of this Society the propriety of electing for their President for seven consecutive annual terms, George Stewart, D.C.L., LL.D., F.R.S.S., F.R.G.S., &c., &c. That during that unprecedented long term of office, he gave up his valuable time unstintedly to its requirements, always willing, ready and prepared satisfactorily to respond to the inquiries of such scientific and literary men of other institutions, whether foreign or home ones, who applied for information respecting the history, literature, arts or institutions of the country; that in the chair, he displayed that ability, research and learning required by the occupant of a post that had been filled by such illustrious predecessors and added lustre to the same, and in performance of the duties thereof he was invariably urbane and deserves that due and fitting acknowledgment thereof should be recorded, and further thanks, grateful thanks of the Society for the delightful lectures he favored us with during his period of office, as also for his able administration of its affairs, and that the thanks of the Society be now tendered him.

Dr. Stewart thanked the members for this expression of their good will, and the meeting adjourned.

Creditable to the Government.

The issue of the writ for Kingston recalls the charge frequently made that the Government had some secret object in withholding the issue of this writ while at the same time they were hastily issuing the writs for seats where they felt themselves to be strong. In justice to the Government it must be said that this charge has no foundation, for the Revised Voters' Lists for Kingston have only just been completed, and it was for this they were waiting. In no constituency have they brought the election on the old list, and if they had done so in Kingston none would have assailed them so vigorously and viciously as the very parties who were complaining of the delay. Whatever may have been said with reference to the general election the by-elections are being held upon this list newly revised.—Montreal *Witness*.

A Magnificent Ball.

It was the universally expressed opinion among the guests of His Honour the Lieut.-Governor and Madame Royal, that the ball on Monday evening was one of the best, most pleasant and most brilliant balls ever given in the Territories. There was, in spite of the blizzard and the almost impassable trails, a very large attendance, including nearly all the members of the Legislature, a number of visitors from outside towns, and nearly all the fashion and beauty of Regina. The ladies' dresses were exceedingly nice—not "loud," but pretty—becoming, and in some cases magnificent.

The music of Professor Walker's orchestra began to float over the ball room at nine o'clock and there was soon a scene of gaiety and beauty that kept the eyes of the non-dancers rivetted. If the dancing and music were so bewitching, what shall we say of the refreshment room and the supper? Needless to say, both were admirable, as in fact were all the arrangements. The courteous A.D.C., Inspector Drayner, was everywhere, infusing sociability into the company, and looking after everybody's comfort and pleasure.

On all sides were heard exclamations of admiration as to the convenience and elaborateness of the new Government House, which was splendidly arranged for the ball of Monday night. His Honour and Madame Royal were perfection as host and hostess.—*Regina Leader*, 5th January.

Quebec's Sympathy with the Bereaved Royal Family.

The following telegram was received by His Worship Mayor Frémont, on Friday afternoon, from the Governor-General:—

OTTAWA, 15th January, 1892.

Thanks for your telegram, substance of which has been cabled to England. Text will be sent by mail to the Queen and to the Prince of Wales.

STANLEY.

As soon as Lieutenant-Governor Angers received an official despatch from Governor Stanley announcing the death of the Prince, His Honor replied as follows:—"I desire to express to your Excellency, as Her Most Gracious Majesty's representative in this Dominion, my own deep sorrow and that of my Government and of the people of this loyal Province of Quebec, upon the death of H. R. H. the Duke of Clarence and would feel obliged if your Excellency would convey to Her Majesty the Queen, to their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales and to the Royal Family the expression of the most sincere sympathy of the people of this Province."

The following telegram of condolence has been forwarded to Lord Stanley:—"The Cardinal Archbishop of Quebec, his clergy, with the University of Laval, pray Your Excellency to convey to Her Majesty and their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales the expression of their personal sympathy and their sorrow at the great loss the Royal family has sustained in the death of His Highness the Duke of Clarence."

The bells of the Anglican Cathedral were tolled between the hours of noon and 1 p.m. yesterday.

The New Hotel.

A large meeting of the shareholders and directors of the Fortress Hotel Company took place at the Union Bank Wednesday afternoon, at which the following gentlemen were present:—Hon. John Price, Hon. Pierre Garneau, Messrs. R. R. Dobell, H. M. Price, D. C. Thomson, Andrew Thomson, E. J. Hale, Geo. Renfrew, Cyr. Duquet, V. Boswell, C. Champion, J. J. Foote, John Holt, Robert Campbell and others. The meeting was an informal one, called for the purpose of listening to the views of Messrs. Van Horne, Angus and Osler, of Montreal, on the subject of the new hotel and the site proposed. With regard to the formation of a Company for this purpose, Mr. VanHorne gave the meeting distinctly to understand that the scheme was entirely separate from the C. P. R. Company, but was to be supported by gentlemen most of whom were interested in the Canadian Pacific Railway, three of whom came to Quebec with the view of conferring with her citizens as to the probability of their being in a position to assist the stockholders of the new hotel in their arrangements for the acquirement of the site. That which they considered the very best in Quebec, all things considered, was that facing Dufferin Terrace, on the land occupied by the Normal School. If this position can be secured, and for which the Company offer to pay a fair price, work will be commenced within six weeks from this date. The meeting was quite unanimous in endorsing the proposed action of the new Company and a meeting will be called for Friday next, in order that Quebecers might one and all understand for themselves the new phase concerning the site now arrived at. We are quite satisfied that our people will enter heartily into the new scheme and do all that is possible in order to induce these gentlemen to take an interest in Quebec City. Mr. VanHorne, in closing his remarks, said they would be most happy to receive propositions from the citizens of Quebec desirous of subscribing to the new stock.

Municipal Finances.

Mr. Lafrance, the City Treasurer, has recently issued his blue book for the fiscal year 1890-91. As usual, it contains a large amount of useful information about municipal taxation. About a third of the real estate in this city is in the hands of the Government and religious institutions and pays no taxes, while the owners of the balance are burdened with all the taxes required to keep the municipal machine running.

From the report we gather the principal receipts last year were:—From assessments, $169,277; business tax, $47,194; personal tax, $52,706; markets, $28,724; Recorder's Court, etc., $23,058, water-works, $154,489; school taxes, $23,960; bailiffs' collections, $178,136.

The principal disbursements were:—Interest, $312,064; salaries, $30,504; police, $34,618; fire brigade, $35,124; light and fuel, $29,084; roads, $62,759; street widening, $22,685; markets, $14,600; water-works, $22,722; advertising and printing, $4,005; legal, $6,145; refund taxes, water rates, closets and baths, $28,058; school commissioners, $24,339; bailiffs' collections (amount appropriated), $169,288; new City Hall, $1,074; construction account permanent works, St. Sauveur, $162,896.

The appropriations last year were $532,374 and the expenditure $580,326.

Embodied in this year's report is a very interesting paper by the City Engineer, in which Chevalier Baillairge discusses, in his original style, many matters pertaining to municipal affairs. Many of his remarks are pertinent, notably those touching street watering, neglected by-laws, etc. He is in favor of substituting paving for macadam on all the hilly streets and commercial thoroughfares. Among other improvements suggested are the razing of St. John's gate, asphalt flooring for Dufferin Terrace, roadway over the Cove fields, a walk around the foot of the Citadel from the west end of Dufferin Terrace to the Cove fields, new road leading from Mount Pleasant to St. Ours street, an Eiffel tower on a small scale over the Ring fountain.

In 1885 the mica product of the United States amounted to 147,410 pounds, worth $368,525, while that of 1889 was but 49,500 pounds, worth only 850,000. The worth of one bottle of Ale and Beef is almost above calculation, for while it costs the buyer only 25 cents, it may add many days to his life, and may save the lives of his wife and children, and who is there can calculate the worth of even one life?

A ghost story in Bridgeport, Conn., has been spoiled by a detective's discovery that Miss Minnie Parrott, a boarder in the family of H. H. Jennings, was the cause of mysterious rappings which have terrorized the family for a month. The girl began it as a joke, while under the influence of morphine, and could not resist the temptation after crowds began coming to the house.

A carpet tacking party is the latest Missouri invention for evening festivities.

Startling Developments

Before the Royal Commission.

$25,000 Went to Mr. Mercier

And $24,500 to Mr. Pacaud.

OUT OF MR. LANGLAIS' BOODLE.

AT LEAST, SO THE WITNESSES SAY.

The Royal Commission of enquiry into the allegations against the late Government in this Province sat here on Monday and proceeded with business, a number of very startling developments being made in the course of the evidence elicited.

It had been expected that there would have been an attempt on the part of the ex-Ministers and their friends to interfere with the course of justice by means of a writ of prohibition. No writ of any kind was, however, served.

There was a report current, however, that an application had been made to Judge Caron for the issue of a writ against the Commission, and as the writ alleged to have been requested did not materialize, it is presumed that it was refused.

There is still a report, too, that efforts to induce Quebec Judges to issue the writ having proved abortive, application is now being made to the same effect to Mr. Justice Henri Taschereau, of Montreal.

It was shortly after ten o'clock, when Judge Mathieu and Messrs. Macmaster, Q.C., and Masson took their seats as Commissioners.

Attorney-General Casgrain was present and Messrs. Belleau, Q.C., and Stuart, Q.C., representing the Crown.

Mr. Hamel asked permission to appear for the Caisse d'Economie, which was granted

Judge Mathieu said that in order that there should be no misunderstanding, he notified witnesses that there would be no delay in the business of the Commission.

DEFAULTING WITNESSES.

The following witnesses did not answer to their names:—Hon. P. Garneau, P. Valliere, J. A. Langlais, P. Dumoulin.

J. B. Boivin, Assistant-Secretary of the Province, was sworn and identified the official correspondence having reference to the contract awarded Mr. J. A. Langlais for supplying all the Government offices with stationery, etc., etc. Witness admitted that since Langlais got the contract, stationery has been bought elsewhere. Langlais has supplied about $400 worth of stationery to the Provincial Secretary's Department since the date of the contract.

It was further proved by both Mr. Boivin and by Mr. Gus. Grenier, Clerk of the Executive Council, that the contract with Mr. Langlais had never been authorized by Order-in-Council.

Mr. Marcoux, Cashier of La Caisse d'Economie, produced the $60,000 letters of credit, signed by Mr. Mercier, which Langlais had discounted at his bank on the 23rd February last, and said that the amount of the proceeds of these letters, some $56,000, was paid by a cheque of the Bank on the Banque Nationale. Incidentally this witness said that he had notified the ex-Premier in September, when these letters of credit became due, and had asked for payment thereof, but had received no answer at all.

Mr. P. Lafrance, Cashier of La Banque Nationale, testified that the Caisse d'Economie's cheque of 23rd February, for $56,470, on his bank was paid the following day, 24th February, to Mr. Langlais, at the Union Bank.

Then Mr. Webb, Cashier of the Union Bank came upon the scene, and swore that $24,500 of the Langlais' cheques was placed to the credit of Ernest Pacaud, at the Union Bank on the 24th February. Witness was unable to say now what disposal Mr. Pacaud made of this sum, as in August last he had taken away all his cheques at the same time that he took those concerning the Baie des Chaleurs affair. But on the 24th February, the same day as the other transactions described, $25,000 of the funds coming from the cheque for which the Government letters of credit signed by Mr. Mercier were exchanged, $25,000 of this amount was sent by his Bank to its branch in Montre