

LITERARY AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

INAUGURAL ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT,
J. M. LE MOINE, DELIVERED ON
25TH NOVEMBER 1881.

Subject : " EDINBURG, ROUEN, YORK."

GLIMPSES, IMPRESSIONS AND CONTRASTS.

EDINBURGH.

" Such dusky grandeur clothed the height,
Where the huge castle holds its state,
And all the steep slope down,
Whose ridgy back heaves to the sky
Piled deep and massy, close and high
Mine own romantic town."
(*Marmion.*)

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

As President, it is my duty, a pleasant one, rest assured, to open this evening, our annual winter course of lectures. On more occasions than one, your indulgence has made me forget my repugnance to address a public meeting. More than once, instead of being reminded of my shortcomings, I have found myself surrounded in these rooms, by friendly faces, greeted by cheerful, encouraging looks. In lieu of presenting you historical *tableaux* of the early, shall I say with the late Lord Elgin, the