

all circumstances, was fully equal to the most sanguine anticipations, in the number and respectability of the attendants, and in the lively interest evinced in the subject matter of the evening.

There is no doubt, whatever, therefore, that similar *reunions* would be of the utmost advantage to the well-being of the Society, as tending to bring together its members in a social circle, and admitting of the general discussion of subjects, in a manner requiring much less time than the preparation of an Essay or Lecture, whilst it at the same time affords an opportunity of general participation. A very moderate expense would certainly render these literary reunions highly attractive ; and it therefore becomes a question for the consideration of the members, seeing the very limited means of the Society, how far they may deem it desirable to contribute specially towards such an object, independent of the annual funds of the Society. In view of these circumstances, the Council are again constrained to express their regret, that the reduction of the Annual subscription to so small a sum as ten shillings should ever have been established. The Council have also to regret that, in consequence of the limited attendance at a late special meeting, called for the purpose of taking into consideration the engrafting of an Historical branch of the Society, so desirable a measure remains undecided, and the more so, as it would probably have increased the funds ; but we trust it will ere long meet with that attention which its importance deserves.

The Council have, during the past year made the essay of throwing open the museum to the public, on particular occasions ; which movement was crowned with complete success, from the large number of visitors who have been gratified, without the least damage to the property of the Society. The last occasion was to the soldiers of the XXth regiment.

The Council have made a conditional arrangement, with the present Assistant Curator for the current year, upon the same terms and conditions as the past. The memorandum of agreement embodying the same, is laid upon the table, the same being subject to the approval of this meeting.

In resigning their charge into the hands of their successors, the Council would beg to impress upon them, the necessity of the most zealous, unremitting exertions on behalf of the Society, which requires all possible assistance from its office-bearers and friends, in order to secure that proud position, at which it aims, the promotion of the study of natural history, and