

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL
OF THE
LITERARY AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF QUEBEC,
AT THE GENERAL ANNUAL MEETING,
12th JANUARY, 1853.

YOUR Council has the honor, on this occasion, of submitting to your consideration their report of the proceedings of the Society, during one of the most eventful periods of its existence.

The advent of the government to the ancient capital of Canada, for the first time since the union of the provinces, was hailed as an event likely to produce beneficial results to the Society. This it may in some measure have done, but not without endangering "the local habitation," and shaking the very pillars of our Society. The rooms, which the Society hitherto possessed, in the parliamentary buildings, for the proper disposal of their Library, the Mineralogical and Geological collections, and portions of the Museum, were required for the additional accommodation of the members of parliament and their officers. A large portion of the time of the Society has consequently been occupied during the last twelve months in discussing and defending its rights, in endeavouring to make the most of its position and to hurry forward the necessary arrangements for the preservation of its property.

The Council and the Society, at their general and special meetings, in attempting to secure possession of the apartments, assigned to it as the depository of valuable public documents, and books, and other objects of interest to the country, did not oppose any needless