

NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

PROCEEDINGS FOR THE SESSION 1873-74.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual Meeting was held on Monday evening, May 19th, 1873, the Rev. A. De Sola, LL.D., in the chair.

The minutes of the last Annual Meeting having been read, the address of the Acting President, Principal Dawson, LL.D., F.R.S., &c., was read by the Recording Secretary, as follows:

ADDRESS OF THE ACTING PRESIDENT.

GENTLEMEN,—Our present meeting closes the fortieth year of the existence of this Society, and it becomes us to consider to what extent the hopes of its founders, expressed in the motto, "*Tandem fit surculus arbor,*" have been realized. A tree that can boast of forty annual rings of growth, in the soil and climate of Canada, should have attained to a goodly stature, should extend a wide and grateful shade, and should have borne some good fruit. Looking back upon the origin of the Society, we must confess that our growth has been slow, and has not kept pace with that of the great business community of Montreal, nor with that of similar institutions in the larger cities of the United