

dered note-worthy, though, if prophets are to be allowed to manipulate the weather to suit themselves ; there is no telling what tricks may be played with our winters.

Steamers can rarely run later than the beginning of December, and last winter the rails were laid across the ice quite early in the season.

THE QUEBEC LITERARY AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY.



WE are glad to learn that our friends at Quebec are prospering. We append an extract from the report of the Council presented at the annual meeting recently held :—

"Since the last annual general meeting, the library has been increased by the addition of numerous volumes selected in the spirit calculated to further the aims contemplated in the charter of this Association, the promotion of science and history, especially that of our own country, in their higher departments, to wit ; for the prosecution of researches into the early history of Canada, for the recovering, procuring and publishing interesting documents and useful information, as the National, Civil and Literary History of British North America, and for the advancement of the arts and sciences in the said Province of Lower Canada, from which public benefit may be expected.

The report of the Librarian gives the particulars of the purchases and donations of books during the year.

As to the Museum, want of space has prevented the addition of the larger groups of animals. One of our associate members, in the name of a Scotch taxidermist, has made a proposition to exchange some of our duplicate bird skins for Scotch game birds ; if a locale can be procured to store the expected specimens, these changes must naturally tend to make our collection of Natural History more extensive, and more valuable.

An effort has been made to increase the usefulness of this