

discussion of Monthly Essays or Papers, one paper only having been submitted; but they trust that the Meeting of the American Association and the greater facilities for acquiring a knowledge of Natural Science now enjoyed in this city, will have the good effect of calling forth greater scientific exertions in future.

The Council have much pleasure in reporting that L. A. H. Latour, Esq., 1st Vice-President, has during the year offered a Gold Medal as prize, for the best Essay in French or English on any subject of Canadian Natural History. They beg to recommend to their successors the appointment of a Committee to receive the Essays that may be offered, and to adjudge the Prize on the 1st August next. This measure, your Council trust, will call forth much latent talent, and advance the objects of the Society, while it rewards with honor the successful candidate, and realises the liberal and praiseworthy intentions of the donor.

Your Council also report that Mr. Billings, late of Ottawa, a Corresponding Member of the Society, having come to reside permanently in Montreal, has expressed a wish that the Society should take a part in the publication of "The Canadian Naturalist and Geologist," so successfully conducted by him during the past year. This offer was favorably received by the Society, and a Committee was formed to carry out this object and to open a subscription list for the issue of the second volume under the title of the "Canadian Naturalist and Geologist, and Transactions of the Natural History Society of Montreal." Another Committee was appointed to superintend its publication, of which Mr. Billings himself undertakes a part. Your Council are happy to say a first number has been printed under very auspicious circumstances, and they trust that this undertaking will meet with complete success.

Your Council have not considered it prudent at present to solicit from the Legislature a Copy Right Law, to compel publishers to contribute a copy of every publication to the several Literary and Scientific Institutions of the Province. The law as regards copyright is yet in an undecided and unsettled state, and they recommend that the matter receive the consideration of their successors.