

The separate statements of the Treasurer, with the Report of the Finance Committee, exhibit a full detail of our resources, which are so far satisfactory as exhibiting the Society in possession of real estate, books, and objects of Natural History, to the value of at least four thousand pounds, with current liabilities not one tenth of that amount ;* but the property of the Society necessitating considerable annual outlay, although not producing any returns, and the Annual Subscription having of late years been reduced to the very low rate of ten shillings per annum, affords an income altogether too limited to meet the reasonable current expenses of the Society, and far less to admit of effectually carrying out the objects of its Incorporation, or of taking the steps necessary for the dissemination of scientific knowledge, so highly important to the good of our country in the progressive age in which we live. Seeing this, and trusting that the Government would regard our embarrassed state with patriotic liberality, your Council last year, addressed urgent petitions to the three branches of the Legislature, praying for *emergent* aid, in addition to the annual small sum of fifty pounds hitherto granted ; but in this they have as yet been much disappointed, after having been led to indulge confident anticipations of a favorable result, from the circumstances of the members of the Canadian Institute of Toronto having been allotted a sum of two hundred and fifty pounds, and the Athenæum of the same city a sum of one hundred pounds. It would therefore unfortunately appear that our society is less worthy in the eyes of the Administration, than some of its western brethren, or many of the various Educational Institutions in our own section of the Province. It is further to be deplored, that this utter want of funds has for some years past precluded the purchase of a number of works highly requisite for the Library, as likewise the offering of medals for Prize Essays. The Council are, however, happy to state that the number of volumes in the Library is now upwards of 1500 ; but regret to add that 150 still continue missing.

The Council beg to refer to the elaborate alphabetical list of the members of the Society, whether honorary, corresponding or ordinary, from the foundation of the Society to the present time, which has been prepared and presented by L. A. Latour, Esq., and for which (as well as other general useful services always cheerfully rendered) that gentleman is entitled to its warmest thanks, the framing of which having necessitated considerable labor and research.

* The liabilities of the Society, besides fulfilling the terms of the Summerville legacy, amount to £275 balance due on mortgage, and about £100 outstading miscellaneous debts, or about £375 in all.