

Much inconvenience having arisen from the want of Catalogues of the Library and Museum, the Council has taken measures to have them prepared ; and the gentlemen in charge of these departments, are now engaged in arranging catalogues of the various subjects under their care. It is intended that they shall be printed and published as soon as they are ready.

In January last, His Excellency Sir John Colborne transmitted to the Society a parcel of Mountain Rice, in order that they might institute experiments as to its fitness for cultivation in Canada, and endeavor to ascertain whether any benefit was likely to be derived from its introduction into general culture in these Provinces. The parcel was accompanied with the copy of a letter from Lord Glenelg to His Excellency, which stated that the grain had been raised in Nepaul, at the foot of the Himmaleh mountains, in a climate considered to resemble that of the Canadas very closely ; and referred for information respecting the mode of cultivating it, to papers in the Transactions of the Society of Arts, as already mentioned. Small quantities of the rice were distributed to several gentlemen interested in agriculture. It was sown with, and without previous preparation ; in green houses, and in the open air ; in flooded soils, and in ordinary ones ; but in no instance did it show the least sign of germinating. The grain seems to have been spoiled in some way ; and new experiments with sound rice are necessary before its suitability for this country can be determined on.

The Council received in November, through W. B. Lindsay, Esquire, a proposal from the Chief Secretary to take temporary charge of the specimens of Natural History in the House of Assembly. The Council, in the name of the Society, readily undertook the charge, and appointed a Committee to take proper steps for restoring and preserving this valuable collection. The Report of the Committee gives every reason to hope that the principal part of it will be preserved from the destruction with which it was threatened.