

tate to assume the responsibility of incurring it ; and notwithstanding the expenses thus entailed, and other extraordinary drain upon our finances, we have been almost enabled, from the increase of the number of our members during the year, to meet our expenditure from our ordinary resources.

It is with great pleasure we record that during the past year the Society has published two numbers of its Transactions. One of these is composed wholly of communications read before the Society many years back, the publication of which, after they had been placed in the printer's hands, had, for various reasons, been delayed. The other is made up of communications read before the Society during the last twelve or fifteen months.

A list of all the Papers read during the course of the past year is subjoined. The papers are principally upon subjects of a local and practical character. It is satisfactory to be able to add that, with scarcely an exception, an interesting paper, sometimes more than one, was read at each of the literary meetings. Those that have been selected for publication will be found to contain much valuable information. The Meteorological Observations alone will form a most important addition to the mass of information which is being collected, both in Europe and America, on the subject ; more especially as the locality of Quebec appears to be peculiarly favourable for the examination of some of the most interesting Meteorological phenomena.

In connection with this matter, it may be mentioned that the Society has long been anxious to secure a building for its own use, where its Museum and Library might be deposited in safety, and in such a way as to be available, as heretofore, to the public generally, and in which we may be able eventually to establish an Astronomical and Meteorolo-