

all who have the welfare of our Society really at heart, I submit to the Association most respectfully (yet diffidently) the Annual Report for the year 1845.

The General Election of the Officers of the Society took place in conformity with the Laws, on the second Monday in January, and resulted in the selection of the following gentlemen to fill the various situations :—

As President—MR. ANDREW ROBERTSON.

As Vice President—MR. FLEET.

As Secretary—MR. LEE.

As Treasurer—MR. LAVICOUNT.

The President, gentlemen, as you are aware, has declined re-election, thus throwing upon us the difficult task of finding a successor who shall combine the many distinguished qualifications which he has displayed for the office he relinquishes. But I doubt not but that in so large a Society as this has now become, an individual will be found who will feel a pride in maintaining the reputation of the Club and of its first Officer, as satisfactorily as the present incumbent ; at least I hope so. I may be pardoned for suggesting to the Society, since we have seen that both of the gentlemen who have filled the Chair since the birth of the Association, have declined re-election after their first term of office has expired, whether it would not be well to have a tacit understanding in the Club, that the same Member shall not be elected to the Presidency for two successive years. It appears to be extremely probable that amongst those who really do feel an interest in our success, and may be fairly supposed to be emulous of enjoying the distinctions which it is in our power to bestow, an extended term of office in the person of one individual might possibly have the effect of damping their energies by presenting a lengthened obstruction to their legitimate aspirations after the honors of the Society. It should be our constant endeavour to make those distinctions most difficult of attainment, and most valuable *when* attained ; and I believe that I am not far wrong when I surmise that this idea having been carried out to its fullest extent, is one of the grand secrets of the success of certain bodies of great respectability and influence which have lately taken permanent root in the City of Montreal.

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