

Nor has the accumulation of specimens in Natural History been by any means lost sight of, though it is possible our progress in that department, may not have been so distinguished as it had been a few years ago. A large collection of specimens of Birds from the upper country, has been purchased and set up ; and the liberality of Captain BAYFIELD, R. N., has furnished another large assortment of petralogical specimens.

The completion of the third volume of the Society's transactions is an event not to be passed over in silence ; being the instrument by which chiefly it is to promote the object for which it has been instituted and now exists, the advancement of intellectual improvement throughout the country. Along with this important object, we must place the publication of a memoir elucidating some portion of the History of this Country from 1749 to 1760. The intrinsic merits of these publications will speak for themselves, and require here only to be mentioned as part of what has been going on during the course of the year.

The prizes which the Society offered for the purpose of eliciting talent, and directing national inquiry, have not been entirely unavailing, and something further may yet be hoped for them, to encourage our exertions, and to benefit the country. Having begun to produce some effect, we may hope that they will continue to be noticed, and to be felt in their beneficial tendency. It is a system that has produced the happiest results in other countries ; there seems to be no reason to despair of its ultimately producing equally favorable consequences in this.

Of some of the papers read at our evening meetings, it is impossible to speak otherwise than in terms of applause. The Papers read by the Curator of Apparatus, Mr. Daintrey, are particularly deserving of favorable notice. His notes on some of the singular appearances of the *Aurora Borealis* are highly interesting. His account of similar appearances in other countries is deserving of attention, and the enquiry whether they are attended with sound, deserves to be prosecuted with care. Some other speculations of the same gentleman on an interesting question in Mechanics, exhibit a laudable desire to develope results of physical laws: The other Papers read before the Society will be found in the printed volume of the transactions which has just appeared, with the exception of a paper read by Mr. AUGUSTUS SEWELL, and of some read by the Reverend Mr. WILKIE, which form part