

R E P O R T, & c .

TO THE NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY OF MONTREAL,—

The period of your Annual Meeting having arrived, it becomes the duty of the Council to lay before you a *resume* of the past year's proceedings, which they are happy to regard as having been characterized by so much more than ordinary interest, as to give rise to the anticipation that ere long this Society will resume the proud position of a leading Scientific Institution of Canada—in a literary sense,—as well as from having been the pioneer in this country of the development of its Natural history.

The measure of assuming the occupancy of the whole of this mansion, the property of the Corporation, for its own purposes, has been carried out; and the Society may congratulate itself upon the entire success of this step, notwithstanding the anxiety and doubt of many of the Members upon the discussion thereof.

The building has been repaired, and in a manner renovated, and the hall entrance altered and greatly improved. The principal story is devoted to the business purposes of the Society—a Hall of Lecture, Library and Reading Room, and Committee Room, and apartments for the Assistant Curator.

The two upper stories are now devoted entirely to the purposes of the Museum; and, from the increased amount of the property of the Society, are by no means too capacious. The arrangement of this portion of the Society's property, as far as it has been accomplished, reflects the highest credit upon the Cabinet Keeper, Dr. Gibb, who carried out the same, involving, as it did, a considerable amount of time and labor.

In referring to the transactions of the past year, your Council experience some difficulty in selecting those of the most interest; but they would be wanting in due regard to the general feelings of the Society, were they to refrain from asking especial attention to the very valuable services of our President, Major R. Lachlan, who succeeded to the chair in October last, conse-