

With the assistance of the several classes, the Council have drawn up and published a list of prize questions for public competition. The subjects are various, but for the greater part of a local nature, calculated to encourage the production of papers illustrating improvements in our useful Arts ; the elucidation of several Scientific Topics ; and generally on Historical and Literary subjects. Many interesting papers, it is hoped, will be the result of this measure.

A considerable increase of Members has taken place during the present year ; the list drawn up for your inspection exhibits the names of fifteen Honorary Members, forty-two Correspondents, and ninety-two Ordinary and Associate Members. The yearly contributions of the last, now amounting to the sum of £137 15, constitute your permanent source of revenue.

While on the subject of our Members, let us acknowledge the just reason we have to be thankful for the mercies vouchsafed to us in our preservation during the second severe visitation of Asiatic Cholera, that mysterious scourge of the Human Race. But yet, we have to deplore from that cause the loss of one of our most zealous and gifted Members. Dr. Lyons was one of your most efficient Officers, having filled the situation of Council Secretary, from the date of the junction of the two Societies in 1829. Our fellow-labourer fell, in the prime of life, a sacrifice to his zeal for the relief of suffering humanity. A just tribute to his memory, and acknowledgment of his services to the Society, will be found in the minutes of your General Meetings.

One of the professed objects of the Institution, the publication of original papers of its Members, has been