

to all Associate as well as Ordinary Members, enabled it to avail itself of the talents and qualifications of all.

This was effected in a change of By-Law No. 3.

In the same spirit By-Law No. 30 has been so modified as to extend the interests in the property of the Society to the Associate as well as the Ordinary Members.

A third By-Law, to wit, No. 20, has been amended; which, by limiting the choice of Honorary Members to persons of distinguished attainments in science, literature, and the fine arts; prevented us from expressing our gratitude to those who had conferred essential benefits upon the Society; by their election as Honorary Members.

Before concluding this Report, which has already trespassed too long upon your patience, we claim your indulgence to dwell for a moment upon the future prospects of the Society.

*What are they? What may they be?*

Assuredly they are such as to keep alive a warm hope of an increase of usefulness and of consequent importance; already is the Society quietly, almost stealthily, effecting much good; it rouses attention to its high objects, it directs enquiry and quickens research, it embodies a vast collection of materials for elucidation, and it affords facilities for study to the enquirer in various paths of pursuit—but the future will be greatly effected by our own conduct—to ensure all the good which ought to result, it behoves us when we enter these walls to look solely and fixedly, as we have hitherto done, at the great end we have in view; and to devote ourselves to trace out and to adopt the best means of effecting them.

Assuredly it then behoves us to soar above all local and temporary and extraneous interests; to exclude all party feelings and private prejudices—to avail ourselves of the talents of all—to select those best qualified to discharge the duties of its offices in all their details; and if appointed to such, it equally behoves us to devote ourselves and our faculties to the faithful discharge of the duties they imply,