

This is, of course, exclusive of the government grant, which has not been received so far, but your Council have every reason to believe it will be when Parliament meets. We are again indebted to our treasurer, James Ferrier, Esq., for the liberality with which he has come forward and advanced money to liquidate the more pressing claims. The Society owes him now \$190, and the other claims against it are about \$300 for current expenses. Mr. Ferrier, by a system of cash payment for advertising, printing, and other items, has been able to reduce the expenditure from \$2100 to \$1700. The price charged for letting the lecture room has been reduced to \$6, and for the use of the library to \$2 per evening.

Your Council would suggest, as a means of improving the income of the Society, that a new class of members might be introduced,—non-resident paying members, who might have all advantages of the Society when they visit the city; and as they cannot attend our meetings, a copy of the *Naturalist* might be sent to their address. This would also give us the advantage of being in constant communication with the residents of country places, from whom specimens of interest to the Society might be procured.

#### PUBLIC LECTURES.

The Somerville lectures this year have been extremely interesting; their subjects were as follows:

February 16th, 1865. On the Oldest Fossil known and its living representatives: by Principal Dawson, LL.D., F.R.S., &c.

March 2nd, 1865. On the Occurrence of Metals in Nature: by Dr. T. Sterry Hunt, M.A., F.R.S., &c.

March 9th, 1865. Shells, considered from a popular and from a literary point of view: by J. F. Whiteaves, F.G.S.

March 16th, 1865. On Ferns: by D. R. McCord, B.A.

March 21st, 1865. On Certain Chemical Manufactures which might be advantageously introduced and carried on in Canada: by Prof. Bell, F.G.S.

March 28th, 1865. On Combustion, illustrated with experiments: by Dr. Girdwood.

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