

LIBRARIAN AND CABINET-KEEPER'S REPORT.

1858-4.

SINCE the period of the last Annual Meeting, I have to report that the alterations in the Museum then in course of progress, have been completed. Furthermore, that the Mineralogical apartment has undergone considerable improvement; a room has been fitted up with such statues, busts, &c., as belong to the Society; the walls of the passages of the upper stories have been decorated with the war, and other implements of various nations; suitable cases have been procured for the coins, medals, &c.; and changes have been made in the disposition of different specimens, with a view to their more correct arrangement. The want of funds to meet the necessary expenses, has delayed farther improvements, some of which are much needed, as: the purchase of cases for a number of specimens, chiefly ornithological, which are unprotected from accident and destruction.

The chief additions during the past year to the Museum, have been in coins and minerals; of the coins, 43 in number, some are exceedingly rare, while others are duplicates of those already in possession. Two gentlemen have each contributed a highly prized donation of 15 mineralogical specimens, in good preservation, and of well marked characters. To one donor, Mr. Samuels, the Society is much indebted for a number of objects brought by him from the Marquesas and adjoining Islands, most of which exhibit the ingenuity and workmanship of the native inhabitants.

The number of paying visitors has been comparatively small. The Library has been augmented by but very few donations, and these for the most part have consisted of pamphlets, there being in the whole number but five volumes. The donors have chiefly been gentlemen residing out of the city. The Society has not had the means of procuring any works by purchase. Measures were adopted to secure the return of the missing books, 150 in number; but so far, they have proved quite ineffectual. It is very desira-