

Indeed since the conflagration of the Parliament Buildings and the simultaneous destruction of its valuable property, the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec has received no compensation for its great losses on that occasion from the Government, nor indeed any help worth mentioning; and latterly the reduced Annual Parliamentary Grant has been altogether withheld.

In Montreal the laudable undertaking has been completed; but in the Queen city of the West, the enterprise, though liberally encouraged, did not proceed beyond laying the foundation stone.

The Council deeply regrets to have to state that the annual allowance, which had been granted from the days of His Excellency the Earl of Dalhousie, the noble founder and patron of the Society, reduced as it had been, was altogether withdrawn during last year, from this the oldest incorporated Society of the kind in Canada. There is reason, therefore, to be thankful that, with these casualties, and all the struggles, which it has had to encounter, the Society still continues in an orderly and working condition.

It must not be forgotten that the present apartments were engaged by the President and Council, after careful search and inquiry, and at a time when (in consequence of the anticipated advent of Government) it was very difficult to find anything like adequate accommodation. Their central situation, the moderate rental, and several other reasons seemed to recommend them as peculiarly adapted for the general purposes of the Society.

A reasonable hope was entertained that, on the return of the Government to Quebec, several official gentlemen, formerly connected with the Society, would rejoin its ranks. This expectation has, to a certain extent, been realised; and at the