

to mark out the progress of any public Institution, and to call the attention of its supporters to its first principles and objects. Your Council, therefore, feel that they cannot do better than take up the subject as they received it, and continue the narrative down to the present time.

The first subject which engaged the attention of the Society during the past year, was the appointment of a Committee to be its representative at the Annual Meeting of the American Association for the advancement of Science, held at Albany in the month of August last, and to solicit the selection of Montreal as the locality for the next annual assembly of that distinguished Society. A Committee was also appointed to consult with the City Corporation and with influential citizens to obtain their concurrence and assistance in accomplishing this purpose. Your Council have much pleasure in reporting that the labors of both Committees have been crowned with complete success. Your deputation was received with the utmost cordiality by the Association. Their invitation was unanimously accepted. The representatives of other cities, especially those of Baltimore, seeing the general desire of the Assembly to meet in Montreal, in the most honorable manner withdrew their claims for the time.

A large local Committee has been organised for the purpose of making the necessary arrangements for receiving and entertaining the Association, and is now actively engaged in this work. Influential private individuals have come forward to assist in various ways to facilitate and complete the arrangements necessary for this important undertaking. The Society's sister Institution in Toronto has also most honorably offered to co-operate with us in carrying the project to a successful issue. The Government and influential members of the Legislature have taken a deep interest in the matter, as likely to promote the progress of science in the Province, and have indicated their purpose to do what lies in their power to render this meeting popular and beneficial. Some of the Railroad and Ocean Steamship Companies have granted valuable assistance in the form of free passages to scientific gentlemen invited by the Local Committee from different quarters, to take part in the proceedings of the Association.