

Also a number of antiquities and curiosities, &c., and several rare vertebrates not included in the above.

With a view of increasing the museum by objects of Natural History from abroad the Council have had a circular to the ship owners and merchants of the Province prepared, urging them to assist the Society in this object, and giving full particulars of the best means of preserving such specimens as they may be able to secure.

#### LIBRARY.

The following additions have been made to the Library in volumes and pamphlets, viz. :—

	Presented.	Purchased.	Total.
Zoology	21	4	25
Botany	9	3	12
Geology and } Mineralogy }	4	7	11
General Science	21	11	32
Miscellaneous	16	"	16
Total,			96

Among these are several valuable donations. The Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, with great liberality has presented 9 volumes treating of sea weeds, insects and shells, and meteorology. To Professor Stimpson we are indebted for a number of Brochures of which he is the author, and to the Secretary of the Maine Board of Agriculture for a large number of the 2d report on the Natural History and Geology of Maine. The Natural History Society of Montreal continues to send its publications, this year in duplicate, and the Librarian has also received all the numbers of a new magazine published at Toronto, entitled "The British American" from the publisher.

#### FINANCES.

The following extract from the Treasurer's Report will exhibit the financial condition of the Society :—

DR.		
To balance from last account		\$22.19
" Member's subscription		198.88
" Received from Mr. Matthew (discount on books.)		1.77
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		\$222.84
CR.		
By pall for Books,		\$55.10
" Cases and Furniture for Museum,		26.5
" " " mounting Birds		30.00
" " " Stationary		32.74
" " " Pent of room		28.00
" " " Advertising		3.60
" " " Material for Museum		11.00
" " " Express charges		1.63
" " " Dr. Hamilton (subscription overpaid)		3.00
" " " Balance on hand		31.27
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		\$222.84

Against this balance there is quite a large amount due for Books, Cases, &c., by which the income of the ensuing year is partly anticipated, so that the utmost prudence will be necessary to preserve the Society from debt, an object which the Council deem of vital importance to its prosperity; at the same time they have so constantly been made to feel the great inadequacy of the means hitherto at their disposal, properly to carry out the objects of the association, that they have been induced to make an application to the Government praying a small grant to enable the Society to extend and make more evident its usefulness. It is earnestly hoped that a Province which already devotes so large a portion of its revenues to educational purposes will not refuse a grant to an association, which, if it could fully carry out its objects, must prove of inestimable value both to the character of the Province abroad and to those pursuing scientific studies at home. Even in this early stage the museum affords great facilities for studying the geology and mineralogy of Acadia, and if it can be duly increased and arranged, will be of incalculable advantage in any future survey of this Province, which may and probably will be found requisite. In reference to this subject the Council would remark that in the adjoining Republic and Provinces, large grants are annually made for similar objects; as for instance, in Canada, the last report of the Natural History Society of Montreal acknowledges a vote of \$1000 a year to that institution alone.

In conclusion the Council cannot but observe that the Society does not number among its members a great many individuals of the community whose wealth, talents and influence would, and as the Council think, ought to contribute largely to the success of such an association; which if it were only with a view to elevate the pursuits and refine the taste of our own youths, is surely entitled to every encouragement; want of time by some, and absence of scientific attainments by others, are pleaded as reasons for withholding their support, but if these pleas are good they might be urged by very many of the existing members to the same end. In fact there are few who cannot in some way, either by pecuniary aid, literary contributions, communication with friends abroad by letter, or in travel, or by mere personal influence and countenance, promote the welfare of the Society, and the praiseworthy object which it pursues.

The Council yield to the Society the offices and trust reposed in them for the year now closed, with the fervent hope that the coming one may add to the Society's members and means at least an hundred fold.

Respectfully submitted,

**R. PENISTON STARR,**

Secretary to Council.