REPORT OF THE COUNCIL

OF THE

LITERARY & HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF QUEBEC,

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JANUARY 5,

1840.

THE Council, in laying down the trust reposed in them, submit, according to custom, a Report on the present state of the Society, and its proceedings during the past year.

The admissions into the Society since the last Annual Meeting, are one Honorary, two Associate, and two Corresponding Members. Any very considerable accession was not to be expected, as the Society already embraces a large proportion of the resident inhabitants, who from their tastes or pursuits might be inclined to give it their support. The removal of the Civil Government and Military Staff has deprived us of the personal services of some efficient members, and withdrawn from us a source whence many accessions to our number had been hitherto derived.

The Society has this year sustained the loss of one of its oldest and most distinguished members, in the death of the Honorable Jonathan Sewell, L. L. D., late Chief Justice of Lower Canada, and Speaker of the Legislative Council.

This gentleman was born at Boston, Massachussetts, in 1766. His father, who was Attorney General of the Province, was an