

5. March 2nd, 1871. "On Tides and Currents; especially on the Acadian Coast," by C. Robb, C.E.

6. March 16th, 1871. "Sketches of Plant Distribution in Canada," by A. T. Drummond, B.A., LL.B.

7. (Supplementary.)

March 23rd, 1871. "On the Twenty Year's War," by Prof. Goldwin Smith.

Your Council have to report that the post of Taxidermist and Janitor, left open by the resignation of the late Mr. Hunter, whom the Society had some difficulty in replacing, has been well and efficiently filled by Mr. Passmore.

Your Council beg to draw the attention of the Society to a fact, one much to be regretted, that the number of members of the Society is becoming less every year. The decrease is to be attributed to various causes, chiefly, however, to the fact, that the Committee whose special duty it was to solicit and canvas for new members, has long since ceased its exertions, and to the fact that the work of the Society and its valuable contributions to science are not as generally known as they should be. Whatever may be the reason, your Council have much regret in announcing that during the last year the Society has lost by death, resignation or removal, *nineteen of its members*. Eight new ones have been added, so that in reality we have lost *eleven members*. An appeal should therefore be made to the present Subscribers to induce their friends to join the Society.

Your Council beg leave to suggest and bring before the Society a means whereby its sphere of usefulness would be enlarged,—that by affiliating other Societies, and by bringing into one building and place the different Libraries now existing in this city—such as that of the Mercantile Library—and by adding a Gallery of Fine Arts, it would tend to make this Society, and others also, more popular and more efficient. That the Society should especially urge upon the Trustees of the Fraser Institute the advantages that would accrue to both parties by such an affiliation. Not only is the position of your building most excellent, but the vacant ground adjoining, belonging to McGill College, also makes the idea very practicable; and although affiliated the Institutions would be distinct.

Your present Council would also recommend to the incoming Council a careful revision of the exchange periodicals for the "Naturalist."