

last, authority was given to the Council to commence the publication of a quarterly journal, which might take the place of, and to some extent embody, our transactions as formerly published. The occurrence of the fire, which called for all our means to restore the vigour of the Society in other respects, rendered it impolitic for the Council to undertake a publication involving some financial risk. The idea is, therefore, for the present abandoned; but we are still of opinion that such a journal is much called for in the literary circles of Canada, and that, as soon as prudence admits of it, it is a means of extending the usefulness of the Society, to which we should look forward.

Totally irrespective of our ordinary transactions, the publication of historical documents is one of the express objects of the Society. Hitherto we have had a Historical Document Committee, unconnected with, and independent of, the Council. A general feeling, however, has prevailed that this division of work is attended with great inconvenience, and that the Council, which is and ought to be the only responsible body, should have the entire control of all publications. A by-law will, therefore, be submitted to the Society, modifying the existing arrangement; and it is proposed that the Council, to which, if necessary, some members might be added without special offices, should appoint a sub-committee of its own body, which should take charge of this important department; and that an examination should be made of the manuscripts to which we have access, with the view of bringing out a volume during the current year, embracing some of the most important of our unpublished archives.

During the past year a somewhat new feature has been introduced into the Society, by the delivery of a course of lectures in our rooms by a gentleman who was not one of