

Whether there be strict truth in the proverb that "two removals are as bad as a fire," may be doubted; but certainly the Society has had the opportunity, within the compass of a few years, of testing, to its full extent, the validity of the popular saying. By the conflagration of the Parliament Buildings on the Grand Battery in 1854, the Society's splendid Museum, which had just been renovated and augmented at a great outlay, their numerous valuable collections and other effects were destroyed; and the Society itself was obliged to take refuge, with a large portion of its library fortunately saved, where it could best find adequate accommodation. As these apartments had a difficult and awkward access, it was judged advisable to take advantage of an offer of accommodation in Union Buildings, formerly known as Government House; and accordingly the Society removed to that central position. Scarcely, however, had the Society been six months settled in its new quarters, when the president was notified that it would be requisite to give them up for the use of the Government. The apartments at present occupied are suitable enough in themselves, and conveniently central in their position; the building, also is new and respectable in appearance. But the height, at which the apartments are situated, involves a difficulty of ascent, which may militate against the visits of the public, and the attendance of members. The kindred Societies in Toronto and Montreal,—the "Canadian Institute" in the former, and the "Natural History Society," in the latter,—were enabled, through assistance derived from Government, by local contributions and individual zeal, to undertake the construction of buildings of their own, especially adapted and suitable for their requisite purposes. The former of these also received considerable periodical aid from Government, while similar assistance was withheld from this Society.