

the Society to obtain copies of Historical documents from Paris. An estimate was laid before the Government during the winter, stating £1000 as the sum which it was hoped might be entrusted to the Society for this purpose. But the Council regret to state that no more than £200 was recommended by the Government to the Legislature and appropriated by them, and the Government have since further abridged the scanty allowance by intimating that the Society are to pay out of it a debt of £34, incurred some years ago by them for the care of Chasseur's Specimens, and also a sum of £40 expended by Dr. McLaughlin, of Paris, in 1838, in procuring manuscript copies of Cartier's voyage.

It was evident that with these deductions, the balance remaining was inadequate to the purpose of obtaining transcripts of any considerable number of documents from Paris ; but it was hoped that more might be done with it by endeavouring to procure copies of those procured by Colonel Brodhead, from the public archives in Paris, for the State of New York, and deposited in Albany. A communication was accordingly opened through Mr. Barclay, the British Consul at New York, and with his friendly support, with the State authorities ; and a zealous officer of the Society, having himself visited Albany for the same object in August last, a permission was liberally granted to the Society to make transcripts by such agent as they should choose to employ. As the due execution of the task required a thorough knowledge of the French language, and some previous general acquaintance with the subjects of the papers to be copied, it was deemed advisable to send a