

from the importance they attach to the publication of papers by the Society, they, however recommend this matter to their successors in office.

The Council have again the pleasure to record their sense of the liberality of the Legislature of the Province in the continuance of the annual grant of £50 to the Society, without this seasonable aid it would be almost impossible to carry out the purposes for which the Society was instituted. The means afforded to the Society by this Annual Grant has enabled us to make our Museum a public one, and thereby return in some degree to the public the benefit conferred on us by their representatives.

It must be evident to every one acquainted with Colonial Society, that it does not afford a class by whom such societies as ours can exist for any length of time from funds contributed exclusively by its members, consequently we have in almost every instance, seen that Societies of purely a Literary or Scientific nature have after a short and fitful existence disappeared altogether when left to their own unaided resources. While the establishment and continuance of such societies confer an honor upon the communities among whom they emanate, they are of themselves calculated to do a large amount of good by the inducements they hold out to the cultivation of those branches of knowledge, which the stern realities of ordinary life are but too apt to indispose the mind to.

Your Council conceive that these are conclusive arguments against those who maintain that the Legislature of a state should not interfere by grants to any Literary Societies, which according to these persons, being private undertakings, have no claim on public assistance.

During the past year the Society has been augmented by 22 associate members and 6 corresponding members. Though the Council view with pleasure this accession to the number of our associates, they earnestly call upon the members of the Society in general, to use their best endeavours to augment our numbers, upon which the pecuniary resources of the Society, and consequently its usefulness so much depend, the possession of a large and influential body of members would enable the Society to extend its