

mer. Sir JOHN HARVEY, with his usual urbanity, and for the encouragement of science, laid the Corner Stone, amidst an assemblage of thousands of persons; and all the different trades, marched through our streets with their banners and music, in a procession that will long remain in the minds of the multitude who had assembled to witness the ceremony.

On the first of December, the Hall of the Institute was so far finished, that the lectures for the present season commenced, and although it is not completed, it is rendered very comfortable.

The building is fifty five feet wide, ninety feet long, and three stories high, and its external features are such as reflect great credit upon its builders, and add to the beauty of the city. On the ground floor there are three large apartments for a museum, school, and other purposes. The lecture room is on the second floor, attained by a double stairway. It is fifty-five feet square, and the ceiling is twenty-three feet high; the whole being constructed to admit of the erection of galleries, which are already required, notwithstanding accommodation is offered for upwards of eight hundred persons.—The room is decorated with the banners of the trades, and large geological paintings belonging to the Institute. It is well lighted, and at night has a brilliant and very pleasing appearance. Besides these there are four large rooms in the upper story, one of which will be devoted to the library. An elegant picture of Her Majesty the Queen, presented by Mr. F. M'DONNELL, is suspended over the Lecturer's platform. The whole of this work has been performed in the short space of a few months. The House of Assembly made a grant of two hundred and fifty pounds last season, in aid of the Institution; the remainder of the money expended has been raised from donations, subscriptions, and the fees of members. Already a considerable library has been collected from the bounty of individuals, and there is a good stock of philosophical and chemical apparatus, for the demonstration of the subjects brought forward in the lectures.

The number of members who first signed the Constitution and Bye Laws, was one hundred and fifty one; that number has since increased to five hundred and sixty. On the 21st of December, no less than sixty members were admitted by ballot, and many more have since been proposed to meet the next election. The Library and Apparatus have been removed from the Long Room in German Street to the Hall of the Mechanics' Institute, and hereafter all the business of the Society will be transacted in its own building, where every thing necessary for the establishment will be deposited. During the winter of 1829-30, a School was opened for the instruction of young persons and in mechanics' apprentices, and different branches of learning were taught with satisfactory success. It is proposed to re-open the school, as soon as the room devoted to it can be finished. The expectations of the friends of this Institution have so far been more than realised. Formerly the Theatre and other places of public amusement were visited by young artizans and apprentices, and too often many were led into the paths of vice, because their minds were

not directed to proper objects, and there was no channel open, through which they could obtain instruction and amusement, after the ordinary labour of the day had been performed. Here the Mechanics' Institute of St. John has already brought about a renovation as gratifying to its friends as it is important to the well-being of society. Many who had spent their evenings in idle or criminal amusements, have been attracted by the beauties of science, and besides the improvement in morals there has been a remarkable advancement made in useful studies; and a vast amount of necessary information has been stored up, and made ready to operate upon the industry and resources of the country. So obvious has this change been in the general taste, that all classes of society have combined to promote the interest of an Institution of the first importance to the City, and the whole Province. Much of the dormant talent of St. John has been aroused, and a number of gentlemen of literary and scientific acquirements have ascended the platform, and in elegant style have communicated their knowledge to others. The great harmony that has prevailed among the officers and members of the institution since its commencement, and the general improvement which has been made in the public taste, are the best evidences of its high standing. Like the pure, light and classic atmosphere which is expanded by the genial warmth of the glowing sun, the fountain of knowledge and pure delight has been opened, and its refreshing streams have begun to flow out, bearing the seeds of knowledge over the thirsty plain; enlivening the scene, and conveying happiness far and wide. However gentle the current that has descended, it has added new vigour and life. However soft and silent the zephyr that has fanned its way abroad, it has touched the strings that before had refused to vibrate, and the song of joy and delight has filled the hearts of those to whom the pleasures of science were before unknown. To mechanics this institution is of still greater moment, as they possess the means of applying the principles of each science to their respective operations; immediately adapting them to the various uses whereby they may be rendered serviceable to the whole population of the country. But our limits will not allow us to enlarge even upon so interesting a topic, and for this reason we would be glad to see the whole of the Introductory Address delivered by Dr. Gesner, at the opening of the Institute, in the hands of the public, to be perused at their leisure. To the first President, BEVERLY ROBINSON, Esquire, and his successor, JOHN DIXON, Esquire, and each of the subordinate officers, the public owe a debt of gratitude for their untiring zeal in the welfare of the Mechanics' Institute; and the aid which has been received from all quarters has been the purest gift of disinterested benevolence.

We shall conclude the present article by giving a synopsis of the Lectures which have been delivered during that part of the season which has already elapsed.

On the 7th of December, 1830, the new Hall of the Mechanics' Institute was opened with an address by Doctor GESNER, who also delivered the first lecture before the Instau-