

ate state of feeling against the Association, by such an influential body of Christians it is not easy to say and perhaps now it cannot be satisfactorily explained, but it seems to have been connected in some way with the *Protector* newspaper and the ministers supporting it. The good work thus hampered and hindered kept on its way.

On January 1st, 1859 a union prayer meeting was held in the Lower Temperance Hall in accordance with a resolution previously passed. Most of the Protestant ministers were present. The Hall was more than filled, and all seemed to feel that He who hears prayer was present with them. When the whole was terminated, a general concern was awakened that they might soon meet again for similar exercises.

At the annual meeting in January, 1859, the President, Capt Orlebar, R. N.; Secretary, Rev. John Davies; and Treasurer, Mr. W. E. Dawson were all re-elected.

In the early days of the Association, the fortnightly and weekly lectures were the strongest features of its work. The lecturers, as a rule, were able and scholarly men who bestowed much research and care in the treatment of their subjects, and in consequence deserved and generally received the attention of a full house. In May, 1859, at the suggestion of the Rev. Thomas Duncan, successor

to Rev. Wm. Snodgrass in the ministry of the Kirk, and Rev. D. Fitzgerald, a resolution was passed that in future the Association be called "The Young Men's Christian Association and Literary Institute," and that the lectures should be delivered weekly during the season, each alternate lecture being on literary or scientific subjects; discussion by members to be permitted at the close of the literary and scientific lectures under certain regulations. The admission fee was very small, only one penny, (less than two cents). In the discussion which followed the delivery of the literary and scientific lectures, there was frequently a great divergence and clashing of opinions, affording to the audience a good deal of amusement, and which, judging by the vigorous stamping of feet near the doors, was much enjoyed by the boys at the other end of the room. The following are the subjects of the lectures and addresses during the first lecture season, in 1856 :—

Feb. 6, Inauguration Address, Rev. W. Snodgrass.

Feb. 14, "The History of our English Bible in connection with the growth of our common Christianity," Rev. D. Fitzgerald.

Feb. 28, "Bible Christianity, a religion for the world," Rev. J. McMurray.

March 13, "The two records, or the harmony of the book of nature with the Word of God," Capt. Orlebar, R. N.

March 27, "Infidelity and Christianity Contrasted," Rev. M. McLeod.