

GENERAL LAWS.

Whereas it is desirable that an Institution be established, in Toronto, for the advancement of Literature and Science; by the formation of a Library and Museum, and the support of Public Lectures:

ARTICLE I.—Such Institution shall be called "THE ATHENÆUM."

II.—Quarterly meetings of the Institution shall take place on the second Thursday in January, April, July, and October, respectively. Twenty members shall constitute a quorum.

III.—The Officers of the Institution shall consist of a President, several Vice-Presidents, a Treasurer, Secretary, and five Committee-men, who, together with the Chairman and Treasurer of each Section containing not less than fifty members, shall constitute the Council, with power to fill up vacancies, and to declare any office vacant, the holder of which shall have been absent from the Council for three successive meetings; in both cases subject to the approbation of the next quarterly meeting. The officers shall continue to hold their offices until their successors have been appointed. Three to form a quorum.

IV.—The officers of the Institution shall be chosen at the Annual Meeting in January, by a majority of members present, from lists prepared as follows: each member may hand in to the Secretary, not less than seven days before the election, a list of candidates to be balloted for as officers for the ensuing year; such lists to be arranged by the Council, and placed in a conspicuous situation at the Annual Meeting; in case such general list shall not contain at least two candidates for each office, the Council shall fill them up to that number; no votes shall be admitted for candidates not contained in such published list. The election to be determined by a written paper handed to the scrutineers by each member, containing the name of the candidate for whom he tenders his vote. The chairman to appoint scrutineers.

V.—The President, or senior Vice-President present, to preside at all meetings, or in their absence the meeting to elect a chairman.

VI.—The chairman to have a casting vote, in case of an equality of suffrages; and to sign the minutes of each meeting.

VII.—No alteration in the Laws of the Society shall be made without previous notice, at the preceding quarterly meeting; nor shall any alteration or suspension of the Laws take place unless three-fourths of the members present concur therein.

VIII.—The Entrance Fee to the Institution shall be five shillings, and the annual subscription ten shillings, open to all who wish to become members; youths under eighteen may become members, by paying half the usual fees, but shall not be entitled to vote on any question; members of existing societies which may join this, shall be admitted without payment of any entrance fee, and the amount they may have paid in advance in their own society shall be deducted from their annual subscription for the current year.

IX.—All entrance fees and donations in money shall be invested in proper public securities, under the direction of the Council, to form a fund for the acquisition of an appropriate building.

X.—Any number of members shall have the power, under the sanction of the Council, to form themselves into a Section for any literary or scientific purpose they may desire (except it be connected with Religion or Politics) and shall be entitled to the use of rooms and other accommodations belonging to the Institution, when not previously engaged; on condition of their providing for the expenses of their own section; and shall appoint from their own number a chairman, treasurer, secretary, and committee, to manage their affairs; and shall make their own by-laws, which until disallowed by the Council, shall be of the same force and effect, as far as they are concerned, as the other Laws of the Institution.

XI.—The rules of the Library and Reading Room shall be drawn up by the Council; and shall remain in force unless disallowed by the Institution at its next quarterly meeting.

XII.—The Council shall meet monthly, at such time and place as they shall appoint at their previous meeting, and shall manage the affairs of the Institution, subject to the approval of the next quarterly meeting.

XIII.—The Treasurer shall collect the Entrance Fees and Subscriptions; and shall give in an annual statement of the finances, audited by the Council at the Annual Meeting. He shall also make all payments to the order of the Council only, and keep regular accounts of the same, and of the receipts, which shall at any time be open to the inspection of the Council at their monthly meetings, or of any member thereof.

XIV.—The Secretary shall keep a Record of the proceedings of the Institution, with a correct List of Members; he shall at every meeting read the minutes of the previous meeting, conduct the correspon-