

community. Following therefore the course adopted in the Mother Country, and the United States, by such Associations they opened a Library and Reading Room, furnished it comfortably for the convenience of those entitled to its benefits, and supplied it with the leading religious periodicals of Great Britain, the United States, and the Colonies as well as with several secular periodicals of the highest order of talent, including complete files of the London Times.

They also commenced a course of public lectures, to be delivered fortnightly during the winter, at the Temperance Hall. These lectures were commenced in the early part of January, 1854; and the first of the course was delivered by the Rev. Dr. Richey, to whom your Committee are deeply indebted for his able and eloquent exposition on that occasion of the objects and views of the Association. His lecture was followed by others given by leading Clergymen of several denominations—all of which were received by crowded audiences with great satisfaction. These Clergymen also are entitled to the cordial thanks of the Association. Funds were appropriated for the purchase of books for the Library, and thus the Institution was fairly placed before the public.

Your Committee have had no reason to feel dissatisfied with the reception they have experienced; but they would have been better pleased were they able to report a larger number of Members and Subscribers. They trust, however, that as the Institution becomes better known and appreciated, they will find a large accession to their ranks in both departments. To the several donors who have contributed so liberally to their funds, they are under great obligations, as they have by their means been enabled to commence their Library—the purchases for which are made entirely from this source,—leaving the ordinary expenses of the Institution to be