

## The Early Days of the Young Men's Christian Association and Literary Institute.

*By H. J. Cundall.*

**W**HO it was that first conceived the idea of forming a "Young Men's Christian Association" for Charlottetown does not appear, but we find that the afternoon of New Year's Day, A. D., 1856, several clergymen and laymen met in St. Paul's Infant Schoolroom for that purpose. They were Rev. Mr. Brewster, Methodist minister; Rev. W. Snodgrass, minister of the Kirk, now known as St. James; Rev. Charles Lloyd, rector of St. Paul's Church; Rev. David Fitzgerald, assistant minister, and afterwards for many years the rector of St. Paul's; Lieut. Hancock, R. N., afterwards Liebenrood, father of Major Liebenrood, who addressed two meetings in the Y. M. C. A. in June 1902. (Lieutenant Hancock was then assistant surveyor in connection with the Hydrographic Survey of the Maritime Provinces and Newfoundland, carried on by the British Government under Captain Bayfield, R. N.,) and Messrs William Heard, James Moore, William McRae and Harris.

Mr. Heard was appointed Chairman and Mr. Moore Secretary. The following resolutions were then passed:

1. That in the opinion of this meeting, it is highly desirable to take steps to form a

Young Men's Christian Association.

2. That it is desirable to appoint a committee for the purpose of enacting a constitution for a Young Men's Christian Association.

3. That a public meeting be held in the same place on Monday, 7th inst, at 7 p. m., to approve of the same and to admit members and choose officers.

The committee appointed to draw up the constitution were Revs. Messrs Fitzgerald, Snodgrass, McMurray, then the Methodist minister for Charlottetown, Brewster, Burnett, and Lloyd, Lieut. Hancock, R. N., and Messrs Morpeth, Heard and Harris. Mr. Morpeth was a gentleman from Scotland, who lived here for many years. He and his family along with several other families emigrated to New Zealand in the brig Prince Edward which left here in the autumn of 1858.

The public meeting was held at the time and place above mentioned, when Rev. D. Fitzgerald read the constitution which was approved and about twenty members joined the Association. A subscription list was also opened, which shows the first name on the list was Commander Orlebar, R. N., £10 equal to \$32.44 of the