

17; Thomas M. Simons, Esq., 2; Wm. Haskins, Esq., 1—20; and a Chart of Natural History by A Macallum, Esq.

News Room.

For the gratuitous supply of 46 local and foreign newspapers, the Board recommended that thanks to the gentlemen supplying them be recorded; and also reported 52 newspapers and magazines as purchased by the Institute.*

It is extremely gratifying to the Directors to be enabled to call attention to the improved condition of the Institute, as exemplified in the fact that during the past year its revenue has been considerably increased. For although the subscriptions amounted to a sum less by \$51.03 than those of the preceding year, the Hall Rent was more by \$369.45; the Reunions, a new source of income, added \$363.74, and newspaper sales were increased by \$78.22. The Reunions may now be regarded as a legitimate source of revenue, for the favor with which they have been received will render it incumbent on future Boards to continue them, and use every exertion to make them popular entertainments.

The Directors have much pleasure in inviting attention to the different items of Expenditure. While the Library has been increased by 135 volumes, and an excellent supply of Newspapers and Magazines maintained, outstanding debts amounting to \$592.49 have been satisfied, and \$550 paid to the Canada Life Assurance Company. The outstanding debts had for years been a source of much trouble and anxiety to the Directors of the Institute, and a determined effort was made during the past year to pay them off.

The Hall has, during the past year, been considerably improved. Heretofore, complaints were repeatedly made by those renting the Hall, not only that it was deficient in almost everything that was requisite for popular entertainments, but because it was both badly heated and badly ventilated. Neither of these complaints can now be made.

The Board of Directors refer with pleasure to the donations which have been made to the Institute during the past year. The Great Western Railway, with praiseworthy liberality, \$250; Donald McInnes, Esq., made a handsome donation of \$50; Edward Jackson, Esq., gave \$20; and other gentlemen gave smaller sums.

To the services of the Superintendent, Mr. Rutherford, his zeal and assiduity, the Directors have great pleasure in alluding; he continues to perform the various duties which his office requires.

Report of the Directors was adopted, and ordered to be printed for the use of Members. Resolutions were unanimously adopted, tendering the cordial thanks of the Members to those Ladies and Gentlemen who have so kindly given their assistance at the Reunions during the past year; and to the Manager of the Great Western Railway, for his liberal donation of two hundred and fifty dollars.

It was also resolved to recommend to the Board

to grant the sum of \$100 to the Superintendent, Mr. Rutherford, for the various extra duties he had to perform, in connection with the Institute, during the past year.

The following Gentlemen were then elected office-bearers for the ensuing year;—President, Thomas McIlwraith; Vice-President, Tho. M. Simons; Directors; Jas. Hilton, Wm. Turnbull, Jas. McIntyre, W. H. Glassco, A. Harvey, K. Fitzpatrick, R. Roy, Anthony Copp, and W. R. Macdonald. A vote of thanks was accorded to the President Vice-President and the Directors, for their attention to the interests of the Institute during the past year, and the meeting then adjourned.

TORONTO MECHANICS' INSTITUTE EXHIBITION.

The Exhibition noticed in the last number of the Journal as about to be opened in the Toronto Mechanics' Institute, has more than realized the most sanguine anticipations of its projectors. The collection comprises a very large number of Pictures, Native and Foreign, in Oil, Water Color, Crayon, Pencil, and Engraving; Marble and Parian Statuary; Modelling in Plaster; Bronzes; Models of celebrated European structures; Natural History, such as prepared Birds, Fishes, Insects, Animals and Reptiles, and various specimens of Native and Foreign Minerals, and Natural Curiosities; several large collections of Coins and Medals; Ancient Books, Manuscripts, Autographs, &c.; Volunteer Prize Vases; Organs and other Musical Instruments; and various superior specimens of Machinery and Manufactures; Ladies Work, &c., &c.: and a most interesting and extensive collection of Philosophical and School Apparatus, illustrative of the Educational Appliances of Upper Canada, a very large portion of which are of Canadian manufacture, and are exhibited by the Educational Department; who also, on certain evenings, very successfully exhibit—under the control of Dr. May—the Electric Light. We hope to hear of large profits being realized by the Institute, and that other Mechanics' Institutions will organize similar exhibitions, by which the tastes of their members and of the public cannot fail to be educated and improved.

The terror of the desert of Sahara is being removed by the application of science. In 1860 five wells had been opened, bringing fishes to the surface from a depth of 500 feet. Vegetation is springing up around the wells, and the "desert will blossom like the rose."

In science there is work for all hands; and he is usually the most fit to occupy the highest post who has risen from the ranks.

*In the list of publications reported as purchased, we notice the name of this Journal. This is a mistake, as the Journal has been presented free to this and all other Mechanics' Institutes, that we have any account of, in Upper Canada, from the date of its first issue.—Ed.