

by Mr. S. B. Johnson:

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Freeland, Esq., for the  
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Mr. J. J. Woodhouse:

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## REPORT.

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The Committee of the Toronto Mechanics' Institute, at the close of another year, beg to present a report of their proceedings during that period.

In 1823, the first Mechanics' Institute was established in Great Britain. As these Institutions gradually increased, many predicted that they were destined to decline and die. After an experience of more than 30 years, however, we find, that in proportion as education has advanced, they have become more prosperous; their permanence more firmly secured; and that in the present day, they rank with the great modern agencies, calculated to foster and extend education. Mechanics' Institutes were established with a view to afford means for the attainment of scientific knowledge by the artisan classes, and thereby to promote mechanical inventions; to open up a path for the development of natural ability; and to improve generally the intellectual culture of society. It was justly conceived, that, aided by education, many advantages would result to the community, from "adding to dexterity of hand and ingenuity of head, a knowledge of the scientific principles which are the foundation of every mechanical art."

The improvements and inventions, which are frequently presented for our inspection and admiration, bear pleasing testimony to the utility of these and kindred institutions and lead to the opinion, that the most sanguine hopes entertained of their success, will be realized at no very distant day.

It is a matter of much gratification to your Committee to be able to record the evidences of another successful year in the history of the Institute; successful, at least so far as receiving