

fessional lecturers, and the large outlay which their engagement necessarily involved, and notwithstanding the high character of the lectures, scientific and literary, fortunately obtained from gentlemen resident in our own Province and in Nova Scotia, the attractions we have thus placed before the public have not proved strong enough to realize the anticipated accession to our membership. In fact, the number of members who this year took out their tickets is but 284, a falling off of 66 from last year's number. The sum received from Members' Fees is \$1412, while it last year was \$1863. The deficiency thus created has been, it is true, in part compensated by the amount derived from the rents received for the use of the Hall, which has been by \$485 42 more than the estimated sum.

An examination of the Abstract of Receipts and Expenditures for the year, and of the Abstract of Liabilities and Assets of the Institute at this date, which has been made up in the usual form, and is herewith submitted, will fully explain the points to which reference has been made. It will also make clear to the Members the pressing necessity for some immediate and effective action in regard to our finances, if we desire to maintain in a position of usefulness an institution which has done so much good in the past, and which deserves so well of the present.

Last year your President and Directors, in their Report, brought this subject prominently before the Members at the General Meeting; and a Special Committee was then appointed, in accordance with a Resolution adopted by the Meeting, to solicit subscriptions in aid of the Institute's funds. The sum procured by that Committee was, in all, \$369, which was not half the amount required to effect the object proposed by those who supported the adoption of such a method of redressing our finances. The following is a list of the members who contributed towards raising the amount :

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