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GENERAL SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT

FOR YEAR ENDING MAY 31ST. 1889.

MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN,—
A year ago we looked forward with great hope for the future of our Association; but now for a moment we are to look back, and gather as well as may be a record of the year's successes and failures. The great question at the beginning of the year is, "What are you going to do?" The great question at the end of the year is, "What have you done?"

READING-ROOM.

Perhaps one of the most important features of our work is the Reading-room, and I think we can claim that this department is an unqualified success. The room is light and cheerful; it is provided with arm-chairs and an abundance of good reading matter, and is FREE TO ALL from 9 o'clock in the morning till 10 o'clock at night, every day in the year. In the annual Statistical Report it will be seen that the estimated attendance is 250 daily. In addition to the large supply of magazines and papers, there is a writing-table, where young men can write their home letters, the Association providing paper and envelopes, and if necessary, stamps. I have noticed that those young men who

avail themselves of the privilege of the correspondence-table usually support the Association by voluntary subscriptions; and this is a sufficient answer to those who think it extravagant to give such quantities of note-paper away as we do. Many strangers have come into the Office from our Reading-room, and expressed their pleasure at finding such a pleasant resort in young Vancouver.

LECTURES AND ENTERTAINMENTS.

During the year seven lectures and entertainments have been held under the auspices of the Association.

The first was a concert by the Vancouver Glee and Matrigal Society, which was fairly successful, though the hall where the concert was given is considered very poor.

In December, Rev. J. W. Pedley, B.A., gave an interesting and instructive lecture, entitled "Chips," which everybody present said was well worth hearing.

For the month of January we had "An Evening with Charles Dickens."

And in March, the Rev. J. B. Kennedy, B.A., delivered an admirable lecture, entitled "John Bull and Freedom." After the lecture the Association passed a vote of thanks to the lecturer, everybody in the hall voting the straight ticket.

In addition to these four entertainments, Robert Nourse, of Washington, D.C., delivered three eloquent lectures in the month of September, entitled respectively, "John and Jonathan," "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde," and "Kings and Presidents."