

him out as peculiarly fitted for the situation. Mr. Marr cordially acceded to the wishes of the board, and has recently entered on his duties.

In the agency department there has been no slackening of effort. The same number of agents have been employed, by whom about 1200 lectures have been given, with a measure of success at least equal to that of former years. The directors, however, may be allowed to suggest, that that success might be greater, were some plan adopted, by the local committees, for more fully advertising the agent's meetings, as well as for aiding him in procuring subscribers for the publications. Not, by any means, that such assistance has not hitherto been rendered; but that, in some districts, there might be an improvement.

During a few weeks in winter, Dr. F. R. Lees visited, in connection with the League, a number of the societies, and, although the season and other causes operated unfavourably, the result of the tour was, on the whole, encouraging, and the directors believe that, were Dr. Lees to be secured for another season, he would receive a heartier welcome, and be listened to by much larger audiences.

In addition to the anniversary sermons and meetings in Edinburgh and Glasgow, a few sermons have been preached and meetings held in the latter city.

Towards the close of the year, deputations from the board visited Edinburgh, Perth, Dundee, Aberdeen, Barrhead, Paisley, Dumfries, Galashiels, Hawick, and Dumfermline, and were very cordially received. This plan of bringing the claims of the League before the various societies, of cherishing proper feeling, and exciting to mutual helpfulness, might be considerably extended, and with increasingly beneficial effects, both as regards the League and the societies.

The county agency recommendation of last annual meeting has also received a measure of attention, and has, in a modified form, been acted on. In several localities it has been found difficult to procure suitable agents, or to support one for a lengthened period, and an agent has been employed for a few months, or the services of a League agent secured, by contributing proportionately to the funds. The visits of the agents, when thus given, have been very useful; and were this plan more generally adopted, there is reason to believe the League agency might be so extended as to allow of each district having an agent always in it, relieved, or assisted, as the necessities of the case might require, by the other agents.

Your directors are happy to be able to state that subsidiary means for repressing and removing intemperance have received, during the past year, a considerable amount of attention, both from abstainers and others interested in the work. The plan of opening tents at fairs has been extended, and with good results. Refreshment-rooms for the working-classes are also making way into the community, being found to be remunerative commercial speculations, as well as valuable reformatory establishments. As this fact becomes known, we may expect to see them supplanting the whisky-shops and drinking-houses, which at present cluster by every thoroughfare. Almost all classes, certainly all who seek to improve the condition of the people, are turning their attention to the temperance reform, and are seeking by some one or other of the methods already in operation, or by some new scheme of their own, to help it forward.

Forbes McKenzie's Act and the United Kingdom Alliance have excited considerable interest; and, as the result of a variety of instrumentalities, among which the labours of John B. Gough, Esq., have been pre-eminent, the strictly temperance movement has received an upward and onward impetus, which your directors trust will not have spent itself until the system against which you, as an association, are leagued, has been completely subverted.

It is, therefore, a matter of sincere congratulation with your directors, that an engagement has been entered into with Mr. Gough to labour, in connection with the League, for at least four months of the coming winter; and their hope is, that the several societies which may be visited will

so labour in their respective localities as that the full benefit of that visit may be reaped; and that those localities which must be disappointed, will, by a more than ordinary amount of other agency, make no less progress than their more favoured neighbours.

The chairman stated that Mr. Service could not possibly be present at this meeting; but it certainly could not be the state of the financial account that was the cause of his absence, as it would be found that it was a most gratifying document. Mr. McGavin then read the statement, which was as follows:—

ABSTRACT OF TREASURER'S ACCOUNT, from 16th APRIL, 1853, till 4th MAY, 1854

RECEIPTS.	
Treasurer's Balance,	£ 3 11 6½
Membership Subscriptions:—	
Individuals,	529 3 3
Societies,	165 7 6
General Subscriptions and Donations,	309 19 6½
Received from Public Meetings, Lectures, and Sermons,	135 7 11
Scottish Temperance Review,	8 10 5½
Scottish Review,	642 19 6½
Abstainer's Journal,	227 8 9½
Adviser,	102 7 4½
Cyclopædia,	28 13 4½
Register,	2 14 10
Tracts and Miscellaneous Publications,	389 17 4½
From the Trustees of the late Robert Kettle, Esq.,	540 0 0
	£3087 1 6

PAYMENTS.	
Salaries and Expenses of Agents,	£711 5 5½
Salaries of Secretaries and Assistants,	256 10 8
Scottish Temperance Review,	3 10 0
Scottish Review,	908 15 10
Abstainer's Journal,	235 0 6
Adviser,	101 9 3
Cyclopædia,	19 4 0
Register,	47 7 0
Tracts and Miscellaneous Publications,	377 8 0
Expenses of Annual Meetings, Public Meetings, Sermons, &c,	177 18 8
Travelling Expenses of Deputations,	35 16 10
Miscellaneous Expenses, including Office Rent, Taxes, Stationery, Lithography, &c.	152 11 0
General Printing,	50 3 0
Postage,	38 15 11
Balance in Treasurer's hands,	11 3 4½
	£3087 1 6

ASSETS.	
Stock of Publications,	£648 0 0
Open Accounts,	402 11 0½
Treasurer's Balance,	11 3 4½
	£1061 14 5

LIABILITIES.	
Pre-paid Subscriptions,	£ 38 1 7
Printer's Accounts,	544 6 0
Salaries due,	37 4 3
Sundry Small Accounts,	35 7 9½
Excess of Assets,	406 14 0½
	£1061 14 5

GLASGOW, 11th May 1854.—We have examined the treasurer's books and vouchers relative to accounts, from 16th April, 1853, till 4th May 1854, and declare them correct.

JAMES JOHNSTON.  
JAMES CLARKE.  
JAMES MORTON.