

visional Directors appointed. A large room over the then Exchange News Room, in St. Joseph, now St. Sulpice Street, was leased, and the first Board of Directors was elected at a General Meeting held in July of that year. The membership of 130 at the outset increased during the year to 183 active, 65 merchant and 16 honorary, in all 265 members, and the first Annual Report records 311 volumes in the library.

In July, 1843, the Association moved to rooms in the upper floor of St. Ann's Market, which they fitted up at an expense of over £150 to the Association, only to abandon them a few months afterwards for the use of the Government.

A Charter of Incorporation was procured from the Legislature, and received the Royal assent on 9th December, 1843. The original Constitution and Bye-Laws were thereby annulled. A new Code of Bye-Laws was adopted at the Annual Meeting of 7th February, 1844. The Seal of the Association was, at the same time, adopted, with the motto, *Vita sine literis mors est*.

The original Constitution precluded persons in business on their own account from any share in the management of the Institution.

At the Annual Meeting held, as required by the charter, on 25th November, 1844, a resolution was passed requiring the Board of Directors to choose annually four Merchant Members to act with them as Honorary Directors. During this year the books belonging to the Montreal Library were transferred to the Association upon certain conditions, one being that the shareholders of the Library became Life Members of the Association. The sum of £200 was also paid as an indemnity to the shareholders. 2,980 volumes were thus added to the Library of the Association, which, with 64 volumes otherwise acquired, raised the number of volumes to 3,837.

In the early part of 1844 the Association was notified that the rooms they occupied were required for the accommodation of the Government, then about to remove to Montreal. A second removal therefore became necessary, and the premises engaged were those belonging to the Nuns, in St. Joseph

Street  
necti  
appe  
until  
Th  
culat  
wishes  
prosp  
Th  
ber  
const  
exper  
incur  
Libra  
encur  
Th  
a stea  
an im  
thank  
Youn  
pœdia  
mend  
libera  
Paris,  
tion  
Frenc  
of ou  
Assoc  
hope,  
their  
Hono  
Wit  
Libra  
issued  
4,000,  
The