

Mr. John McPherson, for the completion of all work required, except plumbing and seating,.....	\$2,145 00
Mr. George Blake, for plumbing,.....	250 00
Mr. Robert Sutherland, Opera chairs, \$2.23 each, and wall seats \$1.45 each. There will probably be 700 chairs, and 81 wall seats, which will make the total charge for seating with these, say,.....	1,678 45
Making the total cost under above heads, say,.....	<u>\$4,073 45</u>

To meet the necessary expenses of all the alterations and improvements, including charges of the Architect and extras, it has been found necessary to obtain a further loan from the Saint John Building Society, which has been effected for ten years at eight per cent. upon balances due from time to time, the principal being returned in half yearly payments of two hundred dollars each, and the whole being a further charge upon the Building and Leasehold interest of the Institute.

The work, which is now progressing, and which is to be completed under the contract by the fourteenth day of May next, will, it is confidently believed, enable the Directorate to realize a larger rental from the Hall than heretofore, and will certainly add greatly to the appearance and to the comfort of members, and of audiences generally, and afford ample means of exit from the building in case of fire, accident or alarm, and will also provide a seating capacity for about one thousand persons in the Hall.

The Board, would, however, call the attention of the members to the fact that the available pecuniary resources are entirely insufficient for decorating or painting the Hall, and suggests that an effort should be made, by subscription or otherwise, to raise at least a portion of the sum required, which is estimated at five hundred dollars, or thereabouts.

The Library and Reading Room continue to be sources of attraction to the members; but the Board exceedingly regret that it has been found impossible, through lack of means, to add to the number of volumes on the shelves of the former.