

THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL

REPORT

OF THE

Toronto Mechanics' Institute,

WITH AN

ABSTRACT OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

ANNUAL MEETING, 12TH MAY, 1862.

Toronto:

PRINTED BY THOMAS CUTTELL & SON, KING STREET.

1862.

THE FIRST ANNUAL

REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONERS OF THE

LAND OFFICE

TORONTO

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ANNUAL MEETING  
OF THE  
TORONTO MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.

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THE Annual Meeting of the Members of the Toronto Mechanics' Institute was held in the Lecture Room, on Monday evening, 12th May, 1862. Rice Lewis, Esq., President, in the chair.

The Minutes of the preceeding Quarterly Meeting were read and confirmed.

The Secretary read the Annual and Auditors' Reports.

Mr. Coate moved, seconded by Mr. Spry—

That the Reports be adopted, and printed for the use of the Members.

The President nominated Messrs. Charles Robertson, Joseph Brent, Patrick Hynes, and James Bain, scrutineers of the ballot, who reported the following gentlemen duly elected Office-bearers and Directors for the ensuing year:

- |                           |                               |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| RICE LEWIS . . . . .      | <i>President.</i>             |
| WILLIAM EDWARDS . . . . . | <i>First Vice-President.</i>  |
| WALTER S. LEE . . . . .   | <i>Second Vice-President.</i> |
| JOHN PATERSON . . . . .   | <i>Treasurer.</i>             |

DIRECTORS.

- |                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| F. W. COATE.     | THOMAS H. LEE.    |
| C. W. BUNTING.   | W. H. SHEPPARD.   |
| R. A. HARRISON.  | WM. HAMILTON, JR. |
| JOHN J. WITHROW. | WILLIAM HALLEY.   |
| JOHN COWAN.      | R. J. GRIFFITH.   |
| H. E. CLARKE.    | D. G. CARNEGIE.   |

On motion of Mr. C. Pearson, seconded by Mr. M. Mathews, it was resolved—

That a series of meetings be instituted for the discussion of matters of practical interest to Mechanics; and that a committee be appointed to prepare a list of topics, and to arrange the preliminaries.

It was moved by Mr. Spry, seconded by Mr. Cook, and resolved—

That the thanks of the members of this Institute be tendered to the retiring Board of Directors for the very efficient manner in which they have discharged their duties during the past year.

It was moved by Mr. Edwards and seconded by Mr. Sheppard—

That the thanks of the Institute are due and are hereby given to the several gentlemen who have presented their various publications to the Reading Room, without charge, during the year.—Carried.

It was moved by Mr. F. W. Coate, seconded by Mr. J. M. Cooper, and resolved—

That the thanks of the Institute be given to the several ladies who, according to the Report now read, undertook the management of the Bazaar held in December last, by which the large sum of three hundred and ninety dollars was added to the funds of the Institute.

It was moved by Mr. Edwards, seconded by Mr. Walter S. Lee, and resolved—

That a vote of thanks be accorded to the Auditors for their attention to the duties to which they were appointed, and for the valuable suggestions made in their report.

It was moved by Mr. W. S. Lee, seconded by Mr. S. S. Martin, and unanimously resolved—

That the thanks of the Institute be given to John Crawford, Esq., M.P.P., and to the Hon. J. H. Cameron, M.P.P., for the reports and proceedings of Parliament which they have regularly sent to the Institute.

Mr. D. G. Carnegie gave notice that at the next Quarterly Meeting he would move the following resolutions:—

- 1st. That the subscription of Members be raised to \$2 50.
- 2nd. That a sinking fund be at once established for the payment of the debt on the building.
- 3rd. That the Secretary be instructed to keep a book to be called "Voluntary Subscriptions to the Reading Room."
- 4th. That steps be taken for permanently establishing certain Classes.

On motion of Mr. John Hallam, a vote of thanks was unanimously tendered to the Scrutineers of the Ballot.

The meeting then adjourned.

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# THE ANNUAL REPORT.

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The Directors of the Toronto Mechanics' Institute beg leave respectfully to present the thirty-first Annual Report.

The Directors feel much pleasure in congratulating the members on the great prosperity which has attended the affairs of the Institute during the year just closed—a year in its history remarkable for the great advance which the Institution has made in the extent and character of its resources, and the large accessions to its numerical strength. At no period in its history has the Institute been in so healthy a condition; never before could it so well effect the objects of its organization; and never has it stood so high in the estimation of its members and the general public.

## THE NEW BUILDING.

Since last annual meeting the new building has been entirely completed; the handsome and commodious Music Hall and Lecture Room have been opened to the public; the various apartments specially for the use of the Institute have been elegantly and comfortably furnished; while the several spare rooms throughout the edifice have been rented, and are now a source of considerable income. The details of outlay and other particulars may be had by reference to the financial statement.

## THE MEMBERSHIP.

For three or four preceding years it has been the disagreeable duty of the Directors to record a gradual decline in the membership, but they are happy in being able to state that since last annual meeting there has been in this respect a large increase.

|                                                                 |            |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| The number of Members at the date of last annual report was ... | 449        |
| Subscribers .....                                               | 67         |
| Honorary Members.....                                           | 18         |
| Life Members.....                                               | 86         |
| Making a total of.....                                          | <u>620</u> |

|                                           |     |     |
|-------------------------------------------|-----|-----|
| From which deduct—                        |     |     |
| By deaths, removals and withdrawals.....  | 159 |     |
| Leaving.....                              | 461 |     |
| New Members admitted during the year..... | 351 |     |
| “ Subscribers “ .....                     | 177 | 528 |
| Total .....                               | 989 |     |
| Classified thus—                          |     |     |
| Life Members.....                         | 83  |     |
| Honorary Members.....                     | 18  |     |
| Members .....                             | 745 |     |
| Subscribers.....                          | 143 | 989 |

Being an increase of no less than 369 in a single year.

The Directors deem it unnecessary to comment on these figures, as the statement proves conclusively that the Institute is rapidly growing in popular favor.

#### FINANCES.

The total receipts for the year, from all sources, amount to \$13,684 69; the expenditure to \$13,591 64; leaving a balance in hand of \$93 05; an analyzed statement of which will be found in Appendix A to this Report.

As the building is now completed, a full statement of all monies received and payments made on account of the building fund is furnished, showing the total cost to the Institute of the building and site, including the furnishing, to be nearly \$50,000, with the respective years in which the various expenditures have taken place.

Appendix C furnishes a complete statement of the assets and liabilities of the Institute.

The very low rate of members' subscriptions, in view of the privileges afforded and the financial requirements of the Institute, has led the Directors at various times to consider the question of increasing the amount from \$2 00 to \$2 50 or \$3 00 per annum. The conclusion they

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The Directors are glad to perceive that the great advantages the Library affords are properly appreciated, as is evident from the fact that at least four-fifths of the Members take out books constantly. As compared with previous years, there is in this respect a large proportionate increase.

This demand for books has been so great that the Directors considered it would be to the interest of the Institute to have the Library kept open daily from nine a.m. to ten p.m., or for thirteen hours, instead of seven hours as heretofore. This change has, no doubt, proved of much convenience to the members.

The greater attendance consequently required, and the extension of the general business of the Institute, necessitated the appointment of an assistant Librarian; and Mr. James Woodsworth was consequently engaged.

In accordance with the By-Laws, the Library has been closed for examination during the past week, and the Board have much pleasure in being able to report that the books are generally in good condition, comparatively few, considering their continuous use, requiring repairs.

#### THE READING ROOM.

The Reading-Room, the next department in importance, has also been much improved, by the introduction of several additional publications, as well as by the greater regularity with which the various periodicals are supplied. The systematic arrangement of the department, and the numerous appliances which have been obtained, cannot fail to afford the members much comfort and convenience. Heretofore many of the English and American newspapers have been supplied by contract; but the Directors, finding that this method led to irregularity, ordered them direct from their respective publishers—the consequence of the change being that they now almost invariably arrive at the proper time.

The following is a complete list of the Newspapers, Magazines, and other Periodicals with which the Reading Room is now supplied, nineteen of the more important of which have been ordered during the past year.

Art Journal  
Army and  
Belfast N  
Blackwood  
Civil Eng  
Journal  
Chambers  
Cornhill M  
Dublin W  
" N  
Edinburg  
"  
Eclectic I  
European  
Glasgow C  
Illustrated

Atlantic I  
Chicago T  
Cincinnati  
Frank Le  
Harper's  
"  
Hunt's M  
Little's L

Hamilton  
Kingston  
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## BRITISH.

|                                            |                                 |
|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Art Journal.                               | Illustrated London Times.       |
| Army and Navy Gazette.                     | Journal of the Society of Arts. |
| Belfast News.                              | London Times.                   |
| Blackwood's Magazine.                      | “ Patriot.                      |
| Civil Engineer and Architect's<br>Journal. | “ Builder.                      |
| Chambers' Journal.                         | “ Artizan.                      |
| Cornhill Magazine.                         | “ Punch.                        |
| Dublin Warder.                             | Macmillan's Magazine.           |
| “ Nation.                                  | Manchester Guardian.            |
| Edinburgh Review,                          | Mark Lane Express.              |
| “ Scotsman.                                | North British Review.           |
| Eclectic Review.                           | News of the Churches.           |
| European Times (Wilmer & Smith)            | Press (London).                 |
| Glasgow Citizen.                           | Quarterly Review.               |
| Illustrated London News.                   | Saturday Review.                |
|                                            | Westminster Review.             |

## AMERICAN.

|                             |                        |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| Atlantic Monthly.           | New York Herald.       |
| Chicago Tribune.            | “ Tribune.             |
| Cincinnati Price Current.   | “ Times.               |
| Frank Leslie's Monthly.     | “ Shipping List.       |
| Harper's Weekly.            | “ Albion.              |
| “ Monthly.                  | “ Independent.         |
| Hunt's Merchant's Magazine. | Phrenological Journal. |
| Little's Living Age.        | Scientific American.   |

## CANADIAN.

|                     |                   |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Hamilton Spectator. | Montreal Gazette. |
| Kingston News.      | Toronto Globe.    |
| London Free Press.  | Toronto Leader.   |
|                     | Quebec Chronicle. |

The Institute is under obligations to the gentlemen who have gratuitously furnished the following periodicals during the past year:—

American Christian Journal..... By Norris Black.  
Barrie Advance ..... “ the Publishers.

|                                            |   |                 |
|--------------------------------------------|---|-----------------|
| " Spirit of the Age .....                  | " | "               |
| Bradford Chronicle .....                   | " | "               |
| Brantford Courier .....                    | " | "               |
| Brampton Times .....                       | " | "               |
| British Canadian .....                     | " | "               |
| Canadian Baptist .....                     | " | "               |
| " Freeman .....                            | " | "               |
| " Journal .....                            | " | "               |
| " Agriculturist .....                      | " | "               |
| Canada Gazette .....                       | " | "               |
| " Temperance Advocate.....                 | " | Mr. George Oal. |
| Christian Guardian .....                   | " | the Publishers. |
| Collingwood Enterprize.....                | " | "               |
| Echo .....                                 | " | "               |
| Ecclesiastical Gazette .....               | " | "               |
| Halton New Era.....                        | " | "               |
| Huron Signal.....                          | " | "               |
| Ingersol Chronicle.....                    | " | "               |
| Journal of Board of Arts and Manufactures. | " | "               |
| London Daily Prototype.....                | " | "               |
| Markham Economist .....                    | " | "               |
| Mitchell Advocate .....                    | " | "               |
| Norfolk Reformer .....                     | " | "               |
| Owen Sound Times.....                      | " | "               |
| Queen's Bench Reports .....                | " | "               |
| South Simcoe Times.....                    | " | "               |
| Stratford Beacon .....                     | " | "               |
| " Examiner .....                           | " | "               |
| Sherbrooke Leader.....                     | " | "               |
| St. Catherines Post .....                  | " | "               |
| Whithy Chronicle .....                     | " | "               |
| Upper Canada Law Journal .....             | " | "               |
| " " Journal of Education .....             | " | "               |
| Young Canada Sporting Life .....           | " | "               |

**LECTURES.**

The Directors have duly considered the importance of having lectures delivered under the auspices of the Institute, but for various reasons—the

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hitherto unsettled condition of the Institute's affairs, and the great difficulty of procuring suitable lecturers from a distance—they did not deem it advisable to engage in the enterprize during the past winter.

### CLASSES.

The attention of the Directors has been so much occupied by the works required in completing and furnishing the building, and the various improvements in the several departments, that they have been heretofore unable to organize classes of a suitable nature. There was one, however, during the past winter, under the charge of Mr. Henry Martin, for tuition in painting and drawing, which was well attended, and generally very successful. The Directors hope that their successors will devote their attention to this important subject, as well as to that of the lectures.

### THE CHESS CLUB.

Since the last annual meeting a new feature has been added to the Institution. Several members frequently urged upon the Directors the advisability of establishing a club for the practice of the scientific game of Chess, and proposed to co-operate in its formation. The Directors agreed to their proposals on stipulated conditions, protecting the Institute against loss in case the enterprize should not succeed. The Club was accordingly established, and styled "The Mechanics' Institute Chess Club." Rules were drawn up for its government, subject to the approval of the Directors; officers were appointed; and the necessary furniture and appliances procured. The Directors have pleasure in reporting that so far the Club has succeeded, and they have no doubt that with a little exertion on the part of its members, who at present number between fifty and sixty, it will continue to prosper.

### THE INAUGURATION.

It will be seen by reference to last annual report, that it was proposed to hold a *Conversazione* as a suitable entertainment for the inauguration of the new building. But the Directors, desirous that the entertainment should be of such a nature as would admit of the members generally taking part in it; and being also desirous of combining profit with pleasure, decided on a Soiree, to be followed by a Bazaar. They accordingly solicited the co-operation of several of the Lady members,

who, with most praiseworthy alacrity, at once offered their services. The Soiree was held, but the intense excitement prevailing at the time, caused by the anticipated troubles with the United States, rendered the affair somewhat a failure. The Bazaar, which immediately followed, and which was entirely under the control and management of the Ladies, was highly successful, and resulted in a profit of about four hundred dollars. The Institute is under a debt of gratitude to these Ladies for their very valuable services.

### THE EXHIBITION.

The Board of Directors for the preceding year entered into an arrangement with the "Toronto Electoral Division Society," to hold a joint Exhibition of Arts, Manufactures, and Agricultural and Horticultural Productions, on the basis of an agreement adopted by both bodies, and as contained in a circular then issued to the members of the Institute.

In accordance with this agreement, the exhibition was opened in the Music Hall and adjoining rooms, on the 7th of October, and continued open for two weeks. The result, however, did not meet the reasonable anticipations of the Board, either in a financial point of view, or as an exposition of the arts and manufactures of the city.

Of the 614 entries made for exhibition, but 77 were for manufactured articles, 143 Fine Arts, and 62 Ladies' Work. The remaining 332 entries were for agricultural and horticultural products. The total amount offered in prizes was nearly \$1000, of which upwards of \$600 was in the department of arts and manufactures. The total receipts were \$952 07; total expenditure \$927 75; balance to divide between the two Societies \$24 32.

The Directors cannot but express their surprise at the little interest the manufacturers of Toronto, especially those who were members of the Institute, manifested in this exhibition, when so favorable an opportunity was afforded for displaying their various productions, and at the same time indirectly contributing to the fund for the liquidation of the debt on the building. Were it not for the kindness of the Educational Department of Upper Canada, in contributing a very superior and extensive collection of mathematical and school apparatus, of Toronto manufacture, the exhibition would have been anything but creditable to our artizans.

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### THE HEATING APPARATUS.

The building has been furnished, at considerable cost, with an excellent steam heating apparatus from the establishment of Mr. Jas. E. Thompson, of this city, which has given the greatest satisfaction; affording, as it does, a sufficient and agreeable heat; and being, in the opinion of the Board, much more economical than any of the ordinary systems of heating.

### RENTS.

The Board desire to congratulate the members on the prospect that is presented of a large annual income from the permanent and casual rents of the Music Hall and Lecture Room, and the various minor apartments. Since the building was opened in July, the large sum of nearly two thousand dollars has been received for rents alone. The Music Hall is now the largest and most handsome public room in Toronto, and every way the best fitted and most suitable for public entertainments. There were a few acoustic defects in the Hall for some time, but such alterations have been made as have rendered it as nearly perfect in this respect as possible. The Lecture Room has obtained much popularity.

All which is respectfully submitted.

RICE LEWIS,

*President.*





## (APPENDIX C.)

## ASSETS AND LIABILITIES OF THE INSTITUTE,

At date, May, 1862.

| ASSETS.                                     |             | LIABILITIES.                |             |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Balance cash in hand.....                   | \$93 05     | Loan on Building & Ground   | 18400 00    |
| Members' subscriptions due                  | 160 00      | Contracts and extra work..  | 1064 02     |
| Rents due .....                             | 116 50      | General accounts.....       | 306 58      |
| Value of Building & Ground                  | 50000 00    | Discount at Bank of Toronto | 400 00      |
| Value of the Library and<br>Furniture ..... | 5700 00     |                             | \$20,170 60 |
|                                             |             | Balance.....                | 35,898 95   |
|                                             | \$56,069 55 |                             | \$56,069 55 |

## (APPENDIX D.)

## ESTIMATED ANNUAL REVENUE &amp; EXPENDITURE.

## REVENUE.

|                                                                                                 |           |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Permanent and casual Rents.....                                                                 | \$2740 00 |
| Annual subscription of 900 Members, being an increase of<br>155 on the present Membership ..... | 1800 00   |
| Yearly and Quarterly Subscribers .....                                                          | 400 00    |
|                                                                                                 | \$4940 00 |

## EXPENDITURE.

|                                                      |            |
|------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Interest on loan to Building fund .....              | 1104 00    |
| Insurance on Building.....                           | 120 00     |
| “ Library and Furniture .....                        | 16 00      |
| Printing and Advertising.....                        | 50 00      |
| Binding Library Books .....                          | 200 00     |
| Gas .....                                            | 670 00     |
| Coal and Wood .....                                  | 250 00     |
| Stationery and Blank Books .....                     | 50 00      |
| Postage.....                                         | 84 00      |
| Subscription to Society of Arts, England .....       | 10 50      |
| Secretary and Librarian's Salary .....               | 700 00     |
| Assistant Librarian's Salary.....                    | 200 00     |
| House-Keeper's Salary .....                          | 200 00     |
| Repairs to the Hall .....                            | 200 00     |
| Water Rate .....                                     | 40 00      |
| Newspapers and Periodicals.....                      | 300 00     |
| Contingencies.....                                   | 100 00     |
|                                                      | 4494 50    |
| Leaving a balance for the purchase of New Books..... | 445 50     |
|                                                      | \$4,940 00 |