



REPORT

OF THE

Montreal Sailors' Institute.

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING, 31ST JANUARY, 1870.

AS PUBLISHED BY THE

REPORT OF ANNUAL MEETING

LIST OF OFFICE-BEARERS

AND THE

ACT OF INCORPORATION.

MONTREAL.

PRINTED BY F. G. DECKY, 78 ST. JAMES STREET.

1870.



# REPORT

OF THE

**Montreal Sailors' Institute,**

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING, 31ST JANUARY, 1870.

TOGETHER WITH THE

## REPORT OF ANNUAL MEETING,

LIST OF OFFICE-BEARERS,

AND THE

## ACT OF INCORPORATION.



MONTREAL:

PRINTED BY J. C. BECKET, 78 ST. JAMES STREET.

1870.



PAAP

HV

3039

M6M6

1870-71

"D

circul

1870,

as Sec

that t

Rank

sea-far

pledge

pose th

ANNUAL MEETING  
OF  
"The Montreal Sailors' Institute."

MONTREAL, 23rd February, 1870.

---

A meeting of the Subscribers to the above Institute, called by circular, was held in the Rooms, on Wednesday, the 23rd February, 1870, at the hour of Three, p.m.

Mr. Hugh Allan was called to the Chair, and P. S. Ross, acted as Secretary.

The Report for 1869 was read, and it was unanimously resolved that the same be received, adopted, printed and circulated generally.

It was then moved by T. J. Claxton, Esq., and seconded by J. Rankin, Esq., and unanimously adopted.

"That this Institute having been the means of doing much good among sea-faring men, is worthy of every encouragement, and the subscribers hereby pledge themselves to carry it on in an efficient manner, nominating for this purpose the following gentlemen, as a Committee, to conduct its operations," viz:—

**President.**

ANDREW ALLAN, Esq.

**Vice-Presidents.**

GEORGE MOFFATT, Esq., and JOHN MCLENNAN, Esq.

**Treasurer.**—JOHN RANKIN, Esq.

**Secretary.**—P. S. ROSS, Esq.

## Committee.

MESSRS. DAVID TORRANCE,  
PETER REDPATH,  
JOSEPH MACKAY,  
J. P. CLARK,  
CHAS. ALEXANDER,  
JAMES JOHNSTON,  
ANDREW ROBERTSON,  
T. J. CLAXTON,  
J. C. BECKET.

MESSRS. THOS. RIMMER,  
R. MUIR,  
JAMES BROWN,  
A. MCGIBBON,  
T. S. BROWN,  
J. C. McLAREN,  
JOHN RITCHIE,  
THOMAS SONNE,  
WILLIAM LESLIE.

Moved by Chas. Alexander, Esq., seconded by P. S. Ross, Esq.

"That the thanks of the Subscribers be and is hereby given to Mr. J. P. Clark, for his untiring exertions during past years in carrying on this good work, and that they follow him with their best wishes, hoping still to have his active co-operation at some future date."—Carried unanimously.

Moved by James Brown, Esq., seconded by Jas. Johnston, Esq.

"That the thanks of this Meeting be tendered to Mr. Ed. Carter, Q.C., M. P. P., for his labours on behalf of the Institute in procuring its 'Act of Incorporation.'"—Carried unanimously,

A vote of thanks having been tendered to the Chairman the meeting broke up.

"T

prese  
by v  
Mon  
and v  
and f  
and p  
sea-p  
and  
that  
same  
gran  
and  
gisla

path  
Alex  
Frec  
now  
unde  
ity t  
tute  
Sail  
any  
othe  
and  
acqu  
ceed

prop  
or p  
to s  
corp  
tion

ACT TO INCORPORATE  
"THE MONTREAL SAILORS' INSTITUTE,"

5th April, 1869.

WHEREAS the persons hereinafter named have by Petition represented that for some years' past, they and others have maintained by voluntary contributions, a certain Institution in the City of Montreal known as "The Montreal Sailors' Institute," for the benefit and well-being of seamen temporarily in the said City of Montreal, and for the purpose of providing for such seamen a place of resort, and protecting them from the numerous evils to which sailors in all sea-port cities are exposed, and where instructions may be afforded, and religious services be held on Sabbath days; and have prayed that for the better attainment of the objects of the said Institute, the same may be invested with corporate powers; and it is expedient to grant the prayer of the said Petition: Therefore, Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly of the Province of Quebec, enact as follows:—

1. Hugh Allan, George Moffatt, David Torrance, Peter Redpath, Andrew Robertson, James P. Clark, Alfred Rimmer, Charles Alexander, Thomas James Claxton, Andrew Allan, Joseph Mackay, Frederick McKenzie, John C Becket, and such other persons as are now members of the said Institute, or shall hereafter unite with them, under the provisions of this Act, and the By-laws made under authority thereof, and their successors, shall be and they are hereby constituted a body politic and corporate, by the name of "The Montreal Sailors' Institute," and may, by any legal title acquire, hold and enjoy any estate whatever, real or personal; and may alienate, lease or otherwise dispose of the same, or any part thereof, from time to time and as occasion may require, and other estate real or personal may acquire instead thereof provided that such real estate shall not exceed the annual value of three thousand dollars.

2. Provided always that the Corporation shall not hold any property except such as shall be derived from the following sources, or purchased with funds derived from the following sources, that is to say:—The property of the Institute hereby constituted as the said corporation, the life, annual and other subscription of members, donations, bequests, or legacies made to the corporation and the monies



arising from fines and forfeitures lawfully imposed by their By-Laws. And provided also that all property and funds presently invested, of the said existing Institute, and all sums which may hereafter be received by the corporation for life subscriptions of members, or from legacies, bequests, or donations, amounting to twenty dollars or upwards, not specially made for other purposes, shall constitute the fund of the corporation, and no part of the capital over and above the sums required for the establishment and maintenance of the said Institute shall be paid away, but shall from time to time be invested in real or immoveable property, City of Montreal consolidated fund, in bank stock or Government or other securities, and the rents, interests, or other income arising from such investments, together with all monies arising from other sources shall be applied to the defraying of the expenses of the corporation, and the relief of persons whom the corporation may deem proper objects of such relief according to their By-laws then in force, and to the provisions of this Act:

3. The affairs and business of the corporation shall be managed by such Officers and Committees, and under such restrictions as touching the powers and duties of such Officers and Committees as by By-laws in that behalf, the corporation may from time to time ordain; and the corporation may assign to any such officers such remuneration as they may deem necessary.

4. The corporation may make such By-laws not contrary to law, as they shall deem expedient, for the administration and government of the corporation, and of such Institute, or other charitable institutions as they shall maintain; and may repeal or amend the same from time to time, observing always, however, such formalities as by such By-laws may be prescribed to that end; and generally shall have all the corporate powers necessary to the ends of this Act, Provided always that no intoxicating or spirituous liquors shall at any time be sold or dispensed in the premises of, or by, the said corporation.

5. The By-laws of the said Institute not being contrary to law, shall be the By-laws of the corporation hereby constituted, until they shall be repealed or altered as aforesaid.

6. Until others shall be elected according to the By-laws of the corporation, the present officers of the Institute shall be those of the corporation.

7. All subscriptions and all penalties due to the corporation under any By-law may be recovered by suit in the name of the corporation; but any member may withdraw therefrom at any time, on payment of all accounts by him due to the corporation, inclusive of his subscription for the year then current.

8  
or pros  
deemed  
having

9  
and to  
real an  
period,  
twenty

8. No person otherwise competent, to be a witness in any suit or prosecution in which the corporation may be engaged, shall be deemed incompetent to be such witness, by reason of his being or having been a member or officer of the corporation.

9. The corporation shall make to the Lieutenant-Governor, and to both houses of the Legislature, a full return of their property real and personal, and of their receipts and expenditure, for such period, and with such details and other information, in the first twenty days after session.

REPORT OF  
"The Montreal Sailors' Institute,"

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST JANUARY, 1870.

As read and adopted at the meeting held in the  
rooms of the Institute, 283 Commissioner St.

MONTREAL, 23rd February, 1870.

In presenting the Report of "The Montreal Sailors' Institute," for the year 1869, we have again to record the increasing interest taken in it by the men visiting this port during the season of navigation, and the gratitude expressed by them for the accommodation and benefits which the Rooms have afforded them.

In no small degree is the City of Montreal indebted for her prosperity to the Mercantile Marine, and the owners and controllers of that Marine may well feel proud of the fact that the Dominion of Canada now holds place as the third largest shipping power in the ranks of Maritime Nations. Endeavoring as we do to aid these hardy sailors when they annually visit our shores, we are advancing the interests and prosperity of the Mercantile Community, and also in some measure making a return for the toil and watchfulness incurred and the anxiety and care undergone by this class, when we commit ourselves so often (as so many of us do) to their protection while crossing the Atlantic in the exigencies of business.

On behalf of the sailors we may state that almost to a man they express their deep sense of gratitude and thankfulness to those kind friends who have provided such a place of recreation and comfort for them as they find "The Montreal Sailors' Institute" to be; and many of the men who have sailed the world over have remarked, that in no other quarter of it visited by them, has such an interest been manifested in both their temporal and spiritual welfare as in this good City of Montreal. The manner also of presenting this interest to them they confess to be in a most attractive form and one that appeals strongly to every feeling of their nature.

The Merchant loves to meet with brother Merchant upon 'Change to discuss with each other the prices, news and topics of the day. And so the sailor, go where he may, to China, Cape of Good Hope, Liverpool, or in the homes of the Ancient Vikings tells his fellows of this Institute, and casts a longing loving eye to the place where it is situated with its comfortable rooms, papers, and other privileges as a home of true enjoyment. He remembers also how in the smoking room he did spin his yarns, compare voyages and experiences, and drew from comrades stores of knowledge of men, manners, and places, as valuable to him as the information picked up by the Merchant on 'Change, in fitting him for the peculiar duties of his position in life. Here let us say that one fact alone will prove incontestibly the truth of the assertion as to the thankfulness of the men and their appreciation of the fruits of your benevolence which they participate in, and it is this. That during the whole 8 or 9 years of the existence of the Institute, your Superintendent, Mr. Linton, has never had any trouble with visitors,—never had any cause to expel any one,—and never during all that time has any violence of language, or conduct called for expostulation—not many such Institutions can say the same.

An Act of Incorporation (printed herewith) was applied for during last Session of Parliament, and a Bill was passed on the fifth day of April, 1869, granting the privilege asked for, for "The Montreal Sailors' Institute," Mr. E. Carter, Q.C., M. P. P., took the necessary steps in preparing the Bill from its inception till its completion, free of charge, and the thanks of the subscribers are due to him for his labour of love.

In May, 1868, the Institute was removed from McGill Street, to the place it now occupies, 283 Commissioner Street, facing the Island Wharf which was supposed to be the most central spot, and so the most convenient. Experience has not confirmed this view of the case nor are the rooms the most suitable for the purpose. It is very much to be desired that better situated and more commodious premises could be found and the subject is recommended to the consideration of the Committee who may be appointed for the carrying on of the operations of the season of 1870, this being the more especially necessary, seeing the general expectation is that a much larger fleet of vessels will be here this approaching season, than has been for some years past.



The Rooms were opened on the 1st of May, and closed on the 21st of November, and we have to report a steady increase of visitors, the entries in the books, shewing that during that period there were 8647 visits from seamen classified as follows, to the Reading Room and Tables 5668; to the writing Desks 1899; and to the Sabbath evening services 1080. It is to be hoped that better provision may be made for giving greater publicity to the Sabbath evening meeting and for a systematic visitation of the vessels on Sabbath to draw the men to the services.

A pleasing feature in the entries on the Books is the number of letters written by the Seamen to their sweethearts, wives and other friends and relatives which appear to be somewhere over two thousand—more than one half of which was committed to the care of your Superintendent for posting. A careful record of each letter so posted, being kept by him, we are enabled to shew the destination as follows viz., Scotland 367; England 296; Ireland 39; British America 200; Continental Europe 28; United States 80. Total 1010. Paper Pens and Ink are furnished for this purpose gratuitously to the men, the postage they provide for themselves, which they pay or not as they choose.

On the Tables of the Reading Room are fyles of Papers and Magazines as follows, viz:—

The London Daily Times	} Kindly contributed by the Messrs. Allan, of Liverpool.
Liverpool Mercury	
Do Courier,	
Do Post	
Two copies of the Montreal Daily Witness	} furnished gratuitously by Messrs. J. Dougall & Son.
One copy of the Canada Scotsman.	} furnished gratuitously by Mr. Nicholson.
The Montreal Herald,	} furnished by Mr. J. P. Clark, gratuitously.
London Illustrated News,	
Punch and Judy,	
The Sunday Magazine	
Sunday at Home, &c.	

We have to thank the donors who have so kindly furnished so much reading matter free of expense, and express a hope that others may be induced to do likewise.

Another feature of the Institute is the supplying of Coffee, and Bread and Butter. Over one half of the visits having been made to the Institute apparently to take advantage of this provision, the entries showing a sale of 3746 cups of coffee, while the visits on week day evenings were only 7387. These articles are charged for but at such a low rate that a small loss accrues to the Institute—a loss more than compensated for, a hundred-fold, by the evident pleasure of the men at being able to procure the warm pleasant beverage to associate with their newspaper or chat. The men with one voice declare that this alone after the labours of the day are over, has been the means of keeping them from having recourse to a more fiery, unsatisfying and dangerous drink, which with kindred, and generally accompanying vices, combine to rob the poor sailor of his health and hard earned gains. That it has done so, is evidenced by the fact that there are fewer Taverns, Saloons, Dance Houses, &c., in the vicinity of our wharves than exists in any other harbour where a similar amount of shipping finds an occasional resting place. Future efforts in this direction require to be continued (in watchfulness and prayer, and with dependence on the Divine blessing ; ) to a much greater extent, and with an increased measure of energy, for it is quite possible that many who have lived by and fattened upon the Soldier, now that he is gone from amongst us, may in their desperate attempt to gain a livelihood turn their attention to the sailor.

We have now to refer to another matter upon which some misconception exists—that of amusements—and we hope the full and frank explanation of it which we now give will tend to do away with any feeling in regard to this.

There is a smoking-room set apart for those who indulge, or wish to indulge in this habit, and here they may rest and enjoy each other's conversation along with their pipe in quietness and away from those, who, not feeling inclined to do so, may desire to avoid the perfume of the burning tobacco. No alcoholic liquors of any kind, or on any pretence, are admitted into the Rooms of the Institute, and any one perusing our Act of Incorporation, will find a stipulation against it, in that document.

Various amusements are provided for those of the visitors who may wish to avail themselves of such a mode of spending the evening. These are Draught Boards and men, Solitaire, Dominoes, Rope, Quoits and Chessmen; and with these they spend many pleasant

evenings oblivious to past or future perils on the mighty deep. Cards and dice, and all such other games of dubious import are rigidly excluded; Exhibitions of the Magic-Lantern are of occasional occurrence, as are also Concerts, conducted by the men themselves. From all these are carried away happy memories of by-gone hours that cheer the spirits in times of hardship and trial, or told over and over again in the fore-castle, brightens its dimly lighted space and lonesome hours.

The Treasurer's statement of receipts and disbursements is herewith appended, and we have great pleasure in tendering our hearty thanks to those gentlemen who have so liberally strengthened our hands for this excellent and admirable work, by cheerful contributions for that purpose, nor do we fear but that in time to come you will still be forward to aid with time and money, the philanthropic labors devolved by you upon the Committee of your selection. If, as we have said, a much larger fleet, should arrive during the season of 1870, it will need increased liberality on your part: but we have not the slightest doubt that you will meet heartily and energetically the requirements of the case. The subscribers are requested to remember that the operations of this year are started upon with the Treasurer in debt, as well as the increased outlay in prospect, also, that it might not be unadvisable to have a building for this exclusive object: should therefore, any individual who peruses this report, feel inclined to contribute to either the Expense Fund or a Building Fund, their contributions if sent to the Treasurer appointed now, viz., John Rankin, Esq., will be thankfully received.

All which is respectfully submitted on behalf of the Committee

J. P. CLARK.

H. & A. J.  
Gillespie  
Rimmer,  
D. Torra  
J. MacK  
P. Redp  
J. & H.  
James J.  
Crather  
Gault, E  
Ferrier  
Frothing  
Alex. B.  
Chas. A.  
T. Jaz.  
Roberts  
F. MacK  
Greensb  
Gilmour  
Buchan  
Lyman  
T. & F.  
John R.

## LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS.

H. & A. Allan, - - -	\$100 00	Tiffin Bros. - - -	
Gillespie, Moffatt & Co., -	30 00	Robt. Muir, - - -	
Rimmer, Gunn & Co., -	30 00	E. Atwater & Co. - - -	
D. Torrance & Co. -	30 00	John Hope, - - -	
J. MacKay & Bro. -	20 00	Sinclair, Jack & Co. - - -	
P. Redpath. - - -	20 00	Alex. Walker, - - -	
J. & H. McLennan -	20 00	John Stirling, - - -	
James Johnstone & Co. -	10 00	T. Peck & Co. - - -	
Crathern & Caverhill, -	10 00	Theo. Hart & Son. - - -	
Gault, Bros., & Co. -	10 00	Haugesgen & Gnaedinger -	
Ferrier & Co. - - -	10 00	Stevenson & Co. - - -	
Frothingham & Workman,	10 00	Alex. McGibbon. - - -	
Alex. Buntin & Co. -	10 00	Geo. Winks & Co. - - -	
Chas. Alexander, - - -	10 00	James Hutton & Co. - - -	
T. Jas. Claxton, & Co. -	10 00	H. L. Routh. - - -	
Robertson, Stephen & Co. -	10 00	T. S. Brown. - - -	
F. MacKenzie - - -	10 00	Geo. Stephens. - - -	4
Greenshields, Son & Co. -	10 00	Robt Anderson. - - -	5
Gilmour & Co. - - -	10 00	John Lovell. - - -	5
Buchanan, Leckie & Co. -	10 00	Wm. Murray. - - -	5
Lymans, Clare & Co. -	10 00	J. R. Thibaudeau. - - -	5
T. & F. Ross & Co. -	10 00	Cash - - -	4
John Rankin, - - -	10 00		

On Steamers Austrian	3 trips, - - -	\$41 80
Hibernian,	3 trips, - - -	25 85
Nestorian,	2 trips, - - -	2 25
North American, 1 trip,	- - -	0 21

\$70 11





