

See others in History III

Mechanics' Institute

OF

ST. JOHN, N. B.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS,

1873-74.

GILBERT MURDOCH, *President*;

SILAS ALWARD and ARCH. ROWAN, *Vice-Presidents*;

THOMAS A. RANKINE, *Treasurer*;

WM. P. DOLE, *Cor. Sec'y*; H. L. STURDEE, *Rec. Sec'y*.

Directors:

WM. F. SMITH,
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EDWARD J. BRASS,
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HENRY G. HUNT,
CARSON FLOOD,
ALEX. RANKINE,
GEO. W. WHITNEY,
PETER CORMACK.

Auditors:

GEO. BLATCH, JOHN McMILLAN & R. T. CLINCH.

Curator:

RICHARD KEELING.

Honorary Members:

The Right Hon. JOHN BARON LISGAR, G. C. B., G. C. M. G.;
Major General SIR CHARLES HASTINGS DOYLE; Hon.
A. H. GORDON; JAMES PATERSON, LL.D.; Rev.
J. G. MCGREGOR, and GEORGE BLATCH, Esq.

ANNUAL REPORT.

To the Members of the Saint John Mechanics' Institute.

IN submitting the Annual Report for the present year, the President and Directors of the Mechanics' Institute beg to call the attention of the Members to the state of the Institute's affairs, which demands their serious consideration, and requires that an earnest effort should be made to enable the incoming Board more effectually to carry out the purposes which the institution was designed to serve.

The falling off in the revenues derived from the renting of the Hall has been very great during the year; and although this diminution was anticipated, and was attempted to be, to some extent, provided against by the increase of the Members' annual payment, which was determined upon at a special meeting, yet the loss of income has most materially crippled the operations of the Directors. There has been, it is true, a somewhat larger sum obtained from the sale of members' tickets than was received last year; but the increased expenditure on account of the Lectures has absorbed so great a portion of the revenues that little indeed has been left to be applied to the maintenance of the other services for which the Board has to provide.

It has, consequently, been found impossible to make any such additions to the Library as are felt to be desirable and even necessary,—the whole number of volumes purchased during the year being only seventy-five. This most important branch of the Institute stands in need of a considerable appropriation in order to bring it into a proper condition by the replacement of many volumes destroyed by use or totally lost, by the re-binding of others, and by the addition of many valuable works recently published, as well as of a large number of periodicals which ought to be bound up in volumes and placed upon its shelves as permanent books of reference.

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It is estimated that there are now upon our hands about 150 volumes of standard periodicals,—British, American and Canadian Magazines and Reviews,—which, if suitably bound, would form a valuable portion of the Library, but which, in their present state, are little better than so much useless lumber. Besides these, we have in our possession a large collection of newspapers published in this City, which have been arranged and are ready for binding whenever the necessary funds shall be forthcoming to defray the expense. These papers, comprising files of the *Courier*, the *Chronicle*, the *New-Brunswicker*, the *Watchman*, the *News*, the *Journal*, the *Globe*, the *Telegraph* and the *Freeman*, are of great value as records of the past, and will afford materials out of which no inconsiderable part of the history of our Province may hereafter be compiled. Indeed, their value to future inquirers, as exponents of the growth and progress of our community, the extension of our trade and commerce, the foundation and expansion of our manufactures, the development of our material resources and our mental energies, can hardly be over-estimated. And your Directors anxiously desire that means may be found to duly preserve, as a portion of our Library, these faithful and trustworthy chronicles of our past and present times.

As the Library of the Institute is now the only public library in Saint John, and is in extent and character not at all adequate to the wants of a population so large as that of this city, it becomes all the more necessary, and is the more plainly our duty, to increase and improve it by all the means at our command, and to engage in that work all the assistance which it may be found possible to procure from any public or private source.

The Reading Room and the Museum remain in much the same condition as that in which they were last year. No very important donations have been made to the Museum; and the Directors have not had funds at their disposal to be

employed in classifying, re-arranging, and placing in proper cases the many articles which ought to be so cared for. These articles, gathered together and disposed in a more or less unsystematic manner at present, might, if duly arranged by competent hands, be made available as valuable aids in the education of the youth of our city, and might also become attractive objects of study to the members of the Institute, as well as to occasional visitors. This is a subject which imperatively demands the attention of your President and Directors now to be chosen. It is here brought before you in order that you may embrace the opportunity to take at once some steps towards the accomplishment of so desirable an object as the entire renovation of the Museum.

In regard to the Reading Room, it appears to the present Board that, considering the small number of persons who avail themselves of its advantages, a considerable retrenchment in the annual expenditure on its behalf might not improperly be effected. This might be done by a careful and judicious restriction of the number of papers and other periodicals taken in. Indeed, it has been suggested by some members of the Board of Directors that, in view of the present condition of our finances, the most direct and best mode of meeting the expenses of both the Reading Room and the Library, and of placing and maintaining those departments in an efficient state, would be to make each of them self-sustaining, by imposing a special charge upon all persons who should wish to make use of them, whether members of the Institute or not,—the fees so required to be paid being, of course, fixed by a Resolution duly passed at a General Meeting of the Members. And this also is a subject to which your attention is now especially directed, and to which you are invited to give immediate consideration.

Although the entire cost of the lectures for the past season has been comparatively large, and has somewhat exceeded the estimate formed by the Board, the President and Directors

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are confident that the excellent Course which they succeeded in providing for the Institute, which was so uninterruptedly and thoroughly carried out, and which appears to have been so highly appreciated both by the members and by the public generally, cannot fail to produce, in due time, most beneficial results. They cannot doubt that the invigorating effects of this recent success will be seen in a considerable increase of our membership in the present year, and in the determination which will be manifested on all sides to support *The Mechanics' Institute* in its endeavors to sustain its old reputation as an useful institution for the diffusion of literary and scientific knowledge, and the promotion of refined tastes, and, if possible, to render that reputation still brighter.

In order to augment the sources of permanent revenue, the Directors have recently leased to the Board of Trustees of Schools for the City three rooms, in addition to that previously occupied by them, in our Building. This transaction involves the closing, for the present at least, of the School of Design, whose place will, to some extent, be supplied by the instruction in Drawing which the Trustees intend to provide for in the Public Schools under their management. The whole amount which will in future be received from this source is five hundred and seventy dollars per annum. By this arrangement also, the sum required for payment of salary to the Curator will be reduced to four hundred dollars per annum,—there being thus secured a saving of two hundred and fifty dollars a year to our funds.

Continued ill-health having compelled Mr. Keeling, who for several years has discharged the duties of Curator and of Instructor in the School of Design, to resign those offices, the above-mentioned change has been easily effected. Mr. Keeling carries with him the kindly regards and best wishes of the President and Directors, and deserves well the respect of the members of the Institute, whose interests he has always faithfully kept in view.

During the year we have received the following donations :

FOR THE MUSEUM:—*Two Fishes,—Squids;* from Mr. James Carman.
An old Copy of the Original Charter of the City of Saint John, as first published in this Province; and The Laws passed by the Provincial Legislature during the very earliest Sessions of that Legislature; from the late venerable ex-Clerk of the House of Assembly, Charles P. Wetmore, Esq.
FOR THE LIBRARY:—“*Catalogue of the Library of Jared Sparks;*” from Mrs. Sparks, through the U. S. Consul.

There has also been presented to us the sum of *fifty dollars* by John Boyd, Esquire, who generously returned, as a gift to the Institute, the fee which was tendered him for his services as one of the lecturers in our Course.

The abstract of the accounts hereto appended shows, under their several heads, the receipts and expenditures for the year past. And the Statement of Liabilities exhibits the amount of the Institute's indebtedness. The Board submit herewith an Estimate of expenditures and probable receipts for the ensuing year, which will, they think, prove a very near approximation to the actual income and outlay.

From this Exhibit it will appear that our financial position renders it absolutely necessary that some plan should at once be adopted by which the liabilities may be reduced, and that at least the sum of *One Thousand Dollars* should be forthwith raised, and applied to that purpose. By such means the Directors may be now enabled to adjust the annual expenses of the Institute to its annual income, and to keep them within that limit in future.

The President and Directors have deemed it their duty to lay the whole subject of our finances thus fully and plainly before the Members, in order to have the matter fairly and properly discussed, and to secure the united and hearty co-operation of all in any scheme which, in the exercise of a sound judgment, may be devised for placing our affairs upon a solid and firm footing, and for ensuring the lasting prosperity of an institution which has done so much good in this community in by-gone days, and which may be made the instrument of so much good in the days to come.

GILBERT MURDOCH, President.

H. LAWRENCE STURDEE, Secretary.

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LIST OF MEMBERS

ELIGIBLE FOR OFFICE AND ENTITLED TO VOTE.

LIFE MEMBERS:

Daniel, Thomas
Kinsman, Frederick
Merritt, Charles
Humbert, Thomas C.
Fleming, W.
Boyd, John

Gray, Hon. John H.
Wishart, John
Woodward, Isaac
Lawrence Joseph W.
Knowles, Joseph S.

Armstrong, John
Allan, George
Allan, J. Howe
Austin, Henry A.
Alward, Silas
Armstrong, Rev. Geo. M.
Adam, James
Appleby, Benjamin
Alwood, William
Butler, Richard P.
Barbour, William V. C.
Blatch, George
Barnes, James E.
Breeze, William
Bunting, William F.
Bustin, Thomas
Berton, William J.
Balson, John B.
Betts, Albert
Brass, Edward J.
Blakslee, Asaph G.
Brown, Silas H.
Barnes, Joseph W.
Barbour, George L.

Bustin, A. T.
Butt, W. F.
Breeze, Dudne
Bennet, Rev. James
Bartlett, James H.
Beveridge, James
Bent, Gilbert
Barbour, M. C.
Boyd, R. Murray
Betts, Hiram
Barber, James
Brecken, Ralph
Barton, Robert
Broad, Hewlett
Boyd, T. A.
Bennett, Dr.
Baxter, John, M. D.
Bowes, A. G.
Crookshank, Robert W.
Clinch, Robert T.
Chubb, George James
Cormack, Peter
Cruikshank, Robert
Court, William

Crothers, Samuel
 Chelsey, John A.
 Corbitt, John
 Chisholm, D. P.
 Causey, William
 Crawford, Wm. K.
 Christie, J. J.
 Carle, T. C.
 Currie, L.
 Dunlop, Samuel
 Daniel, Thomas W.
 Devoe, John D.
 Dawson, David C.
 Dickson, Sylvester Z.
 Dunn, James L.
 Dole, W. P.
 Deforest, George S.
 Davidson, W. J.
 Domville, James
 Della Torre, W.
 Donald, J. H.
 Drury, John
 Denham, T. D.
 Dunlop, Jos. K.
 Dunn, E. F.
 Demill, A. H.
 Estey, Frederick A.
 Everett, Charles A.
 Elder, William
 Everitt, Edwin J.
 Everett, George F.
 Earle, S. Z., M. D.
 Emery, William
 Eaton, A. H.
 Evans, Rev. E.
 Fairweather, Chas. H.
 Fisher, Edwin
 Fisher, George S.
 Flood, Carson
 Forbes, James G.
 Fleming, James
 Forbes, Edward

Fielders, John
 Figgures, J. F.
 Frazer, John
 Flaherty, Robert
 Frawley, Matthew
 Gilmour, Andrew
 Godsoe, William C.
 Gerow, Geo. W.
 Gibbs, John
 Godard, George W.
 Golding, Robert
 Godsoe, Amos
 Gregory, Robert A.
 Hutchinson, George, jr.
 Hegan, John
 Harris, James
 Hanford, Thomas
 Hunter, Robert
 Hegan, James
 Holden, John
 Humbert, Samuel B.
 Hay, Albert S.
 Hughes, John Edward
 Henderson, Thomas D.
 Hay, Charles H.
 Hunt, Henry G.
 Harrison, L. R.
 Hennigar, T. C.
 Hanington, Thomas B.
 Hayward, W. H.
 Hunt, Mrs. H. G.
 Hoyt, E.
 Hamm, M.
 Hardwick, G. A.
 Harding, Charles E.
 Harper, John
 Howe, J.
 Hawes, Israel B.
 Harley, John
 Hatheway, W. F.
 Hoeken, John
 Hatheway, Samuel

Inch,
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 Jardin
 Jordan
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 Jack,
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 Likely
 Lorim
 Lordly
 Long,
 Magee
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Inch, Charles, M. D.
 Inch, George A.
 Jardine, Alexander
 Jordan, G. Samuel
 Jones, Hon. Thomas R.
 Jordan, William Watts
 Jordan, Francis
 Jack, I. Allan
 Joyce, Richard
 Jordan, John M.
 Kinnear, John H.
 Kinnear, Charles F.
 Keans, William H. A.
 Kerr, A. L.
 Kain, Francis
 Keltie, Robert
 Knowles, J. R.
 Kirkpatrick, C.
 Longmaid, Richard M.
 Lawton, Charles
 Lawrence, George H.
 Lawton, William G.
 Logan, William
 Lloyd, John F.
 Logan, James
 Lindsay, Matthew
 Lingley, Lewis W.
 Leonard, Simeon
 Lockhart, Alexander
 Lawrence, A. W.
 Law, Alexander
 Lawrence, B. R.
 Lovett, A. W.
 Lawrence, G. C.
 Lockhart, Edward E.
 Likely, Thomas
 Lorimer, W.
 Lordly, A. J.
 Long, W. H.
 Magee, John
 Merritt, E. Miles
 Murdoch, Gilbert
 Merritt, T. Gray
 Munroe, John J.
 Main, Thomas
 Murray, Christopher
 Mahoney, James
 Morrison, W. G.
 Milligan, James
 May, James S.
 Marvin, W. S.
 Marsters, Joseph D.
 Moore, W. A.
 Marshall, Robert
 Mullin, George H.
 Matthews, S. F.
 Morrison, F. A.
 Moore, Robert
 Maxwell, Charles H.
 Mullin, J. A.
 Millar, Alexander
 Moore, R. E.
 Marter, F. B.
 Murdoch, John
 Maher, M. W.
 Moriarty, John
 Milligan, Robert
 Morrissey, Mrs.
 Moulson, James
 Mott, James A. S.
 Murdoch, William, jr.
 McKean, Robert
 McMichael, H. M. J.
 McLaren, L., M. D.
 McNaughton, Robert
 Macdonald, Mrs. Chas. C.
 McMillan, John
 McGivern, Richard P.
 McKenzie, W. R.
 McMillan, James
 McLeod, Ezekiel
 McAvity, Thomas
 McLellan, Thomas
 McGregor, Charles

McLellan, David
 McAvity, Thomas, jr.
 McDonald, Mont.
 McLaughlin, Francis
 MacLellan, Thomas
 McMillan, Archibald
 Nixon, George
 Nevins, James
 Olive, William H., jr.
 O'Neil, James D.
 Olive, C. F.
 Orr, Robert
 Otty, Henry P.
 Philips, George
 Powers, Mark N.
 Purdy, John D.
 Peters, B. Lester
 Purchase, Edward
 Patton, Thomas
 Peters, William
 Parks, Thomas
 Peters, Charles H.
 Potts, J. W.
 Palmer, A. L.
 Purchase, William R.
 Peters, Albert
 Pugsley, G. R.
 Price, B. P.
 Price, James A.
 Page, Archibald
 Peacock, George B.
 Parks, William J.
 Polley, John
 Purchase, Alfred
 Powers, Calvin
 Powers, G. F.
 Reed, Thomas M.
 Rankine, Thomas A.
 Rankine, Alexander
 Ring, Zebedee
 Reed, James
 Rowan, Archibald

Robertson, William A.
 Robertson, Norman
 Robertson, Mrs. Duncan
 Rankin, John
 Robinson, T. M.
 Richardson, I. jr.
 Reid, Thomas
 Robertson, David D.
 Robertson, Andrew D.
 Robinson, James, jr.
 Roberts, Henry W.
 Roué, James
 Robertson, George
 Robinson, T. W.
 Rankine, Thomas
 Schurman, David J.
 Seeds, Mrs. Samuel
 Scovil, Rev. William
 Smith, William M.
 Shives, Robert
 Stymest, George
 Seely, Richard
 Smith, William F.
 Steves, Gilbert M.
 Stewart, Luke
 Sulis, John W.
 Smith, Robert F.
 Sheraton, Alfred B.
 Stewart, George
 Sayre, John E.
 Steen, Alexander
 Sinnott, W. H.
 Smith, James
 Stephens, F. T.
 Stockton, A. A.
 Stevens, S. E.
 Sheraton, R. S.
 Stockton, C. A.
 Seely, D. J.
 Sharp, John
 Stone, O. T.
 Stewart, John

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| Sharp, R. G. | Turnbull, Charles G. |
| Sturdee, H. L. | Venning, John A. |
| Shanks, W. G. | Vassie, John |
| Stavely, Rev. A. McL. | Vaughan, J. H. |
| Smith, R. Barry | Vassie, William |
| Starr, R. Penniston | Woodworth, James L. |
| Smith, William | Wetmore, Hon. A. R. |
| Shaw, A. N. | Whitney, George W. |
| Smith, John | White, James E. |
| Sherrard, John L. C. | Willis, Edward |
| Stevens, R. S. | Wedderburn, William |
| Scammell, J. W. | Whiting, William I. |
| Scovil, William A. | White, John |
| Sparrow, Cornelius | Willet, David |
| Stanton, George | Warwick, O. H. |
| Treadwell, William C. | Whittaker, Charles |
| Thorne, Edward L. | Willis, S. K. |
| Thomson, William | Williams, John |
| Thurgar, John V. | Williams, F. S. |
| Tuck, William H. | Wortman, W. F. |
| Thomas, Capt. Henry | Weldon, R. B. |
| Turnbull, John E. | Wetmore, N. |
| Thomas, George | Welsh, William |
| Tuck, S. Parker | Woodrow, James |
| Trueman, Charles D. | Wetmore, F. C. |
| Thomas, James U. | Watson, Samuel |
| Taylor, C. E. | Yerxa, Whitfield |
| Troop, O. V. | |

Estimated Expenditure, 1874-75.

Ground Rent,.....	\$260 00
Insurance,.....	274 00
Repairs,.....	150 00
Salary of Curator,.....	400 00
Light and Fuel,.....	350 00
Reading Room,.....	160 00
General,.....	200 00
Lectures,.....	1,750 00
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	\$3,544 00
INCOME.	
400 Members @ \$5.00,.....	\$2,000 00
Supplementary,.....	600 00
Rents of Hall,.....	400 00
“ of Schools,.....	570 00
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	\$3,570 00

Abstract of Receipts and Expenditures.*Expenditures for Year ending April 1st, 1874.*

Building and Ground Rent,	\$ 163 30
Light and Fuel,	420 70
Lectures,	1,641 42
Interest,	12 00
Salaries,	650 00
Reading Room,	109 09
Library,	171 42
Museum,	13 45
Insurance,	274 00
School of Design,	27 51
General Expenditure,	140 14
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Receipts for Year ending 1st April, 1874.

Balance on hand 1st April, 1873,	\$ 12 01
Rents,	920 25
Certificates of Membership,	\$ 68 00
Members' Tickets,	1,819 00
Supplementary Lectures,	670 25
Library Catalogues and Fines,	1 60
Donation from J. Boyd, Esq.,	50 00
Balance due Treasurer,	81 92
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	<u>\$3,623 03</u>

Abstract of Liabilities and Assets of the Institute at this date.

Building and Furniture,	\$20,420 00
Museum,	3,650 00
Apparatus and Diagrams,	800 00
Library,	4,000 00
Organ,	2,000 00
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	\$30,870 00
Building Debentures,	\$1,041 80
Building Society,	465 00
Sundry Liabilities,	1,000 84
Balance in favor of Institute,	28,362 36
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	\$30,870 00