

MECHANICS INSTITUTE

SAINT JOHN, N. B.



THIRTY-SIXTH

ANNUAL COURSE

OF

LECTURES.



1873-1874.

1873—1874.

THE President and Directors of "THE SAINT JOHN MECHANICS' INSTITUTE" have engaged a number of gentlemen to deliver, during the approaching Season, a Course of Lectures which, they think they may safely say, will be, in many respects, the best and most attractive ever given in this city.

They have secured the services of four eminent professional lecturers, two of whom will come from the United States and two from the Mother Country.

In accordance with a Resolution passed at the last Annual Meeting of the Members of the Institute, the Board of Directors have undertaken to pay for their services all the gentlemen engaged to lecture. And in order to meet promptly the demands which will thus be made upon the funds of the Institute, it has been deemed advisable to secure, by means of a Guarantee Fund, the amount which may be required.

It is proposed that there shall be an additional, or supplementary, series of *four lectures*, to be delivered by the lecturers coming from abroad, and that the proceeds arising from the sale of tickets for such Supplementary Course shall be applied towards the payment of the expenses incurred in providing for the whole of the lectures.

The Regular Course, to which all Members will be admitted, as usual, upon taking out their Season Tickets, will consist of *Eleven* lectures and readings, and will begin on the evening of Monday, 8th December next; and the Supplementary Course, the terms of admission to which have been made as liberal as possible, will commence on the evening of Tuesday, 9th December. Herewith are given at length the names of all the lecturers, the order of their appearance, and the subjects which they will treat.

It is estimated that the amount required to be expended as compensation to lecturers, will be \$1350:

Which expenditure it is proposed to meet by an immediate appropriation, out of the revenues of the Institute, of...\$600
Leaving the sum for which a Guarantee is asked.....\$750

If, as is confidently expected, the four Supplementary Lectures yield a return of \$175 each, no call will be made upon the guarantors.

The Directors trust that the efforts they have made to obtain Lectures which shall be at once instructive and interesting to all classes of hearers, may be duly appreciated by the public; and they especially hope that the arrangements they have entered into will be approved by the Members, whose active and hearty support is more than ever before needed, in order to maintain the long-continued usefulness and high reputation of *The Saint John Mechanics' Institute*.

NOTICES OF LECTURERS.

EDWARD JENKINS.

Of his recent first appearance in America as a lecturer, at the Boston Lyceum, the *Boston Advertiser* said, among other commendatory remarks:

The lecture season began last night with the opening of Redpath's Lyceum Course in Music Hall, and if the opening may be taken as an augury of what is to come, the success of the season of 1873-74 is assured. The great hall was filled in every part with one of Boston's best audiences waiting to hear one of England's keenest satirists—the author of "Ginx's Baby."

Mr. Jenkins is a slightly built man with a thoughtful face of a reflective cast, adorned with a slight moustache, and a short, light brown beard. His hair is thin, the top of his head being entirely bald. His forehead is high and dome-like, and his clear blue eyes are deep-set. His voice is clear and well modulated, moderate in volume, but of considerable penetration. In manner, as well as appearance, he very much resembles the Rev. William B. Alger, but his speech is far more rapid than that gentleman's. His tone is perhaps somewhat cold, but is remarkable for a suppressed intensity which tells of the deep and thorough earnestness of the speaker. His manner is easy and self-possessed; and his movements quick and nervous, with few and well-timed gestures. He has none of the awkward constraint which is seen in many of the distinguished Englishmen who have visited us, and there is hardly a trace of the English inflection or accent to be detected in his speech.

The *Boston Post* said:

Last evening the lecture season received a brilliant inauguration at Music Hall, the occasion being the first appearance in Boston of Mr. Edward Jenkins, the English politician, who is so well known to the world as the author of "Ginx's Baby." The presence of a large audience testified alike to the zest with which the public enter upon the new lecture season and to the interest excited by the appearance of Mr. Jenkins in this country. It only lacked about fifteen minutes to 8 o'clock when the lecturer appeared, accompanied by the Hon. Charles Sumner and Gen. N. P. Banks, the organ pealing forth the strains of the English national anthem as he made his bow to the audience. Of his personal characteristics it is enough to say that he is a young man, apparently not more than 35 years of age, if indeed he be so old, of spare habit, the fairest of blonde complexions, and withal a very graceful carriage. His voice is clear and pleasing, though there is no approach to stentorian

tones; nor is it ringing. At times the manner of his delivery was tinged with a preacher-like solemnity; and again in some of his more forcible passages the satirical bent of his mind found expression in a sarcastic rendering of the closing words. His language is very ornate and vigorous, with a tendency to profusion of metaphor. Throughout the lecture the greatest silence prevailed, and his audience evidently relished his utterances as an intellectual treat, but applause was seldom accorded him. His auditors were not indeed demonstrative, and it is not detracting from Mr. Jenkins's merit to say that his style as a lecturer is less calculated to provoke frequent applause than it is to induce a well-sustained and admiring attention.

The lecturer finished his discourse with an eloquent and lengthy peroration, concluding thus: Statesmen must have faith, and people must have faith. It is this which binds together in strongest bonds the body social and politic. In fine, my friends, social and temporal benefits alike can only rest upon a people animated by high principles. Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are honorable, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are of good report, these are at once the attributes of the highest citizenship and the noblest Christianity.

The lecturer resumed his seat shortly after nine o'clock, amidst prolonged and hearty applause.

The lecturer was frequently applauded, and made a good impression upon the audience, the first he ever addressed in America.

And the *Boston Journal* and *Boston Globe* also contained highly complimentary notices of the manner in which Mr. Jenkins dealt with his interesting subject—"THE ENGLAND OF TO-DAY."

ISAAC J. HAYES, M. D.:—

The following are samples of the enthusiastic tributes paid to Dr. HAYES wherever he appears:

"Dr. Hayes is one of the most unassuming, but one of the most popular and delightful lecturers in the field. He has a wonderful story to tell, of which he is the hero; although his own achievements are kept in the background, and the exploits of his predecessors depicted in the most generous terms. His lectures are illustrated with views taken on the spot. We hope to have the privilege of hearing a series of lectures from the celebrated explorer this season in New York. They would be sure to draw large and cultivated audiences.—*New York Evening Mail*, Feb. 24th, 1873.

"Dr. Hayes is a very interesting lecturer; and his easy, natural and conversational style threw a halo of romance over a narrative of what he had himself seen, felt and found in the mysterious Arctic circle. The whole lecture was so crowded full of information, that we could not but regret that, instead of one single lecture, Dr. Hayes had not given us a series, after the manner of Tyndall."
—*Philadelphia North American*, March 7, 1873.

"Dr. Hayes gave his entire series of lectures, occupying twelve evenings, with great *clat*, before the Lowell Institute. His entertainment is not only interesting and amusing, but exceedingly instructive and profitable. Would that we had more of the same sort!"—*Boston Post*.

The Hon. WILLIAM PARSONS,

of Ireland, has appeared during three successive lecture seasons in the United States, and has now come out to fulfil his many engagements for the present year. Everywhere, both in the Old Country and in America, Mr. Parsons has won the very highest degree of popularity, and the eulogistic notes of his lectures both at home and in America, which have appeared in the newspapers, are almost innumerable. From opinions of the British Press we take the following, merely because they are brief and pointed:

"It would be impossible to do justice to the spirited and eloquent exposition of Mr. Parsons, interrupted by frequent bursts of applause."—*London Daily News*.

"Mr. Parsons's addresses are marked by evidences of extensive reading and study: they are most eloquently delivered, and are alike argumentative, and brimful of information."—*Leeds Mercury*.

"Mr. Parsons is a master of his art, full of spirit, breaking into passages of lofty eloquence."—*Glasgow International*.

"Mr. Parsons's style is very captivating; and he treats his subject in so thoroughly a *con amore* manner, that his enthusiasm becomes infectious."—*North British Daily Mail*.

"Mr. Parsons never disappoints; every time we hear him he seems fresher, more touching, and more humorous."—*Ulster Gazette*.

From opinions of the American Press we call these, which are short:

"His eloquence and easy style have charmed every audience before which he has appeared since his arrival in this country."—*Kennebec Journal*.

"Mr. Parsons is one of the very few orators of foreign birth who have carried the New England Lyceum, as it were, by storm. Managers and journalists, wherever he has spoken, vie with each other in their eulogiums of him."—*Boston Traveller*.

"Gifted with the power of putting life into dead things, of resurrecting the past. It is lectures like this—warm, animated, and truthful—that inoculate Lyceums with healthful life."—*Charlestown Chronicle*.

Of his lecture on Michael Angelo we read:

"The most finished, scholarly and eloquent lecture of the season. His subject was 'Michael Angelo, and the Rise of the Fine Arts in Italy.' In his peroration he defined art with a discrimination and elegance that are seldom equalled."—*Orange (N. J.) Journal*.

"Those who listened to the speaker were from the first so deeply impressed with the grandeur of the subject, the eloquence of the address and manner of its delivery, that they appeared spell-bound, as it were, to the last."—*Poughkeepsie News*.

"It was a most able and eloquent effort, both in composition and delivery, and fully sustained the unequalled reputation of Mr. Parsons as a lecturer. The audience, composed of the *élite* of Boston society, was held in delighted interest for an hour and a half."—*Boston Pilot*.

HON. FREDERICK DOUGLASS:—

Mr. Douglass enjoys a reputation as an eloquent and accomplished speaker, which renders particular notices of his efforts unnecessary in this community. His name, so well known here, is a sufficient guarantee of the excellence of the lectures he has been engaged to give; and we have no doubt that he will prove himself to be a worthy associate of the other eminent professional lecturers who are to take part in our Course.

COURSE OF LECTURES

FOR THE SEASON 1873-1874.

	NAME OF LECTURER.	TITLE OF SUBJECT.
*1873.		
8th Dec'r.	EDWARD JENKINS, Esq.,	"The England of To-day."
15th "	ISAAC J. HAYES, M. D.,	"The Open Polar Sea."
22nd "	HON. WILLIAM PARSONS,	"Michael Angelo."
1874.		
5th Jan'y.	HON. FREDERICK DOUGLASS,	"William the Silent."
12th "	PROF. L. W. BAILEY, M. A.,	"The Geology of the Present Period."
19th "	{ J. W. LANERGAN, Esq., and Mrs. LANERGAN,	Select Readings,
26th "	W. BRYDONE JACK, D. C. L.,	"Space and its Contents," with illustrations.
2nd Feb'y.	REV. JAMES BENNET,	"Varieties of Humour."
9th "	PROF. G. E. FOSTER, A. B.,	"Foundation & Superstructure."
16th "	REV. LEONARD GAETZ,	"Help Yourself."
23rd "	JOHN BOYD, Esq.,	"Who giveth this Woman."

SUPPLEMENTARY COURSE.

The price of Tickets for admittance to each Lecture of this Course will be 25 cents. For the accommodation of business men and others, who cannot always arrive at the Hall before 8 o'clock in the evening, 200 seats will be reserved, the price of Tickets for which will be 50 cents.

1873.		
9th Dec'r.	EDWARD JENKINS, Esq.,	"English Satirists."
16th "	I. J. HAYES, Esq., M. D.,	"The Ancient Mariners."
23rd "	HON. W. PARSONS,	"Cicero and Old Rome."
1874.		
6th Jan'y.	HON. FRED. DOUGLASS,	"Santo Domingo."

St. JOHN, N. B., 22nd October, A. D. 1873.

() BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

() 1873.

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