

The Hon. W. Young #8

Chief Justice

1861

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SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT

Public Accounts of Boys' Schools
OF THE

COMMITTEE

OF THE

HALIFAX YOUNG MEN'S

CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION:

WITH

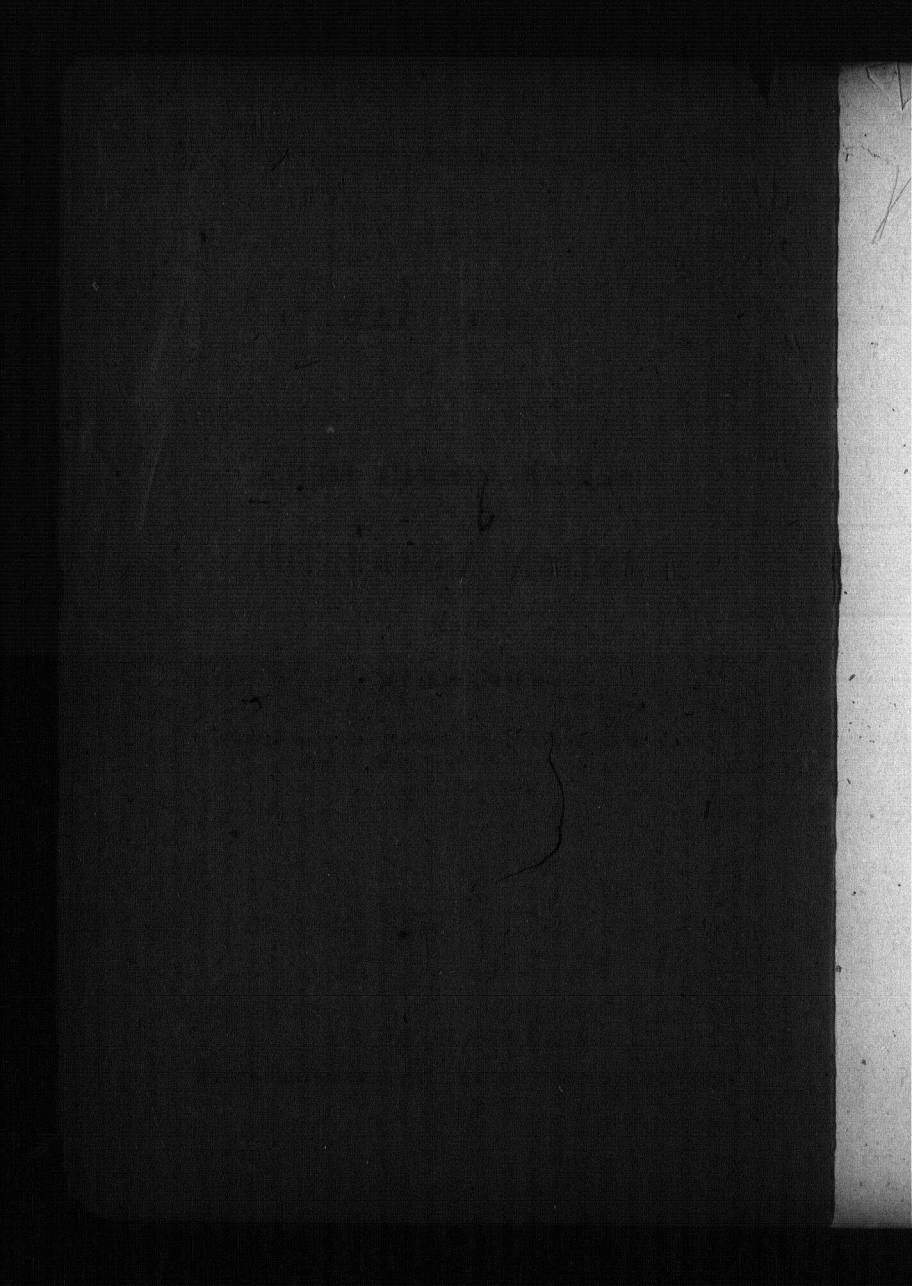
APPENDIX

CONTAINING CONSTITUTION AND RULES, TREASURER'S
ACCOUNTS, LIST OF LECTURERS, TO MARCH,
1861, ETC., ETC.

HALIFAX, N. S.:

READING ROOM AND LIBRARY, 128 BARRINGTON STREET.

1861.



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(ELECTED 11TH APRIL.)

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REPORT.

THE Committee of the Halifax Young Men's Christian Association beg to present their Seventh Annual Report. They have, as an Association, experienced another year of the goodness of their Heavenly Father, and as Young Men's Christian Associations are now recognized standing institutions in the Christian world, a glance at their history may not be deemed out of place in the present Report.

In the Spring of 1844 a few young men in the City of London instituted a prayer meeting specially intended for those engaged in commercial pursuits. Their meeting was held in the centre of the city, and its beneficial influence soon became manifest in their conduct and conversation. The principal of a large House in the Dry Goods Trade heard of this, and, on communicating it to his leading assistant, found that he had been for some time engaged in conducting a similar meeting among his companions. A request was sent to a third person, who was a leading man in another House, that he would attend a meeting with them. His reply was that a few Christian young men in the House first mentioned had already agreed to meet that very evening for the purpose of doing something to originate prayer meetings in other Houses. Thus the Spirit of God had been warming hearts, and lighting sparks that only required to be drawn together within the household of faith and fanned by contact and communion to blaze forth in incense to the Redeemer's praise.

They met thus from time to time in a small Coffee House on Ludgate Hill with continued accessions to their number. Here they are said "to have realized the support and blessing of Christian fellowship, and were made glad by the pra-

sence and the gracious encouragements of the Lord whom they served.*

Subsequently, Branch Associations were formed in London, and then in the Provinces. The movement speedily extended to Continental Europe and to America, and for the past sixteen years these organizations have become increasingly influential. In London, Exeter Hall was engaged as a Lecture Room and filled with attentive audiences. The piety, combined with literary and scientific talent, of Britain felt, and still feels, honoured in contributing to the intellectual exercises of that place; and the Exeter Hall Lectures are looked upon as no mean contribution to the Literature of our age. Ten volumes of Lectures have been issued, and must, in the aggregate, including American reprints, have reached a million of volumes. It is not auguring too much for the London Association to repeat a prediction already made respecting it, that Exeter Hall may yet be destined, through this Institution, to bring about England's Second Reformation.

In the recent religious awakenings of Europe and America, where these institutions have been faithful to their trust as "*Christian Associations*." They have been pioneers to the progress of the Gospel, and their rooms and hearts have ever been open to the appeals that have been made in behalf of all those social reforms, which characterises our day.

In this community the origin of the Association was similar to that of its London prototype. Bible Classes were held in some of the counting rooms and offices of a few of the citizens. A desire for Christian Association drew those isolated efforts together, and the result was the formation of this institution on the 10th December, 1858. Since this time the aggregate amount of money expended in sustaining the

* See Young Men's Christian Association of London History, Objects and Developments—London, 1860.

institution has exceeded *two thousand pounds*. For the Lectures of the Association, the Temperance Hall Company has received, including door-keeping and attendance over £300. It has from its funds, and also indirectly, materially assisted the Halifax City Mission. It has been instrumental in bringing about some important changes in the condition of clerks, whose long hours of application in several of the shops and counting houses gave them but little time for pursuits of an improving kind.

Through the instrumentality of this Association, fifteen hundred copies of the "Children's Paper" are every month distributed in the Sabbath Schools, and through them circulated among the families of the Provinces. The price at which they are supplied to many schools is merely nominal, and the deficiency is liberally borne by W Miller, Esq., now in London, a valued member of the Association.

It sends to the homes of all classes in the community cheap and improving reading, and opens a place of resort where young men may spend their leisure hours with pleasure and profit; they are thus left without excuse when found frequenting places questionable in character.

For those who are aiming at a higher standard of holiness and a more extended knowledge of God's Truth, the Bible Class of the Association has been held weekly ever since its institution. The attendance has not been at all times what could be wished, yet it has in its continuance and uninterrupted harmony disappointed the expectations of many who predicted for it less favourable results.

Respecting the Library your Committee regret that the funds have not enabled them to make many additions, not even keeping up with the Standard Literature of the day, though several new works of importance have been added. They have to acknowledge the kindness of the few friends

who have made donations of books during the past year, and similar favours are respectfully solicited from others.

Several plans have been under the consideration of your Committee to diminish the expense of the Reading Room. A correspondence upon this subject has been opened with the agent in London. Your Committee do not deem it advisable to recommend the alteration at first contemplated. They again tender their thanks to the proprietors of the Religious Newspapers and Periodicals for copies of their publications. Your Reading Room is still supplied with the London *Daily Times, Record, Watchman, British Messenger, Edinburgh Witness, Philadelphia Presbyterian, Provincial Wesleyan, Christian Messenger, Presbyterian Witness, Home and Foreign Record of the Presbyterian Church, Church of Scotland Record, Eastern Chronicle, Evangelical Christendom; The Family Treasury, Bulwark, Chambers' Journal, Once a Week, Blackwood's Magazine, London Review, London Quarterly, Princeton Review, Edinburgh Review, North British Review, Eclectic Magazine.*

Your Committee express gratitude to God that they have been enabled to close the Eighth Course of Lectures under the auspices of this Institution. The course was opened with a prayer meeting held in the Granville Street Chapel, the Rev. Mr. Uniacke presiding, and was closed by the usual prayer meeting—held on this occasion in Chalmers' Church, the Rev. Mr. McNutt presiding. At both these meetings all denominations of Christians in our city were fully represented. Upon the whole the Course of Lectures just closed has been as successful as many of the previous Sessions. The Committee would tender grateful thanks to those who responded to their appeal for assistance in this department of the enterprise, a list of whom, together with their subjects, will be found in the Appendix. They also tender their thanks to the

Clergymen who kindly announced the Lectures in their Churches, to the Newspaper Proprietors who advertised and inserted their Notices *gratis*, and to all others who have aided them in this effort "to elevate the condition of young men" in this community. For List of Lectures, see Appendix No. 1.

At your last Annual Meeting the Treasurer's account showed a debt of Twenty-Six Pounds against the Association. During the past year efforts were made to liquidate this, and sustain the Institution. Your Committee are happy to report an increase in the Funds by Subscriptions and Donations during the year 1860 over 1859. In the latter year the income from this source did not exceed £90. During the year 1860 it exceeded £150. But an effort will yet require to be made to increase the number of members before the Institution can properly be called *self-sustaining*, though practising the most rigid economy in its management.

Your Committee would gratefully acknowledge the encouragement they received from many of the members upon whom they called soliciting an increase of their annual subscription for the current year.

At the Annual Meeting you instructed your Committee to make arrangements for certain necessary repairs and renovations on the Rooms. At first this had to be deferred on the grounds that you had no continued lease of the premises, and the proprietor was negotiating for the sale of the property. The Rooms continued the same during the administration of the three Executive Committees, and, after the appointment of the last in January this year, they found them in such a condition as called forth unpleasant remarks from friends as well as those who had no particular wish to be considered friends of a Christian Association. Your Committee have succeeded in making the alterations and improvements, and confidently trust they will meet your approbation. Two of

their number have contributed to the undertaking in expectation and on condition that the bills for painting and the remainder of the material will be met by the private donations of members and not from the Association's General Funds.

Twenty-five names have been added to the list of Active Members of the Association within the past year, four of whom have left the city. The whole number of Members, including Life and Active, admitted has been One Hundred and Seventeen, Four of whom have withdrawn, Three have died, Eighteen have left the city, Twelve, though not formally withdrawn, have failed to pay their subscriptions.

The following extract from the Report of your Executive Committee for Quarter ending 31st December, 1860, will better explain the position of the Association respecting Funds and their sources at that time:—

About £156 has been received during the past year in Subscriptions, Life Members Entries and Donations, which may be analyzed as follows, viz.:

Four Life Members admitted in 1860,	-	£40	0	0
Sixty-Eight Active Members paid Subscriptions and Donations,	-	78	0	0
Fifty-Two Associate Members at 10s.,	-	26	0	0
Seven paid smaller sums than 10s.,	-	1	15	0
Special Effort Donations,	-	10	15	0
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		£156	10	0

For details respecting Finance your Committee refer to the Treasurer's account. (See Appendix No. 2.)

During the past year, as an Association, we had to bewail the removal from among us of our late esteemed President Sir Brenton Halliburton, the Chief Justice. The resolutions and correspondence of your Committee on that melancholy occasion are herewith submitted with a request that they be

printed in Appendix to this Report. It will now become your duty to elect a successor. (See Appendix No. 3.)

God has also been pleased to take to himself another valued friend of the Association in the late Rev. Dr. Twining, who ever was an attached friend of the Institution and always ready to give his valuable aid to the Committee.

Your Committee would hardly attempt to recommend any special effort into which the Association would enter in the current year. The calls are numerous. There is necessity for a yet more energetic effort to increase the Active Members of the Association, a more regular attendance at Bible Class by members, and the members of Committees in particular. These are within our border. And there is the Half-Holiday Movement, which legitimately belongs to this Association, and your Committee would recommend its special advocacy by their successors. And in responding to all these calls let the response be given in the name of Jesus, for his sake, and with an eye single to His glory—ever remembering that they that turn many to righteousness shall shine as the stars in the firmament, and he that is made the instrument in the hand of the Spirit of saving a soul from death covers a multitude of sins. In the language of another they would conclude this Report: "Will you young men individually give your influence to those movements in the spirit of self-denial, showing yourselves to be true men, who seek others and not your own good altogether, and remembering that this fleeting world of change, with its fashion, passeth away, you may be enabled to exercise an influence that can never die.

Though scoffers ask where is your gain,
 And mocking say your work is vain,
 Such scoffers die and are forgot,
 Work done for God it dieth not.

APPENDIX.

NO. I.

EIGHTH COURSE OF LECTURES.

DELIVERED BEFORE THE

Young Men's Christian Association.

DURING THE WINTER SESSION OF 1860—61.

- 1.—Our Young Men, their Aims and the means of obtaining them ; by Rev. Robert Sedgewick.
- 2.—The House of Bourbon and the House of Brunswick, or the Story of Two Young Princes and its Moral ; by Rev. John Brewster.
- 3.—The Influence of the Crusades on the Civilization of Europe ; by Mr. A. D. Morse, Esq., Barrister at Law.
- 4.—On Originality ; by J. D. Everett, Esq., A. M., Professor in King's College, Windsor.
- 5.—The Difficulties and Advantages of Self-Education ; by Rev. S. T. Rand, Micmac Missionary.
- 6.—Religious Poetry ; its influence on Spiritual Culture ; by Rev. Allen Pollock.
- 7.—Opening of the Seven Seals of the Apocalypse :
- 8.—Seven Trumpets of the Apocalypse ; a continuation by Rev. Charles Churchill, A. M.
- 9.—On Revivals ; by Rev. John Hunter.

NO. II.

ANNUAL ACCOUNT.

The Halifax Young Men's Chris. Ass. in ac. with the Treasurer.
1861.

Dr.

EXPENDITURE.

Balance due the Treasurer, 1st April, 1860	£26	16	6
Books, Periodicals, Newspapers and Magazines	29	13	11
Salaries: Secretary	£65	0	0
" Sub-Librarian and Messenger	10	0	0
Rent of Reading Room, 4 quarters	75	0	0
Hire of Temperance Hall for Lectures	25	0	0
Travelling Expenses of Lecturers	31	10	0
Printing Reports, Circulars, Hymns, &c.	8	10	0
Gas, three quarters	10	0	0
Petty Expenses, Fuel, Postage, &c.	5	18	6
Insurance	7	10	8
	1	10	0
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	£221	9	7

1861

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RECEIPTS.		
Subscription as Life Member,	James Forman	£10 0 0
"	Dr. Stirling	10 0 0
"	the Chief Justice	10 0 0
"	Edward Binney	10 0 0
Donations, William Miller	£5 0 0	
" A. K. Doull	2 10 0	7 10 0
Subscriptions to 1st April		95 0 0
Special Subscriptions		14 3 8
Lecture Receipts		62 3 5
Sale of Newspapers		2-12 6

£221 9 7

E. E.
March 30th, 1861.SAMUEL H. BLACK,
Treasurer.

NO. III.

Resolution respecting the Late President.

At a meeting of the Halifax Young Men's Christian Association held on Saturday, July 21, 1860, after the usual exercises of prayer and reading; on motion of SAMUEL BLACK, Esq., seconded and passed unanimously.

Resolved, That this Association desire to record deep regret at the loss they have sustained in the death of their venerable President, Sir Brenton Halliburton, Chief Justice, whose removal from among them they bewail, as a great public calamity, whose early advocacy of the interests, whose generous donations to the funds, commenced with the infancy of the Association, and terminated only with his lamented death. And whose urbanity and true Christian bearing towards the successive officers and members of the Association in all their official, private or Christian intercourse during the six years in which he so honorably discharged the duties of President, have all endeared his name and memory to every member of the Association.

Also that a copy of the above resolution with an expression of Christian sympathy, be communicated to the members of the late President's family. (Signed) A. K. DOULL, *Chairman.*

JAMES FARQUHAR, *Secretary.***REPLY.**

"MY DEAR SIR:/"

On behalf of my father's family and myself, I beg to return our most sincere thanks to the Young Men's Christian Associa-

tion for the resolutions passed the 21st inst., testifying the esteem of our Father and their Christian sympathy for ourselves.

"I can assure you these resolutions have afforded me much gratification, as testifying the esteem towards him whom we so loved, of an association for which he felt the greatest regard, and in whose welfare he took the liveliest interest. Seeing how essential religious principles and practice were to our well-being here, and therefore it was his great happiness to see the prosperity of this Society, and an unspeakable gratification to hear of the exemplary conduct of its members, and had not his advanced age prevented it, he would have been one of its most active members. But be assured that it was not forgotten in his petitions to a Throne of Grace.

"We were all very much gratified by the last mark of esteem paid by the Society to his memory in attending his remains to the grave.

"With my best wishes for the continued success and usefulness of the Association, believe me my dear sirs yours very faithfully.

(Signed)

JOHN C. HALLIBURTON.

To A. K. Doull, and members of Committee.

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CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.

THAT this Association be called the "HALIFAX YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION."

ARTICLE II.

That the objects of the Association shall be

FIRST.—The improvement of the spiritual and mental condition of Young Men.

SECOND.—The formation of a Christian Library and Reading Room.

THIRD.—Rooms and accommodation for Bible Classes and Social Prayer Meetings.

FOURTH.—Courses of Lectures on religious subjects, as well as secular having reference to religion, and the employment of every other available means whereby the increase of real vital religion may be promoted.

ARTICLE III.

That as it is the desire of the Association to admit no one to membership who does not give decided evidence of his conversion to God, therefore no person shall be proposed who shall not be a member in good standing of one of the evangelical denominations. He shall be proposed by a member of the Association at one of its meetings, and shall be elected by ballot by the general Committee, after a satisfactory inquiry as to his eligibility.

ARTICLE IV.

That all members of the Association subscribing Twenty Shillings and upwards, shall be admitted to the privileges of the Library, Reading Room, and Lectures.

ARTICLE V.

That any person of good moral character may become an Associate member of this Association by the payment of Ten Shillings annually, and shall be entitled to all the privileges of this Association, the right to vote excepted.

ARTICLE VI.

Any member on the payment of Ten Pounds at any one time, shall become a Life Member.

ARTICLE VII.

The Officers of this Association shall consist of a President, Vice Presidents, a Recording Secretary, a Corresponding Secretary, a Treasurer, Librarian, and a standing Committee, comprising as far as possible members of each evangelical denomination, all of whom shall be chosen annually by ballot.

ARTICLE VIII.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

It shall be the duty of the President and one of the Vice Presidents to preside at all Public meetings of the Association,

It shall be the duty of the Recording Secretary to notify the members of the time and place of meeting, attend the same, to notify all Officers of their election, and to keep a fair and complete record of the transactions of the Association.

The Corresponding Secretary shall be the organ of the Association in its conference with other societies, and shall retain copies of all letters written by him.

The Treasurer shall collect and pay all monies of the Association under direction of the Committee, shall keep a correct account of the same, and shall report whenever required to do so, to the Committee, and to the Association at least once a year.

It shall be the duty of the Librarian to keep in order all books and documents of the Association, to keep a correct catalogue of the same, and an accurate account of all books delivered to all members.

It shall be the duty of the Committee to manage the affairs of the Association, to make By-Laws, appoint special Committees, decide on all applications for membership, appoint a Recording Secretary and Librarian, and take whatever steps may be necessary for the promotion of the objects of the Association.

ARTICLE IX.

All meetings of the Association, and of the Committee, shall be opened and closed with prayer.



LIBRARY AND NEWS ROOM

OPEN EVERY LAWFUL DAY FROM 9 A. M., TO 10 P. M.
128 Barrington Street.

LECTURES

EVERY ALTERNATE TUESDAY EVENING, DURING WINTER,
at **Temperance Hall**, at 7½ O'CLOCK

PRAYER MEETING AND BIBLE CLASS

EVERY SATURDAY EVENING, AT 8¼ O'CLOCK.

THE GENERAL COMMITTEE

MEETS QUARTERLY.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MEETS WEEKLY.