

THIRTY-SEVENTH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Toronto Mechanics' Institute,

WITH AN

ABSTRACT OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

ANNUAL MEETING, 11th MAY, 1868.

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TORONTO:

LEADER AND PATRIOT STEAM PRESS, 63 KING STREET EAST.  
1868.

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## SUB-COMMITTEES FOR THE ENSUING YEAR—1868-9.



### 1. FINANCE.

DANIEL SPRY, *2nd V. P.*, *Chairman.*

HENRY LANGLEY.

F. W. CUMBERLAND.

J. J. WITHROW.

THOMAS DAVISON.

N. L. PIPER.

*W. Edwards*

### 2. LIBRARY.

W. H. SHEPPARD, *Chairman.*

HENRY E. CLARK.

W. HALLEY.

THOMAS McCROSSON.

C. W. BUNTING.

CHAS. CARNEGIE.

### 3. LECTURE.

J. J. WITHROW, *Chairman.*

W. P. MARSTON, *1st V. P.*

R. W. ELLIOTT.

W. HALLEY.

DANIEL SPRY.

W. EDWARDS, *Treasurer.*

1. The Finance Committee also acts as a Building and Letting Rooms Committee.
2. The Library Committee has also charge of the Classes.
3. The Lecture Committee has charge of all Entertainments.

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# TORONTO MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.

## ANNUAL MEETING, 1868.

The Annual Meeting of members was held in the Lecture Room, on Monday evening, 11th May; Mr. J. J. Withrow, President of the Institute, occupied the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The Annual Report was then read by the Secretary, and, on the motion of Mr. John Hallam, seconded by Mr. Rice Lewis, was received and adopted.

Messrs. Carnegie, Hamilton and Harcourt were then appointed by the President to be scrutineers of the ballot.

It was moved by Mr. Carter, and seconded by Mr. Harcourt, that this meeting learns with satisfaction that the lots to the east of the Mechanics' Institute have been secured, with a view to the enlargement of the Music Hall, and would urge upon the new Direction the desirability of taking all necessary steps for the speedy erection of the same provided they can ensure a fair amount of support from the public.

An amendment was moved by Mr. McDonald, and seconded by Mr. Hallam, to the effect that no further steps should be taken in this scheme, but was lost, and the original motion carried.

Moved by Daniel Spry, seconded by T. Sargant—"That the members of this Institute avail themselves of this opportunity to express the great satisfaction they feel in the appointment, by the Government of Ontario, of Mr. Edwards, that long-trying and faithful friend of Mechanics' Institutes, in connection with the Bureau of Agriculture and Arts.—Carried."

The President then declared the following officers elected, there being no opposition:—

HON. G. W. ALLAN, *President.*

DANIEL SPRY, *2nd Vice-President*

WILLIAM EDWARDS, *Treasurer*

The scrutineers reported the following officers elected:—

W. P. MARSTON, *1st Vice-President.*

### DIRECTORS.

C. W. BUNTING,	H. E. CLARKE,
WM. HALLEY,	JOHN WITHROW,
W. H. SHEPPARD,	R. W. ELLIOTT,
F. W. CUMBERLAND,	THOMAS DAVIDSON,
THOMAS McCROSSAN,	H. LANGLEY,
N. L. PIPER,	CHARLES CARNEGIE.

The meeting then adjourned.

RICHARD LEWIS,  
*Secretary.*

# ANNUAL REPORT, 1868.

Your Board of Directors at the termination of their year of office, beg to present the thirty-eighth annual report of the condition and prospects of the Institute.

## THE MEMBERSHIP.

While there has been an increase in the number of members, your Board do not feel justified in stating that the Institute in this department presents a satisfactory aspect.—The anticipation expressed in last year's annual report that "the probable increase of population consequent upon the establishment of the local government in Toronto might lead to a large increase of members" has not been realized. In view of the present population and wealth of the city, and the important educational interests promoted by the Institute, your Directors are satisfied that its claims to public support are not fully appreciated. The earnest attention of the members and friends of the Institute is invited to this subject, as offering the safest and most legitimate sphere of effort for advancing its interests and securing its permanent prosperity. The number of members at date of

last report was .....	622
Subscribers .....	303
Honorary Members .....	17
Life Members .....	76
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Making a total of .....	1018
From which deduct by deaths, removals and withdrawals .....	349
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Leaving .....	678
New Members and Subscribers admitted during the year .....	489
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Total .....	1117
Classified thus:—	
Life Members .....	75
Honorary Members .....	17
Members .....	576
Subscribers .....	449
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Total .....	1117

## FINANCES.

The financial condition of the Institute, in comparison with its past history, is satisfactory. While some of the sources of its

revenues have not been as productive as in former years, a strict economy in the management of its income has enabled the present Board to close the year with slightly diminished liabilities. Were the Institute released from the heavy mortgage debt which to some extent now weighs upon its energies, its general resources and efficiency would be enlarged; and its revenues for educational purposes increased. The value of such an Institute to the public, in all its departments of usefulness and entertainment, cannot be too highly estimated, and as it has every claim to be regarded as an establishment necessary and important to a mercantile community, the Directors trust that at an early period means may be adopted by which it may be relieved from the difficulties which press upon it, and placed in that prosperous and flourishing condition to which its public importance so justly entitles it. Under the influence of this faith, your Directors felt justified in negotiating and completing the purchase of the property adjoining this building, on Adelaide street, with a view to greatly enlarging the present Music Hall and affording increased accommodation for the various operations of the Institute. This property secured, nothing is now required but the means wherewith to carry out the contemplated improvements, and secure for public meetings, exhibitions, and musical entertainments three times the accommodation of the present Hall, besides increased library space, rooms for classes, and other convenient and lucrative results.

Your Treasurer's statement, as audited and published in appendix B, shows the total receipts for the year, \$6,782.38; expenditure, \$6,760.85; balance in hand, \$21.53.

## LIBRARY AND READING ROOM.

The reading room and library are the chief sources of attraction in the institute. The reading room has the advantage of being the only establishment of the kind in the city. In the ample reading resources it presents—resources which embrace the best journals and periodicals of these Provinces, the United States and Great Britain, with a just regard to the views,

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opinions and tastes of every class of the community, and in the comfort, cheerfulness, order, and cleanliness which always distinguish it, and make no small part of its attractiveness, it offers advantages which could not be secured to any individual member for ten times the fee paid in subscription. The library, an equal source of attraction and interest has been as liberally supplied with new books, as the state of the funds would permit. In submission to the popular taste works of Fiction, the demand for which, while it is a subject of regret, the directors cannot control, nor disregard as they form a large source of the attractiveness and revenue of the institute have been liberally supplied. They would, however, respectfully suggest to their successors the importance of using every effort to add to the higher, more solid and useful literature of the library, both to satisfy and to increase the demand in the direction of more valuable reading. They believe that if efforts were made to supply a higher order of books, selected from the literature of the past as well as the present, it would increase that class of members for whom light literature has few attractions, but whose influence and numbers would materially add both to the dignity and the finances of the Institute.

The list of newspapers and magazines regularly supplied to the reading room will be found in appendix C.

The number of books in the library at the date of the last annual report was .....	7,271
Added during the year by purchase.....	229
Bound up from the reading room....	104
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Total.....	7,604
Lost and worn-out during the year..	174
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Present Total .....	7,430

	Vol's. in Library.		Issued.	
	1867.	1868.	1867.	1868.
Biography .....	587	602	871	860
History .....	657	673	714	683
Miscellaneous .	577	597	1,012	851
Fiction .....	2,170	2,209	19,001	16156
Poetry and the Drama... ..	235	248	540	619
Periodical Literature .....	1,110	1,132	3,331	3,031
Science and Art .....	590	599	585	670
Religious Literature .....	163	168	252	272
Voyages and Travels .....	503	513	1,045	1,094
Illustrated works .....	221	239	....	....
Library of Reference .....	458	460	....	....
<hr/>				
	7,271	7,430	27,351	24236

THE EVENING CLASSES.

Of all the useful and important departments of a Mechanics' Institute the evening classes in their influence on the industrial portion of the community, have the highest claim to public sympathy. The end they have in view is not only to afford a general education and means of improvement for those engaged in the active and industrial pursuits of life, but also a technical education, such as no other educational establishments provided, but which is most necessary to the manufacturing and commercial progress of the country. They do not take the place of the ordinary schools, but when properly constituted they continue this school education, complete it as far as possible, and in a special manner direct it by appropriate studies to the special interests of the individual students. It is gratifying to the friends of these classes to find that the Legislature of Ontario has to some extent recognized the importance of the principle expressed in these views, by awarding grants to Institutes complying with certain proper conditions, and that our Institute has qualified itself for the grant of \$200 for the present year—the whole to be devoted to educational objects, either in evening class instruction, or in the purchase of books of a technical character for its library. The example of the government in this important direction cannot fail to give a new impulse to adult and technical education, and gives to the evening classes a powerful claim on the sympathies and liberality of all who are interested in the commercial and manufacturing prosperity of the province.

The reports of the examiners were highly satisfactory, and bore testimony to the soundness and excellence of the instruction. Impressed with the importance of introducing technical instruction, the Board of Directors undertook to establish a class in Chemistry and Natural Philosophy, in addition to the subjects previously taught, and placed it under the charge of Dr. May. The results as reported by competent examiners have been very gratifying, and have satisfied the Directors that with proper resources they would be justified in making further advances in the direction of technical and scientific education as applied to the practical purposes of life.

The financial results of the classes are of inferior consideration; for the object should be to make them available to all by fixing the fees at the very lowest standard; and it is this view of their purpose and value which encourage the directors to believe that further appeals to employers and to the wealthy portion of the citizens would so increase the funds of the Institute as to

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enable them to carry out to the most liberal extent the design of a Mechanics' Institute, by offering the best instruction in science connected with manufacturing and industrial progress.

Your directors here gratefully acknowledge the liberality of the Directors of the Northern railroad; and of John McDonald-Esq., and the other donors named in appendix B, in sustaining their efforts for the promotion of these classes.

The following classes were organized in November last, and closed by examinations in March of this year.

	NO. OF PUPILS.	
	1866-67.	1876-8.
Bookkeeping and penmanship, Mr. Samuel Clare.....	75	63
Arithmetic and mathematics, Mr. Henry Brown.....	36	39
Architectural and mechanical drawing, Mr. Jas. Smith.....	11	12
Ornamental drawing, Mr. R. Baigent.....	14	28
French, Mons. E. Pernet.....	16	30
English grammar and composi- tion, Mr. Saml. M'Alister.....		15
Chemistry and natural philo- sophy, Dr. May.....		15
		202

The following is the list of examiners and the prizes awarded in the different classes:

**BOOK-KEEPING**—Examiners—Messrs. T. D. Harris and W. J. Macdonnell. 1st prize—Alfred White; 2d do., Richard Foster; 3d do., Hugh Salmon.

**PENMANSHIP**.—Examiners—Messrs. T. D. Harris and W. J. Macdonnell. 1st prize—Miss Sarah Joyce; 2d do., Chas. B. Petry; 3d do., W. J. Skerry.

**ARITHMETIC AND MATHEMATICS**.—Examiners—Messrs. J. Brown, M. A., and A. McMurchy, B. A. 1st prize, J. Hennessy, 2d do., J. Marshall; 3d do., R. D. Malcolm.

**ARCHITECTURAL AND MECHANICAL DRAWING**.—Examiners—Messrs. K. Tully, H. Martin, and H. Langley—1st prize, John Greenless; 2nd do., W. H. Pomeroy; 3rd do., T. H. Poole; W. W. Wallace honorably mentioned.

**ORNAMENTAL DRAWING**.—Examiners—Messrs. K. Tully, H. Martin and H. Langley—Prizes: John F. Degeer, figure drawing; R. J. Smith, free-hand drawing; Miss Annie Webster, water color. Divided: T. G. See and C. G. Sheppard, landscape.

**FRENCH**.—Examiner—Dr. Adams.—1st prize, Alexander Brown; 2nd do., H. C. Munro; 3rd do., Wm. Dunbar.

**ENGLISH GRAMMAR AND COMPOSITION**.—Examiners—Rev. James Porter and Mr. Richard Lewis. 1st prize W. C. Black; 2nd do., Chas. B. Petry; 3rd do., Samuel Bartlett.

**CHEMISTRY AND NATURAL PHILOSOPHY**.—Examiner—Professor Croft. 1st prize man, G. A. Aird; 2nd do., C. M. Stubbs; 3rd do., J. Jallings.

#### ENTERTAINMENTS.

The Directors are not able to report any thing beyond a mere nominal profit in the Entertainments. Several circumstances have combined to prevent this important department of their labors from being carried out with its former success. They have, however, no reason to believe that this sphere of enterprise and usefulness is closed against their successors, and they have little doubt that if the Music Hall should be enlarged, ample resources would be available for renewing the operation in a form so attractive and of such benefit to the treasury of the Institute. During the past year the public has, at a very low charge, had the benefit of one excursion, four readings, one re-union, one Christmas carol, and six entertainments. The total receipts had been \$864 17; expenditure, \$862 40—balance, \$1 77.

#### THE FUTURE OF THE INSTITUTE.

While your directors have thus ventured to indicate, by a reference to past action, the fields of labor and usefulness open to the future managers of the institute they desire to offer a few suggestions as to some of the modes of operation by which they conceive these objects may be accomplished. The heavy burthen of a constantly pressing, though slowly diminishing debt, is one of the great obstacles to the success of the institute. Were that debt removed, the Institute would have at its command the large sum now sunk in the payment of interest. Two ways consistent with the character and objects of such an Institute present themselves to accomplish this purpose. The first, the most legitimate and reliable, is the increase of the membership. Your directors are satisfied that if judicious and energetic steps be adopted, not only by their successors in office, but by individual members the membership might be largely increased. They would suggest, in the first place, that every effort should be made to keep up the existing membership by prevailing on all, as their respective terms of subscription expire, to continue and renew their subscription; and by using their personal influence to induce their friends and acquaintances to connect themselves with the institute. The suggestions thrown out at your last annual meeting, it acted upon, would accomplish the desired object, and with little labor to each individual, viz.: "That each member should, during the year, endeavor to induce one friend at least to become a member." This action would itself double the member-

ship, and management of the institute.

Another suggestion is to enlarge the Music Hall, and to have the city improved by the erection of a larger room for the purpose of the Music Hall. The prospect of the city is so bright that the character of the city is so improved that the

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ship, and at but a slight additional cost of management, would be one of the most efficient means of increasing the financial prosperity of your institute.

Another most important, and your Directors believe, imperative enterprize that will demand the attention of the future Board, one to which they have already referred, is the enlargement of the Music Hall. A strong feeling is growing in the public mind that Toronto requires a very much larger room for public purposes than the Music Hall; and while the general belief of the leading professional musical men in the city is that attractions and advantages could be created in connection with a larger room so as to amply repay the cost incurred, your Directors consider that in prospect of any other enterprise being contemplated in this direction, it is due to the character and claims of their own institute that the subject should be fully considered.

The necessity for prompt and energetic efforts, consistent with the character and usefulness of the institute being made, is the apology your Directors offer for submitting these suggestions. They feel that the time has arrived, when the welfare and prosperity of their Institute may be seriously affected, and when, by wise and active measures its best interests may be so firmly established, as to make its future prosperity dependent only on economy and judicious management. They therefore close this report by urging upon its members and friends the immediate consideration of the measure they have indicated to secure the ends in view.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

JOHN J. WITHROW,  
*President.*

## APPENDIX A.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, TORONTO MECHANICS' INSTITUTE, 1ST. MAY 1863,

ASSETS.		LIABILITIES.	
Real estate.....	\$50,000 00	Loan on building and ground...	\$13,400 00
Library and furniture.....	8,000 00	Sundry liabilities.....	688 10
Members' subscriptions due.....	\$150 00	Balance assets.....	39,136 98
Rents due.....	53 55		
Cash on hand.....	21 53		
	225 08		
	\$58,225 08		\$58,225 08

## APPENDIX B.

RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURE.	
Balance cash on hand, 1st May, 1867.....	\$226 44	Interest on mortgage.....	\$1,104 00
New members and subscribers ..	590 75	"    Discount.....	7 12
Old " " " ..	1,414 50	Salaries ..	1,515 90
Rents from all sources.....	3,526 67	New books.....	354 44
Fines and fees.....	79 90	Binding ..	148 66
Magazines sent from library. ....	50 36	Newspapers and Magazines ..	337 79
Newspaper sold.....	84 25	Postage.....	96 92
Catalogues sold ..	15 25	Printing and advertising ..	242 78
Lost books paid for.....	5 50	Stationery and blank books.....	33 33
Fees from pupils of classes.....	480 00	Fuel.....	322 20
Northern Railway Co. for classes	100 00	Gas.....	992 90
John McDonald, Esq., " ..	100 00	Water rate.....	60 00
Wm. Elliot.....	5 00	Insurance.....	191 00
Robt. Elliot ..	5 00	Repairs.....	196 35
F. W. Coate ..	2 00	Class Teachers, prizes, &c ..	525 95
Rice Lewis ..	5 00	Help.....	134 36
Gooderham and Worts. " ..	10 00	Sundry rents returned.....	53 36
Entertainments ..	1 77	Note of previous year retired...	300 00
Sundries ..	79 99	Last year's account paid.....	144 45
	\$6,782 38	Cash on hand ..	21 53
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# TORONTO MECHANICS' INSTITUTE,

N. E. Corner of Adelaide and Church Streets.

## TERMS OF MEMBERSHIP :

Gentlemen, - - - - -	\$2.50 per annum.
“	1.00 per quarter.
Ladies, and Youths under nineteen years of age, - - - - -	2.00 per annum.
“ “ “ “	0.75 per quarter.

## THE LIBRARY

Contains nearly 8,000 Volumes, and is constantly enlarged by the addition of new Works of general interest and importance.

## THE READING ROOM

Is supplied with the best Domestic and Foreign Newspapers and Magazines, and is open from 8 o'clock, A.M., to 10 P.M.

## WINTER EVENING CLASSES

Are open for a Session of five months, under competent instructors, and at very moderate fees.

The MUSIC HALL, LECTURE and other Rooms, are rented for Public Meetings, Entertainments, &c.

☞ Monthly Magazines and Quarterly Reviews lent out at Two Cents a Day.

## APPEAL TO THE MEMBERS.

The Directors earnestly call the attention of the Members to the suggestion put forth in the Report, viz.: That each Member should endeavor to induce one friend at least to become a Member. The importance of the Institute to the public, and the numerous advantages it gives for the subscription paid, will fully justify every effort of this kind made in its behalf; while the result would double the membership and supply the Directors with ample resources for increasing the attractiveness and value of the Library, and for extending the usefulness of the Institute as an Educational establishment. The movement has already been inaugurated by the efforts of zealous friends, and the Directors, believing that every Member and Subscriber, lady or gentleman, can aid it, and is interested in its success, make the appeal with sanguine expectations that it will meet with a warm and practical response.

RICHARD LEWIS, *Secretary.*