

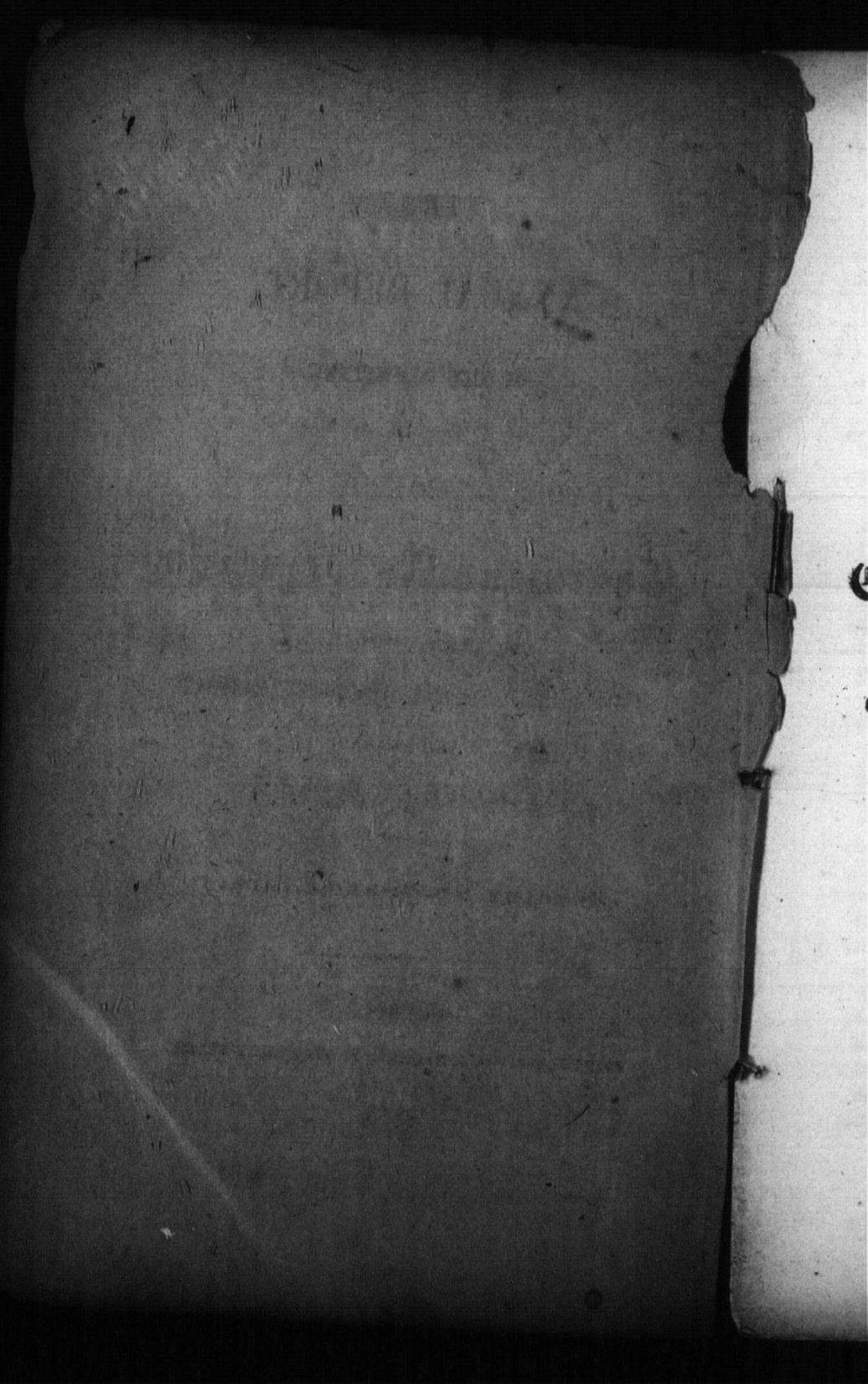
FIRST
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE COMMITTEE
OF THE
HALIFAX YOUNG MEN'S
Christian Association.
WITH LISTS OF
OFFICE BEARERS, MEMBERS, SUBSCRIBERS AND DONORS :
AND ALSO A
CATALOGUE OF BOOKS, &c.
IN THE
Reading Room and Library.

HALIFAX, N. S.

PRINTED BY W. CUNNABELL, 37 GRANVILLE STREET.

1855.

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ANNUAL REPORT  
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HABITAT FOR HUMANS  
FOUNDATION

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FIRST ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
HALIFAX YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN  
ASSOCIATION.

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THE Committee of the Young Men's Christian Association beg leave to lay before the Association, at this their First Annual Meeting, the following Report :—

They would begin by devoutly acknowledging the mercies of the Almighty, which have been so abundantly vouchsafed to them, during the first, and necessarily the most important year of their Institution.

Your Committee, in commencing the organization of the Association, could not but feel deep solicitude in thus entering upon a sphere which had been hitherto untried in this community. But looking at the success of similar institutions in other places, and feeling that they were actuated by a desire to benefit their fellow-citizens, and particularly the YOUNG MEN, in whose welfare the deepest interest should ever be taken; and above all depending on Him whose blessing is never withheld from those who humbly seek Him—they have begun and have been encouraged to continue in their labors. In laying the basis of their institution, they were desirous of making it wide enough to include the members of all Evangelical Churches; and by this means not only make it more generally useful, but also increase the spirit of union among Christ's followers, who, though belonging to different branches of His Church, have yet their hearts filled with the same desire of extending His Kingdom in the world. They were desirous also of providing religious instruction in such an attractive form and upon such terms as might render it interesting and available to all classes in the

community. Following therefore the course adopted in the Mother Country, and the United States, by such Associations they opened a Library and Reading Room, furnished it comfortably for the convenience of those entitled to its benefits, and supplied it with the leading religious periodicals of Great Britain, the United States, and the Colonies as well as with several secular periodicals of the highest order of talent, including complete files of the London Times.

They also commenced a course of public lectures, to be delivered fortnightly during the winter, at the Temperance Hall. These lectures were commenced in the early part of January, 1854; and the first of the course was delivered by the Rev. Dr. Richey, to whom your Committee are deeply indebted for his able and eloquent exposition on that occasion of the objects and views of the Association. His lecture was followed by others given by leading Clergymen of several denominations—all of which were received by crowded audiences with great satisfaction. These Clergymen also are entitled to the cordial thanks of the Association. Funds were appropriated for the purchase of books for the Library, and thus the Institution was fairly placed before the public.

Your Committee have had no reason to feel dissatisfied with the reception they have experienced; but they would have been better pleased were they able to report a larger number of Members and Subscribers. They trust, however, that as the Institution becomes better known and appreciated, they will find a large accession to their ranks in both departments. To the several donors who have contributed so liberally to their funds, they are under great obligations, as they have by their means been enabled to commence their Library—the purchases for which are made entirely from this source,—leaving the ordinary expenses of the Institution to be

defrayed by the annual subscriptions of members and subscribers.

The following returns will show the present state of the Institution:—

|                                                                                                                                  |   |     |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|-----|
| Number of Subscribers who are entitled to the use of the Library and Reading Room, on payment of the Annual Subscription of 10s. | } | 101 |
| Number of Members paying the Annual Subscription of £1,                                                                          |   |     |
| Number of Donors,                                                                                                                |   | 51  |

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FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

Amount received during the Year from	
Members and Subscribers,	£ 90 1 11
Donations,	586 10 0
Per Sale of Papers,	1 3 10
Collections at Public Lectures, and sale of Dr. Richey's Lecture,	53 14 6
	£731 6 3

EXPENSES.

1 year's Rent of Reading Room,	£20 0 0
Fitting and Furnishing do.	76 5 0
Papers and Pamphlets, Postage and Incidental Expenses,	34 0 0
Salaries of Librarian and Boy during the Year,	62 8 4
	£192 13 4
Use of Temperance Hall for Lectures, Printing and other Incidental Expenses of do.	52 1 6
Purchases of Books for Library,	129 12 5:374 7 3
1*	£357 19 0

—Leaving a balance in the Treasurer's hands of £357 19s.—a portion of which however, may be considered as already appropriated for the payment of a large order of books for the Library from England, which came out by the last steamer, but by mistake have been taken to Boston; and another portion for purposes connected with the City Mission. The number of volumes in the Library is 730—comprising a collection of most interesting books, not only of a purely religious character, but also some of the best historical and scientific works of the day, as well as the works of the leading poets and travellers. Your Committee feel that they can safely draw the public attention to this branch of their institution, as affording a choice and attractive reading for all classes, and of a character to elevate and refine the taste.

Your Committee would also draw the attention of the public to the Bible classes, which meet at their Rooms every Saturday evening, and are open to the public.

Your Committee have only to add that the present season has commenced under the most favourable auspices. Although the novelty of public lectures might have been supposed to attract in the first instance, yet there does not appear to be any diminution in the public interest and favour; and the audiences during the present course, so far, seem to be even more numerous and attentive than during last season; and your Committee see no reason for apprehension for the future in this particular.

Before closing this Report, your Committee would advert to the great loss the Association has sustained by the decease of their venerable President, Hon. H. H. Cogswell, who took the warmest interest in it, and who was among the largest of its donors. They deemed it right, on the melancholy occasion of his demise, to make a public record of their esteem and regard for

OFFICE BEARERS.

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him, and of the benefits they had received at his hands.

Your Committee beg finally to express their entire satisfaction with their Secretary and Librarian, Mr. Murray, and with the care and attention bestowed by him upon the Reading Room and Library under his charge.

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 Tartar Tribes, The  
 Testimony of the Reformers  
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Ure's Dictionary of Arts, 2 vols.  
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## Y

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## Newspapers and Periodicals.

|                   |                            |
|-------------------|----------------------------|
| London Times      | Naval and Military Gazette |
| Edinburgh Witness | The Watchman               |
| "    Guardian     | Patriot                    |
| British Banner    | Athenæum                   |
| London Record     | Builder                    |
| Christian Times   | Illustrated London News    |

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| Evangelical Christendom   | Quarterly Review             |
| New York Observer         | London Quarterly Review      |
| Philadelphia Presbyterian | Excelsior                    |
| Protestant Churchman      | National Magazine            |
| American Messenger        | Home do                      |
| Advocate and Journal      | Anglo American do            |
| The Independent           | Scientific do                |
| Echo                      | Household Words              |
| Montreal Witness          | Merchant's Magazine          |
| Church Witness            | Eclectic do                  |
| Presbyterian Witness      | Princeton Quarterly Review   |
| Provincial Wesleyan       | Bulwark                      |
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The following Works have been received since the preceding pages were prepared for the Press:—

- Ancient Christianity, I. Taylor, 2 vols  
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 Arnold's Life and Correspondence  
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 Armenia and Erzeroum, Curzon  
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 Bible in Spain, Borrow  
 Butler's Analogy of Religion  
 Bards of the Bible, Gilfillan  
 Christian Art, Lord Lindsay, 3 vols  
 Chemistry of Common Life, Professor Johnston  
 Chemistry, Animal, Liebig  
 Christian Philosopher triumphing over Death  
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 do Letters on do  
 Chalmers' Works complete in 21 vols. uniform  
 Duff on India and India Missions  
 Divine Government, The Method of the, by D. McCosh  
 Davy's Consolations in Travel  
 Frontier Lands of the Christian and Turk, 2 vols.  
 Fine Arts, Guizot  
 Faggot of French Sticks, 2 vols.  
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- First Lines of Christian Theology, J. Pye Smith  
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 History of the Rebellion and Civil Wars in England, Clarendon  
 History, Ancient, Rollin, 6 vols.  
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 Lectures to Young Men, 1847—48  
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     do do do 1850—51  
     do do do 1853—54  
 Literary characters and Essays, Henry Hallane  
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 Memorandums made in Ireland, by Prof. Forbes, 2 vols  
 Mason and Melmoth  
 Martyrs of Science, Brewster  
 Memoir of Robert Hall  
 Norway and its Glaciers, Professor Forbes  
 Natural History of Enthusiasm, Isaac Taylor  
 Nubian Desert, Peel  
 Narrative of Missionary Enterprises, J. Williams  
 Natural Magic, Letters on, Sir D. Brewster  
 Poetical Works, Wordsworth  
     do do Bishop Heber  
 Plutarch's Lives, Langhorne, 2 vols  
 Pollok's Course of Time  
 Poetical Works, Longfellow  
 Pictures from Sicily  
 Pursuit of Knowledge under Difficulties  
 Popular Treatise on Magnetism, Sir D. Brewster

- Russell's Modern Europe, 4 vols.  
Records of a Good Man's Life  
Roughing it in the Bush, Moodie  
Siluria, Murchison  
Student's Guide, Todd  
Sutherland's Journal of Capt. Penny's Voyage to Wellington Chan-  
Statesmen of the Time of George 3d, 6 vols. nel, [2 vols.  
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## LECTURES

Delivered before the Association, during the winter of 1854.

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- 1.—Nature and Objects of Young Men's Christian Associations, by Rev. Matthew Richey, D. D.
- 2.—The Hebrew Nation; their Past, Present, and Future, by Rev. George Hill.
- 3.—Facts and Lessons from Geology, by Rev. J. C. Geikie.
- 4.—The Advantages of Literary Studies and their Consistency with the Spiritual Life, by Rev. William Lyall, Professor of Philosophy.
- 5.—The Power of Individual Exertion, by Rev. George W. Sprott.
- 6.—The Present War viewed in the Light of Prophecy, by Rev. Alexander Forrester.
- 7.—The Formation of Character, by Rev. E. A. Crawley, D. D.