



Mechanics' Institute

OF ST. JOHN, N. B.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS--1874-75.

GILBERT MURDOCH, PRESIDENT.
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I. ALLEN JACK, COR. SEC'Y. J. A. S. MOTT, REC. SEC'Y.

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JAMES MILLIGAN,

GEO. H. LAWRENCE,
HENRY G. HUNT,
CARSON FLOOD,
ALEX. RANKINE,
GEO. W. WHITNEY,
M. LINDSAY.

AUDITORS:


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

CURATOR:


C. C. PARKER.

HONORARY MEMBERS:

THE RIGHT HON. JOHN BARON LISGAR, G. C. B., G. M. G.,
MAJOR GENERAL SIR CHARLES HASTINGS DOYLE,
HON. A. H. GORDON, J. G. MCGREGOR,
AND GEORGE BLATCH, Esq.



J. & A. McMILLAN, Printers.



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Annual Report.

To the Members of the Saint John Mechanics' Institute :

The President and Directors regret sincerely that they are again called upon to present to the Members of the Institute a Report which does not exhibit its affairs as being in a condition so prosperous as they could desire, or as they had hoped, when they made their last annual statement, to be able at this time to speak of. In spite of the most economical and careful management on their part, and of constant and anxious efforts to improve its financial position, the Institute still remains laboring under a floating debt of more than *Thirteen Hundred Dollars*. This debt it has been found impossible, by any ordinary means at the command of the Board, to reduce; and it has been even increased somewhat within the past year, although every available source of income has been improved to the fullest extent.

The expenditure during the year has been kept within the narrowest limits consistent with the efficient management of our concerns. A reference to the Estimate which was prepared and given at the last General Meeting as an exhibit of the probable revenue and outlay for the ensuing year, will show that the expenses have not been in excess of the amount there set down, and that the income from all sources has been nearly equal to the amount calculated upon. But in regard to the aggregate sum received from the sale of Members' Tickets, and of tickets for admission to the Supplementary Course of Lectures, the Board have to confess a serious disappointment. Their exertions to increase the receipts from these sources have, they are sorry to be compelled to say, been productive of no encouraging results. Notwithstanding the care taken to secure from abroad the services of eminent pro-

professional lecturers, and the large outlay which their engagement necessarily involved, and notwithstanding the high character of the lectures, scientific and literary, fortunately obtained from gentlemen resident in our own Province and in Nova Scotia, the attractions we have thus placed before the public have not proved strong enough to realize the anticipated accession to our membership. In fact, the number of members who this year took out their tickets is but 284, a falling off of 66 from last year's number. The sum received from Members' Fees is \$1412, while it last year was \$1863. The deficiency thus created has been, it is true, in part compensated by the amount derived from the rents received for the use of the Hall, which has been by \$485 42 more than the estimated sum.

An examination of the Abstract of Receipts and Expenditures for the year, and of the Abstract of Liabilities and Assets of the Institute at this date, which has been made up in the usual form, and is herewith submitted, will fully explain the points to which reference has been made. It will also make clear to the Members the pressing necessity for some immediate and effective action in regard to our finances, if we desire to maintain in a position of usefulness an institution which has done so much good in the past, and which deserves so well of the present.

Last year your President and Directors, in their Report, brought this subject prominently before the Members at the General Meeting; and a Special Committee was then appointed, in accordance with a Resolution adopted by the Meeting, to solicit subscriptions in aid of the Institute's funds. The sum procured by that Committee was, in all, \$369, which was not half the amount required to effect the object proposed by those who supported the adoption of such a method of redressing our finances. The following is a list of the members who contributed towards raising the amount :

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**Special Money Donations collected for the Mechanics'
Institute during the year ending 31st March, 1875.**

| NAME. | AMT. | NAME. | AMT. |
|------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| Gilbert Murdoch,..... | \$20 00 | <i>Brought forward,....</i> | <i>\$174 00</i> |
| T. A. Rankine,..... | 10 00 | J. T. C. McKean,..... | 2 00 |
| Alexander Rankine,.... | 10 00 | M.,..... | 2 00 |
| John Vassie,..... | 10 00 | A. H. Demill,..... | 2 00 |
| G. W. Whitney,..... | 10 00 | G. E. King,..... | 2 00 |
| James Reed,..... | 5 00 | H. T. Thorne,..... | 1 00 |
| Robert Reed,..... | 5 00 | J. A. Venning,..... | 4 00 |
| C. H. Fairweather,.... | 5 00 | O. T. Stone,..... | 2 00 |
| J. M. Lloyd,..... | 5 00 | John McMillan,..... | 5 00 |
| Edwin Fisher,..... | 5 00 | James E. Barnes,.... | 4 00 |
| T. M. Robinson,..... | 5 00 | Cash, W. E. V.,..... | 2 00 |
| J. G. Forbes,..... | 5 00 | L. J. Schureman,..... | 4 00 |
| H. Sinnot,..... | 5 00 | I. A. Jack,..... | 10 00 |
| Harrison & Burbidge,.. | 5 00 | William Thomson,.... | 10 00 |
| W. H. Tuck,..... | 5 00 | E. J. Everett,..... | 5 00 |
| T. A. Temple,..... | 5 00 | H. L. Sturdee,..... | 10 00 |
| J. R. Stone,..... | 5 00 | John Boyd,..... | 10 00 |
| John Magee,..... | 5 00 | Hon. T. R. Jones,.... | 10 00 |
| Taylor Brothers,..... | 5 00 | James Milligan,..... | 10 00 |
| J. & W. F. Harrison,.. | 5 00 | R. P. Butler,..... | 10 00 |
| S. S. Hall,..... | 5 00 | J. W. Scammell,.... | 10 00 |
| W. W. Turnbull,..... | 5 00 | W. G. Lawton,..... | 10 00 |
| Luke Stewart,..... | 10 00 | Andrew Gilmour,.... | 10 00 |
| A. H. Eaton,..... | 1 00 | A. L. Kerr,..... | 10 00 |
| G. S. Fisher,..... | 5 00 | J. H. McAvity,..... | 5 00 |
| J. McGregor,..... | 2 00 | Matthew Lindsay,.... | 5 00 |
| H. A. Austin,..... | 5 00 | W. W. Jordan,..... | 10 00 |
| A. McLean,..... | 3 00 | C. A. Everett,..... | 10 00 |
| G. P.,..... | 2 00 | E. J. Brass,..... | 10 00 |
| E. O.,..... | 1 00 | W. P. Dole,..... | 10 00 |
| <hr/> \$174 00 | | <hr/> Total,....\$369 00 | |

The obstacle which the floating debt last year presented to our progress still lies in our way; and it rests with the whole body of the Institute's members to determine what course shall be pursued in order to accomplish its complete removal. And the Board of Directors, in thus directing your attention to

this subject, earnestly ask that it shall immediately receive at your hands a careful consideration and permanent settlement.

The necessity for the removal of this load from the shoulders of the incoming Board is rendered doubly imperative by the pressing requirements of the Institute in reference to its Library, its Museum, and its Buildings.

By a Report, which the Committee having care of the buildings laid before the Directors at their last regular meeting, it appears that at least \$660 ought to be spent, without delay, upon necessary repairs and improvements; and a considerably larger sum might be advantageously expended for those purposes.

The Library calls for the outlay of a much greater amount, in order to replace volumes which have been lost or entirely destroyed, to rebind and otherwise repair volumes which have been injured, to purchase new books, and so to render the collection equal in extent, variety and attractiveness to the wants of our reading community,

From a Report, prepared by the present painstaking and careful Curator for the Library Committee, and submitted to the Directors, it has been ascertained that of out of 4,203 volumes catalogued as belonging to the Institute there are now on its shelves in good condition 3,116; that 352 need repairs and are worth restoring; while 97 are not worth repairing, and no less than 540 volumes are altogether wanting, being lost or wholly destroyed. There are out, in the possession of members, or of former members, who, having been notified and requested to return the books, have neglected to do so, 207 volumes. The average number of volumes at present kept constantly in circulation, and exchanged from day to day, is 138.

The only additions made to the Library in the course of the year have been the handsome donations made by J. W.

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Lawrence and John Boyd, Esquires, who each gave new books to the value of fifty dollars, and the gift of 34 volumes, out of his private library, by John Sears, Esq.

It will thus be seen that an amount far beyond the present means at the disposal of the President and Directors ought to be at once applied to the purchase of books ; and that even for the restoration of the Library to a state equal to its former condition, more than they can spare for the purpose is wanted.

In accordance with a resolution passed several months ago by the Common Council, a Committee of that body, appointed for the purpose, met a Committee of your Board of Directors, to confer upon the subject of a Free City Library, and the terms upon which the Institute's Library might be transferred to the public as the nucleus of such an institution. As, however, no definite scheme had been prepared by any one to be submitted for your approval and concurrence, nothing determinate was done in the matter.

The Reading Room has been, it is conceived, rendered more comfortable and convenient to the members who visit it by the recent transfer of its desks and tables to the same room in which the Library is placed ; and a saving, apart from the rent derived from the room formerly occupied as a Reading Room, has been brought about by the change of situation. The Committee having charge of this department report it as being in an excellent condition, and well taken care of by the Curator. Twenty-nine newspapers, including several of the best scientific and literary periodicals published in Great Britain and the United States, and several of the leading commercial papers issued abroad, and in other portions of the Dominion of Canada, as well as our own local papers, are regularly placed upon the files. And five Monthly Magazines and four Quarterly Reviews—selected from the principal ones printed in our language—are also laid upon the tables.

It is to be wondered at, as well as regretted, that a larger proportion of the Members do not avail themselves of the continual advantages which, at so small a cost, both the Reading Room and the Library afford. The annual fee which a member of the Institute pays for the enjoyment of all its privileges, including the Course of Lectures, is less than is often paid elsewhere as a yearly subscription to a Circulating Library or a Reading Room alone. Yet the Directors deem it highly important that both these departments should be maintained in a state of efficiency, and advisable that fresh efforts should be made to add to their attractions and to increase their usefulness as valuable means of public instruction.

The Committee to whom is entrusted the care and superintendence of that department, have reported that, in order to classify and arrange the articles in the Museum in a systematic manner, and to place them in cases properly constructed for their reception, an expenditure of about *Two Thousand Dollars* will be required. Your President and Directors, feeling the importance and desirableness of this suggested work,—a subject which their Report of last year put prominently before you,—again invite your especial attention to it.

The Board has great pleasure in acknowledging, in addition to the donations already mentioned, the receipt of *Fifty Dollars* from Silas Alward, Esq., who generously returned to the funds of the Institute the fee paid him for his excellent lecture, delivered in the Season's Regular Course.

In concluding their Report, the President and Directors have to suggest, as the only direction in which a diminution of our annual expenses may be effected, a reduction of the aggregate amount paid for lectures. This can be done by discontinuing the Supplementary Course, which during the past two years it has been attempted to carry on. The

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experiment, contrary to reasonable expectation, has been in every respect unsatisfactory. Not only have the extra lectures, however excellent their character, failed to draw large audiences, but the unusually good and really admirable Regular Courses of Lectures, organized with great care and pains, and provided for the Members at a large expense, have not met with that appreciation and support which your Directors think they had a right to expect.

The President and Directors earnestly hope that, perceiving the absolute necessity for lending it their aid, all the sincere friends of *The Mechanics' Institute* will rally in its support; and that the incoming Board may, at the next Annual Meeting, be able to present a Report shewing a much improved state of its affairs.

GILBERT MURDOCH, President.

J. A. S. MOTT, Secretary.

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List of Members

ELIGIBLE FOR OFFICE AND ENTITLED TO VOTE.

LIFE MEMBERS.

Daniel, Thomas
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.
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.
Burbidge, C. W.
Brock, F. K.
Baskin, W. B.
Crookshank, Robert W.
Clinch, Robert T.
Chubb, George James
Cormack, Peter
Cruikshank, Robert
Court, William
Crothers, Samuel
Chesley, John A.
Corbitt, John
Chisholm, D. P.
Causey, William
Crawford, Wm. K.

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Christie, J. J.
 Carle, T. C.
 Currie, L.
 Cameron, Jas. R.
 Card, H. T.
 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.
 DeBury, Count
 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.
 Everitt, W. E.
 Estey, T. W.
 Emerson, Robert B.
 Fairweather, Chas. H.
 Fisher, Edwin
 Fisher, George S.
 Flood, Carson
 Forbes, James G.
 Fleming, James
 Forbes, Edward
 Fairweather, Jas. H.
 Ferguson, Jas. R.
 Fairweather, Edwin
 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.
 Graham, W. H.
 Grant, J. Macgregor
 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.
 Hocken, John
 Hayward, Samuel
 Horn, W. H.
 Inches, Charles, M. D.
 Inch, George A.

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Jardine, Alexander
 Jordan, G. Samuel
 Jones, Hon. Thomas R.
 Jordan, William Watts.
 Jordan, Francis
 Jack, I. Allan
 Joyce, Richard
 Jordan, John M.
 Jack, Henry
 Kinnear, John H.
 Kinnear, Charles F.
 Keans, William H. A.
 Kerr, A. L.
 Kain, Francis
 Keltie, Robert
 Knowles, J. R.
 Kirkpatrick, C.
 King, Hon. G. E.
 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.
 Lewis, Wm.
 Lee Wm.
 Magee, John
 Merritt, E. Miles
 Murdoch, Gilbert
 Merritt, T. Grey
 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.
 Miller, Alexander
 Moore R. E.
 Marter, F. B.
 Murdoch, John
 Maher, M. W.
 Moriarity, 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
 McDonald, Mrs. Chas. C.
 McMillan, John
 McGivern, Richard P.
 McKenzie, W. R.
 McMillan, James
 McLeod, Ezekiel
 McAvity, Thomas
 McLellan, Thomas
 McGregor, Charles
 Mathews, G. F.
 McMichael, C. E.
 Morrison, W. S.
 Moran, L. H.
 Mahony, E. J.
 MacRae, Rev. Mr.
 McLellan, David

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 Park
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 Potts
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 Page
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 Ring
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McAvity, Thomas, jr.
 McDonald, Mont
 McLaughlin, Francis
 McLellan, Thomas
 McMillan, Archibald
 McAllester, John
 McIntyre, Daniel
 Nixon, George
 Nevins, James
 Nase, Philip
 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, Johh
 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

Robinson, T. M.
 Richardson, I., jr.
 Reid, Thomas
 Robertson, David D.
 Robertson, Andrew D.
 Robinson, James, jr.
 Roberts, Henry W.
 Roue, James
 Robertson, George
 Robinson, T. W.
 Rankine, Thomas
 Rutherford, S.
 Rankin, John
 Schurman, David J.
 Seeds, Mrs. Samuel
 Scovil, Rev. William
 Smith, William M.
 Shives, Robert
 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
 Sinnot, 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
 Sharp, R. G.
 Sturdee, H. L.
 Shanks, W. G.
 Stavely, Rev. A. McL.
 Smith, R. Barry
 Starr, R. Penniston
 Smith, William

Shaw, A. N.
 Smith John
 Sherrard, John L. C.
 Stevens, R. S.
 Scammell, J. W.
 Scovil, William A.
 Sparrow, Cornelius
 Stanton, George
 Stead, M.
 Sheraton, Robert
 Sullivan, Denis
 Schofield, Samuel
 Treadwell, William C.
 Thorne, Edward L.
 Thomson, William
 Thurgar, John V.
 Tuck, William H.
 Thomas, Capt. Henry
 Turnbull John E.
 Thomas, George
 Tuck, S. Parker
 Trueman, Charles D.
 Thomas, James U.
 Taylor, C. E.
 Troop, O. V.
 Turnbull, Charles G.
 Turner, Robert
 Titus, T. R.

Venning, John A.
 Vassie, John
 Vaughan, J. H.
 Vassie, William
 Woodworth, James L.
 Wetmore, Hon. A. R.
 Whitney, George W.
 White, James E.
 Willis, Edward
 Wedderburn, William
 Whiting, William I.
 White, John
 Willet, David
 Warwick, O. H.
 Willis, S. K.
 Williams, John
 Williams, F. S.
 Wortman, W. F.
 Wetmore, N.
 Welsh, William
 Woodrow, James
 Wetmore, F. C.
 Watson, Samuel
 Whittekar, W. C.
 Willett, John
 Wilson, John
 Yerxa, Whitfield

Estimated Expenditure—1875-'76.

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Ground Rent,..... | \$ 260 00 |
| Insurance,..... | 274 00 |
| Repairs, (see Report of Committee)..... | 650 00 |
| Salary of Curator,..... | 400 00 |
| Light and Fuel,..... | 350 00 |
| Reading Room,..... | 100 00 |
| Miscellaneous,..... | 200 00 |
| Lectures,..... | 1,000 00 |
| Building Society,..... | 80 00 |
| | <u>\$3,314 00</u> |
| INCOME. | |
| 250 Members @ \$5.00, | \$1,250 00 |
| Rents of Hall,..... | 900 00 |
| “ of Schools,..... | 570 00 |
| | <u>\$2,720 00</u> |
| Deficiency,..... | \$594 00 |

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Abstract of Receipts and Expenditures.

EXPENDITURES FOR YEAR ENDING, APRIL 1st, 1875.

| | |
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| Light and Fuel,..... | \$ 497 46 |
| Salaries,..... | 449 03 |
| Lectures,..... | 1,511 60 |
| School Design,..... | 14 70 |
| Museum,..... | 1 20 |
| Reading Room,..... | 56 68 |
| Building and Ground Rent,..... | 402 76 |
| Insurance,..... | 260 00 |
| Library,..... | 35 19 |
| Hall and Organ,..... | 26 00 |
| Interest,..... | 30 00 |
| Incidental,..... | 70 53 |
| Amount due Treasurer, April 1st, '74,..... | 81 91 |
| Cash on hand, 31st March, '75,..... | 40 |
| | \$3,437 46 |

RECEIPTS FOR YEAR ENDING, 1st APRIL, 1875.

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------|
| Rents—Hall, &c.,..... | \$ 915 42 |
| Schools,..... | 486 25 |
| Certificates of Membership,..... | 42 00 |
| Members' Tickets,..... | 1,370 00 |
| Miscellaneous,..... | 204 79 |
| Donations,..... | 419 00 |
| | \$3,437 46 |

Abstract of Liabilities and Assets of the Institute, 31st March, 1875.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| Building and Furniture,..... | \$20,420 00 |
| Museum,..... | 3,650 00 |
| Apparatus and Diagrams,..... | 800 00 |
| Library,..... | 3,000 00 |
| Organ,..... | 2,000 00 |
| | \$29,870 00 |
| Building Debentures,..... | \$ 1,041 80 |
| Building Society,..... | 438 21 |
| Sundry Liabilities,..... | 1,318 71 |
| Balance in favor of Institute,..... | 27,071 28 |
| | \$29,870 00 |

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.

April 12th, 1875.

MINUTES OF CERTAIN PROCEEDINGS AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE ST. JOHN MECHANICS' INSTITUTE, HELD AT THE HALL OF THE INSTITUTE, ON MONDAY EVENING, 12TH APRIL, A. D. 1875.

The Chair was taken by the President, Mr. Gilbert Murdoch, at 8 p. m.

In the absence of the Recording Secretary, Mr. H. Lawrance Sturdee was requested to act as Secretary.

The Minutes of the last Annual Meeting were read and confirmed.

Read the Report of the Directors for the year ending April, 1875; also, the Report of the Auditors.

On motion of Mr. Butler, seconded by Mr. Marsters, it was *Resolved*, That the Report of the Directors be adopted.

The following Resolution was moved by Mr. I. A. Jack, and seconded by Mr. John Magee:

Whereas, The necessity for establishing and maintaining a good Public Library for the City of Saint John, is becoming every day more apparent, on account of the growing literary tastes of the people, the absence of a large and respectable collection of books accessible to the general public, the difficulty, or impossibility, for persons with limited means, to supply themselves with reading matter, and the good results

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which have been produced in other places by the sustainment of Public Libraries,—

And Whereas, The Library of the St. John Mechanics' Institute, is well adapted to form a nucleus for a Public Library for the City of Saint John,—

And Whereas, The Common Council of the said City has, by resolution, signified its approval of the project of forming a Public Library for the said City,—

Therefore Resolved, That the President and Directors of the St. John Mechanics' Institute be requested to confer with the said Common Council, or with such Committee thereof as may be appointed for that purpose, at as early a day as possible, and to ascertain upon what terms and conditions the Library of the Institute might be handed over to the City for the purposes aforesaid; and upon what terms and conditions, if any, the Corporation would agree to assist in sustaining and enlarging the Library of the Institute with the funds of the said City, and report thereupon to the members of the Institute at a Special Meeting to be called for such purpose.

The Resolution being submitted to the meeting it was negatived.

Moved by Mr. Milligan, seconded by Mr. Flood, it was

Resolved, That the thanks of the meeting be tendered to Messrs. J. W. Lawrence, J. Boyd, S. Alward, and J. Sears, for their donations to the Institute.

Moved by Mr. Marsters, seconded by Mr. Alward, and

Resolved, That a Special Committee be appointed to solicit persons—particularly mechanics—to become members of the Institute.

The President nominates as the Committee: Messrs. Marsters, Alward, Butler, Everett, and Magee.

On motion it was

Resolved, That the meeting proceed to the Election of Officers for the ensuing year.

Mr. T. A. Rankine declines being again nominated as Treasurer.

Nominations for the respective offices being made, and ballots taken thereon, the following gentlemen were declared by the President to be elected as officers of the Institute, for the ensuing year:—

President—SILAS ALWARD, Esq.

Vice-Presidents—W. P. DOLE, and T. A. RANKINE, Esquires.

Treasurer—GEORGE W. WHITNEY, Esq.

Corresponding Secretary—C. A. EVERETT, Esq.

Recording Secretary—J. A. S. MOTT, Esq.

Directors:

G. H. LAWRENCE, Esq.,

G. MURDOCH, Esq.,

R. P. BUTLER, Esq.,

J. H. FLEMING, Esq.,

C. FLOOD, Esq.,

A. GILMOR, Esq.,

I. A. JACK, Esq.,

W. F. SMITH, Esq.,

E. J. BRASS, Esq.,

A. RANKINE, Esq.,

H. L. STURDEE, Esq.,

J. MILLIGAN, Esq.

Moved by Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Mr. Flood, and

Resolved, That the following gentlemen be appointed a Committee to assist the Board of Directors in arranging a Lecture Course and Entertainments in the Institute during the next Lecture Season:—C. A. Everett, John McMillan, John Boyd, Esquires, Rev. Dr. Coster, T. H. Hall, John March, John Harper, and John Collins Lloyd, Esquires.

Mr. Marsters gave notice that he would move at the next meeting of the members of the Institute, as an amendment to the Constitution, the following:—

That any person, having once been elected a member of the Institute, having paid his initiation fee, and having allowed his Annual subscription to lapse, may be restored to membership without re-payment of the initiation fee.

Moved by Mr. John Murdoch, seconded by Mr. Dole,

And Resolved, That a Special Meeting of the members of the Institute be called, in accordance with the Bye-Laws, to consider the alteration proposed by Mr. Marsters, to be made in the Constitution.

The President appointed George Blatch, John McMillan, and John Magee, Esquires, Auditors for the ensuing year.

On motion by Mr. Dole, it was

Resolved, That the thanks of the meeting be tendered to the Auditors for their examination of, and their Report on, the Accounts.

On motion the meeting adjourned.

H. LAWRENCE STURDEE,

Acting Recording Sec'y.