

Ixm. Wm76

20,000

Ixm. Wm76

26923



*rel. eds.*

# REPORT

OF THE

Montreal Ladies' Educational Association.

FIRST SESSION,

1871-72.

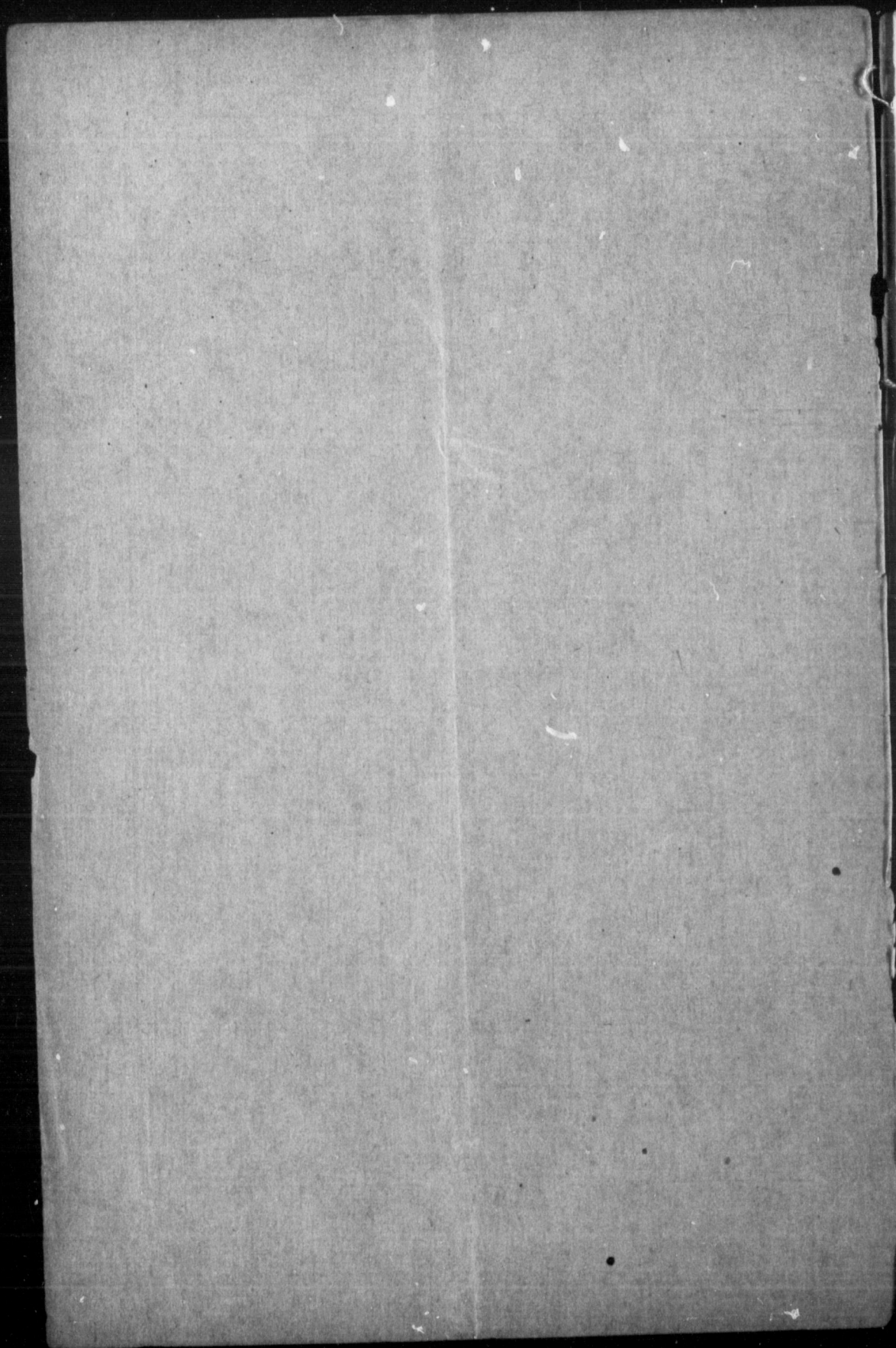
---

MONTREAL:

"GAZETTE" PRINTING HOUSE.

—  
1872.





REPORT

OF THE

Montreal Ladies' Educational Association.

FIRST SESSION,

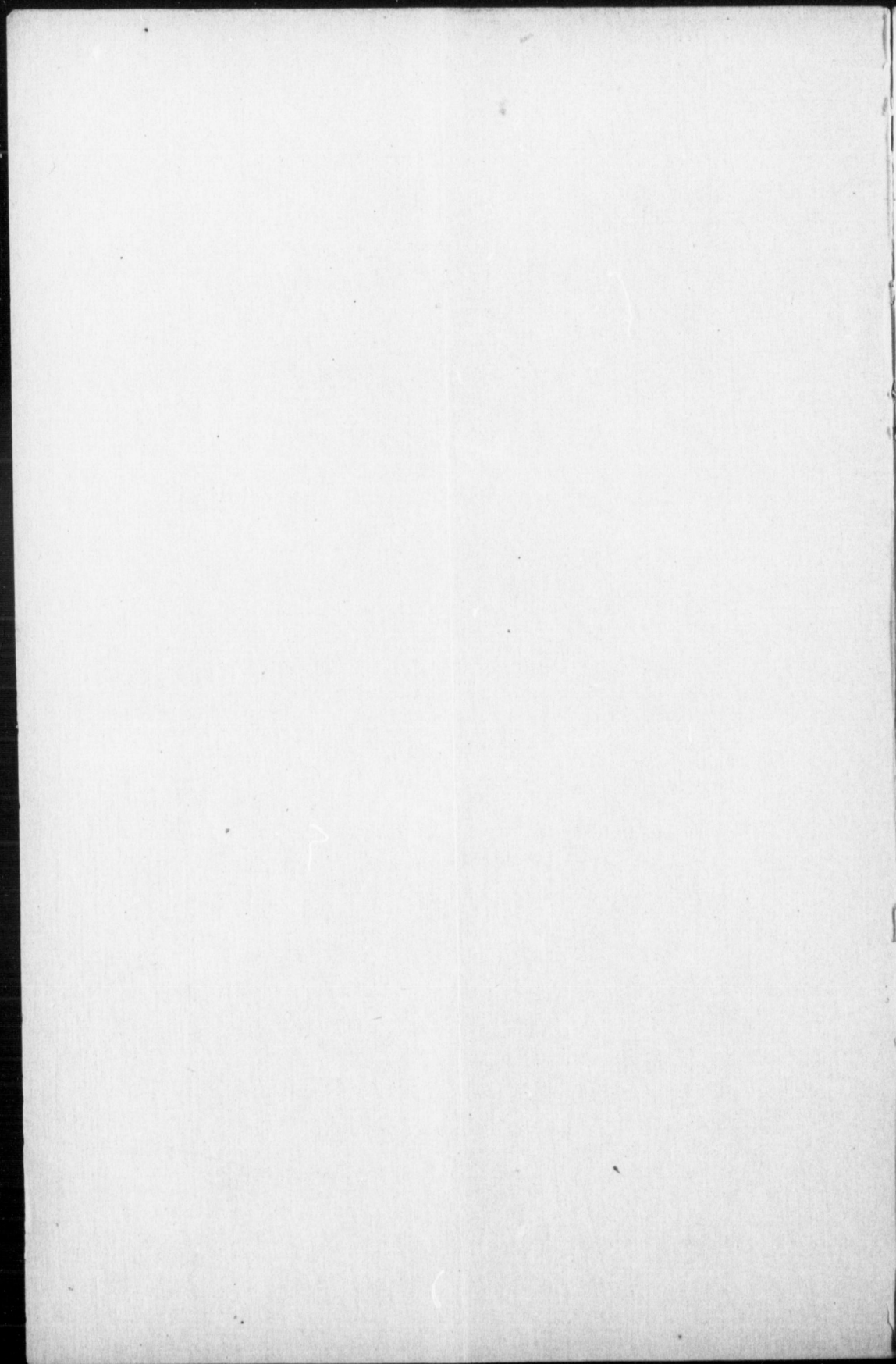
1871-72.

---

MONTREAL:

"GAZETTE" PRINTING HOUSE.

—  
1872.





## REPORT OF COMMITTEE,

MAY 14, 1872.

---

In accordance with a plan sketched by the Provisional Committee of this Association, on the 10th May, 1871, at Belmont Hall, the residence of Mrs. Molson, four Courses of Lectures have been delivered to the Members and Students of this Association during the Session now closed.

In addition to the regular instruction, the ladies have had the great advantage of two lectures on English History, from Professor Goldwin Smith. To these lectures ladies, not connected with the Association, were admitted by purchased tickets, it being thought right to allow all who desired it, the privilege of access.

The Reports returned by the Professors who gave the regular lectures above mentioned, must be considered most encouraging.

Professor DAREY, the lecturer on French Literature, reports:—

MONTREAL, December 20th, 1871.

*To the Secretary of the  
Montreal Ladies' Educational Association :*

MADAM,—At the close of my course I beg to report that my lectures have been pretty well attended. The general

26923

attendance was from seventy to seventy-five. Twenty-five gave their names as students. Eight only came up for examination. Seven answered very well. I gave them certificates of the first rank. Hoping that my lectures may not be without beneficial effect for the Higher Education,

I remain, with much respect,  
Your most obedient servant,

P. J. DAREY.

---

Principal DAWSON reports:—

*To the Honorary Secretary:*

MADAM,—I beg leave to report, with reference to the lectures on Mineralogy which I had the honor to deliver for the Ladies' Educational Association, in the term ending December 21st, 1871, that eighty-two ladies entered their names as students, and attended the whole course of lectures with great regularity. Besides these there was a large number of lady auditors, whose names were not enrolled.

Of the students, fifty-eight sent in papers in answer to questions proposed in the course of the lectures. At the final examination thirty appeared, of whom twenty-seven sent in satisfactory papers, and are entitled to certificates of creditable answering. In these certificates I have characterized the answers of the twelve highest as "*Very Creditable, placing them in Class first*"; those of eight others as "*Very Creditable*;" and those of seven others as "*Creditable*."

On the whole I had every reason to be pleased with the attention and intelligence of the class; and the answering in the examination was quite equal to that of any class of college students having similar opportunities. I only regret that a larger number of the students did not come up for examination, as I have reason to believe that

many others could have given as creditable answers as those who actually appeared.

I append to this report, for the information of the officers of the Association, the numbers and marks of those who came up for examination.

I have the honor to be,  
Your obedient servant,

J. W. DAWSON.

Rev. Professor CORNISH reports :—

MONTREAL, April 10th, 1872.

*To the Secretary of the  
Ladies' Educational Association, Montreal,*

DEAR MADAM,—I have the honor to report to you that the Course of Twenty Lectures on the English Language, which I undertook to deliver to the Association, began on January 9th, and ended on March 21st.

Thirty-eight ladies sent in their names, and were enrolled as regular students of the course. Their regularity, punctuality and attention to the work of the class deserve much commendation.

On March 28th a formal examination, by means of printed questions and written answers to the same, was held. Thirteen students presented themselves, of whom four withdrew from the examination, eight passed, and one failed.

Herewith I send a copy of the questions, with values assigned; a copy of the results; and certificates of standing to those candidates who have passed.

I remain with much respect,  
Faithfully yours,

GEORGE CORNISH.



Dr. T. STERRY HUNT, who lectured on Chemical and Physical Geology, in the Spring Term, reports, that of the ladies who enrolled themselves as students in his class, twelve came up for examination, to all of whom certificates were given, six being characterized as having passed with great distinction.

The financial condition of the Association is also subject for congratulation. The subscriptions of the members, in addition to small sums received for exchange of tickets, etc., have enabled the Committee fairly to compensate the gentlemen who tendered services as lecturers, as well as to pay the ordinary expenses. The Treasurer reports a balance in hand of \$577.88

The thanks of the Association are due to Principal DAWSON for much valuable advice and assistance, and also for the generous gift of three hundred dollars.

The thanks of the Association are also due to Professor GOLDWIN SMITH, who would accept neither of fee nor travelling expenses, but expressed himself in hearty sympathy with our present effort, and ready to assist so far as it lay in his power.

At the meeting held on the 8th April, the Committee received a deputation from McGill University, upon the subject of the "Hannah Willard Lyman Memorial." The following recommendation was received from the hand of Principal DAWSON, and adopted by the Committee with much thankfulness:—

*Recommendation for the disposal of the "Hannah Willard Lyman Memorial Fund," for the Session 1872-73.*

1. The income to be divided into two equal prizes to be given to the regular students, who, having passed creditably in the subjects of examination before Christmas, shall take the highest marks in the *first class* in the written



examinations in one of the subjects at the end of the session.

2. The lecturers to be examiners, and the answers of the successful candidates to be transmitted to the Corporation of the University, with the reports of the examiners.

3. The prizes to be given in books properly inscribed.

The past having been the first year of the existence of the Association the work of organization has fallen to the Committee, in addition to the ordinary routine of an educational society.

The By-laws in the form now in print were adopted at a meeting held on the 16th December, 1871.

The inaugural lecture was delivered by Principal Dawson, to an appreciative audience of ladies and gentlemen, on the 3rd Oct., 1871.

By the kindness and liberality of Mr. Molson, a large edition of this lecture was printed and circulated. Some copies were sent to England, and one of them falling into the hands of the Honorary Secretary of a kindred association in Birmingham, elicited from that lady the following letter addressed to Principal Dawson:—

8, AUGUSTUS ROAD, *Edgbaston*,

BIRMINGHAM.

SIR:—I have read with much pleasure the introductory address you gave to the Ladies' Association, at Montreal, and should feel much obliged if you could furnish me with a few copies of it. I send you by this post copies of our first report, and also an introductory address given here by Mrs. Garrett Anderson, besides other papers in which you may possibly be interested, and I should be glad in return to receive anything that will tell us what efforts are being made to improve woman's education in

Canada. I must, apologize for the trouble I give you in making this request, and beg to subscribe myself,

Sir,

Yours faithfully,

THEODOSIA SARGANT,

*Hon. Sec.*

Principal DAWSON sent the desired copies of the address, and handed the letter to your Secretary, who immediately communicated with Mrs. Sargent. The result was that several interesting printed papers relating to the educational movement on behalf of women, in different parts of England, came into our possession by the kindness of the Hon. Secretary of the Birmingham Association.

In the course of this work of organization many points occupied the time and serious consideration of your Committee, but none perhaps caused more anxious deliberation than the question of the position of gentlemen in relation to this association. At length it was resolved to appoint a committee of five ladies to make enquiry and report concerning the custom of kindred associations. The following report was presented by Mrs Lewis, the convener of the Sub-Committee, at a meeting of the General Committee, held 8th April, 1872

## REPORT OF SUB-COMMITTEE.

The Sub-Committee appointed at a meeting of the General Committee of the Ladies' Educational Association, to enquire into the practice of kindred associations with reference to the admission of gentlemen, as members or otherwise, beg to report:—

That they addressed a circular letter, submitting the following questions, to the Secretaries of the Edinburgh, London, Birmingham, Dublin, Cambridge and Toronto Associations:—

DEAR MADAM,

A "Ladies' Educational Association" having been recently formed in this city, the members are desirous of obtaining information as to the practice of other similar associations, and would feel much obliged by your furnishing the same, and for any suggestions which, from past experience, you may consider would be an improvement upon your present practice.

1st. Whether gentlemen are elected as honorary members, and whether admitted as auditors or on the platform?

2nd. Whether other gentlemen are admitted as auditors, and whether by election or otherwise.

3rd. Whether gentlemen take any part in the administration of the general business of the association, and if so, what part?

4th. Whether lady-honorary members are elected, and as such admitted as auditors, and whether they take part in the general business of the association?

Dr. WILSON of Toronto, in acknowledging this letter writes:—"Except on occasions of an *introductory* lecture, gentlemen are absolutely excluded from the lectures delivered to the Ladies' Educational Association of this city, which is managed by a small joint committee of ladies and gentlemen; the correspondence with lecturers and financial details being left to three gentlemen, in whom all have confidence."

By communications from Boston we learn, that everywhere college-courses are open to women; but that within the past few weeks a few ladies interested in "the better education of women," invited a number of Professors and other distinguished experienced gentlemen to a conference on that subject, with a view to the organization of an Educational Association. On that occasion one of the most prominent speakers said:—"I hold that the different training of the sexes can only be explained by the consciousness, coeval with civilization, of a native difference of mind, suggesting and demanding diversity of intel-

lectual discipline." While another equally eminent speaker urges "the ladies to keep the *management* of their society in their *own* hands, however much advice they might ask of men."

In the reply received from Mrs. Corbett, of Dublin, and in the reports accompanying the same, we find that the system and management of the "Queen's Institute of Professional Schools" differ entirely from those adopted by our Association, there being lady and gentlemen life-governors and life-members, and lady and gentlemen ordinary governors and members, whose privileges in directing the affairs of the Institute, and in sending free pupils to its various classes, are regulated by the amount of their subscriptions.

Mrs. SARGANT, Honorary Secretary of the Birmingham Association, writes:—"We would at all times be happy to have gentlemen as life-members, or otherwise, but we do not wish to have them work with us, although many of the Associations of England have mixed committees."

Mrs. CRUDELIUS, Honorary Secretary of the Edinburgh Association, in a most interesting account of its organization, states, "that when its formation was first contemplated, the names of eighty distinguished men were obtained to give it a sort of social stability. No gentlemen are admitted to lectures, or to the meetings of the Association, although we have it now in contemplation to form a consulting board, of an equal number of Ladies and Professors."

Mrs. PEILE, Secretary of the Cambridge Association, who has kindly furnished much information, both written and printed, states,—"that no gentlemen are admitted to lectures, but that an executive, to whom is entrusted the management of the lectures and exhibitions, is formed of gentlemen and ladies, as also the scheme for giving instruction by correspondence, the lending library, and the examinations for Lady-Students."

"The Rugby Council, connected with the National Association, for the improvement of the Education of Women, is composed of an equal number of ladies and gentlemen." Mrs. Peile concludes by acknowledging "that experience would lead her to recommend such committees."

The ladies of the sub-committee beg to recommend that the Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor and Deans of the Faculties of McGill College, be invited to become Honorary Members of the Ladies' Association, together with the four gentlemen who so kindly consented to deliver the lectures of the *first* session to the Association.

The Ladies further recommend that these gentlemen be invited to advise with the Executive Committee, when circumstances render such advice necessary.

(Signed)

MARY A. N. MERCER.  
M. E. W. PAPINEAU.  
L. M. BROWN.  
ELEANOR H. LAY.  
MATILDA C. LEWIS.

*Sub-Committee of L. E. A.*

8th April, 1872.



This Report, being submitted was unanimously adopted, and the Secretary was instructed to convey the invitations therein recommended, to the gentlemen concerned.

The English reports and prospectuses, to which reference has been made, contain much valuable and suggestive information. Amongst them are two papers from the National Union for Improving the Education of Women of all classes, under the presidency of the Princess Louise, with its central committee in London. (*England*). From these papers we learn the wide interest taken in the subject throughout the United Kingdom. Almost every town of any importance furnishes individual members, or associates itself by means of an Educational Society.

The modes of procedure in the different associations are as various as their names; but the burden of the reports is the same,—our women must be educated if we, as a city,—or we, as a nation,—are to keep pace with the general progress of civilization. This is so distinctly stated, and so universally received, that it need not be pressed on your notice. Yet in our own action we must proceed with intelligence and care, lest our enthusiasm outstrip our judgment.

Montreal has more to contend with in regard to the subjects of study in the higher branches for her women, than the cities of equal size and importance in England and the States, inasmuch as she has no public school for girls, to serve as a foundation upon which to build the higher education. This Association should maturely consider what subjects our young ladies can take with present benefit to themselves, while, at the same time, progressive influence is kept in view. Too much should not

be asked in the beginning, but more should be required of every session. Our certificates should be *real* pledges of *real* attainment. They should prepare the way for the Academic Degree. To reach this end the plan of education must be as carefully prepared by us, as it is in a college of learning. We should seek to attract *students*. It is part of our system to make mere listeners welcome, but the lecture should not be prepared for their benefit. Popular lectures are useful in their season. But they are pioneers only—rough, unfinished introductions to new subjects of thought, quite unworthy of a place in an institution like this. We cannot too highly recommend the subjects which have for their object the cultivation of the English language, and those which deal with mental science. Words rightly used are a great power; and clear thought and clear expression go hand in hand. Whatever may have been in the past, it is no longer necessary for a man or woman to bury himself or herself in Greek and Latin grammars in order to find an instrument for the cultivation of the mind, Scholarly philological studies bearing directly upon our own language are preparing for us every day. They offer us all that we need. The neighbour tongues of French and German give us that material for comparison so essential to the development of thought. These languages open to us a literature in every branch of knowledge, and afford us opportunities which our forefathers would have envied us, had they been endowed with the gift of second-sight.

In conclusion, your Committee reports with pleasure that the invitations to become honorary members of this Association have been accepted by the gentlemen to whom they were sent. We owe them thanks for the prompt and hearty responses made, and for the kindly offers of help and support. We must prosper and grow in wisdom

and stability if we seek the co-operation and deserve the confidence of the Corporation of McGill University.

(Signed)

ANNE MOLSON,  
*President.*

LUCY SIMPSON,  
*Hon. Sec.*

Dr. The Montreal Ladies' Educational Association,—Financial Statement, Session 1871-72 Cr.

	1872		
May 14	To Payments for Lectures .....	\$1600.00	
"	To Rent of Natural History Society's rooms and attendance on Lectures and Examinations .....	151.00	
"	To Stationery, Printing, Advertising, and Postage .....	207.23	
"	To Salary of Assistant Secretary .....	70.00	
"	To Petty Expenses .....	0.90	
"	To Balance—Cash in Molson's Bank .....	577.88	
		<u>\$2607.01</u>	
	1872		
	May 14	By Members' Tickets:	
	"	169 " @ \$12	\$2028.00
	"	2 " @ \$15	30.00
	"	By Students' Tickets & Exchanges	<u>\$2058.00</u>
			179.35
			<u>\$2237.35</u>
	"	By Donation from Principal Dawson .....	300.00
	"	By Proceeds of sale of Tickets for Professor Goldwin Smith's Lectures .....	26.50
	"	By Interest to 31st December, 1871 on cash in Bank .....	43.16
			<u>\$2607.01</u>

I have examined the within account, and find it to be correct agreeing with the amounts in the Cash Book, for which the necessary vouchers are given herewith.

F. WOLFERSTAN THOMAS.



APPENDIX.

---

GENERAL PLAN

FOR

LECTURES TO LADIES

IN CONNECTION WITH THE

Ladies' Educational Association,

AS AT PRESENT ORGANIZED.

---

In the present stage of the progress of the Association, and in preparing for the work of another year, it seems desirable to state some of the general principles which should be followed in the arrangement of lectures.

The Committee appointed to arrange the courses of lectures would report the following with reference to the field to be occupied by the Association, and the mode of cultivating it.

It is not possible at present to take up drilling on elementary subjects; but the object to be attained is a certain amount of culture for those who have had previous advantages of elementary education.

Such culture should be given by lectures on subjects which are not usually taught in schools, and which afford valuable information as well as training.

The subjects which may be at present taken up with advantage may be arranged in two groups.

Group 1st.—Literary, Historical, and Philosophical subjects.

Group 2nd.—Subjects in Natural and Physical Science.

It is desirable that at least two courses—one literary and one scientific—should be going on simultaneously.

As far as possible the subjects in each group, taken up in the same session, should be related to each other.

The subjects should be independent in successive sessions, so that new students could enter in each session, and so that students continuing for two or three sessions should have as varied a course of literature and science as possible.

In an educational point of view it is better that each course should be thorough and complete in itself, even although it extend over a small field, and though the courses be somewhat disconnected, than that apparent connection and extent should be sought at the expense of thoroughness.

On the one hand this work should not be undervalued because it does not amount to an academical course of study; since it is capable of affording many of the benefits of such a course, and may eventually lead to its institution. On the other hand, every endeavor should be made to prevent the lectures from becoming merely popular, and to secure the most efficient teacher possible in each subject, and the most regular and careful attention on the part of the students.

The courses recommended in the present year might embrace, in Group 1st—Logic, English History, and English Literature; in Group 2nd—Chemistry and Physiology, and some department of Physical Science.

For a succeeding year, in Group 1st, Logic might be succeeded by Mental Philosophy. The subjects of English Literature and History might be continued, or the literature

of some other modern language introduced; and in Group 2nd, the students would be prepared for the study of Botany or Zoology, and for further studies in Physical Science.

Should funds permit or encouragement offer, special classes might be opened, in addition to the regular lectures, for instruction in Classics or Mathematics, for more practical teaching in Science, or for the culture of certain departments of Art. Should this be possible, it would more rapidly lead to a regular Academical Course.

(Signed)

AUGUSTA DURNFORD.

ANNA E. WORKMAN.

SARAH LOVELL.

JESSIE C. SCOTT.

M. A. Y. DAWSON.

*Sub-Committee on Lectures.*

**LECTURES**  
FOR THE SESSION OF 1872-'3

---

**FIRST TERM.**

EARLY ENGLISH HISTORY.—Ten lectures by Prof. Goldwin Smith,  
M. A.

EARLY ENGLISH LITERATURE.—Ten lectures by Ven. Archdeacon  
Leach, LL. D.

EXPERIMENTAL PHYSICS.—Twenty lectures by Prof. Johnson,  
LL. D.

---

**SECOND TERM.**

LOGIC.—Twenty lectures by Rev. Prof. Murray.

CHEMISTRY.—Ten lectures by Prof. Craik, M. D.

PHYSIOLOGY.—Ten lectures by Prof. McCallum, M. D.