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THE
QUEBEC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL REPORT.

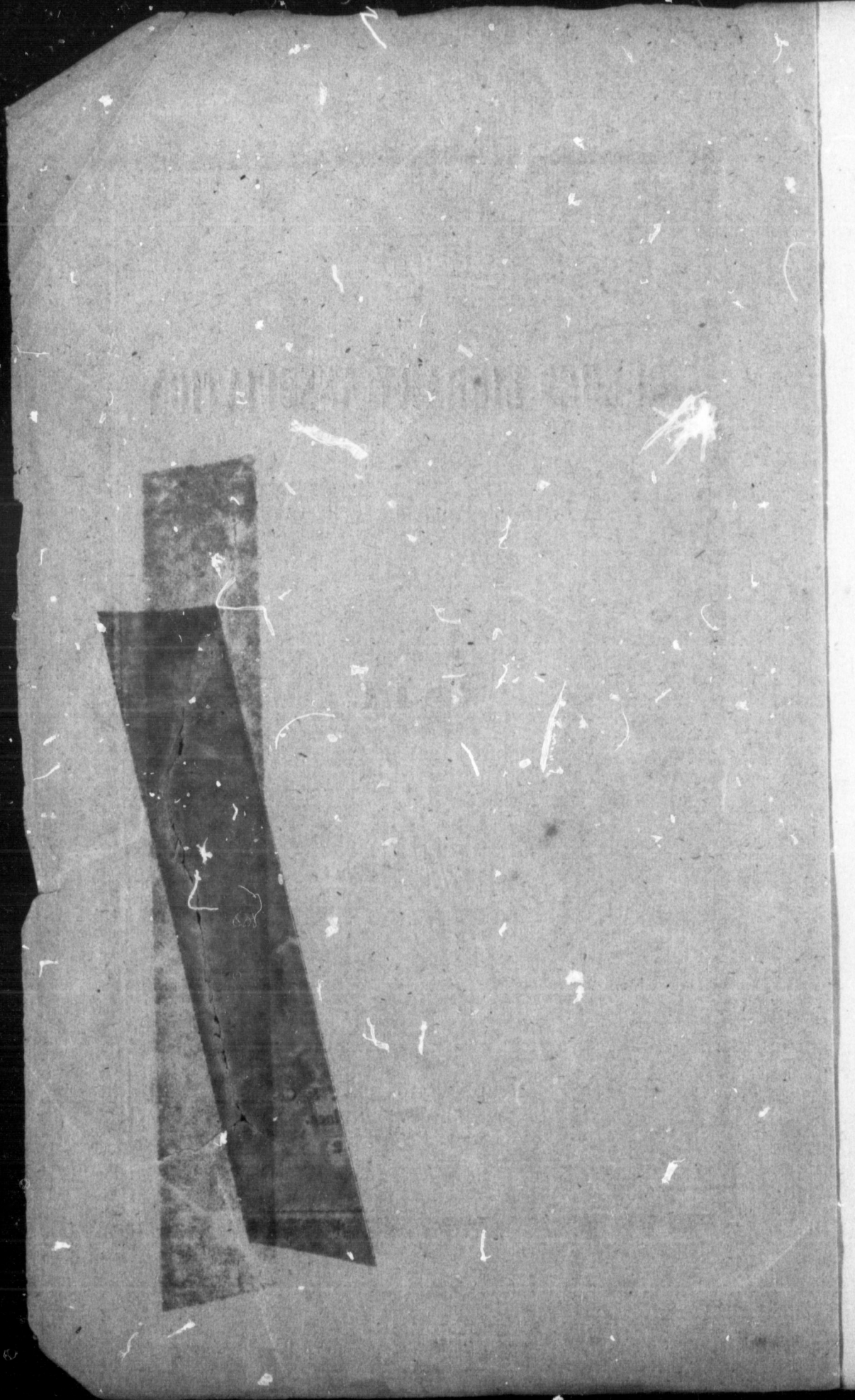
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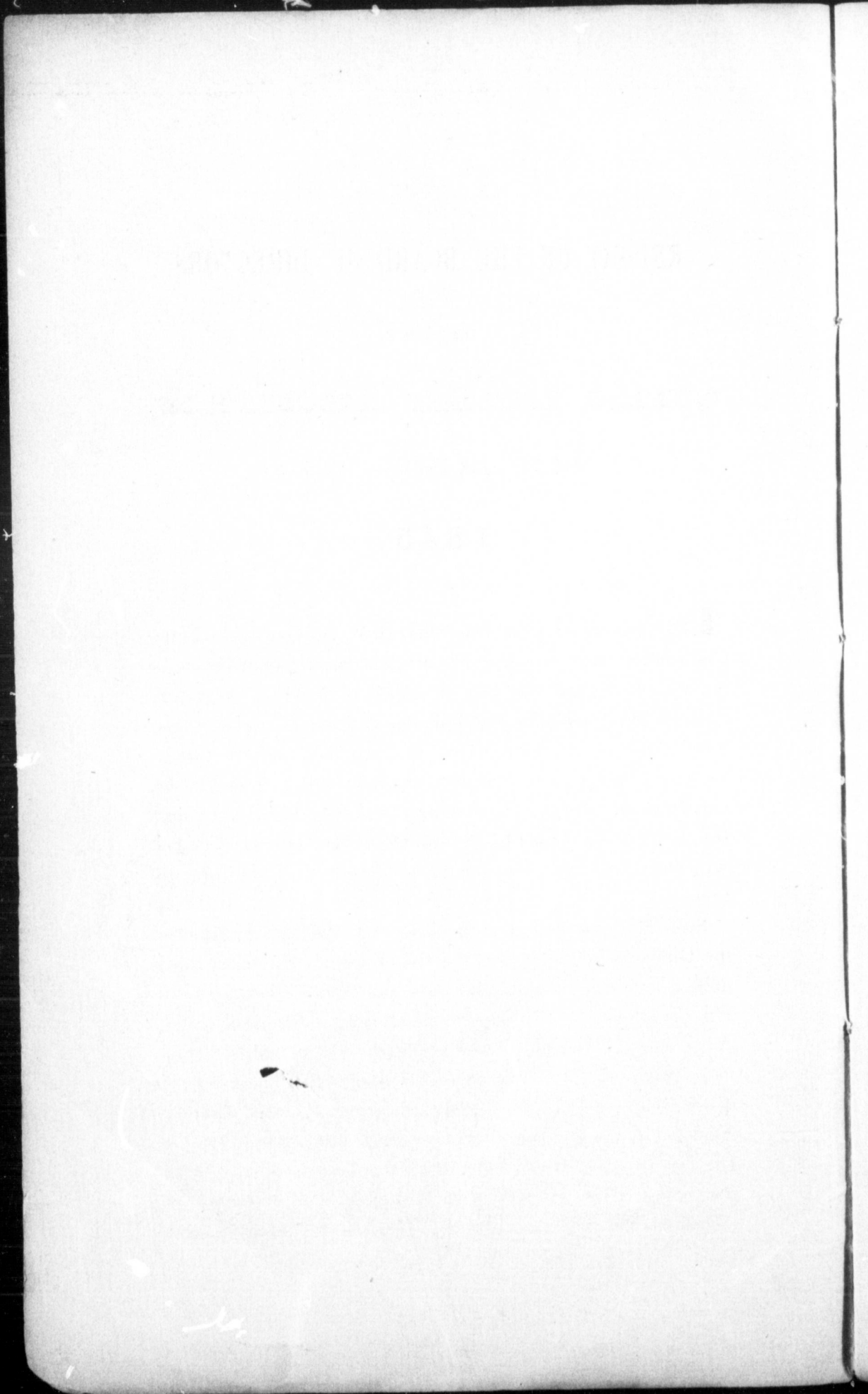
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J. M. Devome





REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OF THE

QUEBEC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 2d JANUARY,

1845.

THE period for which the Officers of the Quebec Library Association were elected at its commencement having drawn to a close, it becomes the duty of the Board of Directors, before laying down their office, to make the first annual report of the proceedings of the Association: in doing this, they venture to express a hope that no cause of complaint will be found in the condition to which it has attained, and they cannot but thank the members for the readiness with which they have co-operated with them, in their efforts for the advancement of the Association.

Soon after their election to office it was thought advisable by the Directors to apply for the use of part of the unoccupied public buildings; a memorial was accordingly forwarded to His Excellency the Governor General, by the President of the Association, to which His Excellency was pleased to reply most graciously, and after reference to the officer in charge of the Parliament Buildings, to accord to the Quebec Library Association, the sole use of the apartments now occupied as the Library, Reading Room and Committee Room, together with the occasional use of the Hall of Assembly, when required for the purposes of a Lecture Room. The terms on which this

grant was made to the Association are, that the rooms occupied shall be kept by it in a fit state of repair, and that they shall be vacated so soon as the proper authorities may require them.

One of the first steps taken by the Board was towards the attainment of the main object of the Association ; a Library in the English and French languages, accessible on easy terms, and at convenient hours.

As there existed already in the city a valuable collection of books, "the Quebec Library," many shares in which had been presented by their proprietors to the Association, the Directors thought they might have succeeded in purchasing from the Trustees of the Quebec Library the remaining portion of it, but they found this quite impracticable : the Board, however, entered into an arrangement with the Trustees, by which the use of these books, to the same extent as the proprietors possessed it, was obtained for the members of the Association ; the terms of that arrangement it is necessary here to state accurately, as no written agreement has been signed by the Trustees of the Library and Directors of the Association. It extends to 1st May next, and its conditions are that in return for the use of the books as above mentioned, the Association do accord to the proprietors of the Library the use of the property of the Association to the same extent as the members have it ; exonerate the Trustees, during the term of arrangement, from all expenses connected with the Library, which consist of librarian's salary £50, rent from 1st February to 1st May last of building then occupied by the Trustees £7 10s, allowance for binding periodicals £10, insurance against fire £5, and fuel, lights, &c., £20, and return the books at the expiration of the agreement in the same condition as received (fair ordinary wear and tear excepted,) to the rooms which may be procured for the purpose by the Trustees, the expense of fitting up the shelves, &c., in the manner in which they were when taken, being covered by the Association. It is also part of the agreement with the Trustees of the Library, that the books should be placed under

the separate charge of their librarian, and that the right of possession of them, as well as the management of the concerns of their library, should remain vested in the Trustees, subject to the stipulation that the Association shall not be required to defray any expense ordered by the Trustees without the concurrence of the Directors of the Association. This arrangement, advantageous to the members as is the possession or use of the Books of the Quebec Library, is one which the Directors think, however, it will not be for the interest of the Association to renew on the same terms; the separate management and custody of the library required by the Trustees, entail upon the Association a large additional expense, and absorb so much of its revenue, as to prevent its acquiring a Library of its own, thus tending to keep the Association in great measure dependent for one of its principal requisites, upon circumstances beyond the control of the Directors of it. This will of course be matter for the consideration of the Board elected this evening; that which is now retiring from office was induced to make the arrangement in question, in the hope that before it expired, the shares in the Library, presented to the Association, would have been put into the possession of the Board, and greater facility thus obtained for the purchase of the entire Library: this has not yet been done, as the Trustees have objected to the transfer of shares in the Quebec Library from the donors to individual members of the Board of Directors, in trust for the Association, though they have intimated to the Board, that they would not oppose the transfer of shares to the Association itself, if it were legally authorized to hold property: the Board having, as is stated in a subsequent part of this report, reason to expect that the Association will soon be thus empowered, trust that means will be devised to continue on other terms the connection at present subsisting between the "Quebec Library" and the Quebec Library Association.

The Library thus temporarily obtained, though it comprises many old valuable standard works, is very deficient in later

publications, and the Board have thought it necessary to expend in new Books as large a sum as could be spared for that purpose ; at an expense of £124 5s. 5d , a selection of 252 volumes has been imported from Britain, and 79 volumes have been purchased in New-York, Montreal and this city. If acquisitions of books as valuable as those of the past year, be made by the Association every future year of its existence, and the connection with the Quebec Library be, as is much to be desired, rendered permanent, the collection of books available to the members, will doubtless become one of the best Libraries in this Province. The Directors respectfully recommend this subject to the careful consideration of their successors in office.

The Reading Room has, during the past year, proved very attractive ; during that period 17 British, 4 French, 4 American, and 17 Provincial newspapers ; and 9 British, 3 French, 4 American, and 1 Canadian Magazines, have been taken. The Board have recently ordered the discontinuance of a few of the most expensive foreign publications, and have substituted for daily, two of the tri-weekly London newspapers, thereby effecting a considerable saving, without, it is to be hoped, decreasing the attractions of the Room. Although the expenses of this department have necessarily been heavy, the Directors feeling that it is by many of the members considered the most important part of the Institution, have not hesitated to devote a large part of the funds of the Association to its support, and they would strongly urge their successors to spare no exertion, necessary to preserve for it the reputation which it has obtained.

One of the principal motives for the establishing of the Association, was to procure Lectures on Literary and Scientific Subjects, and being desirous of exciting in the community a general interest in the new Institution, the Board have devoted much attention to this point, feeling assured that their exertions, if successful, would tend very materially to benefit the Association. The insufficiency of the Rooms obtained for a few of the first Lectures caused some inconvenience to the very

numerous audiences which attended on each occasion, but this evil has been completely remedied, and the Board have the pleasure of stating, that through the liberality of His Excellency the Governor General, in granting the use of the Hall of Assembly, the Lecture Room of the Association is unequalled in the Province.

Since the commencement of last year, the following Lectures have been delivered :—

The Inaugural address, by the Honble. A. W. Cochran, D. C. L.

On the means of intellectual improvements now accessible in this city, and the use to be made of them, by the Rev. J. Cook, D. D.

On the Ancient Britons, by J. C. Fisher, Esq., L. L. D.

On Electricity, by J. Cauchon, Esq., M. P. P.

The early history of Philosophical Pursuits, by the Rev. T. Atkinson.

On the connection between the Sciences of Astronomy and Navigation, by Rev. E. J. Senkler, A. M.

On Digestion, by J. Painchaud, Esq., M. D.

On Atmospheric Air, by J. Racey, Esq., M. D.

On the Literature of France since 1789, by P. J. Chauveau, Esq., M. P. P.

A continuation of a former lecture on the Ancient Britons, by J. C. Fisher, Esq., L. L. D.

On Water, by J. Racey, Esq., M. D.

On the Colonies of Old, by J. C. Fisher, Esq., L. L. D.,

On Digestion, as affected by Intemperance, by J. Painchaud, Esq., M. D.

On the Early Settlements in America, by Samuel Newton, Esquire.

And the Board cannot allow this opportunity to pass, without recording their sense of gratitude to the gentlemen who have thus devoted their time and talents, to the improvement of the Members of the Association, and others, who have attend-

ed the Lectures above mentioned. It was the desire of the Directors to render these very interesting and instructive compositions of advantage to the public generally, as much as was compatible with the interests of the Institution, and until the commencement of the present winter, the Lecture Room was open to all who were desirous of attending; the Board, however, in consequence of the heavy expense which has unavoidably to be incurred, lately came to the decision of requiring persons, who were not members of the Association, to pay a fee of five shillings for admission, with as many ladies as might accompany them, to all the Lectures of the season; this measure has certainly not been so productive in its result as the Directors expected, it has not met with the approval of some of the gentlemen who have delivered lectures for the Association, and as some difference of opinion is believed to exist as to the expediency of it, the Board would suggest that those present this evening, decide on the propriety of again rendering the Lectures open to the public. If the charge for admission be discontinued, the money received by the sale of tickets will have, of course, to be returned to such as desire it.

As respects the coalition with the other Literary Societies of this City, contemplated at the commencement of the Association, though much correspondence and negotiation has taken place during the past year, no arrangement has as yet been effected: while the Directors much regret the want of success which has hitherto attended this very desirable object, they owe it to themselves to state, that it cannot be attributed to any unwillingness, or want of exertion on their part.

From the Treasurer's statement it will appear that 442 persons have become Members of the Association, producing the amount of £363 2s. 6d. which in addition to donations amounting to £369, has enabled the Board not only to make the preliminary expenses absolutely necessary to be incurred in the establishment of the Association, to supply the Reading

Room with the necessary papers and magazines, but also to make considerable purchases of new books for the use of the Members. After all these expenses and necessary outlay of the funds of the Association, the Board have the satisfaction of stating, that they give up their charge with a considerable sum of money in hand, free of all debt, and with a large list of members, most of whom it is presumed will continue their support, and which for the last month has been almost daily increasing. The Board have made it an object of their unceasing endeavour to expend the funds of the Society only to such an extent as was absolutely necessary, being quite aware that the future welfare of the Institution, entirely depends upon the proper management of its financial affairs.

It is perhaps not within the Province of the Directors to express the thanks which they feel, doubtless, in common with the Members generally, for the very liberal donations made previously to the appointment of the Board, by the gentlemen whose names have been published as the original donors to the Association ; but it is their duty gratefully to direct the notice of Members, to the presents of money received since their election by the gentlemen named in the Treasurer's accounts, and to acknowledge the obligation under which the Association lies to His Lordship the Bishop of Montreal, Hon. Henry Black, Samuel Macauley, J. J. Sims, Alfred Hawkins, Esqs., Dr. Smith of Boston, (through the hands of Dr. G. M. Douglas,) Duncan Patton and Henry S. Scott, Esqrs., for donations of books and maps. Files of newspapers have also been received from Messrs. G. Futvoye and G. S. Pierce. While on this subject, the Directors would mention, that the contributions of books received from the friends of the Association, have not been so numerous as was expected ; but they still hope that considerable additions to the Library will thus be made, as several donations of this kind have been promised, and many persons, no doubt, possess duplicate copies of works, which, though comparatively useless to them, would be highly valua-

ble acquisitions to the Library ; and they beg leave to suggest, that the Library Committee, about to come into office, should be instructed to solicit donations of books, &c.

In the course of their operations, the Directors were made aware of the many advantages which would attend the incorporation of the Association, and they took advantage of the present Session of Parliament, to present a petition for that purpose to the Legislature of the Province. Jean Chabot, Esquire, M. P. P., one of the representatives of the city, consented to take charge of the interests of the Association, and a draft of a charter, embodying the leading points of the Constitution, has been forwarded to him, to which he will, no doubt, in the regular course of affairs, obtain the sanction of Parliament. So soon as the charter is obtained, it will most likely be necessary to call together the Members of the Association to give effect to the provisions of the Act, but of this timely notice can of course be given.

The Board has been much gratified at the receipt, by the Secretary, of a communication, from the Corresponding Secretary of the Mercantile Library Association, of Montreal, tendering the good offices, collective and individual, of the Board of Direction of that Society, in the procuring of the Act of Incorporation, which they had been made aware, by the public prints, had been applied for by the Quebec Library Association ; the arrangements made before the receipt of their offer of assistance, were such as will, in all probability, obviate the necessity of troubling these gentlemen in the matter, but the Members will doubtless appreciate the politeness of the Montreal Institution, and the Directors feel satisfied that their successors will be glad to cultivate a kindly feeling between the Sister Associations, and ratify, should occasion present itself, the tender of the services of the Board of Directors of the Quebec Library Association, which was, at their request, transmitted by the Secretary, in replying to the Secretary of the Mercantile Library Association of Montreal.

Vacancies in the Board, caused, during the past year, by the resignation of Messrs. W. Bristow, C. H. Gates, and F. P. Colley, have been filled by the substitution for these gentlemen of Messrs. W. Kimlin, W. White, and J. G. Clapham, N. P. Mr. J. L. Mackirdy was appointed their Chairman, at the first meeting of the Board, but his departure from the Province rendered it necessary, according to the Constitution, to choose one of the Directors to act as Chairman, during his absence, and Mr. Samuel Newton was named. The Constitution has also required the Directors to select four of their number, who should remain in office for a second year, and accordingly Messrs. Scott, Newton, Gingras, and Wurtele, have been chosen by ballot.

All which is respectfully submitted.

SAML. NEWTON,

Chairman of Board of Directors, Q. L. A.

Quebec, 2d Jan. 1845.

Dr. Cr.
A. JOSEPH, Treasurer, in Account with the Quebec Library Association.

	£	s.	d.
1844. To cash received from—			
344 subscribers for the year			
1844,.....	£313	2	6
do. 1845,	50	0	0
397 Total number of members paid..	363	2	6
Donations received.....	369	0	0
Catalogues and Books sold.....	2	16	1
Interest from the City Bank on Deposits	6	10	5
Lecture Tickets sold.....	2	5	0
	<u>£743</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>0</u>
1844. By cash paid for Books.....	£124	5	5
Periodicals, Newspapers, &c.....	113	19	6
Binding.....	11	4	8
Printing, Advertising and Stationery..	72	4	8
Salaries of Librarian & Superintendent	90	10	7
Light and Fuel.....	63	15	3
Insurance.....	5	0	0
Rent.....	30	0	0
Collecting Subscriptions.....	1	0	0
Carpenter's work and Painting.....	48	1	0
Sundries furnished for Reading Room.	23	4	4
Postages.....	23	3	11
Sundry Incidental Expenses.....	27	10	4
BALANCE remaining in hand.....	105	14	11
	<u>£743</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>0</u>

LIST OF OFFICERS
OF THE
QUEBEC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION,
For the Year 1844.

Hon. W. Walker,—*President.*

Vice-Presidents.

Hon. Geo. Pemberton, Hon. R. E. Caron,		J. C. Fisher, Esq., I.L. D. Jas. Gibb, Esq.
W. Bennett, Esq.— <i>Secretary.</i>		
A. Joseph, Esq.— <i>Treasurer,</i>		

Board of Directors.

J. L. Mackirdy, Esq.—*Chairman.*

Samuel Newton, Esq., W. Kimlin, Esq., W. White, Esq., J. Cauchon, Esq., Henry S. Scott, Esq., T. M. Clark, Esq.,		J. G. Clapham, Esq., G. H. Simard, Esq., P. Gingras, Junr. Esq., W. Wurtele, Esq., J. Thibaudeau, Esq.
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Library Sub-Committee.

Messrs. J. L. Mackirdy,—*Chairman.*
“ W. Wurtele,
“ G. H. Simard,
“ P. Gingras, Jun.

Reading Room Sub-Committee.

Messrs. Henry S. Scott,—*Chairman.*
“ J. Thibaudeau,
“ W. White,
“ J. G. Clapham,

Lecture Sub-Committee.

Messrs. S. Newton,—*Chairman.*
“ W. Kimlin,
“ J. Cauchon,
“ T. Clark.

Note.—The Secretary and Treasurer are also ex-officio Members of each of the above named Sub-Committees and of the Board of Directors.

LIST OF OFFICERS

OF THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

1910-1911

President - Mrs. W. W. ...

Vice-President - ...

Secretary - ...

Treasurer - ...

Librarian - ...

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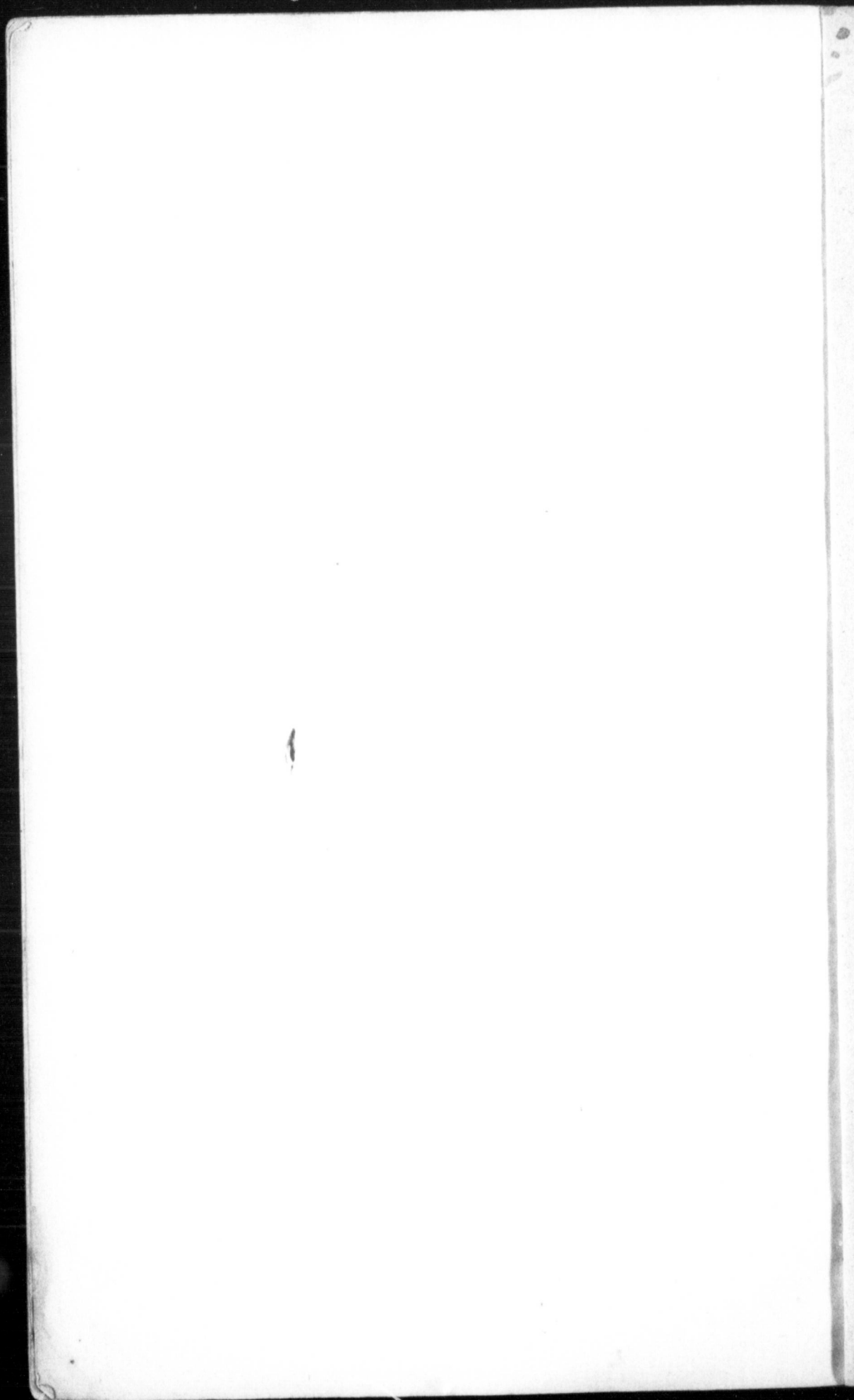
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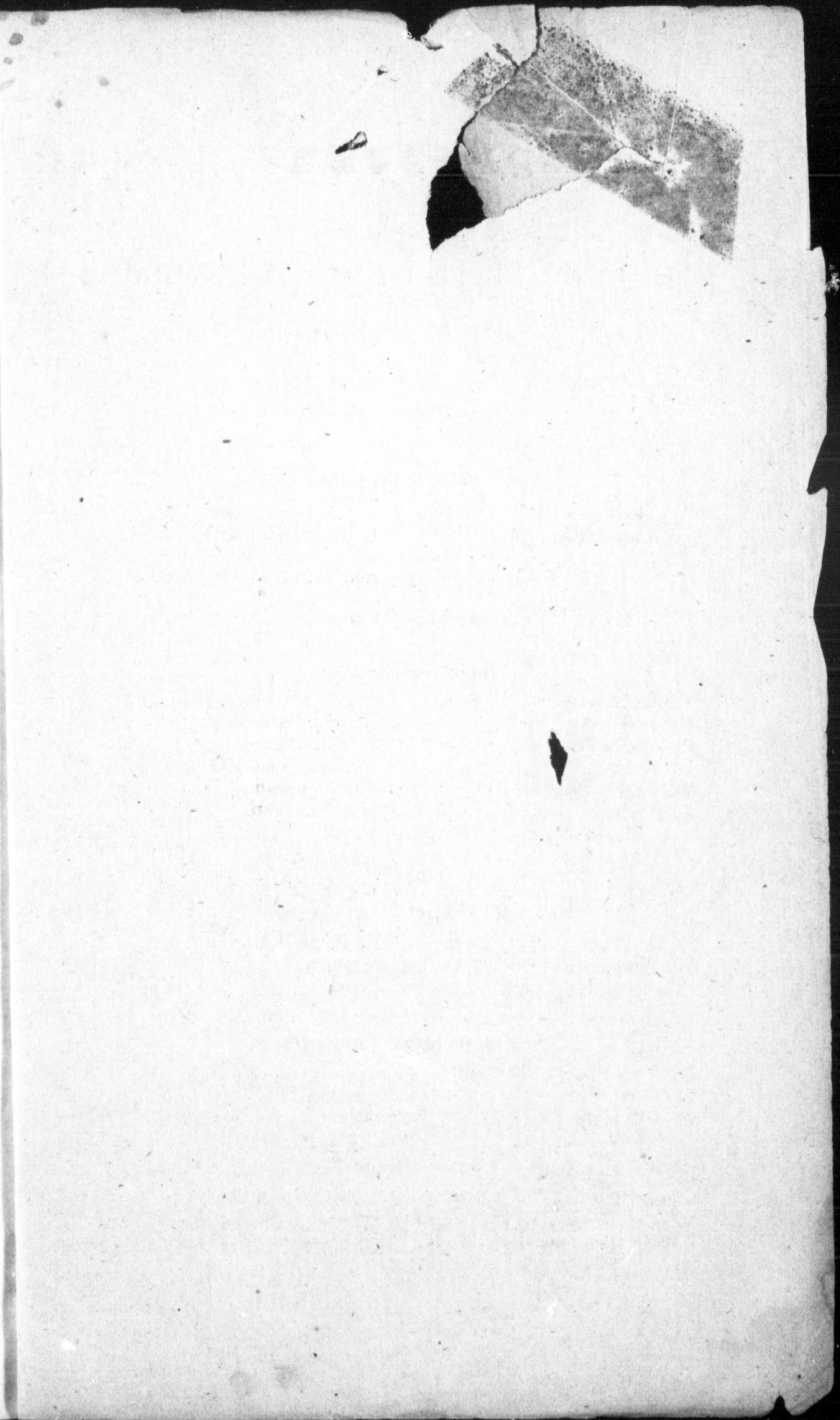
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OFFICERS

OF THE

QUEBEC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION,

For the year 1845.

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*President,*

THE HON. R. E. CARON,

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Vice Presidents,

J. Charlton Fisher, LL.D.	James Dean, Esq.
J. Racey, Esq., M. D.	Chas. Langevin, Esq.

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W. Bennett,—*Secretary.*

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A. Joseph,—*Treasurer.*

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*Board of Directors.*

|                               |                                 |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Samuel Newton, Esq. Chairman, | P. J. O. Chauveau, Esq., M.P.P. |
| Henry S. Scott, Esq.,         | H. W. Welch, Esq.,              |
| P. Gingras, Jun. Esq.,        | J. Wilson, Esq.,                |
| W. Wurtele, Esq.,             | J. Thibaudeau, Esq.,            |
| W. Kimlin, Esq., M. D.        | The President,                  |
| C. E. Dunn, Esq.,             | Vice-Presidents,                |
| J. G. Clapham, Esq.,          | Secretary,                      |
| W. White, Esq.,               | Treasurer.                      |

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Library Committee.

H. W. Welch, Esq., Chairman,	W. White, Esq.,
W. Wurtele, Esq.,	Secretary,
P. Gingras, Jun. Esq.,	Treasurer.

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*Reading Room Committee.*

|                              |                   |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| H. S. Scott, Esq., Chairman, | C. E. Dunn, Esq., |
| J. Wilson, Esq.,             | Secretary,        |
| J. Thibaudeau, Esq.          | Treasurer.        |

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Lecture Committee.

Samuel Newton, Esq., Chairman,	J. G. Clapham, Esq.,
W. Kimlin, Esq., M. D.	Secretary,
P. J. O. Chauveau, Esq., M.P.P.	Treasurer.