Twentieth Annual Report

OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE

HALIFAX YOUNG MEN'S

CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

CONTAINING

CONSTITUTION, TREASURERS ACCOUNTS LIST OF MEMBERS, OFFICERS, &c.

RECEIVED AND ADOPTED, JANUARY 95th 1824

PRINTED BY WILLIAM MACNAB, 1874.

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OFFICE BEARERS FOR 1874.

ALL SHOW REAL PROPERTY.

President. JOHN S. MACLEAN.

Vice-Bresidents.

W. B. MCNUTT. M. M. LINDSAY, JAMES B. MORROW.

DR. DELANEY. W. H. WISWEEL. HON. DR. PARKER.

Becording Secretary and Tibrarian.
HENRY THEAKSTON.

Corresponding Secretary.

ARCHIBALD PATTERSON.

Trensuter. S. H. BLACK.

Missionary.

General Committee.

S. G. MATHESON.
D. HERRY STARR.
D. HERRY STARR.
S. M. BROOKFIELD.
JAMES FORREST.
C. H. LONGARD.
JOSEPH H. TOWNSEND.
JAMES FARQUHAR.
SHERIFF BELL.
DR. W. B. SLATTER.
S. MACNAUGHTON.
W. P. ARCHIBALD.
H. P. BURTON.
W. H. NEAL.
T. SHERMAN PETERS.
DR. H. A. GORDON.
EDWARD JOST.

J. C. MACKINTOSH.
W. ROCHE, JR.
JOHN S. SMITH.
ANGUS S. MUERAY.
W. H. WADDELL.
A. G. DOW.
JAMES C. ANDERTON.
J. F. L. PARSONS,
JOHN NALDEEL.
ALBERT MURDOCH.
J. BURGOYNE.
EDWARD LLOYD.
A. MCK. BELL.
R. B. WILCH.
F. H. OXLEY.
ALEX. CAMPBELL.

SUB-COMMITTEES FOR 1874.

BIBLE CLASS AND PRAYER MEETING.

E. LLOYD (Chairman), J. FARQUHAR, W. ROCHE, Jr., S. G. MATHESON, S. MACNAUGHTON, ANGUS MURRAY.

BUILDING.

THE PRESIDENT (Chairmau), W. H. NEAL, J. B. Morrow, E. Jost, M. M. Lindsay, J. C. Mackintosh, Dr. Parker.

CITY MISSION.

THE PRESIDENT (Chairman), E. JOST, T. SHERMAN PETERS, W. B. McNUTT, SHERIFF BELL, DR. GORDON, DR. DELANEY.

FINANCE.

W. B. McNutt (Chairman), W. H. Neal, The President, Hon. Dr. Parker, JAS. B. MORROW.

LECTURES.

D. HENRY STARR (Chairman), Dr. Delaney, J. H. Townsend, W. H. Waddell, W. H. Wiswell.

LITERARY.

W. P. ARCHIBALD (Chairman), W. ROCHE, Jr., W. H. WISWELL, ALEX. CAMPBELL, JOHN NALDER, DR. GORDON.

MEMBERSHIP.

H. P. Burton (Chairman), Salem. John S. Smith, St. John's Church. S. G. MATHESON, Chalmers' Church. J. BURGOYNE, Granville St. F. H. OXLEY, Grafton St. W. ROCHE, Jr., St. George's J. F. L. Parsons, N. Baptist
A. McK. Bell, Brunswick St...
" ALEX. CAMPBELL, St. Matthew's " W. P. ARCHIBALD, Poplar Grove "DR. SLAYTER, St. Paul's " A. MURDOCH, Fort Mass W. H. WISWELL, St. Luke's

MUSICAL AND SOCIAL.

J. H. TOWNSEND (Chairman), A. MURDOCK, D. HENRY STARR, F. H. OXLEY, S. MAGNAUGHTON, DR. SLAYTER, A. MCK. BELL, JOHN NALDER.

ROOMS AND LIBRARY.

J. C. MACKINTOSH (Chairman), S. M. BROOKFIELD, JAS. FORREST, Dr. DE-LANEY, C. H. LONGARD.

STRANGERS AND EMPLOYMENT.

S. M. BROOKFIELD (Chairman), THE PRESIDENT, W. H. NEAL, M. M. LIND-SAY, DE. SLAYTER, T. SHERMAN PETERS.

TEMPERANCE.

E. Jost (Chairman), S. Macnaughton, Sheriff Bell, Jas. Farquhar, J. F. L. Parsons, A. Murray, C. H. Longard.

TRACT DISTRIBUTION.

J. C. Andreton (Chairman), Jas. Farquhar, R. B. Wilch, John Smith, Jas. Forrest, S. G. Matheson, J. Grierson.

VISITING SICK.

JOHN S. SMITH (Chairman), R. B. WILCH, J. BURGOYNE, E. JOST, A. G. DOW, THE MISSIONARY.

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REPORT.

GENERAL COMMITTEE.

" Our help is, in the name of the Lord;"-if it had not been so, our Association would long since have sunk never to rise again. The retrospect of the year differs in several features from that of other years in the nature of its undertakings and their results.

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In some respects great progress has been made; in others the Association has scarcely held its own against the many social changes and secular developments which are either of a competitive or antagonistic character. Some of the objects and undertakings of our organization have been vitalized, and under new phases are we trust effectually accomplishing the purposes for which they were instituted. A few have seemed to languish owing to obstacles difficult to surmount, but which will doubtless be overcome ere long. We desire to follow the Holy Spirit's injunction—" Prove all things, hold fast that which is good." We continue hopeful and believe that with the Divine blessing and favour all our labours will culminate in benefitting the community and bringing Young men to Christ.

Can we say that in this latter work we have been active, earnest and faithful in season and out of season, labouring for the glory of God and the salvation of perishing souls? Each of our members must answer this question for himself, meanwhile we humbly trust that in the Bible Class,-at the several Prayer meetings, and in the Barrack Street Mission under our charge, some souls at least have

been led to Jesus and are now rejoicing in his love.

But brethren, we do feel that individual effort in public and private is more than ever needful in this present evil world. Let us constantly remember that "he that converteth a sinner from the error of his ways shall save a soul from death, and hide a multitude

The Reports of the several Committees hereto appended will exemplify the remarks previously made while a brief reference to some

special subjects may be adverted to herein.

The Association has not increased numerically, though additions are constantly being made. On the old list a number of names were retained for some years, who from non-payment of dues, death, removal and other causes had ceased to be in connection with us. believed that the present Roll revised by the Membership Committee presents the actual strength of the association.

Financially the Association is in much the same condition as in former years. Our income has slightly increased from Lectures, &c., it has been diminished by the withdrawal or reduction of the regular contributions and donations of older members and outside friends and supporters. The expenses have unavoidably increased, and a similar result may be anticipated in the future. The duty of every member then is so plain that your Committee need not make a special appeal for greater liberality.

The day set apart for Associations, viz: the second Sunday in Nov., was observed with fervour and solemnity, the Ministers throughout the city co-operating with us. By request an earnest appeal and exhortation to young men only, was delivered by Rev. J. Lathern at Temperance Hall, and a Special service was held in Barrack St. Church

Large numbers attended at these meetings.

At Conventions, our Association was represented as follows: At the International Convention, Poughkeepsie, by Brothers W.

Roche and C. E. Puttner.

At the Convention of the Maritime Provinces at Truro, by Bros. H. Theakston, E. D. King, J. Forrest, E. Jost, W. P. Archibald, W. H. Reid, Dr. Gordon, C. Robson, J. Grierson, W. S. Graham, W. H. Waddell, Dr. Delaney as Delegates, besides a number of others as corresponding members. The next Convention is to be held at Fredericton, N. B., in the summer of 1874.

An undertaking of special value and magnitude in a secular point of view is the New Building now nearly completed and soon to be occupied by our Association. Years of planning, praying and working have at last resulted in the erection of a handsome, convenient and substantial edifice in which our future meetings and operations

are to be conducted.

Brethren while we heartily thank God for the special manifestation of his goodness-for sustaining the hearts and hands of the energetic and faithful few of our number who have stood by this burdensome enterprise through all vicissitudes, and furthering other important interests, let each one feel an interest and do his part in the Association, seeking God's blessing and doing all for Christ's dear sake.

LECTURES.

Your Committee calls attention to the fact that the nett proceeds of last season's course of lectures amounted to \$388.15, thereby proving that notwithstanding the advance in the price of tickets, the attendance at the Lectures was larger than when the price was only ten cents, as the nett proceeds of the previous course were only \$91.24.

Your Committee were unable to provide a regular course of lectures this season on the old plan. They are happy to state that they carried out the suggestions contained in former report, and secured the services of Elihu Burritt, who visited our city and gave a lecture on a Saturday evening to one of the most respectable audiences that has ever filled Temperance Hall, and the lecture itself was one of the best ever delivered before a Halifax audience. Mer drev

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Your Committee, acting on information received from the Young Men's Christian Association of New York, invited Mr. W. S. Andrews of Boston, who delivered two lectures.

Your Committee have also to announce that they expect to have two or three more lectures during the winter—the nett proceeds to go

towards furnishing our new Building.

D. HENRY STARR, Chairman.

THE BIBLE CLASS AND PRAYER MEETING.

Throughout the past year the Bible Class has continued to meet regularly for the study and discussion of the International Series of Bible Lessons, except on three occasions when special meetings occurred on the customary night. Notwithstanding the interest manifested by those who attend regularly and the presence of strangers frequently in our meetings, there is not among the young men in the community nor indeed amongst ourselves sufficient enthusiasm and activity to bring about the results which so important and essential a branch of our work demands and should ensure.

The attendance during the year has been as low as 12 and as high

as 45-average 26.

Last summer a more advanced and elaborate system of Bible Class teaching was brought before us by Rev. Dr. Thomson of Chicago, at a Sabbath afternoon meeting in St. Matthew's Church, but thoug presented features of novelty and value the plan would seem to be impracticable from a variety of causes which it is not needful to advert to in this Report.

The Committee deemed it desirable to make a change in the Services for the day of Annual Prayer for all Associations in the world.

The Rev. J. Lathern kindly acceded to the request of the Committee to deliver an earnest practical address to young men at Temperance Hall, and the Clergymen generally in the City co-operated in commending our Organization and its work to the People and in asking God's blessing upon our efforts to advance His Kingdom among young men.

The Committee earnestly ask the members of the Association to consider the very great importance of the Bible Class, and also of the Weekly Prayer meeting and to aid them by prayer, personal effort and practical suggestions in making both undertakings more extensive and successful.

The Weekly Prayer Meeting has been kept up, and though it has languished and dwindled in numbers, still a few carnest and faithful ones, knowing that God our Father is the hearer and answerer of Prayer, and has blessed us in the past, continue to keep it alive, hoping that in due time there will be an accession to their numbers and an outpouring of the Spirit amongst our members which will revive religion and piety not only in our Institution, but among the churches and community at large. The average attendance of the

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year has not exceeded 13, though in the early part of the year as

many as 18 and 20 have attended occasionally.

Your Committee, anticipating a speedy improvement in our system and membership, trust that under Providence we may arrive at a higher standard, exercising greater zeal, a more lively faith and humble but confident hope that "Ged even our God shall give us his blessing and all the people shall rejoice and be glad in him.

WM. H. WISWELL, Chairman.

ROOMS AND LIBRARY.

Nothing of importance in the working of the Rooms and Library has occurred during the year except that the daily attendance has increased to about 90.

Nearly three thousand issues of books have been made, or about

ten per day. Last year the issue was seven per day.

All the magazines taken for the year have been bound up and added to the Library which is slowly increasing. The retiring committee would suggest that about the time of occupying the new building, an appeal be made to the Christian public for books; similar to the one so successful a few years ago.

The Reading-room has been kept up to its usual standard, the

papers and magazines being carefully selected.

It is with no ordinary feelings of gratitude to God that your Committee in common with all the members of the Association look forward to the occupying of our splendid building the coming year, and we venture to hope that in our new home the Association will become a more permanent means of good to the young men of our city than it has hitherto been.

As the duties of the Rooms and Library Committee will be much more important when the building is handed over, it will be necessary that those who are to serve the Association on this Committee have some knowledge of the management of property, and be prepared to

use every means of making the rooms attractive.

The furnishing of the new building is a matter that will tax the energies of the Association, as a considerable outlay will have to be incurred to make the rooms attractive. This matter we press upon the Association as second only in importance to the erection of the building itself.

We have again as in former years to tender our thanks to many kind friends for donations of books and papers, and especially to the proprietors of the following newspapers for their kindness in furnish-

ing copies of their papers:

Halifax—Chronicle, Colonist, Citizen, Reporter, Recorder, Express, Abstainer, N. S. Journal of Agriculture, Wesleyan, Messenger, Pres. Witness, Eastern Chronicle, Colonial Standard, Sun, Star, Western Chronicle, Exchange Journal and Advertiser, Church Herald, N. S. Farmer, Weekly Monitor, Cape Breton Advocate, Dalhousie College Gazette, Church Chronicle, The Friend, Religious Intelligencer, Pres.

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Advocate, Colonial Farmer, St. John Daily Telegraph, St. John Tri-Weekly News, Our Dumb Animals, Evangelist, Journal of Education, Amherst Gazette.

JAMES C. MACKINTOSH, Chairman.

FINANCE.

Your Committee direct attention to the Treasurer's Accounts for details of Income and Expenditure amounting respectively to \$1747 74 and \$1808 11—and shewing a balance due him at the close of the year \$60 36. There are also Bills unpaid \$150 73—shewing our indebtedness to be at present \$211 10.

This debt would have been much greater as we commenced the year \$300 in debt, had not Mr. J. H. Townsend kindly undertaken to collect subscriptions towards its reduction, and was successful to the extent of \$187 00. Thanks are due to him for this good service and to those Members and others who contributed to that object.

At the same time your Committee look upon this method of liquidating our yearly debit Balance as an improper if not discreditable way of meeting necessary expenses.

Most Societies in the City have funds in reserve and increasing yearly, without having to resort to the generosity of the few, while the many pay only the minimum subscription, and in some cases neglect to do that promptly.

The reduction from time to time in the Annual or Occasional Donations is a source of much regret to your Committee, but is like-

wise an indication that the Society is expected to be self-sustaining.

Your Committee are fully satisfied that though the Expenses have increased somewhat, yet the financial affairs of the Association are carefully and economically managed.

They must also remind the members that the removal of the Association into new Premises and under different conditions must unavoidably call for greater liberality from those who appreciate our Work and objects, and are able to contribute more than the yearly payment of One Dollar for all the privileges afforded them.

It will be necessary also to increase the Annual Fee for the same reasons, though only by as small an addition as discretion and higher

So far your Committee have reason for sincere gratitude to our Heavenly Father for bringing our Association through all pecuniary

They reiterate on behalf of the members the expression of sincere thanks to the Treasurer, S. H. Black, for his valuable services. JAS. B. MORROW, Chairman.

MEMBERSHIP.

At the commencement of this year there were belonging to the Association 543 members, since then 74 have been added, while 111 have been taken off the list, leaving the present number 506; of those whose names have been struck off four have died, viz.:—Edward Janes, Howard McLean, Geo. McDonald and W. B. Fairbanks—the

latter a life member.

The Committee regretting the decrease in the membership, beg to state that this decrease is to be accounted for from the fact that in view of the Association expecting shortly to remove to their new Building now in course of completion, they considered it necessary to make a thorough inquiry as to the standing of the membership, and in doing so found a very large number of names on the Books of whom after inquiry had been made, no account could be had, most of them being over three years in arrears. The Committee considered it for the best interests of the Association to remove them from the list. They would also draw attention to the fact that whilst last year there were only 50 additions to the Association, this year there have been 74—showing an increased interest in its prosperity.

This Committee have also to report that a number of the members of the Association have been induced to cooperate with them in inviting those who seldom visit the rooms to take a more active interest in its working. This movement has met so far with considerable success—and the Committee would commend this movement to their

successors.

Your Committee would also suggest, that printed cards of invitation with the address of the Association be procured for the use of the members, so as to call the attention of young men and strangers to the rooms.

H. P. Burron, Chairman.

TRACT DISTRIBUTION.

The Committee have nothing new to announce. The tract distributors have been enabled to discharge their duties as in former years. Every wharf from the Gas Works to the Dockyard has been visited on the Sabbath morning from May to December, and almost every seaman on board, the vessels has been offered a tract.

At the gate of the Cemetery, where the open air services are held, a number of small books have been distributed at the close of the

meeting.

The Committee are unable to estimate the exact number distributed during the past summer and fall, but they will amount to many thousands. The thanks of the Committee are due to the governors of the Presbyterian Theological Hall, and to the British and American Book and Tract Society; both which institutions gave supplies of

Tracts.

The Committee in closing would recommend this portion of your Association's work to all workers for the cause of Christ. Much good has resulted to the church and the world from the giving away of a single tract. We are content to labour on that the fruit may appear to the glory of the Great Redeemer—though it may be many days hence.

James Farquilla, Chairman.

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STRANGERS AND EMPLOYMENT.

Your Committee beg to report that all applications to them for situations have been attended to, to the best of their ability. They are happy to state that a large number of Strangers (from all parts of Canada, United States and England) have visited the Association during the past year. They have been invited to frequent the Rooms and attend our meetings during their stay in our city.

JAS. B. Morrow, Chairman.

LITERARY.

The Committee beg to report that they have held meetings for members of the Association each Monday evening during the winter. There have been papers read by Dr. Cogswell on the "Trans-Continental Railway." Mr. Alex. Campbell on "Pleasure" and by Mr. A. J. Bremner on some of the practical uses of the study of History.—Papers have been promised by Mr. Dewar, Dr. Dodge, Mr. Johnston Hunt, and Mr. J. W. Longley to be read during the winter.

There have been discussions of the following subjects:—¶. Which is the better form of government for France—Republican or Monarchical. 2. Should the United States interfere in the affairs of Cuba. 3. Which is the greater Poet, Burns or Byron. 4. Ought the Pacific Railway to be abandoned.

The Committee regret that the members of the Association have not patronised the meetings as their advantages would warrant, the average attendance being only seventeen.

WILLIAM ROCHE, Chairman.

BUILDING.

Twenty years have rolled away since our Y. M. C. A. was brought into existence in a gentleman's parlour in this city. During that time it has had its ups and downs—its movings and removings—but it never has been in a position to have such rooms as would attract the young men, and carry out in their entirety the objects for which it was instituted. To-day as we begin another era of our existence, your Committee can point with pardonable pride to the noble Building now nearly finished, and which we hope to occupy in April.

Last year your Committee reported that the contract for the Building had been awarded to Mr. Blaiklock and the work commenced. Owing to the unsatisfactory manner in which the contract was being carried out which eventually led to a suspension of the work, a great deal of labour and anxiety was entailed on your Committee, and they were compelled to make an arrangement by which the contractor abandoned the work, and Mr. Brookfield entered into an agreement to complete it. Your committee are happy to say that the arrangement was effected with but little loss beyond the delay which necessarily occurred

in the completion of the Building. They are happy to say that in Mr. Brookfield's hands the contract is being fulfilled to their entire satisfaction, and the Building is approaching completion.

New subscriptions have been received to a limited amount since the last report, and so far the calls on subscribers have generally been met

with commendable promptness.

In present circumstances it would be impossible for the Committee to present any financial statement. They feel deeply grateful to kind friends who have contributed towards the cost of the erection of the Building-and would say " Hitherto hath the Lord helped us."

On the 15th March the third instalment of subscriptions will fall due, and the Committee confidently appeal to subscribers to meet this payment punctually, as it is necessary that the Committee should be

placed in funds at that time.

To those of our christian and philanthropic citizens who have not yet subscribed to assist in this object we would earnestly appeal for help. The object in view-that of raising the moral and religious status of our young men is one which must commend itself to alland one in which all have a direct interest.

It is of the utmost importance that we should take possession of our Building if not entirely free of debt, at least with a prospect that it will be so in a very short time. That this may be the case, it is necessary that a large sum be raised in addition to what has been

already subscribed.

To the employers of young men-to fathers-and to the christian public generally we appeal in all confidence for further help; and trusting in God who has blessed us in the past-who during the last 20 years amid difficulties and discouragements has never forsaken us-let us go forward with bright hopes for the future.

J. S. MACLEAN, Chairman.

MUSICAL AND SOCIAL.

Your Committee have nothing to report in the way of entertainments during the year. The want of a convenient place to hold such successfully has been the principal reason why none have been held. The Committee do not expect such a condition of things at the next annual meeting.

Your Committee have had under consideration some plans for the raising of funds to furnish the new building. As each and all are at this time under process of development it is not necessary to refer to

them in detail.

W. C. DELANEY, Chairman.

VISITING SICK.

The Committee report that the cases of sickness brought to their notice during the past year have been very few. Two however have been removed by the hand of death, viz: Howard McLean and Edwd.

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Janes, both having died on the ninth January, 1873. These brothers were visited in their illness, by members of your Committee and others, who read and prayed with them; and we have every reason to believe, they "departed this life to be with Christ, which is far

If there have been any instances of members being sick and unvisited, it has not been because we were not ready to visit, but because we were not made aware of such cases.

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In conclusion your Committee would remind the members of the great importance of serving the Lord with their might and strength, so that when they are laid on their dying bed they may have the comfortable hope of receiving a crown of righteousness which the Lord the righteous judge has promised to all such as serve Him.

JOHN S. SMITH, Chairman.

CITY MISSION.

The Mission work of the Association has been carried forward with zeal and earnestness during the past year. Mr. Owens has faithfully labored among the people in the neighborhood of our Mission church, and has been always kindly received. Extracts from his report are annexed. As usual your Committee have had much anxiety regarding the money for the support of this Mission, but our fears have been happily disappointed, and we have been ashamed at our want of loving trust in our Master when at the close of the week of prayer, through the kindness of those who attended we were enabled to ba-

The Sabbath afternoon meetings are well attended. In winter the building is always filled to overflowing, the largest proportion of the audience being young men who listen with great attention, and many have expressed their gratitude to the Committee for providing such a means of grace for them. We know many a warning has been heeded, and many a kind advice taken, to the everlasting good of

Your Committee feel deeply grateful to the clergymen of all denominations, who have invariably responded to their weekly call, for help at these meetings, and have given them their unwavering support and kind encouragement on all occasions, both public and private.

Your Committee have to thank the brethren who kindly assist our Missionary in his arduous work, especially Mr. Jost, who gives so much time as Superintendent of the Sabbath School. are needed, and young men who desire to assist will be gladly welcomed on Sabbath and Tuesday evenings. Your Committee have met regularly every Wednesday afternoon during the year.

Your Committee desire to commend earnestly this department of the work of our Association to their successors, for we are sure it has been blessed by God in the past, which is an earnest of its suc-

J. S. MACLEAN, Chairman.

MISSIONARY'S REPORT.

I must state that the necessity existing for mission work is as great as ever; drunkenness and immorality, and utter forgetfulness of God prevail to a fearful extent. Hundreds absent themselves from the public means of grace from year to year, and thus grow indifferent to all their spiritual interests, and many are on the road to infidelity, and give unbridled liberty to every lust and sensual gratification. It is a solemn fact that there are hundreds of precious souls in our mission district who are unsaved, and consequently sinking deeper and deeper in sin, and dragging down their children with them. Our only hope to reach and save them is in the blessed gospel of Christ: this we must carry to them; in their own houses we have to seek them out, just as we have to carry the Gospel to heathens in foreign lands.

With pleasure I state that the work of visiting from door to door is becoming more encouraging every year, old prejudices in many cases are being removed, and we receive a hearty welcome everywhere, with few exceptions. Even low degraded persons receive us with the greatest respect, and pay close attention to what is said to them, and to the reading of the Scriptures and prayer. I think we cannot attach too much importance to this work of house to house visitation, I am convinced that this part of our mission work alone has done incalculable good in this neighborhood good which eternity alone can fully reveal. Often have we seen the poor sinner broken down in penitence, choked with sobs and cries, uttering the prayer "God'be merciful to me a sinner," while with a glad heart we have pointed them to the Saviour; while in others a gradual improvement is manifest, both in their temporal condition and morally. There is in the work of visitation a social as well as religious power, infusing a new and brighter atmosphere into their homes. Here we can let them feel that we sympathise with them in their trials and temptations. It is here we win their confidence and thus are able to exert an influence over them tending to elevate and save them; and especially at the bed of the sick and dying, do we find our visits to be seasons of grace

My work during the past year has been so similar to those of previous years that I need not describe it minutely now. My time through the day has been wholly taken up in visiting. I have made 3027 visits. I have distributed a large number of tracts and other religious papers. My Sabbath work is necessarily in connection with the Mission Church chiefly, commencing with the Sunday School in the morning at half-past nine o'clock. The school is in a flourishing state, and the attendance very regular. The teachers take a deep interest in their work, and some of them must make unusual efforts in order to be there. The attendance will average about fifty children, all composed of the class which the Mission is designed to reach. Many of these children have the very worst of parents, and their homes are scenes of drunkenness and cursing, and almost every form

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of vice; and to these homes the little children carry the sweet hymns they learn to sing, and the precious truths they learn of Jesus and his love. It is impossible to prize too highly a Sabbath school in

such a locality as this.

The Mission services have been conducted regularly. The attendance, compared with the building in which they are held, has been small, but when all things are taken into account they have been very encouraging. The attendance has been greatly on the increase during a few weeks past and deep impressions have often been made, the fruit of which we trust will yet be seen. Members of the Association have kindly assisted me in conducting these meetings, and I would take this opportunity of reminding young men who wish to work for God that this is just the field for them. We greatly need your help, both in visiting the sick and poor, and in our mission services.

The Temperance meetings have also been regularly conducted through the past year on the first Tuesday of every month, with good

RICHARD OWENS, Missionary.

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S. H. BLACK, Treasurer.

Halifax Young Men's Christian Association in account with Treasurer. #130 of 1873. January II. To Balance...

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Revised and Amended at a Special Meeting called for that purpose, November 28th, 1864.

ARTICLE I.

That this Association be called the "HALIFAX YOUNG MEN'S CHERISTIAN ASSOCIATION."

ARTICLE II.

That the objects of this Association shall be,-

1st.—The improvement of the spiritual and mental condition of Young Men.

2nd.—The formation of a Christian Library and Reading Room.

3rd.—Rooms and accommodation for Bible Classes and Social Prayer Meetings.

4th—Course of Lectures on Religious subjects, as well as secular, having reference to religion and the employment of every other available means, whereby the increase of vital religion may be promoted.

ARTICLE III.

As it is the highest object of this Association to promote vital religion among the Young men residing in the city, any person of good moral character may be a Member of this Association by the payment of not less than One Dollar annually, in advance. He shall be entitled to all the parivileges of the institution, provided he be proposed by a member of the Association at one of its meetings, and shall be elected by ballot by the General Committee after satisfactory enquiry as to his eligibility. But no person shall be eligible to serve on a Committee, or to be an Office-bearer of the Association who is not a member in good standing in one of the Evangelical Churches.

ARTICLE IV.

Any member, on the payment of £10 at any one time, may become a life Member.

ARTICLE V.

The Officers of this Association shall consist of a President, Vice-Presidents, a Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, a Treasurer, Librarian, and a General Committee comprising, as far as possible, members of each evangelical denomination, all of whom shall be chosen annually by ballot.

ARTICLE VI.

It is the duty of the President, or one of the Vice-Presidents, to preside at all public meetings of the Association.

It shall be the duty of the Recording Secretary to notify members of the

time and place of meeting, attend the same, to notify all officers of their election, and to keep a fair and complete record of the transactions of the Association.

The Corresponding Secretary shall be the organ of the Association in its confidence with other societies, and shall retain copies of all letters written

The Treasurer shall collect and pay all monies of the Association under direction of the Committee, shall keep a correct account of the same, and shall report, whenever required to do so, to the Committee, and to the Association, at least once a year.

It shall be the duty of the Librarian to keep in order all books and documents of the Association, to keep a correct catalogue of the same, and an account of all books delivered to members.

It shall be the duty of the Committee to manage all the affairs of the Association, to make Bye-Laws, appoint Special Committees, decide on all applications for membership, appoint a Recording Secretary, and take whatever steps may be necessary for the promotion of the objects of the Asso-

ARTICLE VII.

That all the meetings of the Association and Committee shall be opened and closed with prayer.

ARTICLE VIII.

That Committee possess the power to suspend or exclude any member whose conduct may be found inconsistent with the character of the Association.

Also any person failing to pay his dues for two years consecutively, after having been notified by the Secretary, and examination having been made by the Membership Committee, shall cease to be a member.

ARTICLE IX.

That no article of the Constitution be altered or amended, or in any way dispensed with, except six months' notice in writing thereof be given, and then only if recommended by a majority of the Committee, and by a twothird vote of the members of the Association at a meeting called for that purpose, regular notice having been given at least two weeks previously.

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