

SIR,—

I am instructed by the Committee of this Institute to respectfully solicit your further co-operation and assistance to complete the New Hall, the works in which have been suspended for some time from a want of funds.

An indirect application by Government for the use of the Hall for the ensuing four years has been made; but the Committee could not recommend such an arrangement before ascertaining from the Members whether they will contribute sufficient funds to enable the Committee to complete, at least, so much of the Building as shall afford accommodation to the Institute, and Offices, the rental of which, with the Lecture-room, shall be sufficient to pay the interest on the loan already contracted—for which purpose a sum of at least £1,900 will be required, including payment of present liabilities.

The disadvantages consequent upon the diversion of the Hall from the institutional and public purposes for which it was erected, and which it is so admirably calculated to serve, would be so great, that the most active measures should be taken by the Members to retain it in their own hands.

Among the disadvantages alluded to are the following:—

1st, The Institute would be shut up to its present contracted situation for four years longer, during which, if in its New Building, it would materially increase its influence and usefulness.

2nd, The Building would be so altered in its internal arrangements, that, at the end of its occupation by the Government, it would require a large sum to put it into a suitable condition for the Institute and the public.

3rd, The citizens generally would be deprived of the use of a large Public Hall, superior in size and in all other respects to any room in the City at present, the want of which has been a long time felt, and will be increasingly so in a few months.

Under these circumstances, the Committee—although they regret the necessity laid on them to make another appeal to the liberality of their Fellow-Members—yet feel that they are warranted in using every exertion to retain the Building in the possession of the Institute.

One or more Members of the Committee will therefore take the liberty of waiting upon you shortly for the purpose of obtaining your name to a new subscription-list.

The Committee propose to receive the subscriptions in *two instalments*—unless otherwise desired by subscribers—the *first* payable on the 1st of June, 1855; *second* on the 1st of October 1855.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

ROBERT EDWARDS,
Secretary.

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Circular applying for
Additional Subscriptions
for finishing New Hall -
Ap. 1853 -