

# TORONTO MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.

The annual meeting of the Institute was held on Monday evening, May 2nd; the President, John Harrington, Esquire, in the chair, and about two hundred members being present.

The Secretary having read the report of the Committee for the past year—a synopsis of which is herewith published—it was

Moved by T. B. BARNARD, Esq., seconded by Mr. J. M. MOOR, and

Resolved—That the Report just read be adopted.

The list of candidates for Officers and Committee being read, and nominations having been applied, the ballot was taken, and resulted in the election of the following gentlemen:—

**President**—Patrick Towhead.  
**1st Vice-President**—W. H. Kay.  
**2nd Vice-President**—E. A. Martin.  
**Treasurer**—John Patterson.  
**Reading Secretary**—William Edwards.  
**Corresponding Secretary**—J. E. Mann.  
**Librarian**—Walter Shaw.

**Committee**  
John Harrington, John E. Pell, D. O. Crawford, John Griffin, Hiram Phipps, John McEwen, Alex. Hamilton, Ernest Wilson, David Wilson, David Kerr, Samuel Rogers, Thos. Gaudin.

Moved by W. J. Eversay, seconded by H. Fern, and

Resolved—That this meeting has heard with deep and unqualified regret of the death of Mr. Robert Edwards, late Secretary and Librarian of the Institute. That we desire to record our unqualified appreciation of the energy and ability with which, for over ten years, he has discharged the duties devolving upon him as an officer of the Institute, and our personal esteem and regard for a courteous and energetic officer and a kind and faithful friend and associate.

Moved by D. Shaw, seconded by J. E. Mann, and

Resolved—That the President do now leave the chair, and that Mr. J. E. Pell do take the chair; and that the thanks of this meeting be given to John Harrington, Esquire, for his able and impartial conduct in the chair.

The meeting then adjourned.

## SYNOPSIS OF THE ANNUAL REPORT.

The Committee, in submitting a Report of their proceedings during the past year, remark:—

"In the circumstances which have affected the Institute during their term of office, poor results cannot be expected without deep regret. The loss by death, of health, and the many pains, indisposition, &c., of Mr. Robert Edwards was so closely identified with the Institution, and so ardently devoted to the Institute, that his loss must be severely felt.

"It is a melancholy pleasure to the committee to record the untimely death of a gentleman, who during several years, has discharged the duties of Reading Secretary and Acting Librarian; and his valuable services to the Institute, by the personal promotion of every plan which had been considered conducive to its interests, with those of its most practical well-wishers.

"Some time must elapse before even the most competent party can be expected to be able to fill into his place, as he leaves the continued recollection and regret of the subscribers, the services that unceasingly rendered by him."

## THE MEMBERSHIP.

The Committee reports a decrease of 37 in the membership of the Institute during the year. Withdrawals, renewals and deaths amounting to 167, are members in 1888, leaving a total number of members in date of Report of 231, classified as follows:—Honorary members, 22; life members, 80; ordinary members, 229; and junior members, 24. The Committee accounts for the decrease in the membership, by the continued and extraordinary depression in all departments of business, and anti-epidemic, with the return of a more healthy state of trade, a degree of prosperity for the Insti-

tute fully equal to that of any garden of its past history.

**THE LIBRARY.**  
The Committee reports that, owing to the large amount of subscriptions in arrears by the members, and the payment of \$300 of arrears of interest due on loan to the Institute for the building of the new Hall, they have not been able to make any large addition to the Library during the year. The number of volumes at last Report was 2,918.

By purchase during the year, 57 vols.; by donation, 21; brought in from reading room, 21; less worn out during the year, 21; making a total now in the library of 4,935 vols.

The average number of members taking out books during the year was 184. An increased interest appears just now to be manifested in the library.

The following is a list of the donations of books received during the year:—From Prof. Chapman, his "Range of Gravity"; Dr. Gray, his lecture on the "Mortality in the Irish Army"; Hiram Tully, Esq., copies of his "Remarks on the Georgian Bay Canal"; C. P. T. Esq., his "Handbook of Toronto"; J. Elliott, Esq., 2 vols. of "Pictorial Maps"; J. E. Mann, Esq., his "Canadian Geographical"; the Board of Arts and Manufactures, 19 vols. of books.

## THE READING ROOM.

The attendance at the Reading Room reported about the same as last year. The Committee acknowledge with pleasure the continued liberality of the donors in furnishing the following publications free of charge:—The New York Tribune, Canadian Spectator, Toronto Canadian, and London (O. W.) Evangelist Witness, by Mr. J. E. Pell; the C. W. Journal, Canada's Gazette, Canadian Journal, Canadian Spectator, Canadian Independent, Toronto Evening Leader, Toronto Times, Montreal Telegraph, Kingston Herald, Harris Gazette, Harris Journal of the City, Hamilton Chronicle, Port Hope Guide, Woodstock Times, Owen Sound Times, Thurlow County, Stratford News, Stratford Examiner, Brantford Times, Guelph Herald, Odessa Reporter, Eschwege Gazette, Windsor, Marlborough Chronicle, Ontario Times, Ontario Observer, Ingersoll Chronicle, Windsor Journal, and Hamilton Observer, by their respective proprietors.

The Committee also regret the want of accommodation in the Reading Room, but anticipate an important improvement in this respect when the Institute shall enter upon its new premises.

## THE LECTURES.

The winter course of Lectures resulted in a loss to the Institute of \$65, which is accounted for principally by the smallness of the Lectures Room, the number of lectures delivered in the city, and the business difficulties weighing upon the minds of almost all classes of the community.

The lectures delivered were as follows:—On the "Advertisement of the Ancient Economy," by Rev. Dr. McNeil; on an "Economy," by Walter A. Watts, M.A.; on the "Poetry of Industry," by Dr. A. O. Kibbey; on the "Arrears of Western Trade," by Hiram Tully, Esq.; on the "Chemistry of Commerce," by Dr. T. B. BARNARD; and on the "Antiquary and Comparative Anatomy of the Eye," by Dr. Beverly H. Martin. To the gratification which they give, their services to the Institute, the committee feel their cordial thanks.

## CLASSES.

The Committee reports the establishment of but one class during the year, which was for the study of "Drawing" as applied to the Arts and Manufactures, and was conducted with ability and success by Mr. Henry Langley.

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## NEW HALL.

The Committee reports that the loan to the Government of the New Hall, will expire in October next, and upon the necessity of immediate steps being taken to prepare for the

increased expenditure which must of necessity follow the removal to this large and commodious building; and also reminds the members, that, such as the affairs of the Institute required careful and judicious management in past years, much greater care, skill and judgment will be now required.

In reference to the office of Secretary and Librarian of the Institute, the Report says:—"In managing the affairs of an Institution such as this, much, very much, depends upon the efficiency, skill and efficiency of the Secretary; and your Committee are convinced that the office of Secretary in this Institute ought to be a permanent one; thus in addition to the duties of Secretary, he should also discharge the duties of Librarian, and that a sufficient salary should be attached to the office to secure the services of a man of high standing and ability; and this, which apparently involving additional expense, your Committee are convinced would be good economy. Our act of incorporation, however, will not permit such a course being now adopted, but your Committee feel that an amendment in the act should be secured, so as to allow the appointment of a permanent Secretary and Librarian, if it should be thought necessary."

The Report also alludes to the reduction, last year, of the Government grant from \$200 to \$140, and of the entire withdrawal of all aid to Mechanics' Institute for this year, so that the Institution will now have to depend entirely on its own resources.

In conclusion the Committee express the hope,—"that each member will feel it to be his duty, as far as in him lies, to sustain an Institution which has borne, and still, they trust, will be, of great benefit to all connected with it, and that an act of propriety may in the next year be commenced, and as has not heretofore been applied in the future; and which will place it, as they earnestly hope it will yet be placed, the first among the institutions of the kind in this country."

JOHN HARRINGTON, President.  
W. H. EDWARDS, Secretary.

## RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDING MAY, 1888—CLASSIFIED.

| RECEIPTS.                                                        |                  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Balance from last year's account.....                            | \$ 35 00         |
| Members' subscriptions for the year.....                         | 809 08           |
| Books from donors.....                                           | 224 94           |
| Rest for new Hall for the year ending March 31, 1888.....        | 1354 36          |
| Insurance premium from Government on new Hall, for \$24,000..... | 240 00           |
| Legislative grant for 1888.....                                  | 149 00           |
| Proceeds of Excursion to Niagara Falls.....                      | 51 80            |
| Catalogues sold in library.....                                  | 21 20            |
| <b>Total.....</b>                                                | <b>\$2249 38</b> |

| EXPENDITURE.                                        |           |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Books for library.....                              | \$ 355 96 |
| Dated and newspapers for Reading Room.....          | 228 72    |
| Printing and republishing books for library.....    | 47 40     |
| Printing Annual Report.....                         | 38 80     |
| Printing Catalogues of library—paid on account..... | 30 80     |
| General Printing.....                               | 1 85      |
| Stationery and Blank Books.....                     | 17 15     |
| Postage.....                                        | 13 25     |
| Cash and Cashier.....                               | 206 21    |
| Fuel.....                                           | 69 25     |
| Excursion, tickets to Fall, &c.....                 | 50 24     |
| Secretary and Librarian's Salaries—on account.....  | 447 36    |
| Hall Keeper's Salary.....                           | 17 15     |
| Insurance on Books and Furniture.....               | 1400 00   |
| Interest paid on Loan to January 1st, 1888.....     | 280 00    |
| Insurance on New Hall for \$24,000.....             | 14 90     |
| Subscriptions to Society of Arts, London, 1888..... | 15 30     |
| Miscellaneous Small Items.....                      | 9 20      |
| Balance in hand.....                                | 39 39     |

**Total.....\$3949 88**  
Audited and found correct, 1st May, 1888.  
(Signed) J. M. MOOR.

\*At a meeting of the Committee held on Friday, the 25th inst., Mr. J. M. Moor was elected to the vacancy in the Committee caused by the death of Mr. Robert Edwards.

Adm. & Profun  
Committee in the  
the Que. House