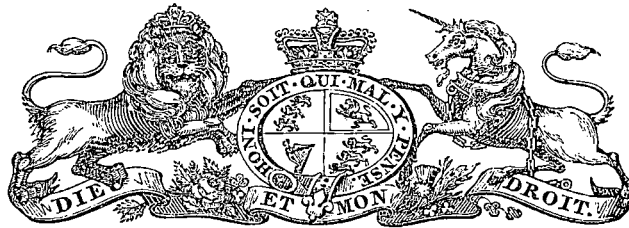


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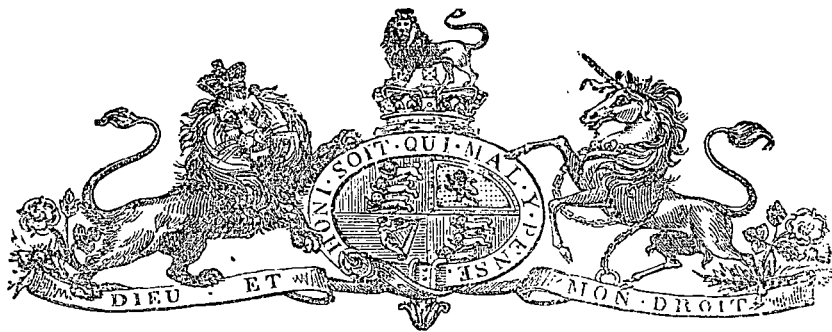
1886.

PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

LAUNCESTON MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.

REPORT FOR 1885.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by His Excellency's Command.



LAUNCESTON MECHANICS' INSTITUTE

REPORT for the Year 1885.

IN presenting the 44th annual Report of the Launceston Mechanics' Institute, the Board of Management are glad to say that they can still employ the language of congratulation. The support which has been extended to the Institute during the year just closed shows that it supplies a want, and that it is appreciated by the public.

At the last annual meeting it was announced that your Board had accepted Mr. H. T. Russell's tender of £1633 for extensive additions and alterations to the buildings. The various works are now completed, and the contractor has been paid the sum of £1500, leaving a balance still to be paid on the final closing of the accounts. The additions which have been made to the Reading-rooms and Library are of a very substantial character, and it is hoped that they will promote the comfort of the members.

The correspondence in reference to the loaning of the mineral cabinet for the Calcutta Exhibition may be considered as closed, though not satisfactorily to the Institute. The cabinet has been returned, but many of the specimens are missing, with but little probability of any of them being recovered.

The new building was opened by a series of public entertainments, commencing on the 28th September, including a conversazione, an exhibition of works of art, scientific instruments, specimens of natural history, &c.; prizes were also offered for essays on given subjects, and a lecture was delivered by R. Henry, Esq., Superintendent of Telegraphs, on "Electricity and its application in the testing of submarine cables," illustrated by experiments. The thanks of the members are due to those ladies and gentlemen who very kindly gave their services on the occasion. In connection with the new building, it may be remarked that the museum has been placed in the well-lighted upper room, and as soon as the articles have been arranged they will be open to public inspection. Your Board express the hope that, as a suitable room is now available for the purposes of a museum, numerous additions will be made to it in all departments of physical science.

The Library has been greatly augmented during the year, and increased facilities have been given for the inspection and selection of new books. To enable members, however, to avail themselves to the utmost of the advantages of the Library it will be necessary to publish a new catalogue. The number of volumes added during the year was 753. The Library now contains about 12,000 volumes.

Your Board has had under consideration the desirableness of carrying out one of the objects of the Institute, viz., "the rational amusement of the members," and they hope that further steps will be taken in this direction, so as to make the Institute more attractive and to increase its members.

Some very valuable gifts have been presented to the Institute during the year, to the donors of which your Board would return very sincere thanks.

The number of subscribers during the year has been 457, of whom 96 are new members, and 139 have ceased to pay their subscriptions, showing a decrease of 43.

The LAUNCESTON MECHANICS' INSTITUTE in account with GEORGE PULLEN, Treasurer.

Dr.		£	s.	d.	Cr.		£	s.	d.
Lighting		112	17	3	By Balance 31st December, 1886	1211	18	6	
Gas Fitting		43	16	6	Government Grant in aid of Building ...	500	0	0	
Fuel		11	18	6	" " " Library ...	100	0	0	
Insurance		9	7	11	Transfer from Piano account	200	0	0	
Printing and Advertising		19	4	3	Subscriptions.....	346	3	0	
Licence of Hall		2	0	0	Hire of Hall, &c.	506	8	0	
Municipal Rates		3	3	4	Sale of Catalogues	3	3	0	
Rent of Cottage for Librarian		43	0	0	" Waste Paper	1	14	8	
Salaries.....		200	0	0	Books lost and sold	1	14	0	
Books, Periodicals, Newspapers, etc.		210	7	11	Interest	59	13	9	
Russell, on account of New Building		1500	0	0	Advanced by the Treasurer	7	9	3	
Corrie, Architect's Fees.....		55	0	0					
New work—Furnishing and Repairs		105	14	6					
Bookbinding		7	14	3					
Petty Expenditure.....		13	19	9					
Balance—deposit Equitable Building Society		600	0	0					
		<u>£2938</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>					<u>£2938 4 2</u>

Examined and compared with the vouchers, and found correct,

MATT. TYSON, }
J. REID, } *Auditors.*

January 12th, 1886.

The PIANO ACCOUNT in account with GEORGE PULLEN, Treasurer.

Dr.		£	s.	d.	Cr.		£	s.	d.
To Transfer to General Fund		200	0	0	By Balance 31st December, 1884	180	14	0	
Balance at Savings Bank.....		63	5	0	Hire of Piano	74	9	0	
		<u>£263</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>0</u>	Interest	8	2	0	
									<u>£263 5 0</u>

Examined and found correct,

MATT. TYSON, }
G. PULLEN, } *Auditors.*

January 12th, 1886.

The MUSEUM ACCOUNT in account with GEORGE PULLEN, Treasurer.

Dr.		£	s.	d.	Cr.		£	s.	d.
To Sundry Expenses		21	2	0	By Balance 31st December, 1884	7	11	6	
Balance at Savings Bank		93	12	6	Government Grant	100	0	0	
		<u>£114</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>6</u>	Mr. T. C. Just, for repairing Cabinet.....	6	10	0	
					Interest at Savings Bank	0	13	0	
									<u>£114 14 6</u>

Examined and found correct,

MATT. TYSON, }
J. REID, } *Auditors.*

January 12th, 1886.

HY. BUTTON, *Chairman.*