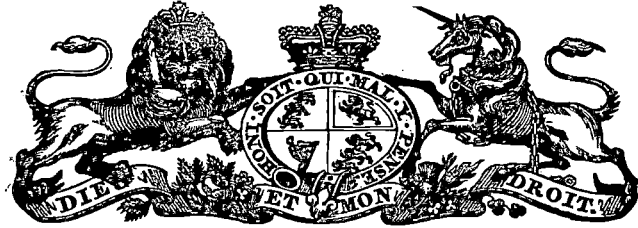


(No. 104.)



1889.

PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

LAUNCESTON MECHANICS' INSTITUTE:

REPORT FOR 1888.

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



LAUNCESTON MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.

REPORT for the Year 1888.

THE Board of Managers have much pleasure on this, the 47th anniversary of the Institute, in congratulating the Members on the success that still continues to attend it, and the satisfactory progress it has made.

There are now 507 subscribing, and 38 life members on the roll. During the year 96 members ceased to pay their subscriptions, and 117 new ones joined the Institute, showing an increase of 21. Your Board resolved to admit the public to the privileges of the reading room on payment of 2s. 6d. per quarter, or 8s. per annum, and 12 have availed themselves of the same. The reading room has been much frequented by visitors from other parts, and the museum has been open to the public bi-weekly.

In addition to the Chess Club a Parliamentary Debating Society has been formed in connection with the Institute, which has been most successfully carried on during the past session. The debates were of an instructive and animated character, shewing the great interest taken by the members. It is to be hoped that a larger number will avail themselves of the privileges of this class during the ensuing session, for your Committee are assured that there can be no better means of improving our young men both socially and intellectually, and thus enabling them to take their proper position on the public platform.

Your Committee have granted the loan of the painting of "The Aborigines," and many mineral specimens, to the Commissioners of the Centennial Exhibition now being held in Melbourne.

The organ still continues in the same condition. Your Committee corresponded with Mr. Fincham, asking his advice as to what had better be done with the instrument, to which he replied that on his next visit, or that of one of his employés, to Launceston, he would give them his opinion; but they have heard nothing further from him, consequently the matter still remains in abeyance.

During the year 802 vols. have been added to the library, making a total of 14,161, and this will be further added to shortly, an additional order having been sent to England at the beginning of December. There have been issued 25,524 vols. and 11,300 periodicals. A correspondence has been opened with the Secretary of the late Public Library with a view of taking over the books belonged to that institution, now lying idle in the Town Hall, but nothing definite has been done, the question being still under consideration.

Three lectures have been delivered during the session, viz., by the Rev. D. S. Brunton, on "Dreams;" by the Rev. C. H. Young, on "Socrates;" by Mr. A. B. Biggs, on "the Moon." The thanks of the Institute are due to these gentlemen for their services.

The following gifts have been presented to the Institute:—By Mr. R. D. Harris—Copies of 16 curious papers. Mr. H. Weedon—Pearl Shell with Pearls. Mr. C. W. Scott—Baskets made by the Aborigines of South Australia. Mr. I. Morris—Aboriginal war implements.—By a Friend—A Mantis. By Mr. W. C. Upton—Mineral specimens from Silvertown. By Com. Pasco, R.N.—Document found at Macquarie Harbour, dated May 28, 1842. By Mr. G. T. Malkiu—A White Hawk. By Sir F. Smith—Portrait of himself. Mr. J. Mills—Portrait of Antonio Van Diemen. By Mr. W. Gunn—Portrait of Lieut. W. Gunn. By subscribers—Portrait of Judge Giblin. By Mr. C. J. Kent—1 vol. "Melbourne Directory." By Mr. Justin M. Brown—1 vol. of "Family Notes." By Mr. J. Bonwick—1 vol. "French Colonies." By Rev. D. S. Brunton—2 vols. "Mill's Logic." By New South Wales Government—17 vols. "Parliamentary Journals; 1 vol.

"Statutes." By Victorian Government—1 vol. "Statutes;" 3 vols. "Parliamentary Journals," and *Gazette*. By South Australian Government—4 vols. "Parliamentary Journals," and 1 vol. "Statutes." By Tasmanian Government—1 vol. "Statutes," 3 vols. "Parliamentary Journals," and *Gazette*. By Royal Society—1 vol. "Proceedings." By Royal Colonial Institute—1 vol. "Proceedings." By Mr. A. W. Birchall—Copies of Melbourne *Daily Telegraph*, *Sydney Morning Herald*, Brisbane *Evening Observer*, Victorian *Independent*, and *Temperance News*. By Mr. F. L. Fysh—*Nonconformist* and *Independent*. By Rev. J. Lyle—*Presbyterian Monthly Messenger*. Messrs. Fitzgerald Bros.—Files of the *Age*, *Leader*, *Illustrated Australian News*, and *Melbourne Punch*. By Messrs. Hopwood and James—*The Church News*. Mr. B. P. Farrelly—*The Advocate*. Mr. F. Dynan—*American Exporter*. By the Proprietors—Copies of the *Launceston Examiner*, *Daily Telegraph*, *Day Star*, *People's Friend*, *Catholic Standard*, *Devon Herald*, *Echo*, *Walch's Literary Intelligencer*, *Imperial Federation*, *The Theatrical Courier*, *Bible Echo*.

The Treasurer's Statement shows that the balance in hand from 1887 was £486 13s. 9d.; receipts during the year £675 0s. 4d., and the expenditure £603 8s. 7d., leaving a balance of £558 5s. 6d. The piano account shows a balance from 1887 of £77 2s., receipts £19 5s. 6d., expenditure £5 5s., leaving a balance of £91 2s. 6d. The Museum account shows a balance from 1887 of £48 8s. 6d., receipts £77 19s., expenditure £6 14s. 6d., balance £119 13s. Your Committee think it desirable that from the balance to credit now shown, £400 be set aside for a building fund, as it is probable ere long a new roof will have to be put on the main building.

M. E. ROBINSON, *President*.

LAUNCESTON MECHANICS' INSTITUTE, 1888, *in account with* GEORGE PULLEN, *Treasurer*.

Dr.	£ s. d.	Cr.	£ s. d.
Lighting	57 10 2	By Balance 31st December, 1887	486 13 9
Fuel	12 16 6	Government Grant.....	50 0 0
Insurance.....	9 7 11	Subscriptions	376 9 6
Printing and Advertising	13 12 6	Hire of Hall, &c.....	207 18 6
Salaries.....	200 0 0	Sale of Catalogues	5 15 0
Licence	2 0 0	Ditto Waste Paper.....	7 8 0
Books, Periodicals, Newspapers, &c.	245 12 3	Books lost	0 11 6
Bookbinding	19 17 9	Proceeds of Lectures.....	3 6 6
New work, Repairs, &c.	36 10 0	Interest.....	23 11 4
Expenses of Lecture	0 12 6		
Water Rates	2 0 0		
Petty Expenditure	3 9 0		
Balance Deposit Equitable B. Society	353 5 0		
Ditto in Savings Bank	205 0 6		
	£1161 14 1		£1161 14 1

Examined and compared with vouchers, and found correct.

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

PIANO ACCOUNT *in account with* GEORGE PULLEN, *Treasurer*.

Dr.	£ s. d.	Cr.	£ s. d.
Tuning Pianos	5 5 0	By Balance, 1887	77 2 0
Balance at Savings Bank	91 2 6	Hire of Piano	15 3 6
	£96 7 6	Interest	4 2 0
			£96 7 6

Examined and found correct.

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

MUSEUM ACCOUNT *in account with* GEORGE PULLEN, *Treasurer*.

Dr.	£ s. d.	Cr.	£ s. d.
Panorama of Sydney.....	4 0 0	By Balance, 1887	48 8 6
Other Exhibits	2 14 6	Government Grant	75 0 0
Balance at Savings Bank	119 18 0	Interest	2 19 0
	£126 7 6		£126 7 6

Examined and found correct.

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

WILLIAM THOMAS STRUTT,
GOVERNMENT PRINTER, TASMANIA.