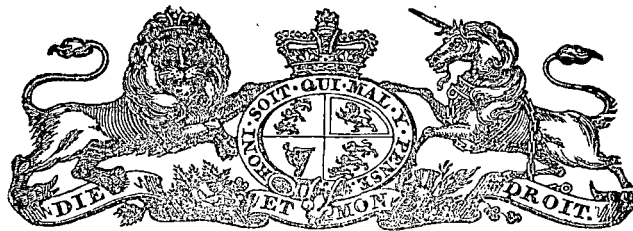


(No. 28.)



1883.

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T A S M A N I A.

H O U S E O F A S S E M B L Y.

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LAUNCESTON MECHANICS' INSTITUTE:

REPORT FOR 1882.

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Laid upon the Table by the Premier, and ordered by the House to be printed,  
July 24, 1883.



## REPORT of the LAUNCESTON MECHANICS' INSTITUTE for the Year 1882.

ON this the 41st anniversary of the Launceston Mechanics' Institute, the Board of Managers congratulate the Members on the continued prosperity of the Institute, and its improved financial condition. Not only have all liabilities been paid off, but the Board have invested at interest the sum of £400 during the past year to serve as a nucleus towards future building extensions and repairs, and there is now a balance in hand in the Savings Bank of £155 16s. The subscriptions of members have been £34, and the income from the hall £93, above those of the preceding year.

The number of life members is now 53. Your Board have conferred upon George Pullen, Esq., an honorary life membership as a slight recognition of his long and valuable services as Hon. Treasurer to the Institute. The number of subscribing members during the year has been 515, of whom 136 are new, 69 having ceased to subscribe, showing an increase of 67.

Since last year's report no further movements have been made by the Town Council towards taking over the museum. The Board thankfully acknowledge the following presentations:—

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|---|--|
| By Miss Bell—Large collection of shells, &c.                      | Captain Sonne, per Captain Smart—Model canoe, two spears, and a wooden sword from Savage Island. |
| Mr. W. T. Bell—A large antique bust.                              | Melbourne International Exhibition—A collection of minerals and woods.                           |
| Mr. R. T. Brand—Snake skin from Queensland, 12 feet long.         | Y.M.C. Association—A mat made by W. Cleaver, aged 103.   |
| Mr. G. Ritchie—Sparrow Hawk.                                      | Mr. G. Hubbard—Group of Japanese figures.  |
| Mr. A. M. Milligan—Aboriginal stone hatchet.                      | Mr. J. Thomson—Manuscript receipt book.  |
| Various donors—Two-headed snake and mantis, white hawk, musk rat. | Mr. Kirkham—A snake skin.  |
| <i>Examiner</i> Office—Magpie's nest built with wire.             | Mr. A. W. Birchall—Victorian aboriginal woman's dress.   |
| Mr. R. F. Irvine—Fragment of tree struck by lightning.            | Mr. Goodger—Painting of Moreton Bay Convict Station.   |
| Mr. Alfred Jones—Horse-shoe imbedded in trunk of growing willow.  |  |
| Mr. S. H. Wintle—Fossil, pre-tertiary, Windmill Hill.             |  |

Your Board have been in correspondence with the authorities of St. Andrew's Church concerning three windows facing upon land belonging to the Institute, and the trustees of the said Church have undertaken by a written acknowledgment to close the windows when called upon by the trustees of the Institute so to do.

The sum of £413 11s. 6d., balance from escheated estates, being at the disposal of the Government, the claims of the Institute to an equitable share were urged upon their attention, and £103 7s. 10d. have been voted to the Institute, which sum it is proposed to expend at once in the purchase of books of a high class. Though the Institute has obtained the above sum, yet your Board think it is not the fair share that the Institute was entitled to.

On the retirement of A. W. Birchall, Esq., after acting as President for five years, your Board passed the following resolution:—"That the Board of Management of the Launceston Mechanics' Institute, on the retirement of A. W. Birchall, Esq., as President, do hereby thankfully acknowledge his earnest and unwearied service for five years, and would also convey to him their thanks for the valuable gifts of various kinds bestowed upon the Institute, and congratulate him upon its present prosperity."

During the year 833 volumes have been added to the library, making a total of 10,060. There have been issued 22,456 vols. and 11,070 periodicals. The Board thankfully acknowledge the presentation of the following works to the library and reading room :—

From the New South Wales Government—7 vols. Parliamentary Journals, 1 vol. Statutes.	Mrs. Hawkes— <i>The Rock</i> .
Victorian ditto—4 Parliamentary Journals and <i>Gazette</i> .	Mr. P. B. Farrelly— <i>The Catholic Standard</i> and <i>The Advocate</i> .
South Australian ditto—2 vols. Statutes.	Rev. J. Lindsay— <i>The Southern Cross</i> , <i>Presbyterian Magazine</i> , and <i>The Catholic Presbyterian</i> .
Smithsonian Institute—Report for 1865.	Mr. E. King— <i>The Bombay Gazette</i> .
Royal Colonial Institute—Report of Proceedings, 1881–2.	Mr. F. L. Fysh— <i>The Nonconformist</i> and <i>Independent</i> .
Mr. C. J. Kent—Melbourne Directory, 1882.	From the Proprietors a copy each of <i>The Melbourne Telegraph</i> , <i>The Sydney Morning Herald</i> , <i>The Sydney Echo</i> , <i>The Wagga Wagga Advertiser</i> , <i>The Church News</i> , <i>The People's Friend</i> , <i>The Devon Herald</i> , <i>Brisbane Daily Observer</i> , <i>Walch's Literary Intelligencer</i> .
Mr. H. Thomas—Tasmanian Guide, 1882.	
Mr. A. W. Birchall—Newspaper Press Dictionary, Manchester Free Library Report.	
Royal Society of Tasmania—Proceedings 1881.	
Messrs. Hudson & Hopwood—The Army List.	

The following portraits have been added to the gallery during the year :—

Presented by Mrs. Robertson—Portrait of James Robertson, Esq.	Archdeacon Hales—Portrait of himself.
Mr. A. M. Milligan—Portrait of himself.	Purchased by the Institute—The portrait of Mr. James Smith, Discoverer of the Mount Bischoff Tin Mine.
Miss Waddell—Portrait of Mr. J. S. Waddell.	

From the Treasurer's statement the balance from 1881 was £152 5s. 6d.; receipts, £942 5s. 7d.; and the expenditure, £538 15s. 1d.; deposited at interest, £400, leaving a balance in hand of £155 16s. The Piano account shows—Balance from 1881, £12 12s.; receipts, £65 16s.; expenditure, £7 17s. 6d.; balance to credit, £70 10s. 6d. The Museum account shows—Balance from former year, £10 11s. 3d.; interest, 6s. 9d.; expenditure, £2 5s. 10d.; balance in hand, £8 12s. 2d.

Your Committee feel that the increase in members has not kept pace with the increase of population, and that the advantages that the Institute offers are not sufficiently availed of. They therefore urge each subscriber to use his or her influence in adding to the roll of members, and thereby more generally diffuse its advantages throughout this community.

ANDREW W. BIRCHALL, *Chairman*.

18th January, 1883.

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

Dr.	£ s. d.	Cr.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Gas Account .....	101 5 6	By Balance in hand, 31st Dec., 1881 .....	... 152 5 6	
Fuel .....	11 14 4	Subscriptions .....	364 10 0	
Insurance .....	7 19 9	Parliamentary vote .....	108 7 10	
Printing and advertising .....	9 17 9	Hire of Hall and Committee Room .....	461 4 6	
Licence of Hall .....	2 0 0	Received by sale of Catalogues .....	4 13 0	
Salaries .....	180 0 0	Ditto waste paper .....	2 7 3	
Books, Periodicals, Newspapers, &c. ....	154 18 11	Received for books lost. ....	1 13 6	
New work, furnishing, repairs, &c. ....	37 7 9	Ditto for damage done to ladder .....	0 5 0	
Bookbinding account .....	19 7 0	Ditto Interest at Savings' Bank .....	4 4 6	
Law Costs .....	2 19 6			
Sundry petty expenditure .....	11 4 7			
Balance .....	555 16 0			
			942 5 7	
	£1094 11 1			£1094 11 1

GEORGE PULLEN, *Treasurer*.  
31st December, 1882.

Audited and found correct,

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