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24th November 1843.

Present, Mess^{rs} Beaver, McKillop, Westgarth, Wilson
King

Mr Westgarth in the Chair

Mr Sewell's claim. Mr Montgomery stated his opinion that Mr Sewell is justified in suing the Trustees instead of Donovan and Crosbie, altho' the latter are bound by the Bond to pay the Charge. Mr Montgomery explained the nature of the Transaction referring to the Suit in Equity.

Resolved, that Mr Montgomery and the Treasurer do wait upon Mr Sewell with the view of arranging for the payment of his claim against the Institution so soon as the proposed Grant from the Government may be obtained, or to adopt such other measures in the matter as they may think beneficial for the interests of the Institution.

John Stephen, Secy

28th Nov^r 1843.

Present, Mess^{rs} McKillop, Wilson, Brown, Greaves

Dr Greaves in the Chair.

Resolved, That the Secretary request the Trustees to furnish particulars of Mr Sewell's claim, & that Mess^{rs} Montgomery and McCrae be required to send in their account against the Institution.

John Stephen, Secy

5th January 1844

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Present, Mess^{rs} Westgarth, McCrae am, Anderson, Clark, McArthur D.C. Bland
Mr McArthur in the Chair

Resolved, that a Deputation consisting of the President, with Mess^{rs} Cole, McCrae, & Westgarth do wait upon His Honor to ascertain what further steps have been taken to procure the advance promised by the Governor.

A Letter from the Secretary tendering the resignation of his Office read and directed to stand over

Resolved, that a Subcommittee consisting of Mess^{rs} Greaves Westgarth and Stephen be appointed to prepare a general statement of the affairs of the Institution to be submitted to the Committee of Management previously by laying the same before a General Meeting of the Members

Resolved, that the Hall be allowed Mr Clark for a Musical Lecture

Adjourned to Wednesday next 3 o'clock

John Stephen
Secy

10th January 1844

Adjourned Meeting

Present, Mess^{rs}: Bland, Greaves, Hew, King,
Wilson, Westgarth, Clark, Burn
Mr Westgarth in the Chair

Resolved, that this meeting do adjourn to
Monday next at 3 o'clock

Mr Clark granted the use of the Hall on Monday
next for a Music Lecture

John Stephen Secy

15th January 1844

Present, Mess^{rs}: Greaves, Wilson, Westgarth, Clarke,
McCrae J, Grape, Cook, Clay, Bland, McArthur,
McKillop, Hew, Burn, King, Caulfield, Sanford
Mr Simpson in the Chair

Read the Report as prepared by Subcommittee

Resolved, that the report as read be recommitted
with a view to a brief amendment, and be brought
up forthwith

The Subcommittee brought up an amended
report which was received and adopted.

Resolved that a General Meeting of the
Members of the Institution be convened for
Friday the 26th Instant at 7 o'clock

Resolved, that a Subcommittee consisting of
Mr Greaves, Mr Hew, and Mr Clay be appointed
to prepare the Resolutions for submission
to the General Meeting and to report upon
the vacancies in the Committee of Management
and Offices of the Institution.

Resolved that the Committee do accept the
resignation of the Secretary, and that
an advertisement issue for Applicants for
that Office.

Adjourned to Friday 3 o'clock
John Stephen Secy

January 20th 1844.

Committee of Management.

Present.

Captain Pole in the chair.

Mess^{rs}: Bland, Westgarth, Forest King,
Hew, Wilson, Notman & Greaves.

Minutes of last meeting read

A letter from the Secretary (Stephen),
read concerning his salary & claim.

The Chairman requested to write to Mr
Stephen with reference to the expression
contained therein that although accepting
his resignation it had forgotten or neg-
lected to make the necessary arrangement
previous to his vacating possession to
his successor." requesting to know if
he means by that expression definitively

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That he will not vacate the premises until his demands are satisfied; as the Committee cannot enter into the subject of his claims until the above expressions have been explained.

Resolved that Messrs Anderson, Beaman, Cantfield, having served three years go out by rotation, and that Messrs Kerr & Wilson also retire by consent in order to complete the complement according to rule 14.

Resolved that the following Gentlemen go out by rotation at the next ensuing anniversary hereafter -

- Messrs Greenes,
- Peers,
- W. Arthur,
- Frost,
- King

The annexed business for the anniversary was approved.

Application for Office of Secretary read from Mr Geo. D. Gilbert. Where Mr Gilbert was duly elected.

Mr. William Hull
" Henry N. Hull } were only elected Members
" Robert Allan } of the Institution.

Monday 22nd January 1844.

Present. Messrs Simpson, in the Chair
King, Wilson, Cole, Kerr, Sanford & Westgarth

Proposed by Alderman Kerr, seconded by Captain Cole. That a sub-committee be appointed to confer with Mr. Stephen & receive possession of the Building, & take over the Museum, Library, & all other property of the Institution, & to put Mr. Gilbert in possession of the same.

Committee Appointed.

Messrs Sanford, Wilson & Westgarth

Proposed by Capt. Cole, seconded by Mr. King. That an advertisement be put into the papers, requesting that all claims against the Melbourne Mechanics Institution, be sent to Mr. Westgarth the Treasurer of the Institution on or before the 25th Inst. Advertisement will be sent. Geo. D. Gilbert Secretary.

January 24th 1844

Report of Sub Committee.

The sub-committee appointed to meet with Mr. Stephen, and receive over the Building and other property of the Mechanics Institution & give the new Secretary Mr. Gilbert possession of the same, have to report

That Mr. Stephen gave possession of the Building in their presence by handing

141. Handing Mr. Gilbert the key of the outer front door.

That Mr. Stephen was to go out of the Secretary's apartments, & Mr. Gilbert to enter the same on Tuesday the 30th Inst.

That Mr. Gilbert was to make out a list of all the Books, Articles, of the Museum & other property of the Institution, & present the same to the Committee of Management before the General meeting of Friday the 24th

That Mr. P. Burn being Librarian & in possession at the time of the Books, & not present, the arrangement as far as he was concerned, could not be carried out, but Mr. Gilbert was to see him, & the list of the Books being made out, Mr. Burn was to receive a receipt for the same as in Mr. Gilbert's possession

That Mr. Stephen made offer to the Institution of the carpet & window blinds which had been specially made for the room in which the Committee are wont to meet, stating that he would give them over at the valuation of Mr. Crook, one of the members of the Committee

The Sub-committee find that the account rendered by Mr. Stephen (of his claim against the Institution) to the Committee at last meeting is correct, amounting to £5. 14-6 besides the amount of the Bill for

The Rent of the former premises

The Sub-committee arranged with Mr. Gilbert, that he should have as his private apartments, the two small rooms on the Ground floor, together with the small room on the upper floor situated on the western side of the Building

The Secretary was to convey all loose articles belonging to the Museum up to the other or Eastern room upstairs, to be placed under charge of Dr. Sanford

(Signed) W. Westgarth
Geo. A. Gilbert Secretary. (Was. Sanford
R. Wilson.

A Jan^y 26th 1844
Committee of Management
Present Mess^{rs}. Simpson, Kerr, Mortimer
Westgarth, King, Caultfield, Bland
Greaves, G. M. Mac, A. M. Mac, Cole, Sanford
Wilson, Clarke, D. G. McArthur, & Peers.

The Business of the General Meeting being arranged, the Committee adjourned to the long room, & proceeded to the election of new officers, & read the Report.

Geo. A. Gilbert
Secretary.

The Institution with a view of erecting a suitable Building, had purchased from Government in 1840, two allotments of land, in a convenient part of Melbourne: & by disposing subsequently, of such portions of these lands as the Committee considered would not be required, a sum of upwards of £1000 had been realized as a commencing fund for the Institution. The Subscriptions and Donations which have been paid at the amounting to the considerable sum of £596. 9. 1. bear however, a very moderate proportion to the number of Members of whom there are now three hundred & seventy on the Roll of the Institution & still less to the promises that have been made by intending subscribers. The severe & unexpected change that has visited these Colonies, has rendered most of these parties unable to come forward as they might have done, & the present arrears amount to the large sum of £992. 6. 5.

The Sub-Committee must however remark the period of prosperity (so called) was not in all respects favourable to the Institution whose operations could not be carried on except at a very great expense. This is exhibited in the Plans of the above acct. when it will be seen that the rent of premises & various other expenses incurred previously to the occupation of the present Hall, have reached the sum

of £1231. 15. 1. and the Hall itself contracted for on the Cheapest obtainable term, the sum of £2221. 8. 6.

"In the next place the Sub-Committee would direct attention to the present position of the affairs of the Institution.

"Amidst much diversity of opinion it was resolved by a majority of a General meeting of the Members that contrary to the resolution of the Committee of Management, to undertake the present Building before any adequate funds had been collected for its completion. It was hoped that by this time a sufficient impetus would be given to the cause of the Institution, from the greater means it would possess with so commodious an edifice as that which is now at length erected, of fulfilling its various objects & proving useful & attractive to the public. The result however has not answered the expectations of the subscribers, from the continued depression of the times, the contributions were far below what had been looked for & altogether inadequate, to meet the expenses for which the Committee had become pledged, in order to finish the Edifice, various members of the Committee made occasional advances of money, & at length on its completion, a loan of £1250. was procured

on a 34 years Mortgage bearing interest at the rate of 12 1/2 p. 100 per An^m this being considered at the period a moderate charge. By means of this accommodation most of the debt were paid off, but there is still £528. 8. 6 due to several parties, which together with the amt^t of the Mortgage, makes the total debt of the Institution £1778. 8. 6.

"Lastly with regards to the prospects of the Institution, the subject of greatest immediate urgency is the financial department. The Committee for some measure of the assistance have made application to Government for some measure of the assistance which is usually given to Institutions of this sort, & the answer is so far satisfactory as to induce them to expect that a considerable sum will be voted to the Institution during the next session of the Legislative Council. In the present state of prosperity however the Committee have let a large portion of the Hall to the town Corporation & receive in return a yearly Rental of £100. They also derive £30 per annum from the Baptist Society for the weekly use of the principal Room. The subscriptions of Members have lately so much fallen off, that they are not now under-estimated at £30 per An^m.

Thus the certain annual income of the Institution, cannot under present appearances be reckoned at more than £100.

"A Casual revenue is derived from the use of the principal apartment for assemblies & public Meetings. This uncertain source of Income has not hitherto proved very productive, & it cannot henceforth be expected to amount to more than will be sufficient to meet the expenses of town repairs & incidental charges of the Institution.

"The subcommittee have now to direct attention to the charges which the Institution has regularly to provide for. These are the Annual Interest of the Mortgage £150. 5. 0 The Secretary's Salary £55. total £211. 5. 0 being £51. 5. 0 more than the estimated annual receipts. These estimates it must be observed admit all reference to any funds that might be annually applied to advance the proper objects of the Institution by the purchase of Books for example, of apparatus for lectures or for a Museum of Natural History. There are no funds whatever that may be applied to these purposes. The Institution is barely able to maintain a mere outward existence. The subcommittee therefore although they are not without

better hopes in regard to the future would recommend that for the present at least the Secretary's Salary be abolished. The expenditures to be provided against would thus be reduced to £150. 5. 0 only while the income amounted to £100.

The Committee of Management having received a tender of resignation of the Office of Secretary from Mr. John Stephen have at once availed themselves of the opportunity of diminishing the expenses by reducing the salary of that office. They have also supplied the vacancy by the appointment of Mr. G. A. Gilbert at a nominal salary of £1. 1. 0 per quarter, with the free use of the Secretary's apartments, which arrangements they trust, will meet with the approbation of the Members. They have moreover made the appointment for 6 months only, in order to give opportunity for making any modifications of the Office Bearers, which further experience may indicate.

Having received promises of support from several Gentlemen, the Committee hope to be able to announce the resumption of Regular Lectures on Literary and scientific subjects, & the Committee venture to hope that those who are willing to favor in this manner the progress of knowledge

will not wait for the formality of an invitation, but announce their intentions to the Secretary.

With respect to the Museum the Committee view with regret the little progress that has been made in forming a collection of the Natural History of the Country, but venture to express their conviction from the number of scientific persons in this District, that nothing is wanting but some point of reunion, some means of combined or united effort (such as this Institution might afford) to collect a splendid Museum illustrating as well of the Natural History of this unexplored field of Science as of the implements, dress, & arms of the aboriginal population. Towards this end your Committee recommend, that instead of one Curator the different departments, be each assigned to a separate Curator, for instance

- 1 Ornithology
- 2 Entomology
- 3 Conchology
- 4 Other Branches of Zoology with Comparative anatomy.
- 5 Botany
- 6 Geology & Mineralogy
- 7 Aborigines
- 8 The fine Arts & Numismatics
- 9 Works of Art & illustrations of the Trade & Commerce of the Colony

There are not only such extensive fields for research in this Colony, but the time of each individual is of such value that it is only by such subdivision of labour that great progress can be expected.

Besides the facility of reference & assistance, the spirit of emulation, & the more widely spread taste for scientific pursuits which are likely to result from diffusing a taste for collecting specimens of natural history, are likely to produce the most beneficial results. — Although donations of specimens should always be preferred, the Committee recommend the reception on loan, of all such specimens as the owners are indisposed to give to the Institution in absolute possession. The practical use is nearly the same, & such a plan has been found to answer in many similar Institutions at home.

"With respect to the Library, the same recommendation is made, & the Committee regret that but little progress in this important part of the establishment

"In consequence of the many difficulties which have been found in ascertaining who actually are Members of the Institution, the Committee recommend that the application for admittance as a Member shall in future bear the signature of the applicant,

"Your Committee also recommends

that a law be passed in order to prevent any paid officer of the Institution, being a legal member thereof.

"Your Committee also recommend that the sum of Ten shillings now exacted as entry money, be done away with, & that the subscriptions in future be collected in quarterly portions, in order that the Contributions may press as lightly as possible on the members.

"The Committee have further to report that the following Gentlemen go out by Rotation upon the present anniversary as Members of the Committee of Management, & five Gentlemen are to be elected to the vacancies: — *Drifs?* Anderson, Beaver, Kerr, Caulfield & Wilson.

"In conclusion your Committee beg leave to express the hope that every individual member will not only assist the Institution by the small subscription which the Institution asks for the promotion of knowledge among all classes; but will also assist in the forming of the Library & Museums, by advocating the Institution in every way.

"The Institution is not only to be looked upon as a means of promoting scientific knowledge, & of opposing vice by the more engaging entertainment of intellectual pursuits; but it is also

to be considered as a most important means of improving & protecting the known & of developing & applying the undiscovered resources of this Great Continent"

On the motion of Captain Cole seconded by Dr. McRae, the report was received & adopted

This Meeting then proceeded with the election of the office Bearers for the year with the following results -

President James Simpson Esq. J.P. (re-elected)

Vice Presidents: George Ward Cole Esq. (re-elected) & the Worshipful the Mayor of Melbourne, vice Farguhar McRae Esq. M.L., J.P., who is about leaving the province Treasurer. William Westgarth Esq. (re-elected) Secretary. Mr. G. A. Gilbert.

Auditors. A.W. Mortimer Esq. (re-elected) & W. V. McVittie Esq. vice D. G. McArthur Esq. left the province

Curators of Museum. Department of Fine Arts - Mr. Gilbert

Ornithology - Dr. Cauford

Chronology - Mr. Westgarth

Botany & Entomology - Dr. Howitt

(Other Branches of Zoology & Comparative Anatomy - Dr. Hobson

Geology & Mineralogy - Dr. Geary

Aborigines & Miscellaneous - Mr. Wilson

Committee of Management

To supply the vacancies in the Committee of Management, occasioned by the retirements by rotation, of Messrs Anderson, Deaver Caulfield Kerr & Wilson, there were placed in nomination the following Gentlemen

Mr. Hull, J.P. Mr. Wilson, Dr. Wilmut Alderman Kerr Mr. Anderson, Mr. Pittman, Rev. Mr. Ham Mr. Burn & Mr. Deaver.

The Members present proceeded to the Poll of Captain Cole, & Mr. Clarke being appointed ~~Scrutiners~~ to act with the President as

Scrutiners, when the following were declared to be the successful candidates

Dr. Wilmut (17) Mr. Hull, J.P. (16) Alderman Kerr (15) (re-elected) Mr. Wilson (15) (re-elected) Mr. Pittman (9)

The Rev. Mr. Ham was also elected a Member in the room of D. G. McArthur Esq. who is about leaving the province

A. M. McRae Esq. one of the Trustees of the Land tendered his resignation of that office on the ground that the state of his health rendered it probable that he would soon have to proceed to England

Mr. McRae's letter was referred to the Committee of Management, with instructions to enquire into the matter and act as they might deem advisable

Instructions were given to the Committee

of Management to make arrangement for the continuous delivery of Lectures, Dr Greaves & Mr. Gibbet professing their readiness to give assistance in this way & the Rev^d Mr. Geobugan & other Gentlemen being mentioned as having stated their readiness to assist also

Proposed by Mr Boulfield, seconded by Mr Wilson
That a General meeting be called this day month, to receive the report of the Committee of Management on the revised laws of the Institution; and that

This General meeting do stand adjourned to the 26th of Feb^y at 7 o'clock.

and that
The old Sub-committee be reappointed

Proposed by Dr. Greaves, seconded by Capt^m Cole

A cordial vote of thanks to the President J. Simpson Esq for his conduct both as President & Chairman - But for his invaluable services not alone them but on every occasion, the Institution would not have at this moment continued in existence - The motion carried by acclamation

Geo^d A. Gilbert
Secretary

Feb^y 3rd 1844

Committee of Management.
Present. Mess^{rs} Cole, Greaves, King, Mcpar, Westgarth, Wilson, Pittman, Shaw, Kerr
Crock, Montgomery

Letter read from Mr. Stephen requesting a settlement, before he vacated the premises.

Proposed by Mr. Simpson, seconded by Mr. Wilson,

That the following letter be addressed in reply to Mr. Stephen's
Sir

The Committee of Management hereby give you notice, to remove your effects from the Institution, before Monday the 5th inst^d at 1 o'clock P.M. otherwise, they will be removed by order of the Committee

Signed, G. A. Gibbet
Secy

Notice being received of the incarceration of Mess^{rs} McKillop & Middlemiss, for liabilities incurred by them on acc^t of the Institution (Costs in Action, Douvan & an^r. v. the Mech^{cs} Instⁿ) it was resolved that the first Subscriptions received be appropriated to relieve the responsibility of certain members to J. Simpson Esq^m for the sum of £23. 8. 10. advanced by him on behalf of the Instⁿ for relief of Mess^{rs} McKillop & Middlemiss

Letter written to Mr. Stephen, requesting
that the deed of Settlement be
delivered to the Secretary

Meeting adjourned to Monday
the 5th inst. at 3 o'clock

Geo. D. Gilbert, Secretary

Feb. 5th 1844

Committee of Management.

Present Mess^{rs} Cole, King, Mr. Killop
Citman, Howitt, Kerr, Wilson, Westgarth
D. M. Cae, J. Simpson Esq^r President
in the chair.

Proposed by Abner Kerr,
seconded .. Capⁿ Cole,

That entrance be demanded to the
Society's Apartments in the name of the
Committee of Management, and that
in case of their being refused, forcible
entrance shall be obtained thereunto.

carried unanimously.

The Committee then proceeded to demand
entrance, which being refused, three
successive times; a Locksmith was
commanded to force the lock, but
it being discovered that the back door
was open, the Committee accordingly,
^{forced the doors} entered, and proceeded to remove
Mr. Stephens' effects, to the eastward
room up stairs, in conformity with the

Notice duly served on Mr. Stephen that effect.
Previous to the removal of the Goods, all
cases containing documents or other articles
of value, were carefully secured by a private
seal affixed thereto, and the whole of the above
was ultimately placed for greater security
under key, the Secretary receiving charge
of the same on behalf of the Committee.
& to deliver, ~~or~~ caused to be delivered, the
above effects to Mr. Stephens' order, and
in case of their non-removal within
three days, therefrom that the usual
store rent be charged, and that notice
of such resolution be communicated by
the Secretary to Mr. Stephens forthwith.

Letter written accordingly.

The removal of the Goods being effected
(without any injury being sustained by them),
in the presence of the foregoing Committee,
the said Committee at once proceeded
to give Mr. Gilbert possession of the
Apartments, ~~as~~ previously transferred by
Mr. Stephens to Mr. Gilbert in presence of
the sub-committee specially appointed
for such Purpose, as entered on the minutes
of this Society, Jan. 24. 1844.

That all injuries caused by the forcing
of the doors of the Society's Rooms in conse-
quence of Mr. Stephens having locked them
be repaired, and that Mr. Stephens be
debited thereunto

Geo. D. Gilbert, Secy.

February 12th 1844

Committee of Management.

Present Mess^{rs} Cole, Wilnot, Greaves, Howitt, Sanford, Westgath, Hain, King, Wilson, Kerr, Crook -

1. Letter handed in, from his Honor the Resident Judge, W. Jeffcott Esq^r announcing his donation towards the funds of the Institution of Ten Pounds each -
2. Proposed unanimously that a vote of thanks be conveyed to W. Jeffcott Esq^r Resident Judge, expressing the sincere thanks of the Committee of Management for his handsome donation, and kind interest in the advancement of the Institution
3. Resolved a vote of thanks to J. J. Foxton Esq^r for his donation of a work on Columbia 2 vols -
4. That Mr. Stephen be requested to remove his carpet, blinds, and natural curiosities
5. The resignation of A. M. McCrae Esq^r be referred to the consideration of the Solicitor to Institution.
6. That the Curators room be henceforth fitted with shelves etc. for the reception of natural objects and Curiosities
7. Curators appointed to act as Members of the Lecture Committee.

8. Resolved that the first Monday in every month be appointed the periods of Committee Meetings.
9. Resolved that the Library be thrown open for the circulation of Books, under the immediate superintendance of the Librarian.
10. Resolved that Mr. Stephens' offer of his furniture to the Committee, be refused and communicated accordingly to Mr. S.
11. That Mr. Stephens' offer of the following works in exchange for Blackstones' Commentaries 4 vols - be accepted -

Buckland's Geology	2 vols
Mechanics for Practical Men	1.
Bibliographical Miscellany	2.
Butlers Analogy	1.
Scientific Dialogues	1.
Buxtons Algebra	1.
Crawford's Arithmetical Heat	1/9.
12. That the Secretary be prepared with the necessary arrangements for the establishment of classes by the next Committee meeting.
13. Resolved that the broken windows in the Institution be repaired.
14. Resolved that Mr. Fulton be appointed as Taxidermist to the Institution
15. Thwaites acct for repairing the doors, handed in - ordered to be debited to Mr. Stephens acct, as also 1 pane of glass, broken in Library window.

Resolved that a note of thanks be presented to the Editors of the Melbourne Journals, for their kindness in forwarding their respective Papers.

J. Simpson. Chairman.
Feb. 22nd 15th 1844.

Sub-Committee - Present;
Messrs. Green & Mason. —
Bye laws amended, and resolved that a clean copy be prepared ^{for} by the General Meeting of the Members which was advertised for the 26th inst. —

Geo. A. Gilbert
Secretary

Feb. 19th

Lecture Committee.

Present. Messrs. Wilson, Westgarth, Sanford. Godfrey Howitt Esq. M.D. in the chair.

Resolved that the regulations for the government and arrangements of Lectures be prepared for presentation to the Committee of Management.

That the Secretary write to Persons who may be likely to favor the Institution with a Lecture, and report the result to the Committee at the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned to the 22nd

J. A. Gilbert
Secretary

Special Meeting
of The Committee of Management.
Feb. 21st 1844.

Present. Messrs. Ker, King, Wilson, Westgarth, Ham, Pittman.
J. Simpson Esq. in the Chair.

Read letter signed by three Members of the Institution in conformity with Law 21, calling a Meeting of the Committee of Management, to enquire into the conduct of a Member, Mr John Stephen, towards the Officers of the Institution in reference to a letter, addressed to the Editor of the P.O. Herald, and which appeared in that Journal on the 20th day of Feb. 1844.

Resolved unanimously that a special meeting be called for such purpose on Saturday the 24th inst., and that the Secretary write to Mr. Stephen and give him due notice of the same.

The following Gentlemen were elected as Members of the Institution
Messrs. J. Purves, J. P. Lawton. Mr. Patterson Watchmaker, — Patterson R. M. Walker Chemist, Mr. Kenrie. J. Thomson. J. Dennyson. W. Pickwood. J. M. Deemster.
Vote of thanks to Mr. J. Pittman for his handsome present to the Society of Cornish Minerals.

Geo. A. Gilbert
Secretary

Feb 4. 24th 1844.

Committee of Management.

Present.

- Mess^{rs} King, Sanford, Cole,
 - M^r Killop, Wilmoth, Wilson, Westgath,
 - Greene, Jas Simpson Esq^r.
- in the Chair.

Read letter of Requisition ~~calling~~ the Meeting
 20th to Mr Stephen requesting his attendance
 at the meeting of the Committee of Manag^t
 convened for the purpose of investigating
 his conduct towards the office of the Inst^t
 and the letter which appeared, bearing his
 signature, in the Herald Newspaper of
 the 20th day of February -

Read Mr Thualow's letter in reply to the
 above, refusing Mr Stephen's attendance,

Proposed and carried unanimously.

That as Mr John Stephen, the late Secretary
 has misbehaved himself as a member of
 this Institution, and has published a
 letter in the Herald Newspaper of the
 20th of February, which is in many respects
 grossly untrue, and altogether a misstatement
 and a perversion of facts, propagating
 false and calumnious statements
 concerning several officers and members
 with the intention of reflecting discredit
 upon them, and injuring the Institution,
 it is hereby ordered according to the

31th law of the Society, that he be expelled
 the Society Institution.

Jas Simpson Esq^r having retired from
 the Committee meeting, W. B. Wilmoth Esq^r
 was voted to the Chair.

It was resolved and ordered that a copy of
 the above resolution should be forwarded
 to Mr Stephen, and also to one of the
 Public Newspapers, as the only effectual
 mode of proving the fallacy of the statements
 made by Mr Stephen.

The Revised Code of Laws were read and
 ordered to be prepared for the General
 Meeting.

The following Gentlemen were then
 duly admitted as Members of the Institute
 viz. Mess^{rs} Alfred Hull, Holmer (Quarrels),
 & Mr J Bowler.

J. D. Gilbert
 Secretary

General Meeting.
Adjourned, on a Motion duly made and
seconded, from the 26th day of Jan^r to the
26th day of Feb^r 1844.

Jas. Simpson Esq^r
in the Chair.

Minutes read of the last General
Meeting, adjourning it until that day
month, for the purpose of receiving
and passing the revised Code of Laws.

The Revised Code of Laws having been
read it was proposed by Alderman Kee
and seconded by Mr. Young.

That the Code of Laws now read do pass
carried unanimously.

Mr. George F. A. Wilson was duly
admitted a Quarterly Member of the Institute

Code of Laws of the Melbourne Mechanics' Institution.

N^o 1

The Melbourne Mechanics' Institution shall
have for its object, the diffusion of Scientific,
literary and other useful knowledge amongst
its members and the community generally.

N^o 2

Every person desirous of becoming a Member
of this Institution, shall be nominated to the
Committee by two Members of the Institution
in writing and shall enter his name in a
Book, to be kept in the Library for such
purpose, and upon payment in advance
of a quarterly Subscription of Five Shillings
or one pound annual Subscription shall
be admitted a Member of the Institution,
unless a Majority of the Committee of Ma-
-nagement decide to the contrary. A Subscriber
of Ten Guineas, duly admitted, shall become
a Member of the Institution for Life.

N^o 3.

The Sons and apprentices of Members, under
Sixteen years of age, may be admitted as Junior
Members, for one half the above Subscription,
and be entitled to all the privileges of ordinary
Members, except those of eligibility to office, and
of voting at meetings; and any Junior Member
on attaining sixteen years of age, may become an
ordinary Member, by paying the full Subscription.

N^o 4

Every Member shall be entitled to two admissions

cards, for Lectures, besides his own, for the use of his family

No. 3.

No Member shall be entitled to vote in the Election of any Officers, or in the decision of any Question at a General Meeting, without having previously paid up whatever Subscription may be due, and until he has been a member for three Months.

No. 6.

The Affairs of the Institution shall be regulated by the Committee of Management

No. 7.

The Committee of Management shall consist of a President, two Vice-presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, three Land trustees, Curators of Museum, & fifteen additional members, chosen from the members of the General Body, five of whom shall retire each year by Rotation, but shall be eligible for re-election. Moreover such such members as may be appointed trustees of the Government aid, or who may become responsible for the property or monies of the Institution, shall be members of the Committee in right of such responsibility.

No. 8.

The Committee of Management shall meet on the first Monday of every Month - Five Members shall form a quorum, but in the decision of any question under discussion, it shall be necessary that four Members at least do concur in their opinions, and in the event of the votes being equal, the Chairman shall

have a second or casting vote.

No. 9.

Any Member of the Committee, who shall have been absent, three successive Monthly Meetings of the Committee, during the course of the Year shall be considered to have vacated his office, unless some satisfactory reason be shown to the Committee.

No. 10.

It shall be competent for the President and vice-presidents, or any three Members of the Committee, to call a special meeting of the Committee of Management, & notification of such meeting shall be made by the Secretary to all members of the Committee in writing at least twenty four hours previous to the specified hour of Meeting.

No. 11.

The Committee of Management shall have the power to form such Bye Laws as may seem to them necessary according to Circumstances, to name honorary Members, to apply the funds of the Institution to the payment of all current and necessary expenses, to provide lectures and other means of Instruction, to engage and dismiss all paid officers of the Institution, to frame regulations for the Management of the Library, to purchase Books and apparatus, & transact generally all the business of the Institution

No. 12.

It shall be competent for the Committee

of Management, or upon their refusal fifteen Members of the Institution qualified to vote subscribing a requisition to the Secretary for that purpose, and stating at the same time the object for which the meeting is required to be held, to convene a Special General meeting, notification of such meeting & of the object thereof shall be made in the newspapers at least fourteen days previous to the day of meeting, and no business but such special business, shall be entertained thereat.

No. 13.

The Committee of Management shall have the custody of all property belonging to the Institution; and the Committee shall require, and are hereby directed to take such security as they may deem necessary, from all officers through whose hands any such property of the Institution shall pass, or in whose care or custody any property may be deposited.

No. 14.

The Committee shall render to each Annual General meeting a Report of the proceedings of the past year, and the state and prospects of the Institution.

No. 15.

Should any vacancy occur in the Committee of Management, it shall be competent for the remaining members of the Committee to supply such vacancy, subject to the

approval of the next General Annual Meeting.

No. 16.

An Annual General Meeting shall be convened by the Secretary, during the last week of the month of January in each year, on such day as the Committee may appoint, for the purpose of electing Officers, of receiving the Report of the Committee, and transacting any other Business of the Institution.

No. 17.

The President shall take the Chair at all General and Committee Meetings, when present, in his absence, the Senior Vice-President shall preside; and in case neither the President, nor either of the Vice Presidents be present, the meeting shall then name one of their number to act as Chairman during the meeting who shall have a second or casting vote.

No. 18.

The Secretary shall keep a continuous account of all transactions appertaining to the Business of the Institution, report such progress to every stated meeting of the Committee open all correspondence directed to the Committee execute all orders of the Committee, within one week after such orders are given, unless otherwise specified, and take care generally of the Business of the Institution.

No. 19.

All cash when received on account of the Institution, shall be paid over to the Treasurer.

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who shall pay the same into the U^B and
of the Institution, whenever the amount in his
hands shall exceed five pounds, and every
disbursement shall be made by drafts upon
the said Banks signed by the Treasurer, and
countersigned by the Secretary.

N^o 20.

The Treasurer shall balance and lay his ac-
counts before the Auditors, within five days after
the first January and first July in each year
and the Auditors shall furnish their report upon
the same, within five days subsequently, to the
Secretary, for submission to the Committee of
Management.

N^o 21.

The Books of the Treasurer and Secretary shall
be produced at all monthly meetings of the
Committee of Management, and shall be open
at all times for inspection by the Auditors &
any Member of the Committee.

N^o 22.

It shall be competent for any member of the
Institution, to nominate any other member for
any office in the Institution provided such
nomination be made in writing to the Secretary
at least fifteen days previous to the day of
election, and be accompanied with a written
declaration, that the consent of the nominee has
been obtained to such nomination; and it
shall be incumbent on the Secretary, to hang
up in the Public Room of the Institution, at
least ten days before the day of election, a list

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of Members thus nominated, specifying the
office proposed for each, and the names of the
respective nominators.

N^o 23.

On a Requisition made in writing to the
Secretary, and signed by any three members
of the Institution, the conduct of any member
as such, shall be taken cognizance of by
the Committee of Management, who shall
in consequence proceed to award any
punishment by way of fine, suspension of
privilege or expulsion, as upon due
~~consideration~~ deliberation they shall consider
requisite, for supporting the credit of the
Institution, such member to be allowed
an appeal to a Special general Meeting
provided such appeal be made within
Six months.

N^o 24.

No paid Officer of the Institution, shall
be a Member of the Committee of Manage-
ment.

N^o 25.

Any Member desirous of withdrawing from
the Society, shall be expected to give one month
notice of his intention, in writing, to the Secretary
previously to the expiration of the current
year.

N^o 26.

No individual Member shall have any
right or title to any part of the property of
the Institute, without the concurrence of a

least three fourths of its members. Should the Dissolution of the Institution be thus determined. All the property of the Institution shall be disposed of in such way as the majority of the members shall determine. And dissolution shall not take place unless with such concurrence of three fourths of the members present, at two separate Special General meetings of members, of which the second Special General meeting shall be held not less than one month, nor more than two months, after the first Special general meeting.

No. 27.

No alteration of any of the preceding Laws, shall be entertained, without the sanction of two thirds of a General meeting and fourteen days notice of such proposed alteration must be posted in the Reading Room

March 1st 1844

Committee of Management

Present

Messrs Pitman, King, Wilson, & Ker
W. B. Wilmoth Esq.
in the Chair.

The minutes of the last meeting being confirmed the Secy then Read a letter from Mr. Stephen giving notice of his intention to appeal to a General meeting of the Members of the Institute concerning his expulsion therefrom -

Read Report of Lecture Committee.

At the Meeting of which it was resolved, that the regulations for the government and arrangement of lectures be prepared by the Secretary for presentation to the Committee of Management.

The Secretary then reported that letters had been forwarded to the following Gentlemen requesting the favor of a Lecture - viz Messrs Cunningham, McCoubie & McKie the Revs P. B. Geoghegan & Morrison. with the following results.

The Revd A. Morrison will deliver a lecture on April the 19th on the Atmospheric, Terrestrial and Celestial adaptations conducive to life. The Revd P. B. Geoghegan will deliver a lecture on June the 28th the subject of which he will communicate prior to its delivery. From Mr. McCoubie declines on acct of health & distance from Town at which he resides, but will favor us ^{the Inst^{ns}} with a lecture on the season ensuing

175 I am Mr. W. W. Wilkie & Cunningham
 no answers. —
 The following synopsis of the Lectures for
 the Year 1844. (first season), was then read
 W. B. Wilmoth, on the Eye delivered March 22
 F. R. C. Greenes, M.D. on Physiology no 1 { April 5.
 of a series —
 J. D. Gilbert, on the Steam Engine. May 3.
 J. Pittman, on Physiology. " 17
 W. Howe (Town Surgeon) on Hydraulics. 31
 J. D. Gilbert, on Locomotives & Railways June 14
 The Rev. P. B. Geoghegan " 28.

- Regulations for the government of Managers
 of Lectures were then read
- 1^o That the Lectures shall be free only to the
 Members of the Institution; each member
 possessing the privilege of introducing two
 members of his family.
 - 2^o That a gratuitous Lecturer be allowed
 the privilege of distributing twelve tickets
 of admission to his Lecture, which tickets
 shall bear the signature of the Lecturer &
 Secretary.
 - 3^o That schools shall be admitted gratuitously
 where the Proprietors of such shall be Members
 of the Institution, and the gratuitous admit^{ts}
 shall not extend beyond the Pupils resident
 in the Proprietors house.
 - 4^o That an entrance fee of sixpence shall
 be paid by non-subscribers for admission
 to a single lecture or 1/6 for a family
 ticket for the season.

5. That a sum of money not exceeding ^{1/6}
 two Pounds £2.00 0/0 shall be appropriated
 out of the funds of the Institution for the
 purpose of supplying Lecturers with Diagrams
 etc., and that application be made in
 writing to the Secretary, specifying the
 objects required, and their cost. The said
 Apparatus Diagrams etc. to become the
 property of the Institution
6. No Lecture of a decidedly Political
 or Religious Character shall be delivered
 before the Members of the Institution

Resolved that the report now read
 be adopted:

Read Report of Class Committee:
 At a Meeting of the Committee of Fellows
 held Feb. 4. 12. 1844;
 It was ordered that the ^{Secretary} Committee be
 prepared to submit to the Committee of
 Managers at its next monthly meeting
 arrangements and regulations for the
 establishment of Classes in the Institution
 in accordance with the above instructions
 the Secretary has then reported. That he
 had entered into arrangements for the
 immediate establishment of Classes in
 the following branches, subject to the
 approval of the Committee of Fellows

	<u>Instructors</u>
1 st Drawing & Modelling	J. D. Gilbert.
2 ^d Engraving, ornamental Drawing & Writing	J. Pittman
3 ^d Mathematics	W. Brickwood
4 th Architectural D ^g .	W. Howe.
5 th Music.	W. Clarke.
6 th Language	<u>not arranged.</u>

Rules for the regulation of Classes.

- 1^o That a fee of one Guinea per Quarter be the sum fixed by the several Professors for admission to the privilege of any one Class, payable in advance.
- 2^o That an extra fee of $\frac{1}{2}$ a Guinea p^r Q^r be charged to non-subscribers joining any such classes, unless such persons be the members of the family of a subscriber.
- 3^o That a quarterly report of each class, stating the number of pupils elected and resigned within that period, shall be furnished by the several Professors to the Secretary, that the same may be presented to the Committee of Management.
- 4^o That the extra fee charged to non-subscribers be handed over to the Secretary for the benefit of the Institution.
- 5^o That the Members of any Class misconducting himself shall be subject to the laws of the Institution.
- 6^o That the expense of light, fuel, etc. be borne by the several conductors of the Classes.

Resolved that the Report & Regulations (now read) for the establishment of Classes be adopted and carried into effect.

Ordered that the Revised Code of Laws be printed as also the synopsis of Lectures and that expense be charged to subscribers for Copies of the same.

W. B. Wilmot
Chairman.

March 1st 1844.

Committee of Management
Present: Messrs. Howe, Pittman, Westgate,
Crook & Wilson. J. W. Cole Esq^r in the Chair

The Minutes of the former meeting having been confirmed.
A Letter was read from the Town Council (through the Town Clerk) requesting a reduction in the rent of the apartments occupied by it to seventy Pounds p^r annum, the said request to be effected from the date of last payment viz Jan^y 12th.

The Secretary was requested to write to inform the Town Council that the Committee of the Mechanics Institution acceded to their request as set forth in letter handed into the Committee.

Read letter from the Clerk of the Legislative Council of N. S. Wales presenting

a Copy of the Acls passed in the session of the year 1843, A letter of thanks was requested to be forwarded to his Excellency the Governor expressing the appreciation of his polite favor.

Proposed by Mr Westgath and seconded by the Revd Mr. Haw. That the Collector be allowed 10 p. cent upon all donations and subs^{ns} received on behalf of the Institution. carried unanimously.

Resolved that the Secretary be empowered to purchase books to the extent of Five Pounds value, as the sale of Messrs Bondie & Quirk's books.

Resolved that the secretary obtain estimates for the lighting of the Lecture Room and report the same to the Committee adjourned for such purpose.

Resolved that one of the Committee of Management do act as Chairman, during the delivery of the Lectures.

The Secy was requested to obtain printed prospectuses concerning Committee Meetings.

Resolved that the Boy be engaged for the service of the Institution.

The following Members being elected the Meeting was adjourned to Saturday the 6th inst - Messrs Miller, Dalrimone Mitchell, Buckley Jun, Oranue, Mowick, Mac Kinnon, Campbell, Bagg, Macaulay Cooper

George MacDole
Chairman

Adjourned Meeting
The Committee of Management

April 6th 1844

Present Messrs Howitt, Westgath Pittman & Greaves. W. B. Wilmot M.D. in the Chair.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been confirmed The Secretary then reported that he had not been successful in effecting any arrangements for the lighting of the Lecture Room with oil, unless lamps were previously purchased, which would entail a considerable expense upon the Institution; it was therefore decided that the present mode of lighting by candles be continued.

The Secretary then read the Rules passed by the Elocution class for its governance and which were now submitted for the confirmation of the Court of Fellows.

Rules confirmed accordingly.

J. Thomas Black was then duly elected a Member of the Institution.

W. B. Wilmot
Chairman.

April 26, 1844.

Special Meeting
of the Committee of Management.
Present Messrs Howitt, Cole, Pittman,
Sanford, Wilnot, McKillop & Wilson.

Jas Simpson Esq^r President
in the Chair.

The minutes of the last meeting having
been confirmed.

The Secretary then read a letter from Mr
Stephen proposing an amicable adjustment
of the claims and differences, pending between
him and the Institution.

It was resolved that in order to meet
Mr Stephen's views, that the matter be referred
to arbitration so soon as Mr Westgarth
should return from Sydney, and that the Secretary
do communicate the above resolution to Mr
Stephen.

The following Gentlemen were then duly admitted
as Members of the Institution

Messrs Reeves, Brambury, Sugden, Douglaf,
Casson, Davis & Bidale.

Chairman.

May 1st 1844

Special Meeting of the Committee of Management
Present Messrs Cole, King, Greene, Crook,
Wilson, Wilnot & Westgarth -

Jas Simpson Esq^r in the Chair

The former minutes being confirmed.

The Secretary announced that the meeting was
convened for the purpose of receiving the
Treasurer's report of his interview with His Excellency
the Governor, relative to the assistance promised
to the Institution. The Treasurer then announced
to the Committee that in consequence of press of
business he would not be prepared to lay the
report before them until Monday, the usual
day of Meeting -

A note of thanks was ordered to be conveyed
to Messrs Robinson & Lang, for their handsome
donation of Books and to B. Boyd Esq^r for
his donation of shells.

The meeting was then adjourned until
Monday the 6th inst -

Monday May 2nd 1844

Committee of Management.

Present. Messrs Howitt, King, Cook, Wilson, Mr. Killop, Westgath, Cole, Wilmots
Rev. W. Ham in the Chair.

The minutes of the former Meeting having been read and confirmed

The Treasurer then read the Report of his interview with his Excellency the Governor, appointed for the purpose of obtaining the donation, previously promised by his Excellency to the The Melbourne School of Arts for the liquidation of the debts pressing on the Institution.

Proposed by Mr. King
Mr. Capt. Cole,

That the report now read be received and that the thanks of the Institution be presented

to the Treasurer Mr. Westgath, and to the Gentlemen who accompanied him in the above interview for their zealous advocacy of the wants and interests of the Institution.

Application was then made by the Secy. on behalf of the Total Abstinence Society for the use of the hall on the 1st of June - granted - a fee of two Guineas to be paid for the use thereof -

Application was also made for the use of the Hall by the Committee appointed to arrange the Celebration of Her Majesty's birthday by a Ball to be given on the 24th day of May - granted - a fee of six Guineas to be paid for the use of the Hall etc -

The sum of Two Pounds 10^s was then voted towards the fencing in of the ground in the rear of the Mechanics building.

The sum of 10/- was likewise voted for the purpose of obtaining a case for the preservation of insects - and a further sum of 50/- to purchase Mats for the Institution -

A vote of Thanks were then passed to Mr. J.P. for his handsome donation of the Print of London -

The following Members of the Committee were then declared unqualified to hold further office in the Committee of the Institution from their non attendance at a successive Monthly Meeting in accordance with the bye laws. -

Mr. Messrs Keape, Hull, Forrest, Bland, Clarke & Clay -

The unmentioned were then duly elected Members of the Institution - Messrs. A. H. Kemp, P. Fenwick, John Mc Lachlan, Jas. Graham, Tho. Napier, Wm. Clarke Junr, J. J. Dalrymple -

Chairman.

John Ham

Memorial
of the
Melbourne Mechanics Institution.

The Institution was commenced in 1840. In August of this year, the then Secretary purchased from the Crown at Public Sale two Allotments of land, in Melbourne, as the site of a proposed Edifice. Part of this Ground was subsequently resold at so considerable a profit, as to place the Institution in funds for the commencement of its Career.

At this early period numerous subscribers came forward, who pledged their names for a considerable amount. In November 1841 at the request of a General meeting of the members, the Committee of Management were induced to accept the contract for the present Hall - It has been erected at a cost of £2123.

On 1st January 1842 the financial position of the Institution appeared as follows

Balance of cash in the Union Bank £505-11-2

Deduct Quarterly accounts due

31st December unpaid ——— 65-12-0

439-19-2

Arrears on land sold by the Institution considered Good ——— } 358-17-4

Subscriptions & Donations owing, being the Balance due at this date from 270 subscribers ——— } 771-13-0

Land on the Eastern Hill reserved for the Hall valued at ——— 6000 ———

Furniture Effects & other in the Institute 142-9 ———

Total Effects of the Melbⁿ Mechanics Inst 2372-18-6

It must be altogether unnecessary to detail upon the extraordinary distress which has clouded the Australian Colonies during the last two or three years - Port Phillip suffered the full measure of a change as unprecedented for its extreme violence, as it was at that period unexpected by the Colonists. The Building, contracted for at the most moderate rate that was obtainable at the time, was commenced under a fair prospect of support from the Public. A still more zealous cooperation was anticipated when by the completion of a very commodious Edifice, the objects of the Institution, in the formation of a reading Room, Library and Museum, and the regular delivery of Lectures could be fully carried out. But the rapid progress of Commercial distress, during 1842 and the following year soon reversed the favourable picture which the Committee had drawn of the future prospects of the Institution - Nearly all the arrears of Subscriptions remained unpaid - of £771-13/- due at 1st January 1842 only £75-10/- has as yet been collected and the balance must be regarded as totally irrecoverable - In the general despondency, numbers quitted the Institution, and others though wishing well to its cause, was no longer able to give it pecuniary support.

With much difficulty the building was at length completed, by the aid of £1250 borrowed upon mortgage, besides which amount, a further debt of upwards of £400 still burdens the Institution, the following is a statement of the present financial condition of the Institution's affairs

Mortgage at 10 per cent interest ending
 January 1846 but repayable
 intermediately either in whole or
 in part " " " " " £1250 " " "

Balance due to sundry Creditors 409.. 2.. 6
 Total debt of the Mechanics Institute 1659.. 2.. 6

The interest on the Mortgage was at first 12 1/2 per cent, but the rate has since been reduced to ten per cent, being an annual charge of £125 to be provided for by the Institution. To meet this and several other smaller expenses the Committee have been induced, or rather compelled to let out most of the apartments of the hall for the use of various Public bodies: and the consequent want of accommodation has somewhat retarded the progress of the Institution. They have been further compelled to reduce the salary of their Secretary, to a merely nominal rate of four guineas per annum.

But the Committee entertain the highest hopes of the ultimate prosperity of the Institution. Nearly all the managing members who experienced from the beginning the difficulties in which it became involved still remain attached to its cause, and they have now the satisfaction to see that at length it begins to flourish - The reading Room has been opened, and the Library is small, consisting of as yet but 400 volumes, it is however gradually increasing. Several zealous Naturalists, have divided amongst themselves the various departments of the Museum. One of the smaller apartments of the Hall

being appropriated solely to the meetings of the Curators, and the assorting of their Specimens.

Finally the Committee have at length made arrangements which ensure a continuance of the various classes, and the course of lectures which have been lately commenced.

By order of the Committee
 W. Westgath Treasurer
 G. A. Gibbs Secretary.

Melbourne
 P. Phillip 9th April
 1844.

Report.

of an Interview with his Excellency the Governor at Sydney on the 22nd April 1844 relative to a grant of Public money in aid of the Melbourne Mechanics Institute.

To the Committee of Management of the Melbourne Mechanics Institute
 Gentlemen.

Agreeably to your request your Treasurer soon after his arrival in Sydney, waited upon Messrs Lang and Nicholson, and Messrs Robinson & Walker, the Members of Council for this Town and District, for the purpose of arranging an interview with His Excellency Sir George Gipps, to solicit the Assistance of Government on behalf of your Institution - In answer to the communication forwarded on the part of the above Gentlemen His Excellency appointed Monday the 22nd ultimo at 12 o'clock Noon - The reply contained an intimation

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further that his Excellency would not be prepared with any answer to the Deputation, unless he was previously made aware of the precise object in view. The following memorial drawn up by order of the Committee was therefore forwarded to his Excellency: (See accompanying document).

Your Treasurer, accompanied by the above Members of Council, duly met with his Excellency at the time appointed, and represented the case of the Institution. The Governor did not appear disposed to assist the Institution, both from circumstances relating to itself and from the present impoverished state of the Treasury; and further objected on principle to any assistance from Government to such associations.

Mr. Robinson urged that as the last years income of Port Phillip had exceeded the expenditure by £20,000 and Government had as yet expended comparatively a very small amount for Public purposes in that District, the demand could not be considered unreasonable, that his Excellency would place upon the Estimate for 1845. a sum in aid of the Melbourne Mechanics Institute even equal to the entire amount of the Debt: the Institution established for the all important purposes of Education, and the Extension of useful knowledge, was progressing in a most satisfactory manner, but hampered with a debt which the Great and unexpected Commercial Changes of the Colony had rendered it unable to discharge; and similar Institutions in Sydney & Newcastle

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had received the assistance of Government. His Excellency replied that with regard to the financial particulars above related, he would admit they might form an argument for the separation of Port Phillip from the Middle District, to which indeed he himself was not opposed, but that so long as that Colony was a part of New South Wales he would never consent that the Port Phillip Revenue should be viewed in ^{any} other light than as a portion of the General Revenue of the Territory over which he presided. He considered moreover that the sum of £10,000 was by far too large an amount for the purpose required, more especially, as it did not appear, judging from the number of subscriptions that had been received, that any large proportion of the Public took an interest in the Cause of the Institution.

He further objected to the building being let out for purposes foreign to the design of the Institution such as Balls and other meetings that had anything but a literary & scientific character. But it was explained in regard to this objection, that these proceedings which indeed occasionally impeded the operations of the Institution, were for the present a matter of necessity, as furnishing some assistance towards the interest of the Mortgage, and other current expenses, and that the Committee would gladly avail themselves of the first opportunity of dispensing with them.

Dr. Pang then reminded his Excellency of a deputation of which he formed one, on a former

occasion, on the same subject as the present — His Excellency on that occasion, gave them great expectation of assistance, and proposed as an advisable plan, that instead of an annual contribution, the Government should give, once for all, a certain sum, say the amount of the debt, then stated to have been £1400, and leave the Institution for the future to its own exertions — To this His Excellency answered that however the case might be in that respect and even although it were justifiable and proper to give the amount that was now sought for, He was really not possessed of the means — To Mr. Langs proposal further, that Government in order to ensure a proper use of the present Hall, should take possession by way of Mortgage on paying off the debt, His Excellency gave a very peremptory refusal.

Mr. Walker and Mr. Nicholson submitted that if the whole debt could not be discharged by Government, a portion of it might be paid so as to enable the Institution the more easily to meet the remainder — But his Excellency considered that as the Institution must be regarded as Insolvent, it was not in a position to receive any aid whatever from Government — He considered that nothing short of the entire debt could avail the Institution.

The Treasurer represented that the Committee had throughout laboured in a Public Cause no individual connected with the Institution having received any pecuniary advantage at

its expense His Excellency however thought there must have been great mismanagement, as it appeared from documents furnished to him that about £1000 had been realized by profits on the sale of land belonging to the Institution and that notwithstanding this large amount, the Society had contracted a debt of £1000 — He regarded such Societies indeed as scarcely proper objects on which to bestow the Public Money — Under all circumstances, he must decline any grant to the Melbourne Mechanic's Institution.

It is proper to remark that during the interview, which lasted for a considerable time His Excellency occasionally diverged from the precise object in view, commenting pointedly upon some matters of a foreign import, which seemed to refer as was afterwards explained to the Treasurer, to some recent variance between his Excellency and the ~~Government~~ Colonists.

Soon after the departure of the deputation, the following explanatory letter, more precise and restricted, than the desultory conversation that had previously taken place was forwarded to Mr. Robinson.

Colonial Secretary's Office
Sydney 22nd April 1844.

Sir

With reference to the conversation which the Governor had this morning with yourself and other Gentlemen forming a deputation from Port Phillip respecting the Mechanic's Institution at Melbourne, I am directed by his

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Excellency to state that he wishes the Gentlemen
that formed the deputation, distinctly to
understand the Grounds on which he must
decline to recommend to the Legislative
Council, an appropriation of the Public money
in aid of that Institution, and which are
that the affairs of the Institution appear
to him to be in such a state that no sum
less than £1000 (one thousand six hundred
pounds) would relieve the managers of it
from their Embarrassments, and that even
were the finances of the Colony in a more
flourishing state than they actually are
the appropriation of so large a sum in aid
of the Mechanics Institution of Melbourne
would be disproportioned to the assistance
which has been given to Institutions of
a like nature in other parts of the Colony

I have the honor to be
Sir/ Your most obt^d serv^t =
W. Westgath

It is to be hoped that altho' circumstances
over which the Institution had no control
may have induced his Excellency so
peremptorily to refuse assistance. He will
not consider himself as pledged to withhold
during a more auspicious period that
aid which is usual to such Institutions
~~displayed by the Gentlemen~~ and which
was so confidently expected in the present
case

Your Treasurer cannot conclude

without testifying to the zeal & unanimity
in regard to the interest of the Institution
displayed by the Gentlemen who accompanied
him to the interview, and the regret which
they felt at so unsuccessfull & unlooked
for result

He has the pleasure to present to the
Institution on the part of Mr. Robinson 4
Volumes of the Pictorial History of England
(the remaining two Volumes which were not
to be had in Sydney, have been written for
to be had in England) and a remarkably elegant
Edition of the Pictorial Bible: on the
part of Mr. Benjamin Boyd, a number
of Beautiful Shells and illustrations of
the Conchology of Two fold bay; and on
the part of Mr. Lang, a complete set
of the various works of that Gentleman -
W. Westgath
Treasurer.

Melbourne Port Phillip
2nd May 1844.

May 13 / 1844.

Meeting of the Committee of Management

Presents

Messrs King, M. Killop Westgarth, Wilson, Pittman & Greaves. Capt. Cole in the Chair.

The Secretary read a letter from Mr Stephen proposing that all claims & differences (inclusive of his expulsion from the Institution) should be submitted to arbitration; and appointing Ed. Cur Esq. Arbitrator on his behalf, should his 'W. Stephen's' wishes be acceded to by the Committee of Management

It was resolved that the Secretary be instructed to write to Mr Stephen to inform him, that the Committee is willing to submit all reasonable and just claims to arbitration, but cannot entertain the case of his expulsion otherwise than in accordance with Law XIII

A vote of Thanks was then directed to be forwarded to Mr Bowler & Mr Hull for their donations to the Institution. The Use of The Lecture Hall was granted to the Stewards of the Birthday Ball, in consideration of a fee of six Guineas.

The following Gentlemen were duly admitted as Members of the Instⁿ Messrs F. Wickham, Elder, Stewart, Dutch, Jno Griffin, Watson, Logan, George Hardell

June 3rd 1844.

Committee of Management

Presents Messrs Cole King, Wilson, Milnot, Greaves, Ham & Crook Jas Simpson Esq. in the Chair.

The minutes of the former meeting having been confirmed,

The Secretary read a letter from the Rev. P. B. Geoghegan postponing his lecture to some future day.

The use of the Mechanics Hall was granted to the Stewards of the Squatters Ball in consideration of a fee of six Guineas being paid.

A vote of Thanks was directed to be forwarded to Mr Hull Esq. J. P. for his donations to the Museum and Library of the Institution.

The following Gent^l were then duly elected to serve as Committee-men in vacancies as noted beneath, and created by the non-attendance of the respective persons, declared disqualified by Law IX.

Messrs	Boyer	Disqualified	supplied by
"	Bland	"	Messrs Beavers
"	Clay	"	" Bowler
"	Hull	"	" Foyton
"	Pear	"	" Black. Mid.
		"	" Griffin

The following were duly admitted as Members of the Institution viz Messrs Ashby & Leach.

James Simpson

Committee of Management
July 5th 1844.

Present Messrs Kerr, Greaves, Cole, Cook, Foyton, Westgath, Ham, & Beaver
Jas Simpson Esq. Chairman

The Minutes of the last meeting having been confirmed - The secretary then moved the propriety and necessity of Petitioning the Legislative Council for pecuniary assistance to the Institution. It was proposed by Mr J. Greaves and seconded by Capt. Cole That a Petition be presented to the Legislative Council, and that Messrs Westgath, Foyton & the Secretary be entrusted and appointed a Committee for drawing up the same. and that the same be submitted to the Committee of Management on Wednesday the 3rd inst.

The sum of one Pound & 6^d was then ordered to be paid for the additions and alterations of the Library Shelves.

The following were duly elected as Members of the Institution viz Messrs Smith & Baird.

The meeting was then adjourned until the following Wednesday (3rd inst.) -

James Simpson

July 3rd
Committee of Management
Adjourned Meeting

Present Messrs Bowler Greaves, Black, Montgomery & Westgath.

J. Novitt in the Chair.

The secretary then read the Draft of the Petition to be presented to His Ex^{ty} the Governor.

It was proposed by Mr Bowler and seconded by J. Black that the draft of the Petition be adopted - carried.

Proposed by J. Black and seconded by J. Greaves that the secretary be instructed to write to His Honor The Superintendent to request him to forward the Petition to His Ex^{ty} - and to support the Prayer of The Petition. carried.

James Simpson

Special Meeting July 10/44.
Present Messrs Black, Cole, Beaver, Griffin, Westgath, Bowler, Foyton Wilson
Jas Simpson Esq. in the Chair

The Minutes of the former meeting having been confirmed the secretary stated that the meeting had been convened for the purpose of amending the Petition, which having been

199 done, the Committee adjourned.

August 5th 1844. —
Meeting of the Committee of Management.
Present Messrs Wilmot, Foston, Black, Kee,
Pittman, Westgath, Wilson, Brewer, Crook, Ham,
J King

J. W. Cole Vice President in the Chair.
The minutes of the former meeting having
been confirmed.

The Secretary read a letter from Sir T. Mitchell promising a Donation of Maps & Charts of these Colonies to the Institution. Application was then made on behalf of the Strangers Friend Society for the use of the Lecture Hall gratuitously on the 12th inst. The application was refused on other terms than by the payment of a fee of one Guinea.

A Donation was then made of Twenty four volumes to the Library of the Institution by Jas Simpson Esq^r the President of the Society.

The Secretary was requested to convey the thanks of the Committee to the President for his handsome donation.

Principles Chemistry vols was also presented to the Institution by M^r Nowitz - to whom a vote of thanks was likewise voted. as also to M^r Pittman and M^r Westgath for their contributions to the Museum.

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Capt^l Cole then stated that the holder of the Bill given by M^r Stephen for arrears of rent of No. 10 in Bourke Street had consented to accept Fifty Pounds £50. in compensation for the full amount of one hundred & Eighty Pounds.

It was resolved that the sum should be raised by subscription and that J. Black and Capt^l Cole and M^r Westgath & M^r Foston be appointed as collecting Committee, and that the results of their efforts be reported to the Committee of Management on Monday the 12th inst.

The Secretary then proposed as members of the Institution the following persons, who were duly elected. —

Messrs Wilkie, Smecher, Butcher, Monat, Wharton, Furniss, Lonsdale, Lusk, Ashley, Drummond, Jell, Fote W. H. Campbell, Keatinge, Macrae, M^r Quater, Peay, Woolaston, Harvey, J. B. Mac a & M^r Hart.

The meeting was then adjourned to Monday the 12th inst to receive the report of the Collectors of the subscription towards retiring the above named Bill.

August 12th

Special Meeting of the Committee of Management

President, Messrs Wilson, Black, Howitt, Fyfe, Westgarth, Bowler & Cole
J. Simpson Esq. in the Chair

The minutes of the former meeting having been read appointing this day for the collecting Committee to report on its success. The Committee then reported that there yet remained a sum of thirty Pounds to be raised in order to place it in a position to retire the Bill given by Mr. Stephen - on which it was deemed advisable that measures should be immediately adopted in order to ensure the immediate retirement of the Bill in question -

It was Resolved that some of the members of the Committee should provide for the deficiency by endorsing a Bill drawn at three months, which the President of the Society undertook to discount, and furthermore that such Endorsers should meet the Bill by retaining the fees of any new member paying one Pound subscription for such purpose. The Resolutions having been adopted the following Members then endorsed the Bill - viz Messrs Westgarth, Wilson, Fyfe, Bowler & Simpson -

The Meeting then adjourned to the usual Monthly Meeting.

Sept. 2nd 1841

Meeting of the Committee of Management
Present, Messrs. Ham, Wilson, Westgarth, Black, Bowler, King, & Fyfe.

Capt. Cole in the Chair.

The Minutes of the former meeting having been confirmed the Chairman then stated that the Bill endorsed by the several Members of the Institution had been discounted, and that the Bill of £ had been retired.

and that the seventeen Pounds costs incurred thereon had been thus disposed of (by Mr. Moore the Solicitor holding the Bill for collection) viz ten Pounds donation to the funds of the Inst. and the remaining seven Pounds to be paid by the Institution to the Trustees of the Charity.

It was consequently Resolved that the thanks of this Meeting be presented to Mr. Moore for his liberality, and likewise to Capt. Cole for his having successfully negotiated the retirement of the Bill.

The Secretary then stated that a letter had been received from His Excellency the Governor refusing to grant ^{the} assistance to the Institution as set forth in the Petition.

The Secy. then mooted the propriety of petitioning the Legislative Council for assistance, and that a Committee be appointed forthwith for the purpose of carrying the proposed object into effect.

It was accordingly Resolved that Messrs Westgarth, Fyfe, Bowler, Green & the Secy.

be appointed a Committee for the purpose of forming a Petition to the L. Council & that the same be submitted to the Committee of Management for adoption.

The Secretary having stated his inability to obtain the dues from the Members of the Instⁿ it was Resolved that Mr. Stephenson be appointed Collector to the Society, providing his compensation does not exceed 4 1/2 p. c. and that the Secretary be empowered to negotiate the same subject to the above condition a report the result at the next Monthly Meeting Resolved that Mr. Westgath Treasurer be empowered to effect the Insurance of the Building forthwith

The following Books were then presented to the Institution - viz.

- Hist. of the Roman Empire, 12 vols. Mr. Balcanhal
- Stephens travels, Voy to Alg. Blackwells sacred scheme.
- Butlers analogy - by Rev. Mr. Morrison
- Nicholas Nickleby, Barnaby Rudge 2 Old curiosities Shp. 2
- Mitchells Australia (1) Mac Leods voyages in the Albatross
- Trans of the Asiat. Socy of India. Recollections of an old Traveller.
- Education (Quaker) Philosophie et Literature (Hug). Mr. H. Browne Esq.

The Secretary was requested to convey the thanks of the Committee to the above Gent^l for their handsome contributions.

The Secretary was likewise requested to write to those Gentlemen who had so largely contributed towards the Museum Department including D. Black. Mr. Patton of U. D. L.

Mr. Holloway. Mr. Amos, &c. The business of the Meeting having been completed the following persons were then elected Members of the Institution. viz. Messrs. Thorp, Kilburn, T. M. Smith. Adam Prupell. Thos. Bray. D. Egan, Matthew Cutton, A. Cunningham, J. Bay. John Shearer. E. E. Williams, J. James, Mr. Musgrave. Pappone. W. Percy, J. Nicholson, Mac Namara, J. Lyons, J. Mann, Macrae, Murray, D. Kelly, R. Kerr, P. Holland, W. Casey, Dixon, J. Darling, E. Carr, R. Brisbane, S. Adams, J. Broadfoot, J. Brown, Barnes. Barnes, Anderson, J. Bean (Life Member) H. Mansden, Campbell, Fulton. T. J. Smith, W. Empson, C. Cook, Mansden. Scaper, R. Kerr

The Meeting then adjourned -

Special Meeting of the Committee of Management Sept. 13th

Present Messrs. Black. Fulton. Wilton. Beaver Griffin and Westgath
D. Howitt in the Chair.

The Secretary stated that he had called this meeting for the purpose of more effectually working out the objects of the Institution by meeting the wishes of a large portion of the Inhabitants in the Establishment of a General Commercial & Miscellaneous Reading Room. to be provided by the Board Subscriptions from one hundred subscribers.

The following Resolutions were then duly carried

That a Reading Room be established in connection with the Melbourne Mechanics Institution to be supplied with various Papers & periodicals, to the use of which the Members ^{shall be} entitled, such Persons as are not Members of the Institution may become members of the Reading Room only, on payment of the Pound annually in advance

24 That the Secretary be authorised to order immediately a Cedar Table, about 10ft x 4 1/2 for the use of the Reading Room, at a cost not exceeding Five Pounds ten shillings & that when the amount of £100. shall have been subscribed the following things of additional furniture be obtained. viz eighteen cedar chairs (4 arms included) at a cost not exceeding 20 £. one hair cloth sofa not exceeding - not to exceed £9. in cost

25 That the following gentlemen be appointed a Committee to ascertain what Papers and other works should be procured for the use of the Reading Room, and to regulate the mode of payment and transmission. viz Messrs Griffin, Foxton, Wedgath, Green & the Secretary

Special Meeting of the Committee of Management
 Present. Messrs Wilson, King, Foxton, Green & Wedgath
 Bowler
 Presided over by Mr Green in the Chair

The Secretary stated that the present Meeting had been called for the purpose of receiving for adoption the Report of the Sub Committee appointed to draw up the Petition to his Excellency Sir George Gipps. as also the Report of the Reading Room Committee. -
 It was accordingly Resolved that the Petition now read be adopted - vide annexed Paper.
 Resolved that the area originally intended to be made at the end of the entrance Hall be immediately opened for the convenience of the subscribers -
 The following Papers were then proposed to be ordered for the use of the Reading Room as far as the funds subscribed for that purpose will permit -
 The Times. Chronicle. Leeds Mercury. Nation (Dublin)
 Cork Liberal Paper. Banner of Ulster (Belfast)
 Edinburgh Courier. Glasgow Herald. Atlas, Examiner.
 Britannia. John Bull. Spectator. Journ of Commerce
 Pictorial Times. Illustrated London News. Punch. Naval Mag.
 Annals Col. Mag. Amworths Mag. Mech. Mag.
 Athenaeum. Literary Gazette. Chemical Gazette.
 Mag. Nat. Hist. Blackwoods, Edinburgh. Inattal.
 Dublin W. Mag. Illuminated Mag. Levee. West London
 Scientific Mag. No Edinburgh. Army & Navy List.
 British & Foreign Quarterly Review. London Historical Journal.
 The Law Mag. Annals of Service -

October the 7th

Meeting of the Committee of Management
Present Messrs Westgarth, Wilson, Kerr, King,
Black, Hams, Fordin & Bowler.

Walter Kerr in the Chair.

The Minutes of the former Meeting having
been read and confirmed the following
resolutions were duly put & carried.

- 1st That the sum of four Pounds be voted for
repairs in the Secretary's Rooms.
- 2nd That the Dublin Evening Mail and Bell's life
in London be added to the list of papers ordered
for the Melbourne Reading Room.
- 3rd That the Colonial Gazette be added to the list of
newspapers ordered.
- 4th That the sum of Fifty Pounds be remitted to
England on account of the Reading Room to Mr.
R. L. Simmonds of London, for the purpose of
procuring the Newspapers and periodicals as per
list approved of by the Committee, and that
Mr. Simmonds be requested to purchase these
works on the most economical terms for the
Institution by procuring them at some short
date after their publication.
- 5th That Mr. Alderman Kerr, Mr. Westgarth &
Dr. Black be appointed as a Committee to
arrange the order in which the Periodicals to
be ordered - should be selected by the Agent
in Great Britain in the event of the sum
of Fifty Pounds about to be remitted not
proving sufficient to cover, the amount of
all Periodicals &c. ordered.

6th That the claims of Mr. John Stephen, amounting to
sixty five Pounds 14/6 with certain deductions amounting
to £ 31. 17. 6 - leaving a net amount of £ 33. 17. - be
settled as soon as the Secretary and Treasurer find
it convenient.

The Secretary read a letter from The Editor of the
Geelong Advertiser, promising the donation of a copy
of his Journal from the commencement to the present
day bound in a suitable form for reference; and
at the same time to forward gratuitously a copy
of his paper for the use of the Reading Room.

Resolved, that the Thanks of the Committee be
expressed by the Secy to The Editor of the Geelong
Advertiser for his liberal assistance.

The following donations were then made to the
Library - viz. Travels in the Pyrenees. J. G. Forster.
Companion to the Newspaper 4 vols. T. Bowler. Religion
in connection with National Education. 1 vol. Mr. Masson.
Babbages Economy of Manufactures 1 vol. Life of Sir Wm
Jones. W. Langhorne. Currier's works 8 vols. Mr. Moore.
Wordsworth's Poems 1 vol. Works of Milton 1 vol. Mr. Moore.
M. Empson. Smith's Mechanics 2 vols. Mr. Beane.
Goldsmith's Nat. Hist. 2 vols. Mr. Proion. (All the above were
purchased.)

Resolved that the Thanks of the Committee be
forwarded to the above donors by the Secy for their
handsome contributions to the Library.

The following donations were presented to the
Society's Museum. viz
A Young Coar nut tree. Dr. Black. A Specimen of coral

Mr. Banbury. Topical Echina. Mr Smith.
a native skull from the Grampians by Mr. J. L. Keen
a collection of sponges shells and tracts crystals from
Hender Island by Mr. W. M. Hull.

The following Gentlemen were then duly admitted
Members of the Institution -

- Mr. Ballingall J. S. Hill. A. Boyle. J. Cropley
- G. Houston. Mr. Horncastle J. B. Payne, J. R. Bennett
- T. D. Pimosh. Mr. Macpherson. R. Pascoe. J. Barber.
- Wm. R. Noyes. Chas Smith. Alexander Smith. A. Smith
- J. Woodman. A. Sutherland - George Junr. J. Smith.
- J. Bacehus J. I. Coulson. Capt. ~~Stevie~~ J. R. Swanson.

The Meeting then adjourned to the usual monthly
period.

November 5th

Meeting of the Committee of Management,
Present, Messrs. Bowler, Black, Pittman, Wilson
Alfred. Kern in the Chair.

The Minutes of the former Meeting having
been read. The secretary stated that an order
had been given by Mr. John Stephen for the
Seraphine now in the possession of the M.
Institution - The secretary was requested to inform
Mr. Gregory (who presented the order) that the
Seraphine could not be delivered over to any
person until the amount of rent due from
the Lodge of Australia Lodge had been paid.
The following donations were then made to
the Institution - viz.

- Robertson's History of America. 2 vols
- Planta Helvetica Confederacy. 2 vols. Vattel's Law of
Nations 1. Perry's Diet. 1. Researches on the Aboriginal
Hist. of America 1. Phillips's million of facts. 1. What
to become 1. Narrative of a Mission to the Jews 1
Memoirs of Sadler. 1. Reports on the Training of Pauper
Children. 1. Labrous Mount Petra. 1. Australia Directory
C. J. Latrobe. Esq. 2 - 1 - 1
- Russell's Australasia Tour. Alfred. Russell -
Lyell's Geology 4 vols. Murray's Chemistry 4 vols
Spectator 7 no. L. Smith Esq. J. A.
- Newton's Philosophy - 1. as Mr. Banbury.
- Numerous Maps and Charts of the Coast of
New Holland. V. S. Land and Bass Straits were
presented to the Society from the Hon. the
Superintendent.

The Secretary then announced a Donation of
Twenty Guinea from. B. Boyd Esq. M.P.

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A contribution to a likewise been made to
the Museum of Liberator Wood by M. Lockhead
from Moolbung, near Sydney

Resolved that the Thanks of the Committee be
presented to His Honor M. Latrobe for the
Generous and valuable contributions to the
Library.

Resolved that the best Thanks of the Committee
be forwarded to Benjamin Boyd Esq. for his
very handsome Donation of Twenty Guinea to
Society.

Resolved also that the Thanks of the Committee
be presented to those gentlemen who had
contributed their various Newspapers to the
Reading Room.

The following ^{gentlemen} ~~Members~~ were then duly elected
Members of the Institution. viz.
Messrs. Donaldson and Cotton.

The Committee then adjourned to the usual
day of Meeting.

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December the 2nd

Meeting of the Committee of Management
Present, Messrs. Black, Wilson, Pittman,
King, Ham, Howitt, Bowler, Westgath
Fryton.

Rev. J. Horn in the Chair.

The Minutes of the former Meeting having
been confirmed.

The Secretary proceeded to read a Letter
from His Honor the Superintendent stating
that in answer to the Petition, His Excellency
the Governor had been pleased to propose
to the Legislative Council that an Annual
Grant of £ 150 ^{be made} in aid of the Melbourne
School of Arts;

Resolved that a Letter of Thanks be sent to His
Excellency Sir Geo. Gipps for the favorable
manner in which he has received our
Petition & his kind promise of support.

* A Letter was then read from the Town Clerk
requesting on behalf of the Town Council that
the rent of the Offices occupied by it be
reduced from 70 to 50 £ per ann. from
that date.

Resolved that the terms of the Town Council
in regard to the rent of the apartments of the
Hall, viz at the rate of Fifty Pounds per annum
be acceded to.

The Secretary then proposed that in lieu
of the present system of Advertising the
Lectures in the Local Journals, that large
 placards be printed, and that boards for
posting the same be procured. The same

where the Name of Lecturer & Subject of the Lecture should appear be left blank, in order that the same might be filled up in writing according to circumstances, and the said placards be exposed to the Public throughout the period intervening between the delivery of the Lectures in such thoroughfares as may afford the greatest publicity - The adoption of which system of advertisement would be far more effective than the mode hitherto pursued, and effect a saving of ten or fifteen Pounds per annum.

Resolved that instead of the Present mode of advertising in the Newspapers, a number of ~~Placards~~ ^{Placards} be exposed giving intimation of the same different Lectures, and that the Socy. be authorised to obtain, Posters, bills and the necessary Boards for the purpose.

In consequence of the rapid increase of the Library the Secretary recommended the provision of additional shelves.

Resolved that Mr. Pilleul be requested to provide additional Book Shelves, the expense not to exceed one Pound.

The following Donations & additions were then made to the Institution, viz

- To the Library. Spirit of the Public Journals 16 vols. Gil Blas 4 vols. Mr. Geo. Belcher.
- Spirits of the Age 2 vols. W. Mills.
- Purchased by the Institution. James's Night Thoughts.
- Miltons Paradise Lost Don Sebastian. W. Air of the Isles. Cecilia, Castle of Inimality. The Pilot. Farmer of Inglewood Forest. & Halloran. Luttons Dict.

- Paul of Virginia, Area of the hefield, Pausanias in virtue rewarded. Joseph Anderson. Lionel Lincoln.
- Mysteries of Cadophog the spy.
- To the Museum. Specimen of a Quana Mr G. Stourway. A choice collection of Derbyshire Minerals Ed. Ann Esq. J. P. Model of a Life Boat & a Portion of the Boyne line of battle ship showing the action of the "Dry Post" Capt. Newby.
- Two Albatrosses Capt. Cole.
- Geological Specimens. C. T. Latool Esq.

Resolved that a vote of thanks be presented to the several Gentlemen who have presented the above objects to the Society as also to those Gentlemen who have contributed their newspapers to the reading room.

The following were then duly admitted Members of the above Institution viz
 Messrs Adam Pullar. James M. Cornell.
 - Evans. Belcher Junr. Peter Farrell.