

The Recommendation of the Finance Committee that it is inexpedient to act upon Mr. Sted's recommendation, that £400 be paid to Nichols and Edwards as compensation for the delay in payment of monies due to them by the Institution, was adopted.

The Recommendation of the Lecture Committee that the Secretary do insert an advertisement in each of the three City Newspapers, inviting Speakers to deliver Lectures on Popular Subjects - then came for consideration -

Resolved upon the motion of Mr. Barwick seconded by Mr. Monbray that the Secretary do advertise to that effect thrice in each of the papers.

Mr. Blair brought forward his motion that a gratuity be granted to the Librarian for his services to the Institution while temporarily filling the office of Secretary during the interval between the death of the late and the appointment of the present Secretary.

Resolved upon that a gratuity of Ten Pounds be presented the Librarian.

The consideration of the Recommendation of the Lecture Committee that Mr. James Smith be engaged to deliver two lectures on "The Genius of Dickens" and "The Genius of Thackeray" for six Guineas - the one on the 9th. and the other on the 16th. May - was then entered upon.

Resolved upon the motion of Mr. Barwick seconded by Mr. Monbray that the recommendation be adopted. Then ensued

The consideration of the Building Committee "That, on account of the high rate of the Tenders for the erection of the New Theatre, and the fewness of those who have tendered, recommended to the General Committee to appoint an Overseer who will act under the direction of the Architect and whose duty shall be to select and purchase the materials and superintend the works generally."

Mr. Balmain made the following amendment

"That the lowest tender received for the erection of the New Theatre being £15,300, still the utmost amount available is only £7,000, this meeting requests that Mr. Keed the architect will effect every possible reduction in the quantity of the work to be done so that the outlay on no account exceed £7,000, and ~~that~~ that as soon as the architect has made the necessary alterations in pursuance of the above instructions, further tenders be invited for the execution of the work in their reduced form - the whole to be included in one contract."

The Amendment carried that the work be advertised in 3 parts

A long discussion ensued in which most of the Committee took part. The amendment was put to the meeting, and lost by the majority of 5 to 3.

Dr. McArthur then proposed a further amendment - that Mr. Balmain's amendment be retained in substance, but that instead of tenders being advertised for in bulk, that the work be contracted for in three different

parts - viz: Excavation, Masonry,  
and carpentry.

Mr. Mosby having recorded  
his amendment it was put  
and carried, five against four,  
and the original motion lost.

After a lengthened discussion as  
to the recompense of the architect  
and a percentage (14%) stated to be  
intended to be paid to the successful  
tender, - in which Mr. Cook, Mr.  
Mosby, Mr. Harwick and others  
took part Alderman Flores  
moved and Mr. Mosby seconded

That Mr. Need be called in.

Mr. Need having been brought in  
and been informed of the subject  
under discussion expressed  
himself to the effect that the charges  
referred to were perfectly usual with  
the profession in England.

Mr. Cook who had prepared a  
motion in reference to this subject  
for the present withdrew it.

Mr. Cook gave Notice of Motion

That with a view to preserve the  
rooms and property of the Institution  
to the use of the Institution Members  
and such of their friends, as allowed  
by the Rules, - the Secretary be in-  
trusted to require the Members  
from time to time to produce

their tickets to him, so that he may become  
acquainted with those who are entitled  
to the privilege and at the same time  
provide him with the means of ex-  
cluding those who are unwilling to  
pay for the same?

The meeting then adjourned till  
Tuesday Evening in the  
vestibule of the Bank - seconded by Mr. Mosby.

Wednesday 18 April 1855  
Adjourned Meeting.

Present Ald. Flores in the Chair  
Mr. Smith  
Mr. Palmer  
Mr. Perry  
Mr. Mosby  
Mr. Cook

Previous to proceeding with the business on  
the Notice Paper the Secretary stated that in  
conformity with the decision of Monday 14 Apr.  
the Treasurer and he had written upon the Man-  
ager of the Bank of New South Wales soliciting  
permission to overdraw to the extent of  
the deficiency, <sup>which is a rise</sup> should a cheque be signed for  
the whole amount due to the Bank of Austral-  
asia, and were informed by the Manager that  
upon the lodgment with him of a properly signed  
document emanating from the responsible  
Officers of the Institution, there would probably  
be no difficulty. The Treasurer and the  
Secretary however believing that the ~~expense~~  
time required for this would be iniquitous to the

interests of this Institution in reference to its position with the Bank of Australasia at once paid in a cheque for £1000 of the amount originally recommended by the Finance Committee to be carried into effect. The Secretary has further stated that the submanager of the B. of Australasia presumptuously required the balance to be paid on the next day - it was moved by Mr Cook, seconded by Mr Moubray and

Resolved that Mr M Smith and Alderman Clowes do call upon Mr Bennett and endeavor to obtain a further advance of £1000 with a view of meeting the deficiency

The subject of pointing the base courses of masonry in the front buildings was displayed by the lowering of the foot path, and of altering the spouts so that they may not become a nuisance in rainy weather was referred to. (continues)

The Secretary was instructed to take an early opportunity of collecting the annual subscription yet remaining unpaid.

A Letter was read from Mr James Marden offering some books for sale, and suggestions for the management of the Institution.

Resolved that Mr Marden's letter be acknowledged, and that he be requested to remove his books from the premises.

The Secretary mentioned that the Australian Freehold Association had sent in a letter giving notice to quit the offices occupied by them, but had since withdrawn it.

The Secretary stated that the Baptist Congregation meeting in the Hall on Sunday had given notice to quit - upon the motion of Mr Smith seconded by Mr Moubray

Resolved that their resignation be accepted, and that for the future the rooms be not let to religious bodies for use on Sundays, and that any further requests proceeding from those who still continue to apply for a reduction in the rental, be accepted and taken as notice to quit.

Mr Cook introduced the subject of the letting of the Rooms and Offices belonging to the Institution.

Resolved that in future all applications made for the Rooms be submitted to the House Committee, and that before previous to their being granted to the various applicants, and that the Secretary have no power to close with such applicants until first he summons the Committee

The subject of meetings of a public nature being held in the Hall by the permission of the Mayor, but without any application having been made to the Secretary of the Institution was introduced

Resolved that the Secretary do apply to William Hall and of £10 the sum of Four Guineas for the use of the Hall on the late occasion of a meeting in reference to Chinese Immigration, Mr Hall taking a prominent part in the business thereof

There were presented to the Institution from their respective authors  
Copies of "The Failure of the Yau Yau River" by W. H. Miller  
" " " A Treatise on the Railway and Harbours

accommodation in Victoria by Thomas Aldham  
and Thomas E. Harrison (S.)

The thanks of the committee were voted and  
ordered to be communicated to the  
gentlemen in question.

Resolved upon the motion of Mr. J. (Pat.)  
Main seconded by Mr. Moabray

That the Secretary be instructed to write to the Colonial  
Engineer advising to a letter addressed to that officer  
on behalf of this Institution on the 23d. of February  
last, and to state that inasmuch as difficulties  
had occurred in the resumption of the works of the  
New Theatre, the committee are not yet prepared  
to invite the usual inspection of the works on  
the part of the Government, unless the new buildings  
erected in front of the Institution, intended even-  
tually to serve as offices in connexion with the new  
Theatre, can be valued with the view of a portion  
of the grant of 15,000 being drawn. — That he  
is desired however to add that the committee  
anticipate shortly being able to make such  
arrangements for the prosecution of the works of  
the New Theatre as will admit of their request-  
ing, under any circumstances, an early ins-  
pection by a Government Architect, with the view  
of the first instalment of the sum voted by the  
Legislative Council for the year 1854 being  
drawn about the 31st. May.

A proposition by Mr. Cook for the removal of a  
temporary office erected beneath the entrance stair-  
case, was not acceded to

Mr. A. M. Smith stated that Mr. Reed,  
architect had consented to forego the percentage  
claimed by him according to usage, of 4 per

cent, from the successful tenderer.

The following thirty two new members were then  
admitted

Wright John	M. Blundowski	Kearse James
Fawcett J. W.	Main John	Murphy S. J.
Fulton Alex.?	Deupster Aug.?	Heyne Robt. F.
Castroau J. B.	Batchelder Th.	West W. H.
Poble Arthur	Hetherington James	Hancock Thos. James
Reynolds Thos. W.	Callender	Herrick Samuel
Wilson Professor	Heane W. E.	Wills Thomas
Reynolds J. J.	Lary Henry	Litburne Alex.
Bell Alfred	Petersen John	Hatton William
Crowell J. L.	Thomas Thos. Doctor	O'Neill Joseph
Rawlinson Thos. E.	Mitchell John	

Monday 7 May 1855.

Monthly Meeting of the Committee

Present The Hon. the Speaker D. Talbot in the Chair  
Mr. Alder Floues Mr. Joseph Low  
Mr. Charles Cook  
Mr. John Edwards  
Mr. John Hayward  
Dr. Silbee  
Mr. Thomas Moabray  
Mr. George Ferris  
Mr. James Barwick  
Dr. McAlly

The Minutes of the proceedings of the General Committee on 18 April were read and enforced, but owing to Dr. Delaney's inaugural address being appointed for 19th October, the Minutes of Sub-Committee were ordered to stand over till the next meeting of the General Committee.

The Vouchers for the Secretary's Receipts and Disbursements were then signed, as also those of Accounts approved by the Finance Committee and recommended to be paid - as follows: -

Geo A. Mowbray forials	12-15-0
M. Cunningham for D <sup>o</sup>	11-18-3
Proprietors of Ag. for Newspaper	2-3-0
William Clarke for Books	2-14-0
James Caple for D <sup>o</sup>	4-19-0
P. Langwell No. Bill to.	6-14-0
J. J. Russell No. Books	27-6-11
A. Nichol No. Adverts.	1-1-0
Hulper and Wright Quarters	11-2-6
Geo Lewis for Chemicals	0-5-0
Meason No. for Int. of Finance	0-15-0

The Secretary read a letter from the Assistant Manager of the Bank of Australasia, making demand of immediate payment of a balance of £192-9-0 still due to that Bank.

Resolved to the management of the business be referred to Messrs Smith and Coles to whom it had been assigned on 18 April.

Mr. Cook brought forward his motion

That with a view to preserve the rooms and property of the Institution to the use of the Members and such of their friends as are allowed by the

Rules - the Secretary be instructed to require the members from time to time to produce their tickets to him, so that he may become acquainted with those who are entitled to its privileges, and at the same time provide him with the means of excluding those who are unwilling to pay for the same.

Upon the above being seconded by Mr. Edwards it was carried unanimously

Letters from J. M. Smith, and G. W. Rusden were read, both resigning office as Members of Committee, in consequence of inability to attend to the duties of office by reason of their residing out of town.

Moved by Mr. Low, seconded by Mr. Edwards

That the resignations be not accepted

This motion having been lost it was moved by Mr. Langlands and seconded by Mr. Cook

and carried -  
That the resignations be accepted

The Secretary was instructed to convey to Messrs Smith and Rusden their regret that circumstances should have occurred to deprive the Committee of their valuable aid, with thanks for their past services.

The following new members were admitted

D. C. Jermain (with Mr. Hopson)	Geo Anderson
Robert Kild	Geo H. Hobbs
Ed. Wessac	Geo Parker
James Brown	
W. Hart	
Thomas Storey	
Francis L.	

On the motion of Mr Low seconded by Mr Laupland

Mr Monbray was elected to the place of Mr Smith on the Finance Committee

~~On the motion of Mr Laupland~~

~~Mr Altman was elected to the place of Mr Smith in the~~

On the motion of Mr Low

Mr Deville was elected to the place of Mr Smith on the House Committee

On the motion of Mr Low seconded by Mr Flowers

Mr Terry was elected to the place of Mr Hudson on the Library Committee

On the motion of Mr Laupland

Mr Edwards was elected to the place of Mr Smith on the Building Committee in the Building Com.

The vacancy created by Mr Hudson's resignation was for the present allowed to stand over.

Mr John Laupland gave notice of motion that at the next meeting he intended bringing forward a proposition for the change of the day of monthly and Bi-monthly meetings, from Monday to Tuesday.

Mr Terry gave notice of motion ~~for the~~ ~~inferral of the members of Liberty to bring~~

That each member be privileged to bring one lady with him when attending Lectures given in the Institution.

Mr Terry was informed that such a privilege already existed

The two following gentlemen were nominated to fill the seats in the committee vacated by Mr Smith and Mr Hudson, and the Secretary was instructed to to post their names in the Reading Room in conformity with Rule 32. —

Mr James Blackburn  
Proposed by Mr Monbray, seconded by Mr Edwards

Mr William Overton, Francis Street  
Proposed by Mr Edwards, seconded by Mr Low

The House having now arrived for the delivery of the President's Address, on the motion of Mr Low Mr Altman took the Chair.

Charles McCarthy

Wednesday 10 May 1855

At a meeting summoned to meet the Lecturer of the evening, Professor Rennie, B.A.

Present Mr Altman

Mr Deville

Mr Laupland

Resolved that the Professor be retained to deliver a second lecture on Wednesday next 23 May.

Charles McCarthy.

Monday 21 May 1855.

Present Dr. McArthur in the Chair  
Mr. Barwick  
Mr. Terry  
Mr. Cook  
Mr. Edwards  
Mr. Throabey  
Mr. Blair  
Mr. Clowes  
D. J. L. L.  
Rev. A. Morrison

The Minutes of several Committees of  
7 and 16 May,  
House Committee of 20 April  
Library Committee 24-28 April  
Secretary Committee 24-25 Apr. and 1 May  
Building Committee 25 Apr. & 15-18 May  
Finance Committee 4-15 May  
were read and confirmed.

The Finance Committee presented their  
Report as follows:—

Melbourne 21 May 1855.  
Report to the General Committee of the  
Finance Committee of the Melbourne  
Mechanics Institution

At a Meeting of the Finance Committee held  
15 May 1855, convened for the purpose of  
examining into the financial position of the  
Institution, in pursuance of a Resolution of  
the General Committee & the Secretary  
placed before them

Report of  
Finance  
Committee.

1. An Abstract of the Treasurers Accounts  
for January, February, March,  
and April 1855  
which proved to be correct, and by which it  
appears that out of a sum of £4802-17-0  
received during that period the sum of  
£4670-13-11 had been paid, leaving a  
Balance in the Institutions favor of £132-3-1,  
from which after deducting £78 for Deposits  
from Members, an Actual Balance of  
£54-3-1 remained — and —

2. An Estimate of Income and Expend-  
iture from May to December 1855—  
showing that from ordinary sources of Revenue  
from Debts actually due to the Institution,  
and from presumed income, the amount of  
£1358-2-5 might fairly be calculated upon  
— while for the Outlay for the same period (in-  
cluding £692 9-8 or upwards to defray  
the Balance still due to the Bank of Austral-  
asia, and a like sum of £700 to cover the  
Interest upon the Mortgage Loan of £7000)  
the sum of £2813-10-9 or upwards would  
have to be raised.

It will be remarked that irrespective of these two  
large sums of money — the one due to the Bank  
of Australasia, and the other for the payment of  
Interest on the Mortgage, — the ordinary ex-  
penses of the Institution seem to be nearly covered  
by the ordinary income, but quite insufficient  
to discharge in addition the yearly recurrence of  
the Interest on the Loan — amounting to £700

The Buildings in front having been erected under the  
impression that their Rentals would defray the Interest  
on the money borrowed; and your sub-committee be-  
lieving that the revenue from this source falls short

of the required amount, requested the Secretary to draw up a separate statement respecting the cost and rental of these buildings - and now present it along with this their Report

(Signed) Thomas Mowbray (Chairman)

As to further  
Advance of  
1000£  
of Mortgage

Alderman Clowes stated that he and Mr. McNeill has visited Mr. Bennett with a view of obtaining a further advance of 1000£ towards the Mortgage Loan, but without effect.

Annual Grant  
of 150£  
for 1855.

The Secretary having stated that the usual annual Government Grant of 150£ towards the support of this Institution had not yet been claimed, he was instructed to write to the Colonial Treasurer for authority to draw the account.

Renewed  
Application  
for  
Government  
Grant  
of 15000.

Upon the motion of Mr. Lock seconded by Mr. Barwick the Secretary was instructed to apply write to the Colonial Secretary stating that the Committee now being in a position to accept a tender for the erection of the New Theatre &c. were anxious to have his assurance that an instalment of the grant of 5000£ would be forthcoming so soon as the works should have proceeded so far as to enable a spot Architect to certify as indicated to be necessary in a letter received from the Col. Sec. of date 20 Febr. last. The Secretary was further instructed to request the favor of a reply before in time for presentation to the Committee at an adjourned meeting on Monday evening next to be summoned contingent upon the timely reception of such assurance or otherwise.

Appointment of  
Messrs. Blackburn  
and Overton  
Members of  
General  
Committee.

Upon the motion of Mr. Mowbray, seconded by Mr. Terry - Messieurs James Blackburn and William Overton, whose names had been proposed at last meeting, and since displayed in the Reading Room for fourteen days in conformity with the regulation in that case provided, were unanimously declared members of the Committee in place of Messieurs J. M. Smith and G. W. Resden resigned.

Letter and  
Report of  
Sydney  
School of  
Arts - from  
Joseph  
Dyer, Sec.

The Secretary presented a Letter he had received from the Secretary of the Sydney School of Arts in which that gentleman expressed a desire that a correspondence might be established with a view to the mutual benefit of the two cognate institutions. The Secretary upon the motion of Alderman Clowes seconded by Mr. Mowbray was requested to transmit the Committee's earnest desire that such friendly relations might be established, and to convey their thanks for a copy of the Report and Catalogue of the Sydney S. A. for 1854, which had accompanied the letter.

Supply  
of Books  
to Library

The attention of the Committee having been directed to the irregularity and costliness of the supply of Books for the Library, through Mr. G. J. Sullivan the Secretary was instructed to convene the Library Committee for the purpose of considering the propriety of suspending present arrangements in that behalf.

Return of  
Attendances  
upon  
Committee.

Mr. Barwick gave notice that at the next meeting of the General Committee he would call for a return of Members' Attendances upon Committees, with a view to the enforcement of Regulations made in that behalf upon such as should not be found to have conformed.



Resignation of  
Supr. Baluain  
and Langland.

Letters from Supr. Baluain and John Langland  
resigning office as members of the Committee  
were ordered to lie on the table

Robertson and  
Haller's notice  
to quit.

Letters from Supr. Robertson and Haller giving  
notice that they were about to quit the offices  
in the Front Buildings occupied by them res-  
pectively were read and accepted.

Offers to lecture  
W. D. Gibbons &  
D. M. Arthy

Letters from Mr. W. D. Gibbons and D. M. Arthy  
were read - offering their services as lecturers -  
the latter gratefully, and referred to the  
Lecture Committee

Letter from Mr. Ford  
as to supply of  
Books.

A letter from Mr. Ford of London, offering to supply  
the Institution with books for the Library was  
received.

Discussion  
Class

The Secretary stated that three gentlemen had  
indicated their willingness to join the proposed  
Discussion Class.

Books of the  
Victoria Med.  
Assoc.

The Secretary stated that Dr. Black had  
removed the books belonging to the Victoria  
Medical Association from the shelves of the  
Committee Room with the Secretary's concurrence.

New  
Members.

The following Thirty Five gentlemen, members  
of the Philharmonic Society, were admitted to mem-  
bership of this Institution in conformity with the de-  
cision of 2 April 1855.

W. H. Williams	Edward Fenwick	A. Matheson
T. Mill	F. B. Hood	Edward Kemp
E. B. Hunt	Thomas Goodlife	Thos. W. Stewart
J. Krumm	James Williams	Jos. George
John Elliott	W. Case	H. Tommer
John Blanchard	H. Stead	Charles Blanchard
V. L. Cutler	Ben Hadfield	

James E. Ashley	Thos. Swart	Joseph Child
Joseph Little	E. Hunt	W. Ferguson
T. H. Davis	Richard Bradford	John Radcliffe
John Hornidge	James Hunt	Thos. Sampson
Joseph Griffith	Richard Little	Redk Tate

R. Brown

## Wednesday 23 May 1855

Fourth  
Lecture  
Arranged.

At a meeting summoned to accompany  
Professor Science to the platform for his Soemmer  
Lecture, it was arranged and announced  
that Mr. James Smith would deliver the  
Fourth of the Season - Subject "The genius  
of Charles Dickens."

R. Brown

## Monday 4 June 1855.

Present Mr. Alderman Jones in the Chair

Mr. Barwick
Mr. Cook
Mr. Edwards
Mr. Ferry
Mr. McCarthy
Mr. Overton
Mr. Blackburn

The Minutes of the General Committee of  
21 and 23 May, of the Library Committee of  
25 May, and of the Finance Committee of  
2 June were read and confirmed.

The Voucher for

Secretary's  
accounts  
passed

The Secretary accounts of Receipt and  
Expenditures were informed and the follow-  
ing accounts ordered to be paid

J. Guillaume 4-4-0	Charles J. Duroe 2-2-0
Professor Jennie 6-6-0	W. Thompson (Book) 9-9-9
Age Prof. 1-7-6	W. Mitchell Co. 1-5-6

Payment of  
50¢ to Guillaume

Upon the motion of Mr. Terry seconded by Ald.  
Covey the Recommendation of the Finance  
Committee that 50¢ be paid on account  
to Mr. Guillaume was acted upon

Letter from the  
Colonial Secy  
as to 5000¢

The Secretary read a letter he had re-  
ceived from the Colonial Secretary in reference  
to the grant of 5000¢, in which it was stated  
that the matter had been referred to another  
department of the Government for further in-  
formation

Application  
of Grant  
of 150¢

The Secretary was instructed to procure from  
the Audit Office the necessary form for the  
payment of the Annual Grant of 150¢

As to rein-  
vestment  
of remainder  
of Mortgage  
Loan

On the motion of Mr. Cook seconded by Mr. Terry  
the Finance Committee were requested to  
confer with Mr. Bennett with a view to the  
reinvestment of the remaining 5000¢ of the  
Mortgage Loan. The Finance Committee to  
meet for that purpose

Mr. Balmain's  
resignation

The Secretary read a letter from Mr. Balmain  
in reference to his resignation as a member  
of the Committee. On the motion of Mr. Edwards  
seconded by Mr. Cook the Secretary was in-  
structed to inform Mr. Balmain that as he  
was only a member of the Committee in vir-  
tue of his appointment as curator, and  
that by his resignation no vacancy was

created in the Managing Committee, he  
be requested still to retain the curatorship.

New  
Appointments  
in Lecture &  
Building Com.

As Mr. Balmain however had been a  
member of the Lecture and Building sub-com-  
mittee it became necessary to supply his  
place thereon - it was therefore moved by  
Mr. Cook, seconded by Mr. Edwards that  
Mr. Blackburn be appointed a member of  
the Building Committee, and Mr. Overton  
member of the Lecture Committee in the room  
of Mr. Balmain

Mr. Layland's  
Resignation

Mr. Layland's resignation which had been  
carried over from last meeting was on the motion  
of Mr. Cook, seconded by Mr. Edwards, not  
accepted. In order to supply the vacancy  
thus created

Nomination  
of new members  
of Committee

On the motion of Mr. Overton seconded by Mr. Terry  
Mr. William Doole was nominated, - and  
upon the motion of Mr. Edwards seconded by  
Mr. Cook Mr. M. Heales junr was nominated  
- their names to be posted in the Reading  
Room for fourteen days before proceeding to  
election

Proposed  
Publication  
of the Instn's  
Terms.

The Secretary having stated that he believed that  
the Institution might be benefited, and the number  
of members enlarged by a public announcement  
of Terms and Privileges, he was requested to pre-  
pare for next meeting the draft of such  
announcement, with a view to having  
it printed and extensively circulated through-  
out the City

New  
Members

The following Thirteen new members  
were admitted -

G. G. Swan      Robert Ross      Mat. Emmanuel  
 C. J. Griffiths      Bachelors      T. A. Palmer  
 — Gunnick      J. B. Hodgson      Joshua Powell  
 Thos. Alf. Williams      Att. Tuck      G. K. Katsch  
 D. Thomson

R. Blosser

Monday 18 June 1855.

Present Mr. Alderman Flower  
 Mr. Cook  
 Mr. Edwards  
 Mr. Overton

A Quorum not being present at one  
 time the meeting was adjourned to next  
 Evening.

R.C.

Tuesday 19 June 1855

Present Alderman Flower in the Chair.  
 Mr. Overton  
 Mr. Edwards  
 Dr. Mc Carthy  
 Geo. A. Morrison  
 Mr. Terry  
 Mr. Knox  
 Mr. Cook  
 Mr. Warwick

The Minutes of previous meetings were read and  
 confirmed

Reinvestment of 20000<sup>rs</sup>. upon Security of Mechanics' Arms Declined  
 The Report and Recommendation of the Finance Committee as to the reinvestment of 20000<sup>rs</sup> of the Mortgage Loan was taken into consideration. A letter was read from Mr. Bennett stating that Mr. James Brown was the party seeking the loan on the Mechanics' Arms and desiring to be informed whether the security is accepted, and at the same time to know the desires of the committee respecting any change in the trusteeship. Upon the motion of Mr. Cook, seconded by Mr. Warwick, the reinvestment of the money upon this security was declined, and the Secretary instructed to convey the same to Mr. Bennett and at the same time request that a transcript of the Mortgage Deed may be made for the use of the committee, and at their charge.

Lapsing of Vote of £5000  
 A Letter from the Colonial Secretary of the 6th instant in reply to an application for the vote of £5000 of the 22d. ult. was read wherein the Col. Sec. states that "His Excellency has instructed me to explain to the committee that the vote of 1854 has lapsed and that the only step that can now be taken will be to propose another vote ~~for~~ for the purpose where next year's estimates come on."

Reply to Colm. Secy.  
 The Secretary read a draft reply to the Colonial Secretary in which he shewed by a review of all the letters which had passed between the Government and this Committee that throughout the whole of 1854 repeated and fruitless application had been made by them for the amount, and that a letter from the Col. Sec. of 11 Oct. <sup>last</sup> stated that the amount could not be paid till Jan. 1855. The letter concluded by inquiring these and other modifying circumstances <sup>are</sup> sufficient grounds why the Governor should be induced to reconsider the matter with a view to the immediate payment of the vote. After some verbal alterations the draft reply was adopted, and upon the motion of Mr. Warwick seconded by Mr. Cook the Secretary was instructed to dispatch a fair copy to the Colonial Secretary.

Col. Secretary  
Lee in reply  
to application for  
150 £

A letter was read from the Colonial Secretary dated 8th inst. in reply to a request from the Secretary of this Institution of the 7th. inst. that the auditor general might be instructed to prepare a warrant for the payment of the annual grant of 150 £ to this Institution, in which reply, the Colonial Secretary stated that it had been found necessary to refer the matter to another department of the Government for further information.

Mr R. Heales  
and appointed  
on the Committee

The meeting proceeded to fill the vacancies in the Committee created by the resignation of Mr. John Langlands. The two candidates Mr. William Dole and Mr. Richard Heales, junr, whose names had been duly posted for a fortnight were severally submitted to the meeting, when the show of hands was found to be in favor of Mr. Heales who was declared duly elected.

Mr Jos Low's  
Resignation

A letter was read from Mr. Joseph Low stating that owing to ill-health he was compelled to resign his office as member of the Committee - moved by Mr. Stewart seconded by Mr. Lock that Mr. Low's resignation be accepted.

Nominations  
Mr William Dole

Moved by Mr. Overton seconded by Mr. Terry that Mr. Dole be nominated to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Mr. Low.

Notice to  
Nominators

The Secretary was requested to affix to the usual notice an intimation that other nominations of parties to fill the vacancy must be made within seven days from the date thereof.

Filling Vacancies  
on Building &  
Finance  
Committees.

On the motion of Mr. Barwick seconded by Mr. Lock Mr. Heales was appointed to fill the vacancies on the Finance and Building Sub Committees created by the resignation of Mr. John Langlands.

Rental of  
Offices  
to be  
60s. and 70s.

The rental of the Offices in the Front Buildings having been brought before the meeting, it was resolved that in future the Second and Third Offices be let at £3-10-0, and First and Fourth at 3 £ per week each.

Rent due by  
Vineyard  
Company.

The Secretary stated that Mr. Wekey of the Vineyard Company had offered him 4 £ on condition that he would give him an acquittance for a quarter's rent, by which the Institution would have lost 4 £ - the Secretary was instructed to make a demand for the whole amount due, and to state to Mr. Wekey that if a satisfactory arrangement could be made for prompt payment in future that the rent should be lowered to £3-10-0 per week.

Drainage  
Buildings

The damp condition of the offices having been reported to by the Secretary - moved by Mr. Knox and seconded by Mr. Barwick that the Building Committee be called to confer as to the Drainage of the back premises.

Religious  
Bodies on  
Sundays.

An application from Mr. A. P. Jones for the use of the Hall on Sundays for religious services, referred to this Committee by the House Committee was read. - Mr. Barwick gave notice of motion for next meeting that the decision of 18th Apr. that the Hall or other portion of the Institution be not let to any religious or other bodies on Sundays, be reconsidered with a view to its being rescinded.

Recommendation  
to purchase  
Books

The recommendation of the Library Committee that a list of Fifty Volumes for 8 £ be purchased of Mr. Marsden and a Balance of 2-17-6 due to Mr. M. from the late Secretary, be paid, was acceded to.

Catalogue of  
Novel Library.

The printing of a catalogue of the Novel Library - 300 copies for 9 £ recommended by the Library Committee on the motion of Mr. Blair seconded by Mr. Knox was adopted.

Prospectus of Terms of Institution. The Secretary read a draft Prospectus of the Terms of the Institution, which after receiving some alterations was adopted, and two thousand copies ordered to be printed.

Discussion Class. The Secretary stated that he had had a written proposition from those gentlemen members of the institution that their names might be enrolled on the List of those willing to join the proposed Discussion Class, and that he (the Secretary) would call a meeting on the ensuing Friday for the purpose of forming the Class. The Secretary had done.

Notice to Intruders upon Institutions' Benefits. The Secretary was requested to affix to the door of the Reading Room, a notice indication of the parties privileged to avail themselves of its benefits, and that all others should be rigidly excluded.

Presentations. Presentations of the "Irish Directory" by Mr. Geo. Robertson, and the "Annual Report of the Antwerp Mechanics Institute," by Mr. Murray Burgess, Secretary, were ordered to be suitably acknowledged. N. C. Jones.

Monday 25 June 1855.

Special Meeting to consider the recommendation of the Finance Subcommittee in reference to the disposition of the remaining 3000<sup>rs</sup> of the Mortgage Loan

Present Alderman Floues, in the Chair  
Mr. Edwards  
Mr. Morabray  
Mr. Cook  
Mr. Barrick  
Dr. Gillbee  
Mr. Overton  
Mr. J. M. Smith, Visitor

Report of Deputation to Manager Bank of Australasia.

Mr. Morabray stated that Mr. Floues and himself had visited the Bank of Australasia according to the Instructions of the Finance Subcommittee, that they had seen Mr. Smith the Assistant Manager who had consented to stay proceeding if the amount due was forthcoming by the 1<sup>st</sup> of July.

Interview and Deputation with Trustees to Mr. Bennett.

Some conversation satisfactory place relative to the appointment of a deputation to visit upon Mr. Bennett in order to come to some decision on the matter of the residue of the loan when that gentlemen looked into the Committee room, and the opportunity was taken to have an immediate interview with him, but Mr. Bennett declining in this place to give any decided replies to the interrogatories, he retired, when Mr. Smith having expressed himself to the effect that the Mortgage Deed was an ordinary one, containing no special provisions, and that the Trustees were in a position to demand the whole sum secondarily, it was upon the motion of Mr. Edwards, sec-

ended by Mr Lock

Deputation to Mr Bennett Resolved that the Trustees along with Messrs Clowes, Lock, and Overton do form a deputation to Mr. Bennett for the purpose of conforming upon that subject

The Secretary, was requested to arrange the day and hour of such meeting to suit the convenience of the Trustees.

Deputation to Manager B. N. S. W. Resolving the result it was resolved expedient that the Manager of the Bank be solicited to allow of New South Wales be solicited to permit the Institutions Account to be overdrawn to the amount due to the Bank of Australasia, and that Messrs. Clowes and Smith be requested to act in that behalf.

M. Clowes

### Monthly Meeting 2 July 1855.

Present, Alderman Clowes, in the Chair  
Mr. Mowbray  
Mr. Barwick  
Mr. Edwards  
Mr. Hales

The Minutes of previous meetings were read and confirmed.

Permission to Overdraw Bank N.S.W. for payment of Balance to Bank of Australasia Alderman Clowes stated that the result of Mr Smiths and his visit to the Manager of the Bank of New South Wales was that permission had been obtained to overdraw the account to the amount of the Balance and interest due to the Bank of Australasia, with an understanding

that the amount had to be repaid within a reasonable period.

Payment of Balance to Bank of Australasia Moved by Mr Barwick, seconded by Mr. Mowbray, that the Treasurer be requested to draw a cheque for the amount due to 3d. July prox. upon the Bank of New South Wales with a view to the immediate liquidation of the demand.

Deputation to Mr Bennett with reference to residue of Loan. Alderman Clowes stated in reference to the deputation to Mr Bennett, Messrs. of Mr. Fortin, Mr. Overton, Mr. Lock and himself - that Mr. Fortin as trustee declined to demand the Balance of the 7000£ before knowing the financial state of the Institution - that Mr. Bennett declined all verbal proposition for the disposal of the money - that he would receive none but in writing - and that should the committee make him a proposition in writing, he would entertain it.

Decision to pay interest on 7000£ of principal Moved by Mr. Hales, seconded by Mr. Edwards and carried, that the Secretary do write to Mr. Bennett in reply to his demand for the interest for one quarter on 7000£ stating that this committee object to pay the same, because they have not received the principal for which interest is demanded.

Trustees to demand payment of principal. Moved by Mr. Mowbray, seconded by Mr. Hales, and carried that the Secretary do write to the trustees desiring them at their earliest convenience to make a formal demand of Mr. Bennett for the payment of the residue of the principal of 7000£; The Secretary was instructed ~~not to make~~ to await the result of his former motion before acting upon the former.

Non payment of Annual Grant of 150£ A letter from the Colonial Secretary dated the 22d. instant was read in reply to the Secretarys request of the 7th inst. requesting that the Auditor General might receive di-

sections to prepare a warrant for the 150 £ annually voted for the support of the Institution - in the reply the Colonial Secretary states "that His Excellency the Governor is not in a position to grant the application, the Legislative Council having refused to vote sufficient funds"

Reply of Col. Sec. to Letter of Remonstrance in reference to stated lapsing of Note of 5000 £.

A letter was read from the Colonial Secretary dated 30 June in Reply to the Letter of Remonstrance from the Committee dat. 20th of the same month, in reference to the stated lapsing of the Note of 5000 £. The Col. Sec. states that the said letter had been laid before the Governor, and that His Excellency desired him to remind the Committee that the Government cannot control the Legislative Council, and that in consequence of the Council having passed a resolution that they deemed it inexpedient and impolitic that any new taxation should be introduced during the session the Executive is left without the power of doing anything more than carrying on the ordinary functions of government. "The Col. Sec. further states - "The Governor directs me to add that he regrets extremely this decision but that the only course now open is to submit the matter to the Legislative Council in the next Estimates."

Rescindings Decision on Hitting Hall on Sundays.

Mr. Barmick moved that considering the necessity of available every source of income to the fact of the Institution being already partially occupied by religious bodies on Sundays that the decision of 18 April last by which it was agreed not to let any portion of the premises for Sunday use be ~~renewed~~ ~~with a view to its~~ ~~being~~ rescinded. The motion having been seconded by Mr. Heales and put to the meeting was carried.

Mr. William Doole elected member of Finance & Building Committee

Mr. William Doole who had been nominated by Mr. Covert and seconded by Mr. Terry as a member of the Committee of Management in the room of Mr. Joseph Fox resigned, was unanimously elected to that office as also to the Finance and Building Subcommittees, like-wise vacant by Mr. Fox's resignation on the motion of Mr. Covert.

Mr. Soliver's offer of lecture declined

A letter was read from Mr. Soliver offering his services as paid lecturer on Pneumology. His proposition was not entertained, but he would have the use of the Hall on paying the usual fee.

Notice of Sec. and Secy of Phil. Society

Moved by Mr. Heales to be considered next meeting that this Committee considering that the Philharmonic Society are no advantage to the Institution, that in future they be charged a rent.

No Consignment of Books per Marco Polo.

A letter was read from Mr. George Guillaume stating that he had had letters from his father in London per Marco Polo stating that from the Institution being in arrears of payment for the usual shipments of books, and considering the very unfavorable state of trade in Melbourne, no shipment had been made by this mail. It was further stated that the remittance of 50 £ made by the Messrs on 31 Jan. had not arrived in London at the date of the Marco Polo's sailing.

Vinyard Compti next to be applied for from Trustees.

The Secretary stated that Mr. Wekey had paid 20 £ of the 52 £ owing for 13 weeks rent. The Secretary was instructed to make one more application for the payment of the arrears previous to laying the matter before the Trustees of the Vinyard Comptancy.

Underpinning Front walls &c.

An Estimate for altering the steps at the Entrance and office doors, and for underpinning the base of the front walls proposed by the lowering of the footway was referred to the Building Com.

Secretarys  
Account  
for  
Year

The Secretarys accounts of Receipt and Ex-  
penditure for the past month were confirmed.

Warrants for the payment of the following ac-  
counts received the Chairman signature:-  
J.J. Guilleme for 2nd. Quarter Magazines and  
Periodicals, Newspapers &c. 4-6-2-6  
Age Proprietors for Advt &c. 7-9-0  
Russell and Taitton for Auditors 12-0-0

R. Blount  
Chairman

Monday 9 July 1855.

Present, Mr. J. Guilleme in the Chair  
Mr. Henry Langlands  
Mr. William Overton  
Mr. William Poole  
Mr. George Terry  
Mr. Charles Lock  
Mr. James Barrick  
Mr. John Edwards  
Mr. David Blair  
Mr. Thomas Mowbray  
Mr. Alderman Howes  
Dr. Mc Carthy  
Dr. Gilbee  
Mr. Keighan, J.P. Visitor

This was a Special Meeting of the General  
Committee convened in consequence of the  
Trustees having declined to act upon the  
decision of Committee in reference to their demur-  
ring of Mr. Bennett the residue of the  
7000£ Mortgage loan.

After a long debate it was ultimately  
resolved upon the Motion of Mr. Carthy,  
seconded by Mr. Knox, and carried

That the Trustees be requested to desire Mr.  
Bennett to cancel the Mortgage for 7000£  
and substitute a Deed for the sum of  
5000£.

R. Blount

Monday 10 July 1855.

Present Alderman Howes, in the Chair  
Mr. Mowbray  
Mr. H. Langlands  
Mr. Lock  
Mr. Poole  
Mr. Overton  
Mr. Edwards

The Minutes of previous meetings were  
read and confirmed.

The Reduction of the Mortgage from 7000£ to  
5000 came on for consideration. The Secretary  
stated that after the Meeting of 9 July had  
mainly separated four members of the Committee  
engaged in conversation respecting the decision  
of the late meeting in reference to the reduction  
of the Mortgage, and drew up and signed a  
request to the Secretary of which the following  
is a copy:-

We the undersigned members of the Committee  
of Management of the Mechanics Institution do  
authorize you to summon a special Meeting of the