

Minutes Jan 4<sup>th</sup>

The Secretary Du	16-13-4
The Assistant "	8-6-8
Gas Company	4-19-0
Dempter -	5-6-4
Corporation	7-5-0
Smith, J. C. Coal	2-4-3
Dike	6-2-10
	<u>£ 50-17-5</u>

The Secretary reported that the Balance in the Bank to the credit of the Institution is £54-12-11 at this date viz Jan 4<sup>th</sup>

It was moved by the Vice President seconded by Mr. Gibchrist "that the Trustees sign acceptance to the Bank of New South Wales for £86-0-0 to fall due on the 14 Jan<sup>y</sup> be renewed by New Bill for the sum of £56-0-0 Carried

The Secretary laid on the Table the New Map of Ballarat as ordered by the Committee at their last meeting

It was moved by the Vice President seconded by Mr. Gibchrist "that the President, Vice President and Mr. Biers be appointed a sub-committee to draw up the Report for 1868 and submit a draft of the same to a Special meeting of the General Committee to be summoned previous to the Annual General Meeting to be held on Tuesday Jan 26<sup>th</sup> at 8 p.m. Carried

That the Secretary be instructed to advertise that Annual General Meeting of Members and to post the notices of the same in the Reading Room in accordance with Rule 16.

John Edwards  
President

Monday Jan<sup>y</sup> 25<sup>th</sup> 1868

Special Meeting of the General Committee of Management - met this evening present

The President in the Chair  
 The Vice President -  
 Messrs Hart, Biers  
 " Benjamin, Harris  
 " Liston Luge  
 " Thomas Weeks  
 Mrs. Greaves and Gillbee

The Committee met to receive the Draft report of the Committee of Management for 1868

The President read the Report after which the clauses were taken <sup>disputed amendments</sup> seriatim and passed as the report for 1868

John Edwards  
President

Tuesday Jan<sup>y</sup> 26<sup>th</sup> 1869

The Annual General Meeting of the Members of the Melb: Mechanics Institution was held this evening

Edward M. Gibbs Esq. President for 1868 occupied the Chair

The Chairman drew the attention of the meeting to the advertisements and notice which had been posted in the Reading Room, calling this meeting

The Minutes of the Annual Meeting held Jan 28/68 were read and on the motion of the Vice President <sup>Mr. Edwards</sup> seconded by Mr. Liston the Minutes were confirmed

The Secretary read the report of the Committee

Minutes continued Jan 26/69.

of Management for 1868

It was moved by the vice president <sup>Mr. Edwards</sup> seconded by Mr. Harris "that the Report as read, with the Treasurers Statement and Balance sheet" be adopted by the meeting" Carried

"Scruteneers"

Messrs Edward Price and George Lutz were unanimously elected Scruteneers

It was moved by Mr. Liston seconded by Mr. Harris that John Edwards Esq. sen. be the President of the Institution for the year 1869. Carried

It was moved by John Edwards Esq. ~~sen.~~ seconded by Mr. H. Harris "that Henry Biers Esq. be the Vice President for the year 1869." Carried

It was moved by <sup>Mr.</sup> H. Biers ~~Esq.~~ seconded by Mr. Dennis "that the Hon. David Wilkie M.D. be the Treasurer for the year 1869." Carried

It was moved by <sup>Mr.</sup> John Edwards ~~Esq.~~ seconded by Mr. Henry Biers ~~Esq.~~ that Messrs J. H. Gibb and R. Heales be elected Auditors for the ensuing year Carried

Moved by Mr. Meek seconded by Mr. Fuge that Dr. Howitt be Curator for 1869

The following names were proposed as members of Committee viz

- Messrs Fuge, Gibber, Harris, Liston, Thomas, Hart
- Munro, Burt, Oakley, Gilchrist, Cook,

(11)

Eleven having been proposed and only eight vacancies and an election by Ballot was taken under the direction of the Scruteneers and Chairman with the following result-

Carried up

Minutes continued Jan 26/69

Scruteneers

~~Auditors~~ report

for	1	Gilber, W.	21	} for Two years
	2	Harris, H.	19	
	3	Fuge, H. R.	19	
	4	Thomas H.	17	
2	5	Hart, H. J.	16	
years	6	Munro, D.	15	
	7	Gilchrist, W. J.	14	

for 1 year

	8	Cook, L.	12	} for one year, in the room of Mr. Biers elected Vice president
	9	Burt	11	
	10	Liston	11	
	11	Oakley	8	

A vote of thank to the late President Ed. M. Gibb Esq for his services during the year, was on the motion of the Rev. Mr. Strongman seconded by John Edwards Esq. the newly elected president.

Carried unanimously  
John Strongman  
President

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> Feb<sup>y</sup> 1869

The General Committee of Management met this evening

Present

The President in the Chair

The Vice President

D<sup>r</sup> Greenes Mr. Gibbs

Miss Munro Thomas

" Meeks Judge

" Hart Gilchrist

" Ramsay Rintel

The Minutes of the General Committee of Management held Jan. 4. 25. were read and confirmed

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of members held Jan 26 were read

It was moved by Mr. Gilchrist seconded by Mr. Judge and carried that the following ap<sup>s</sup> be passed viz

The Secretary	16-13-4
the Assistant	8-6-8
" Gas Company	5-1-3

A. Letter from Mr. Geo. Guillaume was read  
It was moved by Mr. Hart seconded by Mr. Gibbs  
"that the Secretary be instructed to inform Mr. Geo. Guillaume that the Committee have addressed his brother in London on the subject referred to in his letter of the 29<sup>th</sup> ult. and on receiving his reply the Committee will be prepared to deal with the subject" Carried

A. M. S. entitled "The Give and Take" by Thomas Wall 16 p. small post 8<sup>o</sup>. It was laid on the table, and after some explanation from the Secretary. It was moved and seconded that the Committee pass on to the next Business Carried

Tenders for printing the report

	300 copies	500 copies
Mason & Firth	4-7-6	5-5-0
Stillewell & Knight	4-5-0	5-5-0
Clarson & Co	3-15-0	4-17-6
Thomas	3-10-0	4-10-0

Moved by Mr. Meeks seconded by Mr. Gibbs  
"that Mr. Thomas tender 500 for 4-10-0 be accepted Carried

Sub-Committees

Finance The President, Mr. Harris, D<sup>r</sup> Greenes  
Mr. Judge, Mr. Richard

Library The Vice President, Mr. Benjamin  
Mr. Gibbs, Mr. Munro, Mr. Thomas  
Mr. Ramsay D<sup>r</sup> Gilchrist

House The President, The Vice President,  
Mr. Gilchrist, Mr. Cook, Mr. Hart  
D<sup>r</sup> Greenes,

Confirmed 1<sup>st</sup> March 1869  
John Edward  
President

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> March 1869

The General Committee of Management met this evening

Present

The President (in the Chair)

The Vice President

Miss Meeks, Judge

Benjamin, Gibbs

Munro, Harris

Rintel, Hart

The Minutes of the <sup>meeting of the</sup> General Committee of Management



March 1<sup>st</sup> 1869

held Feb 1<sup>st</sup> 1869 were read and confirmed

The Minutes of the Finance sub-committee held Feb 27 were read

The Minutes of the Library sub-committee were read. The Report of the Library Committee with reference to the alterations and additions to the Magazine List <sup>were</sup> adopted and <sup>ordered to be</sup> carried out under the direction of the Vice President

The following a/c. having been examined by the Finance Committee and recommended for payment were submitted and passed

The Secretary, Salary, Feb.	16-13-8
The Assistant, " "	8-6-8
Gas Company Dec 31/68.	4-9-2
Buzzara " "	6-3-6
Geo. Robertson " "	3-5-6
Sam. Mullen " "	22- " -3
Powceby June 30/68	19-11-7
Detwold Dec 31/68	14-14-6
Sundry small a/c.	4-13-6
Posters 1 Jan - Mar 31/69	8-12-0
	£ 108-10-4

The Balance in the Bank to the credit of the Institution on the 27 Feb. was £108-3-5.

The Report of the Finance Committee as to the salaries of the Officers was on the motion of Mr. Harris seconded by Mr. Hart ~~was~~ postponed for consideration to next meeting of the General Committee

The recommendation of the Finance Committee that there should be some steps taken to revive the Institution and improve the revenue, was referred back to the sub-committee with instructions to report to next meeting of the General Committee

March 1<sup>st</sup> 1869

The following new Books were submitted and passed viz

- The Greater Britain 2 Vol. 80. for 20/-
- Cruise of the Galatea Vol 8<sup>o</sup> 16/-
- Leisure Hours 1868. 1 Vol
- Good Words 1868. 1 Vol
- Sunday at Home 1 Vol.

Letter from Mr. Spearman was read in which was an offer to supply Grates for the use of Members a copy of a periodical entitled "The Homeopathic World" published monthly

The Secretary <sup>was</sup> instructed to acknowledge the acceptance of the same with the thanks of the Committee on the motion of ~~the~~ <sup>the Vice President</sup> seconded by Mr. Fuge

Letters from the publisher of the Brisbane "Courier" and the "Queenslander" informing the Committee that those newspapers could not be supplied Grates as heretofore. ~~The~~ <sup>It</sup> moved by Mr. Benjamin seconded by Mr. Mauro that the "Courier" only be ordered and paid for at the price mentioned viz 15/- per Quarter Carried

Application from Anderson & Sandilands for information from the Old Minute Book. The Secretary ordered to furnish it on the sum of £2-2-0 being paid

Letter from Geo. Pullanum was read, The Secretary was instructed to acknowledge the receipt of the same

Confirmed 5<sup>th</sup> April 1869  
John Edwards  
President

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> April. 1869

The General Committee of Management met this evening

Present

The President in the Chair

The Vice President

D<sup>r</sup> Greaves, D<sup>r</sup> Gilchrist

Messrs Gibbs Benjamin

Jay Weeks

Ramsay Thomas

Gilchrist

The Minutes of the meeting of the General Committee of Management held March 1<sup>st</sup> 1869 were read and confirmed

The Minutes of the meeting of the Finance Committee held March 15<sup>th</sup> with reference to the Conversazione were read also

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance Committee held April 3 were read

Resolved - That the subject of the Conversazione be referred back to the Finance Committee to consider and report as to the probable cost of the same with all particulars connected therewith, to next meeting of the General Committee

Salaries of the Officers

Salaries of the Officers, moved by Mr Gilchrist - seconded by Mr Ramsay, "That the Report of the Finance Committee as to the increase of the Secretary's Salary be adopted" For it 2, against it 6, Lost - Moved by the Vice President - seconded by Mr Thomas "That the Finance Committee's report as to the increase of the Assistant's Salary be deferred," Carried

The recommendation of the Finance Committee with reference to the Trustee's acceptance was considered when it was Resolved - That the Trustee be respectfully requested to renew their acceptance

to the Bank of New South Wales for the sum of £30 for 3 mos. Their acceptance due on the 18. being for £56

Resolved "That a remittance of £20<sup>on acc<sup>t</sup></sup> be forwarded for newspapers and periodicals supplied by Dawson and Sons through Mr Edward Whitehead, Collins Street East

The following<sup>acc<sup>t</sup></sup> having been examined by the Finance Committee and recommended for payment were passed

The Secretary		16-13-4
Assistant		8-6-8
Water Rate		4-2-6
Gas Company		3-17-0
Stewart & Knight	1-0-0	
Bingley P.R.C.	1-0-0	
for a copy of Rules of Britain 26.		
Saunders & Macdonald for Directory	1-15-0	2-15-0

The following payments as per above minutes viz

Bank of New South Wales	56-0-0
August of Trustee's acceptance to fall being the difference between £56 due on the 18 <sup>th</sup>	
Whitehead for Dawson & Son	20-0-0
	£ 111-14-6

The Balance in Bank to credit of the Institution on April 3 was 70-15-8  
Trustee's acceptance, to be discounted and carried to credit of the Institution 35-8-2  
£ 106-3-10

Confirmed 3<sup>rd</sup> May 1869  
John Edward  
President



Monday May 3<sup>rd</sup> 1869

The General Committee of Management met this evening  
Present

The President in the Chair  
The Vice President -  
Mess<sup>rs</sup> Richard    Munro  
          Thomas     Harris  
          Fage        Meeks  
          Mr Gillbee

The Minutes of the meeting of the General Committee of Management held April 5<sup>th</sup> were read and confirmed

The Minutes of the meetings of the Committee for arranging a scheme of Lectures were read

The Minutes of the meeting of the Finance Committee were read

The notice of motion for increase of the Assistant-Salary was brought forward from last meeting

Salaries of the officers

It was moved by the Vice President seconded by Mr Thomas "that the Assistant Salary be increased from £100 to £112-10-0 the increase to commence from 1<sup>st</sup> April" Carried

It was moved by Mr Harris seconded by Mr Meeks "that the sub-committee report with reference to the subject of Lectures" be adopted Carried

Moved by Mr Harris seconded by Mr Fage "that the sub-committee report respecting the Lectures be referred to the Library Committee to carry out" Carried

The Secretary was instructed to have Mr. Guilleme's a/c placed before the Library Committee for adjustment after which to summon the Finance Committee to examine the same and report to the General Committee

May 3<sup>rd</sup> 1869

Moved by the Vice President seconded by Mr. Richards "that the Library Committee be directed to select from the clearance Catalogue of Mullen, Buzzard or others, Books to the value of about £15 Carried

The following a/c having been examined by the Finance Committee and recommended for payment were passed

The Secretary (1 month April)	16-13-4
The Assistant "	8-6-8
Gas Company Feb. March	9-15-10
Mullen 1 <sup>st</sup> Moity of a/c rendered for	} 13-10-0
Periodicals 1869 (viz £27-10-0)	
Thomas (printing reports)	4-10-0
Salaries	£ 2-13-1
	£ 55-8-11

The balance to the credit of the Institution in the bank after payment of the above a/c would be £ 18-18-6

A letter from Chiltern Mechanics Institution was read the subject of the letter was a request that this Committee join in petitioning the Government to remit the Newspaper postage The Secretary was instructed to ~~ensure~~ acknowledge the receipt of the letter

Confirmed 7<sup>th</sup> June 1869  
John Edwards  
President

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June 1869

The General Committee of Management met this evening  
Present - The President in the Chair

The Vice President -  
Mess<sup>rs</sup> Richard    Harris  
          Fage        Munro  
          Mr Gillbee  
          Mr Peeres & Gillbee  
          forward

7 June 1869

The Minutes of the Meeting of the General Committee of Management held May 3 were read and confirmed.

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Library Committee held May 10. were received and adopted

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance Committee held May 19 ~~was read~~ and June 5 were on the motion of Mr. Gilchrist seconded by Mr. Page adopted  
Carried

New Books - It was moved by Mr. Gibb seconded by Mr. Harris - that the New Books now recommended by the Library Committee be passed and added to the Library  
Carried

The list of a/c's recommended for payment - by the Finance Committee was read over and passed for payment ordered as

The Secretary, Salary 1 Mo.	16-13-4
The Assistant <sup>Salary 1 Mo. and Bal. for a/c's</sup>	10-8-4
Guillaume Bal of a/c's	42-18-10
Gas Company April	5-2-4
Powceby	10-12-9
Mullen	3-4-9
	<hr/>
	89-4-4

The Report of the Finance <sup>Committee</sup> recommending that a Commission of 10p.c. be allowed to the Secretary on all sums collected over £800 in addition to his Salary was submitted and on the Motion of Mr. Gilchrist seconded by Mr. Harris was carried unanimously

It was moved by Mr. Biers seconded by Mr. Gilchrist "that the question as to the advisability of receiving subscriptions for irregular periods of the year be referred to the Finance Committee to recon-

Salary of the Secretary

7<sup>th</sup> June 1869

=mend and report - at the next meeting of the General Committee  
Carried

Moved A Letter from Mr. Alcock was read referring to a publication called the "Welcome"  
It was moved by Mr. Gibb seconded by Mr. Peeres "that the papers referred to in above letter be sent back to Mr. Alcock, they being of no service to the Institution the Secretary at the same time acknowledging the receipt of his letter"  
Carried

Confirmed 5<sup>th</sup> July 1869

John Edwards  
President

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> July 1869

The General Committee of Management met this evening

Present

The President in the Chair  
The Vice President  
Mr. Gilbee. Rev. Mr. Rintel  
Mr. Munro Mr. Page  
Mr. Thomas

The Minutes of the Meeting of the General Committee of Management - held June 7/69 were read and confirmed

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance Committee held July 3/69 were read and adopted

The following a/c's were submitted and passed for payment  
forward

Minutes July 5 1869

List of a/c

The Secretary	16-13-4
The Assistant	9-7-6
Mullen	7-19-6
Buzzara	3-4-6
Gas Company	6-14-3
Williams	1-9-0
Mason & Smith	2-0-0
Burnie, Tannaubool	1-8-0
Insurance	4-10-0
Summary a/c	2-8-6
	<u>£ 55-14-7</u>

Letters received

C. F. Henry, on behalf of the New Church asking permission to meet in the Reading Room on "Sunday evenings" It was moved by the Vice President - seconded by Mr. Thomas - "that permission be granted on condition that the sum of £10. additional to the amount now paid, <sup>for the morning service</sup> and to make arrangements with the Secretary for attendance Carried

Mr. Peter Alcock's letter accompanying a presentation copy of the "Welcome" with the case for the same were submitted to the Committee when it was moved by the Vice President - seconded by Mr. Fuge "that the Secretary acknowledge the receipt of the above with thanks" Carried

W. H. Batters letter was read inviting the loan of works of art - for the Ballarat Mechanics Institute Exhibition "It was moved by the Vice President - seconded by Mr. Fuge "that the letter be referred to the House Committee" Carried

Books Moved by the Vice President seconded by Mr. Fuge "that the books recommended by the Library Committee and now submitted for the approval of the General Committee, be received" Carried

(See list in Lib. Committee Minute Book)

Confirmed 2<sup>nd</sup> Aug. 1869  
J. H. Batters President

Monday August 2<sup>nd</sup> 1869

The General Committee of Management met this evening present

The President in the Chair

The Vice President -

The Rev. Mr. Kintel

Messrs Harris Thomas

Meeks Benjamin

Fuge & Dr. Walker

The Minutes of the Meeting of the General Committee of Management held 5<sup>th</sup> day of July 1869 were read and confirmed

The Minutes of the meeting of the Finance Committee held 31<sup>st</sup> day of July 1869 were read

The Amount of Cash in the Bank to the Credit of the Institution on the 31<sup>st</sup> July was £98-11-10.

The Amount of a/c examined and recommended for payment by the Finance Committee on 31<sup>st</sup> July was £56-13-8. as follows

Cooper, Portland Guardian	2-12-0
Dawson & Sons	25-0-0
Sumaris Petty Cash, May, June, July,	3-0-10
Secretary July	16-13-4
Assistant	9-7-6
	<u>£ 56-13-8</u>

The Secretary presented a Warrant for the Chairman's signature to enable him to withdraw the Interest Provision Note from the Bank, the amount £56-0-0 having been paid on the 24 July from Cash in hand of the Bank On being submitted was Carried

A list of new & 2<sup>nd</sup> hand was read over for the approval of the Committee

as per Mullen's Service, 2 <sup>nd</sup> hand	2-19-6
" " " "	2-7-0



Minutes August 2<sup>nd</sup> 1869

Letter from Mr Geo Guillaume was read in reference to Balance due to his Brother Fred. Guillaume of London

It was moved by the Vice President - seconded by Mr Harris that Mr Geo Guillaume <sup>be called</sup> who was in attendance be called in and <sup>asked</sup> certain Questions Carried

It was moved by the Vice President seconded by Mr Thomas that the following Questions be asked Mr Geo Guillaume

1. Are you aware that the Committee has offered you (on behalf of your brother) the sum of £42-18-10
  2. Have you refused that offer
  3. What amount do you claim
  4. Have you a power of attorney from your brother
- Carried

The following answers were given to the above Questions  
 1<sup>st</sup> Yes  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Yes  
 3<sup>rd</sup> £46-13-10.  
 4<sup>th</sup> No.

Mr Guillaume retired from the Committee room. —

Moved by Mr Harris seconded by Mr Meek

that Mr Geo Guillaume be called in and informed that the Committee decline to pay more than £42-18-10 the amount which it has been ascertained is the amount justly due Carried

Mr Geo Guillaume was called in and informed of the decision of the Committee

Letter from Mr Gilchrist was read with reference to an application of the New Church Committee when it was moved by Mr Benjamin seconded by Mr Harris

that the Secretary notify to Mr Gilchrist that the terms on which the members of the New Church can occupy the Reading Room on Sunday evenings have been stated (see Minutes July 5) by letter to the Secretary Carried

forward.

Minutes Contd

Notice of motion by Mr Harris that steps be taken by the House Committee to make such alterations in the Reading Room and Library as well as other parts of the Building as may conduce to improve the Institution

Confirmed 6<sup>th</sup> Sept 1869

John Edwards  
President

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> Sep<sup>r</sup> 1869

The General Committee of Management met this evening

Present  
 The President in the Chair  
 The Vice President  
 Mr Greaves Mr Gibbs  
 Mr Munro Mr Cook  
 Mr Thomas Mr Fuge  
 Mr Gilber Mr Meek

The Minutes of the Meeting of the General Committee of Management held Aug 2. 1869 were read and confirmed

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance Committee held Sep<sup>r</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> 1869 were read

The following accounts having been reported as correct by the Finance Committee were passed for payment—

Hawson & Sons	25-0-0
Secretary	16-13-4
Assistant	9-7-6
City Rates to June 30/69	12-1-8
Gas to Sept 30/69	19-5-3
Gas June	7-16-3
Mullen 2 <sup>nd</sup> hand Book 15 June	9-13-6
	£ 97-17-6

Minutes Sept. 6<sup>th</sup> Continued

Notice of Motion by Mr. Harris, postponed to next meeting

J.G. - The Secretary reported that on Saturday evening Aug 21/69 about 6 o'clock he observed Mr. R. Hepburn of Hawthorne a non-member of the Institution in the reading room and on approaching him, he saw that the same R. Hepburn was cutting a slip out of the Argus newspaper on the stand and on the said R. Hepburn being about to appropriate <sup>to his use</sup> the slip which he had cut out of the newspaper the Secretary took the slip from him and now produces it. It contained the case report of the case of Perkins v Mulcahy heard in the County Court May 12. and given in the Argus May 13.

It was moved by Mr. Greaves seconded by the Vice President "that a summons be taken out against Mr. Hepburn for injury to the property of the Institution under clause 17 of the Police Officers Statute"

An Amendment was moved by Mr. Gibb seconded by Mr. Gilber "that the Secretary write to Mr. Hepburn requesting him to inform the Committee what explanation he has to make as to the mutilation of the Institution property"

The Amendment on being put to the meeting 6 votes for it and 2 votes against it. The Amendment was declared carried

It was moved by the Vice President seconded by Mr. Greaves "that the sum of £10 be placed at the disposal of the Library Committee to be expended in 3<sup>rd</sup> class Books  
Carried

Confirmed 4<sup>th</sup> October 1869  
John Edwards  
President

Monday October 4<sup>th</sup> 1869

The General Committee of Management met this evening

Present - The President in the Chair  
The Vice President -  
Mr. Greaves  
Rev. Mr. Rintel  
Mr. Gilber  
Mr. Wilkie  
Mrs. Harris, Thomas  
Munro, Richards  
Fuge "

The Minutes of the Meeting of the General Committee of Management held Sept. 6<sup>th</sup> were read and confirmed

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance Committee held October 3<sup>rd</sup> were read

The following a/c having been examined by the Finance Committee and recommended for payment were on the motion of the Rev. Mr. Rintel seconded by Mr. Greaves passed

The Secretary	16-13-4
" Assistant -	9-7-6
Victoria Insurance	3-0-0
Gas July	6-5-5
Water rate to Decr.	4-2-6
Smith, Coals	2-11-6
Geo. Robertson	1-16-6
Buzzard	2-10-3
Dempster	3-15-3
Petty Cash a/c	2-2-9
	£ 52-5--

R. Hepburn's Case

The Secretary informed the Committee that in accordance with the Minute of last meeting respecting Mr. Hepburn he had forwarded to him a letter ~~and~~ a copy of which he now handed to the Chairman and also Mr. Hepburn's answer as follows

October 4/69

The Secretary's letter to Mr. Stephenson

Melbourne Mechanics Institution  
Sep 9<sup>th</sup> 1869

Sir  
The circumstances of your having cut out part of the file of newspapers belonging to this Institution was discussed at the monthly meeting of the Committee on Monday last and the following resolution was passed - "That the Secretary write to Mr. Stephenson requesting him to inform the Committee what explanation he has to make as to the mutilation of the Institution's property."

In accordance with this resolution, I have to request - you will forward, as early as convenient, such explanation as you may desire to offer respecting the circumstance - ~~offered~~ referred to

I am  
Sir  
Your Obedt. Servant  
W. Thompson, Secretary  
To Mr. R. Stephenson  
Auburn Road  
Hawthorne

Answer to the above

Auburn Road, Hawthorne  
28 Sep: 1869.

Sir  
I beg leave to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9<sup>th</sup> inst. requesting an explanation for my reason for the mutilation of the Institution's property. In reply I may state I was defendant in an action at the County Court and the paragraph in the newspaper so cut out was - deemed necessary for my defence. I sought to obtain it at the Argus Office, and could not as the file for the previous quarter was in the <sup>books</sup> Readers hands. I then called at your Institution and after a long search I found it, and not seeing any person at the time who could lend it to me, upon the impulse of a moment, I took up my knife and cut it out. I have nothing to add in extenuation for ~~doing so~~ except that I trust this explanation will be deemed satisfactory, and beg leave to request the

October 4/69

Committee will accept this my apology for such an act of indiscretion

I am Sir  
Your Obedient-Servant  
R. Stephenson

signed  
To The Secretary  
Mechanics Institution  
Melbourne

After reading the above correspondence it was moved by the Vice President seconded by the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Rintell "That the letter of Mr. Stephenson be acknowledged, and that the form of apology (as under) be enclosed, with the request that he will sign and insert it once in each of the daily papers, in which case the Committee will accept such apology - and take no further steps in the matter"

Carried

Form of Apology

To the Committee  
of the Melbourne Mechanics Institution  
Gentlemen

I very much regret having so far forgotten myself as to cut out a portion of the file of newspapers belonging to your Institution and I request you will on behalf of the Members accept my apology for the liberty I took with their property.

Auburn Road  
Hawthorne

The notice of Motion standing in Mr. Harris' name was brought forward and explained when it was moved by Mr. Harris seconded by Mr. Gilber "That the House Committee be requested to devise means for improving the Institution by making such alterations in the building as will render it better and more conveniently adapted than it now is for the accommodation and use of the Members and to bring up a report."

Carried



October 4/69

Mr. Guilhammes application for the sum of £3-15-0 being the amount deducted from his brothers acc when the final settlement took place

The Committee declined to entertain the application

The Secretary reported that Mr. Blair had delivered 3 Lectures the proceeds of which only amounted to £6-4-0 the printing and advertising cost £5-15-0

leaving a balance of only 9/-

The Committee in consideration of the members of the Institution having been admitted free to the lectures, they forgo the usual charge for the Rooms

Conferred 1<sup>st</sup> Oct. 1869  
John Edwards  
President

Monday, November, 1<sup>st</sup> 1869

The General Committee of Management met this evening

Present The President in the Chair  
The Vice President -  
Mr. Greaves Mr. Gilbee  
Messrs Harris - Thomas  
Gibbs Benjamin  
Sage Meeks

The Minutes of the meeting of the General Committee of Management held October 4<sup>th</sup> were read and confirmed

The Minutes of the Finance Committee meetings held Oct. 9. 30 were read

The Minutes of the House Committee meetings held Oct. 9. 13. 30. were read

Mr. Hepburns letter was read being a reply to the Committee's request <sup>that</sup> he signed and published an apology <sub>see copy of letter</sub>

Auburn Hawthorne  
1 Nov<sup>r</sup> 1869

To the Secretary  
Mechanics Institute

Sir

Referring to yours in reply to mine of 28<sup>th</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup> last, I beg leave to request that you will be pleased to inform me if the explanation demanded in your letter of the 9<sup>th</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup> from me, and given in mine of the 28<sup>th</sup> was deemed truthful and satisfactory, as from the resolution come to (of which you send me a copy) I can come to no other conclusion but that the committee did not credit my statement

I am Sir

Your obedient servant

signed R. Hepburn

Moved by the Vice President - seconded by Mr. Greaves

"that Mr. Hepburns letter be answered; that he be informed that the Committee consider his letter most unsatisfactory; and that, <sup>unless</sup> he publishes the apology previously tendered to him before the eighth of this month the Committee will for the protection of this and like Institutions, from such acts of spoliation, take such proceedings as they may be advised

Carried

It was moved by Mr. Greaves seconded by the Vice President - that the Committee at its rising adjourn to Monday the 8<sup>th</sup> at 8 pm.

Carried

The House Committee reported that they had held three meetings to consider the resolution of the General Committee, <sup>of Oct. 4</sup> respecting Mr. Harris Motion with a view to certain alterations, but they were not as yet prepared to recommend any scheme.

Mr. Harris read a list of such alterations as he thought would conduce to improve the Institution

It was moved by Mr. Harris seconded by Mr. Meeks

That the alterations now recommended by the be submitted to the House Committee

Carried

The following a/c, having been examined by the Finance Committee and recommended for payment were passed

Proceby	Binding	12-2-0
The Assistant	Salary	9-7-6
The Secretary	"	16-13-4
Dawson & Sons		30-0-0
Gas August		8-6-2
Dike		5-16-8
Gordon & Patch		11-4-0
		<hr/>
		£ 93-9-8

Moved by Mr. Greenes seconded by Mr. Weeks  
"That Cards be printed, of a copy of the 44 Rule and exhibited in Reading Room  
Carried

Monday Nov<sup>r</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> 1869

Adjourned meeting of the General Committee of Management met this evening

Present

The President in the Chair  
The Vice President -  
Mr. Greenes      Rev. Mr. Rintel  
Mr. Hart      Mr. Richards  
" Munro      " Fuge  
" Thomas

The Secretary reported that in accordance with the resolution passed at the meeting of the Committee held Nov 1<sup>st</sup> he had written to Mr. Hepburn but had received no answer

Copy of letter

Melbourne Mechanics Institution  
2<sup>nd</sup> Nov 1869

Sir  
Your letter of yesterday <sup>was</sup> duly received and handed to the Committee at their meeting the same evening and I was instructed to write to you enclosing a copy of the resolution passed in reply ~~to you~~ of Nov 1<sup>st</sup>

Copy of resolution

That Mr. Hepburn's letter be answered; that he be informed that the Committee consider his letter most unsatisfactory, and that unless he publishes the apology previously tendered to him, before the eight of this month, the Committee will for the protection of this and like Institutions from such acts of spoliation take such proceedings as they may be advised.

In accordance with my instructions I now forward to you the above resolution

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your Obedt. Servant

W. Thompson, Secretary

Mr. R. Hepburn  
Auburn

Hawthorne

It was moved by Mr. Hart seconded by the Rev. Mr. Rintel and carried

That the complaint of the Committee of the Institution against Mr. Hepburn for damaging the property of the Institution be placed in the hands of Mr. Wesswold with instructions to him to take such steps against Mr. Hepburn as he may be advised

The Committee Committee are Bailies for the Trustees on paragraphs 28 see rule 28.

Confirmed 6:30 p.m. 1869  
John D...  
President



Monday 6 Dec: 1869

The General Committee of Management met this evening

Present The President in the Chair  
 Dr. Greene Mr. Harris  
 Mr. Benjamin " Richards  
 " Meeks " Sage  
 " Munro " Hart  
 Dr. Wilkie Rev. W. Rintel

The Minutes of the Meetings of the General Committee of Management held Nov. 1. and 8. were read and confirmed

The Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held Nov. 6. were read, showing a balance in the Bank to the credit of the Institution of the sum of £56-15-8.

The following after having been examined and recommended for payment were passed - viz

The Secretary	16-13-4
The Assistant	9-7-6
Petty Cash of	3-1-3
Gilbard	2-0-0
Aud <sup>m</sup> Murray	1-0-0
Gas	7-6-4
Graham	4-13-0
Mullen, Mage July to Dec, 14	8-6
	£58-9-11

Hepburns Case

The Secretary reported that in accordance with the resolution passed at last meeting he had communicated with Mr. Wise would and placed in his hands all the papers and letters connected with the case - The Committee against Hepburn

Copy of letter to Mr. Wise would  
 Melb: Mechanics Institution  
 Nov 10 - 1869

To Mr. Wise would  
Sir

At a meeting of the General Committee of Management

of the Institution held Nov: 8. The following resolution was passed in reference to the case of the Committee of the Institution against Mr. R. Hepburn for damaging the property of the Institution

copy of Resolution

"That the Complaint of the Committee of the Institution against Mr. Hepburn for damaging the property of the Institution be placed in the hands of Mr. Wise would - with instructions to him take such steps against Mr. Hepburn as he may be advised."

The Committee are Bailees for the Trustees. see Rule 28.

In accordance with the above resolution I now forward to you the copy of the "Argus" of May 13. with the slip which was cut out of it - also copy of all letters and resolutions passed by the Committee referring to the same

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your Obedt. Servant

W. Thompson, Sec<sup>y</sup>

The Secretary stated that on Friday last 3<sup>rd</sup> inst. not having heard from Mr. Wise would, he called to ascertain what progress Mr. Wise would had made in the above case but found <sup>that no</sup> steps had been taken. It was there moved by Dr. Greene seconded by Mr. Richards

"That the Secretary write to Mr. Wise would requesting a reply to the letter on behalf of the Committee in re Hepburn without delay" Carried unanimously

Mr. Harris' suggestions for the improvement of the Institution not yet considered postponed to next meeting

The House Committee to meet on Saturday evening next at 8 O'clock to consider Mr. Harris' suggestions

Resolved that this meeting adjourn to Monday next the 13<sup>th</sup> to hear Mr. Wise would's reply to above resolution

Capt. Perry's presentation copy of his work "Preventive



Decr 6/69

of Collisions at Sea and Shipwrecks with Illustrative Diagrams  
moved by Mr. Start seconded by Mr. Greaves "that the Secretary acknowledge the above thanks"

Confirmed 4<sup>th</sup> January 1870  
John Edwards  
President

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> Decr 1869

Adjourned meeting of the General Committee of Management

present -  
The President in the Chair  
Mr. Greaves Mr. Wilkie  
Mr. Thomas Mr. Harris  
Mr. Munro

The Secretary read as under being a copy of the letter sent to Mr. Wiswoula as ordered by the committee at their last meeting held Decr 6/69

81 Collins St. East  
7 Decr 1869

Sir

At a meeting of the General Committee of Management held on Monday evening the 6<sup>th</sup> inst. I was instructed to write to you requesting a reply to the letter on behalf of the Committee in re Heppburn without delay

I have the honor to be  
Sir

Your Obedt Servant  
W. Thompson Secretary

To

Mr. Wiswoula  
Solicitor

Collins St W.

The following letter in answer to the above was

16 Collins St West  
Melbourne 13 Dec 1869

Mr Walter Thompson  
Dear Sir

"re Heppburn Case"

I have applied to the Trustees and have obtained their consent - to use their names the case will now be fixed for some day this week of which I will give you due notice

Yours truly,  
signed I. Wise would

The Committee adjourned sine die

Confirmed 4<sup>th</sup> Jan'y 1870  
John Edwards  
President

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> Jan'y 1870

The General Committee of Management met this evening

Present -

The President (in the Chair)  
The Vice President  
Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Reub<sup>n</sup> Mr. Harris  
Mr. Thomas " Meek  
" Sage " Munro

The Minutes of the General Committee Meeting held Decr 6 and 13. were read and Confirmed

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance Committee held Decr 13 were read and approved

The Minutes of the Library Committee Decr 6 respecting the purchase of 2 Hand Books - read and Confirmed  
The Minutes of the Library Committee of Decr 31<sup>st</sup> were read - The list of new Books was ~~read~~ submitted for approval were on the motion of Mr. Meek seconded by the Vice President