

*THE*  
*MELBOURNE*  
*ATHENÆUM.*

*1879.*

REPORT

OF

THE COMMITTEE

OF THE

Melbourne Athenæum

FOR THE YEAR 1879.



MELBOURNE :

STILLWELL AND CO., PRINTERS, COLLINS STREET EAST.

1880.

## OFFICE-BEARERS FOR THE YEAR 1880.

President :

W. IEVERS, JUN., Esq.

Vice-President :

RICHARD JACK, Esq.

Trustees :

E. M. GIBBS, Esq.

THOS. MOUBRAY, Esq.

HON. T. J. SUMNER.

Treasurer :

DAVID BENJAMIN, Esq.

Committee of Management :

FUGE, H. R.

LUSH, G.

MEEKS, H.

MILLIE, A.

RENNIE, C.

RUSDEN, G. W.

THOMPSON, W.

BAILLIERE, F. F.

BIERS, H.

ELKINGTON, J. S.

ELLERY, R. L. J.

MOLONEY, DR.

MOODY, L. A.

TOPP, A. M.

W. GILLBEE, Esq., M.R.C.S.E. (*Ex Officio*).

Auditors :

ANDREW BURNS.

W. THOMPSON, JUN.

Secretary :

J. H. B. CURTIS.

Librarian :

WILLIAM SMITH.

## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE MELBOURNE ATHENÆUM

FOR THE YEAR 1879.

1. The Committee of the Melbourne Athenæum beg to submit the report of the transactions of the past twelve months.

2. The receipts of the year amount to £2646 2s. This is about £80 less than last year. The difference is caused by the smaller amount received for the large hall.

3. The sum of £1000 has been paid off the debt due on the real property of the Institution, leaving £6000 still to be paid, and lessening the yearly expenditure for interest by £60.

4. The number of subscribing members on the roll is 1410, of these 1251 have paid up their subscriptions to the end of the year. There are also 91 life members and 12 honorary members.

5. A large amount has been devoted to the Library—much larger indeed than could be afforded, if depending on subscriptions alone. More than £500 has been spent for books and magazines, over £200 for newspapers, and over £100 for binding. 771 volumes have been added to the Library.

6. Particular care has been taken this year in the preparation of the table showing the number of issues of the various classes of works during the year. It will be seen from the statement that 58,450 volumes have been issued.

7. The attendance in the Library, Reading Room, and News Room has been very large. About 30,000 visits have been made to the Library, and fully double as many to the Reading Room and News Room. The total number of visits to the Institution may be roughly estimated at 150,000, exclusive of those to the large and small halls.

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8. An amended tariff of charges for the use of class rooms has been adopted, which will increase the revenue of the Institution. The following classes are held in the Institution:—Matriculation and Civil Service Class (Messrs I. Warren Ball and H. J. L. Batten), Singing (Mr. W. Perraton), French (Madame Last). Other classes are being formed.

9. The revenue derived from the Large Hall is £512 5s. 6d. This is less than during any previous year since its erection. The deficiency is to be attributed to the widely-spread commercial depression. But even this comparatively small amount leaves a margin of profit after paying all expenses.

The small hall and rooms have been well patronised, and have contributed respectively £272 16s. 1d. and £48 19s. 6d. The sum of £153 10s. has been received for rent of offices.

11. STATISTICAL STATEMENT OF TRANSACTIONS FOR THE LAST TWENTY-FOUR YEARS.

YEAR.	No. of Subscribing Members.	New Members.	Volumes Added.	Volumes Circulated.	Magazines Circulated.	LIABILITY.		
						£	s.	d.
1856	590	269	300	12,435	1,010	—	—	—
1857	587	274	350	13,070	2,075	—	—	—
1858	567	174	350	18,175	2,117	85	6	0
1859	506	144	407	16,514	2,038	742	17	9
1860	488	118	220	20,274	3,343	668	8	9
1861	635	284	145	21,144	4,523	609	14	2
1862	600	209	344	19,128	5,093	508	8	0
1863	569	176	401	23,262	5,101	451	11	5
1864	512	127	350	13,305	6,249	427	17	2
1865	471	146	398	12,912	8,152	238	3	3
1866	450	123	270	13,102	9,100	60	14	2
1867	437	117	217	13,146	9,899	139	6	6
1868	458	131	430	13,249	11,378	190	16	11
1869	460	129	413	13,614	10,278	94	5	7
1870	510	170	382	14,022	11,705	20	4	2
1871	547	168	627	19,603	11,927	—	—	—
1872	640	252	426	20,226	12,447	610	14	8
1873	1139	655	705	34,886	15,176	1085	7	6
1874	1236	547	1414	39,729	12,323	980	10	2
1875	1287	480	657	45,002	10,697	340	16	2
1876	1488	567	980	43,115	10,500	267	19	6
1877	1571	481	746	45,293	11,000	305	18	9
1878	1525	444	654	46,262	11,115	410	2	11
1879	1410	361	771	58,450	6,096	324	3	7

12. The following Table shows the proportions in which the various classes of works have been issued during the last seven years—the figures show the number of *volumes* issued:—

CLASSIFICATION.	1873.	1874.	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.
Agriculture, Commerce, and Statistics .. .. .	53	30	22	16	19	20	21
Mechanics, Mathematical Sciences, Architecture, Engineering, and Useful Arts .. .. .	113	75	73	39	65	69	42
Biography, Speeches, and Correspondence .. .. .	1,503	1,625	1,316	1,203	1,242	1,200	1,488
Classics and Philology .. .. .	225	152	106	69	81	90	177
Fine Arts .. .. .	110	106	89	26	50	54	68
Geography, Voyages, Travels, and Descriptive Works .. .. .	2,007	2,320	2,416	1,461	1,500	1,450	1,961
History and Historical Memoirs .. .. .	1,346	1,115	1,794	996	997	1,000	977
Jurisprudence and Legislation .. .. .	18	25	14	13	14	20	26
Medical Science and Chemistry .. .. .	54	45	35	38	60	70	72
Miscellaneous and Collective Works .. .. .	2,051	2,853	2,889	1,870	1,857	1,759	1,568
Natural History and Botany .. .. .	403	231	238	182	192	200	128
Works of Fiction .. .. .	21,780	26,256	32,993	35,408	36,489	37,490	47,299
Music .. .. .	25	30	16	10	11	14	11
Periodical Literature .. .. .	3,749	3,280	1,543	836	900	896	2,573
Philosophy and General Science .. .. .	773	846	783	584	634	650	615
Poetry and the Drama .. .. .	358	380	348	361	502	510	353
Politics .. .. .	103	128	106	74	105	110	82
Religious & Ecclesiastical Works .. .. .	215	232	221	129	175	160	159
Juvenile Works .. .. .	..	..	..	..	400	500	830
	34,886	39,729	45,002	43,115	45,293	46,262	58,450

It is deemed advisable to recommence this Table on a fresh basis, and to give the number of *works* instead of the number of *volumes*.

13. The number of visitors introduced by members to the Reading Room under the provisions of Rule 19 was 125.

14. The Government has contributed during the year—

- Victorian Parliamentary Debates, 1879.
- Votes and Proceedings of the Parliament of Victoria, 1879.
- Government Gazette, 1879.
- Acts of Parliament, 1879.
- Victorian Year Book for 1878-9, by H. H. Hayter, Esq.
- Result of Observations, Melbourne Observatory, 1878, by R. L. J. Ellery, Esq.
- Aborigines of Victoria by R. Brough Smyth.
- Native Plants of Victoria, Part I, Baron von Mueller.

Historical Records of Port Phillip, by John J. Shillinglaw.  
Descriptive Atlas of the Eucalyptus of Australia, 1st and 2nd Decade.  
Report of the Commissioners for Victoria on the International Exhibition at Paris, 1878.

15. The following donations of works have also been kindly made:—

Walch's Tasmanian Almanac, 1880, from Messrs. J. Walch and Sons.  
Presbyterian Calendar, 1880.  
Two copies of Bradshaw's Guide to Victoria, supplied regularly by Messrs. Stillwell and Co.  
Two copies A. B. C. Guide, supplied regularly by Messrs. Gordon and Gotch.  
"Coo-ee" Phonetic Shorthand Journal, supplied regularly by Mr. R. D. Christie.  
Calendar, 1879-80, from the Council of the Melbourne University.  
Victorian Manufactures and Exhibition Association, Second Annual Report.  
Chemistry of Agriculture, by the author, Ralph W. Emerson MacIvor.  
Australian Journal, from A. H. Massina and Co.

By the Government of New South Wales:—

Blue Book, New South Wales, 1878.  
Statistical Register, New South Wales, 1878.

The proprietors of the principal metropolitan and provincial newspapers have also contributed one copy each of their journals, and Mr. R. P. McGuire has contributed a copy of the Laramie Sentinel.

16. The Annual Election of honorary office-bearers was held in February last, and resulted in the return of the following gentlemen, viz.:—President, W. Gillbee, Esq.; Vice-President, W. Ievers, Esq.; Treasurer, D. Benjamin, Esq.; Committee, Messrs. R. L. J. Ellery, J. S. Elkington, Dr. P. Moloney, L. A. Moody, A. M. Topp, F. F. Bailliere, H. Biers. Mr. Benjamin having resigned his place on the Committee, owing to his election as Treasurer, the vacancy was filled by the election of Mr. H. Meeks.

17. The seat of Mr. Marcus Clark on the Committee having become vacant through his non-attendance, and that of Mr. A. P. Martin, through his resignation, the vacancies were filled by the election of Mr. Richard Jack and Mr. G. W. Rusden.

18. There have been 18 meetings of the General Committee and 40 meetings of Sub-committees during the year.  
Of the 18 meetings of the General Committee

<i>The President</i> —W. GILLBEE, Esq., M.R.C.S.E.	..	attended	16
<i>The Vice-President</i> —Wm. Ievers, Esq.	..	..	16
<i>The Treasurer</i> —D. Benjamin, Esq.	..	..	17

COMMITTEE :

Bailliere, F. F.	..	attended	9	Martin, A. P. (resigned 31st			
Biers, H.	..	..	18	March)	..	attended	2
Blair, D.	..	..	8	Meeks, H.	..	..	13
Clarke, Marcus (vacated 31st				Moloney, Dr.	..	..	10
March)	..	attended	0	Moody, L. A.	..	..	11
Elkington, J. S.	..	..	15	Rusden, G. W. (elected 3rd			
Ellery, R. L. J.	..	..	11	June)	..	attended	6
Fuge, H. R.	..	..	16	Thompson, W.	..	..	15
Jack, R. (elected 3rd June)	..	..	5	Topp, A. M.	..	..	13
Lush, Geo.	..	..	17				

19. The President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and the following members of Committee retire from office, but are eligible for re-election, viz.:—Messrs. D. Blair, R. Jack, H. R. Fuge, G. Lush, G. W. Rusden, H. Meeks, and W. Thompson.

20. Mr. Garnet Walch having resigned the secretaryship of the Institution on the 3rd of March, advertisements were inserted in the Melbourne journals calling for applications to fill the vacancy. From 75 applicants Mr. J. H. B. Curtis was appointed to the office.

21. In conclusion, the Committee congratulate the subscribers on the continued success that attends the Institution. They hope that the members will co-operate as much as possible with the Committee of Management in augmenting the roll of membership, and extending the advantages of the Melbourne Athenæum.

W. GILLBEE, *President.*





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## HONORARY MEMBERS.

Barney, Major  
Biers, Henry  
Carmichael, Rev. H.  
Gilbert, George A.  
Hargraves, E. H.

Hart, Henry J., J.P.  
Lowe, Rt. Hon. Robert  
Mackenzie, Rev. D.,  
M.A.  
Maguire, J. F.

Morison, Rev. A.  
Nicholson, Sir Charles  
Thompson, Walter  
Wilkie, Hon. D. E.,  
M.D.

## LIFE MEMBERS.

HIS EXCELLENCY SIR GEORGE BOWEN.

Agg, A. J.  
Ashley, E.  
Balmain, James  
Barkly, Sir Henry  
Barwick, James  
Bennett, J. B.  
Blow, W. W.  
Brewster, E. J.  
Broadfoot, A. A.  
Brown, T., jun.  
Burn, W. C.  
Campbell, R.  
Carson, J.  
Chambers, H. J.  
Childers, Rt. Hon.  
H. C. E.  
Chirnside, T.  
Clay, F. L.  
Clowes, Henry  
Clowes, R.  
Coates, W.  
Cock, C.  
Cooke, H.  
Cope, His Honour  
Judge  
Cosgrave, John  
Dalgety, J. G.  
Dallachy, J.  
Davies, E.  
Dickson, T.  
Easy, W.

Foxton, J. G.  
Gibbs, Edward M.  
Gibbs, James H.  
Gillbee, W.  
Godby, J.  
Goldsbrough, R.  
Heales, R.  
Heape, B.  
Heape, C.  
Herring, J.  
Hoddle, R.  
Ker, R.  
Langlands, J.  
Langlands, T.  
Leslie, A.  
Little, F. A.  
M'Arthur, D. C.  
Mackenzie, W. H.,  
jun.  
Milne, G.  
Mitchell, David  
Moody, L. A.  
Moor, Henry  
Mortimer, H. W.  
Motherwell, J. B.,  
M.D.  
Moubray, T.  
Mouritz, G. A.  
Mullaly, J.  
Murphy, G. R.  
Nicholson, G.

Orme, Charles  
Overton, W.  
Pasley, C.  
Paterson, James  
Payne, T. B.  
Perry, Rt. Rev. C., D.D.  
Rae, J.  
Ross, Alfred  
Rusden, G. W.  
Russell, J. B.  
Scott, Robert  
Smith, A. L.  
Smith, J. M.  
Smith, R.  
Snowball, J.  
Splatt, W. F.  
Stevens, F. P.  
Stevenson, J.  
Strode, Thomas  
Sumner, Hon. T. J.  
Thornley, N.  
Tuckett, W. H.  
Turner, George  
Vivian, G. W.  
Walsh, F.  
Westgarth, Wm.  
Wharton, G.  
Wilkie, Hon. D. E.,  
M.D.  
Wisewould, J.  
Yule, W.



# List of Newspapers and Periodicals

SUPPLIED TO THE READING ROOM OF

## THE MELBOURNE ATHENÆUM.

### British and Foreign Newspapers.

Academy	Field	London Times
Alliance News	Figaro	London Weekly Times 3
Alta California	Freeman	L'Illustration
Athenæum	Fun	Liverpool Albion
Band of Hope Review	Gas Journal	Mining Journal
Belfast Weekly News	Gardeners' Chronicle	New York Tribune
Bell's Life in London	Glasgow Herald (weekly)	Nonconformist
British Workman	Graphic 4	Pall Mall Budget
Building News	Harper's Weekly Illustrated	Pictorial World
Christian World	Home News 4	Public Opinion 2
Church Guardian	Hornet	Punch, London 3
Church Times	Illustrated London News 5	Queen 2
Dublin Warder	Illustrirte Zeitung	Saturday Review 2
Dublin Weekly Freeman	Inquirer	Scientific American
Economist	Jewish Chronicle	Scotsman (weekly)
Engineer	Judy	Spectator
Engineering	Lancet	Sporting and Dramatic News
English Independent	Land and Water	Tablet
Era	Law Times	Vanity Fair
European Mail 4	Live Stock Journal	Watchman
Examiner	London Record	World

### British, Colonial, and other Periodicals.

A B C Guide 2	English Mechanic	Revue des Deux Mondes
All the Year Round 6	Every Month	Scribner's Monthly
Argosy 6	Family Herald 5	St. James's Magazine 2
Art Journal	Fortnightly Review 4	Sunday at Home 2
Atlantic Monthly Magazine 4	Frazer's Magazine 4	Sunday Magazine 2
Aunt Judy's Magazine	Gentleman's Magazine 3	Sylvia's Journal
Australasian Insurance and Banking Record	Good Words 2	Temple Bar Magazine 6
Australian Journal	Good Things 2	Time
Australian Medical Journal	Harper's Magazine 4	Tinsley's Magazine 4
Bailey's Monthly Magazine	Homœopathic Journal	Truth
Beeton's Young English-woman	Iron	United Service Magazine
Belgravia Magazine 6	Journal of Society of Arts	Victorian Review 3
Blackwood's Magazine 6	Journal of Science(quarterly)	Westminster Review 3
Bow Bells 3	Lippincott's Magazine	Young Gentleman's Magazn.
Bradshaw's Guide to Vict. 2	Literary World	Young Ladies' Journal
British and Foreign Evangelical Review	Littel's Living Age	
British Quarterly Review 2	London Quarterly Review 2	Australian Handbook
Builder	London Society 6	British Almanac and Companion
Cassell's Magazine 6	Macmillan's Magazine 6	Debrett's Peerage
Chambers' Edinburgh Jrnl. 6	Melbourne Review 3	London Directory
Church Bells	Mind	Melbourne Directory
Colburn's New Monthly Mg. 2	Nature	Melb. University Calendar
Contemporary Review 6	New Quarterly Magazine 2	Mercantile Directory of the World
Cornhill Magazine 6	Nineteenth Century 6	Queensland Almanac
Dublin University Magazn. 4	North American Review	Statesman's Year-Book
Dublin Review	Notes and Queries 3	Tasmanian Almanac
Edinburgh Review 3	Once a Week 3	Victorian Almanacs, various
Englishwoman's Magazine	Popular Science Review	Victorian Statutes
	Proceedings Royal Geographic Society	Year-Book of Facts
	Quarterly Review 3	


 For List of Colonial Newspapers see last page.

# List of Colonial Newspapers

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Victoria.		Colac Herald	Hay Standard
MELBOURNE.)		Colac Reformer	Maitland Mercury
Argus (daily)	10	Creswick Advertiser	Queanbeyan Times
Age	8	Daylesford Mercury	Riverine Grazier
Telegraph "	5	Dunolly & Betbetsshire Exps.	Sydney Evening News
Herald "	9	East Charlton Tribune	Sydney Mail
Australasian	4	Evelyn Observer	Sydney Morning Herald
Australasian Sketcher		Geelong Advertiser	Wagga Wagga Advertiser
Australian Law Times		Gippsland Mercury	Wagga Wagga Express
Illustrated Australian News		Gippsland Standard	Wilcannia Times
Punch	3	Gippsland Times	
Leader	3	Grenville Advocate	South Australia.
Weekly Times	2	Grenville Times	Border Watch
Advocate		Hamilton Spectator	Lantern
Christian Review		Horsham Times	South Australian Register
Church of England Messngr.		Inglewood Advertiser	
Government Gazette		Kerang Times and Swanhill Gazette	Queensland.
Harbinger of Light		Kilmore Free Press	Brisbane Courier
Southern Cross		Koroit Express	Brisbane, The Week
Spectator		Kyneton Guardian	Mackay Mercury
Temperance News		Kyneton Observer	Maryborough Chronicle
Victorian Freeman		Mansfield Guardian	Queenslander
Victorian Independent		Maryborough and Dunolly Advertiser	Queensland Punch
(SUBURBAN.)		Maryborough Standard	Wide Bay and Burnett News
Boroondara Standard		M'Ivor Times	
Carlton Observer		Mount Alexander Mail	Western Australia.
Collingwood Advertiser		North-Eastern Ensign	Perth Inquirer and Commercial News
Collingwood Mercury		Ovens & Murray Advertiser	
Emerald Hill Record		Pleasant Creek News and Stawell Chronicle	Tasmania.
North Melbourne Advertiser		Riponshire Advocate	Hobart Town Evening Star
Prahran Telegraph		Seymour Express	Hobart Town Mercury
Richmond Australian		Shepparton News	Launceston Examiner
South Bourke Standard		South-Eastern Star	Tasmanian Mail
Williamstown Chronicle		St. Arnaud Mercury	
(PROVINCIAL.)		St. Arnaud Times	New Zealand.
Alexandra and Yea Standard		Tarnagulla & Llanelly Cour.	Auckland, The Herald
Ararat Advertiser		Walhalla Chronicle	Christchurch, The Press
Avoca Mail		Warragul Guardian	Dunedin Christian Record
Bairnsdale Advertiser		Warrambool Standard	Grey River Argus
Bairnsdale Courier		Wimmera Star	Invercargill, Weekly Times
Ballarat Courier			Lake Wakatip Mail
Ballarat Star			Otago Daily Times
Belfast Gazette			Wellington, New Zealand Times
Bendigo Evening News		New South Wales.	
Bendigo Independent		Albury Border Post	Fiji.
Benalla Standard		Bathurst Free Press	Fiji Times
Camperdown Chronicle		Cumberland Times	
Castlemaine Representative		Echuca & Moama Advertiser	

 For List of British and Foreign Newspapers and Periodicals see preceding page.

T H E

# MELBOURNE ATHENÆUM

LIBRARY & READING ROOMS,  
COLLINS STREET EAST,

*Immediately above the Town Hall, and opposite "The Argus" Office.*

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In the principal Reading and lower News Rooms will be found Newspapers from all parts of Victoria and the neighbouring colonies. The leading London and Provincial Papers are laid on the tables immediately on the arrival of the English Mail Steamer.

The supply of Magazines and Periodicals—scientific, artistic, literary, and amusing—is most complete, and includes every Publication of note, either Home or Colonial. (*See lists on last page of within Report.*) Of the more popular, as many as six copies are supplied; these may be borrowed by members.

There is a separate Reading Room for Ladies, supplied with suitable Newspapers and Periodicals. Subscription per annum, Ten Shillings.

The Library is divided into two departments—the Circulating Library and a Library of Reference. The former contains between 15,000 and 16,000 volumes, which are lent to members and their families. New works are being constantly added. To many the Library of Reference will be found of value, as it contains Files of Home and Colonial Newspapers for thirty years back; also such Works of Reference as Parliamentary Proceedings, Gazettes, Encyclopædias, Men of the Time, Directories, the best Etymological and Scientific Dictionaries, &c., &c.

The Reading Room is open daily from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m., Sundays and Public Holidays excepted.

The Library is open from 8.30 a.m. to 9 p.m.

On Saturdays the Library is closed at 2 p.m.

Classes are held during the week, at convenient times, for instruction in French, German, Italian, Singing, Phonography, the subjects for the Civil Service and Matriculation Examinations, &c., to which members are admitted at a reduced scale of fees.

The Subscription to the Institution, entitling a member to the whole of these advantages, is £1 1s. per annum, 12s. 6d. half-yearly, or 7s. 6d. quarterly; Life Membership, ten guineas. No Entrance Fee is charged. Members can join at any period of the year.

Any further information that may be desired will be gladly rendered from 10 to 12 in the morning and 4 to 6 in the afternoon, on application at the Institution to

**J. H. B. CURTIS,**  
*Secretary.*