

Your Committee beg to report that they have examined audited the accounts for November and found them correct. Payment is recommended of the following items:—

Salaries & wages	£ 41. 12. 0
Gas & Electric Light	19. 18. 6
Amalgam & papers & Advtg	10. 19. 0
Lehmann Binding	5. 7. 6
Malville Mullin & Slade Books	5. 3. 10
Leaning & Kipling chairs	3. 7. 6
Carroll & papers	3. 3. 8
Cooperativa Claret	2. 5. 0
Charles Gardel Printing	1. 10. 0
Sunday am & Billy Calk	3. 17. 6
Subscribed an Knollys	400 0 0
	£ 497. 4. 6

Resolved, on motion of Mr Callaway & Mr Levi, that the Report be adopted

Holidays Resolved that the Reading Room be closed on 25th & 26th Dec & 1st Jan & that the Library be closed on those days and also 20th December & 1st January.

Report The President, Vice President, & Treasurer were appointed a sub committee to draft the Annual Report.

Next meeting Resolved that next night of meeting be Thursday 14th Jan

Secretary's Statement

Subscriptions for the month	£ 48. 12. 6
11 months	765. 2. 6
Total revenue of month	£ 172. 3. 6
11 months	1964. 10. 6
New members during month	4
11 months	99
Balance in Bank £ 951. 0. 5	Saved deposit £ 500
	W. Barlow Chairman
	14. 1. 97

Thursday 14th Jan 1897

The Committee met at 8 p.m.

- Mr Barlow President, Chair
- Callaway Vice Pres
- Rennie Treasurer
- Luck
- Hood
- Levi
- Kidley
- Leah
- Downward
- Sanger
- Marlin
- Steffe
- Thomas
- Mr Jamieson
- Mr Weeks (a trustee)

Minutes of the previous meeting read & confirmed. A letter read from Mr Deal apologizing for his absence. An apology was also received from Rev. Mr. Chubbuck.

The Library sub-committee reported as follows:—

Your committee beg to recommend for the Library 25 vols from Malville Mullin & Slade @ £ 5. 10. 7. The period for which the advertisement in the newspapers was ordered having expired, it is recommended that it be extended for a further period to be fixed by you. The cost for sticking and cutting the newspapers & magazines is considered to be far too high. It is recommended that the matter be considered with a view to alteration. Accounts amounting to £ 45. 19. 11 have been examined & found correct.

Resolved, on motion of Mr Luck & Mr Thomas, that the report be adopted.

It was decided to continue the advertisement for three months.

The Secretary reported that he had seen Mr DeWitt's manager, and that he had a receipt which the price for sticking & cutting newspapers & magazines from £ 18 per annum to £ 12. This was the price of a Smith's Machine. This was the price of a Smith's Machine.

The House Committee reported as follows:—

Your Committee beg report that they have examined the Accounts amounting to £29.11.0 & found them correct. It is recommended that the Librarian shall receive a fortnight's leave of absence, and the Curator ten days—the time to be arranged by the Secretary as found most convenient. Resolved, on motion of Mr Stiffe & Mr Ridley, that the report be adopted.

The Finance Committee reported as follows:—

Your Committee beg report—that they have audited the Accounts for December & found them correct. The Balance Sheet for the Year has been submitted to us. The Receipts amount to £2117.17.6, and the expenditure to £2280.11.5, leaving a deficiency of £162.13.11 as against £332.2.3 last year, when the receipts were £2074.11.10 and the expenditure £2407.11.1. Under all the circumstances, the results are considered satisfactory. The following Accounts are recommended for payment:—

Salaries & wages	£ 41.12.0
Hebner, Shetling & Rindley	29.10.3
Fuel & Electric Light	19.2.6
Melville Muller & Glade, Books	6.11.0
John Armstrong, Advertising	4.16.0
J. Casselden, Newspapers	3.3.8
Melbourne Punch	1.4.0
Sundry Exp & Petty Cash	7.3.6
	<u>£ 113.2.11</u>

Resolved, on motion of Mr Rennie & Mr Coles, that the Report be adopted.

The Secretary read the Draft of the Committee's Report, and Copies of the Balance Sheet were laid on the table.

Resolved, on motion of Mr Leach & Mr Rennie, that the Report be adopted, and the Balance Sheet be referred to the Auditors.

Holiday

Resolved that the Library be closed on Foundation Day, 9th Jan^y.

Resolved, on motion of Mr Thomas & Mr Harley, that the House Committee be requested to consider the annual accommodation for members.

Secretary's Statement.

Subscriptions for the month £50.9.0
12 months 815.11.6

Total revenue of the month 173.7.0
12 months 2117.17.6

New members during the month 0
12 months 105

Balance in Bank £627.2.11
Fixed deposit 500.0.0

M. A. Callaway
President
4 Feb. 1897.

Annual General Meeting of Members

held in the Upper Hall of the Institution
Wednesday 27th Jan^y
1897

The chair was taken at 8 o'clock by the President
W. H. S. Barlow

The Secretary read the advertisement of the meeting
which was conceived in accordance with the provisions
of Rule 20.

The minutes of the last Annual Meeting were read & confirmed
The Secretary read the following

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

OF THE

Melbourne Athenæum,

FOR THE YEAR 1896.

The Committee of the Melbourne Athenæum submit their report of the transactions of the past year.

There is a slight improvement in the receipts, and a saving has been made in the expenditure, without, however, curtailing the amount spent for books, magazines, and newspapers.

The gross receipts amount to £2117 17s. 6d., and the expenditure to £2280 11s. 5d.

The following are the receipts for the year:—Subscriptions, £815 11s. 6d.; rent of front shops, £537 5s.; large hall, £507 3s.; small hall, £129 15s.; rooms, £113 13s. 9d.; sales, £14 9s. 3d.

The items of expenditure are:—Interest on mortgage, £787 10s.; salaries and wages, £510 16s.; books, magazines, and newspapers, £401 12s. 1d.; gas and electric light, £250 15s. 1d.; rates, £119 5s.; repairs, goods, &c., £98 10s. 8d.; binding, £37 7s. 1d.; insurance, £36 0s. 6d.; postage, stationery, and petty cash, £17 10s. 6d.; advertising and printing, £17 0s. 6d.; auditors, £4 4s.

The large hall has been partially renovated, and some improvements have been made in the library fittings.

The number of members on the roll is 832, of whom 105 joined during the year.

The number of books added to the library during the year was 477; the total number of works issued to subscribers was 25,810, and 5960 magazines.

STATISTICAL STATEMENT OF TRANSACTIONS FOR THE LAST TWENTY YEARS.

YEAR.	No. of Subscribing Members.	New Members.	Volumes Added.	Works Circulated.	Magazines Circulated.
1877	1571	481	746	45,293	11,000
1878	1525	444	654	46,262	11,115
1879	1410	361	771	58,450	6,096
1880	1400	364	543	36,317	6,899
1881	1398	326	552	34,291	6,642
1882	1333	341	582	34,342	7,268
1883	1330	329	560	35,016	7,209
1884	1334	277	711	35,129	7,281
1885	1311	254	680	29,653	7,200
1886	1468	351	700	29,382	7,000
1887	1568	376	613	28,241	7,150
1888	1535	355	618	29,637	7,108
1889	1515	312	698	30,601	7,209
1890	1492	316	670	30,699	7,142
1891	1381	237	610	30,441	7,083
1892	1198	186	652	30,319	7,121
1893	1036	126	639	28,815	7,067
1894	945	123	627	27,880	6,983
1895	859	97	485	26,806	6,127
1896	832	105	477	25,810	5,960

* Prior to 1880, the figures represent single volumes; since that date they represent the entire work, whether consisting of one volume or more.

The following return shows the number of works of various classes that have been issued during the last four years:—

CLASSIFICATION.	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.
Agriculture, Commerce, and Statistics	4	5	3	8
Mechanics, Mathematical Sciences, Architecture, Engineering, and Useful Arts	10	4	7	8
Biography, Speeches, and Correspondence	1,058	880	820	1,242
Classics and Philology	45	42	29	28
Fine Arts	8	9	2	6
Geography, Voyages, Travels, and Descriptive Works	748	729	710	1,410
History and Historical Memoirs	504	478	490	1,009
Jurisprudence and Legislation	2	1	1	1
Medical Science and Chemistry	1	1	1	1
Miscellaneous and Collected Works	441	335	380	561
Natural History and Botany	29	27	17	18
Works of Fiction	23,840	23,002	22,265	19,073
Music	1	1	1	1
Periodical Literature	1,558	1,810	1,650	2071
Philosophy and General Science	160	178	151	122
Poetry and the Drama	160	117	101	97
Politics	25	43	20	27
Religious & Ecclesiastical Works	28	31	33	34
Juvenile Works	193	187	132	113
	28,815	27,880	26,806	25,810

The number of visitors introduced by members, under the provision of Rule 19, was 75.

The Government has contributed during the year:—

- Victorian Parliamentary Debates.
- Votes and Proceedings of the Parliament of Victoria.
- Government Gazette.
- Acts of Parliament.
- Victorian Year Book, by H. H. Hayter, Esq., C.M.G.
- Results of Observations, Melbourne Observatory, by R. I. Ellery, Esq.

The Government of New South Wales has contributed:—
Parliamentary Papers for the year.

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

- Transactions and Proceedings of the Royal Society of Victoria, Vol. XXXII—New Series, presented by the Council of the Royal Society.
- The Vaccination Inquirer and Health Review, forwarded monthly by Mr. J. Carson.
- Volume XXVI of the Proceedings of the Royal Colonial Institute, from the Society.
- Victorian Year Book 1893-94, H. H. Hayter, Esq., C.M.G.
- Two Copies of Bradshaw's Guide to Victoria, supplied regularly by Messrs. Stillwell and Co.
- The Sydney Trade Review and Prices Current, by the proprietors, Messrs. Mitchell, Chisholm, and Medcalf.
- The Melbourne Masonic Journal, presented monthly by the proprietors.
- The Handbook to the Aquarium, Museum, &c., by the Melbourne Exhibition Trustees.

The proprietors of the principal metropolitan and provincial newspapers have also each contributed one copy of their journals.

The Annual Election of Honorary Office Bearer resulted in the return of the following gentlemen:—President, Mr. H. S. Barlow; Vice-President, Mr. W. A. Callaway; Treasurer, Mr. Charles Rennie; Committee, Messrs. Davies, Eales, Hood, Iliffe, Mickle, Ridley and Sangster.

As there was still a vacancy on the Committee, it was filled by the election of Mr. G. J. Thomas. Mr. R. C. Norman subsequently resigned his position on the Committee, and his place was filled by the election of Mr. J. W. Veal.

There have been 12 meetings of the General Committee during the year:—

The President, Mr. H. S. BARLOW attended 12
The Vice-President, Mr. W. A. CALLAWAY " 8
The Treasurer, Mr. CHARLES RENNIE " 8

COMMITTEE:			
Mr. Davies	attended 6	Rev. Mr. Abernethy	attended 8
Mr. Eales	" 5	Mr. Downward	" 6
Mr. Hood	" 12	Mr. Harlin	" 11
Mr. Iliffe	" 10	Dr. Jamieson	" 9
Mr. Mickle	" 7	Mr. Levi	" 8
Mr. Ridley	" 9	Mr. Lush	" 7
Mr. Sangster	" 7	Mr. Thomas	" 8

The following are the attendances of the Sub-Committees:—

LIBRARY.	HOUSE.	FINANCE.
No. of Meetings, 10.	No. of Meetings, 16.	No. of Meetings, 10.
Mr. Lush - 7	Mr. Iliffe - 15	Mr. Rennie - 7
(Chairman)	(Chairman)	(Chairman)
Rev. Abernethy - 9	Mr. Davies - 10	Mr. Barlow - 5
Mr. Callaway - 8	Mr. Hood - 16	Mr. Callaway - 3
Mr. Harlin - 1	Dr. Jamieson - 5	Mr. Downward - 2
Mr. Hood - 10	Mr. Levi - 6	Mr. Eales - 5
Dr. Jamieson - 4	Mr. Ridley - 14	Mr. Mickle - 8
Mr. Mickle - 8		Mr. Thomas - 5
Mr. Thomas - 7		

The President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and the following members of Committee retire from office, but are eligible for re-election, viz.:—Rev. Mr. Abernethy and Messrs. Downward, Harlin, Jamieson, Levi, Lush, Thomas, and Veal.

A conference of Librarians was held, by invitation of the Trustees of the Public Library, on the 21st April, 1896, and the three following days. Your Committee sent as Delegates to it Mr. Lush, Dr. Jamieson, and Mr. Harlin, and also the Secretary and Librarian. Several useful papers were read, and some interesting discussions took place. It was resolved to form an association, to be called the Library Association of Australasia. Officers were elected, and it was decided to hold the next meeting at Sydney in Easter week.

It is hoped that the current year may bring at least a slight renewal of prosperity, in which the Institution may share. Those members who take a real interest in the progress of the Athenæum are earnestly invited to endeavour to bring in new members, as this will be a substantial help in making the receipts at least cover the expenditure.

H. S. BARLOW,
President.

Copies of the Balance Sheet were distributed among the members, and it was resolved that it be taken as read.

THE TREASURER IN ACCOUNT CURRENT WITH THE MELBOURNE ATHENÆUM.

For the year ending 31st December, 1896.

To Balance in Bank	£289 16 10	By Interest on Mortgage	£787 19 0
Balance of New Loan	1000 0 0	Salaries and Wages	510 16 0
Subscriptions	£815 11 6	Books, Magazines, and Newspapers	401 12 1
Rent of Front Shops	537 5 0	Gas and Electric Light	250 15 1
" Large Hall	507 3 0	Rates	119 5 0
" Small Hall	129 15 0	Repairs, Goods, and Sundries ..	98 10 8
" Rooms	113 13 9	Binding	37 7 1
Sales	14 9 3	Insurance	36 0 6
	2,117 17 6	Postage, Stationery and Petty Cash	17 10 6
		Advertising and Printing	17 0 6
		Auditors	4 4 0
			2,280 11 5
		Balance in Bank	£627 2 11
		Fixed Deposit	500 0 0
			1,127 2 11
	£3,407 14 4		£3,407 14 4

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

ASSETS.		LIABILITIES.	
Estimated value of the real Property of the Institution	£35,000 0 0	Loan under Mortgage	£16,000 0 0
Value of Library	1,500 0 0	Salaries for December and Sundry Accounts ..	113 2 11
" Furniture	750 0 0	Balance	22,264 0 0
Balance in Bank and Fixed Deposit	1,127 2 11		
	£38,377 2 11		£38,377 2 11

Audited and found correct.

CHAS. RENNIE, HONORARY TREASURER.
J. H. B. CURTIS, SECRETARY.

ANDREW BURNS, F.I.A.V., } AUDITORS.
PHINEAS RAINEY, F.I.A.V., }

MELBOURNE, 16th January, 1897.

The President, Mr S S Darlow, then moved the adoption of the Report, which was seconded by the Treasurer, Mr Chas Rennie, and carried.

Resolved, on motion of Mr C J Thomas, that the following gentlemen be appointed Scrutineers to conduct the election, if required:— Messrs Messinger, Disher, Pett and Coates.

Mr Andrew Burns & Mr Phineas Rainey were re-elected Auditors.

Resolved, on motion of Mr Martin Hood, that a vote of thanks be given to the retiring President, Vice President, and Treasurer, and those of the Committee who retire. The Office Bearers named returned thanks.

Resolved, on motion of Mr Bates, that a vote of thanks be given to the Secretary & Librarian for the manner in which they had discharged their duties during the year. Mr Curtis returned thanks for himself & Mr Smith.

The Chairman announced that Nominations for Office Bearers and Members of Committee would be taken till 10 p.m.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the business.

The following Nominations were made in due form:—

President Mr W A Callaway
Vice President Mr M Hood
Treasurer Mr Chas Rennie

Committee.

Read Mr Abernethy, Mr Deacon, Mr Martin, Jamieson, Levi, Lusk, Thomas & Veal.

The Nominations not being in excess of the number required, the candidates were declared elected.

W. A. Callaway
27. 1. 97

Thursday 4th Feb 1897

The General Committee met at 8 p.m.
 Mr W A Callaway Pres Chair
 Mr Martin Hood Vice Pres
 Thomas
 Revd Abernethy
 Ridley
 Mickle
 Mr Jamieson
 Davies
 Bliffe
 Veal

Apology for absence from Mr Harlin & Mr Barlow

Mr Veal returned thanks for his election as a member of the committee

Mr Callaway returned thanks for his election as President, and Mr Hood for his election as Vice President. Mr Thomas congratulated the President on his election.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting were read for the information of the committee, and were considered to be correct.

Mr Bliffe drew the attention of the committee to the fact that the subcommittees had not met previous to the meeting of the General Committee. It was pointed out that, owing to the fact of the subcommittees being appointed at the first meeting of the General Committee after the Annual election, they had ceased to exist prior to such appointment. But some of the General Committee were of a different

opinion. It was therefore resolved, on the motion of Revd Mr Abernethy & Mr Thomas, that the following be appointed a subcommittee to consider the matter and report to the General Committee: — The President, Vice President, Mr Bliffe & Mr Lush.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Hood, and Mr Ridley, that the following be the subcommittees for the year: —

Library	House	Treasure
Mr Lush	Mr Ridley	Mr Ronnie
Revd Abernethy	Bliffe	Barlow
Harlin	Davies	Downward
Mr Jamieson	Downward	Calder
Mickle	Levi	Lush
Thomas	Mr Jamieson	Mickle
	Danger	Thomas
	C J Thomas	Veal
	Barlow	

Emergency: — Mr Bliffe, Mr Ronnie, Mr Barlow.

W A Callaway
4/3/97

Thursday 4th March 1897

The Committee met at 8 p.m.

- Mr Hallaway (President) (chair)
- Mr Hood Vice Pres
- Renne Treasurer
- Revd Abernethy
- Mr Luah
- Levi
- Ridley
- Downward
- Barlow
- Harlin
- Veal
- Eales
- Thomas

An apology received ^{for} absence of Mrcliffe.

Minutes of last meeting read & confirmed.

The Library sub committee reported as follows:-

Your committee beg to report that they have elected the Revd Mr Abernethy chairman of the subcommittee for the year. The following are recommended for addition to the Library:- Green Millie, Muller & Glade 14 vols at £3.4.11. Accounts amounting to £138.17.4 examined & found correct.

Resolved, on motion of Revd Mr Abernethy and Mr Hood that the Report be adopted.

The House sub committee reported as follows:-

Your committee beg to report that they have elected Mr Barlow chairman for the year. The Secretary has applied for leave of absence, and it is recommended that he be allowed his usual leave. It is further recommended that the Secretary be deputed to represent this Institution at the forthcoming Conference of the Library Association, and that his Railway fare to Sydney & back be paid by us.

Accounts amounting to £460.3 have been examined & found correct. Resolved, on motion of Mr Barlow & Mr Luah, that the Report be adopted.

The Finance subcommittee reported as follows:- Your committee beg to report that they have re-elected Mr Renne Chairman for the year. The term of our Fixed Deposit of £500 in the Bank of Australasia expired 8th Feb 97. It is recommended that it be re-deposited, provided an arrangement can be made with the Bank that it may be withdrawn 30th June, if necessary, by forfeiting the interest. As our present mortgage will expire 30th next June, it is recommended that the Treasurer, Mr Renne, be empowered to negotiate for a renewal of it for five years at four per cent per annum. The accounts for Jan 97 & Feb 97 have been audited & found correct. Payment is recommended of the following exps:-

Mortgage

Salaries & Wages	£ 41. 12. 0
Whitehead Magazines & Papers	9 8 . 8 . 4
Gas & Electric Light	42. 4. 0
John Armstrong Advantages	10. 16. 0
Melville Muller & Glade Books	96. 7. 10
Glade in Papers	7. 1. 0
John Armstrong Papers	7. 10. 0
Mr Meate Property Clerk	7. 19. 0
Launceston Expenses	1. 5. 0
Lands & Mr Douglas Duntour &c	1. 0. 0
Oliver Daily Times	1. 0. 0
Thames Printing	4. 4. 0
And closs	2. 18. 4
Sundry exp	£ 230. 13. 7

Resolved, on motion of Mr Renne & Mr Hood that Report be adopted. The Secretary read Comparative Statement for first two months of 1897-96.

Secretary's statement.

Subscription for the month	£ 71. 3. 6
2 months	134. 9. 6
Total Revenue of month	143. 15. 8
2 months	267. 9. 8
New Members during month	12
2 months	25

Balance in Bank £ 736. 19. 11. Fixed Deposit £ 500

W. Hallaway
1. 4. 97

Thursday 3rd April 1897

The Committee met at 8 p.m.
 Mr Leallaway President chair
 Hays Vice Pres
 Rennie Treasurer
 Revd Mr Abernethy
 Mr Langley
 Cliffe
 Sales
 Rennie
 Davies
 Veal
 Harlin
 Lush

Abstracts for album received from Mr Barlow, Mr Levi, Ridley & Mr Jamieson.

Minutes of previous meeting read & confirmed

Mr Meikle

A letter was read from Mr D Meikle, a member of the Committee, stating that he was leaving the Colony, and would probably be away for the remainder of the year, and that he therefore tendered his resignation.

It was decided not to accept the resignation, but to grant Mr Meikle leave of absence.

The Library sub-committee reported as follows:-

Your Committee beg to recommend the following for addition to the Library:-

From Melville, Mullen & Slade 13 vols	£ 2 6 8
George Robertson & Co 4	1 3 0

Accounts amounting to £ 37.0.11 examined & found correct. Resolved, on motion of Mr Lush & Revd Mr Abernethy that the Report be adopted.

The House sub-committee reported as follows:- Your Committee beg to report that the Chess Club

Chess

has made an application to have the use of the small Hall without charge on 24th May next for a Chess Tournament. The Club also wishes to have a small electrical apparatus permanently fixed in the Hall. It is recommended that both requests be granted. Some of the tenants of the Grand shops complain of the annoyance caused to them by having a Cab stand in front of the shops. It is recommended that the House Committee shall endeavour to have it removed. Accounts amounting to £ 37.16.6 have been examined & found correct. Resolved, on motion of Mr Hood & Mr Davies, that the Report be adopted.

Cab stand

The Finance Committee reported as follows:-

Your Committee beg to report that they have audited the books for March & found them correct. Payment is recommended of the following a/c:-

Salaries & Wages	£ 41. 12. 0
Melville Mullen & Slade Books &c	34. 14. 3
Melbourne & Throp Bldg out. Waterbury	12. 15. 0
The New Queen Elec Co Ltd Feb 97	11. 10. 0
Melrose Gas Co 9	8. 4. 0
William Schmidt Esq Building	8. 0. 6
Sullivan & Co Printing	7. 2. 6
G Leavelle N Papers	3. 3. 8
Co-operative. Blodets	2. 5. 0
John A Birrell. Repairs	1. 18. 6
A A Maxima & Co Printing	1. 0. 0
Sundry a/c	1. 4. 0
	<hr/>
	£ 133 9 3

Resolved, on motion of Mr Rennie & Mr Hood, that the report be adopted.

Mortgage

Mr Rennie (Treasurer) stated that the negotiations for the renewal of the Mortgage were in progress.

Sub Committee meetings in February

Report of special Committee re meetings of sub-committees in Feb 97.

The Committee appointed to consider the question of having meetings of the sub-committees in the future recommended that such meetings be held with those members

of the Sub Committees who did not return from the General Committee at the end of the year.
Resolved, on motion of Mr Bliffe & Mr Litch, that the Report be adopted.

Easter Holidays

Resolved that the Easter Holidays be as usual viz: - The Library to be closed on Good Friday, Saturday, Easter Monday & Tuesday. The Reading room to be closed on Good Friday & Easter Monday.

The Secretary read the Comparative Statement of Receipts & Expenditure for the first three months of 1897 - 98.

Secretary's Statement.

Subscriptions for the month £70.16.6
3 months 205.6.0

Grant Revenue of the month 203.13.6
3 months 471.3.2

New members during month 6
3 months 31

Balance in Bank £709.19.10
Fixed Deposit 500.0.0

W. Callaway
6 May 1897

Thursday 6th May 1897

The General Committee met at P.P.U.
Mr Callaway President Chair

Mr Rod Vice President

Rennie Treasurer

Mr Barlow, Mr Abernethy, Sargent, Sales, Midley, Bliffe, Martin
Dames & Dr Jamieson.

Minutes of previous meeting read and confirmed.

A letter was read from Mr Joseph Levi, one of the Committee, stating that he was leaving for England on 24th April, and asking for six months' leave of absence from the Committee. It was resolved that leave be granted, and that a letter of introduction to the Officers of kindred Institutions be forwarded to Mr Levi.

A letter was read from Mr J.P. Bailfield asking that the Large Hall might be let to him at half price for a lecture for a charitable purpose.

A letter was read from Mr John Meighan asking for a refund of part of the rent paid for the Hall for an entertainment given by him for the benefit of a charitable Institution.

It was resolved that both applicants be informed that the request cannot be granted.

The Library subcommittee reported as follows: -

Your committee beg to recommend the following for addition to the Library: - From Melville, Mullen & Slade 11 vols at £2.7.1
Also amounting to £32.15.7 have been examined and found correct
Resolved, on the motion of Rev. Mr Abernethy and Mr Rod, that the Report be adopted.

The House subcommittee reported having examined Aps amounting to £26.5.6 which they found correct

Resolved, on motion of Mr Barlow & Mr Bliffe, that the Report be adopted.

The Finance subcommittee reported as follows: -
Your committee beg to report that they have

audited the A/c for April and found them correct. Payment is recommended of the following A/c's: -

Salaries and wages	£ 41. 12. 0
Gas and Electric Light	25. 9. 6
Gov Robinson the Books	10. 5. 9
John Armstrong's Papers	6. 19. 6
Melville, Muller & Stade. Books	5. 19. 8
John Armstrong. Advertising	4. 16. 0
G. Casselden Newspapers	3. 3. 8
Proprietor of Melb. Punch	1. 4. 0
Sunday A/c & Petty Cash	6. 0. 0
	£ 105. 10. 1

Resolved, on motion of Mr Barlow & Mr Rennie, that the Report be adopted.

The question of illuminating the Quadrant on the occasion of the celebration of Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee was introduced by Mr Shiffe. A communication ensued, and it was decided not to illuminate.

The Secretary read comparative statement of receipts and expenditure for first four months of 1897-98.

Secretary's statement.

Subscriptions for the month	£ 66. 7. 0
4 months	271. 13. 0
Total revenue of the month	161. 10. 7
4 months	632. 13. 9

New members during the month 10
4 months 41

Balance in Bank	£ 738. 1. 0
Fixed Deposit	500. 0. 0

M. A. Callaway
3/6/97

Thursday 3rd June 1897

The General Committee met at 8 P.M.

Mr Callaway President (Chair)
 Hood Vice President
 Barlow
 Davies
 Harlin
 Downward
 Ridley
 Sanjter
 Revd Ahernethy
 Meeks

Apologies received for the absence of Mr Rennie, Mr Shiffe & Mr ~~W. S.~~

The minutes of the preceding meeting were read & confirmed.

A letter was received from J. P. J. Caulfield asking for a reconsideration of the matter of the rent of the Hall for his lecture. It was decided that the matter should not be reopened.

The Library sub-committee reported as follows: -

Your committee beg to recommend the following for addition to the Library: -

From Melville, Muller & Stade 16 vols @ £5.5.0

Accounts amounting to £12.13.11 have been examined and found correct.

Resolved, on the motion of Revd Mr Ahernethy and Mr Hood, that the Report be adopted.

The House sub-committee reported as follows: -

Your committee beg to report that a deputation from them waited on the Hackney Carriage Committee of the City Council with a view to have the load stand removed that is now in front of one of our shops. Kerosene has been substituted for gas in some of the passages and also in the area and closets. It is believed that a good saving will

Hackney
Carriage
Stand

cost will be effected by the change. Accounts amounting to £88 have been examined & found correct.

Resolved, on motion of Mr Barlow & Mr Hood, that the Report be adopted.

The Finance sub-committee reported as follows:-

Your Committee beg to report that they have audited the A/c's for May, and found them correct.

Insurance Increase of Rate

The Insurance companies have raised the charge for Insurance from 5% (the former price) to 6% per £100. The Treasurer & Secretary interviewed the directors of the various companies to try and obtain a concession in our favour, but were not successful. Payment had, therefore, to be made at the increased rate. The increase amounted to a little over £5.

Renewal of Mortgage

The Treasurer has received a letter from Mr Eggleston (one of the Trustees of the Sumner Estate), saying that as Mr Louch's valuation of the real estate of the Institution is satisfactory, the renewal of the Mortgage will be granted for five years at four per cent per annum.

Valuation £30,000

Mr Louch, the Valuator, informed Mr Curtis that he had valued the property at £30,000

It will be necessary to pass a formal resolution that the renewal be made, and that our Trustees be requested to sign the Mortgage Deed.

The following accounts are recommended for payment, together with the Insurance premiums:-

Salaries and wages	£ 44. 10. 0
Power & Lighting Rate	56. 5. 0
Gas & Electric Light	22. 16. 0
Melville, Muller & Glade Books	5. 17. 6
William Kempfold. Binding	3. 12. 0
G. Cassell and Co. Papers	3. 4. 5
Constitution. Closets	2. 5. 0
Sum of A/c's	1. 14. 0
E. W. M. Louch. fee for Valuation	5. 5. 0
	<hr/>
	145. 8. 11

Brought Forward 145. 8. 11
 Interest on Mortgage £16,000 @ 5% }
 for 1/2 year ending 30th June 1897 } 400. 0. 0
 £ 545. 8. 11

Resolved, on motion of Mr Barlow & Mr Donneward, that the Report be adopted.

Mortgage £16,000 5 years at 5%

Resolved, on motion of Mr Barlow & Mr Hood (carried unanimously) "That the Mortgage for £16,000 with the Trustees of the Sumner Estate be renewed for five years at four per cent per annum, and that the Trustees of the Melbourne Athenaeum be requested, and are hereby authorised to sign the Mortgage Deed."

Resolved, on motion of Mr Langston & Mr Barlow, that a hearty vote of thanks be given to the Treasurer, Mr Rennie for the careful and energetic manner in which he negotiated the renewal of the mortgage.

Her Majesty's second reign.

Resolved that the Library be closed 22nd & 23rd June, and the Reading Room 22nd June, the holidays in honour of Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee.

The Secretary suggested that, if there were demonstrations in the town on other nights, it might be desirable to close the Library & Reading Room during their progress. He was instructed to take the advice of the Chairman of the House Committee (Mr Barlow) on the subject.

A conversation took place with reference to the Question of the Illumination of the Institution on the 22nd. The general feeling of the Committee was that any public illumination would be unworthy of the Institution, and that our finances would not permit of incurring the expense of a suitable illumination. The Secretary was instructed to have the Library & Reading Room and Upper Hall lit up as usual, & to have the blinds drawn up.

cost will be effected by the change. Accounts amounting to £88 have been examined & found correct.

Resolved, on motion of Mr Barlow & Mr Hood, that the Report be adopted.

The Finance sub-committee reported as follows:-

Your Committee beg to report that they have audited the A/c's for May, and found them correct.

Insurance
Increase
Rate

The Insurance companies have raised the charge for Insurance from 5% (the former price) to 6% per £100. The Treasurer & Secretary interviewed the Secretaries of the various Companies to try and obtain a concession in our favour, but were not successful. Payment had, therefore, to be made at the increased rate. The increase amounted to a little over £5.

Renewal
of
Mortgage

The Treasurer has received a letter from Mr Eggleston (one of the Trustees of the Sunn Estate), saying that as Mr Louch's valuation of the real estate of the Institution is satisfactory, the renewal of the Mortgage will be granted for five years at four per cent per annum.

Valuation
£30,000

Mr Louch, the Valuator, informed Mr Curtis that he had valued the property at £30,000.

It will be necessary to pass a formal resolution that the renewal be made, and that our Trustees be requested to sign the Mortgage Deed.

The following accounts are recommended for payment, together with the Insurance premiums:-

Salaries and wages	£44.10.0
Power & Lighting Rate	56.5.0
Gas & Electric Light	22.16.0
Melville, Muller & Glade Books	5.17.6
William Detmold. Binding	3.12.0
G. L. and du N' papers	3.4.5
Cooperation. Closets	2.5.0
Sundry A/c's	1.14.0
E. W. M. Louch. fee for valuation	5.5.0
	<hr/>
	145.8.11

Imperial Chambers,
Bank Place.

Melbourne 26 May 1897

Chas. Rennie Esq
Southern Assurance Co
Queen
Deart / re Attention

Mr Crouch's valuation is
satisfactory so that the
desired renewal will be granted
for 5 years at 4 per cent

I will arrange to have
the new mortgage prepared.
Kindly send me up a cheque
for Mr Crouch's fee

Yours truly

John W. Eggleston

The Secretary read the comparative statement of Receipts and Expenditure for the first five months of 1897 - 98.

Mr Harlin, on behalf of the Chess Club, thanked the Committee for their kindness in giving the Upper Hall of the Club for the Chess Tournament 24th May 1897 with New South Wales.

Secretary's Statement.

Subscriptions for the month £ 77.11.0
5 months 349.4.0

Total revenue of the month £ 165.11.5
5 months 798.5.2

New members during the month 14
5 months 55

Balance in Bank £ 763.0.4
S. Wood deposit 500.0.0

M. A. Callaway
1 July 1897.

Thursday 1st July 1897

The General Committee met at 8 P.M.
Mr Callaway, President, (chair)

Hood Vice President

Rennie Treasurer

Ridley

Yeal

Barlow

Thomas

Harlin

Lush

Sangster

Harris

Rev. Abernethy

Apologies for absence received from Mr Duffe & Mr Jamieson.

Minutes of previous meeting read & confirmed.

The Treasurer, Mr Rennie, said that he was unavoidably absent from last meeting. He now begged to return thanks for the resolution then passed, thanking him for his services in connection with the removal of the Moot page.

The Library sub-committee reported as follows:—

Your committee beg to report & recommend the following for addition to the Library

From Melville, Muller & Slade 14 vols £5.3.9

Accounts amounting to £15.13.7 have been examined & found correct.

Resolved, on motion of Rev. Mr Abernethy & Mr Hood, that the Report be adopted.

The House sub-committee reported as follows:—

Your committee beg to report that the Gate stand, that had been in front of Mr Stroudley's Shop, has been removed. Accounts amounting to £36.9.3 have been examined & found correct.

Resolved, on motion of Mr Hand & Mr Thomas, that the Report be adopted

Resolved, on motion of Mr Barlow & Mr Lusk, that a letter of thanks be sent to the Hackney Carriage Committee of the City Council for the courteous manner in which they had received the deputation, and for having removed the Cab stand.

The Finance Sub Committee reported as follows:—

Your committee beg to report that they have audited the A/c for June & found them correct. Mr Gibbs (the Senior Trustee) has informed the Secretary that he has signed the mortgage, and that it has been sent on to Mr Meeks for signature. Mr Thornley, the other Trustee, is at present out of the colony.

The following A/cs are recommended for payment:—

Salaries & wages	£41.12.0
The New Aus. Electric Co Ltd. May	11.10.0
The Metho ⁿ Gas Co ^y "	9.6.6
Alex ^r Kemp. Repairs	6.19
Melville, Muller & Stone Books	6.13.2
William DeLmald. Printing	4.10.0
G. Casselken Newspapers	3.4.5
Chambers & Seymour. Goods	1.12.0
Secretary's Guarantee Policy (586) RP	1.10.0
Refunds to Victorian Lumber's Institute	2.2.0
Adm ⁿ Mining Standard 7/8/97	1.6.0
Mickie Repairs	£ 0.16.97
Gas Co ^y . Goods	5.0 5/ 1.1.9
	£ 91.6.10

Resolved, on motion of Mr Rennie & Mr Barlow, that the Report be adopted.

The Secretary read the comparative statement of Receipts & Expenditure for first six months of 1897-98

Secretary's statement.

Subscriptions for the month £11.3.6
6 months £20.7.6

Total revenue of the month 213.15.3
Six months 1012.0.5

New members during month 11
6 months 66

Balance in Bank £431.6.8
Fixed Deposit 500.0.0

M. H. Callaway
Aug 5/97

Mortgage signed

Thursday 5th August 1897

The General Committee met at 8 P.M.
 Mr Callaway (Chair) Pres
 Stand Vice Pres
 Rennie Treasurer
 Thomas
 Barlow
 Ridley
 Davies
 Martin

Apologies made for absence of Mr Sliffe, Mr Deal, Mr Luce
 & Mr W. A. Churnethy.

Minutes of previous meeting read & confirmed.

To Luce

A letter was read from Mr J. Luce, dated Colonial Institute
 London 23rd June, thanking the Committee for granting
 him six months' leave of absence.

The Library Committee reported as follows:

Your Committee beg to recommend
 for addition to the Library 17 vols @ £3.15.5.
 Accounts amounting to £32.6.5 have been examined
 and found correct.

Resolved, on motion of Mr Hood & Mr Thomas,
 that the Report be adopted.

The House sub-committee reported
 that it was resolved to recommend that a Webbs
 bureau be placed in the Liedertafel Club room, and
 that the accounts to £23.10.9 had been examined
 & found correct. Resolved, on motion of Mr Barlow & Mr
 Hood that the report be adopted.

The Finance sub-committee reported as
 follows:—
 Your Committee beg to report that they

have audited the A/c for July and find them correct.
 The Fixed Deposit of £500 in the Bank of Australia
 is due 8th Aug. It is recommended that it be re-deposited
 for 12 months. The following A/cs are recommended for
 payment:—

Salaries & Wages	£ 44.10.0
The New Crown Electric Co Ltd	11. 2. 6
Jas Coy	10. 17. 6
William Schmidt Reading & Stationery	8. 13. 9
John Armstrong & Papers	6. 19. 9
Melville Mullen & Glade Books	6. 14. 0
G. Casselden & Papers	3. 4. 5
G. Robertson & Co Books	2. 16. 0
Melbourne Punch	1. 4. 0
Atlas Daily Times to 31/7/97	1. 0. 0
Wm. Harwood Smith & Sons. Post	19. 6
Haunt Binding Clocks to 31/7/97	15. 9
Sundry A/cs	1. 19. 0
	<u>£ 100. 16. 2</u>

Resolved, on motion of Mr Barlow & Mr
 Rennie, that the Report be adopted.

The Secretary read the Comparative Statement of
 Receipts & Expenditure for first seven months
 of 1897-98.

Resolved, on motion of Mr Thomas, that the
 Library Committee be requested to furnish the
 General Committee with the following information:—

1. The date of the last stock taking of
 the Library.
2. The number of books then on hand
3. The number of books added to the Library
 in every year since

4. The number of books since disposed of by sale or otherwise, and the amount realised
5. The estimated number of books now in the Library.

Secretary's Statement

Subscriptions for the month £9⁰.19.0
 7 months 512.6.6

Total revenue of the month 248.15.0
 7 months 1260.15.5

New members during month 14
 7 months 80

Balance in Bank £586.14.10
 Fixed Deposit £ 500

M. A. Callaway
 2 Sept 1897

Thursday 2nd September 1897

The General Committee at 8 P.M.
 Mr Callaway, President (Chair)
 Mr Ad Vice Pres
 Barlow
 Thomas
 Dawnwood
 Veal
 Cliffe
 Kerlin
 Lush

Mr Jamieson

Rev Mr Abernethy

Apologies received for the absence of Mr Rennie, Mr Ridley, and Mr Gales

Minutes of previous meeting read and confirmed.

The Library Committee reported as follows:-

Your committee beg to report that they have requested Mr Smith, the Librarian, to answer the questions which were referred to us by you.

The following are recommended for addition to the Library:-

From Melville Muller & Stode	16 vols	£3.19.7
Ex Robertson & Co	3	2.1.0

Accounts amounting to £111.13.3 have been examined and found correct.

Resolved, on motion of Rev Mr Abernethy & Mr Ad, that the Report be adopted.

The House Committee reported as follows:-

Your committee beg to report that the Broadwood Gas light has been placed in the Club Room of the Royal Victoria Hospital, and is considered very satisfactory. Accounts amounting to £30.2.0 have been examined and found correct.

Resolved, on motion of Mr Barlow & Mr Hood, that the report be adopted.

The Finance Committee reported as follows:—

Our Committee beg to report that they have audited the A/cs for August, and find them correct. The sum of £500 has been re-deposited in the Bank of Australasia for twelve months @ 2½% per ann.

The following are recommended for payment:—

Salaries & wages	£ 41. 12. 0
Whitehead & Co Periodicals	72. 18. 10
Wm Dawson & Sons & papers	24. 5. 4
Melrose Gas Co Dues	15. 6. 0
The New Austr Electric Co July	11. 10. 0
McNulle, Drullen & Glade. Books	5. 6. 5
Wm Helmold. Binding	4. 12. 0
G. Leaselden & papers	3. 3. 8
Melrose Board of Works. Hydroforants	2. 13. 0
Sundry Gas & Petty Cash	7. 2. 0
	<hr/>
	£ 188. 7. 3

Resolved, on motion of Mr Dawson & Mr Thomas, that the report be adopted.

The following was then read:—

Report

Mr Smith, Librarian

Gentlemen,

Having been requested by the Library Committee to answer a series of questions from the General Committee with reference to the books of the Library, I beg to state:—

1. The last general checking of the books took place in the year 1876. The whole of the Library was then re-arranged, and a new Catalogue was printed.
2. The number of books then in the Library was about

sixteen thousand.

3. Since then there has been an average of about 600 books added every year.
4. In the year 1875, a very large number of old books and of duplicate work was withdrawn from the Library, and sold for £32. 15. 4. Since that time, no books have been sold. The mutilated books have, by order of the General Committee, been donated to the various Charitable Institutions, the number so disposed of being about equal to the additions during the year.
5. The estimated number of books now in the Library is about 16,000.

(Signed) W Smith. Librarian.

A long discussion followed the reading of the Report. It was ultimately Resolved, on motion of Mr Bliffe and Mr Barlow, that the Question of the Management of the Library, ~~be referred~~ especially with reference to the addition and withdrawal of books therefrom, be referred to the Library Committee to report thereon.

The Secretary read the Comparative Statement of A/cs for first eight months of 1897-98.

Secretary's statement	
Subscriptions for the month	£ 64. 11. 0
8 months	576. 17. 6
Total revenue of month	143. 15. 6
8 months	1404. 10. 11
New members during month	8
8 months 89	
Balance in Bank	£ 627. 14. 8
Fixed Deposit	500. 0. 0

A. A. Callaway
7. 10. 97

Thursday 7th October 1897

The General Committee met at 8 pm
 Mr Callaway President. Chris
 Hood Vice Pres
 Rennie Treasurer
 Revd Abernethy
 Mr Barlow
 Davies
 Ridley
 Langston
 Duffe
 Harlin
 Hammond
 Sales
 Sush
 Mr Jamieson

An apology was received for the absence of Mr Teal.

Minutes of previous meeting read and confirmed.

A letter was read from Mr C J Thomas resigning his place on the Committee.

Resolved, on motion of Revd Mr Abernethy & Mr Langston, that it be accepted with regret.

A letter was read from Mr White, a subscriber, complaining of a nuisance caused by a member expectorating on the floor of the Reading Room. It was resolved that Mr White be requested to point out to the Secretary or the Librarian any member so offending in future, and that the said member be warned in the first instance, and be expelled for a repetition of the offence.

A letter was read from Mr Mitton, School Superintendent of the Laticle & Raffo School mission, asking for a reduction in the rent of the Hall. Resolved that the request cannot be granted.

The Library Committee reported as follows:—
 Your Committee beg to recommend the

for addition to the Library, 19 vols from Melville Mullen and Glade at a cost of £2. 12. 1 Accounts amounting to £37. 3. 6 have been examined and found correct. With reference to the question of

The Management of the Library

referred to this Committee by the General Committee, your Committee report that the Secretary exhibited to them the minute of the General Committee meeting held 9th March 1881 resolving that the Books withdrawn from circulation be distributed among the charitable institutions. The Librarian laid before us the result of a calculation that he had made of the number of books added to and taken from the Library during the ten years last past, from this it appears that 2657 works (representing 3928 volumes) had been added during that period, and that 2018 works (representing 2518 vols) had been withdrawn. The Librarian showed the Committee his manuscript copy of the Catalogue and of the additions thereto. He stated that he goes periodically through his ledgers to ascertain if any borrowed books had not been returned.

Your Committee are of opinion that the Library records are well & faithfully kept, and that it is almost impossible for a book to be lost without the knowledge of the Librarian.

It is recommended that, in future, all books which the Librarian shall propose to withdraw from the Library shall be placed before the Library Committee; also that books no longer required but in good enough condition to be sold, be periodically placed before the Library Committee. In order that the books on the higher shelves of the Library, which cannot be dusted every day, shall be gradually dusted, your Committee have given instructions that the Hall Keeper's assistant shall dust a portion of them each afternoon.

Resolved, on motion of Revd Mr Abernethy and Mr Hood that the Report be adopted.

The Finance Committee reported as follows:—
 Your Committee beg to report that they have audited the accounts for September, and found them correct.

Insurance
 on
 Books
 & Furniture

The Victoria Insurance Co^y & the South British & the Cos Co^y have made a considerable increase in the premium of the Policies of Insurance on the Books in the Library, and the Furniture in the Halls, Reading Room & other Rooms. Your Committee recommend that there should be a reduction in the amount for which they are insured. At present, the amounts are:—

Victoria	Books	Furniture in Reading Room Library & other Rooms	Furniture in Large Hall
Victoria	£ 800	£ 500	£ 350
South British	£ 800	£ 500	

Payment is recommended of the following A/c's:—

Salaris & Wages	£ 41. 12. 0
Tax on Rate City of Melbourne	37. 10. 0
Gordon & Gotch H ^o Papers to 30/9/97	22. 1. 6
Melbourn Gas Co ^y Aug ^l	9. 17. 6
New Queen Electric Co Ltd	11. 10. 0
Melville Muller & Glasse Books	5. 9. 4
Wm Debnold Binding	5. 5. 8
South British & the Cos Co ^y 10/12/97	3. 17. 8
Victoria Ins. Co ^y Policy	4. 11. 0
G Casselden & Papers	3. 3. 8
Chambers & Seymour Goods	1. 13. 6
Alex ^r Kemp. Repairs	1. 2. 0
Cooperation of Melbourne Closets	2. 5. 0
Melbourne Council	1. 4. 0
Howard Smith & Sons. Coal	19. 6
Melbourn Gas Co ^y Goods	2. 13. 0
	<hr/> £ 154. 15. 4

Resolved, on motion of Mr Rennie & Mr Hoad, that the Report be adopted

Resolved, on motion of Mr Rennie & Mr Diffe, that the amounts insured be reduced as follows

	Books	Furniture in Reading Room Library & other rooms	Furniture Large Hall
Victoria	£ 500	£ 350	£ 200
South British	£ 500	£ 350	

The House sub-committee reported as follows:—

Your Committee beg to report that A/c's amounting to £ 77. 10. 6 have been examined & found correct. Mr Ridley on behalf of the Royal Melbourne Hospital has returned thanks for the placing of the Encasement of the Burner in their Club room.

Resolved, on motion of Mr Barton & Mr Ridley, that the report be adopted.

Cup.

Resolved that the Library be closed all day on "Cup" day, & that the Reading Room be closed from 12 noon till 6 p.m.

Resolved that next meeting be held on 11th Nov

The Secretary read the comparative statement of Receipts & Expenditure for first nine months of 1897-98

Secretary's statement

Subscriptions for the month	£ 61. 13. 0
9 months	638. 10. 6

Total revenue of the month	192. 15. 6
9 months	1597. 6. 5

New members during month	11
9 months	100

Balance in Bank	£ 632. 2. 11
Fixed Deposit	500. 0. 0

M. A. Callaway
 11. 11. 97

Thursday 11th Nov 1897

The Committee met at 8 P.M.
 Mr Callaway President Chair
 Hood V. Pres
 Barlow
 Ridley
 Bliffe
 Langster
 Davis
 Veal
 Harlin
 Luch
 Mr. Downward

Minutes of previous meeting read & confirmed.

S. S. Daniel

Mr S. S. Daniel who had been nominated by Mr Callaway & Mr Downward to fill the vacancy on the Committee caused by the resignation of Mr Thomas, the provisions of Rule 39 having been carried out, was declared duly elected. Mr Daniel was placed on the Library subcommittee.

The Library subcommittee reported as follows:-

Your Committee beg to recommend for addition to the Library 24 vols from Mulville, Muller & Glade at £4.19.7. Payment is recommended of A/cs amounting to £17.4.8

Resolved, on motion of Mr Hood & Mr Ridley, that the Report be adopted.

The Finance subcommittee reported as follows:-

Your Committee beg to report that they have audited the accounts for October and found them correct. Payment is recommended of the following A/cs:-

Salaries & wages	£ 44 . 10 . 0
Mess & Message Board of Work. Matter	12 . 15 . 0
Message for City Sept	11 . 13 . 0
The New North Cheshire Stn	11 . 10 . 0
John Armstrong & Papers	4 . 19 . 9
William Lockwood Building	3 . 15 . 0
George Asplden & Papers	3 . 4 . 5
Mulville, Muller & Glade Books	2 . 19 . 0
J. J. Edwards & Bendish Printers	15 . 0
Whitehead Stationery	5 . 6
	£ 98 . 4 . 8

Resolved, on motion of Mr Barlow & Mr Veal, that the Report be adopted.

The Secretary read the Comparative Statement of A/cs for first ten months of 1897 - 96.

Secretary's statement.

Subscriptions for the month £ 58.8.0
 10 months 696.18.6

Total revenue of the month 127.1.6
 10 months 1724.7.11

New members during the month 14
 10 months 114

Balance in Bank £ 604.9.9
 Fixed Deposit 500.0.0

W. H. Callaway
 2nd Decr 1897.

Thursday 2nd Dec 1897

The General Committee met at 8 p.m.
 W. Callaway Pres (Chair)
 H. A. D. Vice Pres
 Rennie Treasurer
 Barlow
 Ridley
 Davis
 Langley
 Collier
 Daniel
 Lush
 Pliffe

Rev. Mr. Clougherty

An apology was made for the absence of Mr. Veal

The minutes of the previous meeting were read & confirmed.

A letter was read from the Librarian, Mr. Smith, stating that he felt in ill health and required a holiday. He asked the Committee to be good enough to grant him a gratuity to enable him to do so, as he has not been able to save anything from his present small salary.

Resolved, that the matter be referred to the Finance Committee to report.

The Library Committee, in their report, recommended 20 vols for addition to the Library at a cost of £5.2.11. It also recommended payment of wages amounting to £13.6. The Report was adopted, on the motion of Rev. Mr. Clougherty & Mr. Barlow.

The House Committee reported having audited the accounts amounting to £9,517.9 which were found correct. The Report was adopted on the motion of Mr. Barlow & Mr. Davis

The Finance Committee reported as follows:-

Your Committee have the honor to report that they have audited the accounts for 1897 & found them correct. Payment is recommended of the following a/c.

Salaries & Wages	£ 41. 12. 0
Gas & Electric Light	10. 3. 0
Melville Mullen & Glade, Books	6. 9. 10
G. Leavelle & Sons papers	3. 3. 8
Maple & Co. Ltd. paper	2. 10. 0
John Peckie & Co. paper	2. 5. 6
Chambers & Sumner paper	1. 12. 2
Printer & Stationer paper	3. 6
Interest on mortgage	920. 0. 0
	<hr/>
	397. 2. 5

Resolved, on motion of Mr. Barlow & Mr. Davis, that the Report be adopted.

The next meeting was fixed for 13th Jan 9.

Holidays

Resolved that the Library be closed on 28th ~~Jan~~ December as well as on 25th & 27th and also on 27th & 30th Jan 9 as well as 1st Feb. The Reading Room to be closed, in accordance with the rules, on Christmas Day, Boxing Day, & New Year's Day.

Secretary read Comparative Statement of Receipts & Expenditure for past 11 months of 1897-98.

Secretary's Statement

Subscriptions for the month	£ 42. 5. 6
11 months	739. 6. 0
Excess amount of month	145. 3. 10
11 months	1869. 11. 9

New members during month

7131

Balance in bank £ 657. 5. 11

Excess deposit

W. A. Callaway
13 Jan 1898