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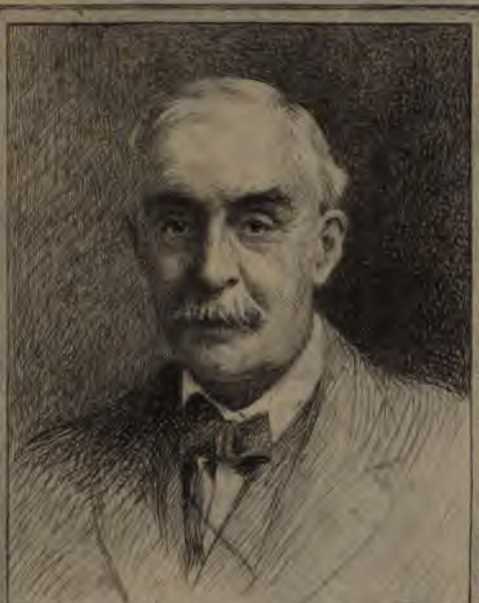
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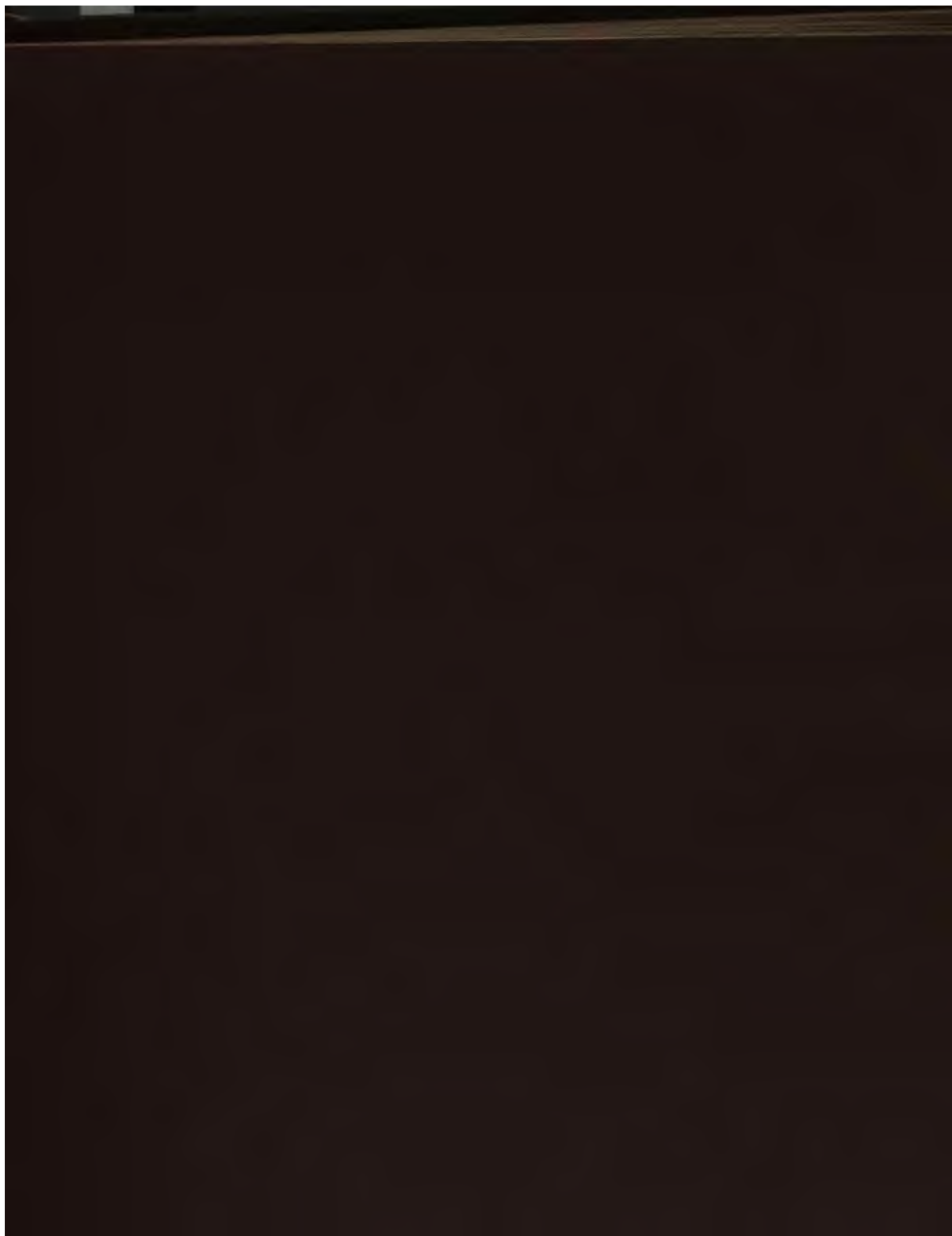
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To  
Professor R. M. Wenley,  
Ph.D.

With Compliments  
and kind regards,

Geo. Landen

1<sup>st</sup> November, 1897.

THE GLASGOW ATHENÆUM













J. Worlie, A. M. Bayne, W. Campbell, J. Edwards, J. P. Harrington, G. Duthie, Dr. Lapraik, Dr. Macintyre, R. Legget, *Vis-Chairman*, J. Casells, J. Lauder, *Secretary*, J. Wilson, J. Henderson, T. M'Arty, J. Provau, *Chairman*.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, 1897.

The Glasgow Athenæum :  
A Sketch of  
Fifty Years' Work  
(1847-1897)

BY  
JAMES LAUDER, F.R.S.L.  
*Secretary of the Institution*



GLASGOW  
AT THE SAINT MUNGO PRESS, LIMITED  
1897

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TO THE  
DIRECTORS,  
MEMBERS, TEACHERS, AND STUDENTS,  
PAST AND PRESENT,  
OF THE  
GLASGOW ATHENÆUM,

THIS VOLUME IS RESPECTFULLY

**Dedicated,**

IN GRATEFUL APPRECIATION OF MANY PLEASANT ASSOCIATIONS,  
AND OF FRIENDSHIPS FORMED DURING THE YEARS OF  
THE AUTHOR'S OFFICIAL CONNECTION  
WITH THE INSTITUTION.



## Preface

*WHEN asked by the Directors and the Members of the Jubilee Committee, in the month of April last, to prepare an historical sketch of the Athenæum, for publication in connection with its Jubilee Celebrations, I had some hesitation in undertaking the task, owing to the limited time and the pressure of other duties. Moreover, my intimate association with the Institution, whilst in some respects an advantage, would, I felt, place restrictions upon the freedom of my pen in writing such a sketch, inasmuch as many of the points presented by me should necessarily require great delicacy of treatment. The knowledge that the work would be a labour of love was probably the strongest reason for my setting aside the difficulties I apprehended, and for acceding to the request that I should accept this responsibility. I trust that the accomplishment of the task will not disappoint those who were responsible for my undertaking it, and that the volume will tend, in some degree, to make more widely known the work in which the Athenæum has been engaged, and to extend still further the usefulness of an Institution, which now occupies such an important place in the educational equipment of the City, and in whose service many of the best years of my life have been spent.*



*I desire to acknowledge my indebtedness to those friends who have put at my disposal facts and documents connected with the history of the Institution, and also to Mr. Robert Forrester, Bookseller and Publisher, Glasgow, for the kind permission granted me to print Macfarlan's Poem, "The Lords of Labour." To those, and to all others whose kind assistance has helped to lighten my work, I would return my cordial thanks.*

*J. L.*

*Glasgow, 1st October, 1897.*

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CHAPTER  
FIRST

*INTRODUCTION—  
GLASGOW COMMERCIAL  
COLLEGE*

THERE is a kernel of romance at the centre of the growth of much of the sweetest and the best of the intellectual and moral fruit of the world, and this fruit is not the less delicious in taste when we learn of the witchery of its creation and of the kindly influences by which it has been matured to ripeness and beauty. One of the most gratifying facts in human progress—as it is one of the most helpful factors for earnest workers—is that many of the grandest achievements in science and social life had their birth under the most modest conditions. And, to compare small things with great, it may not be without interest if, in the following pages, an effort be made to trace the modest origin, and the by-no-means unromantic development, of one of the educational and literary institutions of our ancient and beloved city of Glasgow.

In the month of November, 1845, a young lad attended the introductory lecture to a course on Chemistry being delivered in the Andersonian University by Professor Penny. On leaving the lecture-room there was handed to him, in common with the rest of the audience, a circular entitled “Glasgow Educational Association.” This circular he took home, and it afterwards fell into the hands of his elder brother. To this apparently trivial

incident is to be directly traced the origin of the Glasgow Athenæum. The lad in question was James Provan, who, still associated with the Institution he was thus, no doubt unconsciously at the time, the medium of initiating, has for upwards of fifteen years filled, with much acceptance to his colleagues, as well as with great advantage to the Athenæum, the position of Chairman of the Board of Directors.

The circular referred to was issued by a number of young men who, feeling the want of further education, had conceived the idea of forming themselves into an Association. To Mr. Robert Reid, then of the firm of Reid & Leitch, Manufacturers, Glasgow, is to be attributed the honour of having initiated this desirable movement. Mr. Reid has for many years past been resident in London. For the benefit of those who may feel interested in the inception of this scheme of "self-help" on the part of those active-minded young men, a copy of the circular is printed in the Appendix.

Through the incident described above, Moses Provan became immediately associated with this movement, and to him the Association owes the name under which it was ultimately launched—that of the Glasgow Commercial College. At a public meeting of the members of this new Association held on the 3rd December, 1845, a Committee, consisting of Messrs. Robert Reid, Robert Rae, Robert Stark, Jun., R. Dun, A. Taylor, Moses Provan, A. H. Maclean, A. Hamilton, and W. T. Templeton, was appointed. In due course twelve Directors were chosen, Mr. Robert Reid being elected President, and Mr. Provan, Treasurer.

The youthful aspirant in academic culture was introduced to the field of educational labour by an inaugural lecture delivered by Sheriff Henry Glassford Bell, whilst the first class in con-

nection with the College met in the rooms of the Andersonian University, George Street, in February, 1846, for the study of Logic, which subject was taught by the Rev. James (afterwards Dr.) Paterson, of Hope Street Baptist Church. The class had 108 students, and met at seven o'clock a.m. There was also a weekly meeting on Friday evenings, when abstracts of the lectures were read and discussed. The first session of the College was formally closed with a soiree, held in the Assembly Rooms, on the 29th May, 1846.

Mr. Moses Provan was not more than twenty-five years of age when the Commercial College was instituted. Born at Easter Ledlewan, he received a liberal education in his native parish of Killearn. At the age of sixteen he came to Glasgow and entered the employment of Bailie M'Leod, then a bookseller in the city, being no doubt drawn to this occupation through his natural fondness for books. Some two years later he entered the counting-house of Messrs. D. & A. Cuthbertson, Chartered Accountants, of which firm he ultimately became a partner. As a youth he was a diligent student of Mathematics, Astronomy, and the Physical Sciences, and on two occasions received prizes for essays offered publicly by the Gorbals Popular Institute, to which institution he afterwards, for sometime, acted as secretary. All the others associated with the inception of the Commercial College were young men who could not contemplate the responsibilities of the undertaking without some misgivings.



MOSES PROVAN.



The second session of the College was not quite so successful as had been anticipated, as, whilst there had been in the first session 108 students in one class, there were only 120 in two classes in the second. In that session there were classes both for Logic and Political Economy, but the latter subject does not appear to have been very popular. The lecturer on Political Economy was Mr. Mills, who had been recommended to the Directors by Mr. Richard Cobden, M.P. At the close of the second session a Social Meeting of friends was held in the saloon of the Eagle Hotel. Mr. Robert Reid, the President of the College, occupied the chair, and addresses were delivered by Messrs. George Peacock, George M'Leod, William T. Templeton, and Andrew H. Maclean. Special interest is, however, attached to the address given by Mr. Moses Provan, as, on that occasion, public allusion was made for the first time to the Institution which afterwards developed into the Athenæum. Mr. Provan said—"You have now heard that, after a short transition stage, it is proposed to merge the Commercial College in a new Institution which is intended to be formed in Glasgow, somewhat on the model of the Manchester Athenæum, but possessing more of an educational cast. If successful, as it deserves to be, it will place our Institution on a broad and permanent basis, such as it does not now possess: it will give it what it very much wants—'a local habitation and a name.' At present we meet before the break of day, and disperse like a band of whiteboys before the world is well awake, and nobody consequently knows anything of our whereabouts. Everyone must perceive that midway between the Mechanics' Institution and the Glasgow University there exists a great educational vacuum, which has not yet been filled up, although eventually it must be. It is a mere question of time whether it shall be filled up at present or at some future

period. Believing, as I do, that the matter ought to be proceeded with now, and by us—seeing that we have the power, we come now to consider how we can best suit the supply to the demand.” . . . “If, then, we had a large building, with spacious apartments, handsomely furnished ; if we had therein a news-room, a reading-room, a library, all well supplied ; if we had a comfortable coffee-room, a gymnasium, and baths ; if we had not only classes for the talented and persevering few, but also popular lectures for the many, and concerts and other means of relaxation for all : should we not have the very thing that Glasgow stands in need of, an Institution of which the city might well be proud ? There are multitudes of young men who would come to such an Institution—some for instruction, some for amusement, not a few to ward off that depression of spirits which sometimes comes across the breast of every man.”

The intellectual grasp, as well as the far-seeing shrewdness, of Mr. Provan's words will be readily appreciated, while by their utterance he became justly entitled to be considered the founder of the Institution. These words possess, however, another significant quality—that of being unconsciously prophetic ; yet the Athenæum now affords a far wider and more generous field of culture than that of which the speaker, or probably any of his listeners, then dreamed.

The meeting at which this suggestive address was delivered was practically the closing one of the Commercial College ; for, although a class for Rhetoric was held, in the spring of 1847, by Mr. Paterson, little further practical work seems to have been done. It was said, by way of joke, that the Commercial College died from the results of early rising. Certainly attendance in the early winter mornings was only possible through great self-denial and determination ; and many amusing stories are told of

the efforts to get up in time for the various morning lectures and classes. To such an extent were alarm clocks in demand, that an importer of these useful articles, in Glassford Street, took upon himself the title of "Clock-maker to the Commercial College." Even the ordinary alarm sometimes failed in its mission, and stories are told of trays being balanced on the back of a chair, with ponderous iron weights mysteriously arranged thereon to augment the noise of the alarm, with the result that not only was the zealous student aroused, but the whole household were subject to a premature and uncongenial awakening.

CHAPTER  
SECOND

*ESTABLISHMENT OF THE  
ATHENÆUM*

THE suggestions thrown out by Mr. Provan at the meeting alluded to were soon taken up, and we find that, at a meeting held in Steel's Coffee-house, on the 18th January, 1847, a Sub-Committee was appointed. This Committee met on the 21st of the same month, when the following resolution was adopted :—

“At a meeting of young men held to consider the propriety of endeavouring to form a Literary and Scientific Institution adapted to the wants of the commercial classes of Glasgow, it was resolved to take steps towards the formation of an Institution combining the following features, viz. :—

- (1) Classes for studying systematically the more important departments of knowledge, including the modern languages and other branches bearing directly on business ;
- (2) Short courses of Popular Lectures ;
- (3) Reading-rooms and Library ;
- (4) Essay and Discussion Classes ;
- (5) Gymnasium and Baths ;
- (6) Occasional Concerts, Soirees, &c. ;
- (7) Coffee-rooms.”

Mr. Moses Provan was appointed Convener of this Sub-Committee.

It appears, a little later on, that a misapprehension had arisen—a misapprehension which has been repeated even within very recent years—namely, that the Glasgow Athenæum was the

outcome of a Penny Reading-room which existed in Glasgow under the title of the "Glasgow Athenæum and Telegraphic News-room"; and the Sub-Committee, to prevent any misconception, resolved at an early meeting to advertise that the new Institution which they were projecting had no connection with this News-room which bore the same title, and which, about this time, seems to have been closed.

Up to this point the work had been carried on entirely by the young men associated with the movement; but the formation of a Provisional Committee was now proceeded with, consisting partly of influential citizens, and partly of the young men who had initiated the scheme. A general meeting of this Committee was held in the Wellington Hotel, on 11th February, when the Lord Provost of the city (Mr. Alexander Hastie) presided. The scheme was generally approved of at this meeting, and a Finance Committee was appointed, of which Committee Mr. Henry Brock, of the Clydesdale Bank, was appointed Treasurer. The Sub-Committee then proceeded to prepare their Prospectus, which was issued under date of 1st March, 1847, and was signed by Mr. Robert Stark, Jun., Interim Secretary. A copy of this Prospectus, with the names of the Provisional Committee, is printed in the Appendix. In consequence of business engagements, Mr. Stark resigned the Secretaryship on the 19th of the same month, and Mr. Charles W. Connon, A.M., was appointed for a term of six months.

Several months were spent, chiefly in canvassing for subscriptions and in looking for premises. It will be observed from the Prospectus already referred to that it was intended to raise a building fund and erect premises in some convenient locality. This proposal was departed from, and at a committee meeting, held in May, the Secretary was instructed to write those gentle-

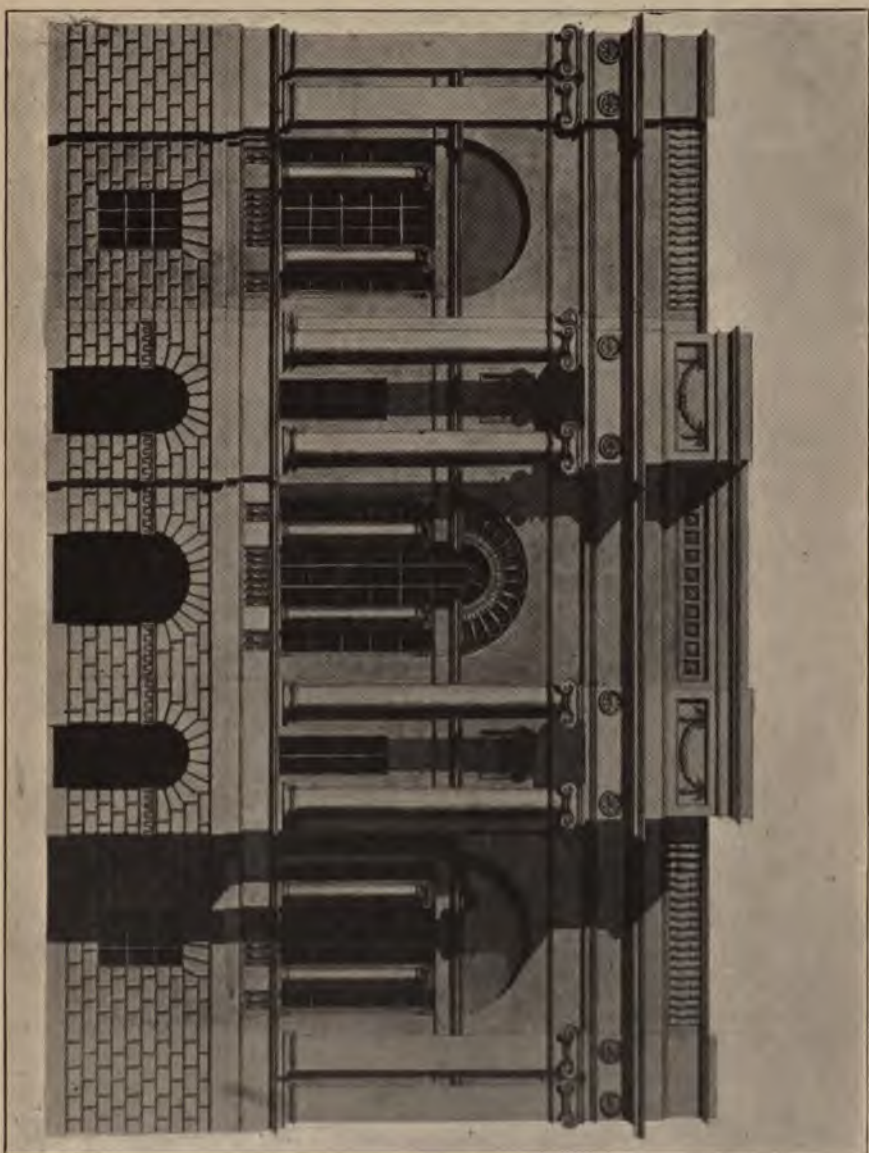
men who had taken shares, to the effect that it had been found impracticable to proceed with the erection of a building, and that the Committee had resolved to rent suitable premises ; likewise to request those gentlemen to convert their subscriptions for shares into donations. Difficulties of a financial nature seem to have beset the Committee, owing to the depression which existed in trade at the time ; and we find that, at a meeting held in June, a resolution was adopted to the effect that unless one thousand subscribers should deposit their annual subscription for the first year within fourteen days, the scheme should not be proceeded with. It was evident, however, that the citizens of Glasgow fully appreciated the high claims of the movement, for a public meeting in furtherance of the establishment of the Athenæum was held in the Assembly Rooms, Ingram Street, on 22nd June, 1847, under the chairmanship of the Lord Provost (Mr. Hastie). The hall on this occasion was crowded to excess, and it is said that many had to leave, unable to gain admission. Among those who took part in the proceedings were the Rev. Dr. Taylor, the Rev. Dr. Eadie, Mr. Charles R. Baird, Mr. James McClelland, Mr. Walter Crum, Mr. Moses Provan, and Mr. James F. Scott, of Greenock.

A report by the Provisional Committee was submitted, and the addresses being of a stimulating and encouraging nature, the result was an infusion of greater enthusiasm into the scheme. In the course of his remarks Dr. Taylor said—"Institutions of the kind referred to had been eminently successful elsewhere ; why not here? Such an instrument of mental and moral improvement is very much wanted here. We have ample materials for forming it. Money, men, and enterprise are needed to carry the scheme into effect, and Glasgow possesses all these in abundance ; and I shall be very loath to believe that a city so

distinguished for its liberality and public spirit would withhold its aid from an Institution so well deserving of its support. There is perhaps no city in the Empire which contains a greater number of that class for whose benefit such Institutions are principally, though by no means exclusively, intended. Glasgow is absolutely overflowing with young men, and these the most able, active, and enterprising : the flower of the rising generation who have flocked thither from all parts of the country in search of employment. It is unnecessary to speak of the temptations to which they are exposed in the midst of such a city as this, and at a distance from the watchful eye of parents and guardians."

From this point the work of organisation on the less ambitious lines which had been adopted moved forward more smoothly. A general meeting of the Subscribers was held on the 2nd August in the Assembly Rooms, Ingram Street, and was presided over by Bailie Anderson. It is curious to note that this first meeting should have been held in the building which afterwards, for so many years, became the home of the Institution. At this meeting the report of the Sub-Committee was approved of, on the motion of Mr. George M'Leod ; and it was remitted to the Committee to draw up the constitution and prepare a list of gentlemen to fill the offices of Trustees and Directors.

At a subsequent meeting held on the 19th of the same month, the rules were adopted and Directors were appointed. The Provisional Committee was discharged at this meeting, being at the same time thanked for the great services they had rendered. In this connection, as also in relation to other gentlemen who have from time to time served in the Directorate, it may be stated that a complete list of all who have held office in the Athenæum during the fifty years of its existence is given in the Appendix.



INGRAM STREET BUILDING.





The first meeting of the Ordinary Directors was held on the 23rd August, when Dr. Alfred Hall was elected Chairman ; Mr. Moses Provan, Vice-Chairman ; and Mr. Henry Brock, Treasurer. A meeting of Subscribers to the guarantee fund was held on the 3rd September following, when it was reported that the amount of the assets, after paying the preliminary expenses, amounted to £1072 ; the guarantee fund to £500 ; and further, that an accession of 480 members would enable the Directors to pay the cost of fitting up the premises and of defraying the first year's working expenses without calling upon the guarantors. The guarantors were afterwards relieved from their responsibilities in February, 1848.

Meantime the Committee had been looking out for premises. They at first directed their attention to the Monteith Rooms, Buchanan Street, but this idea was afterwards departed from in favour of the Assembly Rooms, in Ingram Street, which had been erected at the beginning of the century, but, owing to the movement in the city westwards, had not been so popular for their original purpose as at first, and, at the time, were held under lease by Mr. Mitchison, a concert promoter. Arrangements were made to rent those Rooms, the Directors paying Mr. Mitchison a certain sum as compensation for giving up his lease.

Extensive structural alterations were made upon the Rooms in question to suit the purpose for which they were now to be devoted. These alterations were carried out under the supervision of Mr. James Wylson and Mr. John Burnet, Architects, and Mr. Henry Herbertson, Measurer, all of whom were associated with the movement, and gave their services gratuitously. The value of these services was afterwards recognised by the Directorate by the election of each of those gentlemen to life membership.

Thus the beautiful Assembly Rooms, which had been the scene of many a gay gathering, and which had often been thronged with airy and sylph-like forms, had, by one of those strange freaks of fortune which sometimes occur in the history of places as well as of individuals, been converted into a place of learning and a resort of busy commercial men. The quadrille and the minuet had been banished to make room for the paths of learning. The supper-rooms had become a storehouse of literature, and the card-rooms were transformed into lecture theatres and academic halls.

## CHAPTER THIRD

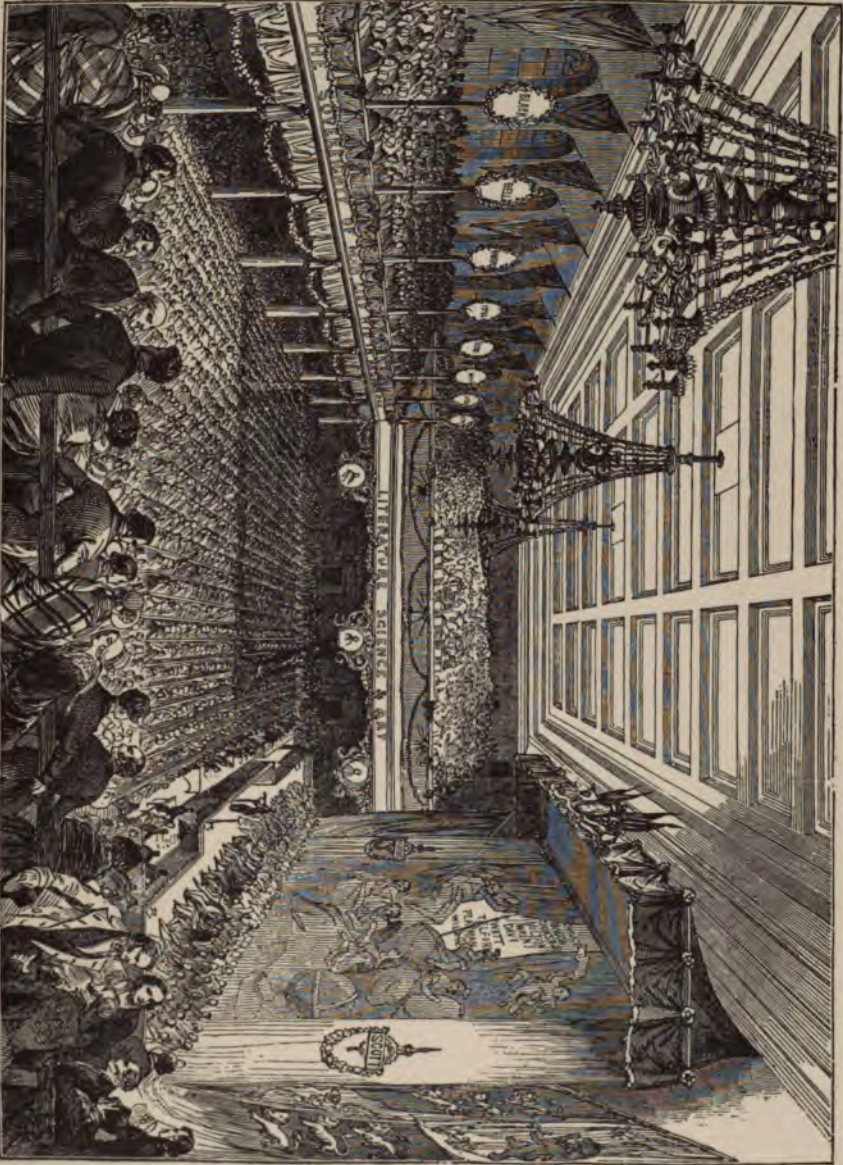
### *INAUGURATION*

THOSE Rooms in Ingram Street were opened to the members on Wednesday, 13th October, 1847, the number on the roll then being 1612. On the 15th of the same month the first permanent Secretary of the Institution was appointed, namely, Dr. James W. Hudson, of Leeds. At the end of that year the membership had increased to 1909, and in April following, when the first annual report was issued, the membership had attained the goodly number of 2133.

There appears to have been very little in the way of formal inauguration of the Rooms—a simple tea meeting on the previous evening, and an inspection by the Directors and friends, comprising the whole function. An Inaugural Soiree was, however, held in the City Hall on the 28th December, 1847, and this meeting will ever be memorable in the history of the Athenæum. The chair was occupied by the great novelist, Charles Dickens, who had already become famous by his “Pickwick Papers” and his “Oliver Twist.” The hall was gaily decorated for the occasion, and presented an extremely picturesque appearance. Immediately above the platform, and over the chair, was elevated a splendid allegorical tableau of immense size, representing Time drawing aside the curtain of Oblivion, and Britannia in the act of pointing out to the Genius

of Fame, who was surrounded by the Guardian Goddesses of Science, Literature, and Art, the names of many of her illustrious sons—Chaucer, Shakespeare, Bacon, Milton, Newton, Wren, Davy, Watt, Telford, Flaxman, and Wilkie. Over the picture, which was from the pencil of Mr. Dudgeon, of Glasgow, there was suspended a gay canopy, having in front the Royal Arms. Around the hall, at appropriate intervals, were inscribed, in letters of gold, "The Glasgow Athenæum," "Literature, Science, and Art," &c. On the right of the chairman was a shield, surrounded with evergreens, bearing the Scottish Crown, and the inscription "James I." On the left, "Alfred," and the English Crown on a similar shield. The Union Jack and the American banner were displayed at windows on each side of the chair. The names of Burns and Scott also had prominent situations. Immediately opposite the speakers, on the pillars of a gallery which had been specially erected for the occasion, were pictorial shields ornamented with evergreens, and inscribed respectively with the names of nine renowned citizens—"Black," "Bell," "Anderson," "Campbell," "Hunter," "Reid," "Adam Smith," "Simson," and "Hutcheson."

The galleries—three in number—were adorned with floral wreaths, evergreens, and appropriately painted devices. A military band discoursed musical selections at intervals during the evening; whilst the company indicated their appreciation of the able addresses of the several speakers with an enthusiasm worthy of the occasion. Charles Dickens was accompanied, and supported on the right, by Mr. Alexander Hastie, M.P., Lord Provost of the City of Glasgow; Mr. Adam Black, Lord Provost of the City of Edinburgh; Colonel Mure of Caldwell, M.P., Lord Rector of the Glasgow University; Sir John Maxwell, Bart., of Pollok; Professor Aytoun of



INAUGURAL SOIREE, 28TH DECEMBER, 1847.

Reproduced from "The Illustrated London News."



Edinburgh, Sir James Campbell, Mr. James Lumsden of Yoker Lodge, Mr. James Anderson, Mr. Arthur Forbes, Mr. George Combe, of Edinburgh; Dr. Hill, Professor of Divinity in the University of Glasgow, &c. On the chairman's left, Dr. James Ewing of Strathleven, Mr. Archibald Alison, Sheriff of the County of Lanark; Mr. William Campbell of Tullichewan, Mr. John Wilson of Dundyvan, Professor Gregory, of Edinburgh; Bailies Stewart, Orr, Ord, Gilmour, D. Smith, G. Smith, Brown; a number of Members of the Town Council; Mr. Joseph Cowdin, American Consul; Mr. James B. Neilson, the inventor of the Hot Blast; Mr. Robert Chambers, of Edinburgh; Mr. Walter Crum, Dr. Charles Mackay, Dr. William Drury, Dr. Alfred Hall, Professor William Thomson, Glasgow University; Messrs. Peter M'Kenzie, John Henderson of Park, Michael Thomson, James Hedderwick, James M'Clelland, Henry Brock, J. W. Sebright, W. Galbraith, Charles Baird, James Scott, D. C. Rait, Henry M'Manus, &c.

Dickens addressed the company in a felicitous speech, in the course of which he said—"It is a great satisfaction to me to occupy the place I do in behalf of an infant Institution: a remarkable fine child enough, of a vigorous constitution, but an infant still. I esteem myself singularly fortunate in knowing it before its prime, in the hope that I may have the pleasure of remembering in its prime, and when it has attained to its lusty maturity, that I was a friend of its youth. It has already passed through some of the disorders to which children are liable; it succeeded to an elder brother of a very meritorious character, but of rather a weak constitution, and which expired when about twelve months old from, it is said, a destructive habit of getting up early in the morning; it succeeded this elder brother, and has fought manfully through a sea



of troubles. Its friends have often been much concerned for it; its pulse has been exceedingly low, being only 1250 when it was expected to have been 10,000; several relations and friends have even gone so far as to walk off once or twice in the melancholy belief that it was dead. Through all that, assisted by the indomitable energy of one or two nurses, to whom it can never be sufficiently grateful, it came triumphantly; and now, of all the youthful members of its family I ever saw, it has the strongest attitude, the healthiest look, the brightest and most



CHARLES DICKENS.

cheerful air. I find the Institution nobly lodged; I find it with a reading-room, a coffee-room, and a news-room; I find it with lectures given and in progress, in sound, useful, and well-selected subjects; I find it with morning and evening classes for Mathematics, Logic, Grammar, Music, French, German, Spanish, and Italian, attended by upwards of five hundred persons; but, best and first of all, and what is to me more satisfactory than anything else in the history of the Institution, I find that all this has been mainly achieved by the young men of Glasgow themselves, with very little assistance. And, ladies and gentlemen, as the axiom, 'Heaven helps those who help themselves,' is truer in no case than it is in this, I look to the young men of Glasgow, from such a past and such a present, to a noble future. Everything that has been done in any other Athenæum, I confidently expect to see done here; and when that shall be the case, and

when there shall be great cheap schools in connection with the Institution, and when it has bound together forever all its friends, and brought over to itself all those who look upon it as an objectionable Institution—then, and not till then, I hope the young men of Glasgow will rest from their labours and think their study done.” . . . “In conclusion,” said the chairman, “Hazlitt, in speaking of some of the graceful fancies of the writers of fiction, says, ‘How long since I first became acquainted with these characters: what old-fashioned friends they seem; and yet I am not tired of them, like so many other friends, nor they of me.’ In this case the books will not only possess all the attractions of their own friendships and charms, but also the manifold—I had almost said the womanfold—associations connected with their donors. I can imagine how, in fact, from these fanciful associations, some fair Glasgow widow may be taken for the remoter one whom Sir Roger de Coverley could not forget; I can imagine how Sophia’s muff may be seen and loved, but not by ‘Tom Jones,’ going down the High Street on any winter’s day; or I can imagine the student finding in every fair form the exact counterpart of the Glasgow Athenæum, and taking into consideration the History of Europe without the consent of Sheriff Alison. I can imagine, in short, how, through all the facts and fictions of this library, these ladies will be always active, and that

‘Age will not wither them, nor custom stale  
Their infinite variety.’

I am surrounded by gentlemen to whom I will soon give place, being at least as curious to hear them as you yourselves undoubtedly are; but before I sit down, allow me to observe that it seems to me a most delightful and happy chance that this meeting should be held at this genial season of the

year, when a new time is, as it were, opening before us, and we celebrate the birth of that Divine Teacher who took the highest knowledge into the humblest places, and whose great system comprehended all mankind. I hail it as a most auspicious omen, at this time of the year, when many scattered friends and families are re-assembled together, that we should be called upon to meet here to promote a great purpose, with a view to the general good and a view to the general improvement. I believe that such designs are worthy of the faith we hold, and I do believe that they are practical remembrances of the sacred words, 'On earth peace and goodwill toward men.'"

The company were then addressed by the Lord Provost (Mr. Alexander Hastie, M.P.), President of the Institution; Dr. James Ewing of Strathleven, Mr. Adam Black, Lord Provost of Edinburgh, Professor W. E. Aytoun, Professor W. Thomson, Mr. George Combe, Sir John Maxwell, Professor Gregory, of Edinburgh, and several other gentlemen.

Mr. Sheriff Alison, in moving a vote of thanks to Mr. Dickens, happily observed—"Mr. Dickens is well known to such establishments as this. He presided at the first great meeting of the Manchester Athenæum; and it was to the genius and talent he displayed on that occasion that, in no small degree, the success of that institution has been owing."

A Scientific Conversazione and Artistic Exhibition of Local Manufactures was held within the Athenæum Buildings on the Monday following, 3rd January, 1848. This function appears to have been likewise successful, and the joint financial result of the soiree and conversazione was a profit of £1000, which was largely devoted to the library of the Institution.

# GLASGOW ATHENÆUM.

## FIRST SOIRÉE.

### I.—A NEWS ROOM.

This Spacious and Elegant Room is open from half-past Seven in the Morning until half-past Ten in the Evening, and is abundantly supplied with Glasgow and Edinburgh Newspapers, Scottish Provincial, London Daily, London Weekly, English Provincial, and Foreign and Colonial Journals.

### II.—A READING ROOM.

Open during the same hours as the News Room, and supplied with Weekly, Monthly, and Quarterly Publications.

### III.—MORNING AND EVENING CLASSES,

For French, German, Italian, Spanish, Logic, Mathematics, Singing, and the Philosophy of Language, embracing English Grammar and Composition. There is also an Essay and Discussion Class, and Chess Club. The Fees are so arranged as to make the instruction afforded accessible to the greatest possible number.

### IV.—LADIES' DAY CLASSES.

Classes for French, Italian, and Singing, are in active operation. Fees, 7s. 6d., 5s., and 3s. per Qr. respectively.

A SCIENTIFIC CONVERSAZIONE and ARTISTIC EXHIBITION of LOCAL MANUFACTURES will be held on MONDAY next, 3d January, in the Athenæum, in aid of the LIBRARY.

### V.—LECTURES.

Lectures are delivered in the City Hall by distinguished lecturers, on Monday, and Thursday, Evenings, during the Session. The following engagements have been effected:—J. D. MORRELL, Esq., Four Lectures in January, on the Philosophical Tendencies of the present age; R. W. FLEMING, Esq., Four Lectures in February; G. DAWSON, Esq., Four Lectures in March on Switzerland; Professor J. S. BLACKIE, Six Lectures in April, on Education; C. COWDEN CLARKE, Esq., Four Lectures in May, on the Subordinate Characters of Shakespeare.

### VI.—A LIBRARY FOR REFERENCE AND CIRCULATION.

Donations have already been received to the extent of 1,000 Volumes, comprising many valuable Standard Works on Science, Literature, and Statistics.

### VII.—A COFFEE ROOM.

Open for the convenience of Members and their Friends, from half-past Seven till half-past Ten, P.M.

### TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

	For Life, Transferable.	For Life, Not Transferable.	For Seven Years, Not Transferable.	For One Year, Not Transferable.
MEMBER'S TICKET,	£15 15 0	£10 10 0	£5 5 0	£1 1 0
LADY'S Do.	7 7 0	5 5 0	2 12 6	0 7 6
GENTLEMEN'S QUARTERLY TICKETS—1st Quarter, 7s. 6d.—2nd Qr. 6s. 6d.—3rd Qr. 5s.—4th Qr. 4s.				

J. W. HUDSON, Secretary.





## CHAPTER FOURTH

### *EARLY YEARS*

THE Library was opened somewhat later than the Reading-room ; and, with the view of providing funds for the purchase of books, a Bazaar was arranged for, and was held in the reading-room on the 22nd and 23rd March, 1848. The Directors were fortunate in securing the special patronage of Her Majesty for the Bazaar. The arrangements were carried out by a committee of ladies, of whom Mrs. Malcolm Muir (now Mrs. Watson) was Convener, and Miss E. K. Ingleton, Secretary. Mrs. Watson, who, it is pleasing to state, is still living, and who is taking an active interest in the celebration of the Athenæum Jubilee, modestly attributes the success of the Bazaar to the indefatigable labours of Miss Ingleton, but the Directors acknowledged their indebtedness to both ladies by conferring upon them life-membership of the Institution.



MRS. WATSON.

In a letter addressed to the Directors, dated 5th April, 1848, Miss Ingleton handed over the sum of £273 9s. 3d. as the net proceeds of the Bazaar, requesting "that the sum may be spent entirely in the purchase of books for the library, and with every kind wish for the peace and prosperity of so valuable an Institution"; adding that "the members of the Committee will ever feel the warmest interest in its welfare, and look back with pleasure at having been in any way instrumental to its success."

Little seems to have been done for some considerable time in the way of purchase of books, and in the Minutes frequent references are found as to the desirability of endeavouring to obtain donations of money or books. In their first report the Directors say that their appeal for donations of books has not been made in vain, and they acknowledge the receipt of 1190 volumes from various donors, as well as a gift of £50 from Dr. James Ewing, for the extension of the Library.

In connection with the Bazaar there was published the "Athenæum Album," of which Mr. Provan undertook the duties of editor. The "Album" had the chivalrous dedication, "To the Ladies of Glasgow, the generous Patrons of every Scheme having the Enlightenment and Moral Elevation of the Public for its Aim." Thomas De Quincey contributed an essay on Astrology. It is preceded by what he entitles "A Sortilege on behalf of the Glasgow Athenæum," in which he describes in an amusing and characteristic style how he came to write upon this subject. Among other contributors were Robert Chambers, of Edinburgh, one of the brothers who founded the well-known Journal which bears their name; James Hedderwick, the founder and now the veteran proprietor of the *Glasgow Citizen*; "Delta" (Dr. Moir), the author of the

inimitable "Mansie Waugh," who gave some verses entitled "Disenchantment"; Rev. George Gilfillan, Dr. Samuel Brown, Frances Brown, and James Montgomery, the poet and gifted hymn writer. In the preface special obligations are expressed to Mr. William Kennedy, the accomplished author of "Fitful Fancies," for having furnished, in addition to a poem by himself, two songs, never before published, from the pen of his lamented friend the late William Motherwell, author of that immortal idyl "Jeanie Morrison." It was hinted in the preface that the "Athenæum Album" might assume the form of an annual publication, but for some reason or other this suggestion has never been acted upon. There was likewise published, and sold at the Bazaar, the "Athenæum Waltz," written by Mr. Julius Seligmann, who is now, after so many years, still associated with the musical department of the Athenæum. A copy of the Album and of the Waltz was presented by the Directors to each of the members of the Ladies' Committee as a *souvenir* of the event.

The first librarian was Thomas Bennett, who held the position for about four years. He was a man of literary instincts, for which he afterwards found scope on the staff of the *Dumbarton Herald*, of which newspaper his brother, Samuel Bennett, was proprietor and editor.

The first annual general meeting of the members of the Athenæum was held in the City Hall, on the 11th April, 1848, when Mr. William Campbell of Tullichewan presided. Considerable importance was evidently attached to the meeting, and great interest was taken in the election of office-bearers. A small party amongst the membership had taken exception to the management on the ground that two or three Unitarians occupied seats upon the Board, and sought to prove that the Institution



was being "made the channel for the spread of scepticism and infidelity." In this relationship a pamphlet was published under the title, "Considerations suggested by the Lectures in the Glasgow Athenæum, in a Letter to the Directors, by a Subscriber," and distributed among the members, whilst a circular was also issued with the view of influencing the election of Directors. In reply to the charges made in those documents, two anonymous pamphlets were issued by "A Member." In the latter of these, referring to the forthcoming election, the writer says, "Your choice, on this occasion, decides whether the Athenæum is to be the battle-field of sectarian strife, and annually to resound with the cry of party, or to be allowed to fulfil its peaceful mission of raising the moral standard of a great commercial community. Whatever the result of the election be, I adjure every member to cast all ungenerous thoughts from his bosom, and, as he values the existence of the Institution, to banish every unkindly feeling towards those into whose hands its direction may be committed. If the present Directors are returned, this proof of their retaining the confidence of the majority ought to convince the discontented that, if their alarm was not groundless, and their objections not without foundation, others at least as well qualified to judge as they thought so; and who, while they saw no danger of their own 'religious convictions being interfered with,' were quite willing that those whose preceptions were more keen might monopolise the advantages of their superior discernment, without being constituted a mental police force for the detection of heresy and conservation of conscience. Should sectarianism prevail, let not those Directors to whom the Institution is so much indebted retire with a feeling that their labours are unappreciated or forgotten; to serve a purpose they are overlooked by

a faction, but would the approbation of such a faction be desirable? Let them show they have a mind above petty jealousies; that personal or party feeling had no share in the part they played; that they laboured for a great good; and if it is thought that other agents are more fit to perfect the fabric they have reared, let them rejoice in their prosperity and applaud their success, and, with an approving conscience and the magnanimity of the noble Spartan, let them retire comforted that better men are found."

That those contentions had little interest for the great body of the members is evident from the fact that out of twenty-one retiring Directors who sought re-election seventeen were returned, and a resolution was adopted at the annual meeting discountenancing the practice of soliciting, by circular or otherwise, the votes of members for any particular individuals to fill the various offices connected with the Institution, and recommending that in future all such practices be discontinued, and every member left to the free and unbiassed exercise of his own judgment. So ended the first and last religious controversy in the history of the Athenæum.

At the end of the first year, in September, 1848, the financial statement shows that the ordinary income exceeded the expenditure by £731. Taking, however, into account the extraordinary expenditure incurred in the alteration of the building, as well as in the fitting up, and the furnishing of, the rooms, there was a debt on the Institution to the amount of £530. From this time onwards the Directors proceeded to consider seriously their financial position, and various expedients were suggested to make ends meet; resolutions as to points of economy were proposed, and even such details as the saving of gas were discussed and minuted. In fact, in

those days, it appears that no subject was too trivial to engage the attention of those early enthusiasts.

In response to a requisition received from a large number of members, the Directors resolved to erect a Gymnasium, and this important adjunct to the Institution was constructed and fitted up on the vacant ground behind the main building, and opened in January, 1849. Up till that date but little attention had been given in the United Kingdom to physical training. Indeed, the only gymnasiums of any note in England or Scotland at this time were those of the great military centres or the national Universities—Aldershot on the one hand, and Cambridge, Oxford, and Edinburgh on the other. The United States, however, together with France and Germany, had, about this time, begun to realise the vast importance of physical training to the rising manhood of a country; and it is infinitely creditable to the Athenæum Directors of that period that they so generously met the wishes of the members on this most important point. Close upon 200 young men enrolled themselves in this new department, and the classes were placed under the superintendence of Messrs. Roland, of Edinburgh.

In October, 1849, Mr. Moses Provan's services to the Institution were recognised by his election to life membership; and those were again further acknowledged by his being, in March, 1865, entertained to a public dinner. Dr. Hudson having resigned the Secretaryship in December, 1848, Mr. John M'Kinnell, of Dumfries, was elected to that position on the 3rd May, 1849; and, with the exception of the present Secretary, he held the position for a longer period than any other occupant of the office.

As mentioned elsewhere, the teaching of Singing was one of the first subjects included in the educational curriculum of the

Athenæum, and, as a further step in the cultivation of this delightful art, a Philharmonic Society was formed in the summer of 1849, and was arranged in two sections—vocal and instrumental—the former being placed under the charge of Mr. Macfarlane, and the latter, in the first instance, under Mr. Julius Seligmann, and subsequently under Mr. Napier. In their report for that year the Directors say—"The progress made in the course of the year in both sections is matter for congratulation." If those early Directors could have looked forward to the position which the Institution now holds in the matter of musical education in the city, they would doubtless have been surprised ; and yet, from this modest beginning, there is to be traced the marvellous development in the cultivation of the musical art which has taken place in the Athenæum within recent years.

CHAPTER  
FIFTH

*TONTINE:  
A STROKE OF FORTUNE*

THE building in which the Athenæum found a home was originally erected as the Glasgow Assembly Rooms, and the scheme was carried out upon the Tontine principle. This was a system introduced by an Italian called Lorenzo Tonti, from whom it derived its name, and whereby there was attached to each share a nominee, upon whose life depended the existence of this share, and the shareholder whose nominee survived all the others became the proprietor of the buildings, or other property held by the Society. The system was very popular about the beginning of this century, and the capital for several buildings in Glasgow was subscribed on this plan, the best known being the Tontine in Trongate.

The foundation stone of the Assembly Rooms was laid on the 11th March, 1796, by Mr. Gilbert Hamilton, ex-Lord Provost, and the buildings were erected from designs by Messrs. Robert and James Adam, whose professional reputation still stands high among the Glasgow architects of the present day. At first only the centre block of the building was erected, the cost of which was £4,800. The east and west portions of the feu were sold by the Committee, and on them there were erected the two wings which gave completeness to the façade. Those were built in the year 1807, from designs by Mr. Henry Holland, and

were in strict keeping with the original centre block, which was generally considered to be one of the masterpieces of the Brothers Adam.

As originally instituted, the Tontine comprised 274 shares of £25 each. Most of the Subscribers were satisfied with one share, but others took two, three, or four. Many of the shareholders were at the time the very *crème de la crème* of Glasgow society, as also of Lanarkshire and the West of Scotland generally.

After the Athenæum, as an Institution, occupied this building, it occurred to the Directors that, were they able to acquire from time to time a few of the shares in this Tontine, they might be fortunate enough to alight on the longest survivor, and so become proprietors of the building. A proposal to purchase a share in the Tontine was first referred to in June, 1848, when notice of motion to that effect was given by Mr. George McLeod, one of the original Directors, and who was long associated with the Board. Nothing was, however, definitely done until the 8th



JOHN PATERSON.

October, 1850, when it was resolved to purchase the share dependent upon the life of Mr. John Paterson, son of Captain William Paterson of the 21st Regiment, and a nephew of the original proprietor, Mr. John Mair of Plantation. This share was purchased for £70. Some difficulty was raised as to the power of the Directors to make such an investment, and as to how the

share should be held in the event of its being purchased. Mr. A. H. Maclean, one of the Directors, who had always taken a deep interest in the movement, volunteered to buy the share personally, and to hold it for the Athenæum. The difficulties in the way were overcome by the law agent, and the share was ultimately purchased and registered in name of the Trustees. The record of this Tontine transaction, and how it ultimately resulted in such substantial good to the Athenæum, is one of the most interesting chapters in the history of the Institution, and goes largely to prove the adage that "truth is stranger than fiction."

As time went on, Death was busy amongst the nominees, and in January, 1873, the 274 shares had been reduced to 34; and from this point their number became rapidly reduced. The Directors had high hopes that their nominee, John Paterson, would hold out till the end. Although originally belonging to Glasgow, he lived for many years in North Wales, where he was visited, on at least one occasion, by a deputation of the Directors. He died in June, 1879, being at the time of his death an octogenarian. There were then still surviving twelve of the original nominees. Previous to this event, however—in the year 1878—the Directors of the Athenæum started on a new tack, in which, as events proved, they made a very happy hit, as otherwise their interest in the Tontine would have lapsed on the death of their nominee. As the result of negotiations extending over a considerable period, a deed was prepared, whereby the shareholders who subscribed the same agreed on a sale of the Tontine property, and an equal division in the proceeds, as soon as the nominees of the other or non-subscribing shareholders had died off. Many of the shareholders originally held out hopes to the Directors of falling in with

this arrangement, but for one reason or another they ultimately drew off. It would almost seem as if Death had been working in the interests of the Athenæum, and systematically laying his hands upon those who failed to fall in with the wishes of the Directors.

Some curious incidents occurred at this time. The holder of one of the shares was anxious to become a party to the agreement referred to, but could not produce, at the moment, evidence of his nominee being alive. He was told that so soon as that proof was forthcoming his signature would be received ; but, strange to say, although the nominee was actually living at the time he made this overture, she died before he could obtain certification of the fact. Another proprietor who held a share on his own life, and was resident in the north of England, had promised to sign the agreement, but afterwards drew back. A deputation was sent to see if they could induce him to change his mind, but, on arriving at his place of abode, found that he had died on that morning. Ultimately only two signatures were obtained to the agreement—that of Mr. Henry Macdowall of Garthland, nominee of his father, the late Day Hort Macdowall of Walkinshaw, and the signature on behalf of the Directors of the Athenæum.

In 1882 the nominees were reduced to two, namely, Mr. Macdowall, in whose share the Directors, notwithstanding the death of John Paterson, their nominee, had now, in virtue of the agreement, a half interest, and Mr. Archibald Smith, of Helensburgh, son and nominee of Archibald Smith of Jordanhill. Those two gentlemen, and the Athenæum, in the year mentioned, executed a deed resolving to divide the property in the respective proportions, without reference to the priority of the death of the two nominees. In virtue of this second agreement,



the Directors became proprietors of the building to the extent of one-fourth, and, when the property was afterwards sold to the Government for Post Office purposes, their share amounted to the very handsome sum of £6500, an exceedingly good return for the original investment of £70. Dividends were also drawn during the greater part of the time this share was held, and the sum accruing from this source during the last few years almost equalled, per annum, the original cost of the share. The sum

thus realised formed the nucleus of the fund for the erection of the new building; and, but for that happy stroke of fortune, it is doubtful what the position of the Athenæum might have been at this time.



GAVIN CHAPMAN, M.A.

Before those negotiations could be completed, it was necessary to have them verified by a meeting of the members; and even at the last moment some so-called wiseacres sought to delay matters by interposing a motion to the effect that they thought

better terms could be obtained for the Athenæum. Fortunately, this counsel did not prevail; for if it had, the Athenæum would have lost all interest in the Tontine through the death of Mr. Macdowall, which took place within six weeks from the signing of the agreement which secured for the Institution the ultimate handsome reversion. Those negotiations, which extended over a considerable period, and which entailed labour of no light character, were very largely carried out by Mr. Gavin Chapman,

who acted as Convener of the Committee ; and to his exertions in this, and other respects, the Athenæum owes a deep debt of gratitude.

The successful termination of the Tontine negotiations, which had such a beneficial result upon the future of the Institution, was celebrated by a dinner held on the 11th May, 1882, under the chairmanship of Mr. Thomas Russell of Ascog, who was at that time President of the Institution.

## CHAPTER SIXTH

## *CO-OPERATIVE TRAVELLING*

SO early as 1851, and before co-operative travelling had attained the popularity it now enjoys through the efforts of "Cook," "Gaze," and "Lunn," the Athenæum entered the field and arranged several excursions for their members and friends, on advantageous terms, for the purpose of visiting the great International Exhibition in London. The first of these excursions was taken advantage of by no fewer than 150 persons—a very respectable number, considering the lack of travelling facilities in those times. Later on, excursions were arranged for to Paris, for the purpose of visiting the first great French Exposition, which was held in that city. In 1855 the Directors again turned their attention to the organisation of excursions for the benefit of the members, and entered into negotiations for one to Paris, to afford facilities for visiting the Exhibition there. Owing, however, to an arrangement between the French and English Railway Companies, no reduction of fare could be obtained, until Prince Napoleon, who was President of the Imperial Commission, stepped in and secured the reduction of fare which was being asked for; and thus, for a very small sum, a large number of the members and friends were enabled to visit Paris, and, as the report adds, "profit by the great lessons which the Exposition afforded." In the following year

several excursions to Manchester were arranged, for the purpose of affording the members an opportunity of visiting the Art Treasures Exhibition then being held in that city.

This department of the Athenæum's work, it may be here mentioned, was discontinued entirely for a long series of years; and it was not until about the year 1893 that the Directors



ATHENÆUM PARTY ON THE GORNER GLACIER.

inaugurated anew several excursions, on this occasion to the Continent, and including Germany, Switzerland, France, and Italy. However, owing, it may be, to the insular character of the Scotsman, co-operative travelling does not seem to have taken great hold upon the Athenæum members, and it is doubtful if similar excursions will be continued to any great extent.

CHAPTER  
SEVENTH

*LIGHTS AND SHADOWS*

**I**T was originally intended that a grand soiree, on lines similar to the inaugural one, when Charles Dickens presided, should be arranged for triennially, and the second of these soirees was held on the 28th February, 1851, when the Duke of Argyll presided. The meeting took place in the City Hall, which was densely crowded on the occasion with, as the report says, "one of the gayest and most imposing audiences which has ever assembled within its walls ; for the literary festival was one in which the fair sex shared most enthusiastically, and many hundreds of them honoured the meeting with their presence. A large tableau was suspended over the chairman's platform, bearing the arms of the Duke of Argyll emblazoned along with those of the city of Glasgow, and surrounded by appropriate devices shadowing the commercial and manufacturing importance of the city. This tableau, painted by Mr. Sam Bough, was flanked by two others from the pencil of the same artist, illustrative of Science and Literature. Among those on the platform were the Lord Provost (Sir James Anderson), the Earl of Eglinton and Winton, Lord Belhaven, Sir John Maxwell, Sir David Brewster, Sir James Campbell, the Lord Provost of Edinburgh, Sir Archibald Alison, Sheriff Glassford Bell, &c. The Directors thought it desirable to furnish a permanent record of the

proceedings, and consequently published a full report of the address by His Grace, together with those of the other speakers, one of them being the Earl of Eglinton.

In the year 1853, at a conference in London, presided over by the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Society of Arts resolved upon forming a Union of Literary Institutions throughout the Kingdom, and the establishment of a scheme of annual examinations, with the view of infusing more life into the work of these associations. The honour of suggesting this scheme of examinations is due to Mr. Harry Chester, then a Vice-President of the Society, and afterwards Chairman of the Council, who laid his proposal before the Society two years previous to its adoption at the conference referred to. The Society of Arts is an ancient and honourable body, founded in 1754. It enlisted in its ranks several eminent men desirous "to promote the Arts, Commerce, and Manufactures of the Kingdom by giving honorary or pecuniary rewards, as may be best adapted to the case, for the communication to the Society, and through the Society to the public, of all such useful inventions, discoveries, and improvements as tend to that purpose." The election of Prince Albert as President called public attention to the earnest work of the Society, which had extended over more than a century, and this more particularly after the London Exhibition in 1851, which was suggested by the Prince, and patronised by the Society of Arts. The Athenæum at once joined this Union, and the connection has continued up till the present time.

In July, 1854, the supply of intelligence by electric telegraph was first introduced into the News-room of the Athenæum. With the view of defraying to some extent the cost of this supply, an appeal was made to the members for a special subscription, and

a sum of £70 was raised. The Directors expressed themselves as desirous of adding this attraction to the room, in the hope of increasing the membership, and so avoiding the necessity of adding to the amount of the annual subscription.

In the next report, while recording a slight increase in the membership, regret is expressed that this increase has not reached the extent that had been anticipated. For a few years prior to this time, the membership had been rather on the decline. From this date, however, it again slightly increased, and at the close of the following year it was reported that the debt, which had been at one time as much as £1500, had been reduced to somewhat under £500. From this point again, however, the membership began to decrease for a time.

In December, 1855, the third grand Soiree was held in the City Hall, when the Earl of Eglinton and Winton, who was then President of the Institution, occupied the chair. He was accompanied to the platform by Lord Provost Orr (afterwards Sir Andrew Orr); Mr. Alexander Hastie, M.P.; the Right Honourable James Moncrieff, Lord Advocate; Sir Archibald Alison, Sir Michael Shaw Stewart, Sir James Anderson, M.P., Sir James Campbell, Sheriff Glassford Bell, Professor Allen Thomson, Mr. Charles Cowan, M.P., and several of the Directors. The noble chairman spoke of the object and work of the Athenæum, and concluded by calling "upon the rich and influential of this great city to put their shoulder to the wheel, to leave no stone unturned, to leave no means untried which may have the effect of providing that adequate instruction for their poorer fellow-citizens which they have the right to demand at their hands, and which it is their interest as well as their bounden duty to afford."

The Lord Advocate afterwards delivered an able and scholarly

address, in which there occurred the following sentences, almost as applicable to the present day as when they were uttered :—  
“And here let us ask, while we flatter ourselves that we eclipse all former generations, what are they doing in the nations around us? Is our superiority so very great over all the nations of the Continent that we can afford to stand still while they are going on? We have read them some lessons in machinery and invention, and they have been so ready to learn that I believe one of the lessons we have learned in this gigantic struggle is that unless we look to ourselves, and learn what we can from our neighbours, we may be left behind at the very time we thought we were in advance.” . . . “Is it not a disgrace to our generation that you can seldom find a man who can talk intelligibly in any language but his own? A well-educated Scotchman in the sixteenth century was as well acquainted with French and Italian as he was with his own language. Look at the foe with whom we fight. Look at the Russians. They are the best linguists in Europe. You find a Russian talking English with an accent that would make you believe he was a native of the country. I believe I am not far wrong in saying that, in regard to the better educated classes, the rarity in Russia is rather to find an exception to the rule. Well, in this country, in a matter so comparatively easy as the speaking of an existing language always is, why is it we are in absolute ignorance in that respect? I am glad to see that in the Athenæum this is by no means neglected. . . . It is impossible to express what benefits would result if a knowledge of the languages of the Continent were more general. That would enable us, with our easy means of intercourse, to do that which we have so much failed in doing hitherto, to draw from the arts of the Continent those in which we are deficient, even as they have not thought



it beneath them to follow, until they almost surpass us in those things in which we thought we most excelled."

In 1856 "a breeze" sprang up over a new bye-law which the Directors had introduced, making it imperative for members taking books from the library to leave a deposit of five shillings. A special meeting was called to consider the question ; and, in a circular issued by the Directors, it was explained that during the first six years in which the library was open members had free access to the shelves ; but it being found that books went amissing, and that great confusion was caused by volumes being misplaced upon the shelves, this arrangement had been departed from. Such strong opposition was expressed at the meeting that the Directors afterwards resolved to rescind the new rule regarding the deposit.

In 1858 a Discussion Society was formed as an adjunct to the classes, the membership during the first session reaching 61. This Society continued to be very successful for a number of years, and may be looked upon as the precursor of the literary societies or clubs which are now a prominent feature in the Institution.

In 1859 Mr John M'Kinnell resigned the secretaryship of the Institution, and Mr. Francis Borland was elected his successor. The position would appear to have been an envied one, from the fact that the list of candidates included the name of a gentleman with the title of "Honourable" prefixed to it !

## CHAPTER EIGHTH

### *DARK DAYS*

AT this period in its history the Institution seems to have fallen upon evil times, and the membership steadily declined. With the view of putting the finances on a sounder basis, a proposal was submitted to the members—the Directors not having power to make such an alteration upon the rules—to advance the annual subscription to 25s. This proposal, however, was rejected, and a Committee was appointed to determine what steps should be adopted to increase the membership, this course being deemed more desirable than making an advance upon the rate payable by the existing members. This Committee consisted of twelve Directors and twelve members, and was designated the “Co-operative Committee.” Several meetings of the Committee were held, but those appear to have been more fruitful of suggestions than of practical results. Following this decision of the members, no fewer than seven Directors resigned their office, but, owing to their personal obligations for the Institution’s indebtedness to the Bank, it was found that their resignations could not be accepted until this indebtedness was discharged. After a short interval the resignations were withdrawn, and another attempt was made to increase the rate of subscription. On this occasion the motion was carried, but

as the majority did not reach the two-thirds necessary to alter the rules, it was still inoperative.

At this time the Directors were beset with further difficulties in their negotiations for a renewal of their lease of the premises, and fears as to the successful conclusion of terms evidently occupied their minds, for it was resolved to print the following note on all tickets issued after 1st June, 1860:—"This ticket is issued on the express understanding that the Directors do not guarantee the continuance of the Institution beyond Whitsunday, 1861; and that no claim can arise against the Directors in respect of this ticket after that term, should the Institution be discontinued." This policy, which cannot be said to have exhibited either great courage or wisdom, did not continue long, and two months later, on the initiation of Mr. Moses Provan, the objectionable note was withdrawn from the tickets, and another attempt was made to increase the rate of the members' subscription, this time with success. The arrangements for the new lease were also completed, and peace, if not prosperity, once more reigned.

The new rate of subscription did not, however, greatly improve matters, and after two or three years' experience at the higher figure, the pendulum swung to the opposite extreme, and the subscription was reduced to 15s. This, however, did not prove a success, and it was ultimately fixed at £1, at which figure it remained—with the exception of an interval of about eighteen months, when it was again advanced to 25s., and then reduced to £1—until the Institution removed into its present premises.

About this period an important innovation was made, on the suggestion of Mr. Moses Provan, in relation to the terms of admission to the membership of the Institution. Recognising

the fact that among the large body of University students in the city there must have been many to whom the privileges offered by the Athenæum would be a boon, on its educational and literary sides as well as in its social aspects, it was decided to admit all attending classes in the University at a modified subscription covering the period of the College session. This graceful compliment paid by the younger labourer in the field of education to its elder brother was cordially recognised, and the number who availed themselves of this concession was considerable, so long as the two institutions were comparatively close neighbours. After the removal of the University to Gilmorehill, however, and, in view of the kindred facilities afforded by the Students' Union within the University precincts, the number of young men taking advantage of the privilege accorded to them by the Athenæum rapidly declined, and it was consequently felt to be unnecessary to continue the arrangement.

On the 27th June, 1861, the Directors resolved that, owing to the financial position of the Institution, they regretted to find that it was impossible for them to continue employing a paid Secretary. In consequence of this unfortunate state of matters the services of Mr. Borland, as Secretary, were dispensed with, but an expression of the entire satisfaction of the Directors with his services was carefully recorded in the minutes. The duties of Secretary were now undertaken by three members of the Board, who constituted themselves a Secretarial Committee—Mr. Moses Provan holding himself responsible for the correspondence, Mr. John Dansken taking charge of the minutes, and Mr. Robert Allan attending to the cash and books. Mr. Robert M. Armstrong was afterwards added to this Committee. This arrangement continued until 1863, when Mr. Andrew Mudie was nominally appointed superintendent. He seems,

however, almost from the first to have discharged the duties of Secretary, and the Secretarial Committee ceased to exist. The Institution, at this time, was in deep financial trouble, and it is a matter for little wonder that, after an experience of only two or three years, Mr. Mudie should have sought occupation of a more congenial and less harassing character, which he found on the editorial staff of the *Evening Citizen*.

For a number of years there is little of interest to record in the history of the Athenæum. Rigid economy was the

order of the day, and only the most necessary expenditure was incurred, the Minutes at the same time indicating that the chief difficulty of the Directors was to make ends meet. It is also noticeable that at this period there was a significantly large number of resignations from the Directorate, and a difficulty was experienced in getting gentlemen to accept office, whilst the question of the personal responsibility of the



HENRY JOHNSTON.

Directors is more than once referred to in the records. On the appointment of Mr. Henry Johnston as Secretary, the then Chairman of the Board (Dr Macintyre) warned him that the appointment might not be a permanent one, as the Institution ran the risk of being closed at any time. Undeterred, however, by this fear, Mr. Johnston accepted the position, and threw himself into the work with an enthusiasm which augured well for the future of the Institution.

Mr. Johnston states that, after his appointment, he and

Donald Clark, the faithful janitor of the time, had to discharge between them the onerous duties of secretary, superintendent, librarian, janitor, and boy, and had to keep the Institution open daily from half-past six o'clock in the morning till ten in the evening. It frequently happened that he could not pay the wages of his solitary assistant. One Friday morning Donald came into the office with a grave countenance, and when Donald's face was grave, it was terribly so. Rubbing his hands in a manner that was characteristic of him when his mind was perturbed, he inquired if there would be "ony bawbees gaun this week." It was evident that forbearance had reached its utmost limit, and that something must be done, for if Donald left where could they find another person who, for twenty-three shillings per week, would do the work of, at least, two men and a boy? Urged by the circumstances to a deed of daring, Mr. Johnston went down to Elderslie and persuaded the laird to give him a life subscription. Returning with funds on hand, he paid Donald his wages, and so saved the Institution. During these "dark days" it happened on more than one occasion that the Chairman, or one of the other Directors, had to pay the gas bill or other pressing account out of his own funds, so low had the exchequer fallen. It is amusing, in the light of the subsequent history of the Athenæum, to look back upon those incidents, but at the time they were tragic enough, and embarrassing to a degree.

## CHAPTER NINTH

### *BETTER TIMES*

HAPPILY better times supervened, and the Institution gradually, if slowly, regained a firmer footing, whilst the basis was laid of that solid success which has followed within recent years. Various efforts were put forth to obtain additional subscriptions for the liquidation of the debt, all Subscribers of £10 and upwards being entitled to Life Membership. Mr. Hugh Tennent of Errol and Wellpark, the President, did yeoman service in this way, and a sum of about £1000 was thereby raised. Mr. Tennent also contributed yearly a number of prizes for competition in the classes. In recognition of those valuable services he was entertained by the members to a public banquet in January, 1864. The large reading-room was converted into a banqueting hall, which was gaily decorated for the occasion. Mr. Walter Buchanan, M.P., one of the Vice-Presidents of the Institution, occupied the chair, whilst the duties of croupier were discharged by Mr. J. J. Muirhead, the Chairman of Directors.

Following this, active measures were taken to increase the membership, and canvassing for life members was systematically carried out by Mr. Johnston with marked success. In 1868 a billiard table was introduced into the Recreation Rooms, under the impression, as the Directors express it in their subsequent Annual Report, "that it will not only be a permanent source of

revenue, but that those who play can do so free from injurious influences which are usually associated with the game"—an anticipation which has been fully realised.

In 1870 Mr. Johnston resigned the secretaryship in consequence of his having received another appointment. Under his management the Institution had "rounded the corner," and the services he had so ungrudgingly rendered were recognised by his being entertained to a complimentary dinner, whilst he was also made the recipient of a handsome testimonial. Mr. Johnston, although essentially a man of business, had always a penchant for literary work, and some of his poetical productions have appeared in a volume issued by the Glasgow Ballad Club, and in the pages of some of our popular magazines. There have also, within recent years, come from his pen several novels, notably "The Dawsons of Glenara," "The Chronicles of Glenbuckie," and "Kilmallie," dealing chiefly with the incidents of Scottish life, in which the critics and the public have not failed to find abundant evidence of his acquaintance with, and appreciation of, the quiet pawky humour which has made this class of literature so popular on both sides of the Border.

In succession to Mr. Johnston the present occupant of the office of Secretary was elected from a list of over seventy applicants. He has consequently held the position during more than one-half of the existence of the Institution, and has witnessed, and been intimately associated with, the various developments which have taken place within recent years.

In 1871 the Athenæum suffered a severe, and, as it appeared at the time, almost irreparable, loss in the death of Mr. Moses Provan, at a comparatively early age. From the inception of the Institution in 1847 he had ever shown the keenest interest in its welfare. He had watched its struggles with fortune, good and



bad ; he had rejoiced in its successes ; and he had ever shown himself ready to assist it to overcome the difficulties with which its career was frequently beset. Mr. Provan, in his will, bequeathed to the Athenæum a legacy of £100 ; and with the view of permanently associating his name with an Institution for which he had laboured so long and so unweariedly, the Directors resolved that the interest on this sum should be applied to the establishment of a prize, designated the "Moses Provan Prize," which would be competed for annually in one or other of the classes in the Commercial College. Fortunately his mantle descended upon his brother, Mr. James Provan, who from this time forward took an active and increasingly prominent part in the guidance of the affairs of the Institution. It is not too much to say that in no small degree the present position of the Athenæum is attributable to his wise and cautious counsel, as well as to the able and genial manner in which he presides over its business meetings and social gatherings.

## CHAPTER TENTH

### *PRESIDENTS*

**I**N the earlier years of the Athenæum it was the custom for the President to hold office for one year only. The first President was Mr. Alexander Hastie, the Lord Provost, and afterwards Member of Parliament for the city. Speaking at the annual meeting in 1852, Mr. Moses Provan said—"Our chair is a lucky one. We chose Mr. Hastie for our first President, and forthwith he was elected to represent this city in Parliament." Mr. Hastie took a warm interest in the organisation of the Athenæum, contributing liberally to its funds and presiding at a number of its meetings. He was followed in the Presidency by Mr. James Ewing, LL.D., of Strathleven. Upon the list of Presidents in those early years of the Athenæum's history we also find the names of Sir Archibald Alison, the learned Sheriff and historian; of Henry Glassford Bell, a poet of no mean order, and a picturesque contributor to the literature upon "Scotland's Fairest Queen." The Duke of Argyll twice filled the office, and is at the present moment the senior surviving ex-President. Lord Brougham, the Earl of Eglinton, and Lord Palmerston also each completed their term of office; whilst, unfortunately for the Institution, the occupancy of the position by Mr. Hugh Tennent of Errol and Wellpark was terminated by his lamented death.

In 1865 Mr. Robert Dalglish of Kilmardinny, probably one of the most popular Members of Parliament that Glasgow has ever returned to St. Stephen's, was elected to the position, and he filled it with much acceptance until 1877, a term of twelve years, this being the longest period during which the office has been held by any individual. Mr. Dalglish during all these years evinced the warmest interest in the Athenæum, and although his duties frequently compelled him to be absent from the city, he was not infrequently, through his potent influence in London, able to assist the Institution, whilst he was always ready to give the Directors the benefit of his ripe experience and invaluable advice. For the two years following, the office was filled by Mr. John Matheson of Cordale. A man of kind and sympathetic nature, of liberal views, and possessed of considerable literary taste, he was highly esteemed for his many excellent personal qualities. After Mr. Matheson's sudden death, which was a severe loss to many public institutions in the city, Mr. Charles Tennant (now Sir Charles) of The Glen was elected to the Presidency. Here again history has repeated itself, for, as in the case of the first President, Mr. Tennant was shortly afterwards chosen to represent the city in Parliament. On his retiral in 1881, Mr. Thomas Russell of Ascog was appointed, and once more do we find an Athenæum President elected to Parliament, this time to represent the County of Bute. Mr. James A. Campbell of Stracathro, LL.D., M.P., was elected in 1885. From his high standing as a man of business, from his cultured mind, and from his distinguished position as the representative in Parliament of our local University, he was eminently fitted to grace the position, which he held until 1895, when he asked to be relieved—not, as he said, that his interest in the



DUKE OF ARGYLL

*1811-1892*



SIR JAMES ANDERSON



HUGH TENNENT



SIR ARCHIBALD ALISON

*Barr.*



ALEX. HASTIE



ROBERT DALGLISH



THOMAS RUSSELL



SIR J. STIRLING MAXWELL

*Barr., M.P.*



JOHN MATHESON



HENRY G. BELL



SIR CHARLES TENNANT



JAMES A. CAMPBELL

SOME OF THE  
PRESIDENTS



Institution had decreased in the slightest degree, but because he believed it to be for the good of such Institutions that this office should not be held too long by the same person. Sir John Stirling-Maxwell, Bart., of Pollok, M.P., was unanimously chosen as Mr. Campbell's successor, and was formally installed into office at a *Conversazione*, held in December, 1895, when he was accorded a warm welcome from the members. Sir John has been extremely fortunate in entering upon office at a time when the Athenæum has reached a very high level of prosperity, and from the warm interest he has already shown in its affairs, as also from his personality, together with his extensive influence in the West of Scotland, it is confidently anticipated that his presidency will be fruitful of much good to the Institution.

CHAPTER  
ELEVENTH

*SUBORDINATE OFFICIALS*

**A**MONGST its subordinate officials the Athenæum has from time to time had men of marked individuality of character. One of those was James Macfarlan, the "Pedlar Poet." Macfarlan, like many men of his stamp, had a chequered career. Returning on one occasion from an unsuccessful attempt to push his fortune in London, he was so far reduced in straits that he was thankful to accept the position of Janitor to the Athenæum. That Macfarlan possessed the true poetic spirit is shown by the following incident. On one occasion Samuel Lover read, at the Garrick Club, in the hearing of Thackeray, Macfarlan's vigorous verses, entitled "The Lords of Labour." Scarcely had the last word been uttered when the great novelist sprang to his feet and excitedly exclaimed, "By Jove! I don't think Burns himself could have taken the wind out of this man's sails." The following is the poem in question :—

They come! they come in a glorious march!  
You can hear their steam-steeds neigh  
As they dash through Skill's triumphal arch,  
Or plunge 'mid the dancing spray.  
Their bale-fires blaze in the mighty torge,  
Their life-pulse throbs in the mill,  
Their lightnings shiver the gaping gorge,  
And their thunders shake the hill.

Ho! these are the Titans of toil and trade,  
The heroes who wield no sabre;  
But mightier conquests reapeth the blade  
That is borne by the Lords of Labour!

Brave hearts, like jewels, light the sod—  
Through the mist of commerce shine—  
And souls flash out, like stars of God,  
From the midnight of the mine.  
No palace is theirs, no castle great,  
No princely pillared hall;  
But they well can laugh at the roofs of State,  
'Neath the heaven which is over all.  
Ho! these are the Titans of toil and trade,  
The heroes who wield no sabre;  
But mightier conquests reapeth the blade  
That is borne by the Lords of Labour!

Each bares his arm for the ringing strife  
That marshals the sons of the soil;  
And the sweat-drops shed in their battle of life  
Are gems in the crown of toil;  
And prouder their well-won wreaths, I trow,  
Than laurels with life-blood wet;  
And nobler the arch of a bare, bold brow,  
Than the clasp of a coronet.  
Then hurrah for each hero, although his deed  
Be unblown by the trump or tabor;  
For holier, happier far is the need  
That crowneth the Lords of Labour!

This erratic genius did not long continue in a position which, as he himself said, engaged him "from nine in the morning till half-past ten at night," and which demanded also method and close attention to routine—the latter two factors being too exacting for the restless steed of Pegasus. Tired of this, he again commenced peddling. At last, broken down in health, he returned to his native city, to die, and in 1862 was laid to rest in the old burying-ground in Cheapside Street, Anderston.



The late Mr. Colin Rae Brown, and that most genial philanthropist, the late Mr. William Logan, whose heart seemed ever to warm towards struggling *littérateurs*, took a great interest in Macfarlan, and, through their instrumentality, a selection from his poems was published in a small volume, which was dedicated to the members of the Glasgow St. Andrew Society.

Another worthy, who filled a position similar to that occupied by Macfarlan, was of an entirely different stamp. His name is not recorded in history; but in the dark period when the Athenæum's funds were scarce, and when the walls of the Reading-room were becoming somewhat begrimed, and the Directors hesitated to incur the expense of calling in the painter, this man, not to be outdone, induced the Directors to give him sufficient money to buy the paint, and, single-handed, painted the walls of the large room.

Another occupant of the janitorship, and whose name has been incidentally referred to—that of Donald Clark—deserves a word in passing. Donald, although not characterised by great activity, was the very essence of faithfulness. He was possessed of a large amount of that quiet, pawky, Scotch humour which seems to be almost a thing of the past, and often succeeded, by a quiet joke, to pacify an irate member who otherwise might probably not have been so successfully appeased.

In more recent years, and deserving also of notice, comes William Dennis, an old coast-guardsman, who filled the position of Janitor for some time. In his early life he went as a seaman with one of the expeditions in search of Franklin, and had a large and interesting store of information regarding life in the Arctic regions, of which he was always proud to speak. An Englishman by birth, his chief characteristic was his innate politeness to all with whom he came in contact.

A word must also be said of William M'Nicol, whose name will be familiar to those who were members from ten to fifteen years ago. "Willie," as he was familiarly called, came to the Institution as a message boy. Born of respectable but poor parents, he had received only the most elementary education, and, for reasons which it is unnecessary to refer to, he was not so carefully cared for as might have been. The present writer recollects well one day when Willie was brought before him with his nether garments in a tattered condition. On being asked why he came to his duties in such a state, he replied, almost in tears, "Please, sir, I sewed them myself last night, but it came out again this morning." Within a few days Willie, to his great delight, was attired in a suit of new uniform, and from that time it became the custom so to attire the various attendants of the Institution. M'Nicol had great natural ability, and although his hours on daily duty were somewhat lengthened, he managed to improve his earlier education; and, developing a taste for literature, he was gradually promoted until he became Librarian. Unfortunately, he was of a delicate constitution, and died at an early age. Knowing for months that the hand of death was upon him, he nevertheless struggled to do his duty to the last, and within a few hours of his death was engaged in reading the proof sheets of a new catalogue.



WM. M'NICOL.

CHAPTER  
TWELFTH

*SEMI-JUBILEE:  
NEW MOVEMENT*

IN October, 1872, the Semi-Jubilee of the Athenæum was celebrated by a dinner, at which Mr. James Leitch, the Rector of the Church of Scotland Training College, Glasgow, and who was at the time Chairman of the Directors, presided. The Chairman, in proposing the toast of the evening, said—“The Athenæum now ranks as one of the largest literary and educational institutions of the city, and is eminently deserving of public support. It was established for educational purposes, its founders having more particularly in view the education of young men in business, who came in a great measure from the country. The Institution first saw the light in 1847, and its vitality was on more than one occasion at a very low ebb; but it had now arrived at man's estate, was in full health and vigour, rejoicing like a strong man to run the race appointed for it, amply fulfilling the great and good object of its founders, and probably exceeding their early hopes.”

From this period the Institution made steady, if not rapid, progress, and the chief difficulty which began to beset the Directors was the inadequacy of the premises. Those had been in every way suitable for the requirements of the Athenæum when the Institution began its career of usefulness, but were now in many ways inadequate as to accommodation, whilst their equipment

for educational purposes was fast becoming out of harmony with the ideas and requirements of the times. The position was a difficult one, for the Institution had no possessions beyond its books and furniture, together with its problematic interest in the Tontine. The difficulty of obtaining a suitable and central site, even had the funds to purchase such been available, was no easy task. Site after site was examined and reported upon, only to be found unsuitable or too expensive, or, if the site and other conditions were favourable—as did happen on two or three occasions—the Committee had the mortification of seeing a property speculator stepping in and buying the ground in the hope of realising a profit. It is a matter, therefore, little to be wondered at that the management felt oft-times depressed under such discouraging conditions, and were well-nigh tempted to terminate their official troubles and the history of the Institution at the same time. It would almost seem, however, as if a good Providence had been watching over the fate of the Athenæum. Many schemes were discussed, some of them being of considerable magnitude, and exhibiting an amount of courage and faith surprising under the circumstances. Much sad disappointment was felt when those could not be carried out, but later experience has shown that those failures were the very best thing that could have happened to the Institution, and that seeming discomfiture and lingering delay were alike ripening the kindly Destiny which awaited it. When the destined time came a way was opened up which led to a success such as could scarcely have been anticipated by the most enthusiastic and warmest friends of the Institution.

It was in 1877 that the first steps were taken towards providing a new and permanent building commensurate with the extended scope of the Athenæum's literary and educational requirements.

Mr. Dalglish was then President, and, as was his custom in relation to all which pertained to the welfare of the Institution, he took a personal interest in the initiation of the movement so long as he was in office. He was soon, however, succeeded in the Presidency by Mr. John Matheson of Cordale, a warm friend of the Institution, who at once threw himself into the work with that vigour and energy which characterised the discharge of all his public duties. Several joint meetings of the Extraordinary and Ordinary Directors were held to consider the situation. As is usual on such occasions, a good deal of diversity of opinion existed, and some were not slow to say that the Institution had served its day, and that the only thing now to be done was to see it honourably buried. Wiser counsels, however, fortunately prevailed, and it was resolved to start a Building Fund. Mr. James White of Overtoun, who had always been a warm supporter of the Athenæum, headed the list with a subscription of £1000. He, however, died before this subscription was paid; but in his will it was found that he had bequeathed to the Institution a sum of £500, and his son, now Lord Overtoun, with the generosity characteristic of his nature, made good his father's promise by contributing another sum of £500, thus completing the amount of his father's donation of £1000—a gift which, besides being a commendable act of filial piety, was a sympathetic and highly esteemed compliment to the Institution. The sense of the great loss which the Directors felt that the Athenæum had sustained in the death of Mr. White can be best expressed by the following excerpt from the Minute placed in their records:—

“Especially do they feel a debt of gratitude for what has unfortunately proved his last service to the Institution, namely, the invaluable assistance which he rendered by taking a leading part in the inauguration of the new

Building Scheme for the Athenæum. Were this his only service to the Institution, Mr. White's name would deserve to be long and honourably mentioned in the Athenæum, but when the many encouragements and the many wise and kind counsels which they have received from him are borne in mind, the Directors feel that, in common with the managers of many other public institutions in the West of Scotland, they have, by Mr. White's removal, sustained a severe loss, and that it will be long before the place of such a wise and true friend can be worthily filled."

This bequest of Mr. White's, which, strange to say, considering the number of citizens who have the power to help the Institution in this way, is only the second which has fallen to the lot of the Athenæum during its whole history, proved more valuable than at first sight it may have appeared. For some years it had been necessary to secure a number of life members each season, in order to meet the expenses incidental to the varied and now ever-extending administration of the Institution. During the reconstruction it was impossible to continue the canvass for this essential object, and had it not been for this most opportune and praiseworthy bequest, the Institution would again have fallen into debt.



JAMES WHITE of Overtoun.

Following Mr. White's name on the Building Fund subscription sheet was that of Mr. James Stevenson, of Largs, who also contributed £1000, whilst a number of other handsome donations were promised.

The sudden and lamented death of Mr. Matheson, in 1878, was a severe blow to the scheme, which, from the fine spirit

prompting the two princely donations referred to, and from the healthy enthusiasm pervading everyone connected with the movement, might be considered to be now well in progress, and giving promise of a successful consummation. Moreover, his successor, Mr. Thomas Russell of Ascog, took up the work with the greatest assiduity and tact, and, although in all respects a busy man, devoted a great deal of his time and energy to the affairs of the Athenæum.

The work of canvassing was steadily pursued, and a sum of about £8000 was obtained ; but at this point it seems as if all conceivable resources had been exhausted. To a pessimistic mind, it would appear as if the great schemes of the Athenæum were destined to fall upon evil times. The Institution was launched in a season of commercial depression so severe that its original scheme had to be departed from ; and now, when the movement to give it a new and permanent home was brought forward, the times were again unpropitious. Trade was dull and unremunerative, and other claims, which probably appealed more directly to the heart, were pressing on the attention of the public. Had it not been for the fact that about this time the Tontine was terminated, and that, in virtue of the agreement already referred to, the Athenæum became proprietors to the extent of one-fourth in the Assembly Rooms, the scheme, in all likelihood, even yet would have collapsed. The aspect of things, however, was now changed, and a new and altogether unprecedented enthusiasm gave life to the movement ; yet subscriptions to the Building Fund were slow in coming in. Formerly the Institution was so poor that there was no use attempting to help it, as nothing short of a miracle in money could galvanize it into life ; now it had become suddenly rich, and assistance was unnecessary :

so at least said some. After very mature consideration, therefore, it was resolved to start *de novo*, and on entirely fresh lines. The Constitution was altered, and the Institution formed into a Company, and registered under the Companies' Acts, with limited liability and a share capital of £15,000.

Under these new auspices a deed was executed whereby the whole assets of the old Athenæum, amounting to about £7500, were handed over to the new concern without any payment—this Company agreeing to carry on the work on the same lines as formerly, and with a proviso that, in the event of liquidation taking place, one-third of the net assets would be applied to the promotion of objects similar to those for which the Athenæum had existed. All the Subscribers to the Building Fund converted their subscriptions into shares, and some even increased the original amounts of their subscriptions. Provision was also made for shareholders being admitted to the membership of the Athenæum at reduced rates, and this, as was anticipated, has had the effect of inducing a large number of young men to take shares, and so form a more permanent connection with the Institution than they could have had simply as members.

The search for a suitable site was now prosecuted more earnestly, and the attention of Mr. Chapman, the Chairman of the Building Committee, and of the Secretary, was directed to a property on the north side of St. George's Place, but the price asked was prohibitory. It was exposed for sale on several occasions, and each time at a reduced upset price. Those proceedings were watched with increasing hopefulness, but the greatest care had to be exercised, in order to prevent the fact from becoming known ; for experience had taught those acting on behalf of the Institution that were information



of a possible prospective purchase of the site to get abroad, it would be turned to account by those whose business it was to watch the property market. With commendable worldly wisdom, therefore, for a time any knowledge of the intention of purchasing this site was confined to only a few leading members of the Committee. It was ultimately secured at the price of £10,000, which was generally considered a very good bargain. The preparation of plans for the new building was entrusted to Messrs. John Burnet, Son, & Campbell, and, with the view of making the arrangements as perfect as possible,



MEMORIAL STONE.

Mr. J. J. Burnet and the Secretary were deputed to visit a large number of similar Institutions both in this country and in England. Travelling thus in conjunction, the one was able to judge from the architectural point of view, and the other from the practical ; the result being that when the plans were laid before the Directors, they were practically accepted without modification.

The memorial stone of the new building was laid by Mr. James A. Campbell of Stracathro, LL.D., M.P., the President of the Institution, on the 7th January, 1887. Mr. Thomas Mason,

on behalf of the contractors, Messrs Morrison & Mason, presented Mr. Campbell with a silver trowel, bearing a suitable inscription, and with this trowel the ceremony of laying the stone was performed. A jar was deposited in the cavity of the memorial stone containing a list of the shareholders of the Athenæum, a copy of the latest annual report and prospectus, and a sketch of the history of the Athenæum, which had been printed a few years previously, and was brought up to date by the Secretary; also copies of the local newspapers, and the various current coins of the realm. The devotional part of the proceedings was conducted by the Rev. Dr. J. Marshall Lang, Minister of the Barony Parish of Glasgow. Mr. James King (now Sir James), the Lord Provost of the city, in proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. Campbell, said he thought he might congratulate not only the Athenæum, but the city of Glasgow, on the proceedings of the day. A conversazione was held in the Queen's Rooms on the same evening, at which Mr. Campbell also presided. Sheriff Berry, in expressing his good wishes, laid great stress upon the educational advantages of the Athenæum, and also alluded to the fact of its being intended to some extent for the amusement of its members. This, he thought, was a very important feature of the Institution.

Mr. F. H. Underwood, United States Consul in Glasgow, was also present, and in the most felicitous terms made a dainty speech alike appropriate and encouraging. Mr. Underwood, from his culture, literary achievements, grace of manner, and wide sympathies, had ever been a great favourite at all public functions in the city, and to most of the audience present the knowledge of the fact that in that personality who was addressing them stood the man who had started the *Atlantic Monthly*, and who had counted as his dearest friends Longfellow, Emerson,

Lowell, and Wendell Holmes, gave alike a charm to his speech and a romance to his presence. To many there it must have seemed like listening to some favoured and gifted soul who had just come with dainties from the table of the gods. Mr. Underwood expressed his great pleasure in joining his congratulations with those of the citizens of Glasgow on the events that had taken place that day in connection with the Athenæum—an Institution which, he said, had done so much in the past, and which gave still brighter promise of a beneficent future. He did not consider that the instruction given in Institutions like the Athenæum was a luxury or a pleasure, or a matter to be engaged in for the benefit of the individuals themselves; but it was given, and in that lofty spirit it should be received, in order that each one of the recipients of that education might become, so to speak, a missionary and a distributor of light in the circles to which he might go.

Professor Jebb, in the course of an eloquent speech, explained the origin of the word "Athenæum." He said—"It might appear strange that the word 'Athenæum' was rare. It occurred only once, he thought, in the classical, as distinguished from the late Greek literature, and then denoted a temple of Athene, not in Athens, but in another part of Attica. But the reason why the word was rare was simple. Athens was the chief seat of Athene's worship, and there she had special titles; thus the greatest of her temples was the Parthenon, or House of the Virgin. Our modern use of the word 'Athenæum' had not come to us directly from Athens, or even from Greece: it had come from Rome. The Emperor Hadrian had a peculiar love and veneration for Athens. After a prolonged sojourn there, on returning to Italy he founded at Rome an Institution which, in memory of Athens and her goddess, he called the 'Athenæum.'

It stood on the Capitoline Hill, and was established, probably, about 128 A.D. It contained a great library, and also a large theatre in which public recitations or lectures were given by poets, philosophers, and rhetoricians. So far it resembled a



ARCH AT GLASGOW GREEN (Façade of old Athenæum).

literary institute, but it had also the character of a University. Hence it was that modern Institutions of a kindred nature derived their name. The essential features of the original were

all represented: the library and reading-rooms, the popular lectures, the regular courses of instruction, the opportunity of social converse."

There is little more to record regarding the Athenæum, so long as it occupied its original home, all interest being now centred upon the palatial premises being erected for its reception. The



MEDALLION.

Assembly Rooms were sold to the Government, and on the site there has been erected a handsome addition to the Post-Office buildings.

By the wise foresight of Mr. John Carrick, the City Architect, and through the munificence of ex-Bailie James M'Lennan, the masonry forming the original façade of the building was purchased from the Government and re-erected as an archway

at the London Street entrance to the Glasgow Green, thus preserving an interesting relic and a beautiful example of the architecture of nearly a century ago. Only one other relic of the old building now exists, and is to be seen occupying a place of honour in one of the staircases of the new building. This is one of the medallions which formerly graced the walls of the large Assembly Room (afterwards the Reading-room), and was supposed to be from a design by the world-renowned sculptor, Flaxman. At the demolition of the old building this medallion was secured by the late Sir Michael Connal, who, to his many excellent qualities as a man of business and an educationist, added those of an earnest archæologist, and it was by him presented to the Athenæum.



CHAPTER  
THIRTEENTH

*LECTURES*

WHILST the popular lecture may within recent years have lost much of its attractiveness, owing probably, in almost equal proportion, to the changed conditions of life, the larger number of counter attractions, and the great advance made by the periodical press, it was at one time looked upon not only as an important agent in the advancement of the mental culture of the people, but was in reality one of the few opportunities then available for the enjoyment of an intellectual feast. The Directors of the Athenæum evidently took this view of the matter, for scarcely had the Institution been opened before lecture announcements appear ; and the list of noblemen and gentlemen who, from time to time, have addressed the members, forms a galaxy of talent almost bewildering, and embraces some of the most distinguished names in the various walks of literature, science, and art.

Sheriff Glassford Bell, speaking before the Athenæum members so early as 1851, threw out some warning hints, rich in ripe wisdom and cultured experience, as to the dangers incident to platform oratory. "To be a public instructor," said the learned Sheriff, "on any large subject of ethics, or social economy, or civil government, or theological science, is no light undertaking, and requires, above all, the accompaniment of high personal character that has stood the test of years. There

may be a pleasant excitement in listening to a strange orator who says new and startling things, but I fear it is at the best only a species of intellectual dram-drinking. The men whom we can safely trust as guides are not the men who are every now and then thrown to the surface by the force of circumstances, and who hasten to turn their brief popularity to account. Our guides should rather be the men whose rise and progress we have seen, whose history we know, whose characters we can vouch for, who have long sat in honoured places, who have graced our schools, our pulpits, and our Universities. We do not find such men passing from platform to platform to pour into the ears of too credulous listeners doctrines and opinions which would often need to be thrice winnowed before they could be safely considered wholesome. I do not say that these sudden and, frequently, very fiery meteors, are to be shunned altogether—some of them are perhaps working for good ; but this I say, that we shall do neither them nor ourselves any wrong by exhibiting towards them a due amount of our national caution and reserve."

Whether or not these remarks had any effect in guiding the decision of the Directors in the selection of those they invited to their platform may be matter of opinion, but there is no doubt that a wise discretion has all along been maintained ; and while strangers to our city have frequently been accorded a hearty welcome, those within our own borders, well able to guide and instruct, have never been overlooked.

It is impossible to do more than touch on a few of the leading lectures. The very first lecturer was one who had taken a deep interest in the establishment of the Athenæum, and from whose pen came the paragraph describing the objects of the Institution, which is found even yet on the first page of each Report, as well



as in the Prospectus—a piece of concise and elegant diction which has frequently been admired. We refer to Professor J. P. Nichol, LL.D., who delivered a course of three lectures on “Recent Discoveries in Astronomy” at intervals during the month following the opening of the Athenæum. Dr. Nichol lectured at later dates on “The North American Republic,” on “Saturn’s Rings,” and on “Comets,” the latter lecture attracting much attention.

Among other early lecturers were J. D. Morell, a graduate of Glasgow University, who afterwards became well known as a philosophical writer, who gave four lectures on “The Philosophical Tendencies of the Present Age”; Rev. R. Jamieson, on “The Leading Characteristics of Natural History”; Rev. Dr. King, on “Geology”; George Dawson of Birmingham, Charles Cowden Clarke, the Shakespearian critic, who spoke on the subordinate characters in the plays of the great dramatist; Dr. Charles Mackay; and John Stuart Blackie, then of Aberdeen, and latterly so well known as the clever but eccentric Professor of Greek in Edinburgh University, who, on this occasion, discoursed upon Roman History. Professor Blackie appeared repeatedly on the Athenæum platform. On one occasion he lectured on “Socrates,” and in the course of his address, speaking of “Lucian’s Dialogues,” he referred to the character named Demonax. Addressing himself to the reporters, much to the amusement of the audience, he said, “You will not find that word to report every day, and therefore I shall not be surprised if you should make a mistake. Take it down, D-e-m-o-n-a-x.” Turning to the audience, he continued, “It is only a matter of self-defence, this, for the nonsense these reporters sometimes make me say. It is not their fault, however, because I deal in strange, out-of-the-way names.”



PROF. J. S. BLACKIE

PHOTO BY G. & J. CO.



R. W. EMERSON



DR. GEORGE MACDONALD

PHOTO BY FAULSTICH & CO.



THOS. HUGHES, Q.C.M.R.

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PROF. EDWARD CAIRD

PHOTO BY BRADY



SIR J. R. SEELEY

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RIGHT HON. JOHN MORLEY, M.P.

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ANTHONY TROLLOPE

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MISS EMILY FAITHFULL

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PROF. HERKOMER



MRS. FAWCETT

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W. H. D. DIXON

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SOME LECTURERS



In February, 1848, the great American poet and essayist, Ralph Waldo Emerson, not the least lustrous in that galaxy of New England writers which includes Longfellow, Hawthorne, Dana, Lowell, Margaret Fuller, and Wendell Holmes, entertained and delighted the members with two lectures. It is curious to note that the "Solitary Thinker of New England" must have changed the subjects of his lectures at the last moment. In the record of his engagement they appear as "Napoleon, the Man of Action," and "Domestic Life," and were so advertised on the morning of the first lecture, whilst the subjects upon which he actually spoke were "The Characteristics of the Six New England States," and "The Genius of the Present Age." After all, however, this change of subjects was felicitous in the highest degree, and fortunate indeed for those who had the pleasure of listening to America's greatest leader in philosophical thought descant upon themes so well adapted for the lecturer's critical insight and masterly interpretation, and themes which Emerson subsequently elaborated into some of the richest and most suggestive passages in his social essays. It is typical of the thought of the period that care was taken to make it clear that those lectures were of "a purely literary character."

In the following year another visitor was welcomed from across the Atlantic in the person of Judge Haliburton, so widely known as the humorous "Sam Slick," who delivered a lecture on Canada, which was afterwards published and dedicated to the members of the Athenæum.

It was a red-letter day in the history of the Athenæum when the Directors obtained a promise from William Makepeace Thackeray to lecture under their auspices. Actuated, probably, by that spirit of business enterprise which characterises our city, they felt that the occasion was one to be turned to good

account. It was arranged that Thackeray should give four lectures upon "The Four Georges," the subject-matter of which is familiar to all readers from the fact that those lectures were shortly afterwards published in book form, and have frequently been reprinted under the same title. The lectures were delivered in November, 1856, and, as was customary when distinguished men lectured in Glasgow under the auspices of the Athenæum, the City Hall was engaged, and on each

occasion was crowded by what was, at the time, described as the "most fashionable and intellectual audiences ever brought together in Glasgow." Unfortunately, a misunderstanding arose between the Directors and Mr. Thackeray whether the lectures should not have been confined to the members of the Athenæum; and the distinguished novelist seems to have felt that by making them public, the Directors had obtained an undue advantage. In acknowledging a vote of thanks at the



W. M. THACKERAY.

*Photo. London Stereoscopic Coy.*

close of the last lecture, he gave a smart illustration of the sarcasm for which he was so famous, by remarking that the lectures had "at all events been profitable to the Athenæum." This was true, as the financial results showed a profit of £400; but surely, after making every allowance for the attractiveness of the lectures, much of this success was to be attributed to the influence of the Athenæum, as well as to the judicious



management of its business affairs. Mr. Thackeray was paid the fee originally stipulated for, but the Directors relieved him from an obligation not to re-deliver the lectures within a certain radius and period.

The Duke of Argyll, in addition to presiding at the second triennial soiree, when he delivered an eloquent address dealing chiefly with the importance of systematic reading and study in the promotion of mental culture, delivered at a later date a lecture on "Geology," which was afterwards, at the request of the Directors, published in pamphlet form.

Amongst others to whom the Athenæum members were privileged to listen may be mentioned George Augustus Sala, who lectured on "Three Phases of Civilisation"; Gerald Massey on "Yankee Humour"; Archibald Geikie on "The Geological Origin of Scottish Scenery"; Dean Ramsay on "The Genius of Handel"; The Earl of Caithness on "A Resumé of Science and the Arts"; The Earl of Airlie on "The Life of George Stephenson"; Sir John Bowring on "China: Past, Present, and Future"; Edmund Yates on "Modern Society"; Professor Hodgson on "English: Its Place among Languages"; Isaac Taylor on "Hebrew Poetry"; Rev. F. D. Maurice on "Learning and Leisure"; Nathaniel J. Holmes on "Sunshine"; and George Macdonald on "Tennyson" and "Milton."

A new departure was made in 1869, when Mark Lemon was



MARK LEMON.

*Photo.*

*Elliot & Fry.*

engaged to give dramatic representations of "Falstaff" from Shakespeare's Henry IV., with the assistance of a number of professional artistes. The scheme was not entered upon without trepidation on the part of some members of the Directorate, but the result justified the decision, whether judged from the artistic or the financial point of view. That those "representations" by the accomplished "Mark," the friend of Thackeray and Dickens, the genial and humorous editor of *Punch*, and the immediate predecessor of Burnand of "Happy Thoughts" fame, in the editorial chair of that Journal, were, from the artistic point of view, an unqualified success, is evident from a press notice of the time, from which the following is a quotation :—

"The impersonation of last evening bears upon the face of it unmistakable evidence that it is the result of painstaking reflection, of weeks, ay months, of seclusion, aided by an intellect of the very highest order."

Five recitals were given—two in Glasgow, two in Edinburgh, and one in Greenock. It may not be without interest to note that this was the first and only time that the Directors have ever in the matter of histrionic representations or lectures gone beyond the bounds of their own city.

In the following year Sir John Lubbock lectured on "Savages"; John Morley, at the time so well known as an able *littérateur*, but who has since made a reputation for himself in the world of politics, gave a most scholarly dissertation upon "Condorcet," the eminent French author and encyclopædist; William Hepworth Dixon gave two lectures upon the "Rocky Mountains" and "The Great Prairies"; whilst Anthony Trollope closed the course with a lecture on a subject upon which he was well qualified to speak, "Prose Fiction as a Rational Amusement." In the course of his remarks, the novelist said: As we had become a novel reading people,

we must have derived much that was either good or bad from the perusal of those works of fiction ; but, looking back, he could say that his experience told him that the British reading public was, on the whole, averse to the teaching of the bad, and in favour of the teaching of the good in novels. With respect to the allegation that the reading of novels caused a waste of time, a tendency to amusement, idleness, and unreality of character, he said that there was much of truth in that allegation ; but all our amusements had a tendency to impose upon us and obtain for themselves an undue mastery, as though they were the chief instead of the secondary objects of our lives. He mentioned athletic sports as a case in point, but said that we may hunt and dance too much, and undoubtedly read too many novels. Let those who had control of the hours of others see to this, and let those who had control of their own hours also see to it. The further objection was a palpably groundless one—that novels were false, meaning they were untrue in the broadest sense, because they were fictions ; but fiction might be as true as fact, and if he gave a true story of life, his story was not false ; but a novel could be hideously false, and he could name novels of that kind. A novelist was false who, in dealing with a phase of life, bolstered up a theory with pictures which were untrue, and which he did not believe to be true.

The following year's course was opened with a lecture by Sir Alexander Grant, Principal of Edinburgh University, on " Prussia Sixty Years ago." In the same season Professor Glaisher gave a brief history of the balloon and some of his experiences in its use for scientific purposes ; whilst Canon Tristram spoke on " Incidents of Travel in Arab Lands." Professor Robert Flint honoured the members with an address on " Lord Herbert of



Cherbury," and Sir David Wedderburn discoursed on "Danish Ballad Poetry." During this course, a lady, for the first time, was one of the lecturers under the auspices of the Athenæum, when Miss Emily Faithfull discoursed on "The Vexed Question," meaning thereby, of course, the movement for the improvement of the position of women, of which movement she was a distinguished leader. The only other ladies who have appeared on the Athenæum platform are Miss Lydia Becker and Mrs.



DEAN STANLEY.  
*Photo. London Stereoscopic Coy.*

Henry Fawcett, both of whom chose literary subjects, namely, "Illustrations of Womanly Character, derived from the writings of Sir Walter Scott," and "Some Female Characters of George Eliot."

In 1871 Dean Stanley delivered two lectures on "The Early Christians." The Dean had given a promise that when he came to Glasgow he would deliver a lecture to the Young Men's Christian Association, and it was consequently arranged that the two lectures should be given in the City Hall under the joint auspices of the two Institutions. The reverend lecturer began by explaining the reasons which had led him to choose the topic which had been announced, one of these being a desire to speak upon a theme not too exclusively religious for the Glasgow Athenæum, which, by its name, represented the literature and philosophy of our ancient city; not too exclusively secular, on the other hand, for the Young Men's Christian

Association, which by its designation represents no less its strong religious interests. He considered this union of the two societies an auspicious testimony to the great truth, which was never out of place, that nothing of any importance in this world was too secular to be treated religiously, or too religious to be treated philosophically. He should endeavour, he said, in these lectures, to show that these much-disputed and much-misused words had no sense at all when opposed to each other in any worthy treatment of great questions. A number of leading citizens and clergymen supported the learned Dean upon the platform, and amongst those on the occasion of his second lecture was Dr. Norman Macleod. The genial minister of the Barony, in moving a vote of thanks to the lecturer, was evidently unable to sever himself from his association with Royalty, and he persisted, much to the amusement of the audience, in speaking of Stanley as Dean of "Windsor." It was only when the Dean himself whispered the word "Westminster" into the ear of the speaker that he appreciated the joke, and realised the cause of the merriment on the part of his hearers. An amusing example of the well-known illegibility of Dean Stanley's handwriting may be mentioned in connection with those lectures. A post-card addressed by him to "The Secretary, Glasgow Athenæum," was by the postal authorities construed into "The Editor, *Glasgow Herald*," and delivered to that gentleman. It was only after some days that the signature, "A. P. Stanley," was deciphered, and the card sent up to the Dean for an explanation, which, of course, was forthcoming.

Mr. Thomas Hughes, M.P., the author of that ever-popular book for boys, yet inestimable in value both for boys and men, "Tom Brown's School-days," gave his ideas on the "Perspective of Life." Mr. Hughes, touching upon the dawn of conscious-

ness in the child, passed on to speak of the importance of self-knowledge, the worth of which, he said, depended mainly upon the background we have been able to prepare for it, and the uses to which we put it. Understand yourself—know what you are best suited to do, is the first rule of success in life. In conclusion, he said—"We have unawares risen to-night from the playthings of children and the games of schoolboys to the most serious of human pursuits. In short, the science of arranging things in our minds according to their real situations and values, if taken up with the least sincerity, forces on us the necessity of finding that true standpoint outside ourselves, from whence we may look patiently and firmly through the tangle, drift, and whirl of life, certain that, to the steady gaze, mist will disperse and mirage vanish away. But surely this, in other words, is nothing but the world-old cry and search for that which *is*—the effort to deliver ourselves from that which only *seems*—nothing but a form of that search for wisdom which has been the aim and the glory of all those who have toiled hardest and deserve best of the race from the time of Job till now."

Professor (afterwards Sir) J. R. Seeley, the author of "*Ecce Homo*," a book which, published anonymously, startled the whole religious world by the freshness of its ideas and the beauty of its style, gave an eloquent and characteristic sketch of "The Two Pitts" (Lord Chatham and William Pitt, the younger), and on another occasion spoke of "Napoleon and the French Revolution"; whilst Tom Hood, the younger, discoursed on the life and works of his father.

Among more recent lecturers were Mr. Archibald Forbes, the war correspondent, who, in a graphic manner, recounted his experiences during the Franco-Prussian War of 1870-71;

Mr. Edward Jenkins, M.P., the author of "Gynx's Baby" and "The Devil's Chain"; Mr. Justin M'Carthy, M.P., author of "The History of our own Times"; Alexander Smith, author of "A Life Drama"; Mr. Lawrence Gane, Q.C.; Captain Markham, who described his expedition to the Arctic regions; Lieutenant Cameron, who gave an account of his journey across Africa, from Bagamoyo on the east to Benguela on the west. More recently still come Professor Herkomer, who gave his views on "The Problem of Art Instruction," the Rev. R. S. Crockett, and Ian Maclaren (Rev. John Watson, D.D.).

It has been said that local lights have had frequent opportunities of appearing on the Athenæum platform. One of the earliest was Archibald (afterwards Sir Archibald) Alison, the learned Sheriff and historian. In 1866, when submarine telegraphy was still in its infancy, Sir William Thomson (now Lord Kelvin), who had just returned



LORD KELVIN, LL.D., D.C.L.  
*Photo. John Stuart, Limited.*

from laying the Atlantic cable, gave an account of that gigantic undertaking, and, by means of numerous illustrations, placed before his hearers a vivid picture of the character of the work and of the difficulties which had been so successfully overcome in connection with the enterprise. Sheriff Clark lectured upon "The Religions of the World," and at a later period gave some interesting reminiscences of "Old Glasgow." The venerable Principal of the University, Dr. Caird, gave a scholarly dissertation on



"Buddhism"; and Professor Edward Caird, now the Master of Balliol, spoke on "The Life and Poetry of Dante." Professor Robert Grant lectured on "Fixed Stars," and also on "Spectroscopic Astronomy"; and Professor Veitch on "Positivism." The Rev. Dr. Walter C. Smith, the gifted author of "Borland Hall" and "Obrig Grange," discoursed on "The Literary and Philosophical History of Scotland during the Eighteenth Century," and also upon "Light and Life"; whilst Professor



PRINCIPAL CAIRD, D.D.

*Photo.*

*T. & R. Annan & Sons.*

John Nichol lectured on "The Romantic Poetry of the Nineteenth Century," on "The Life and Literary Works of Bacon," and again on "War Songs." Mr. John Matheson of Cordale, who at the time occupied the position of President, gave a most instructive lecture on "The Rise and Progress of Wealth and Commerce." Ex-Lord Provost Ure contributed an interesting account of his tour round the world; and Mr. W. C. Maughan gave his experiences of a similar trip.

Amongst other local lecturers may be named, Professor Allen Thomson, Professor John Young, Professor A. S. Herschel, Dr. James Bryce, Rev. Professor T. M. Lindsay, Professor Henry Drummond, Rev. David Macrae, and Mr. A. D. Provand, M.P., the latter of whom gave an interesting and instructive address on "Commercial Education," showing how essential it is that this side of education should not be overshadowed, as

it is apt to be, by the attention now being bestowed upon Technical Education, but, on the contrary, that the two must go hand in hand, if our country is to maintain its commercial supremacy.

The carrying out of the arrangements for such elaborate courses of lectures as those indicated above entails a vast amount of correspondence, whilst difficulties and disappointments are frequently met with. An application, for instance, having on one occasion been made to John Ruskin, the following characteristic reply was received from the great art critic:—"I have your obliging letter, but am compelled, by increase of work, to cease lecturing, except at Oxford—and practically there also—for, indeed, I find the desire of audiences to be audiences only becoming an entirely pestilent character of the age. Everybody wants to hear; nobody to read—nobody to think. To be excited for an hour, and, if possible, amused; to get the knowledge it has cost a man half his life to gather, first sweetened up to make it palatable, and then kneaded into the smallest possible pills—and to swallow it homœopathically and be wise—this is the passionate desire and hope of the multitude of the day. It is not to be done. A living comment quietly given to a class on the book they are earnestly reading—this kind of lecture is eternally necessary and wholesome; your modern fireworking, smooth-downy-curry-and-strawberry-ice-and-milk-punch-altogether-lecture is an entirely pestilent and abominable vanity; and the miserable death of poor Dickens, when he might have been writing blessed books till he was eighty, but for the pestiferous demand of the mob, is a very solemn warning to us all, if we would take it. God willing, I will go on writing, and as well as I can. There are three volumes published of

my Oxford lectures, in which every sentence is set down as carefully as may be. If people want to learn from me, let them read them or my monthly letter, 'Fors Clavigera.' If they don't care for these, I don't care to talk to them."

In recent years, and in connection with the Modern Language Clubs, a number of lectures in French and German have been delivered—many of them not only interesting from a literary point of view, but valuable in accustoming the ear to the pronunciation of the particular language which the members of the respective clubs may be studying.



CHAPTER  
FOURTEENTH

*IDIOSYNCRACIES*

**A**MONGST the frequenters of the old Reading-room in Ingram Street were many quaint characters—old gentlemen who came down in the morning as regularly as if to a place of business, and practically lived there, reading and dozing in turns. One who went by the cognomen of “Lord John,” presumably because his surname was Russell, and that he was supposed to bear a certain resemblance to the great statesman, was in the habit, much to the disgust of the other readers, of appropriating half a dozen papers, perusing each in turn, and sitting upon the others. The attendant was in the habit of carefully abstracting the papers from under his chair when he went off to sleep, by no means an uncommon occurrence. Occasionally he would waken up in process of the abstraction of the papers, and then there were ructions, for he had a bit of a temper. Another worthy, familiarly known as “Philip,” read and slept in the room alternately for years. He claimed, as if by prescriptive right, a certain chair near the fire, and woe betide the member who in his temporary absence appropriated this lounge of warmth and quiet ease. On one occasion the janitor discovered him busily raking out the fire upon the hearth. On interfering, an exciting scene took place, for the sense of hearing in the said “Philip” had become somewhat dulled. It ultimately transpired that, along with some



waste paper, he had accidentally thrown a few cœ is se into the fire, and was assiduously endeavouring to recover his from . lost treasure. The coins were afterwards got in a state unfit for vigera. circulation, which was a severe trial to Philip, for, as the Scots say, "he was fond o' the bawbees." Another regular frequenter of the guag rooms, but of quite a different stamp, was remotely related to onen e of the titled families in the West of Scotland. While of modes t means, he was a thoroughly cultured gentleman, well read, and of decided literary and archæological tastes. Despite the fact that he was inclined to be a little prosy, a chat with him was a real delight. His reminiscences went back to the days of Sir Walter Scott, and he was always pleased to tell how, as a youth in Edinburgh, he had seen and spoken to Scotland's great novelist and poet. Most of those men were of very careful habits, and yet many of them were capable of real generous actions, and in not a few cases were they known to help each other out of difficulties, financial and otherwise.

Nearly all those old characters have disappeared. Not a few have gone over to the majority; whilst others, perhaps finding that the increased stir of the Institution interfered with their somnambular habits, have taken themselves off. It may be that those still remaining, and who yet haunt the new rooms like silent ghosts of a past generation, are not so easily to be discerned in the surging crowd that ebbs and flows there all day long.

Many amusing incidents, both under the old and the new régime, might be given of the idiosyncrasies of members, and of the difficulties experienced by the officials in endeavouring to satisfy individual tastes. The heating, lighting, and ventilation of the rooms are constant sources of trouble. One complains that the electric light is so brilliant it hurts his eyes, whilst another,

possibly forgetful of the effect of advancing years upon his optic organs, grumbles that the light is so dull he is unable to read his favourite paper. One wants the temperature kept under 60 degrees, another believes in 65, and a third will not be satisfied with less than 70. On one occasion a member was complaining to an attendant that the Reading-room was much too cold, and while airing his grievance another member came up to remark that the room was so hot he could not sit in it. The official politely introduced the two gentlemen, then retired, leaving them to settle the question to their mutual satisfaction, if such were possible.

## CHAPTER FIFTEENTH

### *EDUCATIONAL WORK*

**I**N no sphere has the Athenæum done more useful work, or has conferred more lasting benefit upon the city, than in its educational departments; in none probably has it achieved greater success or has it deserved more recognition at the hands of the public.

The original idea of the promoters was to make the educational curriculum specially suitable for the requirements of young men engaged in, or looking forward to, a commercial career. It is therefore not surprising to find that the first classes formed were for English Grammar and Literature, Logic, French, and German. The first teacher appointed was the Rev. James Paterson, who had formerly been connected with the Glasgow Commercial College, and who undertook to give instruction in the two first-named subjects, the two modern languages having been entrusted to Mr. A. L. Findlay. In the following session Monsieur Alfred Havet was appointed French master; and to the curriculum there were added Mathematics, taught by Mr. A. Laing, Elocution, Italian, and Vocal Music, the teacher of the latter being Mr. W. H. Lithgow, who then, and for many years subsequently, was well known as one of the foremost choir-masters, or, as they were then designated, leaders of psalmody, in the city. Latin, Greek, and Spanish were

next added to the list of subjects for study. The number of students during the first and second sessions was about 400, but afterwards the attendance declined, and from 1850 to 1867 it sometimes barely reached 200, and only on one or two occasions exceeded 300.

It is impossible to refer individually to all the teachers who have at different times occupied positions on the staff, and only a few of the more prominent will be alluded to. Amongst those who occupied positions in the Institution's earlier years was Herr Kærnor, who, with painstaking perseverance, conducted the German classes for many years, when that language was by no means so popular as a study as it is now. English Literature, Logic, and Mental Science were taught by Mr. Alexander Richardson, an alumnus of Edinburgh University, and a distinguished student of Logic and Metaphysics under Sir William Hamilton. Mr. Richardson was a man possessed not only of a thorough knowledge of his subject, but was endowed with the faculty of imparting to his students an enthusiasm which still lingers in the breasts of many of them. At the request of the Directors he prepared a synopsis of the scheme of examinations arranged by the Society of Arts, London, which was published as a pamphlet under the title of "Middle Class Education." Written in a lucid and forcible style, it contained a masterly summary of the benefits to be derived from the union of institutions under the Society, and pointed out that at the examinations of the Society "the student knows and feels that he is competing, not with the narrow circle of his own class, whose acquirements have been measured by him, but with hundreds of eager, plodding, studious youths in every considerable town of the Empire, stimulated by the consciousness that their success in

the generous contest is anxiously watched by their respective families, directors, and trustees." This exposition of the movement inaugurated by the Society of Arts was very favourably received, and was so highly commended by the officials of the Society that the Council bought up all the copies of the pamphlet that could be spared. Mr. W. N. Greig, who was teacher of English at a later period, was also a man who had a firm grasp of his subject, with distinct ability in imparting



WALTER BAYNHAM.

sound instruction upon it to his students. Mr. Duncan, the first teacher of Elocution, was succeeded by Mr. A. M. Hartley, the author of a very popular textbook on Elocution. He was followed by Mr. Harcourt Beatty Bland, one of the first, if not the first, in our midst, who, after practical experience on the stage, turned his attention to teaching the Art of Elocution. Mr. Bland was highly esteemed alike for

his ability and his personal qualities. Such another was Walter Baynham, who, in addition to his class-room duties, did much to popularise the histrionic art by his readings and interesting lectures on "Dickens" and "Shakespeare," of whose works he was an ardent admirer. Mr. Baynham's removal to London some years ago was much regretted. His successor, Henry Talbot, was an able Shakesperian scholar, but un-

fortunately his life's work was well-nigh completed before he came to the Athenæum.

In 1861 Monsieur C. A. Chardenal was appointed teacher of French, and probably no more important or popular appointment has ever been made in connection with the educational staff. Monsieur Chardenal was a model teacher, and there is no doubt that to the skill and indomitable perseverance with which he set about developing and consolidating the French classes, is to a large degree attributable the high position which the Athenæum has so long occupied in the teaching of modern languages. For years his students almost invariably took the highest positions at the Society of Arts' examinations; and to this uniform success may doubtless be traced the marked accession of numbers in attendance on those classes. He was systematic and methodical to a degree, and it was frequently said that one might set one's watch by the time he entered his class-room.



C. A. CHARDENAL, B.A.

Even in the dark winter mornings, when he was due at the Athenæum at 7 o'clock, he was invariably punctual; and only on one occasion had he to apologise for being late, the reason being that his alarm clock had failed that morning to perform the function entrusted to it in all good faith. On his retiral, after twenty-five years' service, he was presented with a handsome testimonial from those who had enjoyed the benefit of his tuition; and it was a matter of gratifying interest to see on such an occasion so many former students, by this time occupying good positions

in the city, turn out to pay respect to their old instructor in French. In making the presentation, Mr. James Parnie mentioned that Monsieur Chardenal had taught no fewer than 6000 students in connection with the Athenæum. After the death of Monsieur Chardenal, his widow, being anxious to perpetuate his memory in connection with an Institution to which he was deeply attached during his lifetime, very generously invested, in name of the Directors, a sum of money to endow a prize of the annual value of Five Guineas. This award, which bears the name of the "Chardenal Prize," is competed for each year in the advanced French class.



G. E. BARBIER.

Monsieur Georges Emile Barbier, who was appointed to the French Mastership as successor to M. Chardenal, was a man of great talent and of distinct personality. Although his academic strength lay in quite a different direction from that of his eminent predecessor, he was highly successful in maintaining the splendid reputation of the French department. Monsieur Barbier's favourite recreation was Chess, of which game he was a skilful player, having for some time held the Chess Championship of Scotland. He was a brilliant conversationalist, and delighted in telling a Scotch story, which he did with all the pawky humour of a native, and with a command of the dialect rarely to be found in one of his nationality. He was not only a teacher, but also a *littérateur*, and possessed a close acquaintance with the literature of his own and of his adopted country, whilst his contributions were frequently found in the pages of









the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, and in other French and English periodicals. This love of literature, as might have been expected from the magnetic influence of his character, he imparted to his students, whilst, by the generosity of his nature, he speedily secured their respect and affection. His death, at the early age of fifty-one, was greatly regretted, and it was felt that his place on the staff of the Institution would not be easily filled.

Drawing was introduced in 1862, by Mr. Thomson Kirkwood, but the subject seems to have been suspended, after one session, until 1871, when Mr. James Campbell (afterwards teacher of Drawing in the High School) was appointed. Mr. Campbell continued to conduct the classes until the organisation of the department as a School of Art. Attendance during the day then became necessary, and, as this interfered with his other duties, he reluctantly resigned. As a mark of their respect and appreciation of his services the Directors elected Mr. Campbell a life member.

In the early years of the Athenæum a number of Mutual Improvement Classes were formed, one of those being for Phonography; but it was not until 1872 that instruction in Shorthand was introduced, under the tuition of Mr. William Silver. At that time this art was not considered so essential for business as it is now, and the classes were comparatively small. The attendance has, however, rapidly increased, and these classes are now among the largest in the Institution, whilst the students in this department have taken distinguished honours both at the Society of Arts' and at Messrs. Pitman's examinations. Type-writing, the handmaid of Stenography, is also now taught to a large number of students, the majority of them being young ladies preparing for situations in commercial and other houses.

As has been indicated, Logic was one of the first subjects

taught in the Athenæum; but, somehow, young men have only at intervals appreciated its importance as a branch of a liberal education. At one time a very large class was conducted by Mr. Peter Melville, but, on his going abroad, interest in the subject seems to have abated, and, after one or two efforts to continue the class, the subject was dropped from the syllabus for a time. It was revived on the appointment of the Rev. J. J. Dunstone, who was an enthusiast in the theme, being prepared to lecture as faithfully to half a dozen students as to a hundred. Mr. Dunstone, when lecturing, became so engrossed in his subject that he frequently grew quite oblivious to the flight of time, with the result, as he humorously expressed it, that he was occasionally subjected to a "Spanish Invasion." The class-room accommodation at that time was so limited that one class frequently followed close upon another in the same room, and the "invasions" on those occasions were but the act of the students of Spanish claiming their room at the appointed hour. The most recent teacher of Logic was Mr. John Mitchell, who, possessing many of the qualities of his predecessor, Mr. Dunstone, succeeded in imparting some of his enthusiasm for the subject to a band of young men, who, if somewhat limited in number, were not wanting in ability or earnestness of application.

Of recent years short courses of lectures have been arranged for on Political Economy, Mercantile Law, Commercial Geography, English Literature, and Ambulance. The first lecturer was Mr. John Adams, now Rector of the Free Church of Scotland Training College, Aberdeen, who undertook two subjects, namely, Commercial Geography and Political Economy. In the latter subject he was followed by Mr. James Mavor, who conducted the class most successfully for a few years, until

he received his present appointment as Professor of Political Economy in the University of Toronto. Another distinguished lecturer was Dr. R. M. Wenley, who, by his able and interesting lectures on English Literature, gave that subject a permanent hold on the Athenæum students. The loss of Dr. Wenley's services was much regretted when his appointment to a Professorship in the University of Michigan, United States of America, made it necessary for him to resign his position at the Athenæum. The Lectures on Ambulance and First Aid to the Injured were commenced by Dr. T. Kennedy Dalziel, and were conducted by him with much success until the pressure of his other duties made it necessary for him to resign. He was succeeded by Dr. George Lapraik, who continued this course with much acceptance to the students up till a few months ago, when he accepted an important appointment in New Zealand.

At first, the Athenæum classes were confined to young men, but, some years ago, special classes were formed for young ladies, and those proved very successful. Frequent applications were, however, made by many of the fair sex for admission to the evening classes, on the ground that the earlier hours at which the ladies' classes met were not suitable for those engaged in business; and, two years ago, the evening classes, with only one or two exceptions, were opened to both sexes on equal terms, but at the same time the ladies' classes were continued in the afternoon for the benefit of those who preferred attending at that period of the day.

From 1867, the number of students steadily increased, year by year, and, in the last session held in the old building in Ingram Street, it reached about 1000. The numbers, however, have grown in much greater proportion during the last ten years,

as, last session, they reached 2600, exclusive of the students in Music and Art.

Examinations are held in all the subjects at the close of each session, these being conducted by independent examiners, and certificates are awarded to those students who obtain a certain percentage of marks. These certificates are becoming more and more recognised by business firms as valuable credentials when presented by candidates for situations; and, indeed, not a few commercial houses are in the habit of applying to the Institution, when they have vacancies for clerks, foreign correspondents, or assistants. A number of gentlemen interested in the work of the Athenæum have for several years contributed prizes to be competed for by the students, and this fund is further added to by the proceeds from the Students' Concerts and Dramatic Entertainments, thus manifesting in another form that spirit of self-help which has all along characterised the Athenæum. This fund, which was non-existent twenty years ago, now amounts to close upon £350 per annum. In addition to this, three gentlemen, namely, Dr. W. G. Blackie, Mr. A. G. Macdonald, and Mr. Thomas Carlile, have very generously handed over to the Athenæum the shares which they respectively held in the Company, on the understanding that the dividends accruing upon these shares should be applied annually to the Prize Fund of the Institution. The prizes derived from these sources, as well as the silver and the bronze medals given by the Directors, are awarded on the result of the class examinations. Diplomas for proficiency in Commercial Knowledge are likewise granted to students who have attended not less than four years, and have undergone a prescribed course of study.

As has already been indicated, the students of the Athenæum



R.C. BUCHANAN, ESQ.



JAMES D. FITZGERALD



WILLIAM SLESSOR



HEINRICH F.F. SCHRÖDER



WILLIAM NESS



ARCHIBALD REVIE



T.H. CROSTHWAIT, M.A.



L.E. ROBERT-TISSOT, M.A.



ROBERT KIRKPATRICK, M.A.

COMMERCIAL  
COLLEGE MASTERS



have for many years taken part in the annual examinations of the Society of Arts, London, which are held at all the principal centres throughout the Kingdom, and they have almost invariably been successful in carrying off a large percentage of the prizes and certificates. For a considerable period the late Prince Consort gave a prize of Twenty-five Guineas, to be competed for annually. This prize, which may be designated the "blue ribbon" of the Society, was awarded to the candidate who, in the current and the three immediately preceding years, obtained a first-class certificate in the largest number of subjects. This much-coveted honour fell, in 1864, to an Athenæum student, Mr. John Allan, whose record within the specified period included no fewer than nine first-class certificates, as well as five first, and four second, prizes. This prize was continued by Her Majesty for some time after the death of Prince Albert, but was withdrawn about twenty years ago.

On leaving Ingram Street, the title of Commercial College was assumed for this department, in order to distinguish it from the new educational sections then introduced, and which will be noticed later on. The present staff of teachers embraces in each section men of the highest eminence in their profession, and it may in justice be said that, in this respect, at no time has the Institution ever been better equipped. The senior member of the Commercial College staff is Mr. William Ness, who was appointed teacher of Arithmetic and Mathematics so long ago as 1863, and who during all that time has laboured faithfully and well in the interests of the Institution, whilst several other members of the staff count their length of service well into the second decade.

It may be roughly estimated that from fifty to sixty thousand students have passed through the classes of the Athenæum Commercial College. Many of those are now occupying important



positions either at home or abroad. The vast majority have been lost sight of, and it can only be surmised that their training in the Athenæum has helped them on in life. The career of others again is known, and some of those are filling important commercial positions in our own city, and look back with pleasure to the years they spent within the walls of the Athenæum as among the happiest and most profitable of their lives. Former students are also to be found filling important positions in the public service, whilst the highest municipal position in the city has been filled by an old Athenæum student. It is pleasing and gratifying to find many of such still taking an interest in the Athenæum, being associated with its Directorate and contributing to its prize fund. Others, again, are to be found not only in other parts of the Kingdom, but scattered over the face of the world. It is not uncommon for a gentleman to return from some distant country and report himself as an old student who has succeeded in life.

The value of such educational agencies as the Athenæum can hardly be better expressed than in the words of the Earl of Eglinton, when, presiding at one of the soirees in connection with the Institution he said—"It is by these Athenæums that uneducated men may place themselves on a level with those who have been in the way of greater advantages in earlier life; it is by them that comparatively educated men may raise themselves to the highest branches of knowledge; it is by them that knowledge and science are diffused among all classes, and by them that immorality and drunkenness may be repressed."

At what sacrifice does the student sometimes pursue his studies? Occasionally the curtain is drawn aside, and a glimpse is got of the self-denial necessary to keep himself respectable and to pay his fee out of a small salary. One of the most striking

illustrations of the thirst for knowledge was given in an incident that occurred in the experience of Monsieur Chardenal. One dark winter morning, after commencing the work of his class, he had occasion to leave the room, and, on opening the door, was surprised to find a young lad eaves-dropping. On being interrogated, the youth confessed he was desirous of learning French, but being unable to pay the fee, had adopted this method of obtaining free instruction, and had attended regularly behind the door morning after morning. It is almost unnecessary to add that arrangements were made for the continuance of his studies under more comfortable conditions. Another instance of difficulties being conquered in the consuming desire for learning is almost equally interesting. Two brothers, in order to attend one of the morning classes, came in from Kirkintilloch three days a week for two winters on the top of a milk cart which left for Glasgow at five o'clock each morning. The janitor of the Athenæum at that time, himself a Kirkintilloch man, took a great interest in those youths, and always arranged that they should be made comfortable at the fire before going to their class-room. Another young man, who is now occupying an important position at the head of one of our local commercial companies, after attending classes in the evening, travelled by a late train to Hamilton, and from there walked to his home at Larkhall, which he did not reach until about midnight; this he did three times a week for several winters, and was rarely absent from his place in the class. It is not surprising that he more than once headed the prize list. Many other examples of the pursuit of knowledge under difficulties might be given, and many more instances belong to that great roll of unrecorded heroism whose issues are alike far-reaching and ennobling both for the actors and their fellow-men.

As an auxiliary to the language classes, and for the purpose of giving students who have studied a modern language opportunities for using it conversationally, French, German, and Spanish Literary Clubs were formed. The teacher of the language is, *ex officio*, President of the Club, which meets once a week during the winter, when essays are read and discussions take place. All the conversations and literary intercourse of those meetings are conducted in the language which the Club is studying. Many excellent papers are from time to time read at those meetings, which afford ample opportunities for acquiring facility of speech, as well as for the study of the literature of the different countries whose languages are represented in the work of those Clubs. Public lectures are also occasionally given under the auspices of the Clubs. In connection with the French Club, Monsieur Chardenal, who was Honorary President up till the time of his death, lectured on "The Origin of the French Language." Monsieur Barbier also frequently lectured, amongst his subjects being "Victor Hugo," "Characteristics of French Literature," and "The Political Parties in France." Mr. Timothy Bost, the Honorary Vice-President, lectured on "Here and There in France," and on "Peter the Hermit and the Crusades"; Mr. James Richardson, on "Talma, and the Histrionic Art of his Time"; Monsieur Marcel Rosey, on "The Temple of Paris"; and Mr. Hector Rey, on "Alfred De Musset," and also on "Beranger and Burns." Last session M. Tissot gave the opening address, choosing as his subject "Monsieur Thiers." Several dramatic representations have also been produced by the French and German Clubs in a highly creditable manner.

A Dramatic Club was also formed in 1886, of which Mr. Walter Baynham was the first President. Mr. George Middleton, the first Vice-President, was practically responsible for the

drafting of the Constitution, and he did excellent service in starting the Club on sound lines, and in the direction of its affairs during the earlier years of its history. The Club has all along had many good amateurs amongst its members, and its performances have invariably been of a high order, extending, as they have done, over a wide range of subjects, including several Shakespearian plays, embracing both tragedy and comedy. Some of the old English comedies have also been produced, whilst the modern drama has not been neglected. An interesting function in connection with this Club was the occasion when Mr. Henry (now Sir Henry) Irving was entertained to supper by the members. Mr. Walter Baynham presided, and the great actor, in replying to the toast of his health, speaking of the dramatic art, said—"I do not know that I could wish dramatic societies a greater success than that of making a thorough familiarity with Shakespeare a part of the liberal education of the future. Actors," he added, "would welcome that consummation."

Apart from the accomplishment of the special purposes for which they exist, these Clubs are of great value in forming friendships among those of similar tastes—friendships which can hardly fail to be of mutual advantage in after life, and which tend still further to strengthen the cords which bind them to the parent Institution.



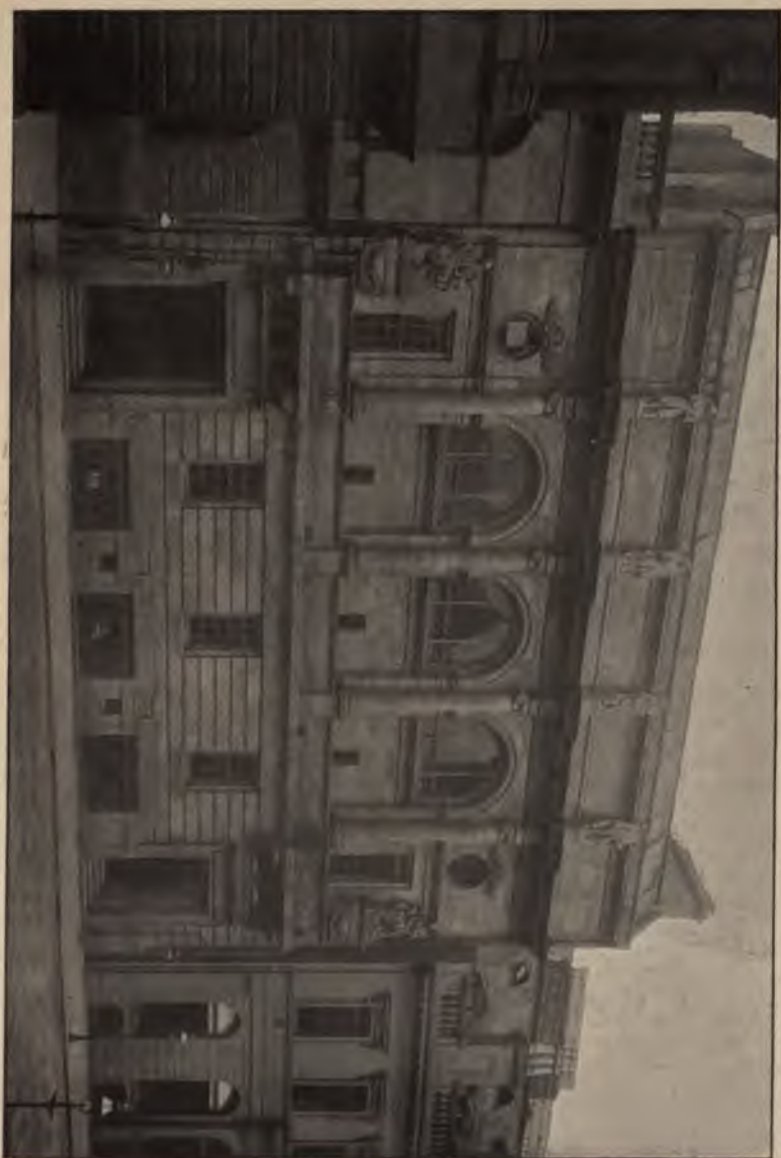
SIR HENRY IRVING.  
*Photo. Window & Grove.*

## CHAPTER SIXTEENTH

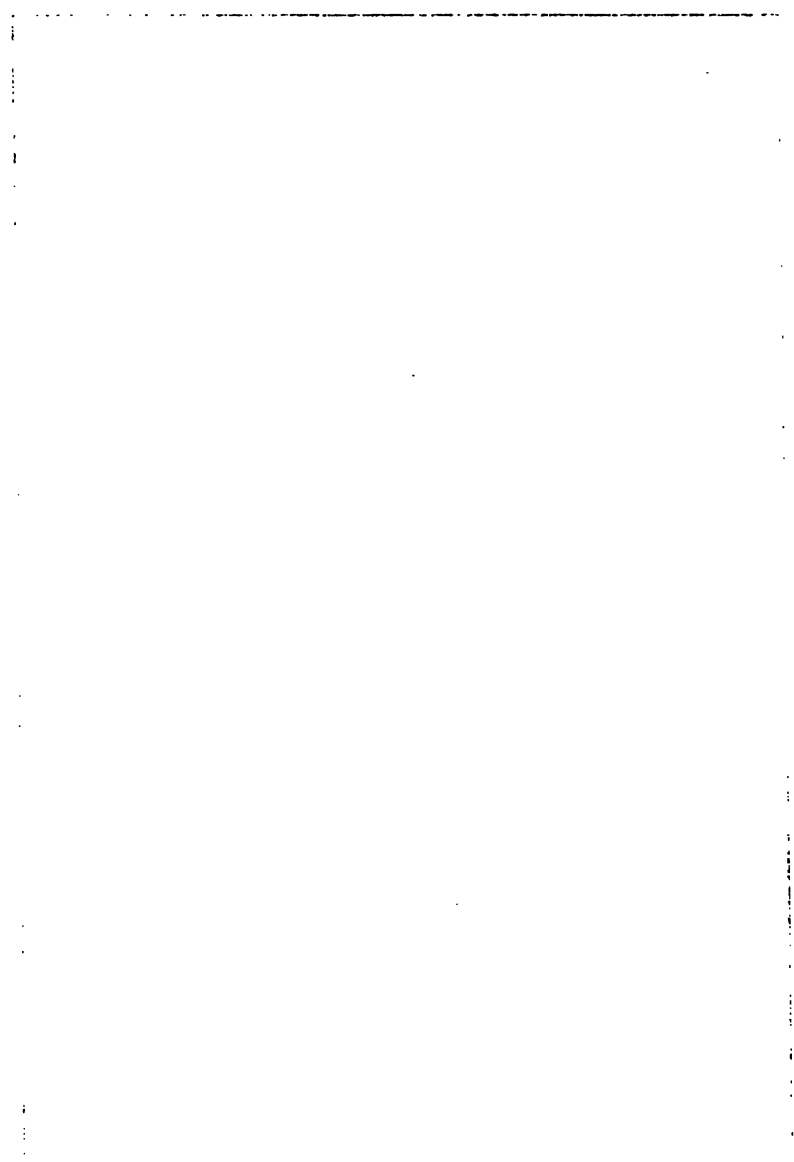
### *A NEW ERA*

THE fine new edifice built in St. George's Place to meet the greatly developed requirements of the Athenæum, was formally opened on Wednesday, 25th January, 1888, by the Marquess of Bute. On the invitation of the Directors a large gathering of representative citizens assembled, and the whole building was thrown open for their inspection. A number of the Directors and Office-bearers met in the Board-room, and in their presence Mr. J. A. Campbell, LL.D., M.P., the President, presented Lord Bute with a silver key, on one side of which the Arms of the Marquess were engraved in mediæval style, with a suitable inscription, and, on the reverse, the seal of the Athenæum. With this his Lordship unlocked the door of the Reading-room, which, for the occasion, was seated as a lecture-hall. Mr. Campbell thereafter took the chair, and was accompanied on the platform by Sir William Collins, Sir Michael Connal, Sir George H. Macleod, Sheriff Spens, Sheriff Guthrie, Rev. W. W. (now Dr.) Tulloch, Rev. Professor Story, Professor Simpson, Professor Cleland, &c., whilst the Marchioness of Bute occupied a seat in front of the platform.

The Chairman having, in name of the Directors, given to those present a most cordial welcome to the new Rooms, and having congratulated the members and friends of the Athenæum



ST. GEORGE'S PLACE BUILDING.





upon the completion of their new building, the Marquess of Bute delivered an address on the benefits of studying the history of Scotland. In the course of his remarks his Lordship said—"The study of that history is all the more needful now in the face of certain political movements which are beginning to stir, and among whose motive powers might be recognised a quickening and intensified consciousness of distinctive nationality." His own belief, he said, was "that history affords the record of the phenomena of the life of a nation. It is to politics the same thing that the record of physical phenomena is to medical science; and it is almost as impossible to act wisely towards the national life without it, as it would be to prescribe for the preservation of health, or the cure of disease, without a knowledge of the teachings of the past in the sphere of pathology." In closing, he said—"I have urged upon you the study of the history of Scotland, not to involve you in controversies upon useless points of dispute, nor only because the study is one well calculated to make you often glow with the ennobling emotion of love and admiration for your country, but because that history may, and ought, to be a guide to you in the present and in the future. The History of Scotland is not a book closed for ever, like the history of the Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem. It must continue while the people continue of whose



KEY presented to  
LORD BUTE.



life it is the record. It may from time to time be more or less quiet, or more or less objective; but it has been, it is, and it will be."

The Rev. Mr. Tulloch afterwards delivered a short address on "Good Citizenship," and Sheriff Spens spoke on "Tennyson as a Lyrical Poet."

On the Friday evening following a *Conversazione*, more particularly intended for the students, was held, and was presided over by Mr. J. G. A. Baird, M.P. Mr. Baird, speaking on the subject of education, said—"The question of secondary education, although it had been met to a considerable degree, was yet somewhat in arrear. A great many of the stepping-stones between primary education and the University are still somewhat insufficient; and I believe that this insufficiency will be met, and that a proper system, by which a child who puts his foot upon the first rung of the educational ladder would be able to mount to the top, would be perfected and brought into working order before many years are over our heads. Of course the top of the educational ladder might be generally taken to mean the attainment of a University degree; but education did not end there—education ended only when the mental faculties began to fail and the mind was no longer capable of receiving further improvement. Education might be carried on throughout life in various ways: it might be carried on by independent study with the aid of books; it might be carried on with men of superior mind and attainments; it might be carried on by means of travel—by means of seeing the world; and it might be carried on by what might be termed independent study by the aid of teachers; and that was the sort of education aimed at by the Athenæum, where they had classes which embraced all branches of learning." The Rev.

A. R. (now Dr.) M'Ewen also addressed the meeting, and the programme was pleasantly varied by musical selections and readings by members of the Dramatic Club.



NEWS-ROOM.

The building thus formally inaugurated was opened to the members on the following Monday, 30th January. The cost of the erection, including site, buildings, electric light installation, and furniture, was about £26,000.

The Institution is now accommodated in an exceedingly handsome edifice, containing about three times the accommodation of its old home, and is furnished with all modern improvements and conveniences. The principal room on the ground floor is the News-room, which occupies the entire length of the site, and is lit by five large windows. It is a lofty apartment, and has the appearance of richness and comfort, whilst the supply of news-

papers, periodicals, and telegraphic intelligence can hardly fail to satisfy the most exacting.

Hitherto the ladies had access only to the Library for reading purposes, but now an elegant suite of rooms has been set apart for their exclusive use. Papers and magazines are to be found in abundance, and accommodation for writing is provided; whilst there are also dining and tea-rooms, all being under the charge of female attendants. A few years ago a Committee of



JOHN KEITH.

the lady subscribers was formed, and has since been associated with the Directors in the management of this department. Miss Grace Paterson was the first Convener of this Committee, and she was succeeded by Mrs. Robertson, who still fills the office.

The Library occupies the front portion of the first floor, and, with the Magazine and Writing-rooms *en suite*, extends over the whole width of the building. It is a very bright and cheerful room, and the books are so arranged that they are all within reach either from the floor or from the gallery which runs round the

apartment. Whilst at one time the duties of Librarian were undertaken partly by the Janitor and partly by the Secretary, the staff now numbers four—the chief Librarian being Mr. John Keith, who was formerly connected with the Mitchell Library.



LIBRARY.

Speaking of the Library, the Duke of Argyll, in one of his addresses to the members of the Athenæum, said—"Allow me to say one word to the young men of Glasgow, and to anticipate a

case which I really believe must often happen. If any of them should ever go into this library and be bewildered with the riches they see around them—if they see fountains at which they would gladly drink ; if they see pastures on which they would gladly feed, and mountains, even the very foot of which they will never have time to reach—I would ask them, nevertheless, not to be discouraged in the path of mental, moral, and religious cultivation. I would ask them to derive from these very circumstances the noblest encouragement of which our nature is susceptible ; for they will have learnt in this Institution, when such feelings come over them, the greatest of all lessons—to draw a comparison between the infinite littleness of our moral life and the infinite largeness and capacity of our immortal powers. You have not time, I would say to every young man—you have not time to acquire one-tenth part of what is, after all, the trivial and paltry amount of knowledge with which the accumulated acquirements of many generations have endowed our race. You are not able to acquire a thousandth part of the knowledge stored up in the shelves of the library, sometimes only for your tantalisation. In these circumstances consider what line of study will best conduce to your temporal and eternal interests, and devote to that all your spare time, and trust to God for the result. There are branches of instruction to which some of you may feel a natural bias, and which may be made specially available in your path of life. Consider well what line of study you resolve to choose, and remember that your first great object is to sanctify your moral as well as to cultivate your intellectual nature ; and that your next object is to do good in your day and generation, in your walk of life, and to those among whom you may be placed. Judging by these *criteria*, choose your own line of study ; but, for any sake, and



for all sakes, do not lay waste your powers nor use—to quote the fine words of Milton—

Nor only use  
For prospect what, well used, had been the pledge  
Of immortality.”

If this was true when these words were spoken in 1851, how much more so is it now, when the volumes in the library number three times as many as they did then ; and when, in addition, the tables are crowded with the best periodical literature of the day ?

The Recreation-rooms are on the second floor ; and in this connection it may be mentioned that arrangements were made for the accommodation, in the new building, of the Glasgow Chess Club—a connection which has been of mutual advantage to the Institution and to the Club.

In the old building the Dining-rooms were let to a tenant, but now the Directors have fitted up a handsome Restaurant department, which is under their own management, and is open only to the members, students, and shareholders of the Athenæum. This extension introduced an entirely new feature to the Institution, giving it much more the character of a social club than it had hitherto possessed. Some doubts were, however, expressed as to the wisdom of restricting the use of the Restaurant to the *clientèle* of the Institution, but experience has shown that the step was a judicious one.

As regards the Class-rooms, they are placed partly in the basement and partly in the upper storeys, and are all spacious, well-lighted rooms, being in marked contrast to those vacated in Ingram Street. The whole building is lighted by electricity, a part of the basement being set aside for the machinery used for generating the current.

The style of architecture adopted for the façade is severely classical, which gives to the elevation a dignified, academic character, indicating appropriately the use to which the building is destined. The design as prepared by the architects includes two groups of sculpture placed at either end of the building: the one symbolical of "Literature," and the other of "Science." Four figures, representing Reynolds, Wren, Purcell, and Flaxman, were also designed, to be placed on pedestals above the main cornice, the whole being from models prepared by the late Mr. John Mossman. The Directors did not at first feel justified in incurring the expense in the execution of these four figures, but they were afterwards fortunate in having them presented—the first three respectively by the Marquess of Bute, Mr. John Burnet, F.R.I.B.A., and Messrs. Burnet, Son, & Campbell, the architects, whilst the fourth was given jointly by Messrs. J. A. Campbell and J. G. A. Baird. The façade was thus completed shortly after the opening of the building.

From the first day on which the building was opened it was evident that a new era had been entered upon. The number of members and students increased by leaps and bounds, and the progress was so often referred to in the newspapers and elsewhere as "phenomenal," that by-and-bye some ingenuity was demanded to invent a new word to describe the Institution's rapid progression. As one of the Directors said at an annual meeting—"There seemed to be an unseen force behind, pushing them forward at a pace almost alarming." It very soon became apparent that, large as the new building was, it was yet quite inadequate to meet the growing development which had so suddenly taken place, and the Directors felt themselves placed in a dilemma. At first there appeared to be no possibility of extension, as negotiations to acquire adjoining

property were, under the circumstances, difficult to carry out. Ultimately a property in Buchanan Street, at the time occupied by the Religious Institution Rooms, and extending along the north side of St. George's Court, was purchased from the late Dr. Anderson Kirkwood. The first intention was to allow the proprietors of the Religious Institution Rooms to continue tenants of the front portion, and to rebuild the back for the purposes of the Athenæum—making a connection across the lane between the two buildings. This work was proceeded with, but almost before the extension was occupied it was found that more space would be necessary, and consequently it was resolved to extend the building to Buchanan Street, and to take in the entire area. Not only was this done, but another building to the westward was also acquired. This building, owing to the proprietors not being able to produce a satisfactory title at the time, was taken on a long lease, with the option of purchase, and reconstructed so as to fit in with the main building. To meet the expenses in connection with these extensions, arrangements were made to increase the nominal Capital of the Company to £40,000, and the new shares, which were in the first instance offered to the original shareholders, were very soon over-applied for.



CHAPTER  
SEVENTEENTH

*DEVELOPMENT OF  
EDUCATIONAL WORK*

**B**EFORE leaving the old building, proposals for the extension of the educational work of the Institution had been engaging the attention of the authorities, and some of those proposals had been forthwith carried out in connection with the Commercial College. Impressed also with the knowledge that there existed in the city a pressing necessity for more systematic organisation of musical instruction, special consideration was given to this branch of education. Vocal music had been taught in the Athenæum from the very beginning of the Institution's career, but only in connection with its evening classes; and, indeed, it could not be said to have formed to any degree a part of the syllabus. Mr. Lithgow had conducted a class for Music for many years, and he was succeeded by Mr. John Fulcher. On the appointment of Mr. Joshua Ives, classes for Harmony were added, and, through his energy and ability, this department of study began to assume more importance. Mr. Ives received an appointment as the first Professor of Music at the University of Adelaide, South Australia, and was succeeded in the Athenæum by Mr. D. B. Johnstone, who in turn was followed by Mr. James Pattinson. At this time a class was also formed for the study and practice of the Tonic Sol-fa notation under Mr. W. Inglis Robson, a man imbued with a great love for his work, but whose





J. CROSSLAND HIRST  
LEARN



ALBERT WIER



COLIN E. HOOLE



HAL SELIGMANN



W. LINDSAY LAMB



ALLAN MACBETH  
PRINCIPAL



JULIUS SELIGMANN



FRED HEAP



GILBERT J. FERRIER



J. W. BENDER  
LEARN



J. BURNS RITCHIE

SCHOOL OF MUSIC  
SOME OF THE PROFESSORS



physical strength, unfortunately, was not equal to his enthusiasm and energy, and his early death had to be regretted by many pupils and friends.

It was now decided to form the music classes into a regular School of Music, modelled on the lines of some of the English Schools and Continental Conservatoires. Owing, however, to the rapid development of the other educational classes, it was found impossible to obtain the necessary accommodation until the first extension of the new building

had been completed, and therefore the formation of the School was delayed until 1890. Mr. Allan Macbeth was selected to fill the position of Principal—a selection which has been entirely justified by the skill and devotion which he has displayed in organising and consolidating the School, a work requiring uniformly great tact, perseverance, and discrimination. It is gratifying that there has been found amongst our own countrymen



JAMES CAMPBELL of Tullichewan.

one so well fitted to preside over the first public School of Music established in Scotland. Mr. Macbeth, who is a native of Greenock, studied at Leipzig Conservatoire, under Richter, Reinecke, and Jadassohn, and in 1880 succeeded Mr. Lambeth as Conductor of the Glasgow Choral Union, a position which he held for seven years.

This new School of Music was fortunate in finding, in the person of Mr. James Campbell of Tullichewan, an Honorary

President who has been more closely associated with the musical life of Glasgow than possibly any other public man, besides possessing personal qualities which eminently fitted him to fill this office. The heads of the great London Academies, and the Professors of Music at the principal English and Irish Universities, manifested their interest and sympathy with the movement in the sister country by becoming patrons of the new School.

The syllabus was designed to include a complete musical education—theoretical, vocal, and instrumental. A curriculum was arranged, extending over a minimum period of three years, for those students who intended adopting music as a profession, whether as teachers or performers; but, for the benefit of those who do not wish to make it such a serious study, but desire to pursue its cultivation as one of the pleasing accomplishments of life, students are allowed to select any particular branch which presents special attractions to them.

The Professors actively engaged in this department number about fifty, and include many of the best-known members of the musical profession in the city. A very important feature is the elementary section, in which the beginners, or the younger students, being placed under thoroughly competent teachers, are well grounded and prepared to take their places in the more advanced divisions. Most of the teachers in this section are holders of the Athenæum Teacher's Certificate, which is granted on examination after a course of instruction extending over not less than three years. The whole of the work in this section is under the personal supervision of the Principal.

Whilst it is clear that the city must have been ripe for the establishment of such an Academy of Music—otherwise it could not have so rapidly grown to its present proportions—there can be as little doubt that this Academy has already contributed





W.E. WRIGHT, PIANIST



FRED TURNER



T. ASHCROFT MELVILLE



EDWIN ANGLESS



W.H. COLE



JOHN HUTTON



E.R. JOACHIM



ALFRED WIDMER



ROWLAND HILL



JOHN B. MCEWEN, PIANIST



J. MICHAEL DIACK

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

SOME OF THE PROFESSORS

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greatly to the cultivation of the musical tastes of the citizens. The most sanguine promoters of the scheme could not have anticipated such a development as has to be recorded, a development unparalleled in the history of any Institution in Scotland, or probably in the United Kingdom. At the close of the first session it was found that 834 students had received instruction. This number has steadily increased year by year, until at the close of the seventh session, in June last, the number on the roll had reached over 1700, whilst no less a sum than upwards of £7000 had been paid as pupils' fees during the year. Whilst these numerical and financial results are so eminently gratifying, the scholastic and the artistic sides of the work show a progress no less marked, although it may not be possible to state it here so strikingly.

The academic results of the School have each year been tested by examinations held at the close of the session. At first these were conducted by a Committee of the Staff, but latterly, independent examiners have been brought from a distance to undertake this duty. The candidates going forward to the examinations have increased yearly, not only in numbers, but also in proportion to the number of students in the School. As independent testimony of the character of the teaching, the following excerpts may be given from the Examiners' reports of last session :—

Mr. George F. Vincent of Sunderland writes :—"I was particularly struck with the careful and thorough preparation shown by the majority of the Pianoforte candidates, and in some cases by the real musical ability displayed ; the attention to correctness in phrasing in several cases resulting in a highly finished performance." . . . "I must congratulate the students of the Glasgow Athenæum School of Music on having at their command such a splendidly conducted Institution, and such excellent teachers. At the same time I must sincerely offer my congratulations to the teachers on having so very many excellent pupils, some of whom, I am sure,



would take a prominent position in any of our famous Continental Conservatoires or London Academies."

Madame Clara Samueli, after examining in Solo-Singing, says—"I consider the standard much higher than in many Colleges where I have acted in a similar capacity, and that an excellent evidence of sound and careful teaching and excellent method."

The Concerts given by the pupils at intervals during the year, as well as the Annual Concert in St. Andrew's Halls, give parents and such members of the public as are interested an opportunity of judging of the progress being made. Whilst the character of the programme submitted on these occasions indicates that the work is of a high order. A comparison of the programmes for the past session with those of the earlier years of the School's career will show that the standard, although good from the first, is being steadily raised. The annual productions by the members of the Opera Class have become quite a feature in the musical life of Glasgow. This class, which may be said to be the practical outcome of the work in the vocal department, was not formed until the third session of the School's existence, and the first public appearance was made in March, 1893, when five performances of Brull's "Golden Cross" were given. This production was favourably received alike by the press and the public, and was at once recognised as the result of skilful cultivation and careful study. Since then a new work has been produced each year, namely, Gaunod's "Mirella," the performances of which were repeated by special request; Boieldieu's "La Dame Blanche," Lecocq's "La Fille de Madame Angot," and Audran's "La Mascotte", whilst Offenbach's "The Grand Duchess" is under rehearsal for production next spring. The Ladies' Choir and Students' Orchestras, of which there are two junior and senior, are likewise important features of the School, and have each shown the results of their studies by their



"LA FILLE DE MADAME ANGOT" (Act iii.).



appearances at the various School Concerts. For the last three years the programme at the Annual Concert has been largely orchestral, and the performances of the senior orchestra on these occasions have been very favourably criticised, the execution being considered of an exceedingly high character for students. Impressed with the desirability of cultivating orchestral music and ensemble playing, the Directors made arrangements for the settlement in Glasgow of M. Albert Rieu, an experienced professor of the violin, from the Paris Conservatoire, and they believe that, under M. Rieu, this branch will make satisfactory progress.

An interesting feature introduced last year was the formation of a Junior Singing Class, of which Mr. J. Michael Diack is the teacher. Last spring, the members of this class gave two performances of an original Operetta by Mr. Diack, entitled "Fairy Folly." The production was pleasing and attractive, and gave indications of careful study and capable training.

Students have the privilege of attending a number of classes free, such as the Ensemble Class and the Weekly Lectures, or the Recitals given by members of the staff. At these, students are made acquainted with various periods of musical history, and with the lives and works of the great composers. A love for musical art is thus stimulated, and in this way, as well as by a healthy emulation engendered amongst the students, results are obtained which could not be reached through the medium of private tuition, however good.

A number of Scholarships are open each year for competition, these being applied to extend the musical education of the successful candidates—thus providing means for the continuance of their studies, when, without such aid, students, however reluctantly, might be compelled to relinquish study.

As well befits the only public School of Music in Scotland, encouragement is given for the cultivation of the singing of our national melodies. Through the exertions of the late Mr. Robert Miller, and of Mr. Andrew Stewart, a fund has been subscribed annually for the purpose of providing prizes for the best rendering of Scotch songs. This competition, which is open to all the pupils of singing in the School, is one of the most interesting in connection with the various examinations, whilst the keenness with which the contest is entered upon cannot fail to give a great impetus to the study of those delightful and inspiring songs so dear to the heart of every true Scotsman.

The School of Music having thus been successfully established, it was felt that, in order to complete the Athenæum's general scheme of education, it was desirable to make more satisfactory arrangements for instruction in Art, the study of which up till this time had been confined to evening classes. At the same time representations were made by many of the Athenæum students as to the desirability of obtaining instruction in Art within the Institution with which they were connected. Accordingly, the Drawing Classes were separated from the Commercial College, and a complete School of Art organised, the curriculum of which included all Art subjects from elementary drawing up to painting from the life. Evening Classes were also arranged, for Building Construction, Architecture, Machine Drawing, and kindred subjects. Mr. Charles G. Kennaway, of the Royal College of Art, was appointed Principal. Mr. Kennaway, who is a native of Perth, received his early training in the "fair city," and afterwards studied at South Kensington, and at the Académie Julian, Paris. The School is under the charge of a special Committee, composed of some of the Directors and other gentlemen interested in Art education.



D. MACGREGOR FERGUSON



ARCHIBALD LEITCH



ANDREW ROBERTSON



CHARLES G. KENNAWAY  
PRINCIPAL



JAMES A. BOYLE



DONALD WILKIE



JOHN MYLNE

SCHOOL  
of ART

TEACHERS





The Chairman is Mr. A. G. Macdonald, J.P., and he has held this position for many years, his connection with the Art Department dating back to the period when it was limited to one or two evening classes. The number of students during the first session was about 160, and they have grown steadily until, last session, they reached 250. The School is recognised by the Science and Art Department, South Kensington, and the students take part in the annual examinations of the Department. The results of these examinations, as well as the character of the work shown at the Annual Exhibition of the School, indicate that the instruction is alike careful and thorough, and reflects great credit upon Mr. Kennaway and the members of his staff.

A most interesting feature at the exhibitions has been the Wood-carving work executed by the students of Mr. Macgregor Ferguson—its artistic, as well as useful, character being the subject of frequent remarks by the visitors. Modelling is also taught by Mr. Ferguson, and some of the work done by his students has received the award of medals from the Science and Art Department, South Kensington. A novel method of introducing the pupils to the Art of Landscape Drawing and Painting has been devised by Mr. Kennaway, and consists of exhibiting views upon the screen by means of an optical lantern, thus giving the nearest approach to Nature that can be practically obtained, and fitting the student for taking advantage of outdoor sketching,



A. G. MACDONALD.



when weather and other circumstances permit. This method was recently favourably alluded to in a report by one of the Government Inspectors, after a visit paid to the School. A Sketching Club has been formed in connection with the Art School, for the purpose of encouraging independent work by means of competition and otherwise.



AN ART CLASS-ROOM.

The most recent change in the educational work has been the re-organisation of the department of Elocution and Dramatic Art under Mr. R. C. Buchanan. Formerly one Elocution Class was sufficient to meet the requirements, but this Art has grown so much in popular favour that it was found necessary to recast the whole arrangements, and there are now not only Elocution



"LADY OF LYONS" (Act iv, Scene 2).



Classes for ladies and gentlemen, but special classes for country pupils, pupil teachers, divinity students, and children; whilst classes for the Art of Reading at Sight and Public Speaking have also been formed. There are Dramatic Classes in two grades, open to ladies and gentlemen, for the study of character as embodied in the works of the standard dramatists, in which study each member is allotted her or his particular part; whilst another Dramatic Class is confined to ladies, and yet another to children. Recitals are given by the pupils at intervals during the session, and one or more complete plays are produced each year. Last session, performances were given of "Paul Pry," "The Lady of Lyons," and of the dramatic adaptation of Sir Walter Scott's "Lady of the Lake."

In conducting the examinations of the Elocution department, the Directors have been favoured with the services of several of our leading actors, including Mr. Edward Compton, Mr. Osmond Tearle, and Mr. Frank R. Benson, the students appreciating very highly the opportunity of reading or reciting before such competent judges of the Art.

## CHAPTER EIGHTEENTH

### *FURTHER EXTENSIONS*

THE large extension to the Institution Buildings planned to meet the increasing requirements of the educational schemes which have just been sketched, as well as to accommodate some of the other departments of the Institution's



Sir JAMES KING, Bart., LL.D.  
*Photo. Stuart, Glasgow.*

operations, and which fully equalled in capacity the accommodation of the original building, was, in the meantime, being rapidly pushed towards completion. Some portions of the new building were occupied in the autumn of 1892; and on 1st December, the lady members were entertained to afternoon tea in the new dining-rooms, these being further inaugurated by a Dinner on the following evening, at which Mr. Provan, the Chairman of the Directors, presided.

The completion of the building was, however, more formally celebrated by a *Conversazione*, on the opening of the new Hall, on Friday, 17th March, 1893. Sir James King, Bart.,





BUCHANAN STREET BUILDING.

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1912



presided, and, in the course of his address, said—"I congratulate the Directors, and more especially the Chairman and the Secretary, on the signal success which has followed the expansion of the Institution. I hope they may find their reward in an expansion still greater, and a success more distinguished. When I became a life member of the Athenæum it was located in dark and dingy premises, and its prospects were far from encouraging. It seemed to suffer under the serious complaint of chronic impecuniosity. Either by a good investment or by a happy circumstance, a ray of light was shed upon it, and those who had its direction in charge were not slow to take advantage of this hopeful occurrence. Bit by bit an advance was made; with great enterprise a public company was formed—an extensive and elegant building was ordered, which was found too small, but which was added to from time to time, and the result is now before the meeting. I think I may congratulate the Directors on having an Institution under their charge which is mainly the result of their own exertions, and is second to none in the United Kingdom. It is very far-reaching in its aims and objects. One of the later poets has said 'Man wants but little here below.' I am afraid that in modern times this, however, is untrue, because man wants a great many things, and is sometimes unreasonable in his demands; but very many of his wants ought to be supplied in the Athenæum. It is somewhat surprising that in the first Athenæum, dedicated as it was to a lady, the goddess 'Minerva,' there was not accommodâtion for her own sex. They were in every respect ignored and forgotten, but there was more gallantry, or more consideration, amongst the Directors of the Glasgow Athenæum, and no one, I am sure, will object—everyone on the contrary will



rejoice—that, under the mantle of the goddess of ‘Wisdom,’ all votaries of Art, of Music, and of Literature, find a welcome and a home.”

The new building, from its lofty character, is a striking feature in Buchanan Street, and although not in proximity to the original building, the design is carried out in harmony with



GENTLEMEN'S DINING-ROOM.

it. The Concert Hall or Theatre occupies almost the entire street floor and basement, and is tasteful and unique in design. It affords comfortable accommodation for about nine hundred persons, whilst the platform is fitted up with all the accessories of the modern stage. In fact, so well is it suited for dramatic representations that the hall has practically become the home



CONCERT HALL OR THEATRE.



of a large number of the amateur societies in the city, and may thus be said to have assisted in the development of that appreciation of the histrionic art which has taken such a hold



GYMNASIUM.

upon the community within recent years. Already it has been the scene of many an interesting gathering ; for, whilst specially designed to meet the requirements of the School of Music and the Dramatic Department of the Athenæum, it is

when not occupied for these purposes, let to other societies. The list of distinguished strangers who have already spoken from its platform is a formidable one, and, to mention only a few, includes such names as Lord Balfour of Burleigh, Field-Marshal Lord Roberts, Lord Brassey, Lord Dunraven, Lady Colin Campbell, Sir Richard E. Webster, Sir. F. Pollok, Sir Charles Pearson, Sir W. Martin-Conway, Sir Edward R. Russell, Dr. A. H. Mann, Beerbohm Tree, Max O'Rell, Hamish MacCunn, W. T. Stead, and Israel Zangwill.

The Buffet is conveniently located on the street floor, and on the next flat is the Gentlemen's Dining-room, in which there is sitting accommodation for over two hundred persons. Contiguous to this apartment is the Ladies' Dining-room—a charming room, suggestive, in its style of treatment, of the saloon of a high-class Liner, with its turkey-carpeted floor and its walls finished in white enamel paint. The public and private Billiard-rooms are on the second floor. On the third floor are a whole series of class-rooms devoted to the teaching of music, and in these corridors may be heard the sound of musical instruments from morning till night. As showing the completeness of the arrangements, it may be mentioned that in one comparatively small room a three-manual organ has been built specially for teaching and practice, to work which an electric motor is used. On the top floor is the Gymnasium, a large apartment covering the whole length of the building, with a fine span-roof rising to the height of 25 feet. It is splendidly equipped, and is admitted to be one of the finest gymnasiums in the country. Here, on most evenings of the week, may be found a band of young athletes in training under the direction of a skilled instructor, and those give a good account of themselves at the Assault-at-Arms which it is



customary to give each season. Nor are the fair sex neglected in this department, as the Gymnasium is reserved for their use on certain afternoons, whilst two female instructors are engaged to look after their interests.

Owing to the great increase in the size of the building, it became necessary to extend and practically to remodel the whole of the electric light installation. Professor Andrew Jamieson, of the Glasgow and West of Scotland Technical College, was appointed consulting engineer. The Professor has had a large experience in designing extensive electrical installations, and in this case the entire work was carried out under his personal direction and supervision, the contractors being Messrs. J. H. Holmes & Co., of Newcastle-on-Tyne. The plant includes three large boilers, three large dynamos coupled direct to Willans and Robinson's engines, each of sixty horse-power. A complete system of heating and ventilation, designed by Messrs.



PROFESSOR A. JAMIESON.

Cormack & Son, under the direction of the architects, was also introduced. The whole of this is worked from the machinery department, in which there are constantly employed a superintendent engineer and four assistants.

The planning of the extension, so as to adapt it to the original building, was no easy task, and the way in which many serious difficulties were overcome reflects great credit on the ingenuity of the architect, Mr. J. J. Burnet. Had the building

been designed from the beginning according to its present dimensions, it might probably have been, in some respects, more conveniently arranged, and certainly the work could have been done much more economically, as, owing to the fact of its having been built in three sections, it was necessary to alter and



J. J. BURNET, A.R.S.A.

reconstruct many parts. This could not, however, be avoided, as no one could possibly have foreseen the surprising development which has taken place; and, in point of fact, not a few thought the erection of the St. George's Place building a bold, if not a hazardous, step. Including the price of the ground, buildings, electric light installation, and furnishings, a sum of over £80,000 has been spent upon the Institution as it now stands. The

whole structure is of the most substantial character, and the site being an exceedingly suitable one, apart from the probable necessity for still further extension, the building will in all likelihood continue to be the home of the Athenæum for more than a generation to come.

CHAPTER  
NINETEENTH

*LABOURS OF LOVE*

**D**URING the last ten or twelve years, whilst all those changes have been taking place, and whilst the history of the Athenæum has been one long record of rapid advancement, the labours of the Directors have been onerous and their responsibilities heavy. The number of Board and Committee Meetings which they are called upon to attend is greater than most people would suppose ; these meetings are, however, rarely of long duration. Being private, there is no temptation to indulge in speech making, and the business, as a rule, is discharged with desirable promptness. Whilst the work of these later years has been heavy, there has been associated with it a great deal of satisfaction and pleasure for those forming the Directorate in seeing the Institution prosper in their hands. Such was not the case with some of the earlier Boards, whose labours, though no less arduous, must have been frequently discouraging ; and yet, to the energy and perseverance of those early Directors, the Institution owes a debt of gratitude. Had they not struggled and fought to “keep the wolf from the door,” the Institution would not have survived its difficulties. The present Directors are building on the work of their predecessors, and as those bore the burden during the “dark days” of the past, they are justly entitled to a share of the glory of the present.



The list of the Athenæum's Directorate during its half-century's existence contains the names of so many men who have worked earnestly for the Institution—without hope of fee or reward, except the consciousness of doing a public service—that it is difficult to make a selection for special reference, and it is impossible to allude to the services of all. Only a few, therefore, of those who have occupied office for a somewhat extended period of time can be alluded to in this relationship.

The first name which suggests itself is that of Mr. George M'Leod, who held the office of Director for a longer period than

any other gentleman upon the list. He was a member of the Provisional Committee and of the first Board of Directors, whilst with the exception of two short intervals, he continued in office till his death in 1889, being then the father of the Board. He was a man of strong personal character and sound judgment; and if upon some points he held very decided views, his was a most genial nature, and he was highly esteemed by all who knew him.



GEORGE M'LEOD.

As a recognition of his services he was entertained to dinner by his fellow-Directors in 1875, and a few years afterwards was elected an honorary life member. The services of Mr. Moses Provan, who was Convener of the Provisional Committee, and also a member of the first Board, have been frequently referred to, and, as has been indicated, were from time to time marked by the high appreciation of his colleagues and of the members

generally. So far as is known, only one member of the original Board of Directors is now living, namely, Mr. John Burnet, who although he has not taken an active part in the management for many years, has all along shown a warm interest in the welfare of the Institution. Mr. A. H. Maclean, who had been connected with the origin of the Commercial College, joined the Athenæum Board in the second year of its existence, and is still a regular frequenter of the Institution. Dr. W. G. Blackie, and Mr. Robert Rae, who were also members of the same Board, are happily still surviving. Amongst others who held the office during the first few years of the Athenæum's history were Mr. David Robertson, the well-known Glasgow publisher; Mr. Charles Griffin, publisher in Glasgow, and latterly in London; Mr. Andrew Hunter; Mr. John Mann, accountant, and Mr. Donald Fisher, both of whom still survive; Mr. Matthew Dick, Mr. William Neilson, Dr. F. R. Low, Mr. Thomas Kennedy, and Mr. Francis Macdonald, the latter of whom was long connected with the New York branch of the Anchor Line. A few years later we find the names of Mr. John James Muirhead, afterwards a member of the Corporation of Edinburgh; Mr. R. S. Cunliff, Mr. James M'Intosh, Mr. C. H. Bousfield, Mr. Robert A. M'Lean, now of London; Mr. J. S. M'Gill, Mr. John Dansken, Mr. James Parnie, who for some years lately filled the office of a Bailie of the city; Rev. Alexander (afterwards Dr.) Wallace, Mr. James Struthers, Mr. Arthur Herriot; and Mr. A. R. Wright, who, during his Chairmanship, was so assiduous in his efforts to increase the membership that a special vote of thanks was accorded to him by the Board. Mr. James Gray, and Mr. Walter Paton, both of whom have occupied within the last few years important municipal positions, were Directors for a number of years, and each in turn was Chairman

of that Board for a term. These are by no means the only gentlemen for whom the Athenæum has proved a training-place for distinguished positions in the public service. Mr. James Leitch, late Rector of the Established Church Training College, who was a Director for some years, did good service as Chairman of the Lecture and Class Committee, and was Chairman of the Board for two terms. Rev. F. L. (afterwards Dr.) Robertson, of St. Andrew's Parish, and Rev. James Dodds, D.D., formerly of St. George's Parish and now of Corstorphine, were Directors for a number of years, and both filled the chair; whilst the former as Convener of the Educational Committee, and the latter as Convener of the Library Committee, did good service. Mr. (now Dr.) John Hutchison, M.A., gave the Institution the benefit of his experience as a practical educationist by acting for some time as Convener of the Educational Committee. Mr. A. M. Stewart, during his Chairmanship, introduced a number of beneficial improvements, and was the means of organising several meetings of a social character, which tended to bring the Institution more into public notice than it had been for a few years. The present father of the Board is Dr. John Macintyre, who was first elected in 1863. He filled the chair at a time when the Institution was in a weak and precarious condition, and he is one of those to whom is due the honour of having piloted it through the deep waters in its period of adversity. During the years that the doctor represented the First Ward in the Town Council he had to give up active service on behalf of the Athenæum, but after his retiral from municipal duties he again joined the Directorate. Mr. James Provan joined the Board in 1877; having filled the offices of Treasurer and Vice-Chairman respectively, he was elected to the Chairmanship in 1882, and has held that position ever since. During the

reconstruction of the Institution as a limited company he was able, from his professional experience, to give valuable assistance, and his wise and cautious counsel has always been respected by his colleagues. Mr. Robert Leggat, the present Vice-Chairman, has held the office of Director continuously for a longer period than anyone in the history of the Board, having been elected in 1865. Mr. Leggat was Chairman in 1869-70, but it is chiefly as Convener of the Library Committee that he has rendered signal service to the Institution. He has filled this position for about ten years. A man of liberal views, and the possessor of an extensive knowledge of the literature of his country, he has brought these qualifications to bear upon his recommendations as to the selection and purchase of books placed before his Committee, with the result that the Library has been greatly improved and extended under his guidance. The services of Mr. Gavin Chapman, in connection with the Tontine negotiations and with the Chairmanship of the Building Committee, have already been referred to as probably the most valuable that have ever been rendered by any Director to the Institution. He was also the first Chairman of the Restaurant Committee, and took great pride in the successful organisation of that useful department. In 1877 he was entertained to a Complimentary Dinner, when he was presented with a handsome testimonial subscribed for by the Directors and a number of friends. On retiring from the Directorate, a few years ago, he was elected a life member. In the Chairmanship of the Restaurant Committee, Mr. Chapman was succeeded by Mr. George Duthie, who for several years has given close and careful attention to the work of this Committee. Dr. Thomas Lapraik is one of the oldest members of the present Board. As Chairman of the Educational Committee, he holds a most important position,

which he has occupied for some years. Assiduous and faithful to a degree in looking after the interests of his department, he is familiar with all its details, whilst he is deservedly popular with the members of the educational staff. Amongst those who have joined the Directorate in more recent years are Mr. Thomas McArly, who, as Chairman of the Finance Committee, has rendered invaluable services in the province of revenue and expenditure; Mr. James Henderson, who for several years has filled the office of Honorary Treasurer; and Major John Cassells, upon whom devolves the duty of looking after the Gymnasium and the Recreation-rooms.

CHAPTER  
TWENTIETH

*PROGRESS AND  
ADMINISTRATION*

AS indicating concisely the progress which has been made since the opening of the new building in 1888, it may be of some interest to state that, whilst the total staff of teachers and officials then numbered fifteen, it is now nearly two hundred in number. The students have increased four-fold, and extend well into the fifth thousand, whilst the number of members has risen from one thousand to upwards of three thousand. The gross income at the opening of the new building was not more than £2000 per annum ; last year it all but touched £25,000. On the other hand, the expenses of maintaining such an extensive Institution as the Athenæum now is, must necessarily be heavy, and it must be gratifying to the Directors that they have been able not only to meet these charges, but that during the past eight years they have paid a fixed Dividend of four and a-half per cent. on the Preference Shares, and an average of fully two and a-half per cent. on the Ordinary Shares. These payments are looked upon as being practically in lieu of rent for the buildings ; but, whilst there is every reasonable expectation of the Shareholders continuing to receive a moderate return for the money they have entrusted to the Company, there is a very general consensus of opinion that it would not be in the higher interests of the Athenæum to endeavour to convert it into a

money-earning concern, and that the efficiency, and the primary objects of the Institution should receive paramount attention.

From the figures given above may be judged the increased duties and responsibilities of the management. Formerly the clerical work was accomplished by the Secretary, with what assistance he could obtain from the Librarian. About six years ago, however, it was found necessary to appoint an Assistant Secretary, when Mr. Stuart S. Forsyth was elected to fill this



STUART S. FORSYTH.

position. Mr. Forsyth, who has charge of all the books and general office work, has five clerks under his control. He relieves the Secretary from a great deal of routine work, and indeed, though that official still retains the name of Secretary, his duties for some years have been more properly those of general manager. The various departments of the Institution are all directly controlled from the office ;

and, when it is considered that the scope of these cover subjects so diverse as education, literature, music, and art ; arrangements for lectures, concerts, dramatic and operatic productions ; finance, the supervision of an extensive catering department, as well as the management of property and machinery, it will be evident that these not only make heavy demands upon the energies of the different officials, but call forth their resources of adaptability to cope with varied and ever-changing circumstances.



The latest and most highly improved labour-saving devices have been introduced into the administrative department. Two, and sometimes three, typewriters are constantly at work, and nearly all the correspondence is dictated through the Edison-Bell Phonograph. It may be interesting to some readers to know that the first draft of this book was dictated through the phonograph.



SECRETARY'S ROOM.

The first edition of the "Athenæum Calendar" was published three years ago. Up till that time the syllabuses of the educational departments had been issued separately, but they are now incorporated in an annual calendar of about two hundred pages. This calendar has proved a valuable *vade mecum* for the



members and students, as in it are to be found full particulars of subjects of study, hours of classes, scales of fees, and every other point of academic or social interest in connection with the Institution. The volume is tastefully got up, and is printed in high-class style. The extent of its circulation may be judged from the fact that the gross weight of each year's issue amounts to over two tons.

In the first report issued by the Directors in 1848, it is recorded that the Institution "has prospered in its first nominal year beyond all precedent. The advantages held out by it have been embraced by such numbers, and with such avidity, that it has become distinguished as, numerically, the first literary institution in Scotland, if not in the Kingdom." A great change has come over the Athenæum since that report was issued. As has been shown, it has had its days of adversity and its days of prosperity; but, viewed in the light of the present, these words may be looked upon as a prophecy coming marvellously close to fulfilment. Amongst the many excellent institutions of a similar character in the United Kingdom, several, no doubt, excel the Glasgow Athenæum in some of their departments, and present to it an example worthy of emulation; yet, considering the latter institution in its breadth of scope and the infinite variety of its operations—literary, artistic, scientific, and social, as also the general high level of success which has been attained in its various spheres of administration—it appears as if those words of the first Directors were even more strictly accurate now than when they were published. How is it possible to sum up the benefits which the Athenæum has conferred upon the community during these fifty years? To how many has it opened the portals of literature and given them a love for that inexhaustible field of rich and rare treasures? To thousands of young men it

has proved an *alma mater*, and, by the education received under its roof, those have been enabled to attain to positions of honour and influence in life. To how many more young men, coming as strangers from rural districts to this great city, has it proved a home—a place of social intercourse with those like-minded with themselves? How many has it shielded from those temptations incident to city life which befall, and must be combated by, every youth? Such gracious and potent influences can never be calculated in human reckoning; but that the Institution has to thousands fulfilled these kindly offices is a fact beyond dispute.

Speaking upwards of forty years ago, namely, at the sixth annual meeting, Mr. James A. Campbell, who retired from the Presidency barely two years ago, after having honourably filled that position for ten years, said—"Let us for a moment consider how valuable are the provisions of the Athenæum to a commercial community. With respect to the facilities it affords for the pursuit of knowledge, its value is abundantly obvious. There is no difficulty in seeing that attention to the events occurring in the days we live in, and to the questions which in these days are engaging the public mind, may be useful to the man of business. That, moreover, the study of past equally with that of contemporaneous history—that the study of science, the acquisition of foreign languages, that these and other such pursuits impart to us an amount of knowledge which has a direct bearing upon the affairs of human life, and are consequently pursuits of great practical importance to business men. But we are not equally quick in perceiving—at first sight it does not appear equally obvious to us—that another advantage of the Athenæum is of still higher importance. I refer to the influence on the moral feelings and mental habits of its members. That

it is fitted to contribute to the intellectual improvement of its members, is self-evident. I believe it is equally true that if rightly used it will be eminently helpful to their moral and religious improvement. An Institution possessed of such capabilities deserves well at the hands of a commercial community; for the well-being of that community must ever be bound up with the character—intellectual, moral, and religious—of those who compose it. I would only venture to trespass on the time of the meeting with a few sentences further on the useful influence of the Athenæum in promoting a taste for literature, and in facilitating literary studies. Is this a view of our Institution which ought to recommend it to a community like ours? I humbly think it is. There is a common impression that literature fares ill in a commercial city: there may be some truth in it. It may be true that eminence in literary studies and literary labours is inconsistent with the excitement and bustle and cares of business. But it does not follow that the man of business must therefore look upon all scholarship and learning as forbidden ground. It does not follow that he must abstain from seeking after the refinement and expansion of the mind and the elevating pleasures which are the rewards of well-regulated literary pursuits; nay more, it does not follow that the hours spent in such pursuits will not issue in positive and palpable advantage to him. The acquirements and the habits resulting from them certainly ought to qualify a business man to perform more correctly, more intelligently, more easily, whatever in the course of his ordinary avocations is given him to do. Let us remember on this subject the weighty opinion of Cicero as to the value of liberal studies, even to persons of extraordinary natural gifts."

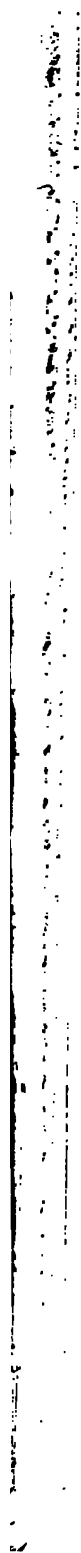
The belief that the Athenæum has fulfilled some of these

anticipations is cherished by many of those best qualified to judge, and whilst it is felt that a wide field of usefulness—it may be in many departments not yet even touched upon—lies before it, there is little doubt that its present position in this, the Jubilee Year of its history, more than realises the most sanguine anticipations of that energetic and enlightened band of young men who were responsible for its inception.

It is a striking fact, and one that may, in a large measure, account for its heroic struggles with Fortune and its ultimate attainment to honoured influence and usefulness, that the Athenæum was called into existence by the class who felt the need for such an Institution. Moreover, it has all along been mainly supported by those participating in the advantages which it offers for the promotion of mental and moral culture, and for the fostering of social intercourse. To this spirit of self-help which animated its promoters, the young men of to-day owe the inheritance which they possess in the Institution, and upon them rests the responsibility and the honour of carrying on the work with vigour, so that the privileges which they now enjoy may, in turn, and if possible with increased efficiency, become the rich possession of their successors.



## **APPENDIX.**



*Reprint.*]

## GLASGOW EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

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AN Institution fitted to afford to young men engaged in commercial pursuits an opportunity of prosecuting a regular course of mental training is a desideratum in this large community. There are in Glasgow many young men eager to become more useful in society, but who, from their educational defects, feel themselves unqualified ; and, however desirous they may be to obtain the requisite knowledge, are unable to do so from the fact that the present academical and other means of instruction are, in general, conducted not so much with a view to those who are engaged in business as to those whose time and energies are devoted to the acquisition of learning. The consequence is, that among the many who feel anxious to obtain a better education, few can do anything towards that end ; some, indeed, have joined occasional classes ; but, meeting there but seldom with any who are placed in similar circumstances, they have felt their inferiority, become discouraged, and ultimately abandoned the attempt. Indeed, even with the present available means of education, they have frequently felt at a loss in deciding as to the proper course to be adopted—where to begin, and how to proceed.

A few young men engaged in business who have experienced these difficulties, and who are yet anxious to promote, as far as



possible, the intellectual and moral elevation of themselves and others, have formed an Educational Association. Their object is to secure for the members a regular course of instruction under the direction of competent teachers, of which course the following branches will form a prominent part, viz.:—Logic, Moral Philosophy, Mathematics, Natural Philosophy, Chemistry, History, Geography, Political Economy, &c., &c.

It is proposed to extend the Association to one hundred members; that each member pay a subscription of one shilling weekly towards the funds; that only one branch of study be prosecuted at a time, and that a large and suitable Class-room be procured.

Logic has been fixed upon as the most appropriate introductory study, for which an instructor qualified to conduct this department is already expected to be secured. The first session will extend over eight months, being the first four and last four months of 1846. It is intended that the class should meet four mornings each week, viz., Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, from 6 till 8 o'clock.

A Reading-room will be established in connection with the Association, where the leading Newspapers and Periodical Literature of the day will be kept for the sole use of the members.

One great end contemplated by the promoters of this scheme is to bring together a number of energetic young men, who, impressed with the immoral condition of society, are anxious to do what they can in hastening its removal. In all the studies pursued it is, therefore, intended that the qualifying of the members to hold and maintain the dignified position of moral reformers be kept steadily in view. It is presumed that there are, scattered throughout the community, a considerable number

of young men unknown to each other, yet possessed of kindred minds, thirsting for greater usefulness ; to such, this Association will form a centre around which they will be drawn, and through the medium of which the foundations of more extended knowledge may be laid, the energies of the mind more extensively developed and a greater measure of enthusiasm in favour of moral improvement kindled and fanned.

As soon as the requisite number of members has been procured, a meeting will be held with a view of adopting Bye-Laws and making other preliminary arrangements.

Parties desirous of becoming connected with this Association will please make application by letter, addressed to the Secretary of the Glasgow Educational Association, care of any of the following persons :—William T. Templeton, 88 North Hanover Street ; Andrew H. MacLean, 114 Castlemilk Place ; Robert Rae, 198 Hope Street ; Robert Reid, Rutland Crescent.

*Reprint.]*

## THE GLASGOW ATHENÆUM.

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MR. M. PROVAN, *Convener*.

It has been the subject alike of remark and regret that, notwithstanding the abundance and efficiency of Educational Establishments in Glasgow, the Inhabitants of this great City do not enjoy facilities for the acquisition of knowledge, either so extensive or so likely to recommend themselves to a wide acceptance, as the experience of many inferior communities has proved to be attainable, through the systematic association of numbers with a sufficiently comprehensive aim. The isolated character and distinctive objects of our existing Institutions may have bestowed on each a high and manifest value in the field of its special operation; but no mere group of independent Seminaries can be expected to include provision for all, even of the more obvious intellectual demands of this varied society. Neither one nor many of these can execute the task of education on a scale suited to a population that now numbers nearly 350,000 souls, nor adjust themselves to the requirements and circumstances of those new classes that are ever rising and augmenting in prominence and importance amid our wide and complex organisation. No doubt, in consequence of these Institutions, of a few munificent bequests, and, as the result of private enterprise, collections of books, of various extent and value, are available in different districts of the city, for the instruction of the general reader; but, nevertheless, we have no accessible Library in Glasgow

sufficiently furnished even in our National Literature that can be considered an exponent of the culture either existing, or accounted desirable amongst us. We have no public Reading-room, except such as the Royal Exchange, which is adapted expressly to the purposes of Commerce. Arrangements are entirely wanting by which the population of Glasgow, however ready to avail themselves of such modes of instruction, can, like those of London, Manchester, Birmingham, Sheffield, Liverpool, and many other cities and towns, obtain the services of able and celebrated Lecturers in Literature, Science, and Art. Until the institution of the Commercial College, whose objects are also necessarily special and limited, very few opportunities existed by which young men engaged in business could advance their Education at suitable hours. Without questioning the efficiency of existing Seminaries in so far as their aims extend, it may fairly be doubted whether important additions must not be made to our educational systems for young men as well as for children, before it can be conceded, that appropriate instruction has been brought within reach of the multitudes around us.

Impressed with these views, and feeling alike the desirableness and practicability of a great extension in several directions of our educational facilities, the promoters of the GLASGOW ATHENÆUM indulge the hope that the time has arrived at which it may be submitted to their fellow-citizens, whether by the judicious consolidation of schemes that are now distinct, and the willing co-operation of the many enlightened and philanthropic men, whose efforts are at present isolated, a great POPULAR INSTITUTE might not be formed capable of powerfully advancing the mental culture of all classes of the community, and which, through its comprehensiveness, efficiency, and liberality, might not unworthily be spoken of as one of the most honourable and

distinguishing possessions of our city. They are encouraged by the support already willingly and extensively offered to their designs, to propose at once to the acceptance of the public the plan of an establishment capable of supplying our more clamant and obvious wants.

The means of realising facilities for instruction of a kind scarcely at present known in Glasgow, but which many indications induce us to believe to be widely called for, are exceedingly simple and quite within our reach. The existence of flourishing institutions of a similar description, in many localities which are by no means so favourable to success, has established beyond a doubt that, by the co-operation of numbers willing to pay the sum of a Guinea a-year, there might be secured to the subscribers the benefit of a

#### **LIBRARY,**

Which should have for its aim to collect all the leading treasures of English Literature, &c.—a Library which would be increased not alone by purchase, but by gift, as has been the case in other cities :—Access to a

#### **NEWS-ROOM AND READING-ROOM,**

Adapted to the tastes of the Literary and Scientific, and therefore amply provided with Newspapers, Periodicals, the Transactions of the Learned Societies, Parliamentary Reports, Maps, Charts, &c. :—And, in the third place, the privilege of attending

#### **COURSES OF PUBLIC LECTURES ON SCIENCE, LITERATURE, AND ART,**

By learned, competent, and eminent men, whose services might, for a short time, and at successive intervals, be obtained. This last is a portion of the plan that, to a large class of the community, is probably the most interesting of all, and the

practicability and eminent success of which have been thoroughly established by the Athenæums and Philosophical Institutions in the leading towns of England.

The Directors could secure and attach to these other important systems of Tuition, commanding the support of large sections of the community. Of these, first in importance, may be mentioned that, for a small additional fee, the Members might have access to

#### CLASSES

For studying systematically under competent Teachers, and at hours not interfering with the demands of business, the more important departments of knowledge, embracing such branches of study as might be considered advisable, whether in Literature, in Science, or in Art. On the same principle MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENTS would be provided, and facilities afforded for DISCUSSION OR MUTUAL INSTRUCTION CLASSES; besides which the Buildings might be made to combine some of the more important features of those CLUB HOUSES that are now essential to the habits of society, and include the establishment of a GYMNASIUM and BATHS.

It will readily be seen that the desire of the Promoters at present is to offer their scheme to the public in its greatest simplicity, and that they have not condescended on many specific points, which will afterwards rightly fall to be discussed and decided by the Subscribers or the Directors nominated and authorised by them; but their full conviction may be repeated, that it needs only an adequate support to the scheme, and the aid of some of their fellow-citizens, who have never yet been found backward in replying to a call on behalf of education, to adjust the proposed Institution to functions at once important



and extensive, and to enable it to assume its place as second to none of those establishments that now do justly so much honour to the enterprise and intelligence of Glasgow.

#### PLAN OF PROCEDURE.

In order to carry out the objects contemplated in the foregoing Prospectus, it is proposed :—

1. To raise a Fund of £10,000 by Donations and by Redeemable Shares of £2 each, on the latter of which Interest will be allowed.

2. That this Sum be applied in the purchase or erection of suitable Buildings, and in providing Books and other necessary Apparatus; but no property to be purchased till £5000 are raised.

3. That the current expenditure, including interest on the Shares, be provided for by means of Annual Subscriptions of £1 1s. each, entitling the Subscribers to the use of the Reading Rooms and Library, and to attend the Lectures; as also, for small additional Fees, to be fixed by the Directors for the time being, to enjoy the accessory advantages of the Institution.

4. That the Management of the Institution be vested in Directors according to a Constitution and Rules to be prepared by the Provisional Committee, and laid before a General Meeting of the Shareholders and Subscribers.

Parties desirous of becoming Shareholders or Subscribers, or of obtaining further information, are requested to apply to

ROBERT STARK, JUN.,  
INTERIM SECRETARY.

TEMPORARY OFFICE, 18 RENFIELD STREET, }  
GLASGOW, 1st March, 1847. }

# OFFICE-BEARERS OF THE GLASGOW ATHENÆUM

SINCE ITS INSTITUTION IN 1847.

*An asterisk indicates that the Office is still held. Titles, &c., conferred during the occupancy of the Office are indicated within brackets.*

## Presidents.

1847—Alexander Hastie, (M.P.)	1864—Hugh Tennent of Errol and Wellpark.
1848—James Ewing, LL.D.	1865-77—Robert Dalglish of Kilmardinny, M.P.
1849—Archibald Alison, Sheriff of Lanarkshire.	1877-79—John Matheson of Cordale.
1850—Sir James Anderson.	1879-81—Charles Tennant of The Glen (M.P.)
1851—Henry Glassford Bell, Advocate.	1881-85—Thomas Russell of Ascog, (M.P.)
1852—His Grace The Duke of Argyll.	1885-95—James A. Campbell of Stracathro, LL.D., M.P.
1853-55—The Right Hon. The Earl of Eglinton and Winton.	1895.*—Sir John Stirling-Maxwell, Bar Pollok, M.P.
1856-58—The Right Hon. Lord Brougham.	
1859-60—The Rt. Hon. The Earl of Elgin.	
1861—His Grace The Duke of Argyll.	
1862-63—The Rt. Hon. Lord Palmerston.	

## Vice-Presidents.

Anderson, George, M.P., 1877-85.	Campbell, Sir Archibald C., Bart., M.P., (See Lord Blythswood).
Anderson, James, 1848-49.	Campbell, Sir James, 1851-52, 1853-54, 1865-69, 1870-74.
Arthur, William Rac, 1869-71.	Campbell, James A., LL.D., M.P., 1883-85, 1895.*
Bain, (Sir) James, 1874-77.	Campbell, William, 1847-48, 1850-51.
Bell, Henry Glassford, 1849-50.	Clouston, Peter, 1861-64.
Bell, (Sir) James (Bart.), 1892-96.	Coats, Sir Peter, 1883-90.
Blackie, John, Junr., 1864-67.	Connal, William, 1851-52.
Blythswood, Lord, 1889.*	Collins, (Sir) William, 1877-80, 1885-94.
Buchanan, Walter, (M.P.) 1855-66.	
Caird, Very Rev. Principal, D.D., 1894.*	
Cameron, Charles, M.A., LL.D., M.P., 1877-85.	

VICE-PRESIDENTS—*Continued.*

Crum, Walter, F.R.S., 1848-49, 1850-51, 1854-55.	Maxwell, Sir John, Bart., of Pollok, 1856-57.
Cuthbertson, Sir John N. (LL.D.), 1888.*	Middleton, R.T., M.P., 1880-83.
Dalglish, Robert, M.P., 1857-65.	Muir, (Sir) John (Bart.), 1890-92.
Dunlop, Henry, 1849-50.	M'Gregor, John, M.P., 1850-51.
Euing, William, 1855-56.	M'Onie, William, 1883-85.
Ewing, (Sir) Archibald Orr, M.P., 1880-94.	Napier, Robert, 1852-53.
Galbraith, Archibald, 1859-61.	Nichol, Professor J.F., LL.D., 1848-49, 1852-53.
Graham, William, M.P., 1866-74.	Orr, (Sir) Andrew, 1855-59.
Hannan, James, 1853-54.	Overtoun, Lord, 1893.*
Harvey, Alexander, 1854-55.	Richmond, David, 1896.*
Hastie, Alexander, M.P., 1849-50.	Smith, James, of Jordanhill, 1853-54.
Henderson, John, 1851-52.	Stewart, Robert, 1852-53.
Holms, William, M.P., 1874-77, 1878-83.	Tennant, (Sir) Charles (Bart.), M.P., 1881.*
Kelvin, Lord, LL.D., D.C.L., 1867.*	Thomson, Sir William. (See Lord Kelvin).
King, (Sir) James (Bart.), LL.D., 1886.*	Ure, John, 1880-83.
Leadbetter, John, 1847-48.	Watson, William West, 1854-55.
Lumsden, James, 1867-69.	Watson, (Sir) James, 1871-74.
	Whitelaw, Alexander, M.P., 1874-79.

## Extraordinary Directors.

Alison, (Sir) Archibald (Bart.), LL.D., F.R.S.E., 1850-67.	Brown, Hugh, 1894.*
Anderson, (Sir) James, (M.P.), 1849-50, 1851-55.	Buchanan, Col. (Sir) D. Carrick (K.C.B.), 1870.*
Anderson, George, 1855-56.	Buchanan, Walter, 1854-55.
Arrol, Sir William (M.P.) (LL.D.), 1893.*	Caird, Professor Edward, M.A., 1875-82
Arthur, Matthew, 1893.*	Caird, Very Rev. Principal, D.D., 1873-94.
Baird, J.G.A., M.P., 1887.*	Campbell, Sir Archibald J., Bart., 1863-66.
Barclay, Very Rev. Principal, 1859-73.	Campbell, Sir James, 1849-51, 1857-59, 1863-64.
Beith, Gilbert, (M.P.) 1891-95.	Campbell, James A. (M.P.), (LL.D.), 1853-56, 1859-63, 1872-83.
Belhaven, Lord, 1864-65.	Campbell, James, of Tullichewan, 1877.*
Bell, Henry Glassford, 1848-49, 1850-51, 1852-65.	Campbell, William, 1848-50, 1851-52, 1854-55, 1864-65.
Blackie, John, Senr., 1849-51.	Cargill, David S., 1877-85.
Blackie, Walter G., Ph.D., (LL.D.) 1854-57, 1883.*	Clouston, Peter, 1875-83.
Bolton, J. C. (M.P.) 1875-83.	
Brock, Henry, 1885-87.	

EXTRAORDINARY DIRECTORS—*Continued.*

- Coats, Sir Peter, 1877-83.  
 Connal, (Sir) Michael, 1866-69, 1877-93.  
 Corbett, Thomas, 1866-67.  
 Cowdin, Joseph, 1850-51.  
 Cross, Alexander, M.P., 1895-96.  
 Crum, Alexander (M.P.), 1880-85.  
 Crum, Humphrey Ewing, 1850-51.  
 Crum, Walter, F.R.S., 1847-48, 1849-50, 1851-54, 1857-65.  
 Cuthbertson, Donald, LL.B., 1852-53.  
 Cuthbertson, (Sir) John Neilson, 1876-88.  
 Dalglish, A. S., 1849-51.  
 Dalglish, Robert, 1852-53.  
 Dennistoun, John, 1847-49.  
 Dick, Matthew, 1858-62.  
 Dixon, William, 1847-48.  
 Drury, William, M.D., 1847-48.  
 Dunlop, Henry, 1850-52.  
 Dunlop, Nathaniel, 1889.\*  
 Euing, William, 1852-53, 1856-63, 1867-74.  
 Ewing, James, LL.D., 1847-48, 1849-52.  
 Gairdner, Professor W. T., M.D., 1867-82.  
 Galbraith, Andrew, 1853-54.  
 Galbraith, Archibald, 1867-73.  
 Gordon, Professor, 1847-48.  
 Gourlay, James, 1856-65.  
 Gourlie, William, 1854-55.  
 Gow, Leonard, 1884-92.  
 Graham, Donald, C.I.E., 1896.\*  
 Graham, William, 1874-75.  
 Grant, Professor Robert, 1865-75.  
 Hannan, James, 1852-53, 1863-66.  
 Hastie, Alexander, M.P., 1848-49, 1850-51, 1853-54.  
 Hedderwick, James, 1848-49.  
 Henderson, John, 1848-51.  
 Henderson, Thomas, 1875-95.  
 Holms, William, 1869-74.  
 Hutchison, Robert, 1862-63.  
 Jacks, William, 1888-91.  
 Ker, Robert, 1869-73.  
 Kettle, Robert, 1848-50.  
 King, James (LL.D.), 1875-86.  
 Kirkwood, Anderson, LL.D., 1874-89.  
 Lumsden, James, 1847-50, 1851-53.  
 Martin, George, 1864-67.  
 Mason, Stephen, 1873-83.  
 Matheson, John, Junr., 1874-77.  
 Middleton, R. T., 1877-80.  
 Miller, Robert, 1885-93.  
 Mirrlees, J. B., 1880-88.  
 Mitchell, James, LL.D., 1877-83.  
 Muirhead, John James, 1864-67.  
 Murray, William, 1851-52.  
 M'Cowan, David, 1867-69, 1895.\*  
 M'Ewen, William, 1869-76.  
 Macfarlane, Walter, 1866-69, 1873-85.  
 M'Gavin, John, 1856-57.  
 M'Gregor, John, M.P., 1847-49, 1853-54.  
 M'Grigor, Alexander B., LL.D., 1877-89.  
 M'Lean, William, 1855-56.  
 M'Lellan, Archibald, 1853-54.  
 M'Manus, Henry, A.R.H.A., 1848-49.  
 Macnie, Daniel, 1854-55.  
 Napier, James R., 1856-57.  
 Napier, Robert, 1851-52, 1854-56, 1857-76.  
 Nichol, Professor John (LL.D.), 1865-69, 1882-85.  
 Nichol, Professor J. P., LL.D., 1847-48, 1849-50, 1853-54.  
 Orr, Andrew, 1851-52.  
 Playfair, James, 1857-58.  
 Playfair, Patrick, 1870-74.  
 Provan, James, 1872-77.  
 Provan, Moses, 1868-71.  
 Ramsay, Professor, 1855-58.  
 Ramsay, John, M.P., 1883-85.

EXTRAORDINARY DIRECTORS—*Continued.*

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|--|---|
| Rankin, Professor, 1856-62.            | Stow, David, 1849-50.                   |
| Reid, James, of Auchterarder, 1888-94. | Strang, John, LL.D., 1853-54.           |
| Robinow, M. E., 1877-85.               | Tennant, John, 1855-56, 1869-70.        |
| Rogers, Professor, LL.D., 1862-64.     | Tennent, Hugh, 1852-53, 1854-64.        |
| 1865-66.                               | Tennent, Hugh T., 1885-90.              |
| Russell, Thomas, 1880-81.              | Thomson, Prof. Allen, 1853-54, 1867-77. |
| Scott, James, 1847-48, 1851-52.        | Thomson, Neale, 1852-53.                |
| Smith, Bailie, 1850-51.                | Thomson, Professor William (LL.D.),     |
| Smith, J. Guthrie, 1892-93.            | 1858-64, 1865-67.                       |
| Smith, J. Parker, M.P., 1893.*         | Ure, John (LL.D.), 1886.*               |
| Smith, Rev. Walter C., D.D., 1869-70.  | Veitch, Professor John, LL.D., 1882-85. |
| Speirs, A. A., M.P., 1867-69.          | Watson, Sir W. Renny, 1894.*            |
| Steele, Sheriff, 1855-59.              | Watson, James, 1865-69.                 |
| Stephen, Alexander, 1882-88.           | Walker, John, 1855-57.                  |
| Stevenson, James, 1883.*               | White, J. Campbell, 1884-93.            |
| Stewart, Alexander B., 1876-80.        | White, James, 1880-84.                  |
| Stewart, Andrew, 1891.*                | Wilson, John, 1847-49.                  |
| Stewart, Robert, 1851-52, 1854-55.     | Wingate, Andrew, 1852-53.               |
| Stewart, R. B., 1847-49.               | Young, Professor John, M.D., 1875-85.   |

## Ordinary Directors.

- |                                      |                                     |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Aitken, George, 1860-61.             | Black, George, 1851-53.             |
| Alexander, L. C., 1864-67.           | <i>Vice-Chairman</i> , 1851-52.     |
| <i>Chairman</i> , 1866-67.           | Blackie, W. G., Ph.D., 1849-51.     |
| Alexander, William, 1863-64.         | Bousfield, C. H., 1858-66.          |
| Allan, Alexander, 1851-53.           | Boyack, Alexander, 1878-85.         |
| Allan, John, M.A., 1866-70, 1876-79. | <i>Treasurer</i> , 1882-85.         |
| <i>Vice-Chairman</i> , 1867-68.      | Broadbent, Thomas A., 1868-71.      |
| Allan, Robert, 1860-69, 1870-74.     | <i>Vice-Chairman</i> , 1870-71.     |
| <i>Treasurer</i> , 1862-68.          | Brock, Henry, 1847-53.              |
| Alston, John J., 1848-50.            | <i>Treasurer</i> , 1847-53.         |
| Anderson, Alexander, 1854-60.        | Brown, Colin Rae, 1853-56.          |
| Armstrong, R. M., 1859-63.           | Brown, R. L., 1879-83.              |
| <i>Vice-Chairman</i> , 1861-62.      | Brown, Thomas, 1854-56.             |
| Baird, John, 1857-58.                | Brown, William, 1851-53.            |
| Bald, J. W., 1856-58.                | Bromhead, Horatio, 1866.            |
| Bayne, A. Malloch, 1895.*            | Bruce, Peter, 1871-73.              |
| Bell, John, A.M., 1853-55.           | Bryson, John, 1861-64.              |
| Binnie, John, 1863-65.               | Bryson, J. Burns, 1850-54, 1855-56. |
| Birch, James, 1869-73, 1882-85.      | <i>Vice-Chairman</i> , 1852-53.     |

ORDINARY DIRECTORS—*Continued.*

- Buchanan, Joshua, 1881-84.  
 Burn, Peter, 1860-61, 1862-64.  
 Burnet, John, 1847-54.  
 Burrell, Alexander, 1849-50.  
 Callander, J. R., 1849-51.  
 Callander, William O., 1853-55.  
 Campbell, Colin, 1853-57, 1864-65.  
 Campbell, William, 1878-\*.  
 Cargill, David S., 1889-95.  
 Carmichael, John, 1862-63.  
 Carswell, John, 1873-82.  
     *Vice-Chairman*, 1879-80.  
     *Chairman*, 1880-82.  
 Cassells, John, 1891-\*.  
 Cave, Rev. W. H., 1869-71.  
 Chambers, David, 1848-49.  
 Chapman, Gavin, M.A., 1866-88.  
     *Vice-Chairman*, 1869-70.  
     *Chairman*, 1870-71.  
 Clark, Councillor G. W., 1860-62.  
 Cochran, William, 1856-60.  
 Coubrough, John, 1886-\*.  
 Cruickshank, J. E., 1847-48.  
 Cumming, Rev. James, 1848-50.  
     *Chairman*, 1849-50.  
 Cunliffe, R. S., 1860-67.  
 Cunningham, J. R., Jun., 1881-91.  
     *Treasurer*, 1886-88.  
 Currie, R. I., 1850-53.  
 Cuthbertson, Thomas, 1857-59.  
     *Vice-Chairman*, 1858-59.  
 Dansken, John, 1861-66.  
 Dawson, William, 1847-48.  
 Dewar, John, 1861-62.  
 Dick-Cleland, A. B., 1860-64, 1881-86.  
 Dick, George Handasyde, 1884-85.  
 Dick, Matthew, 1853-58.  
     *Chairman*, 1855-56.  
 Dodds, Rev. James (D.D.), 1875-81.  
     *Vice-Chairman*, 1878-79.  
     *Chairman*, 1879-80.  
 Drysdale, T. M., 1881-85.  
 Duncan, George, 1864-66.  
 Dunlop, R., 1860-61.  
 Duthie, George, 1886-\*.  
 Edwards, John, 1896-\*.  
 Ewing, William, 1848-49.  
 Fairie, Thomas, 1872-85.  
 Falconer, Robert, 1850-56.  
 Ferguson, William, 1848-50.  
 Fingland, Thomas, 1851-53.  
 Fisher, Donald, 1853-60.  
     *Vice-Chairman*, 1859-60.  
 Fowler, Andrew, 1861-62.  
     *Treasurer*, 1861-62.  
 Freeland, William, 1864-66.  
 Fulton, John, 1857-59.  
 Galt, James, 1860-62.  
 Gardner, James, 1867-73.  
 Gray, James, 1867-81.  
     *Treasurer*, 1869-70.  
     *Vice-Chairman*, 1872-73.  
     *Chairman*, 1873-74.  
 Gray, John, 1875-79.  
 Gourlay, James, 1850-56.  
     *Chairman*, 1851-52, 1854-55.  
     *Treasurer*, 1853-54.  
 Gow, John, 1866-68.  
 Gregory, T. C., 1863-64.  
 Griffin, Charles, 1850-59.  
     *Chairman*, 1853-54.  
 Hall, Alfred, M.D., 1847-50.  
     *Chairman*, 1847-48.  
 Harrington, J. P., 1889-\*.  
 Harvey, George, 1850-53.  
 Henderson, A. C., 1859-61.  
 Henderson, James, 1884-\*.  
     *Treasurer*, 1891-\*.  
 Henderson, Thomas, 1866-68.  
 Herbertson, Henry, 1847-53.  
 Herriot, Arthur, 1864-80.  
     *Treasurer*, 1867-69, 1872-73, 1875-76.

ORDINARY DIRECTORS—*Continued.*

- Hill, John, 1858-59.  
 Howe, William, 1882-83.  
 Hunter, Andrew, 1847-48, 1849-53.  
 Hutchison, John, M.A., 1869-83.  
 Inglis, Alexander, 1856-60.  
 Johnston, Henry, 1870-85.  
 Johnston, Thomas, 1857-59.  
 Johnston, William, 1847-48.  
 Kay, Alexander, 1855-57.  
 Keddie, William, 1852-54.  
 Kempt, Donald, 1858-60.  
     *Treasurer*, 1859-60.  
 Kennedy, Neil, 1871-75.  
     *Treasurer*, 1873-74.  
 Kennedy, Thomas, 1851-60, 1865-70.  
     *Treasurer*, 1854-56.  
     *Chairman*, 1856-57.  
 Kerr, James, 1883-91.  
     *Treasurer*, 1885-86, 1888-91.  
 Kyle, Morison, 1847-48.  
 Laidlaw, Thomas, 1847-48, 1849-50.  
 Lamont, Duncan, 1870-82, 1883-88.  
     *Treasurer*, 1876-77.  
 Lapraik, Thomas, M.D., 1867-71, 1888.\*  
 Law, Andrew B., 1888-96.  
 Leggat, Robert, 1865.\*  
     *Vice-Chairman*, 1868-69, 1894.\*  
     *Chairman*, 1869-70.  
 Leitch, James, 1869-78.  
     *Chairman*, 1871-73.  
 Lillie, John, 1866-67.  
 Lochore, Robert, 1863-70.  
 Logan, David, 1885-86.  
 Low, F. R., LL.D., 1851-57.  
     *Chairman*, 1852-53.  
 Mann, John, 1854-56, 1860-61.  
 Manson, James, 1850-54.  
     *Vice-Chairman*, 1850-51.  
 Marshall, John, 1854-56.  
 Maxwell, E. G., 1862-63.
- Mayer, John, F.C.S., 1860-69.  
     *Vice-Chairman*, 1864-67.  
     *Chairman*, 1867-68.  
 Meikle, William, 1856-58.  
 Milroy, Samuel, 1855-59.  
 Morier, William, 1863-65.  
 Muirhead, John James, 1861-64.  
     *Chairman*, 1862-64.  
 Munro, Robert, 1864-71.  
 Murray, C. H., 1860-61.  
 Murray, James, 1864-65.  
 Mylne, Thomas, 1861-64.  
 M'Arly, Thomas, 1891.\*  
 M'Coll, Hugh, Jun., 1848-50.  
 M'Cubbin, Councillor David, 1860-61.  
 M'Dermid, Duncan, 1856-58.  
 M'Diarmid, A. R., 1858-59.  
 Macdonald, Francis, 1847-48.  
 M'Gill, J. S., 1861-65.  
     *Vice-Chairman*, 1862-64.  
     *Chairman*, 1864-65.  
 Macharg, John, 1853-61.  
     *Treasurer*, 1857-58.  
 Machattie, Dr. A. T., F.C.S., 1865-66.  
 Macintosh, James, 1859-63.  
     *Vice-Chairman*, 1860-61.  
 Macintyre, Dr. John, 1863-69, 1878.\*  
     *Chairman*, 1865-66.  
 M'Keand, Anthony, 1847-48.  
 M'Kenna, James, 1847-51, 1852-53.  
     *Vice-Chairman*, 1848-49.  
 Maclaren, Daniel, 1872-84.  
 Maclean, Andrew H., 1848-56.  
 M'Lean, Robert A., 1860-67.  
     *Chairman*, 1866-67.  
 M'Lellan, Hugh, 1856-58.  
 M'Leod, George, 1847-51, 1853-61, 1867-89.  
     *Chairman*, 1859-61.  
 M'Neil, John, Jun., 1864-66.  
 M'Onie, A., 1856-57.

ORDINARY DIRECTORS—*Continued.*

- Macrae, David, 1864-66.  
 Napier, John, 1862-63.  
 Neilson, William, 1854-61.  
     *Vice-Chairman*, 1855-56.  
     *Treasurer*, 1856-57, 1860-61.  
 Newton, Thomas, 1866-69, 1870-71.  
 Nisbet, Alexander, 1870-78.  
 Parnie, James, 1861-64.  
 Paterson, James, 1867-76.  
 Paterson, Buchanan R., 1847-49.  
 Paterson, H. W., 1883-85.  
 Paton, Walter, 1871-85.  
     *Treasurer*, 1871-72.  
     *Vice-Chairman*, 1873-74.  
     *Chairman*, 1874-75.  
 Petersen, A. S. H., 1861-63.  
 Porteous, Thomas A., 1855-60.  
     *Vice-Chairman*, 1856-57.  
     *Chairman*, 1858-59.  
 Provan, Moses, 1847-65.  
     *Vice-Chairman*, 1847-48, 1849-50.  
     *Chairman*, 1857-58, 1861-62.  
 Provan, James, 1877.\*  
     *Treasurer*, 1877-80.  
     *Vice-Chairman*, 1880-82.  
     *Chairman*, 1882.\*  
 Rae, Robert, 1849-50.  
 Reid, John C., 1851-55.  
     *Vice-Chairman*, 1853-54.  
 Reid, Robert, 1850-51.  
 Reid, Thomas, 1849-50.  
 Renton, Robert, 1873-77.  
 Riddell, William, 1871-73.  
 Ritchie, Alexander, 1847-49.  
 Robb, Charles, 1849-52.  
 Robertson, David, 1847-55.  
     *Chairman*, 1848-49.  
 Robertson, Rev. F. L., 1874-78.  
     *Chairman*, 1875-76.  
 Robertson, William, 1871-88.  
     *Vice-Chairman*, 1876-78.  
     *Chairman*, 1878-79.  
 Ross, Richard G., 1877-79.  
 Russell, Thomas, M.P., 1885.  
 Sandeman, Richard, 1881-89.  
 Scott, William A., 1877.  
 Scott, William, 1871-77.  
 Sillars, Ralph, 1847-49.  
 Smart, James, 1866.  
 Smeal, John, 1859-61.  
 Smith, Noah, 1871-95.  
     *Treasurer*, 1881-82.  
     *Vice-Chairman*, 1882-94.  
 Smith, William A., 1848-56, 1858-63.  
 Speirs, Gavin, 1869-71.  
 Speirs, James, 1866-69.  
 Spence, Andrew, 1866.  
 Spence, Stuart, 1873-77.  
 Spens, Sheriff, 1879-81.  
 Steele, John, 1869-71.  
 Stenhouse, John, F.R.S., 1849-51.  
     *Chairman*, 1850-51.  
 Stevenson, William, 1858-59.  
 Stewart, Alexander M., 1871-85.  
     *Treasurer*, 1874-75.  
     *Vice-Chairman*, 1875-76.  
     *Chairman*, 1876-78.  
 Struthers, James, 1866-72, 1873-75.  
     *Treasurer*, 1870-71.  
     *Vice-Chairman*, 1871-72, 1874-75.  
 Stuart, James, 1847-49.  
 Sutherland, George, 1853-59.  
     *Vice-Chairman*, 1854-55.  
     *Treasurer*, 1858-59.  
 Swan, John R., 1856-63.  
     *Vice-Chairman*, 1857-58.  
 Symon, John, 1860-61.  
 Telfer, Rev. E. A., 1866-67.  
 Thomson, Henry, 1850-52.  
 Thomson, James, Jun., 1847-51.  
 Thomson, Professor William, M.D.,  
     1847-49.  
 Thomson, William, 1860-61.



ORDINARY DIRECTORS—*Continued.*

Thorburn, Charles, 1847-49.	Wilson, William, 1861-64.
Wade, John, 1866-67.	Wordie, John, 1896-*
Wallace, Rev. Alexander, 1862-63.	Wunsch, Edward, 1858-59.
Watson, Joseph L., 1868-71.	Wright, John B., 1866-70.
Watson, James J. D., 1878-81.	Wright, Alexander R., 1864-72.
<i>Treasurer</i> , 1880-81.	<i>Chairman</i> , 1868-69.
Watt, John, 1879-81.	Wylson, James, 1847-49.
Wemyss, Robert, 1853-54.	Young, Alexander, 1867-70.
Wharrie, John, 1866-68.	Young, George, 1856-58.
Wilson, James, 1888-*	Young, William F., 1880-85.

**Trustees.**

Anderson (Sir) James, 1847-63.	Crum, Walter, 1847-66.
Arthur, William Rae, 1869-84.	Dalglish, Robert, 1877-79.
Bell, Henry Glassford, 1865-69.	Gourlay, James, 1864-71.
Brock, Henry, 1847-52.	Johnston, William, 1847-64.
Collins, (Sir) William, 1880-84.	M'Clelland, James, 1847-76.
Watson, (Sir) James, 1872-84.	

**Ladies' Committee.**

Anderson, Mrs. E. E., 1889-*	Moffat, Miss (Ardrossan), 1893-*
Arthur, Mrs. (Barshaw) 1892-*	Mackenzie, Miss E., 1892-*
Barbier, Madame Emile, 1889-96.	Paterson, Miss Grace, 1889-*
Bost, Mrs. Timothy, 1889-93.	<i>Convener</i> , 1889-93.
Buchanan, Mrs. (Fairlie), 1889-93.	Provan, Miss, 1889-*
Connal, Miss, 1896-*	Robertson, Mrs. R. A., 1889-*
Gairdner, Miss (Newton Mearns), 1889-95.	<i>Convener</i> , 1893-*
Higginbotham, Mrs. C. T., 1889-*	Ross, Mrs. John, 1889-94.
Johnstone, Mrs. (Shettleston), 1889-91.	Rottenburg, Mrs. Paul, 1893-*
Kirkwood, Mrs. (Govan), 1895-*	Russell, Mrs. (Greenock), 1893-*

**Secretaries.**

Robert Stark, Jun. ( <i>Interim</i> ), 1847.	Francis Borland, 1859-61.
Charles W. Connon, A.M. ( <i>Interim</i> ), 1847.	Andrew Mudie, 1863-65.
James W. Hudson, Ph.D., 1847-48.	Lewis Pyper, 1865.
John M'Kinnell, 1849-59.	Henry Johnston, 1865-70.
	James Lauder (F.R.S.L.), 1870-*

## SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

### President.

Campbell, James, of Tullichewan, 1890-\*

### Vice-Presidents.

Bell, (Sir) James (Bart.), 1892-96.	Muir, (Sir) John (Bart.), 1890-92.
Matheson, Sir Donald, K.C.B., 1890-*	Richmond, David, 1896-*

### Patrons.

Baird, J. G. A., M.P., 1890-*	Mason, Thomas, 1894-*
Barrett, W. A., Mus. Doc., 1890-92.	Miller, Robert, 1890-92.
Campbell, James A., LL.D., M.P., 1890-*	Stainer, Sir John, M.A., Mus. Doc. D.C.L., 1890-*
Cowen, Frederic H., 1890-*	Stanford, C. Villiers, M.A., 1890-*
Grove, (Sir) George, D.C.L., LL.D., 1890-*	Stewart, Andrew, 1892-*
Cuthbertson, Sir John N. (LL.D.), 1890-*	Stewart, Sir Robt. P., Mus. Doc., 1891-94.
Mackenzie, (Sir) A. C., Mus. Doc., 1890-*	Ure, John, (LL.D.) 1890-*

## SCHOOL OF ART.

### Committee.

Brown, A. K., R.S.W., A.R.S.A., 1893-*	M'Arly, Thomas, 1893-*
Campbell, William, 1893-*	M'Culloch, Hugh, 1893-*
Cassells, John, 1893-*	M'Gillivray, Pittendrigh, A.R.S.A., 1893-95.
Crawford, Councillor R., 1893-*	Macintyre, Dr. John, 1893-*
Henderson, Joseph, 1893-*	Primrose, Councillor J. Ure, 1893-*
Lapraik, Dr. Thomas, 1893-*	Provan, James, 1893-*
Leggat, Robert, 1893-*	Smith, Noah, 1893-96.

## JUBILEE OF THE ATHENÆUM.

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THE following Resolutions were adopted at a Meeting held on Tuesday, 30th March, 1897; Sir JOHN STIRLING-MAXWELL, Bart., M.P., in the Chair.

First Resolution moved by the Chairman, seconded by the Lord Dean of Guild (Donald Graham, Esq., C.I.E.).

“That this Meeting views with satisfaction the fact that the Glasgow Athenæum, having entered upon the Jubilee Year of its existence, is still in the full vigour of its usefulness, and judging from the number of students and members, is more highly valued by the public than at any previous period; and is of opinion that this interesting event should be marked by some appropriate celebration.”

Second Resolution moved by Mr. John Dansken, F.S.I., seconded by Major John Cassells.

“That, with the view of giving effect to the previous motion, it be resolved that the arrangements to celebrate the Jubilee be divided into three sections, viz. :—(1) The promotion of some scheme or schemes for the benefit of the Institution; (2) that one or more social functions be arranged for; and (3) that a sketch of the history of the Institution be published in the manner found most suitable.

Third Resolution moved by Councillor J. Currie Robertson, seconded by Mr. David Fortune, J.P.

“That a General Committee shall be formed to carry out the above schemes, which shall consist of :—

(a) *President*—Sir John Stirling-Maxwell, Bart., of Pollok, M.P.

(b) *Vice-Presidents*—The Hon. The Lord Provost, The Right Hon. Lord Blythswood, The Right Hon. Lord Kelvin, LL.D., D.C.L., F.R.S.;

The Right Hon. Lord Overtoun, Very Rev. Principal Caird, D.D. ; Sir John N. Cuthbertson, LL.D. ; Sir James King, Bart., LL.D. ; Sir Charles Tennant, Bart. ; James Alex. Campbell, LL.D., M.P.

- (c) *Extraordinary Directors*—Sir William Arrol, LL.D., M.P. ; Sir W. Renny Watson, Colonel Sir D. Carrick Buchanan, K.C.B. ; Messrs. Matthew Arthur, J. G. A. Baird, M.P. ; W. G. Blackie, Ph.D., LL.D. ; Hugh Brown, James Campbell of Tullichewan, Nathaniel Dunlop, Donald Graham (Lord Dean of Guild), C.I.E. ; David M'Cowan, J. Parker Smith, M.P. ; James Stevenson ; Andrew Stewart, John Ure, LL.D.
- (d) *Ordinary Directors*—Messrs. James Provan, Robert Leggat, James Henderson, A. Malloch Bayne, William Campbell, John Cassells, John Coubrough, George Duthie, John Edwards, J. P. Harrington, Thomas M'Arly, James Wilson, John Wordie, Dr. Thos. Lapraik, Dr. J. Macintyre.
- (e) *Ladies' Committee*—Mrs. Robertson, Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Arthur, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. C. T. Higginbotham, Mrs. Kirkwood, Mrs. Rottenburg, Misses E. Mackenzie, Moffat, Paterson, Provan, and Connal.
- (f) *School of Art Committee*—Councillor J. Ure Primrose, Messrs. A. G. Macdonald, J.P. ; A. K. Brown, R.S.W., A.R.S.A. ; Robert Crawford, D.L. ; Joseph Henderson, Hugh M'Culloch.
- (g) *Representatives of the Members*—Sir John Muir, Bart. ; Sir Donald Matheson, K.C.B. ; Councillor J. Currie Robertson, Rev. Henry Bremner, D.D. ; Mrs. Watson, Messrs. A. G. Barns Graham, Robert Ramsey, John Ross, Hugh Steven, David S. Cargill, John Dansken, F.S.I. ; George Handasyde Dick, James Templeton, George Younger, David Fortune, J.P. ; John Burnet, F.R.I.B.A., I.A. ; Gavin Chapman, M.A.
- (h) *Representatives of the Shareholders*—Sir James Bell, Bart. ; Sir James D. Marwick, LL.D. ; Councillor James Gray, Councillor James Steele, Councillor Walter Paton, Provost Kirkwood, Prof. William Jack, Messrs. Mark Bannatyne, William Clark, William Robertson Copland, A. B. Law, Alexander Lamberton, Thomas Mason, John Miller, William Meikle, James Richardson, Andrew Blackwood Stewart, Alexander Leitch, Patrick Graham, C.A. ; Alexander B. Kirkpatrick, Gilbert Beith, Thomas Russell.

- (i) *Representatives of the Clubs and Societies*—Rev. H. M. Hamilton, D.D.; Prof. P. A. Simpson, M.D.; Councillor Shearer, Messrs. Timothy Bost, James Gray, George M. Mathie, T. D. Paton, Arthur Briggs, Robert Pirrie, J. M. Finlayson, John Muir.
- (j) *Representatives of the Educational Staff*—Messrs. Allan Macbeth, Charles G. Kennaway, William Ness, H. F. F. Schröder, H. A. L. Seligmann.

With power to add to their number; and further, that two Sub-Committees be now appointed to make the preliminary arrangements, viz. :—(1) The Jubilee Schemes Committee, and (2) the Jubilee Entertainments and Literary Committee, and that these Committees shall consist of the following ladies and gentlemen, who shall have power to add to their number :—

- (1) THE JUBILEE SCHEMES COMMITTEE.—Sir John Stirling-Maxwell, The Lord Provost, Lord Overtoun, Sir James Bell, Sir James King, Sir W. Renny Watson, Provost Kirkwood, Councillor James Gray, Councillor J. Currie Robertson, Dr. Thomas Lapraik, Messrs. Nathaniel Dunlop, Andrew Stewart, James Provan, Robert Leggat, Thomas M'Arly, James Henderson, A. Malloch Bayne, John Edwards, Robert Crawford, Robert Ramsey, George Handasyde Dick, A. B. Law, John Ross, John Cassells, David Fortune, Alex. Lamberton.
- (2) THE JUBILEE ENTERTAINMENTS AND LITERARY COMMITTEE.—Sir John Stirling-Maxwell, Lord Kelvin, Councillor J. Ure Primrose, Dr. Thomas Lapraik, Messrs. James Provan, Robert Leggat, John Cassells, George Duthie, John Wordie, Alexander Leitch, Allan Macbeth, Thomas Mason, John Dansken, Gavin Chapman, Mrs. Robertson, Mrs. Watson, Miss Moffat."

JAMES LAUDER,  
*Secretary.*

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