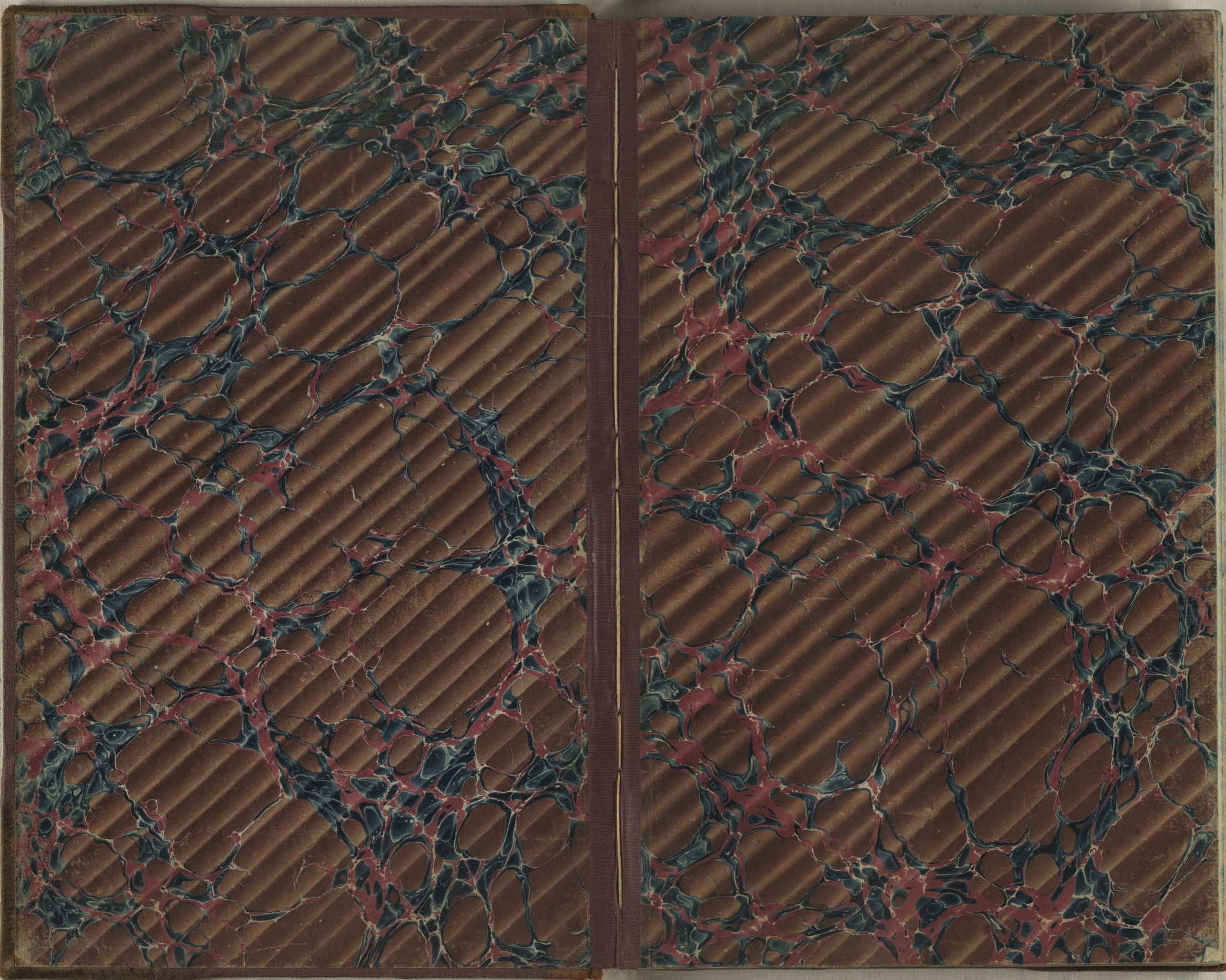


Christchurch, Young Men's Literary Association

MINUTE BOOK.

1864-1867



Dec 29 1864 Rec^d from Mr. Reynolds 20 cent 2/6
Jan 3^d 1865 paid for Minute Book 10/6
Jan 5 1865 Rec^d from Dr. Foster 20 cent 2/6
- J Woodford 2/6
12 - - - L.C. Fair 2/6
- - - Jan Fisher 2/6
19 - C. Kiver 2/6
- - - Madman 2/6
26 Mr. Wood 2/6
26 Hanson 2/6

Congregational Church
Thursday December 15th 1864

Meeting held for the purpose of organizing a
Young Men's Literary Association

Rev. W. J. Habens B.A. in the chair

The meeting opened with prayer

Proposed by Dr. Foster seconded by Mr. Newton. That
the name of the Society be the Church Church Young
Men's Literary Association carried

Proposed by Dr. Foster seconded by Mr. Cox that
the Rev. W. J. Habens be the President. carried

Proposed by Mr. Cox seconded by Mr. Madman
That Dr. Foster L.L.D. be the Vice President
carried

Proposed by Mr. Cox seconded by Mr. Newton That
the Rev. W. J. Habens, Dr. Foster and the mover be
appointed to draw Rules for the Association to
be laid before the meeting this night week. carried

The meeting closed by singing the Doxology

Read and confirmed Dec 22nd 1864
Habens

Congregational Church
Thursday December 22nd 1864

The President in the Chair

The Meeting opened with Prayers

The Minutes of the Meeting of December 15th were read and confirmed

Dr. Foster submitted the following^d Draft of Rules prepared by the Committee appointed for that purpose, which were passed seriatim after some amendments. namely

"The Committee to whom it was referred to draw up Rules to be submitted to the present Meeting beg to recommend the following for adoption

That all young men present whether married or single giving in their names to the Secretary and paying the first quarter's subscription be Members of the Society.

That all future candidates be nominated at one Meeting and balloted for at the next; when a majority of votes in favor of the Candidate shall carry the election. Candidates not to be eligible under 16 years of age.

That the nomination of Candidates may be either in writing or viva voce by two Members, but in either case without discussion.

That the subscription be fixed for the present at Two shillings and sixpence per quarter.

That there be a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and Committee of Management to be elected in the first instance for six months and afterwards annually.

That the President or Vice President be expected to preside at all ordinary Meetings of the Society; and in the absence of both a President be appointed by the Members present.

That the President for the time being decide all questions of Order and all questions arising upon the construction of the Rules of the Society; and in case of equality of votes have a casting vote.

That the Committee of Management do consist of the Officers of the Society and six other Members, who shall have power at any time on notice to report on matters which they shall consider of importance to the Society; four to form a Quorum.

That the Society meet weekly on Thurs day evening from the 30th September to the 1st of April from 7.30 p.m. until 9 p.m. and from the 1st of April until the 30th of September from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m.

That the usual order of business be as follows
On the Chair being taken prayer to be offered; the Minutes read and put for confirmation; Candidates for admission proposed and a ballot taken on nomination already made; Reports from Committee of Management (if any) considered. The next subject for debate announced. The question for the evening called on and the Debate taken. To conclude with the Devology or a short hymn.

That twenty minutes be allowed for the opening speech or fifteen minutes if there are two opening speeches; and all other speeches ten minutes only. The Chairman may sum up after the opener's reply and the votes shall be then taken and the numbers on both sides recorded on the Minutes.

That there be four Quarterly Meetings, in the second week of the months of March, June, September and

Accounts, at which the Treasurer's accounts shall be presented for audit - officers chosen and all vacancies and all reports of the Committee of Management or other questions relating to the organization or management of the Society considered, but no members shall be nominated or elected."

It was further resolved that the presence of members of the Press at the Society's Meetings will be agreeable.

The President then invited those present to become Members, when the following gentlemen gave their names. Messrs Woodford, Cuff, J. Newton, W. Warran, McClellan, Newton A.C., Shackleton, Chad, Bowie, Guthrie, Smith, Lucas, Jameson J., Nelson, Swell, Woodfar, Bayson, Lewis W. Fisher J.B., Alving, Woodham, Hoines, Dexter, Pymill, Monte, Fisher J., Newitt J. and Cox, Jameson
Jameson

The following were elected Office bearers for the ensuing six months.

Secretary Mr. J. Cuff Treasurer Mr. E. W. Shackleton. Committee Messrs Jameson, Cox, Guthrie, Gould, March & Durrell

The Meeting closed with the Doxology

Read and confirmed 5 Jan'y 1865

Char. L. Fostle
Chairman

Congregational Church Thursday December 29th 1864

The President in the Chair.

The Meeting opened with prayer
Mr. Foster L.S.D. delivered an opening Lecture on
The Art of Public speaking.

A vote of thanks was passed for thanking the
Lecturer for his kindness in delivering so able
an address.

The following gentlemen were nominated as
Members, namely

Mr. Robert Symington proposed by Rev. T. J. Haden
seconded by Mr. A. C. Newton.

Mr. H. Morley, Mr. H. Morley and C. Morley
proposed by Mr. Woodham seconded by Mr. Cox.

Mr. S. C. Farr proposed by Mr. Cox seconded
by Mr. Cuff.

Mr. Mac Ne proposed by Mr. Bowie seconded
by Mr. Guthrie.

The Meeting closed with the Doxology.

Read and confirmed 5 Jan'y 1865

Char. L. Fostle
Chairman

Congregational Church
Thursday January 5th 1865

Dr. Foster in the Chair

The Meeting opened with prayer.

The Minutes of Meetings December 22nd & 29th
were read and confirmed.

The following gentlemen were proposed as members viz:
Rev. H. Torrance proposed by Dr. Foster seconded by
Mr. Cuff.

Mr. Charles Niver proposed by Mr. J. C. Farr seconded
by Mr. J. Cuff.

Mr. Robert Wood proposed by Mr. J. C. Farr seconded
by Mr. J. Cuff.

Mr. Peake proposed by Mr. James Aldridge seconded
by Mr. Woodham.

The following gentlemen were elected members.
Messrs Symington. R. H. Morley. W. H. Morley. C.
Morley. J. C. Farr & Madue.

Mr. Fisher proposed to open the next question for debate
subject "That Dr. Johnson is not worthy of our esteem."

Mr. Bowie opened the debate "That Denneyson is
overrated" Mr. A. C. Newton opposed. Mr. Bowie
replied. The Chairman summed up when the motion
was negatived by a majority of votes.

The Meeting closed with the Doxology.

Read and confirmed 12th January 1865

Dr. Foster

Congregational Church
Thursday Jan 12th 1865

Dr. Foster in the Chair

The Meeting opened with prayer

Minutes read and confirmed

Mr James Fisher proposed and Mr William
Fisher seconded Mr John Hanson as
a member

Mr. Torrance. Mr Niver and Mr Wood
were balloted for as members and elected
on the ballot

Mr Peake was rejected on the ballot

Mr A. C. Newton proposed to open the next
debate "Whether the discovery of a gold
field in the Canterbury Province would be
beneficial to the Province."

Mr Fisher opened the debate "That Dr Johnson
is not worthy of our esteem". Mr Justice opposed
Mr A. C. Newton spoke in favor of the
motion Mr H. Newton against and Mr
Fisher replied. The Chairman summed
up and the motion was lost.

The Meeting closed with the Doxology
Read & confirmed

January 1865

Dr. Foster

Congregational Church
Thursday January 19th 1865

Dr. Foster in the Chair

The meeting opened with Prayer
Minutes of last Meeting read and confirmed
Mr J. Cuff proposed and Mr. Fisher
seconded Mr. Cornelius Cuff as
a Member.

Mr Hanson was elected a Member.

Mr J. Cuff proposed to open the next debate
"That the Constitution of New Zealand is not
more democratic than that of Great Britain"

Mr A. C. Newton opened the debate "That
the discovery of Gold in the Province of Canterbury
would be beneficial to the Province" Mr Cuff
spoke against the motion Mr. E. D. Fisher
& Mr. Mould ^{spoke} in favour of Messrs Cuff, Jamieson &
Hanson against the motion - Mr Newton
replied. The Chairman summed up, when there
was a show of hands 8 in favour and 8 against the
motion. The Chairman reserved his vote.

The Meeting closed with the Doxology

Read and confirmed the 26th day of
January 1865

Chas J. Foster
CW

Congregational Church
Thursday January 26th 1865

Dr. Foster in the Chair

The meeting opened with prayer.
The Minutes of January 19th read and confirmed.

Mr Cornelius Cuff was duly elected a Member.

The Chairman intimated that the Committee of
Management would present their Report at the
next meeting.

Mr J. Cuff opened the debate "That the Constitution
of New Zealand is not more democratic than that
of Great Britain" Messrs A. C. Newton, Bowie
and Fisher spoke ^{against} in favour of and Messrs Mould
and Guthrie in favour of the motion. Mr Cuff
replied and the Chairman summed up. Votes
for 7 against 10. Motion lost.

Mr. Mould proposed to open the next debate
"That the punishment of death ought to be
abolished"

The meeting closed with the Doxology

Read and confirmed the 2nd day of February
1865.

Chas J. Foster
Chairman

Congregational Church
Thursday February 2nd 1865

Dr. Foster in the Chair

Twenty members present.

The meeting opened with prayer

The Minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed

The following Report of the Committee of Management was read and received:

"The Committee of Management beg to report that they met at Dr. Foster's Office on Thursday the 26th of January alt. when Messrs Cox, Guthrie, Jameson, March, ^{Ward} and the Chairman were present, and having considered the subject then laid before them beg to recommend

(1) That the Society do consider that it is in occupation of this place at its weekly meetings at a rental calculated at £5 per annum so long as the Society shall continue in possession, the Committee feeling assured that any question hereafter as to the termination of the tenancy will be dealt with in the most amicable spirit on both sides.

(2) That as a means of providing sufficient subjects of discussion it is the duty of every Member to forward within ^{two weeks of the general meeting} some reasonable short paper or 3 questions suitable for discussion, it being understood that Members are in no way obliged personally to open questions which they may send

signed Charles J. Foster
Chairman "

Dr. Mould opened the Debate on the subject "That the punishment of death ought to be abolished" Messrs A. C. Newton Cox and Wood spoke in favor of the motion. Messrs March, H. Newton Baine Turck and McNeill against the motion. Dr. Mould replied and the Chairman summed up the motion upon a show of hands was lost by 5 against 9.

Dr. James Fisher proposed to open the next debate "That free trade is ^{more} ~~not~~ to civilize the world than ~~not~~"

The meeting closed with the Devotional

Chas. J. Fisher

Read and confirmed 9th February 1865

Congregational Church
Thursday February 9th 1865

Dr. Foster in the Chair

18 Members present

The meeting opened with prayer

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed

Mr J. Fisher proposed and ^{Mr} C. Newton seconded

Mr J. Page as a Member.

Mr Guthrie proposed and Mr Mould seconded

Mr C. B. Winter as a Member.

Mr Guthrie proposed to open the next debate "That the Separation of the Colonies from the mother Country is desirable"

Mr. Fisher opened the debate "That Greece has

done more to civilize the world than Rome"
Messrs Guthrie, Bowie, A.C. Newton and
spoke against the motion & Mr. Mould in favor
Mr. Fisher replied and the Chairman summed
up. Show of hands 6 for and 8 against the motion

The meeting closed with the Doxology
Chas. J. Foster

Read and confirmed February the 16th 1865

Congregational Church
Thursday February 16th 1865
Dr. Foster in the Chair

22 Members present

The meeting opened with prayer

The Minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed

Rev. W. J. Nabers proposed and Mr. W. J. Fisher seconded
Mr. J. Woodford as a Member.

Dr. Foster proposed and Mr. A. C. Newton seconded

Mr. J. B. Shapter as a Member

Mr. Guthrie opened the debate "That the separation
of the Colonies from the Mother Country is desirable"
Rev. W. J. Nabers, Messrs Bowie, Baynon, A. C.
Newton spoke against the motion Mr. Turrell
for the motion. Mr. Guthrie replied the
Chairman summed up votes 15 to 2 against
the motion

Mr. Page and Mr. C. B. Winter were elected Members

Mr. Cox proposed to open the next debate
"Ought our sympathies to be more with the North
or South in the American contest"

The meeting closed with the Doxology

Read and confirmed February 23rd 1865

Congregational Church
February 23rd 1865
Dr. Foster in the Chair

22 Members present

Meeting opened with prayer.

The Minutes of last meeting were read & confirmed
Messrs Woodford and Shapter were elected Members
Mr. Fisher proposed and Mr. J. Bradman seconded
Mr. Fred. DeJavis as a member.

Mr. Cox opened the debate "That our sympathies ought
to be more with the North than the South in the
present American contest" Messrs Morley, Durrell
Fisher, A. C. Newton & Baynon spoke against the
motion Mr. Cox replied - The Chairman summed
up votes 16 aye & 6 for the motion - Motion lost.
Mr. Morley to move the next debate "Ought the
Home of Peers to be hereditary"

The meeting closed with the
Doxology.

Read and confirmed ~~Feb~~ March 2nd 1865

Chas. J. Foster

Congregational Church
Thursday March 2nd 1865

Dr. Foster in the Chair

20 Members present

The Meeting opened with Prayer

The minutes of the last Meeting were read and confirmed.
Mr. F. Degariss, ^{name} as a candidate for election as a member
was, at the request of the proposer, withdrawn for the present.

Mr. Morley gave notice that he would move at the quarterly
meeting of the association (this night week) certain resolutions
respecting the creation of Honorary members.

Mr. Guthrie moved and Mr. Cox seconded, that this meeting
do adjourn until the next weekly meeting to enable the
members present to attend the Public Meeting held at the
Town Hall. Motion put and lost.

Mr. Morley opened the debate "That the House of Peers
ought to be hereditary" Messrs Bowie, McNeill and Cox
spoke against and Mr. A. C. Newton in favor of the Motion.
The speaker being absent the Chairman summed up votes
(7 for and 5 against) motion carried.

Mr. March proposed to open the next debate "That the separation of the two States
of New Zealand is ^{is now done} ~~is now done~~"
The Meeting closed with the Doxology.

Chas. J. Foster

Read and confirmed March 9th 1865

Congregational Church
Thursday March 9th 1865

Dr. Foster in the Chair

18 Members present

The Meeting opened with prayer

The minutes of the previous meeting were read
and confirmed.

This being the quarterly meeting of the Society the
meeting went into Committee.

Mr. Cox proposed and Mr. Morley seconded that Mr.
J. G. Butler be a member of the Society.

The Treasurer not being present Mr. Morley proposed
and Mr. Mould seconded that the Treasurer be
requested to furnish a proper financial report
this night next: carried.

According to notice Mr. Morley moved the adoption
of the following rules which were adopted as amended
viz.

- 1 That the Society consist of Honorary and
Ordinary members.
- 2 That all members who shall have attended
fifty meetings of the Society and opened eight
discussions covering a period of not less than
eighteen months shall be entitled to Honorary
privileges provided that there are at the time of
claim fifty members on the Roll.
- 3 That the members thus elected shall receive
a diploma from the Society signed by the President
Vice President and Secretary.
- 4 Honorary members shall enjoy all the
privileges of Ordinary members but shall not
be relieved from all compulsory duties.

5 In order to insure the proposed carrying out of the above rules the Secretary shall inform every member of his election forthwith and take the Roll of the Members present every evening.

6 The Committee with the sanction of the Society shall have the power to create Honorary members other than are elected by the foregoing Rules.

The whole of the evening was taken up in discussing the above Rules and ~~after~~ which were carried as amended.

The Meeting closed with the Doxology

Read and confirmed the 16th March 1865
Chas. J. Foster

Congregational Church
Thursday March 16th 1865
Dr. Foster in the Chair

21 Members present

The Meeting opened with Prayer.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and confirmed.

Mr. G. Baker was balloted for as a member and approved on the ballot.

Mr. March read a paper on the Separation of the North and South Islands of New Zealand there being no debate thereon the Chairman called for a show of hands which resulted in 9 in favor of Union to 4 in favor of Separation.

The Treasurer attended and obtained further time until the next ^{before submitting his Report} weekly meeting to enable the Secretary to prepare a Roll of the Members.

Mr. Bowie proposed to open the next debate "That Burns is a truer Poet than Longfellow".

The Meeting closed with the Doxology

Read and confirmed the 23rd day of March 1865
Chas. J. Foster

Congregational Church
Thursday March 23rd 1865
Dr. Foster in the Chair

15 Members present

The meeting opened with Prayer

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The Secretary reported that he had prepared a Roll of the Members

Mr Bowie opened the debate "That Burns is a truer Poet than Longfellow" Messrs A. Newton, A. Guthrie spoke in favor of and Messrs ^{A. Newton} H. Morley and Baynon against the motion Mr Bowie replied and the Chairman summed up - votes 8 in favor of and 6 against the motion.

Mr Baynon proposed to open the next debate "That Cooper is not now sufficiently appreciated"

The meeting closed with the Doxology
Read and confirmed the 30th March 1865.
Chas. I. Foster

Congregational Church
Thursday March 30th 1865

Dr. Foster in the Chair

19 Members present

The meeting opened with prayer.

Minutes of previous meeting read and Confirmed.

Propd by Mr. W. J. Fisher { That Mr. John Booth be a member
Secd. by Mr. S. Madman } of the Association.

Propd by Mr. W. J. Fisher { That Mr. Fred. De Jans be a
Secd. by Mr. S. Madman } member of the Association.

Mr Baynon opened the debate
"That Cooper does not receive from
General readers of the present day, that
appreciation proportionate to his varied
poetic genius"

A discussion ensued in which Messrs A. C. Newton, M. Kee, Guthrie, H. Newton, Woodford, and Fisher took part - Mr Baynon replied, and the Chairman summed up.
votes 11 in favor of and 1 against the motion.

The meeting closed with the Doxology.
Read and Confirmed the 6th April 1865.
Chas. I. Foster
Chairman

Congregational Church

Thursday April 6th

Dr Foster in the Chair

Between 20 and 30 members present

The meeting opened with prayer

The minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed

Mr Geo Booth & Mr Fred^d de Gains were admitted as members of the Association

Prop^d by Mr R W Morley & that Mr Hugh Bennet Sec^d by Mr J A Fisher } be a member of the Association

Mr R W Morley opened the Debate "That the execution of Mary Queen of Scots was justifiable

Mr A C Newton spoke for and Mess^{rs} March, Baynon

A Newton & J A Fisher against the motion. Mr

R W Morley replied. The chairman summed up when the votes were found to be 6 in favor of and 8 against the motion

The Meeting closed with the Doxology

Read & confirmed the 13th of April 1865

Rev. J. Habers

Congregational Church

Thursday April 13th

Rev^d W J Habers in the Chair

16 Members present

The meeting opened with prayer

The minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed.

Mr Hugh Bennet was admitted as member of the Association.

Prop^d by Mr C of Lee^d by Mr Guthrie that Mr - Gains & Mr - Norton be members of the Association.

Mr A C Newton. Opened the debate that Wellington was a greater man than Napoleon.

Mess^{rs} Guthrie, Bowie & Baynon spoke against &

Mess^{rs} R W Morley, M Nicol & C of in favor of the motion.

Mr A C Newton replied. The Chairman summed up when the votes were found to be 12 for and 3 against the motion.

Mr A Newton proposed to open the next debate. "That Cromwell's moral character is worthy of esteem."

The meeting closed with the Doxology
Read and confirmed the 20th April 1865

Chas J. Foster

Congregational Church
March 20th 1865

Dr. Foster in the Chair

17 Members present

The meeting opened with Prayer
The minutes of the last meeting were read
and confirmed.

Messrs James and Horton were elected members

Mr. Luff proposed and Mr. Jas Fisher seconded
Mr. William Keutish McClan as a member

Mr. Mould proposed and Mr Woodham seconded

Mr Peter Murray as a member

The Secretary announced the resignation of
Mr. L. Kives.

Mr. A. Newton opened the debate "That Cromwell's
^{moral} Character is worthy of our esteem" ^{against}

Mr. Boy and Mr Mould spoke ^{in favor of the} and
Mr. Luff & Mr. A. C. Newton ^{in favor of} ^{against} the motion
The opener replied and the Chairman summed
up votes 8 in favor of & 5 against the motion

The meeting closed with the Doxology
Read and confirmed April 27th 1865
Chas. L. Foster

Congregational Church
March 27th 1865

Dr. Foster in Chair

16 Members present

The meeting opened with prayer
The minutes of the last meeting were read
and confirmed

Messrs W. Kellahan & P. Murray were
elected as members.

Mr. John Aulsebrook was proposed
by Mr. Boy & seconded by Mr. J. G. Baker
as a member.

Mr. Woodford drew opened the debate "That
^{on the whole reason to suppose that there is}
there is a plurality of worlds"

Messrs A. C. Newton Bowie & Baynon spoke
against and Messrs P. Murray & Baker spoke
in favour of the motion, the opener replied
and the Chairman summed up votes 16
in favor of and 6 against the motion

Mr. Guthrie to open the next subject
"That the mind is always active"

The meeting closed with the Doxology
Read and confirmed the 11th May 1865
Chas. L. Foster

Congregational Church
May 4th 1865

Dr. Foster in the Chair

25 Members present

Meeting opened with Prayer

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed

Mr John Aulsebrook was elected a Member

The following gentlemen were proposed as members

Mr L. M. Balfour proposed by Mr J. Guthrie seconded by Mr D. Bowie

Mr Fred. Young husband proposed by Mr Bowie seconded by Mr Guthrie

Mr Augustus Pavitt proposed by Mr S. C. Fan seconded by Mr A. C. Newton

Mr Guthrie opened the debate "That the mind is always active"

Messrs Bowie, Woodford, McKee, Cuff spoke in favor of the motion and Messrs A. C. Newton, Murray, Baynon, Dexter & J. B. Fisher against it

The speaker replied. The Chairman summed up votes 8 for & 9 against

Mr James Fisher to open the next debate ^{that the conduct of Warren Hastings did not merit the credit he received from the English Government}

The Meeting closed with the Doxology

Read and confirmed 11th May 1865.

Chas J. Foster

Congregational Church
May 11 1865

Dr. Foster in the Chair

Meeting opened with Prayer

There being but few members present a motion for an adjournment was put and carried but the members present being unwilling to break up Mr. Foster opened the question "That the conduct of Warren Hastings did not merit the treatment he received from the English Government" after an animated discussion the question was decided in favor of Warren Hastings by a majority of 8 against 2.

After the Doxology, the Meeting adjourned

Read and confirmed
May 18th 1865

Chas J. Foster

Mr Mould agreed to open a question "That the intentions of Napoleon III are not pacific"

Congregational Church

May 18th 1865

17 Members present

Dr Foster in the Chair

The Minutes of May 4th and 11th were read and confirmed

Messrs J. W. Balfour, F. Youngusband and Augustus Pavitt were duly elected Members

Mr. Baynon proposed and Mr Guthrie seconded Dr. Walter Allen Sheppard as a Member

Dr. Gould opened the debate "That the intentions of Napoleon III are not pacific" Messrs Morley, Baynon and A. C. Newton spoke against the motion. The speaker replied. The Chairman summed up. Votes 1 for and 14 against.

Mr. Sunell to open the next debate "That war is not in accordance with Scripture"

The Meeting closed with the Doxology
Read and confirmed May 25th 1865
Chas J. Foster

Congregational Church

May 25th 1865

Dr Foster in the Chair

21 Members present

The meeting opened with prayer

The minutes of May 18th were read and confirmed

Mr. Walter Allen Sheppard was duly elected Member. In the absence of Mr. Sunell, Mr. Cox opened the debate "Ought the Maori to be represented in Parliament" in lieu of the one, "That War is not in accordance with Scripture" Messrs J. J. Baker, R. W. Morley, H. Newton, Guthrie & Mr. Wood, ^{spoke} for and Messrs C. Morley, G. Buff & A. C. Newton against the motion.

The speaker replied. The Chairman summed up. Votes 20 for & 0 against

Mr. Sunell to open the next debate "That war is not in accordance with Scripture"

The meeting closed with the Doxology.

Read and confirmed June 1st 1865
Chas J. Foster
Chair

Congregational Church
Thursday June 1st 1865

24 Members present

Dr. Foster in the Chair

The Meeting opened with Prayer

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The Secretary gave notice that the half yearly Meeting of the Society would take place on Thursday the 8th day of June instant

Mr Guthrie gave notice of Motion for the half yearly Meeting respecting the fining of absent Members.
Mr Baynon gave notice that he would move "That the members do consider the advisability of giving a service or other ~~at~~ public celebration of the first half year of the existence of the Society." He would also bring forward a Motion respecting the duties of Office Bearers.

Mr Cox gave notice that he would move "That the opposer of the opener shall be granted a reply as well as the opener, the opposer having agreed publicly beforehand to oppose"

Mr Turvell opened the debate "That war is opposed to any circumstances to Christianity." Messrs H. Newton, March, Bowie, Hewitt, Murray, Morley, W. H. Dexter ~~and~~ ^{and Guthrie} spoke against and Messrs McNeill and J. G. Baker in favor of the Motion, the opener replied, and the Chairman summed up votes 14 for & 17 against the Motion.

The Meeting closed with the Doxology.

Read and confirmed June 8th 1865

Chas. I. Foster

Congregational Church
Thursday June 8th 1865

Half yearly Meeting
30 Members present

Dr. Foster in the Chair

The Meeting opened with prayer

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read and confirmed.

The Treasurer brought up his report which was adopted as amended.

The following gentlemen were elected as Office Bearers for the ensuing year viz President Rev. M. J. Kabens Vice President Dr. Foster M.D. Treasurer Mr Baynon Secretary Mr Guthrie.

The following gentlemen were elected to act as a Committee of Management for the ensuing year viz Messrs Cox, Newton & C., Turvell, Jameson, Bowie & R. W. Morley.

Mr Baynon brought forward a Motion which was seconded by Mr R. W. Morley "That in the opinion of this Society it is advisable to give a service in celebration of the first half year of the existence of the Society," and also a proposition for the carrying out of the same.

Mr J. Cuff proposed and Mr Baynon seconded "That this meeting deems Mr Baynon's proposal eminently calculated to promote the objects of the Society, request the Committee of Management to take such steps as may be necessary to carry it out & that all reports ^{from the Committee of Management} hereafter take ~~at~~ precedence of all other business until further Order" carried.

It was proposed by Mr Bowie seconded by Mr J. Cuff "That this meeting do pledge itself to support

Mr Baynon's motion - carried

Proposed by Mr Baynon seconded by Mr B. Fisher "That a subscription list be now opened & that every member be expected to subscribe something towards carrying out the same" carried

Mr Fisher's notice of motion respecting the fixing of members was negatived
~~Mr Baynon proposed & Mr Fisher seconded Mr Pringle - The meeting closed with the Doxology~~

It was arranged that for the future, until further notice the meetings of the society should take place at 7 instead of 7 o'clock every Thursday evening.

Mr Buff to open the next debate "That Chads, 1st was exclusively to blame for the commencement of the Civil War"

The meeting closed with the Doxology
Read and confirmed the 15th day
of June 1865

Chas J. Fortin

Congregational Church

Thursday June 15th 1865

The Society met at the usual hour Dr Foster in the Chair,

Present Messrs J. Buff H. Newton M. Nichol
A. C. Newton, Bawce, Guthrie, Baynon
W. Lewis, Aldridge, Dexter, Maud
W. J. Fisher, ^{Woodford} Cox, C. Buff, Woodford J. M.
delgaria, Gaunshusband & Pringle,

The meeting opened with prayer,

The minutes of last meeting having been read and confirmed, Mr Pringle was balloted for, and declared elected.

Mr Baynon withdrew his motion regarding the duties of office-bearers

The secretary then reported what progress ~~the~~ had been made by the Committee of Management in getting up the Courseragone, He also reported on behalf of the Committee of Management, that ~~the~~ to the following effect,

"That the question of removing the place of meeting has been brought under their notice, and having considered it they recommend the Society to give them full powers to negotiate."

Mr Guthrie then moved, and Mr H. Newton seconded, "That the Society authorize the Committee to negotiate in the matter of removing the place of meeting."

Mr Cox moved and Mr Fisher seconded "That the question be discussed this day week."

Mr Cox's motion was agreed to, Mr Buff

then brought forward the question "That Charles I was exclusively to blame for the commencement of the civil war," opening it in the affirmative -

Messrs Bowser, A Newton, Al Newton, Beynon, & C. Cuff spoke in the negative. Mr Cuff replied. The Chairman having summed up, the question was put, when eight (8) voted in the affirmative and four (4) in the negative,

Mr R. W. Morley was appointed to open the next question "That Cromwell was justified morally in putting Charles I to death."

Read and Confirmed the 23rd day of June 1865 -

Chas J. Foster

Congregational Church
Thursday June 22, 1865

The Society met at the usual hour Dr Foster in the Chair.

Present Messrs, A Newton, Madman, A C Newton, Shackleton, Bowser, Gutter, Beynon, Mr Disher, Woodman, A Lee & D. Fisher, Hewitt, Cox, R W Morley, Mee, Hanson, deGaris, Grimes, & Pringle,

Mr Beynon, Treasurer, made a statement to the Society showing the liabilities incurred by the Committee in the matter of the conversion cone, Mr Gutter then moved "That the Society authorize the Committee to negotiate in the matter of removing the place of meeting" seconded by Mr Shackleton -

Mr Shackleton moved, and Mr Beynon seconded as an amendment

"That the Society authorize the Committee to make the necessary arrangements for removing the place of meeting" The

Amendment was carried unanimously Mr Morley challenged Mr Bowser for the next discussion

Mr Morley then brought forward the question "That Cromwell was justified morally in putting Charles I to death" opening it in the affirmative Mr Pringle spoke in the affirmative & Messrs Shackleton, Beynon, & A. Newton spoke in the neg. Mr Morley replied & the Chairman having summed up 5 voted in favour & 6 against the motion -

Chas J. Foster

Congregational Church

Thursday July 6th 1865

The society met at the usual hour Dr Foster
in the Chair.

Present Messrs Woodford Junr. H. Newton A. C. Newton,
Shackleton March, Bowie, Nathan Durrell,
Bynon, Mr. Fisher Woodham, A. Gee, Dexter,
W. J. Fisher Hewitt, Cox. Lynington N. W. Morley,
Rev. H. Dorliss, Hanson, C. Leuff C. B. Winters,
Woodford Junr. J. G. Baker, Selgais S. Bonnetts
Grimes, Murray Sheppard, Balfour, Autstook
Pringle Guttne,

The meeting opened with prayer

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and
confirmed, the Secretary laid before the Society the
Recommendation of the Committee, that a vote of thanks
be given to His Honor the Superintendent, and
others who took part in the Convocations -

It was then moved and seconded that a vote of
thanks be given to the various gentlemen mentioned,
the exact wording of the resolution was left to the
Chairman & Secretary. The resolution was carried
unanimously. The Treasurer then laid ^{made} on the
table a Statement of the receipts & money from
the Convocations.

The following gentlemen were proposed as
members

Mr. Biggers proposed by Mr. March seconded by Mr. Brown
" Andrews proposed by J. G. Baker seconded by J. Cox.
" J. Pavitt proposed by C. C. Farr seconded by Mr. Shackleton
Rev. J. Dyerman proposed by W. J. Fisher seconded by J. G. Baker.
Mr. M. Hart proposed by Mr. Bynon seconded by J. Guttne
Mr. Bowie then brought forward
the question "That the Permissive Bill

ought not to be introduced into Canterbury"
opposing it in the affirmative, Mr. Morley opposed
him, Mr. Bowie was supported by the following
Messrs Newton, Woodford, Shackleton, Pringle
Grimes, March, & Bynon, and
opposed by ^{Rev. H. Dorliss} Messrs Murray, Dexter, Baker, Cox, Hanson
Bonnetts & Guttne,

Mr. Bowie replied, and the Chairman having
summed up, a division was called for
where the following was the result. For the
Bill (15) fifteen, against it (24) twenty-
four.

The meeting closed in the usual manner.

Read and Confirmed on the
13th day of July 1865

Chas. Foster

Chairman,

Congregational Church
Thursday July 13th 1865

The Society met at the usual hour Dr Fasted
in the Chair -

Present Messrs Woodford, H. Newton, Wadman
Al. Newton, March, Bowie, Guthrie
Beynan, W. Lewis, Woodhouse, Dyter
Switt, Cox, R. W. Morley, Cuff, B. Winton
Woodford, Sir J. Baker, Jameson, Jarr
J. Booth, N. Bennetts, James, Sheppard
Balfour & Plungle -

The Meeting opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and
Confirmed, the following gentlemen were proposed
as members.

Proposed by J. B. Winton & seconded by Dr. Balfour, that
Jas. Gentle be a member of the Society.

Proposed by D. Bowie, seconded by R. W. Morley
that Mr A. Demco be a member.

Proposed by R. W. Morley seconded by D. Bowie
that Messrs C. M. Allover, J. B. Baber, W. Hildop,
J. B. Dewberry be members -

Proposed by Mr Bennetts seconded by Mr Cox -
that J. Butler be a member -

Proposed by S. C. Farr seconded by C. Cuff
that Mr Spencer Paritt be a member -

Proposed by Mr Cuff seconded by Mr H. Farr
that Mr Albat Cuff be a member.

Proposed by C. B. Winton seconded by J. S. Guthrie
that Mr W. Hay be a member.

The following gentlemen were elected Members of
the Society, viz. Messrs Bigus, Andrews, J. Paritt

Rev. J. Tyreman, & Mr. Hart.

The Secretary then laid a report before the Society from
the Committee of Management, recommending the following
resolutions.

I. "That all subjects of discussion shall be sent
into the General Committee who shall arrange
the same at their discretion"

II. "That a book be provided setting forth the
Constitution of the Society which every member
shall subscribe to, giving at the same time
his address in full."

III. "That no member be allowed to speak &
vote unless his subscriptions are all paid
(except by the Courtesy of the Chair)"

IV. "That Members absenting themselves for four
weeks consecutively shall cease to be members
of the Society and shall forfeit all honors
accruing from membership unless such
absence be satisfactorily explained to the
Chairman & Secretary". The fourth resolution

The first and ^{was withdrawn} second resolutions were carried
unanimously. Mr March moved as an
amendment ~~that~~ Resolution III. "That
the words "except one quarter" be added"
The amendment was carried; and the
original resolution as ~~adopted~~ amended
was then adopted.

Mr Baker then brought forward the question
"That the Permissive Bill ought to be introduced
and Carried" opening it in the affirmative
Mr Al. Newton opposed. The following members
spoke in the affirmative, Messrs Cox, Bennetts,
Morley, Guthrie & Mr J. Tyreman -
and the following in the negative

Messrs. Cuff Sheppard, Bowler, New H. Perkins,
Bynon, Pringle, H. Newton & March
Dr Foster having summed up the votes were taken
when eight (8) voted for the motion and
twenty against it.

The meeting closed in the usual manner.

Read & Confirmed the 20th day of July 1865

Chas. L. Vinton
Chairman

Congregational Church
Thursday July 20/65.

The Society met at the usual hour Dr Foster
in the Chair.

Present Messrs H. Newton, W. Newton March
Bowler, Guthrie Bynon, Lewis, Woodham
Lyster, Hewitt, Cox, Rev. Morley Hanson
C. B. Winter, Goodford Junr. J. Baker
Tomison Junr. A. Bennetts Grimes
Sheppard, Pringle, Augustus Penitt,
Rev. J. Pyraman.

The meeting opened with prayer -

The minutes of last meeting having been read and
confirmed, the following gentlemen were then elected
members Messrs Jas. Gault, A. Duncan, C. M. Allwar,
J. B. Baker, W. Bishop, B. Dewsbury,
Spencer Penitt, Albert Cuff, W. Hay.

Mr Cuff was not elected.

Mr R. W. Morley proposed, & J. Page seconded
that Mr A. W. Manly be a member of the Society
Mr Newton then brought forward the question

"That Great Britain is the most warlike civilized
Nation in the world" opening it in the affirmative.
He was supported in the affirmative by Messrs Bowler
Morley & H. Newton and opposed by Messrs Bynon
Sheppard, Pringle Winter & Rev. J. Pyraman.
Mr Newton replied and the Chairman having
summed up the vote was taken when 12 voted
in the affirmative and 5 in the negative.

Mr Morley agreed to open the next question "That
Milton is a greater poet than Shakespeare"

Meeting closed in the usual manner

Read & Confirmed on the 27th day of July 1865

Wm. J. Habens Chairman

Congregational Church
Thursday July 27th 1865 -

The society met at the usual hour, Rev. W. J. Habers
in the Chair -

The minutes of the previous meeting having been
read and confirmed, Mr A. W. Maney was
elected a member of the Society.

Mr J. S. Guthrie, then proposed and Mr Beynon
seconded that Mr Alfred Willett be a
member of the Society.

Proposed by Mr Woodham and seconded
by Mr Hanson that Mr C. R. Bullock
be a member of the Society.

The secretary then laid a report before the Society
from the Committee of management recommending
the following resolution.

"That all members be admitted by a show
of hands, unless notice shall be given to
the Chairman or secretary in writing that
a ballot is required, any time prior to the
time of voting."

The resolution was passed -

Mr Morley then brought forward the question
"That Milton is a greater poet than Shakespeare"
opening it in the affirmative. Messrs Bowie A. C.
Newton Grimes & Beynon spoke in the negative.
The Chairman having summed up the question
was put when one voted in the affirmative &
two in the negative - Mr Donnetts appointed to open
the next question "That Richard Cobden was a greater
benefactor of his age than the Duke of

Wellington was"

Read and confirmed on the third day
of August 1865

Chas. J. Foster
Chairman -

Congregational Church
Thursday August 3rd 1865

The Society met at the usual hour Dr Foster
in the Chair -

The minutes of the previous meeting having been
read & confirmed, the following Gentlemen were
elected members of the Society Messrs Alfred Willett
and C. R. Bullock -

Mr Donnetts not having come forward to open
his question, the Chairman introduced the question
of the previous evening "That Milton is a greater
poet than Shakespeare." Mr Bowie spoke, after
which the Doxology was sung and the meeting
separated.

Read & Confirmed on the 10th day
of August 1865.

Chas. J. Foster
Chairman -

Mechanics Institute
 Thursday Aug 10/65.

The Society met at the usual hour Dr Foster
 in the Chair

The Minutes of the previous meeting having
 been read & confirmed, a report from
 the Committee of management was laid before
 the Society recommending the change of
 day of meeting

Mr Weyman then moved & Mr Latham seconded
 "that the Society meet on Friday at the
 usual hour" The motion was carried

The Treasurer then made a statement re-
 garding the finances of the Society and
 read the list of those who had not paid
 their subscriptions.

Mr Pringle then opened the question

"that a limited Monarchy is a better form
 of Government than a Republic" opening
 it in the affirmative He was supported by
 Messrs McKee, Fisher, & Cliff. Baynon & Ginnias
 and opposed by Messrs Bowe & Sheppard -
 Mr Pringle then replied, and the Chairman
 having summed up the votes were taken when
 19 voted for & 6 against the resolution -
 The meeting closed in the usual manner -

Read & Confirmed on the 18th day of
 August 1865

Chas. L. Foster
 Chairman -

The following Gentlemen were proposed as members
 Mr H. H. Top proposed by Mr Bowe & confirmed by Mr Foster & Baynon
 Mr Massey " " " " " " " " " " " "
 Mr J. Mearns " " " " " " " " " " " "

Mechanics Institute
 Friday Aug 18th 1865-

D. Foster in the Chair

Meeting opened with prayer

Minutes of previous meeting read and confirmed
 proposed by Mr Bowe and seconded by Mr Baynon that Mr J. L. Kern be a member
 " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "

The following Gentlemen were elected Members
 Messrs Hislop, Horsley, & Mearns.

Mr C. Buff opened the subject: "that it will be
 beneficial to the Province of Canterbury to spend
 large sums of money on the West-Coast Road at New
 Messrs Tunell, A. C. Newton and W. J. Fisher spoke
 in favor of and Mr Bowe against the motion.

The Chairman having summed up votes were
 taken 17 for + 1 against the motion.
 Meeting closed with the Prayers.

Read and Confirmed on the 25th day of
 August 1865.

Henry Tolson

Mechanics Institute
Friday Aug. 25/65.

The Society met at the usual hour Rev A. Forless in the Chair

The meeting opened with prayer.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed; the following gentlemen were elected members - Messrs Dr. Kerr & E. Mills.

Mr J. B. Fisher then proposed and Mr Mould seconded, that Mr John Warner be a member. ^{Mr A. Ferguson proposed by Mr Payne & seconded by Mr Beynon -} Mr Forless then introduced the question "Is an embezzlement justifiable under any circumstances?" opening it in the negative. He was supported by Messrs Cluff, Hewitt, March, & Beynon, Grimes. And opposed by Messrs Al. Newton Sheppard Grimes, H. Newton, Winter, A. Cluff & Masely.

The Chairman having summed up the votes were taken when 12 voted in the affirmative & 10 in the negative. Mr Symington appointed to open the next question "That the Colonies are a source of weakness to the Great Britain." Mr Beynon gave notice that he would oppose Mr Symington. The meeting closed with the Doxology -

Read & Confirmed on the 1st day of September 1865

Chas. J. Forless
Chairman

Mechanics Institute
Sept 1st 1865

The Society met at the usual hour Dr Forless in the Chair -

Present Messrs Al. Newton, Beynon Symington Bowie, H. Newton, Winter, Cluff, N. Balfour J. B. Fisher C. Cluff Manning, Masely Kerr, Dewbury, Gurrill Mcne de Harris Hewitt, Daxter, W. J. Fisher, Hanson Fawell, March, Aldridge, Mould & Parnt.

The meeting opened with prayer.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the following gentlemen were elected members of the Society. Messrs Warner and A. Ferguson

Mr J. Manning then proposed & C. Cluff seconded that Mr William Packard be a member

Mr Gurrill proposed & Mr Beynon seconded that Mr Phillip Betrounch be a member -

Mr Symington then introduced the question "That the Colonies are a source of weakness to the Great Britain." opening the question in the affirmative and Mr Beynon in the negative. Messrs Malfore Cluff & Guthrie spoke in the affirmative and Messrs Bowie Al. Newton Winter Hewitt, J. B. Fisher, Mcne, March, Gurrill H. Newton, Masely and Hanson, in the negative. Mr Symington then replied & Dr Forless having summed up the votes were taken when 5 voted for & 17 against the motion. The meeting closed in the usual manner -

Read & Confirmed on the 8th day of September 1865 Chas. J. Forless
Chairman

Mechanics Institute -
Sept 8/65 -

The Society met at the usual hour Dr Foster
in the Chair -

Present Messrs Beynon Winter, Fourth Alderdyff
Cox March Balfour Al. Newton
Bowie, H. Newton, Foss, Farrall, Jameson
Lewis Dexter, Woodford N Cuff - C Cuff
Sewitt, Kerr, Fisher, James Sheppard
Hanson Mould & Guthrie

The Meeting opened with prayer

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read
and confirmed, the following gentlemen were
elected members Mr W Packard & P. Bertrand.

Mr G Hewitt proposed & Guthrie seconded that

Mr John M. be a member -

Mr Winter then introduced the question "that the
Nominated Superintendent's Bill would not be
beneficial to New Zealand." He was supported
by Messrs Bowie James March & Dexter, and
opposed by Newton Kerr Guthrie Sheppard

Cox Hewitt, having replied, the chairman
summed up when a vote for + 13 against

Mr Winter's motion.

c. 9. 7

Mr ~~Beynon~~ ^{Beynon} & ~~Beynon~~ ^{March} ~~Beynon~~ ^{Malpas} gave notice of motions

Chas. I. Foster

Chairman

Mechanics Institute
Sept 15/65

The Society met at the usual hour Dr
Foster in the Chair

Present Messrs March Hewitt Jameson J. J. J.

Jameson J. Cuff, W. J. Fisher Balfour
Winter Cuff - A. Hanson J. Fisher
Mumming de lais, Al. Newton, Cox,
Sheppard Kerr, Beynon, Bowie, Lewis
Dexter Wadham

The Meeting opened with prayer.

Being Quarterly night no debate took place -

The Treasurer brought up his statement

Proposed by Dr Foster and seconded by

Mr Winter, that it be audited and confirmed

Proposed by Mr Beynon and seconded by Mr March

"That all those whose subscriptions are not paid

" within two months from date when due shall

" cease the members of this Society, and their

" names struck off the roll. Notice of same to be

given." Carried -

Proposed by Mr Beynon & seconded by Mr Sheppard

"That the time of meeting be half past twelve

" o'clock all the year round, that the present

" rule with regard to the hour of meeting be

" rescinded." Carried -

Proposed by Mr March and seconded by Mr Balfour

"That the committee be requested to prepare

" a new code of regulations." Negatived.

Proposed by Mr Balfour seconded by Mr Beynon

"That Essays be allowed in the Society &

" the details of the scheme be settled by

" the Committee of management"

The resolution was carried -

The meeting closed with the Doxology -

Read and confirmed on the 22nd day
of September 1865

Chas J. Foster
Chairman -

Mechanics Institute
Sept 22/65

The Society met at 7:30 or Pastur in the Church -
Present

Byron, Bowie, Madham, Lewis
J. Paritt, de Jarvis, Madman, W. J. Tish
Hanson, Newton, A. Newton, H. Jameson
Mr Jameson Junr, March, Mic, Hewitt
Paritt, A. J. James, Kerr, ^{only} Skaptee

The meeting opened with prayer -

The minutes of the previous meeting having been
read and confirmed, Mr Mic was elected
a member of the Society -

Mr Sheppard then brought forward the
Question "That humility in prosperity is a
greater virtue than fortitude in adversity" -
opening the question in the affirmative -
Messrs Bowie, Newton & March spoke to the
question, and Mr Sheppard having re-
plied, Dr Foster summed up when 5 voted
in the affirmative, & 5 in the negative -

The Chairman declined to give his casting
vote -

The meeting closed with the Doxology -

Read and confirmed on the 29th day of Sept 1865
Chas J. Foster Chairman

Mechanics Institute
Sept 29/65

The Society met at the usual hour & Pastur
in the Church

Present, Messrs A. Newton, A. Newton, Bowie
James Byron, Masely, Hanson
Willet, Lewis, Gurrill, Hewitt, McNe
Kerr, Dexter, Fisher, March, Mic,
Madman

The meeting opened with prayer

The minutes of the previous meeting having
been read and confirmed, Mr James brought
forward the question "That man is the only
Animal possessed of Reason". opening it in the
affirmative. He was supported by A. Newton
March, Mic, Hanson and opposed by
A. Newton, Kerr, Masely, Dexter, Mr James
replied, and the Chairman having
summed up the vote was taken when
5 voted for & 5 against the question.
The Chairman gave his casting vote
against the motion.

Mr Masely was appointed to open the
next question "That Mesmerism should
be admitted as a recognized science
in New Zealand"

Read & Confirmed on the 6th day
of October 1865

Chas J. Foster
Chairman

Mechanics Institute

Oct 6/65 -

The Society met at the usual hour & Foster in the Chair -

Present, Messrs Bayson, Woodham, Mee, Mould, Jamieson, Jamieson, Lewis Hanson, Paritt, Paritt, Hewitt, Sheppard, Massey

W. Guff, A. Newton & Newton, Guthrie -

^{If the meeting opened with prayer -}
The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Mr A. Newton opened the question "That the Genius of Dickens is of a higher order than that of Thackeray" opening it in the affirmative. He was supported by Messrs Sheppard & Mee, and opposed by Messrs Bayson, Bowe, & Massey - & A. Newton, Mr Newton having replied the Chairman summoned a vote & the vote was taken when 6 voted in the affirmative & 5 in the negative -

Mr Montgomery was proposed by Mr Guthrie and seconded by Mr Bowie -

The meeting closed with the Doxology -
Read & confirmed on the 13th day of Oct. 1865

Chas J Foster
Chairman -

Mechanics Institute -

Oct 13/65

The Society met at the usual hour & Foster in the Chair.

Present Messrs Bayson Woodford, Bowie, Hancock, Woodham, Lewis, Sheppard, Hewitt, Mee, Fisher, Montgomery, Meech, Hanson, Paritt, A. Newton, N. Newton, Paritt, Massey

Perce Wadman, Jamieson

~~Mr~~ Massey opened the

meeting opened with prayer

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read & confirmed, Mr Montgomery was elected a member - Mr Massey then opened the question "That Mesmerism ought to be recognized as a science in New Zealand"

He was supported by Messrs A. Newton, Woodford, Sheppard & Hewitt - & opposed by Messrs Bowie, Perce, Montgomery, & Bayson -

Mr Massey replied & Dr Foster summed up - & the vote taken when 10 voted in favor & 8 against the motion -

The meeting closed with the Doxology -
Read & confirmed on the 20th day of Oct 1865

Chas J Foster
Chairman

Mr Varley was proposed by Mr Woodford seconded by W Foster

Mechanics Institute
Oct 20/65

The Society met at the usual hour Dr Foster
in the Chair -

Present - Messrs Bynon Bowie Woodham
Cox March McNe Winter Kerr Woodford
Cuff Lewis Fisher Hanson Mould
Wadman Willett Dexter, Hewitt Mc
Farrth Sheppard Montgomery Parrott
Duncan Al. Newton A. Newton Gutter,

The meeting opened with prayer -

The minutes of the previous meeting having been
read and confirmed Mr Varley was elected a
member. Mr Gutter then opened the question
"that Great Britain is likely to decay like
the great nations of antiquity" The
affirmative was maintained by Messrs
Bowie, Newton, A. Newton & Sheppard &
the negative by Messrs Mc Montgomery &
Bynon -

Dr Foster having summed up, the vote
was taken when 5 voted in the affirmative
and 12 in the negative

Read & confirmed on the 27th
day of Oct. 1865

W. J. Habens
Chairman

Present Messrs Bynon
S. Parrott

7/6
57

Mechanics Institute
Oct 27/65.

The Society met at the usual hour. Mr W. J. Habens
in the Chair -

Present, Messrs Cox, S. Parrott, Montgomery Hewitt
Mc, Fisher, March, Turrell Hanson, Lewis
Winter Kerr Bowie Al. Newton W. J. Habens
Gutter

The meeting opened with prayer -
The minutes of the previous meeting having been
read and confirmed Mr Cox then opened the
question "that a protective tariff is beneficial
to a young colony." He was supported by
Mr Al. Newton and opposed by Winter Bowie
Gutter Mc & Hewitt. ^{Mr Cox having spoken -} Mr Habens
summed up, when the negative was carried
unanimously -

Read and confirmed on the 3rd day
of November 1865 -

Charles Fraser
Chairman

Miss Balfour

Mechanics Institute

Nov 3/65

The Society met at the usual hour ^{Rev. C. Fraser} or ^{Dr Foster} in the Chair -

Present Messrs Baynon, Cox, J. Guff S. Hewitt, Montgomery Sheppard March Lewis, Mould Fisher, Hewitt, A. Newton H. Newton Guthrie

~~Mr Al. New~~ The meeting opened with prayer The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed Mr Al. Newton opened the question "that writers of Fiction have upon the whole benefited mankind" Messrs Montgomery & Mould spoke in the aff. and A. Newton ^{Cox} Baynon, & Guthrie in the negative - At the request of the Chairman Dr Turnbull also spoke -

Mr Newton then replied & the Chairman having summed up the vote was taken when 10 voted in the aff & 8 in the negative

Chas. J. Foster
Chairman

Mechanics Institute

Nov. 10/65

The Society met at the usual hour Dr Foster in the Chair -

Present - Messrs Baynon, Cox Guff N Guff Hewitt Sheppard Montgomery Sarrill, H. Newton A. Newton Guthrie, Fisher, March.

The meeting opened with prayer -

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed Mr. Baynon opened the question "that Church and state ought not to be separated" in the affirmative - He was supported by Messrs Montgomery Guff March Fisher, & Rev. & opposed by Messrs Hewitt Sarrill, H. Newton, Cox, A. Newton - Mr Baynon replied & Dr Foster having summed up the vote was taken when 8 voted in the affirmative & 5 in the negative -

Read and confirmed on the 24 day of November 1865

Chas. J. Foster
Chairman -

Ch

Mechanics Institute

Nov. 17/65

No meeting was held in consequence of Mr Weld's Meeting in the Town Hall -

Mechanics Institute
Nov 24/65-

The Society met at the usual hour by Foster
in the Chair -

7 members present -

The meeting opened with prayer -

On account of the small attendance no
discussion took place

The Secretary gave notice of several resolutions
wh. the Committee intended bringing before the
Society -

Chas. T. Foster
Chair

Mechanics Institute
Dec 1/65⁵

The Society met at the usual hour
by Foster in the Chair

Present Messrs Baynon Cox Jerrill Shackleton
Balfour Montgomery Sycamore
Wm. Sheppard Hewitt Miss McNeil
March Foster Page Dexter Al Nuttin
H. Quater

The minutes of the previous meeting were
read and confirmed.

Moved and seconded "That the Society hold
its weekly meetings on Thursdays instead
of Fridays" Carried

Moved and seconded "That the Committee
have power to consolidate the rules
and report in print" Carried -

Moved and seconded "That twelve (12)
members be chosen by ballot to be sponsors
of debates during the quarter commencing
from the end of the recess. That the list
be filled up with subjects during the
recess, and that it be printed so as
to be ready before the first meeting" Carried

The following gentlemen were then elected
Messrs ^{Al Nuttin} Al Nuttin H. Newton Baynon Sheppard
Cox Shackleton March Sycamore
Miss Wm. Page, junr.

Moved and seconded "That the Society have
a recess of six (6) weeks adjoining
from tonight to the first week in July
1866" Carried

Moved & seconded That the ^{new session of} Society commencing
in July next be opened with a

Dinner at which members of the Association
Only may be present, the necessary
funds to be raised by subscription"
Carried.

Read and confirmed on the 15th day
of February 1866

Chas J. Mills

Chairman

Mechanics Institute

July 15/66

The Society met at the usual hour Dr
Foster in the Chair. 15 Members present.

The minutes of the previous meeting, having
been read and confirmed, the Secretary
laid on the table the ~~books~~ the report of
the rules as amended, and gave notice
that he would move their adoption on
the quarterly meeting.

Mr McNeill then opened the question
"That on the whole sold fields are not
beneficial to a country." Calling the
affirmative, he was supported by Messrs
Dexter Cox Munnings Hewitt and approved
by Messrs Murch H. Newton Parrott A. Newton
& Beapond and Woodford - & Me -

Mr McNeill replied and the Chairman
declared when 3 voted for and
7 against the motion.

Read and confirmed on the 22nd day
of February 1866

W. Hayward

Chairman

Mechanics Institute
Feb'y 22/66 -

The Society met at the usual hour, In the absence of Dr Foster, Mr Beynon, was chosen Chairman,

Present, Messrs Kerr Parvitt, Montgomery, Mue, Mummings, Hewitt A. Newton H. Newton & further

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Mr Kerr proceeded to pose the question "that a Classical Education repay by its advantages the time spent in acquiring it" opening it in the affirmative - He was opposed by Messrs further H. Newton & Mue & supported by Messrs Montgomery A. Newton Parvitt - Mr Kerr replied & the Chairman summed up, where the vote was taken, 3 votes in the affirmative & 3 in the negative - The Chairman gave his Casting vote in favour of the affirmative -

Read & confirmed on March 1st 1866

Chas J. Foster
Chairman

Mechanics Institute
March 1/66

The Society met at the usual hour Dr Foster in the Chair -

Present, Messrs Beynon Parvitt, Mummings
Cox, Montgomery I. Cuff J. Page
McNicoll, Woodford, Lewis
Jameson, Dexter, A. Newton
H. Newton Woodford further
Woodford - Mr Cox gave notice
of several resolutions which Mr March intended
to move.

Mr Merrill then brought forward the question
that "Is Phonology true?" opening it in the
Affirmative. He was supported by Messrs
Woodford A. Newton & McNicoll & opposed
by Messrs Montgomery Page further
& Beynon - Mr Parvitt replied & the Chair-
man summed up, on the vote being
taken & noted in the aff. & 5 in
the negative.

Read and confirmed on the
8th day of March 1866

Chas J. Foster
Chairman

Mechanics Institute
March 8/66.

The Society met at the usual hour or Foster
in the Chair

Present Messrs Beynon, Messrs Parrott, Willitt,
Auff, Montgomery, Dexter, March, Hewitt,
Miss Jameson, Jameson, H. Newton,
Shackleton, A. Newton, further

The minutes of the previous meeting ~~having~~ ^{were}
~~been~~ read and confirmed.

Being quarterly meeting no discussion on
loop place

The then moved the Rules as consolidated
by the Committee be adopted as the
Constitution of the Society

Mr March moved & Mr Beynon seconded

"That after Rule 9 the following

"Clause be inserted — That at

"the annual election of officers two

"members shall be appointed by

"the meeting to audit the accounts

"for the current year such members

"not being on the Committee" Carried

Mr March moved & Mr Shackleton seconded

"That the words 'duly audited'

"be substituted for the words

"'for audit' in rule 15." Carried.

The Constitution as amended was then
adopted.

The Treasurers statement was submitted &
Messrs March & Hewitt appointed to
audit the same.

It was also resolved that the question

after vacancies in the Committee be referred
to the Committee of Management to report next
meeting

Read and confirmed on the 15th
day of March 1866

Chas. J. Foster

Chairman

Mechanics Institute
March 15/66

The Society met at the usual hour or
Foster in the Chair

Present Messrs Beynon, Messrs Parrott, Parrott

Mosley, March, A. Newton, H. Newton

Shackleton, Kerr, Page, Dexter, Hewitt

Miss further

The auditors' report was then read &
adopted

Mr H. Newton opened the question "that the
separation of the North from the Middle Island
is both inexpedient & unpracticable?"

opening it in the affirmative, he was
supported by Messrs Shackleton, Hewitt, March,
Hie & opposed by Messrs Kerr & Page

Mr Foster then summed up and the vote
was taken when 10 voted in the affirmative
& 5 in the negative

Read & confirmed on the 22nd day
of March 1866

Chas. J. Foster

Chairman

Mechanics Institute
March 29/66

The Society met at the usual hour Dr
Foster in the Chair -

Present Messrs Beynon, Durrell, Ley Munnings
Montgomery, Dexter & Newton
Shackleton & Newton further.

The Secretary on behalf of the Committee
of management laid before the Society the
following report

" The Committee of management report
" that there are three vacancies in
" the Committee of management
" viz. Jamieson, Morley & Bowie -
" As regards Messrs Jamieson & Morley
" the Committee see no reason why
" the vacancies should not be
" confirmed, as regards Mr
" Bowie, the Committee consider
" that his case does not legitimately
" come under the law, and ^{recommend} that
" the Society therefore declare that
" there is no vacancy in his case"

The report was adopted and Messrs Montgomery
and A. Newton elected members of Committee -

The Secretary also gave notice on behalf
of the Committee of the following resolution

" That Law twenty three (23) be altered
" as follows: That members absents them-
" selves for four weeks consecutively shall
" be fined (2/6) two shillings & six pence -
" at the end of the current quarter

" On non-payment of which they shall
" therefrom cease to be members of the Society."

Messrs Fawcett & Johnson were elected members
of the Society

Mr Fawcett proposed & Mr Junell seconded
that Mr Lee be a member of the Society.

Mr Shackleton then opened the question "That
the present System of Credit is injurious
to Business" He was supported by Mr
Munnings and approved by Messrs Montgomery
Fawcett, Ley & Beynon. Mr Shackleton replied
& Dr Foster summed up when all voted
in the negative - (viz) five (5) -

Read & Confirmed on the 29th day
of March 1866

Chas. J. Foster
Chairman

Mechanics Institute
March 29/66-

The Society met at the usual hour &
Foster in the Chair -

Present Messrs A. Newton, Cory Page Dexter,
Montgomery Hewitt Willitt
Albert Cuff & Bowie -

Mr A. Newton proposed & Mr Montgomery seconded
the resolution given notice of last meeting
Mr H. Newton proposed as an amendment
that the words "on refusal to pay which"
be put instead of "on non payment of wh." and
Mr Cory then opened the question "That fact
is more useful to the individual possessing it
than labor." He was supported by
Messrs Montgomery Dexter H. Newton & opposed
by A. Newton Hewitt Page & Montgomery
Mr Cory replied & the Chairman summed up
when 2 voted in the aff. & 5 in the negative.
Mr A. Newton proposed & H. Newton seconded
that Mr Wheeler be a member -

Read & Confirmed on the 5th day
of April 1866

Chas J. Foster
Chairman

Mechanics Institute
March
April 5/66 -

The Society met at the usual hour & Foster
in the Chair. Present Messrs Bayan Cox, Montgomery
Woodford Woodford junior Dexter Wheeler
March Lewis J. Cuff A. Cuff Hewitt Mic Hewitt
Guthrie McNeill -

Mr Wheeler was elected a member -

Mr Newton then opened the question "that women
are superior to men." He was supported by
Messrs Guthrie Shackleton & Cox - and opposed by
Messrs Montgomery Woodford March J. Cuff Bayan
McNeill Frost Deane Mic Hewitt Mr Newton
Cuffed & Dr Foster summed up. On the
vote being taken three voted in the affirmative
& eleven in the negative

Mr W. H. Barnes was proposed by Mr A.
Newton & seconded by H. Newton
Mr J. W. Frost was proposed by Mr Woodford
and seconded by Mr Guthrie

Read and Confirmed on the 12th day
of April 1866

Chas J. Foster
Chairman

Mechanics Inst.

April 12/66

The Society met at the usual hour
Dr Foster in the Chair -

Present Messrs Jameson Jameson^(H) Newton
Al. Newton Shackleton Beynon Dr. W. Montgomery Durrill
Messrs. Barm & Frost were elected members of
the Society.

Mr Beynon then opened the question "What
Buckle & Johnson were the two greatest intellects
produced by England during the eighteenth
Century." He was opposed by Messrs H.
Newton Montgomery & A. C. Newton.

Dr Foster summed up when 4 voted
in the affirmative.

Read & confirmed on the 19th
day of April 1866

Chas. L. Foster
Chairman

Mechanics Institute

April 19/66 -

The Society met at the usual hour & Foster
in the Chair -

Present - Messrs Beynon Cox, Montgomery & Mee
Munnings March Durrill A. C. Newton
Shackleton further A. Newton.

Mr G. Paine was proposed by Mr Shackleton
& seconded by Mr Beynon

Mr Munnings agreed to open Mr March's question

Mr Shackleton then opened the question "that
the Reformation under Henry VIII was more
political than religious." He was supported
by Al. Newton Beynon, & opposed by Montgomery
Munnings & Cox. Mr Shackleton replied
& Dr Foster summed up & the vote taken
when 4 voted in the affirmative & 5
in the negative

The meeting closed in the usual manner.

Chairman

Alfred C. Newton

Mechanics Institute

April 26/66

There^{was} being no quorum no meeting was held.

Mechanics Institute

May 3/66

The Society met at the usual hour ~~at~~ Mr-

A. Newton in the Chair

Present, Messrs Lee, Cox & Newton Bowie A. Cuff

March Mr McNeer Whaler Durrell Hewitt

Hest & further

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read

and confirmed Mr McNeer then opened the question that Education should be compulsory.

He was supported by Messrs Lee McNeer A Cuff Cox & further Durrell & Whaler, & opposed by Messrs Bowie Hest, March & A. Newton

Mr Powell was elected a member of the Society

The apur replied & the Chairman summed up. On the vote being taken 8 voted in the affirmative & 3 in the negative.

Read & Confirmed on the 10 days of May 1866

Chas. I. Fortin
Chairman

Mechanics Institute

May 10/66 -

The Society met at the usual hour Mr Justice in the Chair.

Present, Messrs Beynon, Cox, Bowie, Montgomery A. Cuff J. Cuff Durrell N. Newton A. C. Newton Hewitt Whaler Justice Mr,

The Secretary gave notice that at the next meeting the Committee would ask power to make arrangements for an evening entertainment. Also of the propriety of having a course of lectures -

The treasurer gave notice that he would bring before the Society the question of the advisability of investing a certain sum of money in the purchase of Books -

Mr Sage opened the question "that the system of pre-emptive rights ought to be discontinued" He was supported by Messrs Shackleton A. Cuff - Bowie Cox and opposed by J. Cuff - Beynon Hewitt A. C. Newton Whaler Mr. - The apur replied & the Chairman summed up when 5 voted in the aff. &

7 in the neg. The question of the purchase of Books was postponed till next meeting -

Read & Confirmed on the 31 May 1866

Chas. I. Fortin
Chairman

Mechanics Institute

May 31/66

The Society met at the usual hour in Foster
in the Chair

Present. Messrs Baynon Cox, J. Smith Russell
Gust. Whaler - P. M. Morley W. M. McNewton
A. Newton Shackleton Guthrie

Mr March proposed & Capt W. Shackleton seconded
that Capt. Wilson be a member of the Society
Mr. J. M. then moved that the Society grant
powers to the Committee to make arrangements
for an entertainment. The motion was seconded
and carried.

The Secretary then informed the Society that
Dr. Turnbull had offered to give lectures to
an evening number of the Society willing to
attend a course of lectures of at up by
him.

Mr. March moved and Mr. H. Newton seconded
"That the thanks of the Society be given to
Dr. Turnbull for his kind offer." Carried -
With the leave of the Society, the motion regarding
lectures was withdrawn.

Mr. Baynon moved & H. Newton seconded "That
the Committee have powers to purchase
the Encyclopaedia Britannica." Mr. March
moved that the Society do not purchase
the Books. Mr. Baynon's motion was
carried.

Mr. Bay. Montgomery then read his paper
on "The products of the Imagination with
special reference to the Novelist & Novel
Reader." It was criticized by Messrs H. Newton

Baynon, Guthrie, McNew, Frost & Dr. Foster. Mr
Montgomery replied -

Read and confirmed on the
7th day of June 1866
Chas. J. Foster
Chairman -

Mechanics Institute
June 7/66

The Society met at the usual hour. Dr. Foster in
the Chair

Present Messrs Baynon, Russell, Whaler, Pavitt
Montgomery, Shackleton, H. Newton, Guthrie
March.

Capt. Wilson was elected a member of the
Society.

Mr. J. M. then opened the question "Whether is Byron
or Wordsworth the greater poet?" He took the side
of Byron, he was opposed by Messrs Baynon
& Montgomery. On the vote being taken two
voted in the aff. & (5) five in the negative.
The Secretary gave notice, on the part of
the Committee, that they would recommend the election
of two vice-presidents from among the members
also that an Honorary president be created.
Mr. Shackleton gave notice "That of the following -
That ~~the~~ with the view of creating a greater
interest in the proceedings of this Society a change
should be made in the mode of conducting
the programme."

Mr March gave notice that he would move that the Society take into consideration the expediency of investing a portion of our funds in the formation of a library.

Read and confirmed on the 13th day of June 1866
Chas J Foster
Chairman

Mechanics Institute

June 14/66

The Society met at the usual hour Dr Foster in the Chair.
Present. Messrs Beynon Baine, Montgomery A Newton W Newton
New Morley March Cox Whelan Miss Mence
Newitt Frost.

Being quarterly night no discussion took place -
Dr Foster gave notice that Mr Habens resigned the office of president.

Messrs The Secretary then moved "that two vice-presidents be elected from among the members, and also an honorary president ^{he excepted}" The resolution was seconded and carried -

Messrs Shackleton & Montgomery were elected vice-presidents

Moved & seconded "that his honor the Superintendent be requested to act as first honorary president" Carried - The officers of the Society were instructed to wait on his Honor & obtain his decision in the matter.

Mr Whelan was elected Treasurer -

Mr A Newton was elected Secretary -

Dr Foster was unanimously elected president

Moved by Mr Beynon & seconded by Mr Guthrie "that Mr Whelan be appointed Treasurer" Carried -

Moved by Mr Guthrie & seconded by Mr Beynon that Mr A Newton be appointed Secretary.

The following members of Committee were elected -
Baine, Cox, Beynon, W Newton Miss Guthrie.

Moved by Mr Beynon & seconded by Mr Guthrie "that Messrs Kerr & McNeill be appointed auditors" Carried -

The Treasurers a/c was laid before the Society and passed.

In the absence of Mr Shackleton Mr Beynon moved & Mr Guthrie seconded the following resolution -

"That with a view of creating a greater interest in the proceedings of the Society, a change be made in the mode of carrying the programme" Mr Montgomery moved the former question which was carried -

Mr March then moved "that £30 thirty pounds be expended in the purchase of Books"

Mr Beynon moved as an amendment "that the Encyclopaedia Britannica be purchased -

Mr Cox moved "that the Society rent a room in Town."

"that Mr Newitt the whole question be referred to the Committee of Management" All the resolutions were then withdrawn in favour of Mr Newitt's which was carried - Moved & seconded that

"A vote of thanks ~~was then~~ be presented to Mr Habens on his retirement from the office of president" Carried

A vote of thanks was then presented to the retiring Treasurer & Secretary. It was then resolved

that as far as practicable two opinions be appointed to each question.

Mr Guthrie appointed to open the next question "That the selfish system is not founded on Truth"

Read and confirmed on the 20th day of June 1866

Chas J. Foster
Chairman -

Mechanics Institute

June 21st 1866

The society met as usual, Dr Foster in the chair -

There were present Messrs March - Cox, Montgomery, A. Cuff - Mice - Hewitt - H. Newton - A. C. Newton - Beynon & Bowie

The minutes for last week were read and confirmed -

Dr Foster informed the society that he had written to His Honor the Superintendent, but had not yet received his answer on account of His Honor's having had to go to Wellington.

Mr Guthrie opened the question "That the selfish system is not founded on Truth" -

Mr Beynon, by previous agreement, opposed him but he was supported by Messrs Montgomery - Bowie - H. Newton - Mice - Hewitt & A. C. Newton - The chairman summed up and all votes recorded were in favour of the opener.

Mr Albert Cuff was appointed to offer the question "That Indirect taxation is preferable to direct" but A. C. Newton to take the opposition side.

Read and confirmed on the 28th day of June 1866.

Chas J. Foster
Chairman

Capⁿ Wilson 2/6 - June 28th
Dr H. Bowie 2/6 "

Mechanics Institute

June 28th 1866

The society met as usual, Dr Foster in the chair. There were present Messrs Bowie - Mice - A. C. Newton - March - H. Newton - A. Cuff - Guthrie - Beynon & Wilson & Hewitt

The minutes of the previous meeting were read & confirmed.

Dr Foster then read a letter from Mr Stewart accepting on behalf of His Honor the Superintendent the office of Honorary President of this Society

The secretary then proposed on behalf of the Committee of Management (as part of the results of their enquiries according to the wish of the society as expressed on June 14th)

"That a room should not be hired for more than one evening each week -" This was seconded and carried -

"That a copy of the Encyclopaedia Britannica be sent for from England" This was seconded - but an amendment proposed by Mr H. Newton "That the word 'Australia' be substituted for 'England' was carried by a majority of 7 (seven) to 2 (two) -

Dr Foster having another engagement the chair was taken by Mr Beynon in the absence of both our Vice-presidents -

Mr Albert Cuff then opened the question "That Indirect taxation is preferable to direct" He was opposed, by previous agreement, by Mr A. C. Newton - and also by Capⁿ Wilson -

Messrs Bowie & March spoke in his favour - The chairman summed up and the votes recorded were two (2) in favour of indirect taxation & three (3) against it -

Read & confirmed on the
5th day of July 1866

Chas J. Foster
Chairman

Mechanics Institute

July 5th 1866

The Society met as usual - Dr Foster in the chair, present Messrs Wheeler, Wilson, A.C. Newton, H. Newton, Bowie, Hewitt, Mic Guthrie, Shackleton, Morley, Bayson, A. Cuff & Prince.

Mr Bowie opened the subject appointed - "That the jury system of Scotland is preferable to that of England." It was opposed by previous agreement by Mr H. Newton.

After an animated debate & the chairman's summing up the votes recorded were all in favour of the English system -

Dr Foster consented to deliver a lecture on the 12th instant in this room on "Works of Fiction" -

Read and confirmed July 19 1866

Chas. J. Foster

Chairman

Mechanics Institute

July 12th 1866

The usual meeting was not held this evening the time being devoted to a lecture by Dr Foster on "Works of Fiction" Alfred C. Newton

Am Sec.

Mechanics Institute

July 19th 1866

The Society met as usual Dr Foster in the chair present Messrs Kerr, Wheeler, Wilson, A.C. Newton, H. Newton, Montgomery, Guthrie, Hewitt & Shackleton.

Mr Kerr opened the question that "Credit upon the whole increases national wealth". The votes recorded were all in favour of the affirmer's view. The subject appointed for next week was "That the words Evening

and morning" in the 1st chapter of Genesis are meant to represent a period of 24 hours". To be opened by Mr Wheeler - opposed by Mr Montgomery -

Read and confirmed July 28th 1866

Chas. J. Foster

Chairman

Mechanics Institute

July 26th 1866

The Society met as usual Dr Foster in the chair, present Messrs Wheeler, A.C. Newton, H. Newton, Bowie, Montgomery, A. Cuff, Guthrie, Mic, Wilson & Hewitt.

Mr Wheeler opened the Question appointed - "That the words Evening & morning in the 1st chapter of Genesis are meant to represent a period of 24 hours" -

All recorded votes were against the opener.

The subject appointed for next week was "That Mesmerism (or vital magnetism) is worthy of being called a science" -

Read and confirmed August 2nd 1866

Chas. J. Foster

Chairman

Mechanics Institute

Aug^r 2nd 1866

The society met as usual - Dr Foster in the chair The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed - Mr Crall was proposed by Mr Wheeler & seconded by Mr A.C. Newton - Mr John C. Atkinson

was proposed by Mr Mic & seconded by Mr Hewitt -

Mr Pringle was proposed by Mr Cox & seconded by Mr A.C. Newton

Cap^l Wilson then opened the question appointed "That

Innumerism (or Vital Magnetism) is worthy of being called a science" - Five votes were recorded in his favour and four against - Next week Mr Montgomery was appointed to read a paper on "The Laws of Thought" - The members present were Messrs Wheeler, A.C. Newton, H. Newton, Wilson, Montgomery, Cox, W. N. Barnes, March Hewitt, Eric Morley & P. Paritt.

Read and confirmed August 16th 1866

W. Shackleton
Chairman -

Mechanics Institute

August 16th 1866

The Society met as usual Mr Shackleton in the chair - present Messrs Beynon, Guthrie, Cox, A.C. Newton, H. Newton, Montgomery, Wheeler, Bonne, Eric Hewitt & Habens.

The Secretary gave notice on behalf of the Com^{tee} that he should next week bring forward certain resolutions as to the Encyclopaedia Britannica -

Mr Beale was admitted a member.

Mr J. C. Atkinson was admitted a member.

Mr Pringle requested to have his name withdrawn for private reasons.

Mr Montgomery then read his lecture upon "The Laws of Thought" -

Mr A. C. Newton undertook to open the subject "That the Patent Laws ought to be abolished" -

Read and confirmed Aug. 27th 1866

Chas. F. Foster
Chairman

Mechanics Institute

Aug. 23. 1866

The Society met as usual Mr Foster in the chair present Messrs Shackleton, Montgomery, Wheeler, A.C. Newton, H. Newton, Cox, Bonne, Beynon, Eric Guthrie, March, Barnes, Hewitt, Morley -

Mr W. R. Kennan was proposed by Mr Cox & seconded by Mr Guthrie - after the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed -

The Secretary then, on behalf of the committee, ^{moved} the following resolutions -

"That tickets of membership be printed and given to each member upon his paying his quarterly subscription" - Carried

"That the Encyclopaedia Britannica be placed in the library of the Mechanics Institute as a work of reference subject to the following conditions" -

An amendment was ~~proposed~~ moved by Mr Bonne "that the Encyclopaedia Britannica be kept in this room and that members be allowed to take home one volume at a time" after an animated discussion the amendment was lost.

The first condition was then put and carried

"That this Society shall have power to remove it at any time" - The 2nd condition

"That members of this Society, upon presenting their tickets, shall be allowed, during the ordinary library hours to have out one volume at a time and to read the same in the reading room of the Mechanics Institute or in the debating room of this Society during the debate" - Carried - an amendment to the effect that "two or more volumes" should be inserted in stead of "one volume" having been lost.

The third condition "That members of the
Mechanics Institute shall be granted a like
privilege in their own room unless the work
be required by any member of this society -"
was put and carried.

The resolution that the Encyclopedia Britannica
be placed in the Mechanics Institute as a work
of reference subject to the three conditions just
carried was then put and carried.

The Secretary was ordered to get tickets printed
and to deposit the above named work under the
above named conditions in the library of the
Mechanics Institute.

The programme as drawn up by the Committee
of Management & printed was laid before the
society.

This extraordinary business being finished
Mr. A. C. Newton opened the appointed question
"That the Patent Laws ought to be abolished"
The votes recorded were 6 in favour of the opener
and 3 against him.

Next week Mr. Cox was appointed to open
"That voting by ballot is the best way of taking
the suffrage"

Read and confirmed August 30th 1866

Chairman A. Montgomery

Mechanics Institute

August 30th 1866

The Society met as usual. Mr. Montgomery in the
chair - present Messrs Cox, Wheeler, March, Barnes, Mice
Kerran, A. C. Newton, Hewitt, Guthrie, Bayson, Bowie,
S. Pavitt, Exall, Atkinson -

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and
confirmed. The secretary stated that tickets had been
printed, as ordered, and that members who had already
paid their subscriptions could have them, and that the
Encyclopedia had been deposited, as ordered, and that
members upon presenting their tickets would be allowed
access to it.

He also stated that Dr. Turnbull would be glad to
know how many would wish to accept his offer of
free admission to a series of lectures he was getting
up. - Nearly all the members present seemed to wish
so to do.

Mr. W. R. Kerran was duly elected a member.

Mr. Swift was proposed by Mr. Guthrie and seconded
by Mr. Cox -

Mr. Cox then opened the subject "That the Ballot box is
the best way of taking the suffrage" - The votes were
four (4) in favour of the opener and six (6) against
him -

Read and confirmed September 6th 1866

Chas. J. Forti
Chairman

Mechanics Institute

September 6th 1866

The Society met as usual - D^r Foster in the chair.
Present Messrs Shackleton, Wheeler Bowie Wilson.
A C Newton H Newton Kemman Mee Hewitt Atkinson
& Beynon.

Mr Swift was duly elected a member.

The Secretary then read a note from Mr Deuk am
Hon Sec of Mechanics Institute - worded as follows.

"Sir. I am desired to say that the committee accede
to your request to place the work mentioned in the foregoing
note, in the Institute on the terms stated.

"They will take proper care of the work but will not be
responsible for any loss ~~that~~ or damage that may
happen to it when in circulation or otherwise

I am &c."

Mr Shackleton gave notice that at the next quarterly
meeting he should move the following resolution

"That this Society being desirous of extending its
operations will at its next meeting take into con-
sideration the propriety of removing to some more
convenient room"

Mr Mee gave notice that he should move "That
the volumes of the Encyclopaedia be covered with
brown holland"

Mr H Newton opened the subject "that the writings
of George Eliot evince a higher class of ^{genius} intellect than
those of Currier Bell" - The votes recorded were four
(4) in favour & two (2) against the opener.

Read and confirmed.

September 13th 1866

Chas J. With

Chairman

Mechanics Institute

September 13th 1866

The Society met as usual D^r Foster in the Chair:
present Messrs Cox Beynon Guthrie March Wilson
Wheeler H Newton A C Newton Atkinson Hewitt Bowie
Mee Shackleton & Kemman -

Being Quarterly Meeting the Treasurer brought up
his financial statement, the Auditors having taken
objection to one item in the assets & liabilities ac-
count & having found the Cash account correct
the whole was adopted as altered by them by a
majority of seven (7) to six (6)

Mr Shackleton asked leave to withdraw his notice
of motion and was allowed to do so

Mr Mee ~~proposed~~ moved "that the Treasurer be
authorized to have the columns of the Encyclopaedia
covered with some material that should preserve them"
After various amendments were put & lost this was
carried - by a majority of six (6) to (2) two -

Mr March wished to move a resolution but as he
had not given notice of it at the previous meeting the
Chairman ruled that it was contrary to the usual
practice of the Society that he should be allowed to
do so.

Mr Beynon now moved the following resolutions
of which no definite previous notice had been given
1st "That Mr Newman be elected an honorary
member of this Society" - Carried unanimously -
2^d "That the blanks in the Programme be filled up"
Upon examination it was found that there were no blanks
and the motion fell to the ground -

It was then agreed that if there should turn out to be
no one to open the subject appointed for November 1st
the Committee should endeavour to arrange for

for some popular lecture on behalf of the Society

Mr Cox moved that this quarterly business meeting be adjourned till next week - Seconded and carried - by a majority of six to two -

✓ Captain Wilson gave notice that he should move "That those in arrear for two Quarters be written to by the Secretary and in default of payment their names be struck off the list"

Mr Beynon gave notice that he should ask what action had been taken towards carrying out rules 23 & 24.

✓ Mr March to move "That the Committee of Management be requested to ascertain if any and what sum is likely to be collected of the arrears of subscriptions and to report to the Society in four (4) weeks from date"

✓ Mr March To move new Rules

✓ Mr March "That motions arising out of debate may be brought forward by any member on the quarterly night without notice"

✓ Mr Guthrie "That the Treasurer be requested to lay on the table a return of all fines due to the Society ~~and~~ and that the Secretary be asked the names of those who have ceased to be members in accordance with the last two rules -

✓ Mr Bowie "That each clergyman of Canterbury be requested to become an honorary member of this Society"

Mr Hewitt "To move the adjournment of the Quarterly business meeting at 8 o'clock

✓ Mr Beynon "To move for some plan by which

arrears of subscription may be collected - The meeting then adjourned till Thursday 20th

Read and confirmed

September 20th 1866

Chas L Foster

Chairman.

Mechanics Institute

September 20th 1866

The Society met as usual Mr Foster in the chair present Messrs Wheeler, Bowie, Guthrie, March, Mee, Montgomery, Hewitt, J. Paritt, H Newton, A C Newton, Shackleton, Beynon, Keenan, Swift and Newman

The meeting being an adjournment from the quarterly meeting of the previous week - and the minutes thereof having been read and confirmed Captain Wilson asked leave to withdraw the motion standing in his name - leave was granted

In the absence of Mr Beynon - Mr March moved "That motions arising out of debate may be brought forward by any member on the quarterly night without previous notice" - Seconded by Mr Suthrie - This was lost by a majority of seven (7) to four (4).

Mr March "That the Committee of management be requested to ascertain if any and what sum is likely to be collected of the arrears of subscriptions and to report to the Society within four (4) weeks from date" - Seconded by Mr A C Newton - & carried

Mr Suthrie moved "That the Treasurer be requested to lay on the table a return of all fines due to the Society" - Seced' Mr Beynon - carried.

Mr Suthrie - "Moved that the Secretary be asked the names of those who had ceased to be members in accordance with the last two rules"

In answer the Secretary said - none had so ceased to be members as he had not been authorized by the Society to enforce the rules -

Mr Beynon asked. What action had been taken towards carrying out rules 23 & 24 - Answer "None" -

Mr Beynon moved that some plan should be adopted by which arrears of subscriptions may be collected - namely that the Committee of Management be requested to meet during the ensuing week with that object in view - Seconded and Carried -

The Secretary read from his roll the names of those who in accordance with rule 23 deserved to be fined -

Mr Bowie & Mr Hewitt respectively withdrew

the motions standing in their names -
Mr Hughes was proposed by Mr Bowie and seconded by Mr Guthrie -
The meeting closed in the usual manner -

Read and confirmed Sep. 27 1866

Chas J. Foster

Chairman

Mechanics Institute. September 27th 1866

The Society met as usual Dr Foster in the chair. present Messrs Beynon, Cox, Mee, H. Newton, A.C. Newton, Guthrie, Wilson, Hewitt & Montgomery.

Mr Hughes was duly elected a member

The Secretary on behalf of the Committee of Management brought up their report and proposed "that each member of the Committee of Management be requested to canvass a certain number of members now on the roll of the Society and ask them for their arrears and ascertain their intention as to remaining on the Society's books and that those who decline to pay their arrears of subscriptions or fines have the necessary notice given them by the Secretary and be struck off the roll -"

Mr Beynon moved an amendment which was carried "that each member in default be written to first by the Secretary and told the amount of his arrears -"

Mr Cox moved an amendment that the word "fines" be struck out and the original motion was carried as amended -

Mr Mee then opened the question. "that there is no essential difference between the Black & the White Races - after the chairman's summing up the votes recorded were four in favour of and four against the opener -

Read and confirmed

October 4th 1866

Chas J. Foster

Chairman

Mechanics Institute

October 11th 1866

The Society met as usual Dr Foster in the chair - present Messrs Wheeler, Wilson, A.C. Newton, H. Newton, Guthrie, Swift, Hewitt, Shackleton, March & Newman -

March & Newman -

Mr S. Pavitt being unavoidably absent the Secretary opened for him his appointed subject "that dogmatism is not compatible with the highest order of genius."

Dr Foster vacated the chair in favour of Mr Shackleton and spoke in opposition to the opener. There was an animated debate & upon the chairman summing up all recorded votes were in favour of the opener.

Read and confirmed. October 11th 1866

Chas J. Foster

Chairman

Mechanics Institute

Oct 11th 1866

The Society met as usual Dr Foster in the chair
Present Messrs Montgomery. A.C. Newton. H. Newton. Mee
Kerrman Hewitt. Swift Guthrie Beynon & Newman

Mr Sabine then opened the appointed subject "That
Beauty is not a quality inherent in objects"

When the votes were taken a majority was found
against the opener -

Read and confirmed October 11th 1866

Chas J. Foster

Chairman

Mechanics Institute

Oct 18th 1866

The Society met as usual Dr Foster in the chair
Present Messrs A.C. Newton. H. Newton. Montgomery
Hewitt Newman Capt Wilson Mr Mee

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read
and confirmed ~~the meeting adjourned till next Thursday~~
~~on account of the small attendance~~ Mr H. Newton
on behalf of the Committee ^{from notice of meeting} moved "That the word" "to
conclude with the doxology or a short hymn" be

~~struck out of rule 12~~ = Mr Madman was proposed by
^{Mr A.C. Newton & suggested by Mr H. Newton}
The meeting ^{then} adjourned on account of the small
~~attendance~~

Read and confirmed Oct Nov 1st 1866

Chas J. Foster

Chairman

Mechanics Institute

Nov 1st 1866

The Society met as usual Dr Foster in the
chair - Present Messrs Wheeler. A.C. Newton Mee
H. Newton Kerr. Beynon - Guthrie Cox Hewitt
Newman Wilson Kerrman & March

Mr Madman was duly elected a member

Mr Beynon moved on behalf of the Committee of
management "that the words" "to conclude with the
doxology or a short hymn" be struck out of rule
12" - This was carried -

Mr Kerr then opened the question "That the
National debt, on the Funding System, is burdensome
to Great Britain" and after a good discussion
the majority voted in his favour.

Read and confirmed Nov 15th 1866

Chas J. Foster

Chairman

Mechanics Institute

Nov 15th 1866

The Society met as usual Dr Foster in the chair.
Present Messrs Beynon. Wheeler. A.C. Newton. Newman
March Mee Guthrie Montgomery Kerr Bowie
S Parvitt Hewitt Wilson & Hughes.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been
read and confirmed, Mr Beynon asked the
Secretary why his name had appeared in the
advertisements in the public papers as the opener of
the subject appointed for tonight. In reply the
Secretary said he had always, as far as he could
recall, inserted the names of openers in the advertisements
referring relating to their subjects.

The Secretary then gave notice on behalf of the Com.

Committee of Management that they intended on the following Thursday to recommend to the Society to adjourn till the first week in March

Mr Baynon opened the appointed subject "That the English people are intellectually superior to the Irish or Scotch" - after an animated debate & the summing up of the chairman (who advised that there should be no show of hands in the case of the Irish as they had for many centuries laboured under excessive disadvantages) the question was put are the English intellectually superior to the Irish - when no hands were held up either for or against - An answer to the question are the English intellectually superior to the Scotch (1) one hand was held up in favour of the English - and on the contrary ^{being put} four (4) in favour of the Scotch.

Read & confirmed Nov 22nd 1866

Chas J. Foster
Chairman

Mechanics Institute Nov. 22. 1866

The Society met as usual Dr Foster in the Chair, present Messrs Wheeler. Cox. Bouie Madman A C Newton H. Newton Montgomery. Mee. & March - Hewitt

The minutes of the previous meeting were read & confirmed. The Secretary proposed on behalf of the committee of management & Mr H. Newton seconded "That the meeting do at its rising adjourn till the first Thursday in March" after some discussion an amendment by Mr Hewitt "that the word February be inserted in the place of March" was carried. The meeting then adjourned. Read and confirmed Feb 14th 1867

Chas J. Foster
Chairman

Mechanics Institute

Feb - 14th 1867

The Society met for the first time after the recess. There were present Messrs Wheeler - A C Newton - H. Newton - Cox - Baynon - Gathrie - Mee - March - Hewitt & Newman - Dr Foster occupying the chair.

Dr Foster, President of the Society delivered a short address on the past & future of the Society.

The Secretary read the Report of the committee of management, which congratulated the Society upon the great success in getting the arrears of subscriptions: recommended monthly instead of weekly meetings, namely on the 2nd Thursday in each month - and advised that an entrance fee of five shillings should be charged, ^{notices of motion of the above recommendations} were given by the Secretary on behalf of the Committee.

The Treasurer made his financial statement showing the position of the Society on the 14th Feb. 1867. After writing off £27. 15 as bad debts there was a balance of £44. 8. 10 to which must be added £28. the value of books in the possession of the Society making a total of £72. 8. 10. The liabilities were £6. 10. 0 leaving a net balance of £65. 18. 10.

A vote of thanks ^{to the president} was unanimously passed and the meeting adjourned till the following Thursday

Read and confirmed Feb 21st 1867

Chas J. Foster
Chairman

Mechanics Institute

Feb 21st 1867

The Society met as usual Dr Yoster in the chair
present Mess^{rs} Wheeler - A Newton & Newton
Guthrie - Hewitt - J. Jamison Cox & March

The minutes of the previous meeting were read &
confirmed.

The Secretary then moved on behalf of the Committee
and Mr Hewitt seconded "that the meetings of the
Society should in future be monthly instead of
weekly - on the second Thursday in each month"
carried -

The Secretary moved on behalf of the Committee
that an entrance fee of five shillings be charged
Mr Guthrie seconded this. Mr Hewitt proposed
as an amendment that the proposer of a candidate
shall pay ^{namely the first quarter in advance} 2/6 before the ballot can be taken.
seconded by Mr March & carried -

Mr Page was proposed by Mr A Newton
seconded by Mr Cox.

Mr March then introduced the question "That Pro-
vincial institutions should remain substantially
upon the same footing as they are at present" the
negative being taken by Mr Hewitt. The negative
was carried. The meeting adjourned till
March 14th.

Read & confirmed March 14th 1867

W. Cox
Chairman pro tem

Mechanics Institute

March 14th 1867

The Society met as usual, and the
President and both Vice Presidents
being absent Mr Cox was called to the
chair.

Present, Mess^{rs} Wheeler, Mel, Hewitt, A
Newton, A C Newton, Newman & Barnes
Mr Joshua Page was duly elected a
member of the society.

Mr A Newton then (in the place of Mr
Guthrie who was absent on account
of ill health) opened the question
"That there should be no legal restric-
tions on the exercise of any profession
or calling", this being the negative of
the question undertaken to be opened
by Mr Guthrie.

On the votes being taken, it was
found that the numbers for and
against were equal, the Chairman
declining to vote.

Read and confirmed April 11th 1867

W. Cox
Chairman

Mechanics Institute

April 11th 1867

The Society met as usual Dr Foster in the Chair - present Messrs H Newton, Wheeler, Jameson, Hewitt, March, Mee, Barnes, Guthrie & Wadman

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed -

Mr Mee opened the subject "That the Customs House should remain in Lyttelton" which was carried *mem: con:*

Read and confirmed May 9th 1867

Chas. I. Foster

Chairman

Mechanics Institute May 9th 1867

The Society met as usual Dr Foster in the Chair present Messrs Cox, J. Jameson, G. Jameson, H Newton, A.C. Newton, Guthrie & Hewitt.

Mr Cox opened the question that the Stafford Ministry are not justified in treating the present Superintendent of Otago as they are doing - Carried on the negative

Read and confirmed June 13th 1867

Johns. Fother

Chairman

Mechanics Institute

June 13th 1867

The society held its usual annual meeting for the election of officers - Mr. Guthrie in the chair Present Messrs Cox, A.C. Newton, H Newton, Wheeler, Mee, Hewitt & Barnes -

Dr Foster was unanimously re-elected President

Mr Sheekleton & Mr A.C. Newton were unanimously elected *via president*

Mr Guthrie was elected Treasurer - *mem: con:*

Mr Cox was elected Secretary - *mem: con:*

Mr Kerr & Mr Swift were appointed auditors - *mem: con:*

Messrs Barnes, Hewitt, March, Mee, H Newton and

Wheeler were chosen ^{by ballot} members of the Committee of Management.

It was resolved unanimously that the Secretary be requested to convey the thanks of the Society to their President Dr Foster

It was resolved that the thanks of the Society be given to the retiring officers

The Secretary gave notice on behalf of the Committee of Management that at the next meeting of the Society they should propose that the Society adjourn sine die leaving their Books in the hands of Trustees in the Mechanics Institute as at present on similar conditions - depositing their money ^{at interest in the Bank} with the Bank of New Zealand in the hands of the said Trustees -

present members ~~remaining~~ continuing such without paying any subscription - The Trustees to call a meeting upon requisition of five (5) members. The said Trustees to be appointed by the Society.

Read and confirmed

Chas. I. Foster

Chairman

Mechanics Institute
July 17th 1869

Mr Foster, in the Chair

Present - Messrs Guthrie, A. C. Newton, Kerr, H. Newton,
March, Lee, Barnes, Hewitt, Wheeler & Cox.

Mr March moved that the House go into Committee
seconded by Mr A. C. Newton & Carried.

The Secretary moved on behalf of the Committee
that the Society assume sine die leaving the
Books in the hands of the Trustees in the Mechanics Institute
as at present on similar conditions - that the money be
deposited at interest in a Bank in the hands of the said
Trustees - present members continuing such without
paying any subscription. The Trustees to call a meeting
upon requisition of five (5) members. Seconded by Mr Kerr
& Carried.

Mr Wheeler pro^d that there should be three (3)
Trustees ac^d by Mr H. Newton & Carried.

Three Trustees were balloted for and resulted in
the election of Mr Foster Messrs Guthrie & Cox.

Chas J. Post
Chairman

Literary Institute
July 5th 1869

Mr Foster, in the Chair

Present - Messrs Guthrie, Hewitt March, A. C. Newton & Cox.

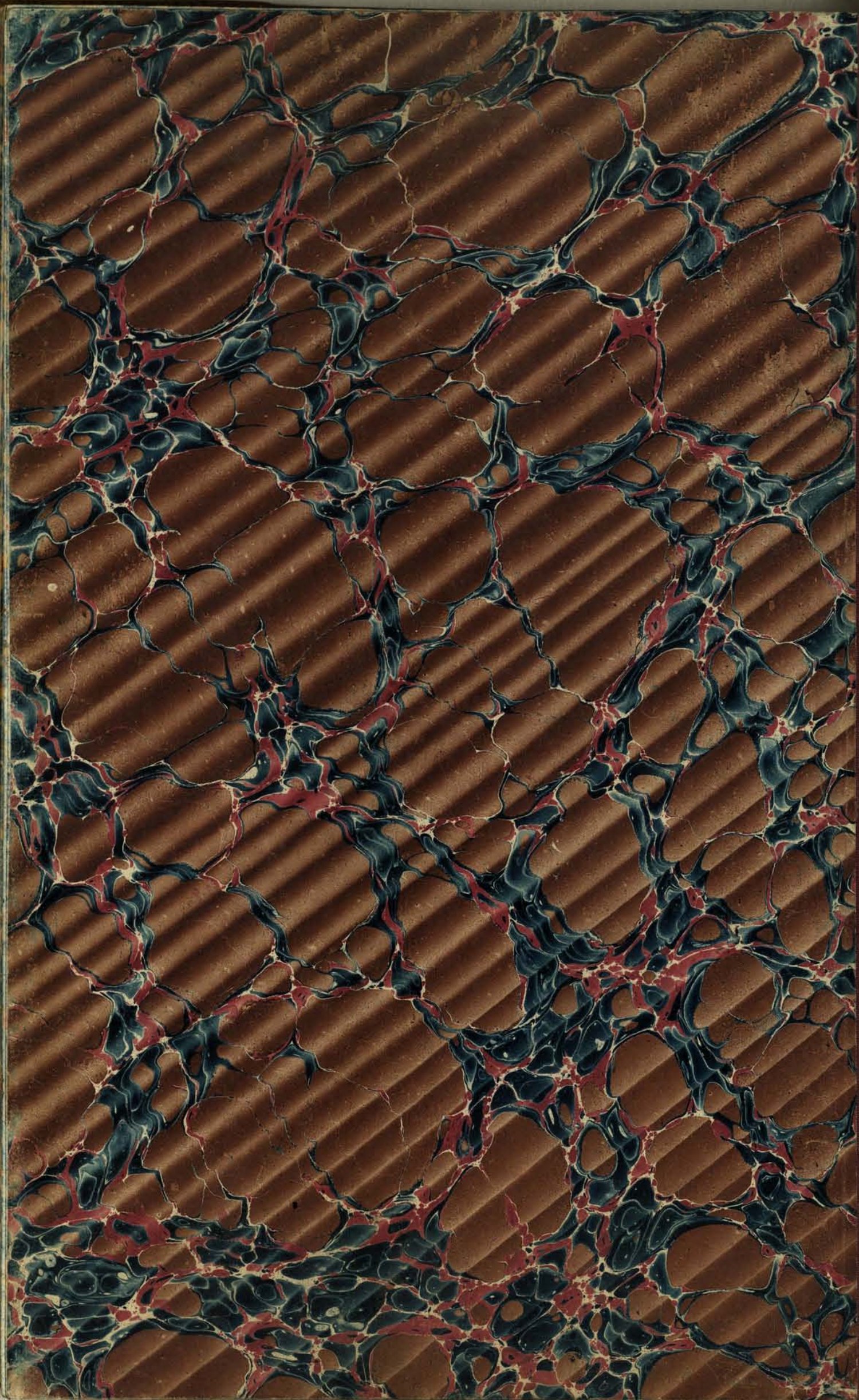
The meeting was called for the purpose of winding up the Society,
but the President ruled that the meeting was out of order,
not having been called in conformity with the resolutions
passed on the 17th July 1869.

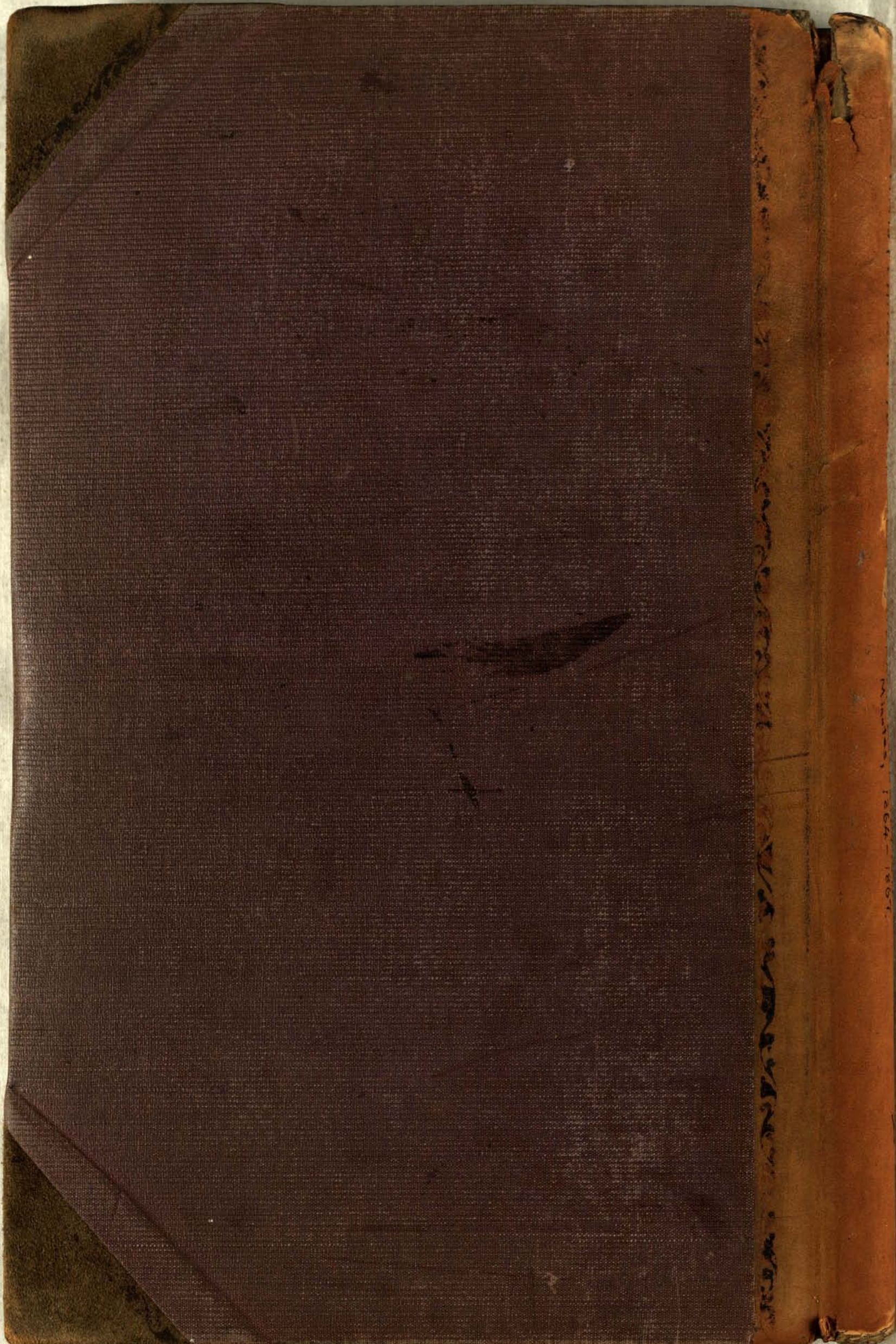
The Secretary was instructed to call a meeting

on the requisition of (5) members of the Society
to be held on Tuesday 20th July.

The following notice of motion was given,
that the Books now left in charge of the Society be
handed over to the Literary Institute, that the balance of
the property now in the hands of the Trustees after paying
all expenses be handed over to the Literary Institute to
be expended in the purchase of lists of books of a
permanent character.

Johns. Fulton
Chairman





Handwritten text on the spine, including the title "The ... of ...", the author's name "By ...", and the date "London, 1864-1867".