

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