

TO THE  
MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL INSTITUTION.

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*The Annual Report of the Visitors on the State of the Institution.*

UPON the execution of their Annual duty of reporting on the State of the Institution, the Visitors feel a real satisfaction in being able to state, that by the attentions and exertions of the Managers, accompanied by the active co-operation of some of the other Members, the finances and circumstances of this scientific and useful Corporation are so far improved, as to require nothing more than the continuation of those attentions and exertions, and the increase and extension of that active co-operation, to fix on a solid and permanent basis, a great and dignified Establishment, worthy of the Metropolis of the British Empire.

In their Report of the preceding year, the Visitors stated that only fifteen out of three hundred and seventy-four Proprietors had availed themselves of the compensation allowed them by the Act of Parliament, and that a call of 5 per cent. on the loan offered by some of the Proprietors for 3 years without interest, was then expected to be adequate to the discharge of that compensation. They have the pleasure of adding, that the sum of £615. (being 5 per cent. on the proposed loan,) has been sufficient for the purpose, with the sum of £15. 12s. 6d., advanced by the Managers out of the funds of the Institution, but not yet brought into the Account.

In making up the Statement of the Receipts and Payments of the year 1811, the Visitors have been anxious to place them before the other Members, in such a form as to give a clear and distinct idea of the financial state of the Institution. For this purpose they have entered under different heads, in the first column of the Receipts, a Statement of the Arrears due to the Institution at the beginning of the year 1811; and in the first column of the Expenditure, a similar statement of the Debts of the Institution at the same period. By this it will appear that the Arrears have been reduced in the preceding year from £1632. 1s. 10d. to £565. 1s. 7d.; and the Debts, from £3490. 8s. 9d. to £1790. 18s. 3d.

In the second column of the Receipts they have given a Statement of the actual income of the preceding year, amounting to £3885. 15s. 3d.; and in the second column of the Expenditure, a statement of the actual expenses of the same year, amounting to £3248. 2s. 9d.;—as to which, though they are gratified by observing that the Income of the preceding year has exceeded the Expenses by £637. 12s. 6d., yet they are obliged to observe that this surplus is not to be expected in future, without the increased zeal and activity of the Members, and the continued attention and discretion of the Managers. They hope, however, that they are not too sanguine in expecting from these two causes, that the Institution will not only be secured from any future excess of Expenditure, but will be able, progressively and speedily, to provide for the extinction of the existing debt; and they are confident that when the objects of the Establishment are duly appreciated, and when it is generally known how useful it may be made to the Community, by promoting Agriculture, Mineralogy, Commerce, and Manufactures, and thereby not only increasing the resources of the Country, but improving the mental powers and moral character of its Inhabitants, there will be very few Individuals in independent circumstances, who will not make a point of contributing to the support of the Royal Institution.

ALEXANDER BLAIR.  
T. BERNARD.  
WILLIAM DUNLOP.  
WILLIAM THORNTON.  
GEORGE AUST.

## STATE OF THE ACCOUNTS.

FOR THE YEAR 1811.

RECEIPTS.	Arrears due 31st Dec. 1810.	Income of 1811.	Total.	Receipts in 1811.	Arrears due 31st Dec. 1811.	EXPENDITURE.	Debts 31st Dec. 1810.	Expences incurred in 1811.	Total.	Payments in 1811.	Debts 31st Dec. 1811.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.		£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Balance in hand brought forward	631 3 5		631 3 5	631 3 5		Taxes	121 17 11	352 4 10	474 2 9	327 17 2	146 5 7
Members { Admission Fees and Annual Payments		244 13 0	244 13 0	244 13 0		Insurance		30 17 6	30 17 6	30 17 6	
Ditto, being Life-Subscribers who had compounded or been nominated under the Act. { Composition		1208 11 0	1208 11 0	1208 11 0		Repairs and Alterations of the House	26 9 2	75 7 5	101 16 7	9 11 6	92 5 1
						Ground Rent	101 5 0	135 1 8	236 6 8	135 1 8	101 5 0
						Professor of Chemistry	400 0 0	400 0 0	800 0 0	600 0 0	200 0 0
						Lecturers. { Astronomy	73 10 0	52 10 0	126 0 0	73 10 0	52 10 0
						Lecturers. { Mechanical Philosophy	150 0 0		150 0 0	150 0 0	
						Lecturers. { Botany		63 0 0	63 0 0	63 0 0	
		12 12 0	12 12 0	12 12 0		Laboratory and Lectures. { Chemicals	215 7 8	153 18 4	369 6 0	269 5 1	100 0 11
		236 5 0	236 5 0	236 5 0		Laboratory and Lectures. { Apparatus	33 4 0	9 16 0	43 0 0	43 0 0	
						Laboratory and Lectures. { Assistants, &c.	51 5 0	246 1 6	297 6 6	226 6 6	71 0 0
Annual Payments from Members elected in 1810, at Four Guineas		29 8 0	29 8 0	12 12 0	16 16 0	Laboratory and Lectures. { Voltaic Battery		19 3 6	19 3 6	19 3 6	
Ditto ditto at Two Guineas		4 4 0	4 4 0	4 4 0		House. { Coals	266 3 1	163 11 10	429 14 11	342 16 5	86 18 6
Life Subscriber, remainder of Subscription		29 8 0	29 8 0	29 8 0		House. { Oil	200 14 0	143 3 8	343 17 8	200 14 0	143 3 8
Annual Subscribers	159 12 0	1519 7 0	1678 19 0	1431 3 0	247 16 0	House. { Furniture	79 3 6	52 6 9	131 10 3	79 3 6	52 6 9
Subscribers to the Lectures only		449 8 0	449 8 0	438 18 0	10 10 0	House. { Clerk's and Assistants Salaries	39 7 6	151 10 0	190 17 6	175 2 6	15 15 0
Renewal Fines and Interest	670 3 5		670 3 5	430 3 5	240 0 0	House. { Servants wages	22 10 0	285 13 0	308 3 0	293 3 0	15 0 0
Ground Rent	132 6 0	109 16 0	242 2 0	192 3 0	49 19 0	House. { Current expences	708 19 0	245 0 6	953 19 6	705 8 8	248 10 10
Contributions received on account of the Library and Mineralogical Fund	38 17 0		38 17 0	38 17 0		Library. { Keeper	112 10 0	150 0 0	262 10 0	207 10 0	55 0 0
Bonds, &c.		42 3 3	42 3 3	42 3 3		Library. { Assistant	35 0 0	80 0 0	115 0 0	115 0 0	
						Miscellaneous. { Subscription paid over to Library fund	142 16 0		142 16 0	142 16 0	
						Miscellaneous. { Printing and Paper	157 16 6	172 6 6	330 3 0	157 16 6	172 6 6
						Miscellaneous. { Books, Bookbinding, and Newspapers	452 10 5	230 19 1	683 9 6	444 18 8	238 10 10
						Miscellaneous. { Balance of Loan, advanced by Managers and Visitors repaid	100 0 0		100 0 0	100 0 0	
						Miscellaneous. { Receipts and Bond Stamps		32 7 8	32 7 8	32 7 8	
						Miscellaneous. { Error by a sum of 3 guineas, for which credit had been twice given in Messrs. Hoare's Account		3 3 0	3 3 0	3 3 0	
						Balance carried on		3248 2 9		4947 12 10	
								5 3 3		5 3 3	
	1632 1 10	3885 15 3	5517 17 1	4952 16 1	565 1 0		3490 8 9	3253 6 0	6743 14 9	4952 16 1	1790 18 8

THE VISITORS HAVE RECEIVED FROM THE PATRONS OF LIBRARY AND MINERALOGICAL COLLECTION THE FOLLOWING REPORT, WHICH THEY BEG LEAVE TO SUBJOIN.

REPORT OF THE PATRONS OF THE LIBRARY.

AFTER the passing of the Act of Parliament, and the adoption of the present code of Bye Laws by the Members at large, the Patrons took an early opportunity of looking into the state of their finances, and found, that they were indebted in the sum of £182. 7s. 9d. which they now state to consist of

Mr. White's bill for Books	-	-	-	£ 21	3	0
Mr. Payne's ditto	-	-	-	113	4	0
Mr. Egerton's ditto	-	-	-	1	10	0
Mr. Searle's binding	-	-	-	15	0	9
Mr. Savage for former services	-	-	-	31	10	0
				<u>£182</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>9</u>

most of which bills had been outstanding for a long time. The Patrons also found, that at the passing of the Act, the balance in their Treasurer's hands amounted to £1. 13s. 6d., and at the end of the year 1810, to the sum of £6. 18s. 6d. £5. 5s. only having been paid into his hands during the remainder of the year 1810. The sources, from which the income of the Library and Mineralogical Collection for the purchase of books, &c. arises, are pointed out in Chap. II. Art. 8. Chap. XI. Art. 2. Part 3. Chap. XIII. Art. 3 and 7. Chap. XX. Art. 4 and 5 of the Bye Laws;—namely, from new Members, new Life Subscribers, and new Annual Subscribers;—from certain parts of the rents, revenues, and annual income of the Royal Institution as particularly stated in Chap. XI. Art. 2.; from the Committee of Managers, as pointed out in Chap. XX. Art. 5. Also from donations of Members and other Persons.

From all of these sources, and at a time too, when they have been particularly productive, there has been received during the year 1811, the sum of £353s. 17s.

As soon as any money came into this fund, the Patrons began to liquidate the outstanding debts, and with the surplus money, amounting only to the sum of £178. 7s. 9d., they purchased such books as were requisite to continue works already begun; such as were useful to the Library; as well as a few of those books, which had been inserted in the Catalogue, and were therefore considered as *desiderata*.

The means, which the Patrons have had at their own disposal, have been very limited, owing to the outstanding debt: but they hope, that through the liberality of the Committee of Managers and the Members at large, this most essential, permanent, and useful part of the Institution will continue to flourish and improve.

GENERAL STATEMENT.

Receipts.			Disbursements.				
1811.	£.	s. d.		£.	s. d.		
Jan. 1st. Balance in hand	6	18	6	Bill for Books due to Mr. White	21	3	0
51 New Members	267	15	0	Ditto to Mr. Payne	113	4	0
1 ditto Life Subscriber	5	5	0	Ditto to Mr. Egerton	1	10	0
70 New Annual Subscribers	73	19	0	Ditto for Bookbinding due to Mr. Searle	15	0	9
Gift from an Annual Subscriber	7	7	0	Paid Mr. Savage	31	10	0
					<u>182</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>9</u>
				Books bought by order of the Patrons and Librarians during 1811	135	13	10
				Mr. Fincher	10	0	0
				Dec. 31st. Balance in the Treasurer's hands	18	7	9
				Ditto in the hands of the Keeper of the Library	14	6	2
					<u>£360</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>6</u>
					<u>£360</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>6</u>

The Patrons have thought it unnecessary to state the different Articles, of which the Bills and Books consist, but they have ordered the Keeper of the Library to be in attendance at the Meeting of the Visitors, who can, if they wish it, state to them each individual Article purchased, and also the contents of the several Bills, due at the commencement of the Year.

There are two Articles, which the Patrons think may require some explanation. The payment of Thirty Guineas to Mr. Savage was made by order of the Patrons from the present Fund, in consequence of some Resolutions, which were found upon the Minutes, and from which it appeared, that he had been in the habit of receiving an Annual Donation of Twenty Guineas for services, rendered to the Patrons as their Clerk: and upon his leaving his situation there were three years in Arrear, as stated in the Minutes; owing probably to the want of funds. They therefore made him a remuneration of Thirty Guineas, with which he was well satisfied.

In consequence also of considerable trouble, which occurred at the commencement of the new system under the Act of Parliament and Bye Laws, the Patrons voted a Donation of Ten Pounds

to their present Clerk, Mr. Fincher; but they beg it to be understood, that this is not to be considered as a precedent, for they are of opinion, that no part of this Fund ought to be appropriated to any purpose whatever, but the purchase of Books and Minerals, for which only it was established, and is given by the Members and new Subscribers; and even for this purpose it is extremely inadequate. From the Balance now in hand, and from the probable Receipts of the present year, there appear to the Patrons very slender means to carry on the objects, which are necessary even for the proper advancement of the Library, which though excellent, so far as it goes, requires great aid to render it completely worthy of the Body, to which it belongs; and of the high estimation in which it is and ought to be held.

Besides such Books as are published in the course of the year, as well as the numerous standard Works, which the Library is still without, and also the continuation of Works already in the Library, such as the Transactions of the numerous English and Foreign Societies, (all of which are essentially necessary), the Patrons think it right to mention the Works inserted in the printed Catalogue, which are not yet procured, but which are requisite to complete the various Classes to which they belong, which latter Books alone will cost upwards of One Thousand Pounds. The Patrons cannot, however, conclude without an earnest hope, that all the Members of the Royal Institution will see the advantages derived to it from this Branch, and that from their liberality, as well as from the regular funds, they will be enabled to complete their views, and that in the course of time the Library and Collection will become the most celebrated, most interesting, and most useful of any in the British Metropolis.

SPENCER.

EDWARD FORSTER.

DAN. MOORE.

CHARLES PIESCHELL.

S. BERNARD MORLAND.

WILLIAM DUNLOP.

25th March, 1812.

ANNUAL REPORT  
OF  
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OF  
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