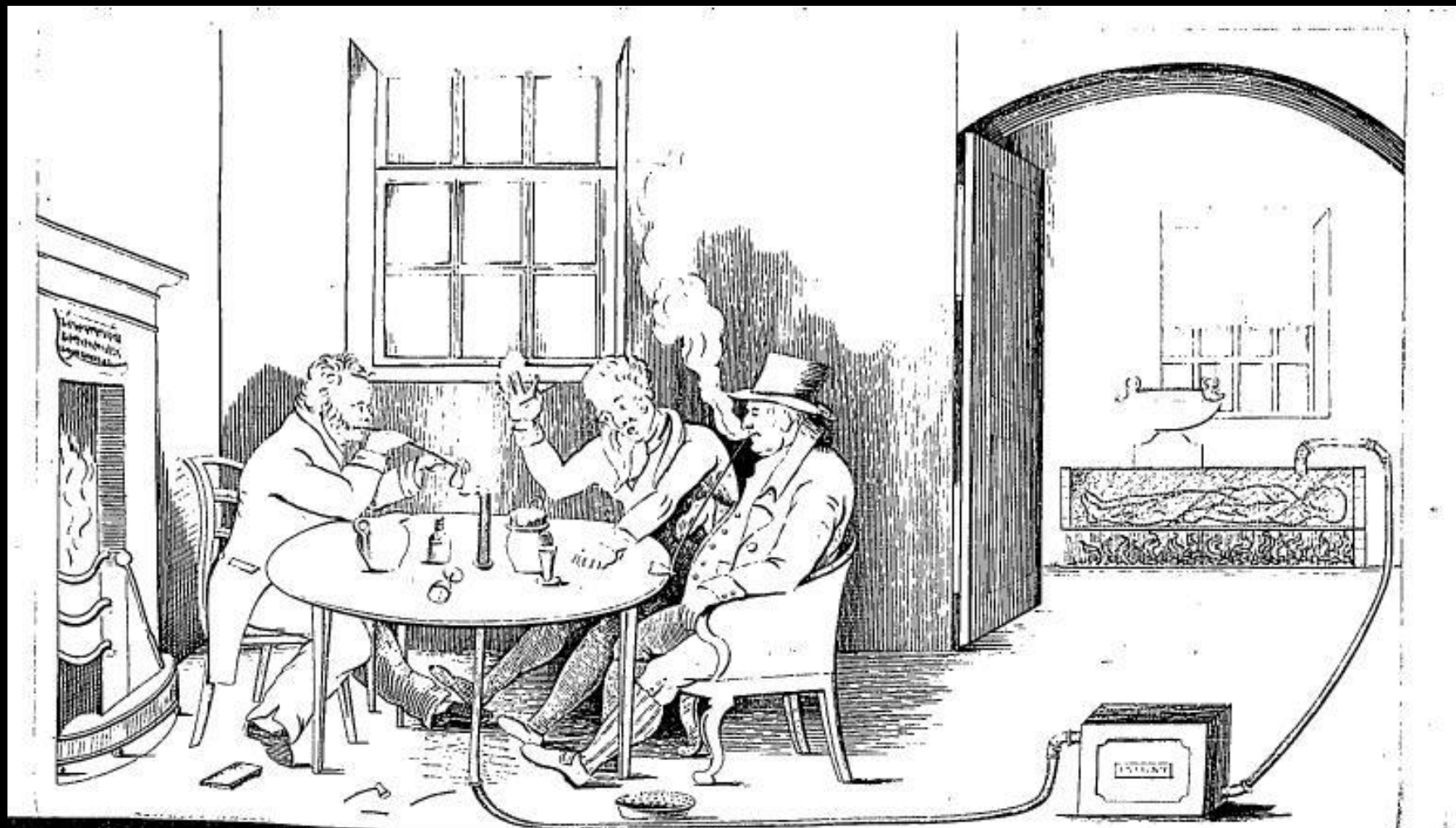


“Improve the Moment”: Mechanics’ Institutes and the Culture of Improvement in the Nineteenth-Century

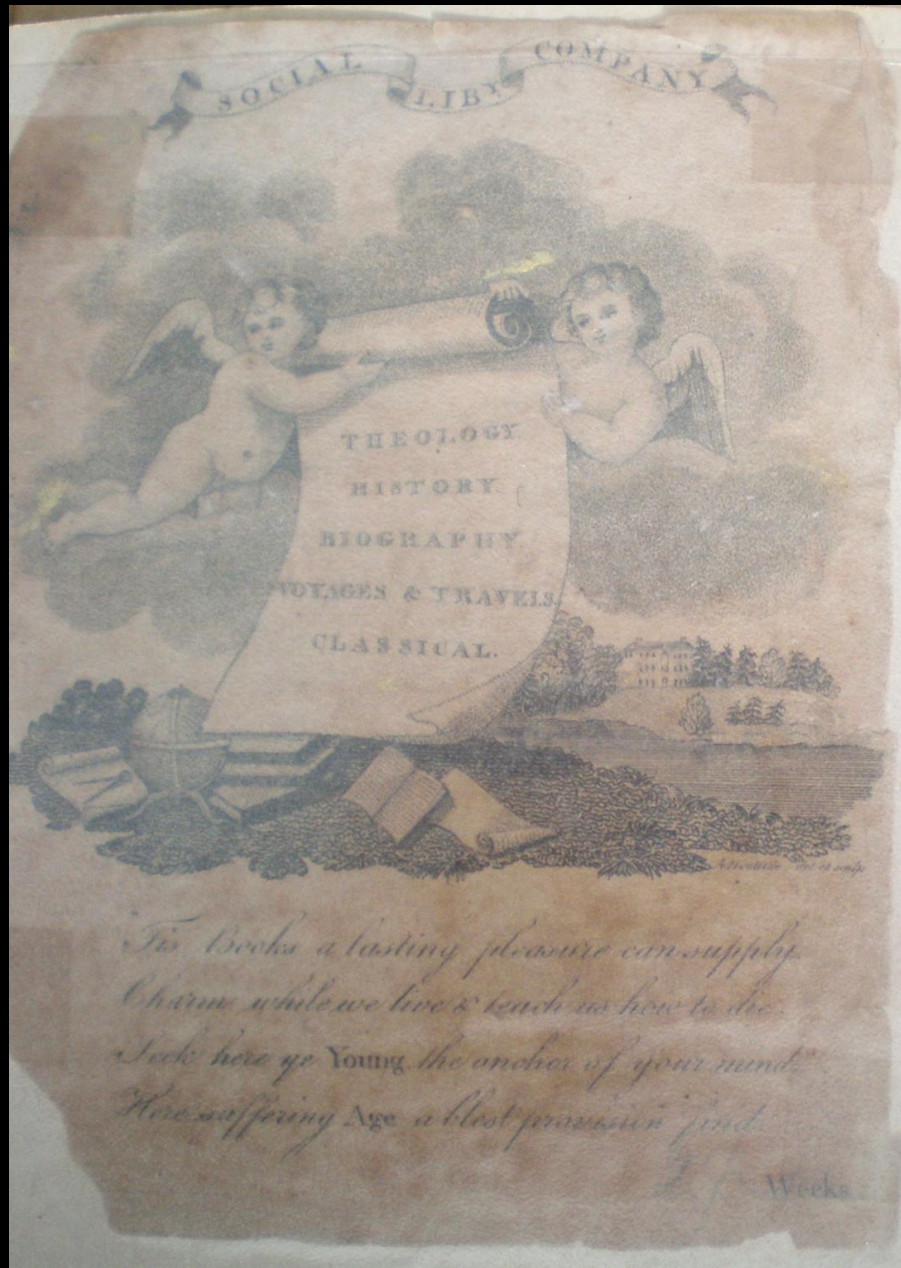
Jordan S. Sly
McDaniel College Hoover Library







Bookplate from the
Mechanic Library,
New Haven c.1815
(Young Men's
Institute)



Bookplate: Social Library c. 1804 (Young Men's Institute, Mechanic Library)



New Haven Mechanic
Library
Original Bookplate
C. 1792

CLERKENWELL PENNY READINGS

Penny Readings have proved a complete success in all parts of London. Clerkenwell is at present without a regular well established Penny Readings, we propose to supply that want, in connection with the Working Men's Institute, and if the Working Classes of Clerkenwell will give us their support, no effort shall be wanting on our part to ensure success.

MR. JAMES WENBORN,
ASSISTED BY A FEW FRIENDS, WILL REPEAT HIS ENTERTAINMENT
On Monday Evening, May 14, 1866,
AT THE
WORKING MEN'S INSTITUTE,
46, LOWER ROSOMAN STREET,
CLERKENWELL.

PART 1.

"Gerty's Song of the Stars," (A Song.) "The Lamplighter."
"A Ballad of Waterloo," *Anonymous.*
"Peterkin Pee," *Anonymous.* - - - "A Selection from Oliver Twist," *C. Dickens.*
"Tubal Cain," (A Song) *Russell.*
"The Yellowplush Correspondence," by *Charles Yellowplush, Esq.*
"Mr. Caudle becomes a Freemason," *Douglas Jerrold.*

(AN INTERVAL OF FIVE MINUTES.)

PART 2.

Will Commence at Half-Past 9 o'Clock and
Will consist of Amusing Ventriloquist Sketches by PROFESSOR LOCK,
Including his Entertainment entitled, "The Talking Hand"
Pianoforte, MISS BENT,

To Commence at half-past 8 o'clock precisely. Admission 1d.
Reserved Seats, 3d. Members of the Institute admitted Free.

Any Proceeds to be devoted to the formation of the Institute Library.

INSTITUTE LECTURES.

THE Miscellaneous Course of Public Lectures before the Young Men's Institute, next in number, will be opened on Monday Evening, Nov. 17th, in the North Church, with an Address by

Hon. NATHANIEL P. BANKS, of Massachusetts. The succeeding lectures will be given on Thursday evenings, except the second, which will be on Friday evening, Thursday being Thanksgiving Day, and the seventh and eighth, which will be on Monday evening.—Christmas and New Years coming on Thursday.

The following named gentlemen are engaged to speak:—
Nov. 21st.—RALPH WALDO EMERSON.—Subject—Conduct of Life.

Nov. 27th.—WM. GILMORE SIMMS, of South Carolina. Subject—The Carolina Partisan, Gen. Marion.

Dec. 4th.—HENRY WARD BEECHER, D. D.—Subject to be named hereafter.

Dec. 11th.—WILLIAM STARK, Esq., of Manchester, N. H. Pease—Old Times and New.

Dec. 18th.—EDWIN P. WHIPPLE, of Boston. Subject—Courage.

Dec. 25th.—Prof. JAMES D. DANA, L. L. D., of Yale College. Subject—Coral Islands. (To be illustrated by drawings and specimens.)

Dec. 29th.—Rev. FRANCIS VINTON, D. D., of N. York. Subject—The Gentleman.

Jan. 9th.—GEORGE SUMNER, of Boston. Subject—Old Europe and Young America.

Efforts are in progress to obtain an Address from Hon. THOMAS H. BENTON, of Missouri; should the Committee succeed, those having tickets for this Course will be admitted to that Lecture at a proportionate price.

Mr. Stephen G. Becknal will probably preside at the Organ.

Course tickets to members, admitting a lady and gentleman, \$1.50.

Course tickets to members, admitting one person, \$1.—To be obtained at the Library.

Course Tickets remaining unsold will be offered for sale to the public on Thursday, Nov. 13th, at the Library, Skinner & Sperry's, and Thomas H. Pease's.

Gentlemen's ticket, \$1.50
Ladies' ticket, 1.00

The doors will be open at 7. Lectures to commence at 8 o'clock.

The Commission have the pleasure to announce that

GEORGE WILLIAM CURTIS, Esq., of New York, author of the Potiphar papers, &c., has consented to give before the Institute a Course of Lectures on eminent English authors—Dickens, Thackeray, and others—immediately after the close of the Miscellaneous Course.

Arrangements have also been made with

Prof. G. GAJANI, LL. D., author of the "Roman Exile," to repeat before the Institute a Course of Lectures on the Italian Reformers, which he is now delivering at the Lowell Institute, in Boston.

A short Course of popular Scientific Lectures may also be provided during the winter, of which due notice will be given.

O. F. WINCHESTER, } Pub. Lectures Com.
M. T. BROWN, }
LYMAN BAIRD, }

Members' Lectures.

In addition to the Public Courses, there will be a series of Lectures, free to members of the Institute, given once a week during the winter, generally on Monday evenings, in the New Hall of the Institute, in Orange st.

Rev. Dr. Bacon, Rev. Mr. Littlejohn, Hon. Henry Barnard, of Hartford, Prof. Noah Porter, of Yale College, Wm. H. Russell, Esq., Henry E. Peck, Esq., Dr. Lucius A. Thomas, Mr. P. W. Calkins, will be among the lecturers.

It is proposed to have this Course commence on Monday evening, Nov. 24th.

DANIEL G. GILMAN,
Chairman of Members' Lec. Committee.

n10

INSTITUTE LECTURES!

MISCELLANEOUS COURSE!

AT BREWSTER'S HALL!

The following named gentlemen are engaged to speak:—

Nov. 21st.—W. EMERSON.

Nov. 27th.—WM. GILMORE SIMMS, of South Carolina. Subject—The Carolina Partisan, Gen. Marion.

Dec. 4th.—HENRY WARD BEECHER, D. D.

Dec. 11th.—W. STARK, Esq., of Manchester, N. H. Pease—Old Times and New.

Dec. 18th.—EDWIN P. WHIPPLE, of Boston. Subject—Courage.

Dec. 25th.—Prof. J. D. Dana, LL. D., of Yale College. Subject—Coral Islands. (To be illustrated by drawings and specimens.)

Dec. 29th.—Rev. F. Vinton, D. D., of New York. Subject—The Gentleman.

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Journal and Courier.

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115 Chapel-street, New Haven, Conn.

THURSDAY MORNING, NOV. 20.

Institute Lecture.

On Friday evening, the second Institute Lecture will be delivered at Brewster's Hall, by Ralph Waldo Emerson. His subject is the "Conduct of Life." Of course a man of the talents and reputation of Mr. Emerson will have a crowded house.

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McDaniel College Hoover Library

Bibliography available on my website, jordansly.com or by request, jsly@umd.edu

