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In February 1864 the officers and committee of the preceding year are re-elected, the officers' duties and the rules of the Association are re-stated. There are now four more rules. One is that members under twenty "be not catechised". Older members apparently felt that it was unfair to shoot questions, presumably after their lectures, at lads still in their teens. Others are : that an officer refusing to lecture must pay a fine of sixpence and one not replying to the call of order from the President a fine of threepence. Later a rule that no personal remarks be made during the meetings suggests that feelings sometimes ran high.

We do not know where the Association met in the first year of its existence. However, a resolution passed in 1864 decrees that it is thenceforth to meet at the "Cheltenham Temperance Hall and Mechanics' Institute". And it soon becomes clear that the Association is being absorbed by the Institute. Members of the latter are to be permitted to join the Association for a fee of sixpence as against a shilling for ordinary members, the Association's ~~l~~ibrary ~~b~~ooks are to be sold and the money divided among the members; the numbers drop to nineteen, then sixteen, and after two years the records come to an end.

And why preserve them? Because they show so clearly how much easier it is today to scan the "ample page" of knowledge, and because in them, however crudely expressed, is something universal - happiness in learning for its own sake.

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