

**REPORT OF THE BOSTON  
YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN  
UNION, FOR THE YEAR  
ENDING APRIL 11, 1888; PP.1-81**

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**VARIOUS**

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YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN  
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ENDING APRIL 11, 1888; PP.1-81**



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# REPORT

OF THE

## Boston Young Men's Christian Union



*Instituted 1851. Incorporated 1852.*

FOR THE YEAR ENDING APRIL 11, 1888.

BOSTON:  
No. 18 BOYLSTON STREET.  
1888.

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## BOARD OF GOVERNMENT FOR 1888-89.

ELECTED APRIL 11, 1888.

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### PRESIDENT.

WILLIAM H. BALDWIN, 18 Boylston Street.

### VICE-PRESIDENT.

HENRY H. SPRAGUE, 19 Milk Street.

### SECRETARY.

WILLIAM B. CLARKE, 340 Washington Street.

### TREASURER.

WILLIAM L. RICHARDSON, 225 Commonwealth Avenue.

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CALVIN G. HARTSHORN, 30 Kilby Street.

GEORGE PEIRCE, 70 Water Street.

WALTER H. DUGAN, 92 Commercial Street.

EDWARD A. CHURCH, 616 Washington Street.

JOHN H. EDWARDS, 47 Tremont Street.

FRANK L. LOCKE, City Hall.

# Committees of the Board of Government

FOR 1888-1889.

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## Finance.

WILLIAM H. BALDWIN, CHAIRMAN.  
WILLIAM L. RICHARDSON. HENRY H. SPRAGUE.

## Lectures, Classes, and Entertainments.

CALVIN G. HARTSHORN, CHAIRMAN.  
GEORGE PEIRCE. EDWARD A. CHURCH.

## Library.

WILLIAM L. RICHARDSON, CHAIRMAN.  
WILLIAM B. CLARKE. HENRY H. SPRAGUE.

## Rooms.

HENRY H. SPRAGUE, CHAIRMAN.  
GEORGE PEIRCE. JOHN H. EDWARDS.

## Members.

GEORGE PEIRCE, CHAIRMAN.  
WILLIAM B. CLARKE. WALTER H. DUGAN.

## Benevolent Action.

EDWARD A. CHURCH, CHAIRMAN.  
JOHN H. EDWARDS. FRANK L. LOCKE.

## Public Worship and Religious Study.

WILLIAM H. BALDWIN, CHAIRMAN.  
CALVIN G. HARTSHORN. FRANK L. LOCKE.

## Physical Culture.

WILLIAM B. CLARKE, CHAIRMAN.  
WALTER H. DUGAN. EDWARD A. CHURCH.



## BOSTON YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN UNION.

18 BOYLSTON STREET.

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THE society was instituted in 1851, and incorporated under its present name in 1852. After a successful existence of twelve years, its work was temporarily discontinued in consequence of the interruption caused by the Civil War. The work was resumed again in 1868 under its present auspices, and rooms were provided at No. 12 West Street. These soon proving too small for the purposes of the society, larger ones were taken in the fall of 1868 at what was then No. 300 Washington Street, corner of Suffolk Place, where the whole building above the first floor was eventually occupied. These premises also proving inadequate, it became necessary again to move and enlarge the accommodation. A suitable lot of land having been found, a public appeal was made in the spring of 1874 for funds with which to purchase the land and erect a building for the society. By the generosity of its friends, the necessary amount with which to begin the work was speedily secured; and the present building was completed, and dedicated to the use of the Union March 15, 1876. By the generous legacy of the late Joseph B. Eaton, a Life Member, supplemented by a free-will offering of many friends, the society was enabled in 1879 (December 10)

to hold its building free from all indebtedness. The enlarged facilities not only increased the power of the Union in various fields of benevolent work at home and abroad, but the greatly augmented membership tested the building to its utmost capacity. In 1882, on account of the constantly increasing membership of the Union and the growing and pressing need of still larger accommodations, the society found that the building was still not spacious enough, and an enlargement was deemed necessary. An appeal was made to its numerous friends, who promptly responded; and the addition to the building was made, and dedicated May 28, 1883.

The extension has a frontage of seventy-two feet on Boylston Square, so that now the Union Building has light from all four sides, and covers over eleven thousand feet.

The chief aim of the officers of the society is to make the Rooms, to as great an extent as possible, a home for young men; to offer every possible attraction in the shape of books, papers, games, pleasant companions, classes, public religious services, lectures, dramatic and musical entertainments, and other means of instruction and recreation.

Without ever losing sight of its special work, the Union has always been ready to discharge its duty to the community by such general benevolent work as may come within its scope.

In this branch of outside work, the officers have been greatly assisted by members and committees of ladies who have labored indefatigably and successfully. Among these special objects may be mentioned the Christmas and New Year's Festival for needy children, the Rides for Invalids, and Country Week for poor children.

In addition to these are the occasions when, at times of disaster abroad, the Rooms have been made a depot for the receipt of contributions and a source for the distribution of relief.

#### LOCATION.

The building is situated on Boylston Street, corner of Tamworth Street, near Tremont Street, overlooking the Common, and has also a frontage on Boylston Square with an entrance opposite Washington Street.

It is open to air and light on every side, and nearly all the various lines of horse-cars pass the door.

#### ROOMS.

THE RECEPTION ROOM is at the head of the first flight of stairs from Boylston Street, with side windows opening upon Tamworth Street, formerly called Lowell Place. The members and all other persons visiting the Union enter here, and from this room pass to the other portions of the building occupied by the society. It contains the desks of the Curator and Librarian, and facilities for checking the garments of members. It is also supplied with tables for checkers and dominos, an aquarium, a case containing a nearly complete collection of the birds of New England, and the leading Boston daily newspapers on file. The business of the society is here transacted, strangers and others desiring information are received, and such attentions are afforded as are in the power of the Union to furnish. This room is open every day, including Sundays, from 8 o'clock A.M. to 10 o'clock P.M.

THE UNION SITTING ROOM, connected with this room, is in front on Boylston Street, and commands