

prietor, would be richer than that American or Englishman who should succeed, as Charles Dickens succeeded, in grasping the prize of universal popularity. When once an international copyright and an equitable plan of publishing have been achieved, wealth beyond the dreams of the biggest brewer's vats will be his." Whereupon the New York *Tribune* asks, "Why shouldn't the profits of a man of genius who helps to mould the thoughts of many generations be as great as the profits of a manufacturer of a patent churn?" Well, so long as the Almighty Dollar rules the world as it does to-day, authors will want every dollar they can get; but the day is coming when the Christian world will not only believe but act upon the precepts of the New Testament, and then neither authors nor any one else will want "wealth beyond the dreams of the biggest brewers' vat." In the meantime we would remind the *Tribune* that the manufacturer of a patent churn, if he were a citizen of the United States, would have to actually manufacture the churn in Canada in order to hold a patent; and that Canadians are determined to apply the same reasonable law to the authors of books.

THE FREE LIBRARIES ACT.

This Act is to be found only in the bound volume of the Revised Statutes, and there are thousands of voters who are opposed to it, simply because they have never had an opportunity of reading it for themselves. We have therefore obtained the permission of the Minister to place the salient points of the Act before our readers, and we trust that its reproduction in these pages will be the means of "spreading the light," by enabling each reader to study the Act personally.

HAMILTON'S LIBRARY BUILDING.

Hamilton is living up to its title of the "Ambitious City." It is universally known as a great manufacturing and trade centre, while its beautiful residential avenues are the

envy of less favored cities. On Wednesday, 23rd October, another forward step was taken when the corner-stone of a fine new public library building was laid with imposing ceremony in the presence of a large concourse of citizens and visitors from neighboring cities and towns. The following inscription was engraved on the handsome trowel which was used on the occasion:

Presented
by
F. W. FEARMAN, ESQ.,
Chairman of the Building Committee, on Behalf of
the Public Library Board of the
City of Hamilton,
to
HIS HONOR JUDGE MUIR,
Chairman of the Board, on the occasion of the
Laying of the Corner Stone of the
Hamilton Public Library, on 23d October, 1889.

We present a view of the new building as it is designed to appear when completed. It will be 70 x 125 feet, and has been designed specially for library purposes. The entire ground floor will be fitted up for the reading-rooms and library, and the directors of the Hamilton Art School are endeavoring to make arrangements for the use of the second floor. The land cost \$6,000, while the building will cost some \$30,000. When completed it will be an ornament to the city and a fit repository for the treasures to be stored therein. It will be ready for occupancy in April or May next, and when opened we shall be pleased to give a fuller description of it. Following are the names of the first Board of Management and officers:

Judge Muir (Chairman), F. W. Fearman, J. E. O'Reilly, Rev. Samuel Lyle, B.D., Adam Rutherford, Frederick Walter, George Lynch-Staunton, Charles Leyden and Mayor Doran; Richard T. Lancefield, Librarian and Secretary; Alex. Stuart, Treasurer.

The following comprise the cities and towns in the Province of Ontario having free public libraries: Berlin, Brantford, Guelph, Simcoe, St. Catharines, St. Thomas, Toronto, Waterloo. Hamilton has been added to the list in this year of grace, 1889, by a majority of 1,667 out of 5,727 votes cast. London should be the next to fall into line.