

other items of expense in the Board's estimate are practically fixed charges.

It is with deep regret that I recall the death of our late esteemed Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. John Davy. A severe illness, which seized him almost immediately after our last annual meeting, carried him off in August last. The devoted attention which he displayed in performing his duties in connection with the former Mechanics' Institute, marked him out as one whose services would be essential to the Public Library, when the properties of the Mechanics' Institute were transferred to it in 1882. During all the years of his service he never ceased to advance the interests of the Library.

In previous years the members of the Board found much inconvenience in attending meetings in the afternoon, and formally resolved to alter the hour for the Board and Committee Meeting from 4.15 to 8.00 p.m., and the increased attendance, together with the greater opportunities of becoming cognizant of the affairs of the Board, have shown the wisdom of the change.

In October last, the Senate of Knox College showed their good-will to the Library by donating a copy of the first Volume of the Banner, published in 1843-4, by the late Honorable George Brown, as the predecessor of the "Globe." It thus serves to carry our file back another year and to make that of the "Globe" nearly complete.

The Board has been fortunate in securing the services of Mr. C. Egerton Ryerson as Secretary-Treasurer, in succession to the late Mr. Davy. It seems appropriate that the son of the founder of Public Libraries in Upper Canada should bear an important part in carrying on the work of the largest in the Province.

The accounts of the Library have been audited by the proper