

system has so advanced as to be of great service, and this important branch of library work is receiving the fullest attention and consideration.

Although no large donations of books have been made during the past year, the Board acknowledges with pleasure the judicious selection of works presented by individuals—upon whose intelligent knowledge of the Library and its needs, the Board must always rely for help in this particular. The reading room having become uncomfortably overcrowded, has been extended by the removal of the partition wall which separated it from the picture gallery; an arrangement that adds considerably to the available space, and improves both the lighting and ventilation. To these efforts may probably be attributed the large increase of readers mentioned in the report, and the Board looks hopefully forward to a steady gain on the part of the Library in public interest and favor, and a corresponding extension of its usefulness. It must be acknowledged that the difficulty of establishing a free municipal Library in this City has been almost insuperable; but the Board feel that the Fraser Institute has at least provided comfortable rooms and a thoroughly well equipped Library in certain subjects, for those who desire to avail themselves of this privilege.

From the different donations of recent years, there remains a small fund specially designated towards the purchase and rebinding of books; this, the Board will administer with all the care and judgment they can command; the revenues of the Institute will, however, be very much restricted until its landed property can be advantageously disposed of, and it is with confidence that the Board appeals to the public for its support, not only in donations of money and of books, but also for a further increase in attendance and use of the Library during the coming year.

R. B. ANGUS,
President.

MONTREAL, 30th June, 1894.