

view the Board of Management only asked for a capital sum of \$50,000, intending to expend about \$25,000 for a building and the necessary appointments and the remaining \$25,000 for the purchase of books.

Some difficulties were encountered, as might have been expected, in the selection of a site, but these were in time happily overcome, and a location secured which at once met with the sanction and warm approval of all. In settling upon the class of building to be erected, it very soon became apparent that public opinion, which we were of course constrained to follow, demanded a structure of a kind quite beyond the funds then at our disposal, and in consequence, and in view of the fact that we could not by law obtain any further sum, on capital account, we concluded to make the expenditure for such a building a first claim upon the whole sum of \$50,000, trusting to the City authorities for an additional amount. Having resolved upon such a course an application was made to the City Council for a grant of \$10,000, but that body, owing chiefly to the fact that there were in several departments large over drafts in excess of the appropriations for the year found themselves unable to accede to our request, but recommended that an application should be made at a later date. There is every prospect that in the near future a liberal grant for the purposes indicated will be made. In default of such assistance, it is manifest the Board of Management will be driven to call for very nearly the maximum statutory allowance for two or three years to come, in order that the necessary and proper additions to the library may be made as they shall be required. In other words, had the original sum asked for and placed at our disposal been \$60,000, instead of \$50,000, the necessary yearly expenditure might have, I think, been kept very nearly within the limits of a quarter mill or, at any rate, within the limit of $\frac{3}{8}$ of a mill. In any case, I think we have acted wisely in making our first object to procure a building suitable and adequate for years to come. It will be one of the finest, if not the finest Library edifices in the Dominion of Canada. Even now, in its incomplete state it commands the admiration and praise of all observers. A thing of beauty, it will when finished, have no peer in the city. Mr. Stewart, the Architect deserves, is entitled to, and no doubt will receive unbounded thanks for his very clever effort.

No feature of the Library presents so much to be thankful for as does the choice of a Librarian. Although