

works are lost to the Association through the gross negligence of some of its Members.

During the year the number of constant readers has been 320, and the number of volumes issued 3,095, besides upwards of 300 periodicals. On comparing these statements with those of last year, there will appear an increase of 20 to the number of readers ; and of volumes taken out, nearly a thousand. This decided proof of a growing thirst for knowledge among the Members generally, must be hailed with delight by all who are anxious to see the sphere of the Association's beneficial influence extended.

The very imperfect arrangements that existed for the receipt and delivery of books, rendered some change absolutely necessary, and accordingly a part of the Reading-Room has been enclosed by a partition, within which most of the books are kept, thus placing them entirely under the control of the Librarian, and preventing any displacement of them without his knowledge.

Your Board find it their painful duty to notice the injury which some of the books have received through carelessness or abuse. They hope the present mention of this evil will ensure more care on the part of readers, and obviate the necessity of their alluding to it in future.

Reading-Room.

Soon after the last Report the number of Newspapers and Magazines was materially augmented by the union of the "*Religious and Commercial Reading Room*" with our own. According to the terms of