

requiring as they do, careful reading and study, are not rushed back at the earliest opportunity, (as is done with so many novels) but are kept generally the full two weeks, frequently renewed for other two weeks, and even then a special request is often made for a further renewal.

### PRACTICAL RESULTS.

As a proof that the Library is of value to the community, from a practical as well as a theoretical point of view, I am able to offer the following instance, which has come under my notice: Mr. J. H. Anderson, a practical geologist and essayist, has been at work for the past two years experimenting with minerals and metals. He has been a frequent visitor to the Library, consulting and studying every book on the shelves that would be likely to assist him in his researches. The outcome of his studies has taken very practical shape in the enlistment of Hamilton capital and the formation of companies for the manufacture of Mineral Paint and Mineral Wool, from minerals found in the city or vicinity. Many other instances of practical results following the study of the books in the Arts Department of the Library could be cited, if space permitted.

### BINDING.

One thousand and sixteen volumes were received from the binders last year. Of this number 820 were books re-bound or re-sewn, and 196 were new books bound. The cost for the whole was \$471.02, an average of 46 cents a volume.

### THE LIBRARY AND THE SCHOOLS.

It is but repeating what has passed into a proverb to say that the boys and girls of to day will be the men and women of to-morrow; and while it is gratifying to find the Library frequented by the older people, it is especially gratifying to see the young people in the building, where the surroundings are so well calculated to strengthen the character and improve the mind. It is a pleasure, therefore, to record the fact that no class uses the Library in all departments—reading rooms as well as books—more than the teachers and students of the various schools, embracing the Collegiate Institute, the Business Colleges and the Art School. It has been said that the Library is but the