

Dundee, . . . . .	Unanimous, . . . . .	122,000
Exeter, . . . . .	No poll demanded, . . . . .	34,000
Hawick, . . . . .	Unanimous, . . . . .	15,000
Leeds, . . . . .	Adopted at public meeting, . . . . .	311,000
Manchester, . . . . .	Only 40 against, . . . . .	400,000
Middleboro, . . . . .	Only one against, . . . . .	47,000
Newcastle, . . . . .	Adopted at public meeting, . . . . .	129,000
Northampton, . . . . .	Adopted at public meeting, . . . . .	50,000
Nottingham, . . . . .	Only one against, . . . . .	170,000
Plymouth, . . . . .	No poll demanded, . . . . .	75,000
Preston, . . . . .	No poll demanded, . . . . .	88,000
Roachdale, . . . . .	Adopted at public meeting, . . . . .	75,000
Southport, . . . . .	Adopted at public meeting, . . . . .	35,000
South Shields, . . . . .	Adopted at public meeting, . . . . .	65,000
Swansea, . . . . .	Decided by a show of hands, . . . . .	70,000
Tynemouth, . . . . .	Unanimous, . . . . .	43,000
Walsail, . . . . .	Adopted at public meeting, . . . . .	50,000
Westminster, (Parish,) . . . . .	Only three against, . . . . .	68,000
Wigan, . . . . .	Adopted at public meeting, . . . . .	45,000
Wolverhampton, . . . . .	Only 6 against, . . . . .	70,000
Worcester, . . . . .	Unanimous, . . . . .	40,000

The foregoing fairly indicates the tide of popular feeling wherever it has been tested in England and Scotland. Free libraries are certainly not so numerous in Great Britain as in the United States. Class distinction is much more clearly marked in the Old World than on this side the Atlantic, and that same wave of democracy that has done so much to merge classes and creeds among our neighbours will no doubt in time reach the Dominion without necessarily weakening the loyalty of the people.

What possible arguments against the establishment of

#### A FREE LIBRARY IN TORONTO

there may be I cannot say. No Canadian who has been beyond the limits of his own country can oppose it without insult to his own intelligence. Every year hundreds of youths graduate at the Public Schools and go out upon the world, drifting about like a rudderless ship upon a treacherous sea—without any link between giddy youth and sober manhood. That missing link is the public library. It is the caliban of the nineteenth century, and the only practical adult school with which the State can supply us. In this respect

#### FRANCE IS A SHINING EXAMPLE.

Her Provincial libraries have been her salvation, and the wonderful progress made by the lower classes in the Third Republic can be ascribed to no other cause. A free library in every town, with sub-depositories at convenient intervals, would elevate the standard of popular education more rapidly and surely than any other method. It would be for the interests of the State if, as in France, inducements should be offered for the formation, growth and maintenance of public libraries.

So much for their advantages. Now as to

#### THE EXPENSE OF THIS EDUCATOR.

Last year the sum of £165,000 was voted for a new library building in Sydney, New South Wales, and £6,400 for maintenance for the year. The income of the Boston establishment for 1878 was \$124,200, of which \$14,400 was spent in books. Our country is too young, and the struggle for bread and butter too general, for the princely bequests that grace the records of other lands. To estab-