

volumes of choice and recent productions were placed upon the shelves of the Library. Mr. DeVeber's donation of one hundred dollars was expended in the purchase of 27 monthly magazines, for one year, which are allowed to circulate as other books. At the end of the year they can be bound, and thus made to form a valuable acquisition to the Library. These periodicals, which embrace the leading and most valuable of England and America, are eagerly sought after, and their continuance beyond the year has become almost indispensable. Your Directors trust that similar gifts, on the part of liberal minded citizens, will follow, evidencing a desire on their part to make this Library what a City of the size and pretensions of Saint John demands it should be. The books on charge as per catalogue are 4335. Of this number, only 3168 are placed upon the list as "good;" 519 have been lost: 456 are out of repair; 192 have been issued in past years and not returned by parties, who have been notified to do so. It is to be regretted that those who are charged with these books cannot be brought to consider it a duty either to return them or make good their loss to the Institute.

The Reading Room is regularly supplied with 26 papers from England, the United States and the Dominion of Canada, consisting of weeklies, semi-weeklies, tri-weeklies and dailies; also one Art Journal, five Reviews and four Magazines. During the year several English papers were kindly donated by R. P. Butler, Esq. Notwithstanding the Reading Room is so well supplied with reading matter and is open daily from 2 o'clock, p. m., until half-past nine, but few, comparatively speaking, avail themselves of the advantages it affords. The Curator reports that during the past year the daily average attendance has not exceeded eight persons.