

board of management for a library, and may grant it such aid as it may deem expedient. In that case the library is supposed to be conducted on a larger scale. This Act took effect in 1895, and already in over 20 of our smaller towns, Boards of Management have been appointed and Public Libraries in some cases have been started, and in other cases the old Mechanics' Institute was taken over as provided in part II. of the Act.

(3) Under part I. of the Act, a municipal corporation, with the approval of the ratepayers, may erect a library building and tax the ratepayers for the full cost of management and maintenance. In 1895 there were 12 free libraries established in this way, and the number has increased within the last year.

Libraries established as set forth in paragraphs (2) and (3) are free libraries,—that is to say, any ratepayer in the municipality is entitled to use the library without charge. Libraries established under paragraph (1) are available only to the members, who are expected to contribute a small amount annually for maintenance.

At the bottom of page xxiv. you will please find a statement showing the growth of Mechanics' Institutes (the old name for Public Libraries) and Free Libraries since 1893.