

ANNUAL REPORT 1881-82.

To the Members of the Mechanics' Institute of Saint John :

THE history of the work of the Institute for one year usually closely resembles the history of its work for any other year within a recent period. Like other similar institutions, the Institute has necessarily been affected by occasional periods of depression, but, unlike many others, it has steadily resisted and overcome depressing influences, and, without receiving any extraordinary assistance at any time, has made steady progress in accomplishing good results and in retaining popular support.

The number of tickets issued to subscribers during the past year has been twenty-three in excess of the number issued during the previous year, and there has been a proportionate increase of funds from this source.

The rental of the Hall has also been \$487 in excess of the amount realized from this source of income during the previous year.

The larger demand for the Hall has doubtless been partly caused by the improvements which have been effected, and which were completed in the month of May, A. D. 1881.

In December, 1880, Mr. G. Ernest Fairweather was selected by the Board to prepare a scheme of alterations to comprise the improvement of the entrance, the seating of auditorium, the introduction of side balconies, and the construction of a separate entrance to end gallery, and of a permanent proscenium.