Manufactures to have had in view, in the appeal made by them to the Country's mind. At the same time, as the Essay affords evidence both of the bestowal of attention on the subject, and of a commendable interest in it, it may be a question for the consideration of the Board whether it might not be advisable to mark in some way their appreciation of these qualities, and how this might best be done."

All which is respectfully submitted,

W. EDWARDS, *Secretary.* JOHN BEATTY, *Junior, President.*

TORONTO MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.

We are much gratified to witness the success attending the extraordinary efforts of the successive Managers of this Institution, for the past few years, in the erection and completion, in all its details, of the noble building which it now occupies; costing, at the lowest calculation, including the land it stands on, not less than fifty thousand dollars; and with a debt remaining upon it of only nineteen thousand.

The last heavy item of expense was that of heating by steam. The contract for this work was taken by Mr. James E. Thompson, of this city, at a cost of something over two thousand dollars, and is guaranteed to heat the entire building (80 feet by 104 feet, and three stories high) to seventy-five degrees.

The whole of the first floor is sufficiently heated in the coldest weather, by a pressure of from three to five pounds of steam, and the upper floor and music hall with from six to ten pounds. We are also informed by the officers in charge, that it is easily managed by the House-keeper of the Institute, is perfectly secure from fire, and is expected to be very economical in the consumption of fuel (anthracite coal), not using one half the quantity that would be required to heat by any of the ordinary methods.

We can speak from personal knowledge of the agreeable heat at all times pervading the building, so different from the atmosphere of rooms heated by ordinary stoves, or hot-air furnaces.

In incurring the expense of these works, the Directors exceeded their available balance by about a thousand dollars; but some few Ladies connected with the Institute, came nobly forward, and got up a Bazaar, which was held during the Christmas holidays, and realized the handsome sum of about four hundred dollars towards relieving the Directors from this difficulty.

Since the Institute took possession of the building, in July last, the membership has nearly doubled, and now numbers about eleven hundred. This is not to be wondered at, when we state that all its privileges—including an excellent Reading Room, and a Library of upwards of five thousand volumes—are secured for the small sum of two dollars a year. The number of members regularly taking books out of the Library is upwards of eight hundred.

Besides the Rooms permanently rented to the Board of Arts and Manufactures, and to Messrs. Roaf and Davis for Law offices, the Institute is deriving a large revenue from its beautiful Music and Lecture Halls, and the various other smaller rooms, for which there is a constant demand.

A Chess Class of about sixty members, and Classes for Mechanical and Free-hand Drawing and Painting, are in operation in connection with the Institute. The number of Classes we hope to see largely increased during another winter session, as we look upon this department of a Mechanics' Institute's operations as one of very great importance.

BOOKS ADDED TO THE FREE LIBRARY OF REFERENCE DURING THE PAST MOMTH.

CLASS II.

Roman and Greek antiquities, with nearly 2000 illustrations; 12mo; 1860..... *A. Rich.*

CLASS VI.

Pictorial Gallery of the Fine and useful Arts; 2 Vols., folio; London, 1847.....

CLASS VII.

Dictionary of Machines, Mechanics, Engine-Work and Engineering, with 4000 Engravings; 2 Vols., 8vo; 1861..... *Appleton & Co*
Dictionary of Roman and Greek Antiquities, with nearly 200 Engravings; 12mo; 1860..... *A. Rich.*
English Dictionary; 12mo; 1845..... *H. Reed.*
French and English Dictionary; 12mo; 1861..... *Spiers & Surenne*
German and English Dictionary; 12mo; 1861..... *G. J. Adler.*
Spanish and English Dictionary; 12 mo; 1861..... *Seoane, Newman & Barretti.*