

FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN.

To the Chairman and Members of the Board of Management:

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honor to present herewith my annual report of the working and state of the Library for the year ending December 31st, 1892.

GENERAL STATEMENT.

The number of volumes at last report was 16,515. The total accessions for the year have been 1677 volumes, comprising 1592 volumes obtained by purchase (which includes 190 volumes to replace those worn out and condemned), and 85 volumes as gifts from various sources, leaving a present net total of 18,192 volumes. The number of Borrower's Cards issued to date is 8414.

THE YEAR'S GROWTH.

In purchasing books for the Library many tastes have to be considered, from that of the teacher or student of science, who may be struggling with the complex problems of astronomy or physics, or the still more abstruse subject as suggested by such a title as "De Bary's Comparative Morphology and Biology of the Fungi Mycetozoa and Bacteria," through the hundred and one sub-divisions of literature, to the girl of sweet sixteen who delights to read one of Rosa Carey's or Annie Swan's stories of home life, or the school boy, who, too often, would neglect his prosaic everyday studies for the purpose of reveling in the stirring scenes depicted in Henty's books or a volume of the Boy's Own Paper. Constant association with the reading public, however, enables us to obtain a fair idea of the books desired or most likely to be read.

DONATIONS.

During the year 85 volumes were received as donations to the Library, a list of which is appended to this report.

It would be of great benefit to the Library and the city if some public-spirited gentleman who desires to perpetuate his