

leaving a net addition to the Library of 3,180, which now numbers 41,286 bound volumes and pamphlets. Among the additions for the year have been a limited number of books in French and German literature. About 100 parts of the great catalogue of the British Museum have been received, which already amply carries out, so far as it has gone, the anticipations of the museum authorities, and bids fair to be the only practical catalogue of general literature.

During the month of December an arrangement was entered into with the Minister of Education by which the British specifications of patents, numbering 3,036 volumes, were placed in the library, and as a special room is now being prepared for their reception, those, not only of our citizens, but inventors from all parts of Canada, who are interested in patents and inventions, will have every facility for consulting them. The collection of patents which we possess—British, American and Canadian—is now the largest and most complete in the Dominion.

The Central Library was closed from June 1st to 6th for the purpose of cleansing and stock-taking. The examination proved highly satisfactory, only 25 volumes remaining unaccounted for; a surprisingly small number considering the large issue which has taken place.

It is exceedingly gratifying to notice the steady increase in the number of applications for books from the Reference Library, which this year amounts to 11,201. The growing demand for greater facilities for consultation and study, must soon lead to the consideration of a separate room for this purpose. The Card Catalogue has been completed, and placed in the Reading Room; continual additions are being made to it as new books are received.

In October, the Northern Branch Library was examined and checked. Every book was accounted for, and the condition of those on the shelves was exceedingly creditable to the watchfulness of the Librarian in charge.

The Catalogue of the Western Branch is now in the printer's hands, and its issue will, no doubt, result in still greater interest being taken in the library, and an increasing demand for the higher class books which it contains.

During the winter of 1884 the Chief Librarian invited the employees in a number of manufactories in the city to spend the evening in the examination of the more important books in the Reference Library, especially those bearing on their special work. It is impossible