TORONTO, November 28th 1887.

JAMES BAIN, jr., called and sworn.

By the CHAIRMAN:---

Q.—What position do you hold? A.—I am librarian of the Toronto Free Library.

Q —When was that established? A.—In 1883. Q —Is it supported by voluntary contributions or in what manner? supported by city rates, by rents and by fees and fines—the fee which we charge for the printed to the printed to the printed to the second se the printed by city rates, by rents and by fees and nnes—the recommendation which are imposed for delay in not delay in returning books. Those two items amount to about \$900 a year. The amount of our many of balf a mill on the dollar, but we of our grant from the city is fixed at a maximum of half a mill on the dollar, but we have not do no have not drawn more than a quarter of a mill, which realised last year \$18,000. The total amount " total amount of our income for 1886 was \$22,821.59.

Q. All classes have access to the library and attend there and get out books? All classes have access to the library and attend there and get out books? A. All classes have access to the fibrary and access on our list. O. We have now about 20,000 readers on our list.

Q. What proportion of that number are mechanics or laborers? difficult matter to say exactly how many mechanics are represented in that number. A rough extint to say exactly how many mechanics are represented in that number. A rough estimate I made this morning of those registered as mechanics have not but in additional I made this morning of those registered as mechanics have not but in addition to those, a great many wives of mechanics, when mechanics have not time to attach to those, a great many wives of mechanics, when mechanics have not time to attend to the library, take out books, so you may safely put it down at 5,000, as the number of as the number of mechanics and mechanics' wives who regularly receive books from the library

Q-I suppose your library is well supplied with books for mechanics? A.—We

aim at getting in the library is well supplied with books for mechanics. In the have 1.500 m in the library everything of value. I noticed this morning that we have 1,500 volumes directly bearing on the manufacturing arts. In addition to this we keen all $c_{\rm end}$ we keep all the workingmen's newspapers and those specially applied to manufactures and in the workingmen's newspapers and those specially applied to manufactures and in the workingmen's newspapers and those specially applied to manufactures and in the workingmen's newspapers and those specially applied to manufactures and in the workingmen's newspapers and those specially applied to manufactures and in the workingmen's newspapers and the special sp tures and inventions. In quoting this number of books I have merely reference to our circulation to the provide the providet t our circulating library, to books loaned for home reading. We have in addition to that number of books exclusively works of reference, that number a library, to books loaned for home reading. We have a set of reference, books of reference a library of sixteen thousand books exclusively works of reference. In that books of reference of all kinds which are only used in the reading room. In that department we aim to keep all the works we can pick up on the manufacturing arts. We have also be aim to keep all the works we can pick up on the manufacturing arts. We have also in addition a patent library, a library consisting of specifications of patents takes in addition. These patents taken out in Great Britain and Canada during the last two centuries. These are open for reference to mechanics at all times. 0 - correction control of the times of times of the times

Q.—Can you tell the Commission anything about industrial schools? A.—I have No information except that obtained from my general reading on the subject. I have said however all along that some link was wanting between working men and what h_{e} while h_{e} all along that some link was wanting between working men and what should be the working men's university, the public library, and it has been a problem for me for the working men's university, the public library is that connection. I commenced two for me for the workingmen's university, the public library, and it has been a pro-years ago in D last three years how to make that connection. I commenced two years ago in December calling upon the heads of large factories, those engaging a inge number calling upon the heads of large factories, those engaging a large number of hands, to obtain permission to invite the men down to the library in the evenings; and I had during two winters from twenty to fifty mechanics $p_{resent durings}$; and I had during two winters from twenty to may more of o_{ne} special the evening. I made it a rule as far as possible to get the mechanics to r_{t} and r_{t of one special class, the mechanics engaged in one special manufacture together, and it is provided as the mechanics engaged in one special manufacture together, and I provided class, the mechanics engaged in one special manufacture together, in lighted and total as I could, comfortable accommodation for them, had the room nicely lighted and laid before them all the books we could gather together on the subject of their own and the rown and the books we could not otherwise see. I also tried their own special work, many books which they could not otherwise see. I also tried to induce the and work, many books which they could not otherwise see. I also tried have the set of the to induce the men to take the numbers and names of those books so as to be able to accer to them to take the numbers and names of those books so as to be able to them. refer to the men to take the numbers and names of those books so as to be an easily a statisfactory to continuously. So far as the attendance is concerned it was always are a statisfactory to continuously. eatisfactory to me. I found the men when they did come gladly availed themselves the opnorthem. I found the men when they did warm in their thanks for what of the opportunity and were always very hearty and warm in their thanks for what they considence were always very hearty and warm in their thanks for what they considered my kindness in the matter. I approached one or two of the unions to the purpose my kindness in the matter. for the purpose of endeavoring to induce them to take up the work, to try to work and the Public of endeavoring to induce them to sav I failed with them, as only one with the Purpose of endeavoring to induce them to take up the work, to cry accepted my nucleon the Public Library; but I am sorry to say I failed with them, as only one matter the Painters' Union. They considered the accepted my proposition, and that was the Painters' Union. They considered the Library in matter and provided a certain number of men from the shops to go to the Library in