

REPORT.

The term of your Committee's trust having now expired, they take this opportunity of making a brief Report, of the affairs of the Library during the past year, and of its present condition.

Your Committee found it advisable to convene two general meetings during the year. This Association commenced in Oct. 1831, with a few members, and very limited prospects; and a rule then passed, confined the number of shareholders to one hundred. Unexpected support was experienced, and the first general meeting was called in November 1831, for the purpose of advising that the shareholders' list should be opened. After some hesitation your Committee's advice was adopted, and a resolution passed, opening the list unlimitedly from that period to the present. The second general meeting occurred under the following circumstances. Your Committee having a strong wish to see a *Mechanics' Institute* founded on the library, and hearing many friendly opinions concerning the same object, resolved, on December 6, that seven members of the library should be requested to meet the Committee, for the purpose of affording their advice and assistance, respecting the formation of a *Mechanics' Institute*. The result of this step was, that a general meeting was called, on Dec. 27, when the frame work of a *Mechanics' Institute* was arranged, and agreed to, by a large majority of the meeting.—From these meetings beneficial consequences were experienced. By the first, your Committee were enabled to add to the number of Library Shareholders: at the second it was resolved, that to become members of the *Mechanics' Institute*, it should be necessary to become shareholders or subscribers of the library; the good effects of this soon became visible, on the lists and funds under the care of your committee.

In January 1832, a petition to the House of Assembly, for aid to the Library, was prepared by your committee, and was presented to the House by Stephen Deblois, Esq. Mr. Deblois warmly advocated the claims of the Library, and obtained a grant of £25 to its funds.—This sum remains undrawn in the Treasury.

The issue of books commenced on October 31, 1831, since which time it has continued without interruption, and has averaged above 100 vols. weekly.—Early in the year your Committee found it necessary to hire a room for the use of the Library; Shareholders volunteered their services to act as Librarians, but it was soon found desirable to provide permanently for this office. A regular Librarian therefore has been procured, to whom is paid £13 per annum.

Your Committee trust, that, on examination of their books, it will be found, they have used the utmost advisable economy, and that they have not been wanting in attention to the duties of their office.

The number of Shareholders on the list of the Library, at this termination of the first year of its existence, is 219. The number of volumes in the Library is 667; of these, 187 vols. and several pamphlets have been presented to the Library during the year.—Your Committee have also lately ordered, from the United States and England, about 150 vols. which they expect will arrive in the ensuing month. To pay for those works, will exhaust the greater part of the money now in hands, including the legislative grant.

The amount of cash received since the commencement of your