

REPORT OF THE LIBRARY COMMITTEE FOR 1885.

To the Corporation of McGill University.

GENTLEMEN :—

In submitting the following as their third annual Report on the Library, the Committee, whilst they have nothing of a specially noteworthy character to record, are yet able to report that a steady progress has been made in the use and appreciation of the Library on the part of those for whom it is maintained, as also, in its more complete equipment for service in the future.

Most of the additions made during the year have consisted of new books, of which a large number have been sent as donations from the Home and Dominion governments, from the governments of the United States and of France, from societies and institutes in Great Britain and other countries. It is gratifying to note that the list of those in this way contributing to the Library is increasing every year, whilst their contributions are of great value for the purposes of scientific reference. Mr. Peter Redpath has made important additions to his very valuable collection of books in the various departments of English Literature. He has also presented a fac-simile copy of Domesday Book, in two volumes, and bound in exact imitation of the original; and the value of the gift was enhanced by the presentation,—also a fac-simile of the original,—of an iron chest for the safe-keeping of these volumes; all of which cannot fail to be objects of great interest to the historical student and antiquarian. The Hon. Judge Mackay has also continued to add to his valuable collection donations of books in parliamentary history, etc., some of which are rare and not easily obtained. Mr. Arthur Briggs, of Rawdon, Leeds, who visited this city as a member of the British Association, has made a donation in money, which he wished to be used in the purchase of works on British and Irish Numismatics, the order for which, owing to the scarcity of some of the books, has as yet been only partially executed.