

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Chairman of the Hamilton Public Library

To the Members of the Board of Management:

GENTLEMEN,—It is with pleasure that I meet you to-day and am able to make my short report of the working of this Institution for the past year. Nothing has occurred of public importance within the last twelve months, but the Library is steadily working its way into favor with all classes of the community, and many of those citizens who opposed it at first now appreciate its value and partake of its advantages. Time has demonstrated that the decision to select a site and to erect thereon a building specially designed for library purposes was a wise one. The interior working of the book, reading and reference rooms, under the efficient care and direction of Mr. Lancefield and his staff, has been satisfactory. There has not been the complaint here of loafing that is prevalent in some other places, and with a little more care in regard to loud conversation in the reading rooms, our Library would be all that can be desired. The expenses have been kept as low as possible, consistent with the importance of the work. The Secretary will report to you all the details, and as Librarian, with statements of the books, papers and circulating departments; all of which I am sure will be satisfactory to you and the citizens generally.

There is (although we have 16,000 volumes in use) plenty of room for many more, and at any time that any one may feel disposed to contribute to increase the number, they will be thankfully received and will be well taken care of.

I have to thank you for your kind appointment to the chair in my absence; also for your very efficient assistance during the past year.

F. W. FEARMAN,

Chairman.

HAMILTON, Jan. 30th, 1892.