

FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT.

Continued and increasing interest in the Library is manifested by the increased circulation for the year. The large number of 275,066 volumes having been issued in 1887, and the greater number of visitors to the reading rooms of the central and branch libraries evincing the popularity of these valuable adjuncts.

Important changes were made during the year in the central library building, apartments for the caretaker having been built over the Adelaide St. front, and the reading room very considerably enlarged. The whole of the ground floor of the building is now used for the Library, thereby adding much to its utility and convenience.

The rooms in the basement formerly occupied by the caretaker have been fitted up for the storage of newspapers and duplicate periodicals and ready access to the rapid accumulation of these papers made easy. The roof of the main building having been found to be leaky and defective, was completely renewed. Siemens-Lungren gas lamps were placed in the hall and reading room, improving the light and the ventilation also of the latter.

A second supplementary catalogue for the circulating library was issued, and that very important work, the preparation of a catalogue for the Reference department commenced during the year. It is now almost ready for the printer. The advantage of such a catalogue to the patrons of the Library can scarcely be over-estimated, and must result in a greater appreciation of this, the best and most useful section of a Public Library.

4,142 volumes were added during the year, and the Library is indebted to the generosity of several persons and institutions for many valuable books and pamphlets. The donation by the Right Hon. Dowager Baroness Vernon of "Dante's Inferno," with notes and illustrations by