

REPORT OF THE LIBRARY COMMITTEE FOR  
THE YEAR 1888.

*To the Corporation of McGill University.*

GENTLEMEN :—

In presenting this Sixth Annual Report, the Committee have much satisfaction in reporting continued improvement in the condition of the Library, and an unprecedented increase both in the number of those using it and in the number of books used.

There has been an addition of 998 vols., among which are to be found books of great value and scarcity ; so that for the practical use of students and graduates, and literary men generally, the library is in a better state of equipment than ever before. The total number of vols. is now 27,802, which does not include many pamphlets and unbound periodicals. It is pleasing to note that the material condition of the books is good, and that no losses have occurred ; nor has it been necessary to impose any fines ;—facts which testify to the care and honour of readers and borrowers.

In the month of December, 1887, Mr. Taylor, owing to serious illness, was compelled to relinquish attendance on his duties as Library Assistant, and your Committee were authorised by the Board of Governors to make such temporary arrangements as they could to fill his place. Mr. Henry Mott was engaged for this service ; and on the death of Mr. Taylor in March last, his temporary appointment was continued, and has since been extended to the end of the current session. Mr. Mott's polite attention to readers and visitors, as also his punctuality and care and diligence in the discharge of his duties, deserve favourable mention in this report.

The Committee have again given careful attention to the matter of reducing, as far as practicable, the number of unbound vols., and especially periodicals, which are in great demand for reference, and therefore need binding. The Board of Governors, in answer to an application therefor, increased their annual grant by \$50, making a grant of \$200, all of which has been expended to the best of their judgment and with economy, by your Committee ; but there still remain some 500 vols. that need binding.