

FIFTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MERCANTILE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
OF MONTREAL.

GENTLEMEN,—

The termination of another year of the existence of the Association lays upon the Board of Directors the duty of presenting to you the Fifteenth Annual Report.

In the last Annual Report, laid before you by our predecessors in office, the first matter mooted had reference to the purchase of a suitable site for the erection of a convenient building for the use of the Association.

Your Board, while admitting the many advantages which would accrue to the Association, could this be accomplished, have not felt themselves justified in taking any action in the matter.

The next matter mentioned by our predecessors was the important step taken by them of leasing for three years our present commodious rooms; and further, that in thus carrying out the wishes of the Association they had incurred a heavy responsibility.

Your Board cannot avoid responding to this statement, for it must be plain to you all that the increased advantages thus secured cannot be sustained without a corresponding degree of support from the members, and particularly that class for whose benefit the Institution was originally established.

In a city like our own, where there are so many young men engaged in the various branches of commerce, we are naturally led to suppose that it would be their ambition to support an Institution which it is their province to have the whole management of, for whose success and usefulness they are responsible, and in which they will have an opportunity of increasing their knowledge of commerce, and becoming immediately acquainted with passing events, which are at