

to the shelves, so that they may readily see what books are in on the special subject in which they are interested.

HUMORS OF THE LIBRARY.

An occasional humorous incident serves to relieve the uniform seriousness of Library routine. One reader handed in a slip calling for a book which was shown by the Indicator to be out. On being told the book was out, she rather astonished the Assistant by affirming "Well, it's in by the Delineator!" But this is hardly as good as a case of the same kind a few days later, when a young lad was positive the book was shown to be in by the Incubator. Another seeker after knowledge decidedly puzzled the Assistant by asking for *End-of-my-own* by Israel, until after inquiry it was found that the party wanted Disraeli's *Endymion*. An inquiry for Dent's *Inferior*, developed the fact that Dante's *Inferno* was the book wanted. A lady who had inquired for something nice to read, was asked "In what class, Fiction?" "Oh, no—just a good novel," was the reply.

THE READING ROOMS.

To those who have seen the number of people constantly frequenting the Reading Rooms, it is hardly necessary to say that this is one of the most important of the three great departments of the Library. The General Reading Room, which is open to readers of both sexes, now has 156 papers and periodicals on file. These may be roughly classified as follows:—Daily papers, 17; Country Weeklies, 11; Illustrated Weeklies, 12; Philosophical and Religious, 13; Sociological, 11; Scientific, 7; Useful Arts, 27; Fine Arts, 14; Literary, 40; Historical, 2; French, 2; German, 1. An alphabetical list, showing the location of each paper and periodical, is posted in the Library. With a few exceptions, the whole list may be found on stands and tables open to all readers without any formality, so that no record of the number of readers is available.

The Ladies' Reading Room continues to be largely used, and is evidently fully appreciated. Additional seating accommodation has recently been provided to prevent overcrowding.

While no attempt has been made to keep a record of the number of people entering the Library during the year, it may