

REPORT.

On this the twenty-sixth anniversary of the Association, we recall with gratitude the continued blessing of the Giver of all Good upon our efforts for the young men of our city during the last quarter of a century.

Our work has not varied much from previous years. No new plans have been attempted, but the Committees have been noticeably more earnest and attentive to their duties; and although we have not materially advanced, we certainly have not retrograded.

Our devotional meetings have been heartily sustained. The *Young Men's Prayer Meeting* is a blessing to the Institution. The *Bible Class* has been conducted with a varying, but upon the whole satisfactory attendance, and, without doubt, has proved a source of help and instruction to many. The *Sabbath Afternoon Meeting* has been continuously sustained throughout the year; and many a good seed sown, whose fruit may not be known in this world.

The distribution of tracts and other religious literature has been prosecuted with the usual vigor. Over 31,000 tracts and papers could not have been given away, and so readily received, without being a benefit to many.

The *Literary and Social* element also was not neglected, and the gratifying result of the labors expended in this direction has been not only much enjoyment to the members and friends who attended the entertainments, but the realization of a handsome sum, which went to decorate and improve the rooms.

The *Rooms and Library Committees* deserve great praise for their efforts to make the building comfortable and attractive, besides providing as liberally as they could for the patrons of the Reading Room and Library.

The *Reception Committee* has done good work in welcoming the strangers to the Rooms.

The *Membership* has somewhat decreased during the year. This is to be accounted for by a number having left the city, and the withdrawal of others who have lost interest in the Association.

The *Finance Committee* have a better and more encouraging report than ever before. They regret, however, their inability to grapple with the floating debt. Cannot something be done to annihilate this very disagreeable encumbrance?

Our work throughout the Provinces is not as satisfactory as it might be. The thirteenth annual Convention held in St. John in August last was