



FOURTH  
ANNUAL REPORT .  
OF THE  
TORONTO  
PUBLIC LIBRARY.

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1887.

Toronto :  
HILL & WEIR, PRINTERS.  
1888.

## BOARD OF MANAGEMENT.

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1886.

GEORGE WRIGHT, M.A., M.B., *Chairman.*

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR

JOHN TAYLOR.

JAMES MASON.

JOHN A. MILLS.

JOHN HALLAM.

A. R. BOSWELL.

WILLIAM SCULLY.

EDWIN P. PEARSON.

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1887.

CAPTAIN JAMES MASON, *Chairman.*

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR.

GEORGE WRIGHT, M.A., M.B.

JOHN TAYLOR.

T. R. WHITESIDE,

JOHN HALLAM.

A. R. BOSWELL.

WILLIAM SCULLY.

EDWIN P. PEARSON.

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CHIEF LIBRARIAN.

JAMES BAIN, JR.

ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN AND SECRETARY.

JOHN DAVY.

LIBRARIAN IN CHARGE OF NORTHERN BRANCH.

MRS. PERKINS.

LIBRARIAN IN CHARGE OF WESTERN BRANCH.

MISS O'DOWD.

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## FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT.

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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

the late Lord Vernon, in 3 volumes, with the reprint of the "First four Editions of the Divine Comedy," and the donation by Mr. John Hallam of 66 additional volumes, deserve special mention, and are worthy of emulation.

Some of the books purchased were of a rare and valuable class, the management, considering that one of the chief objects of a Public Library such as that of Toronto promises to be, is to place upon its shelves books which from their exclusively technical and educational character are expensive and beyond the means of many who would be much benefitted by their use.

The only current copies of the various Magazines and Quarterlies in the Library being those placed on the tables, it was considered that better opportunities should be afforded the public for reading at their homes the interesting and instructive matter contained in these periodicals, and during the year 196 additional copies of the most valuable of them were subscribed for and are placed in circulation monthly and quarterly on their arrival.

As deep interest is and should be taken by all Canadians in the history and literature of our own country, special efforts are being made to secure for the Library, every work of any consequence bearing upon these subjects, and the gatherings for this year have been numerous and important. This policy, if continued persistently and intelligently from year to year by those in charge of the Library must insure success and result, in the Toronto Public Library, being some day in possession of a Canadian section unsurpassed by any other Library, in the country. There are many books and documents connected with the history of Canada in the possession of private persons which it is highly desirable should be in the safe custody of some Library, and it is to be hoped that the Toronto Public Library will be given an opportunity of acquiring some of them.

A system of competitive examinations for intending assistants in the Library was introduced after long and careful consideration, and has had one satisfactory trial. This system if continued must operate beneficially on the staff, for it will ensure the employment of those candidates only who are most competent and capable.

The result of the usual annual stock taking proved satisfactory, 15 volumes only being missing.

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The accounts of the Library have been duly audited and statements of the Receipts and Expenditure and of the Assets and Liabilities are appended.

One of the disadvantages under which the Library labors is the high duty charged upon books purchased outside of Canada, and it is to be hoped that the representations made to the Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald on the occasion of his recent visit to the Library will be productive of some change or concession from the Government.

A pleasing incident of the year was a visit received from a number of the members of the American Library Association on their return from the annual meeting at Round Island Park. Among them were Dr. Poole, of the Newberry Library, Chicago, President of the American Historical Association, Mr. Linderfelt, of Milwaukee, Mr. Van Name, of Yale College Library, Mr. Carr, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, and several ladies. The visitors were hospitably entertained and expressed much pleasure at the progress made in our Library.

The Board has to regret the loss of one of its most valued members Dr. George Wright, the condition of whose health required a temporary removal to a more favorable climate. Dr. Wright was a member of the Board from its organization to the time of his departure from the City and always took the warmest interest in the Library. It is gratifying to know that the change of residence has already resulted beneficially.

Much pleasure is taken in stating that the Chief Librarian, the Secretary, the Librarians in charge of the branches and the other assistants and employees of the Library performed their respective duties with efficiency and to the satisfaction of the Board of Management.

JAMES MASON,  
Chairman.

Toronto, January, 1888.

FROM JANUARY 1ST TO DECEMBER 31ST, 1887.

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FROM JANUARY 1ST TO DECEMBER 31ST, 1887.

Total..... 15,914 16,916 19,014 16,726 14,938 12,433 7,957 12,750 12,050 15,102 16,155 17,155 17,510 100.0

CLASSIFIED CIRCULATION OF BOOKS ISSUED FROM THE WESTERN BRANCH LIBRARY.

FROM JANUARY 1ST TO DECEMBER 31ST, 1887.

|   | January. | February. | March. | April. | May.  | June. | July. | August. | September. | October. | November. | December. | Total. | Per cent |
|---|----------|-----------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|---------|------------|----------|-----------|-----------|--------|----------|
| Natural Sciences and Mathematics.....     | 57       | 61        | 53     | 67     | 59    | 51    | 26    | 38      | 32         | 35       | 35        | 49        | 563    | .8       |
| Political, Social and Medical Sciences..  | 45       | 50        | 46     | 58     | 38    | 53    | 24    | 27      | 27         | 20       | 18        | 41        | 447    | .7       |
| Theology.....                             | 47       | 38        | 43     | 52     | 40    | 46    | 30    | 31      | 26         | 23       | 30        | 42        | 448    | .7       |
| Arts.....                                 | 73       | 69        | 62     | 86     | 73    | 81    | 39    | 49      | 35         | 28       | 41        | 54        | 690    | 1.0      |
| General Literature and Collected Works... | 105      | 127       | 131    | 140    | 184   | 118   | 94    | 82      | 67         | 101      | 112       | 141       | 1,402  | 2.2      |
| Geography and Travel                      | 130      | 155       | 132    | 143    | 144   | 119   | 120   | 94      | 73         | 101      | 102       | 159       | 1,472  | 2.2      |
| History.....                              | 130      | 107       | 145    | 130    | 141   | 113   | 73    | 59      | 60         | 101      | 66        | 157       | 1,282  | 2.0      |
| Biography.....                            | 87       | 96        | 117    | 103    | 116   | 92    | 72    | 48      | 51         | 78       | 63        | 127       | 1,050  | 1.7      |
| Poetry and Drama...                       | 56       | 38        | 40     | 54     | 37    | 38    | 24    | 36      | 25         | 16       | 24        | 42        | 430    | .6       |
| Periodicals.....                          | 165      | 210       | 191    | 214    | 200   | 173   | 148   | 199     | 176        | 192      | 216       | 262       | 2,346  | 3.6      |
| Fiction.....                              | 4,517    | 4,844     | 5,619  | 5,000  | 4,732 | 4,503 | 2,776 | 3,028   | 3,137      | 3,645    | 3,813     | 4,494     | 50,108 | 78.3     |
| Juveniles.....                            | 254      | 288       | 209    | 271    | 281   | 239   | 227   | 207     | 162        | 249      | 266       | 331       | 2,984  | 4.7      |
| Reference Books....                       | 32       | 48        | 49     | 66     | 58    | 41    | 46    | 46      | 35         | 118      | 60        | 70        | 669    | 1.5      |
| Magazines.....                            | .....    | .....     | .....  | .....  | ..... | ..... | ..... | .....   | .....      | 4        | 6         | 19        | 29     |          |
| Total.....                                | 5,698    | 6,131     | 6,837  | 6,384  | 6,103 | 5,667 | 3,699 | 3,944   | 3,906      | 4,711    | 4,852     | 5,988     | 63,920 | 100.00   |

# CLASSIFIED CIRCULATION OF BOOKS ISSUED FROM THE NORTHERN BRANCH LIBRARY

FROM JANUARY 1ST TO DECEMBER 31ST, 1887.

|   | January. | February. | March. | April. | May.  | June. | July. | August. | September. | October. | November. | December. | Total. | Per cent. |
|---|----------|-----------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|---------|------------|----------|-----------|-----------|--------|-----------|
| Natural Sciences and Mathematics.....     | 18       | 13        | 43     | 31     | 17    | 17    | 12    | 19      | 18         | 19       | 20        | 25        | 252    | .7        |
| Political, Social and Medical Sciences... | 14       | 7         | 16     | 19     | 4     | 6     | 5     | 4       | 4          | 10       | 16        | 10        | 115    | .3        |
| Theology.....                             | 9        | 9         | 24     | 13     | 4     | 9     | 7     | 13      | 9          | 15       | 16        | 6         | 134    | .4        |
| Arts.....                                 | 3        | 12        | 15     | 8      | 7     | 4     | 1     | 10      | 10         | 2        | 9         | 8         | 89     | .2        |
| General Literature and Collected Works... | 33       | 39        | 38     | 40     | 20    | 22    | 23    | 24      | 19         | 35       | 39        | 43        | 375    | 1.7       |
| Geography and Travel History.....         | 46       | 67        | 56     | 52     | 39    | 39    | 34    | 27      | 46         | 40       | 53        | 40        | 539    | 1.6       |
| Biography.....                            | 49       | 68        | 93     | 68     | 45    | 49    | 32    | 37      | 34         | 71       | 76        | 68        | 690    | 2.0       |
| Poetry and Drama...                       | 54       | 49        | 75     | 64     | 36    | 28    | 44    | 41      | 40         | 57       | 32        | 61        | 581    | 1.7       |
| Periodicals.....                          | 39       | 33        | 27     | 20     | 19    | 24    | 18    | 28      | 12         | 22       | 26        | 35        | 303    | .9        |
| Fiction.....                              | 160      | 177       | 172    | 138    | 111   | 131   | 118   | 102     | 138        | 148      | 148       | 179       | 1,722  | 4.9       |
| Juveniles.....                            | 2,169    | 2,245     | 2,872  | 2,718  | 2,154 | 1,918 | 1,852 | 1,914   | 1,797      | 2,031    | 2,061     | 1,972     | 25,703 | 73.8      |
| Reference Books.....                      | 322      | 316       | 393    | 382    | 260   | 259   | 292   | 311     | 265        | 292      | 321       | 309       | 3,722  | 10.8      |
| Magazines.....                            | 32       | 39        | 61     | 24     | 23    | 36    | 10    | 31      | 29         | 15       | 27        | 34        | 361    | 1.0       |
| Total.....                                | 2,948    | 3,074     | 3,885  | 3,577  | 2,739 | 2,542 | 2,448 | 2,561   | 2,421      | 2,771    | 2,859     | 2,805     | 34,630 | 100.00    |

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## TOTAL CLASSIFIED CIRCULATION OF BOOKS.

*Issued from the Central, Western, and Northern Libraries, from January 1st to December 31st, 1887.*

|  | Northern. | Western. | Central. | Total.  | Per cent. |
|--|-----------|----------|----------|---------|-----------|
| Natural Sciences and Mathematics .....       | 252       | 563      | 2,809    | 3,624   | 1.3       |
| Political, Social and Medical Sciences ..... | 115       | 447      | 3,226    | 3,788   | 1.4       |
| Theology .....                               | 134       | 448      | 2,190    | 2,772   | 1.0       |
| Arts .....                                   | 89        | 690      | 5,570    | 6,349   | 2.3       |
| General Literature and Collected Works ..... | 375       | 1,402    | 6,827    | 8,604   | 3.2       |
| Geography and Travel .....                   | 539       | 1,472    | 6,243    | 8,254   | 3.0       |
| History .....                                | 690       | 1,282    | 4,633    | 6,605   | 2.4       |
| Biography .....                              | 581       | 1,050    | 3,331    | 4,962   | 1.8       |
| Poetry and Drama .....                       | 503       | 430      | 1,452    | 2,185   | .7        |
| Periodicals .....                            | 1,722     | 2,346    | 7,285    | 11,353  | 4.2       |
| Fiction .....                                | 25,703    | 50,108   | 95,911   | 171,722 | 62.4      |
| Juveniles .....                              | 3,722     | 2,984    | 17,597   | 24,303  | 8.8       |
| French Literature .....                      |           |          | 601      | 601     | .4        |
| German Literature .....                      |           |          | 496      | 496     |           |
| Reference Books .....                        | 361       | 669      | 14,776   | 15,806  | 5.8       |
| Magazines .....                              | 44        | 29       | 3,569    | 3,642   | 1.3       |
| Total .....                                  | 34,630    | 63,920   | 176,516  | 275,066 | 100.0     |

Total number of days during which the Library has been open during the year..... 297

Total number of volumes lost or withdrawn during the year :

|                         | Northern. | Western. | Central. | Total. |
|-------------------------|-----------|----------|----------|--------|
| Lost and paid for ..... | 17        | 10       | 53       | 79     |
| Withdrawn .....         | 8         | 19       | 116      | 134    |
| Destroyed by H. D. .... | 8         | 19       | 75       | 102    |
| Missing .....           | 3         | 2        | 10       | 17     |
| Total .....             |           |          |          | 332    |

TOTAL NUMBER OF VOLUMES  
*In the Reference and Circulating Libraries.*

| CIRCULATING LIBRARIES.                 | Northern. | Western. | Central. | Total. |
|--|-----------|----------|----------|--------|
| Natural Sciences and Mathematics..     | 83        | 71       | 672      | 826    |
| Political, Social and Medical Sciences | 62        | 28       | 711      | 801    |
| Theology .....                         | 57        | 61       | 667      | 785    |
| Arts.....                              | 55        | 68       | 811      | 934    |
| General Literature & Collected Works   | 237       | 318      | 2,011    | 2,566  |
| Geography and Travel.....              | 175       | 188      | 1,373    | 1,736  |
| History.....                           | 299       | 218      | 1,066    | 1,583  |
| Biography .....                        | 315       | 281      | 1,397    | 1,993  |
| Poetry and Drama.....                  | 97        | 82       | 424      | 603    |
| Periodicals.....                       | 346       | 35       | 1,336    | 2,035  |
| Fiction.....                           | 2,420     | 2,526    | 6,146    | 11,092 |
| Juveniles.....                         | 328       | 228      | 1,122    | 1,678  |
| German Literature.....                 |           |          | 277      | 277    |
| French Literature.....                 |           |          | 346      | 346    |
| Italian Literature.....                |           |          | 2        | 2      |
| Total.....                             | 4,474     | 4,422    | 18,361   | 27,257 |

SUMMARY.

|                                  |        |
|----------------------------------|--------|
| Circulating Libraries.....       | 27,257 |
| Reference Library, Northern..... | 59     |
| "    "    Western .....          | 44     |
| "    "    Central.....           | 13,907 |
| "    "    Hallam Collection..... | 14,010 |
| "    "    Patents.....           | 1,954  |
| "    "    Pamphlets .....        | 3,208  |
| "    "    Manuscripts .....      | 1,972  |
|                                  | 2      |
|                                  | 48,103 |

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| Total number of Books in the Library December 31st, 1886..... | 44,261 |
| "    "    added during 1887 .....                             | 4,142  |
|   | 48,403 |

## BORROWERS' REGISTER DECEMBER 31ST, 1887.

## NUMBER OF TICKETS ACTUALLY IN USE DURING THE YEAR.

|                      | Males.       | Females.     | Juveniles. | Total.       |
|----------------------|--------------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| Central Library..... | 3,819        | 1,931        | 36         | 5,786        |
| Western Branch.....  | 529          | 463          | 136        | 1,128        |
| Northern Branch..... | 294          | 398          | 151        | 843          |
|                      | <u>4,642</u> | <u>2,792</u> | <u>323</u> | <u>7,757</u> |

## TRANSFERS.

## CENTRAL LIBRARY.

|                          |           |           |          |           |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| From Western Branch..... | 26        | 23        | 2        | 51        |
| " Northern Branch.....   | 26        | 18        | —        | 44        |
|                          | <u>52</u> | <u>41</u> | <u>2</u> | <u>95</u> |

## WESTERN BRANCH.

|                           |           |           |          |           |
|---------------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| From Central Library..... | 23        | 15        | 5        | 43        |
| " Northern Branch.....    | 2         | 3         | 1        | 6         |
|                           | <u>25</u> | <u>18</u> | <u>6</u> | <u>49</u> |

## NORTHERN BRANCH.

|                           |          |          |          |           |
|---------------------------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| From Central Library..... | 6        | 6        | 1        | 13        |
| " Western Branch.....     | 3        | —        | —        | 3         |
|                           | <u>9</u> | <u>6</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>16</u> |

## NUMBER OF POST CARDS SENT FOR BOOKS OVERDUE.

|                      |              |
|----------------------|--------------|
| Central Library..... | 4,068        |
| Western Branch.....  | 1,340        |
| Northern Branch..... | 885          |
| Total.....           | <u>6,293</u> |

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Number of visits paid by special messengers, to collect books not returned..... | 564 |
|---|-----|

## APPROPRIATION ACCOUNT.

*Summary of Receipts and Expenditures for the year ending 31st Dec. 1887*

## RECEIPTS.

|                                     |           |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| To Balance 31st Dec., 1886.....     | 2,500 21  |
| " Balance of Debenture Account..... | 1,374 70  |
| " Library Rate.....                 | 25,000 00 |
| " Legislative grant.....            | 200 00    |
| " Rents.....                        | 1,425 00  |
| " Books sold.....                   | 169 91    |
| " Lost books paid for.....          | 74 90     |
| " Damage to books.....              | 29 40     |
| " Borrowers' tickets.....           | 188 20    |
| " Fines.....                        | 866 71    |
| " Catalogues.....                   | 221 50    |
| " Waste paper, etc.....             | 39 50     |
| " Interest on Bank account.....     | 24 00     |

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## EXPENDITURE.

|                                   |          |          |
|-----------------------------------|----------|----------|
| By Interest on Debentures.....    | 2,800 00 |          |
| " Sinking Fund.....               | 525 00   |          |
|                                   |          | 3,325 00 |
| " Books purchased.....            | 4,142 25 |          |
| " Duty on books purchased.....    | 323 44   |          |
| " Freight on books purchased..... | 93 30    |          |
|                                   |          | 4,558 99 |
| " Newspapers and Magazines.....   |          | 1,680 78 |
| " Insurance.....                  |          | 776 00   |
| " Binding.....                    |          | 1,174 42 |
| " Salaries.....                   |          | 8,774 33 |
| " Light, Fuel and Water.....      |          | 1,714 71 |
| " Stationery.....                 |          | 142 41   |
| " Printing and Advertising.....   |          | 272 75   |
| " Postage.....                    |          | 131 17   |
| " Law charges.....                |          | 19 29    |
| " Alterations.....                |          | 5,130 56 |
| " Furniture.....                  |          | 633 39   |
| " Repairs.....                    |          | 519 37   |
| " English Patents.....            |          | 30 00    |
| " Miscellaneous.....              |          | 418 43   |

|                        |          |           |
|------------------------|----------|-----------|
| " Balance in Bank..... | 2,789 18 | 29,301 60 |
| " " on hand.....       | 23 25    |           |

2,812 43

\$32,114 03

Audited January 31, 1888

(Signed) W. R. HUGHES.  
WM. ANDERSON

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## STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

December 31st, 1887.

## ASSETS.

|   |           |                     |
|---|-----------|---------------------|
| The Site at the corner of Church and Adelaide streets, with the Library Buildings thereon, valued at..... | 40,000 00 |                     |
| Additions to same during 1887.....  | 1,200 00  |                     |
|   |           | 41,200 00           |
| Furniture and fittings, Central Library.....  | 4,048 12  |                     |
| "          "      Western Branch.....   | 194 87    |                     |
| "          "      Northern Branch.....  | 295 58    |                     |
|   |           | 4,538 57            |
| Books, December 31st, 1886.....   | 41,852 92 |                     |
| Purchased during the year.....  | 4,558 99  |                     |
| Binding—proportion of.....  | 948 79    |                     |
| Periodicals bound.....  | 545 00    |                     |
| Pamphlets.....  | 65 00     |                     |
| Donations.....  | 952 50    |                     |
|   | 48,923 20 |                     |
| Deduct Books lost (and paid for).....   | 78 75     |                     |
| "      "      sold .....  | 169 91    |                     |
| "      "      destroyed by H. D.....  | 70 45     |                     |
| "      "      missing .....   | 12 80     |                     |
| "      "      withdrawn.....  | 81 05     |                     |
| "      depreciation .....   | 960 00    |                     |
|   | 1,372 96  |                     |
| Catalogues on hand.....   |           | 47,550 24           |
| Rents accrued.....  |           | 200 00              |
| Cash in Bank.....   | 2,789 18  | 16 66               |
| "      on hand.....   | 23 25     |                     |
|   |           | 2,812 43            |
|   |           | <u>\$ 96,317 90</u> |

## LIABILITIES.

|                          |                     |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Outstanding account..... | 255 91              |
| Balance .....            | 96,061 99           |
|                          | <u>\$ 96,317 90</u> |

# LIST OF NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS.

THOSE MARKED \* ARE PRESENTED FREE.

## CENTRAL READING ROOM.

|                                       |            |                                      |            |
|---------------------------------------|------------|--------------------------------------|------------|
| Academy.                              |            | *Canadian Bee Journal.               |            |
| All the Year Round.                   |            | *Canadian Gazette.                   |            |
| *Alvinston Free Press.                |            | *Canadian Health Journal.            |            |
| American Analyst.                     |            | *Canadian Institute, Proceedings of. |            |
| American Art Journal.                 |            | *Canadian Methodist Magazine.        |            |
| American Inventor.                    |            | Canadian Military Gazette.           |            |
| American Naturalist.                  |            | Canadian Mining Review.              |            |
| *Anglo-Saxon.                         |            | *Canadian Patent Office Record.      |            |
| Animal World.                         |            | *Carleton Place Herald.              |            |
| Annals of Botany.                     | Quarterly. | Carpenter and Builder.               | London.    |
| Antiquary.                            |            | Cassell's Magazine.                  |            |
| *Appleton's Literary Bulletin.        |            | Catholic Weekly Review.              |            |
| Architect.                            | London.    | Century, (2 copies.)                 |            |
| Architect and Building News.          | N. Y.      | Chambers' Journal.                   |            |
| Army and Navy Gazette.                |            | *Charlottetown, P. E. I. Examiner.   |            |
| Art Amateur.                          |            | *Charlottetown, P. E. I. Herald.     |            |
| Art Interchange.                      |            | Chemical News.                       |            |
| Art Journal.                          |            | Chicago Tribune.                     | Daily.     |
| Athenæum.                             |            | *Church of England Temperance        |            |
| Atalanta.                             |            | Chronicle.                           |            |
| Atlantic Monthly.                     |            | Church Quarterly Review.             |            |
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