

Brantford May 4th 1897
To the Board of Management of the Free
Library

Gentlemen

In presenting the thirteenth annual report of the Free Library we have to state that the interest in the work of the Library has shown no abatement during the year

The number of books purchased during the year was only 600 vols. while last year we purchased 954 vols

The number of vols in the Library on the 30th of April, is 14,101. - an increase of 537 vols

The number of readers for the year is 2357 a decrease of 68,

The number of books issued during the year is 64,456 vols the number for 1896 being 73,846

The alterations made during the year in the Library give ample room for the present and near future, and the enlarged reading room satisfies a long felt want. The addition of a reference room with table and chairs so that reference works can be consulted with comfort to the readers. and a Ladies Reading room with papers and magazines combine to make a complete Library

The financial statement in the annual report shows a large decrease in the amount spent for new books and binding. The decrease in the number of readers, together with the large decrease in the number of books issued during the year are due to the closing of the library for the necessary alterations. The item of miscellaneous expenses includes \$376.32. The cost of the alterations made

Signed

James Hoarning
Secretary