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THREE REPORTS

ON THE

ORIGIN, FORMATION, AND FIRST YEAR'S WORKING

OF THE

MANCHESTER

FREE LIBRARY.

WITH

AN INTRODUCTION

ON

THE RESULTS AND THE DEFECTS OF THE

PUBLIC LIBRARIES ACT

OF 1850.

BY EDWARD EDWARDS, Esq.

Principal Librarian of the Manchester Free Library.

MANCHESTER:

PRINTED BY CAVE AND SEVER, PALATINE BUILDINGS, HUNT'S BANK.

1853.

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CONTENTS.

	Page
INTRODUCTION :—	
Mr. Ewart's Committee on Public Libraries (1849).....	v.
Formation of the Salford Museum and Library (1849)	vi.
Foundation by Sir John Potter of the Manchester Free Library (1850)	vii.
Passing of the Public Libraries Act (1850)	“
Formation of the Liverpool Free Library.....	ix.
Formation of the Bolton Free Library	x.
Tabular view of the Free Libraries founded in Lancashire up to October, 1853	xii.
Defects of the 'Public Libraries Act'.....	xiii.
I.—REPORT ON THE ORIGIN AND FORMATION OF THE LIBRARY, (2nd September, 1852):—	
Origin of the Manchester Free Library	1
Purchase and adaptation of the Building	2
Purchase of the Books	3
Donations to the Library—	
From Public Departments, Societies, and Individuals.....	4
From the United States of America	“
Lending Department, how composed, and classified	5
Reference Department, how composed, and classified	“
Collection of Political and Commercial Tracts	7
Poll of the Burgesses.....	11
Defects of the 'Public Libraries Act'	“

	Page
II.—SPECIAL REPORT ON THE SELECTION OF BOOKS:—	
(30th June, 1851)...	13
III.—FIRST ANNUAL REPORT ON THE WORKING OF THE LIBRARY,	
(6th October, 1853):—	
Aggregate issue of Books during the first year	26
Comparative Table of the number of volumes, in each class of Literature, contained in the Library at the opening, and at the completion of the first year	27
Numbers and character of the Books issued from the Reference Department of the Library	29
Numbers and character of the Books issued from the Lending Department of the Library	32
Classification of the Books in circulation, and on the shelves of the Lending Department, on 6th October, 1853.....	34
Donations to the Library during the year 1852-3.....	36
Report of Mr. Tufnell's Committee on the distribution of Parliamentary Papers	37
News-Room, how frequented and how supported	38
Progress of the Classification of the Political and Commercial Tracts...	39
APPENDIX TO FIRST ANNUAL REPORT:—	
1.—Provisional Rules and Regulations (23rd October, 1851).....	42
2.—List of incomplete Periodicals, &c. in Reference Department	45
3.—List of Works not in the Library but repeatedly applied for	46

INTRODUCTION.

IN December, 1847, I had the honour of transmitting to the Council of the *Statistical Society of London*, a paper on "Public Libraries in Europe and America," which, in March, 1848, was read to the Society, and, in the following August, was published in its "Journal."

The conclusions arrived at in that statement as to the numbers and relative accessibility, to the public at large of Libraries in this country, as compared with some of the chief Continental States, (France—Belgium—Prussia—more especially,) as well as with the United States of America, were much controverted, and were, doubtless, crude and imperfect. But the paper served to draw public attention to the subject, and eventually led to the appointment, on the motion of Mr. Ewart, of a Select Committee of the House of Commons, to inquire into "the best means of extending the establishment of libraries, freely open to the public, especially in large towns, in Great Britain and Ireland."

The substance of the paper of December, 1847, together with the result of much subsequent inquiry, expressly under-

taken for the purpose, was given in evidence before this Committee, on the first and second days of its sitting; (April, 1849;) and the investigation was followed up with the well-known ability and perseverance of the Chairman, until a large and important body of evidence had been collected, the general tenor of which led the Committee to the unanimous conclusion that "our present inferior position" [in respect of libraries freely accessible] "is unworthy of the power, the "liberality, and the literature of the country."

Whilst the Committee was yet sitting, Mr. Brotherton, one of its members, proposed and zealously promoted, amongst his own constituents at Salford, the establishment SALFORD. of a Free Library and Museum for that Borough, to be supported by a municipal rate, under the provisions of Mr. Ewart's "Museums Act" of 1845. (8th and 9th Vic. c. 13.) This Act was adopted and the Institution established by the Borough Council in June, 1849; and in January, 1850, the "Salford Borough Royal Museum and Library" was opened to the public.

At Warrington, a Museum and small Library had been established, under the same Act, a year before, (June, 1848,) but had attracted very little notice. It was supported partly by a rate, and partly by yearly subscriptions, and was open only two days in each week. The number of books issued to the public in the first year was 450 volumes.

At Salford, on the contrary, great interest was excited, and a remarkable amount of success was attained. 33,000 volumes were issued in the first year, and the Committee, in their first report, stated that "their expectations had been fully realised." The books in the Salford Library, however, are for use only within the building. It has no Lending Department.

This marked success naturally attracted much attention in

Manchester, and more especially that of Sir John Potter, MANCHESTER (then Mayor of that Borough,) who speedily set on foot a subscription for the purpose of founding a similar institution. By his personal exertions he obtained, before any public canvass was undertaken, a sum of £4,369., in addition to £2,000. contributed by the Overseers of the Township of Manchester.

In the meantime, some doubts had been expressed as to the legality of supporting *Libraries* out of a rate levied under the provisions of the "Museums Act" of 1845, even when such libraries were connected with museums. To set this point at rest, and to give practical effect to the report of the preceding session, Mr. Ewart, on the 20th February, 1850, introduced into the House of Commons a bill "for enabling "Town Councils to establish Public Libraries and Museums." By this bill it was proposed to repeal the Museums Act, and, with some alterations, (not for the better, and in part the result of a somewhat frivolous opposition,) the bill became law on the 14th August, 1850. (13th and 14th Vic. c. 65.)

The Act of 1845 empowered Town Councils (in municipal boroughs of 10,000 inhabitants and upwards within England and Wales) to establish museums at their own discretion. The Act of 1850 empowered them to establish libraries and museums,—both, or either,—provided that a poll of the burgesses should first have been duly taken on the question, and that a majority of two-thirds of the votes given should have been in favour of the adoption of the Act. It also empowered them to levy a library rate, either with the borough rate or separately, provided the whole amount of rate so levied "do not in any one year amount to more than "one halfpenny in the pound on the annual value of the "property in the borough rateable to the borough rate."

Under this Act, polls have been taken in at least seven cities and towns in England, in five of which the Act has

been adopted ; and propositions for its adoption are pending in many others.* The results of these polls are as follows :—

	For.	Against.	Total No. of Votes.
<i>Birmingham</i>	363	534	897
Bolton	662	55	717
<i>Exeter</i>	118	853	971
Manchester	3,962	40	4,002
Oxford	596	72	668
Sheffield, <i>first poll</i> (1851)	104	294	398
“ <i>second poll</i> (1853) ..	838	232	1,070
Winchester.....	361	13	374
Total.....	7,004	2,093	9,097

* Bristol is one of these places. In that city, much interest has already been evinced in the matter, and its Free Library, when obtained, will doubtless be worthy of its wealth and public spirit. There, however, an ancient foundation exists, on which the new institution can be built. “In the year 1615,” says Barrett, (*History of Bristol*, p. 507,) “the 20th of March, Robert Redwood, by will, gave an house in King-street, adjoining the Town Wall, there to be converted to a library for the public use.” By a recent publication of Mr. Charles Tovey, a member of the Town Council of Bristol, it appears that this benefaction was under consideration in the Council as early as on the 6th December, 1613, the minutes of that day’s proceedings containing the following passage :—“It is this daye agreed, that if Mr. Roberte Redwoode will give his lodge . . . to the Mayor and Commonalty, to be converted to a librariye, or place to put bookes for the furtherance of learninge, then the same shal be thankfully accepted . . . and that such bookes as shal be given to the Cytie by . . . the Lord Archbishop of Yorke, or any other well disposed person, for the furnishinge of a library, shal be thankfully accepted and preserved in the place aforesayed.” Of Archbishop Mathew, the historian of Bristol says :—“This eminent divine was a benefactor to his native city; and wishing to excite a love of literature amongst the citizens, he presented them with sundry books towards forming a library of sound divinity and other learning, ‘for the use of the aldermen and shopkeepers there.’” (Barrett, *ut sup.* p. 653.) But, in 1773, the Corporation appear to have granted the building (with the use of the books) to the *Bristol Library Society* . . . “for the citizens *subscribing yearly one guinea* to resort there to read;” and this the historian records as a “great improvement and new establishment.” (Comp.

The first library made accessible to the public, under the Act of 1850, was the Manchester Free Library, which was opened on the 2nd of September, 1852.

Repeated applications having been made from almost all parts of England for particulars of the formation and working of this Institution, I have been induced to reprint the Reports which follow, as presenting the best account of the matter which I am, at present, able to furnish.

The example of Manchester was quickly followed by Liverpool. On the 18th October, 1852, the Liverpool Free Library was publicly opened, under the provisions of a special Act of Parliament, (obtained on the 3rd of the preceding May,) known as the "Liverpool Library and Museum Act, 1852." LIVERPOOL.

By this Act, the Town Council of Liverpool are empowered to "establish and maintain a Public Library and Museum, with a Gallery of Arts;" and it is further enacted, that "It shall be lawful for the Council, once in every year, or oftener if they shall think necessary, to make one or more rate or rates, to be called 'The Library and Museum Rate,' for the purpose of defraying any or all of the expenses incidental to or necessary for the due carrying into effect the objects and purposes of this Act . . . provided that the amount to be levied . . . shall not in any one year exceed *one penny* in the pound upon the rateable value of the property within the borough liable to such rate."

Barrett, *ut sup.* p. 508; and Tovey, *The Bristol City Library, its Founders and Benefactors*, pp. 24, *et seq.*) Archbishop Matthew's love of learning, and his liberal desire to extend its advantages, were shared by his widow, on whose monument, in York Minster, it is recorded—" . . . *One excellent act of her's, first derived upon this church, and through it flowing upon the country, deserves to live as long as the church itself. The library of the deceased Archbishop, consisting of above three thousand books, she gave entirely to the publick use of this church. A rare example that so great care to advance learning should lodge in a woman's breast!*" . . . (Drake's *Eboracum*, p. 512.)

In union with the Liverpool Library (already containing upwards of 13,000 volumes) is the noble collection of stuffed birds and animals bequeathed to the town by the late Earl of Derby; and opened for public use on the 8th March, 1853.

Very recently, Mr. William Brown, one of the members for South Lancashire, has munificently presented to the Town Council of Liverpool the sum of £6,000. towards the cost of a new library building; and the Council has most worthily responded to the gift by a grant of £10,000., for the same purpose, from the surplus revenues of the town. Two lending libraries are also in preparation—one for the northern district of Liverpool, and the other for the southern district.

BOLTON. The comparatively small town of Bolton has distinguished itself, not only by a most liberal subscription, and by a well-selected free library of reference, already containing nearly 10,000 volumes, but also by being the second town in the kingdom to afford to its inhabitants the advantages of a Free Lending Library. Both departments were opened on the 12th October, 1853.

The weak point, I think, of the Bolton plan, lies in its proposed combination of a public institution supported by rate with a private institution supported by subscription. It appears to be in contemplation to connect with the Free Library two classes of subscribers: a "FIRST CLASS," subscribing one guinea a-year, "to be expended in the purchase of books and periodical literature, which shall circulate among the subscribers only for twelve months next after their purchase, and shall then be transferred to and become the property of the Town Council, and be added to the Public Library, *provided that each such subscriber shall be allowed the privilege of taking out, for perusal at home, one volume from the books of that portion of the library known as the Reference Library which the Library Committee of the Town Council for the time being shall authorise to be put*

“*in circulation* ;” and a “SECOND CLASS,” subscribing ten shillings a-year, “to be expended in the purchase of new publications on the Arts and Sciences, to be selected by the Town Council Committee, and the right of reading them to be confined to the subscribers for a period of six months from the time of their purchase, after which they shall become the property of the Mayor and Corporation, and form part of the Public Library ;—in consideration of which, the expense of circulating these books amongst the subscribers shall be defrayed out of the rate, and *each subscriber shall have the privilege, at all times, of taking one volume from the Reference Library for perusal at home.*”

Knowing, as I do, that such an arrangement as this would always make it uncertain what books would be found available for readers frequenting the ‘Reference Library’; knowing, further, that it is contrary to the spirit (if indeed it be even within the letter) of the Public Libraries Act; firmly believing that in practice it would inevitably create jealousies and heart-burnings; and having good evidence, that in cases where a similar union of incongruities has been tried* it has been pregnant with mischief and barren of good ;—I earnestly hope that the question will be deliberately re-considered, and that no sort of alloy will be permitted to mingle in the formation of an institution, the whole progress of which hitherto has been matter of unmixed satisfaction to all its friends.

* See, for example, the evidence of the Rev. Philip Hale before the Public Libraries Committee of 1849 (Q. 939, *et seq.*) with respect to the union of a “Subscription Library and Reading Room” with the Public Library founded by Archbishop Tenison in St. Martin’s-in-the-Fields, at London, and pithily described in the Committee’s Report as “the ghost of a departed library at Westminster.” The scheme proposed at Bolton would, I fully admit, be an excellent one, if the “Reading Society” were so far modified as to be quite *distinct* from the “Public Library,”—being known to the latter only as a donor of books, with no privilege except the consciousness of doing liberally a liberal deed, and no claim save that to grateful recognition.

Thus, within four years, and in a single county, the Parliamentary inquiry of 1849, and the Act of 1850, have led to the raising of nearly £50,000. for the foundation and maintenance of Public Libraries and Museums; to the collection and perpetual preservation in these libraries, for public enjoyment, of more than 60,000 volumes; and to the actual use (within an average period of less than two years, and by all classes of the population) of an aggregate issue of 380,000 volumes.

The details of this result may be tabulated thus:—

Towns.	Amount of money raised by Subscription.	Amount of money raised by rate or granted by Town Councils.	Total amount of money raised.	Vols. of books presented.	Vols. of books purchased.	Total number of vols. collected.	Years during which the Library has been opened.	No. of vols. issued to readers up to date of latest Report.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.					
1. MANCHESTER	12,823 10 0	1,785 18 6	14,609 8 6	6,696	18,608	25,299	1½	161,716
2. LIVERPOOL	7,389 2 10	11,973 13 11	19,362 16 9	4,000?	9,456?	13,456	1	111,723
3. SALFORD	4,835 0 0	3,637 8 11	8,472 8 11	4,584	6,210	10,794	3¼	108,222
4. BOLTON	3,195 4 2	285 0 0	3,480 4 2	1,450	10,789	12,239	.....	.....
Total of four Towns...	28,242 17 0	17,682 1 4	45,924 18 4	16,730	45,058	61,788	.....	381,661

However satisfactory such a result, within so brief a period, may be deemed, it must not be forgotten that the 'Libraries Act' is very defective in some important particulars. It fixes an arbitrary limit to the rate, and makes that limit the same for Manchester (where the halfpenny rate produces more than £2,000. a-year) and for Warrington (where it produces but £90. a-year.) It prohibits the taking of a new poll, on the question of establishing a library, within *two years* of an adverse decision, whatever may have been the circumstances of the particular case. And, above all, whilst it enables Town Councils not only to levy rates but also to borrow money for the purchase of land and the erection and fitting-up of buildings, it ties their hands from buying a single specimen to be placed in the cabinets, or a single volume to

be put upon the shelves. These are defects which cry aloud for amendment.

In the case of Manchester, indeed, the main defect has been cured by the insertion, in a local "Improvement Act," of a clause which runs thus:—"It shall be lawful for the Council, from time to time, to apply any monies which they may lawfully expend upon public libraries and museums, in the purchase of books, maps, and charts, for and to be deposited and kept in any public library within the city."

The expedient, however, is a clumsy one; and but for the accident of a local bill having been pending, must have proved a costly remedy. The experience of Manchester is conclusive, that even under the most favourable circumstances, no library worth possessing can be formed otherwise than by purchase; yet no similar institution has received more numerous or more valuable donations.

At the instance of Mr. Chichester Fortescue, M.P. for the county of Louth, the Libraries Act has already been extended to Scotland and Ireland. The chief amendments now needed are, I submit:—

1.—The omission of the limit affixed to the rate, leaving it to be settled by Town Councils, according to the circumstances of each town, at their own discretion, and upon their ordinary responsibility.

But if this power should, upon discussion, be deemed too large to be left to Town Councils, then, at all events, the rate should be graduated in some due proportion to the amount of rateable property in each city or borough in which the Act shall have been adopted.

2.—The omission of the prohibitory clause as to taking a new poll within less than two years after a negative decision. This, certainly, might be left to the decision of the Town Council in each case.

3.—The extension to all Town Councils of the powers which, by local Acts, have already been given to those of Manchester and Liverpool, in respect of the purchase of books, &c. out of all monies which they may lawfully appropriate to public libraries and museums.

This effected, there can be little room for doubt that what has been done in Lancashire will, sooner or later, be done in all the large towns throughout the country.

The most hopeful feature about rate-supported Free Libraries is, that, when fairly worked out, they are preëminently institutions for ALL CLASSES. It is doubtless a good thing that the rich, out of their abundance, should give liberally for the education, the refinement, and the rational amusement of those whose lot it literally is to “live by the sweat of their brow.” It is a better thing for both to unite their contributions, in such proportions as they can, for such objects. But it is best of all that they should make common effort for a common purpose; that they should combine to extend that Public Domain for Mental Culture, which is the joint heritage, and ought to be the common enjoyment, of rich and poor.

In a “Library,” (if it be worthy of the name,) what Milton calls the “life-blood of master-spirits” is stored up, “on purpose to a life beyond life.” That priceless gift has come to us from palaces and from hovels; and its enjoyment should no more be trammelled by the petty demarcations of our ordinary existence, than would now be the intercommunion of those master-spirits themselves by the transitory circumstances which diversified their mortal careers.

OLD TRAFFORD, near Manchester,

26th October, 1853.

I.—REPORT TO THE GENERAL MEETING.

2ND SEPTEMBER, 1852.

Your Committee, on approaching the completion of their labours, feel it to be their duty to submit to the Subscribers some account of the origin, objects, and history of the FREE LIBRARY, now about to be inaugurated as one of the permanent public institutions of Manchester.

In the summer of 1850, a subscription was set on foot in this town for the establishment of a Library and Museum, to be gratuitously open to all classes of the public. But, as it was the especial object of the Promoters to provide means for the mental culture and moral elevation of the artizans and workpeople who form so large and important an element of this community, it was laid down as the fundamental basis of the scheme that it should include a Free Lending Library,—an institution, it is believed, hitherto without example in this country.

In support of this object, twenty-six of our fellow-townsmen subscribed, either for themselves or for their respective firms, the sum of £100. each. Forty-three other subscriptions were obtained, making, with the former, an aggregate subscription of £4,384. The Overseers of Manchester, who, at the outset, had evinced an earnest desire to promote the undertaking, liberally contributed the sum of £2,000. from a fund which they held at their disposal for purposes strictly public.

The building in which you are now assembled had early been pointed out as well adapted to the contemplated purpose, and as likely to be obtained on very moderate terms. It had been originally built by the working classes, with an outlay considerably exceeding £5,000., but, under the then existing circumstances, those interested were willing to dispose of it for £1,200., or little more, probably, than a fourth of its actual cost. Sir Oswald Mosley owned a chief rent upon it of £91. 6s. per annum, which was estimated by competent persons to be worth twenty-four years' purchase, or about £2,200. Sir Oswald Mosley, however, on being informed of the purpose to which it was intended to devote the building, expressed his cordial approval, and stated, most liberally, that he should

value the chief rent at only twenty years' purchase (£1,826.), and should further testify his goodwill to the project by returning one-half of the purchase money, as a contribution to the fund. Sir Oswald Mosley, therefore, must be regarded as a most generous supporter of this institution.

On these terms the purchase, both of the building and the freehold, was effected in the autumn of 1850; and the sums expended, including the necessary law charges, amounted to £2,147.

If the building thus obtained be less central to the inhabitants of the city at large than might have been desired, it must be borne in mind that no building of similar capacity could have been procured in any quarter of the town on terms so moderate; and that in any really *central* locality the value of the land alone would have precluded all chance of success in the undertaking. Nor ought it to be overlooked that the large suburb of Hulme, in this immediate neighbourhood, contains a dense and rapidly increasing population.

In January, 1851, the first appeal was made to the public for coöperation and support. A meeting was convened within the newly purchased building, at which the Lord Bishop of the diocese, the Dean of Manchester, and several others of the clergy and ministers of various denominations, were present, together with many influential merchants and other gentlemen. At that meeting your Committee was appointed, to canvass for further subscriptions and to organize the institution.

Additional subscriptions have since been obtained, amounting to £2,941. 9s. 10d. and making,—with the sum of £6,384. previously subscribed,—a total, on the first subscription, of £9,325. 9s. 10d.

A voluntary subscription having also been set on foot amongst the working classes, a Working Men's Committee was formed, and ultimately a sum of about £800. was raised by the contributions of more than 20,000 persons employed in various industrial establishments, and residing in all parts of the town. The FIRST subscription list was thus increased to £10,125. 9s. 10d.

In making the necessary arrangements for the repair, alteration, and adaptation of the building, your Committee received most valuable assistance from their colleague, Mr. J. E. Gregan; from Mr. George Shorland, the Borough Surveyor; and from Mr. J. W. Pickard, of the Surveyor's Office. Plans were prepared by Mr. Pickard, with the advice and sanction of the gentlemen first named, which were approved by your Committee, and for the execution of which contracts were entered into with various parties. The works were performed under Mr. Pickard's superintendence; and during their execution it was found expedient to make various additional alterations and improvements, with a view to the more effectual adaptation of the building to its new purposes;—the reception of a much larger number of books than had been at first contemplated;—and to the precluding of all necessity for further outlay, and consequent interruption of the business of the institution, for a long time to come. The increased

expenditure thus incurred, your Committee believe, will be amply justified by the present condition and capabilities of the building.

The arrangements for light, warmth, and ventilation, have been carried out according to the plans of one of your Committee, Mr. Daniel Stone, jun., and under his gratuitous superintendence. Their cost has necessarily been considerable, but your Committee trust they will prove to be thoroughly effective.

The total expenditure in the repairs, alterations, and furnishing of the building, amounts to £4,816. 6s. 2d.; thus made up:—

	£.	s.	d.
1. Repairs and alterations to the building generally...	3,253	16	0
2. Gas fittings	201	8	3
3. Warming and ventilating apparatus	224	18	4
4. Shelves and furniture	1,110	6	6
5. Street paving.....	25	17	1
	<u>£4,816</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>2</u>

The total cost, therefore, of the building in its present state, with its fittings and furniture, has been £6,963. 6s. 2d.

The extent of shelving already provided will accommodate from 6,000 to 7,000 additional volumes; and by merely increasing the number of shelves, without making any addition to the building, or any alteration of structure, the number of volumes now in the Library might be doubled, or even trebled, if requisite.

PURCHASES.

With a view to the careful and economical formation of the Libraries, your Committee directed the Librarian to prepare and to print lists of important and desirable books, in various departments of literature and science. These lists were afterwards examined by several members of your Committee, and were extensively circulated amongst booksellers, in order to arrive at a comparison of prices before making the necessary purchases.

In the formation of the Libraries, your Committee were greatly indebted to their valued colleague, Mr. Crossley, who, during the entire period of their labours, has acted as Chairman of the Books Committee. That gentleman most kindly accompanied Mr. Edwards to London, and gave to your Committee the advantage of his eminent knowledge of books and his long experience as a collector. Your Committee feel that these services are justly entitled to their warmest acknowledgments.

The number of volumes ultimately purchased was 18,028; and their aggregate cost, in the condition in which you now see them, was £1,156., or about 4s. 7d. per volume on the average.

DONATIONS.

In addition to the books thus acquired, 3,292 volumes have been presented to the Library. Of these, 364 volumes have been contributed by Literary, Scientific, or Religious Societies; 145 by various Public Departments; 225 by Booksellers and Publishers; and 2,558 by Private Donors. They include many very valuable works, but hitherto the majority of the books presented have been suitable rather for the Library of Circulation than for that of Reference.

Of the Donations from Public Departments to the Reference Library, your Committee beg to make special mention. They include publications of the Colonial Office,—of the Council for Education,—of the Board of Trade,—of the Record Commissioners,—of the Registrar-General of the Board of Health, and of the Poor Law Board; and form a most important addition to the collection of Political, Economical, and Historical Literature.

It has happened, however, that in most instances the publications thus presented have been incomplete. Many of the best works of the Record Commissioners, for example, are still desiderata in the Library. So are the early Reports of the Registrar-General (from the first to the sixth inclusive). Lord Grey's donation includes all the reports and papers relative to the British Colonies, printed for either House of Parliament, during the sessions 1846, 1847, 1848, 1849, 1850, and 1851; but none of earlier date. Any public man, therefore, who may have it in his power to supply such deficiencies, or in any other way to improve the collection, would greatly increase the value of this department by presenting such books to the Institution. A grant of the Sessional Papers of the Houses of Parliament would also be most highly acceptable.

In connection with the topic of donations, your Committee would also request your attention to some valuable presents which have been received from the United States of America, to which an important addition of nearly one hundred volumes, now on their way from Washington, will shortly be made.

Several years ago, steps were taken by some of the legislative bodies of the United States, and by some literary and scientific societies in those States, to encourage the systematic interchange of public documents, transactions of learned societies, and various other publications of interest and value, (including many not obtainable in the market,) between the public institutions of their own and of other countries. For the promotion of this object, both the Congress and many of the State Legislatures have made annual grants.

The object of this proceeding is to secure for American libraries, works concerning the political, commercial, and municipal affairs of other countries, and illustrative of their history; and to diffuse abroad similar information respecting American affairs. Your Committee, in return for a few trivial documents about Manchester, have received several historical and statistical works of great cost and intrinsic value; and amongst them the entire publications of the Smithsonian Institute. The American presents have exceeded twenty-fold those which have been sent from Manchester; but it is of the essence of the system that there

shall be interchange of some kind; and whoever will afford facilities for this interchange, will render good service to the Library and to the Community.

LENDING DEPARTMENT.

The number of presented volumes which has been placed in the Lending Library is about 2,000; and to these have been added about 3,300 obtained by purchase; the entire number at present available for circulation being 5,305. These may be thus classified:—

	Vols.
1. Theology and Philosophy	169
2. History	2,187
3. Legislation, Politics, and Commerce	266
4. Sciences and Arts	394
5. Literature and Polygraphy.....	2,289
Total.....	5,305

Of the 2,187 volumes in the class "HISTORY," above 800 treat of British History and Biography; and 647 are Narratives of Voyages and Travels. The collection thus commenced by your Committee will, they trust, be speedily and considerably extended.

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT.

The number of volumes at present contained in the Library of Reference is 16,013, and they may be classified thus:—

	Vols.
1. Theology and Philosophy	655
2. History	6,707
3. Legislation, Politics, and Commerce.....	2,705
4. Sciences and Arts	1,310
5. Literature and Polygraphy.....	4,626
Total.....	16,013

It will be sufficiently obvious that in what they have thus far been enabled to accomplish, your Committee have but laid a foundation upon which others must build. Not only is a Library of 16,000 volumes, however well selected, very inadequate to meet the demands which may fairly be calculated upon in a town like Manchester; but some of the classes which have been enumerated are, in a marked degree, and of necessity, weaker than others. Your Committee felt that to have scattered their restricted means over too wide a surface would have been a sure method of producing a result even still less satisfactory. Hence they have preferred to aim at the formation of a truly valuable collection in certain important departments, and in others to be, for the present, content with what was indispensable, rather than to subdivide their means in more equal proportion.

It will have been seen from the preceding enumeration, that the best furnished class in the Library is that of HISTORY. The 6,707 volumes of which that class at present consists are thus composed :—

	Vols.
Universal History	347
Ancient History	224
British and American History and Biography.....	3,871
Foreign History and Biography	651
Voyages and Travels	1,614
Total.....	6,707

The section BRITISH HISTORY comprises, it will be seen, almost one-fourth of the entire library. It includes the works of most of our great historians; the best editions of the British and French chroniclers; an extensive selection of the histories of individual reigns, and of works illustrative of them; and the germ, at least, of an important collection in British Archæology. The works in British Biography amount to 1,313 volumes.

The deficiencies, however, in this as in other departments of the Library, are still considerable; and your Committee trust that it may not be without advantage to solicit some degree of attention to them on the present occasion.

Amongst the more urgent wants of the Library in British History are :—The general Histories of Henry and of Sharon Turner; the Romanist Church History, known as Dodd's (of which both the folio and the still incomplete octavo edition of Dr. Tierney are desirable); Rymer's "*Fœdera*," &c.; the work of Sir F. Palgrave on the Rise of the English Commonwealth; the "*History of Boroughs*," by Merewether and Stephens; the Naval Histories of James and Nicolas; the "*History of the House of Commons*," by Townsend; Tanner's "*Notitia Monastica*," by Nasmith; Browne Willis's "*History of the Mitred Abbies*," his "*Survey of Cathedrals*," and "*Notitia Parliamentaria*."

The Histories of Individual Monarchs already in the Library are so numerous, that comparatively few desiderata need be noted. But, although the works, for instance, which relate to the important period of Charles I. and of Cromwell, number nearly 200 volumes, Vicars's "*Parliamentary Chronicle*," Lord Hailes's "*Memorials*," Frankland's "*Annals*," and many similar works, are still deficient. So, too, are the "*Memoirs of Queen Elizabeth*," by Birch; the Lives of William III. by Boyer and Harris; the Lives of Anne, by Boyer and Oldmixon; the "*History of the Reign of George III.*," by Adolphus, and many others.

In the Section of BRITISH BIOGRAPHY the wants of the Library are still more serious. Although it contains already no less than 760 separate lives of British and American worthies, in addition to 230 works of Collective Biography, there are still wanting more than a hundred important works in that department. Amongst these are the Biographies of Dr. Arnold, by Stanley; of Lord Burghley, by Nares; of Burns, by Lockhart; of Lady Jane Grey, by Nicolas; of Jeremy Taylor, by Heber; of Wolsey, by Cavendish; and many others of equal value.

IN BRITISH TOPOGRAPHY the deficiencies are still more extensive than in Biography. The great cost, and in many instances the extreme rarity, of the best works in this class of literature, rendered it a hopeless task for your Committee to place any considerable number of such works in the Library. They have, however, succeeded in obtaining some of the best books relating to the Counties of Lancaster, York, and Derby. But the local works on Liverpool and the town of Lancaster, Wellbeloved's "*York under the Romans*," Dr. Whittaker's "*Richmondshire*," and many similar works, are still to be wished for. The noble work of Dr. Ormerod, on our neighbouring County of Chester, is in the same category.

Your Committee think it most important that some special effort should be directed to the formation of a really complete collection of our local Topography, and hence it is that they have entered into these details.

THE VOYAGES AND TRAVELS form a very valuable section of the Library. They include a fine copy of Purchas' "*Pilgrimes*;" all the best modern collections, including the reprint of Hakluyt; and an extensive series of separate narratives, amounting in the whole to 1,614 volumes.

Turning to the LITERATURE OF COMMERCE AND POLITICS, your Committee may congratulate you on possessing the nucleus of a very important collection. It already includes a considerable number of works in almost all branches of trade, and the best works extant on political economy. It also includes a complete set of the "Journals of the House of Commons," and a nearly complete set of the *London Gazette*, from the first number published at Oxford, in November, 1665, down to the present time, with the exception of the volumes from 1827 to 1837, and those for the last year or two—Your Committee know that this work has already subserved some researches of importance, and that it is likely to prove of considerable value in a commercial community.

Particular pains have been taken to procure works illustrative of the special commercial pursuits of this district, and of the social condition of the labouring classes.

The works, however, of Burn, Chapman, and others, on the Cotton Trade; Sir F. Eden's "*History of the Labouring Classes of England*;" Mr. Kay's "*Social Condition and Education of the Poor in England and Europe*;" Mr. Caird's recent survey of English Agriculture, &c., are still wanting.

COMMERCIAL AND POLITICAL TRACTS.

In connection with this class of literature, your Committee think it their duty to make special mention of an extensive collection of Tracts, chiefly on commercial and political subjects, the foundation of which was laid by a Danish merchant, Mr. Nicholas Magens, who settled in London early in the last century, and who appears to have been a most diligent collector of such publications. Until very recently, the collection had been preserved as an heir-loom in his

family; but on the decease of the late Mr. Dorrien Magens, it was offered for sale by auction. The commission given by your Committee at this sale was greatly overbid, and the collection was purchased for America. It appeared, however, that the main object of the purchaser was to obtain a few tracts relative to the early history of America, and a negotiation was opened with him, which enabled your Committee to secure the bulk of the collection for the Free Library.

A considerable number of Tracts was also purchased from the libraries of the late Mr. Thomas Harrison, one of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue; of Lord Langdale, the late Master of the Rolls; of Mr. Drummond Hay; of Mr. Francis Place; Mr. Thomson, of Clitheroe, and others.

The tracts thus variously acquired, (amounting to about 5,000 in number,) your Committee recommend to be arranged in one continuous collection, according to their subjects, and in chronological order. Some idea of the value of the collection may be formed, when it is mentioned that it includes about 230 tracts illustrative of the history of trade and commerce in general, from the year 1604 to 1843; 140 tracts on the special subject of our trade to the East Indies, published between the years 1615 and 1840; upwards of 400 tracts on money, bullion, usury, and banking, (dating from 1616 to 1847;) about 120 tracts on taxation; 50 on the national debt; 220 on poor-laws; 205 on the constitution and representation of parliament; 93 on church revenues and their distribution, &c.

Without troubling you with further detail, your Committee anticipate that they have said enough to indicate the character and value of a collection such as this in a town like Manchester; and they beg to express their earnest hope that the opportunities which, sooner or later, are sure to occur for its extension and improvement, will not be lost sight of by those who may hereafter have the management of the Library. A very moderate expenditure, if coupled with vigilant attention, would render this collection eminently serviceable to the future historian of commerce, as well as to writers and inquirers on many grave problems of political and social economy. Such a course would soon confer on Manchester the distinction of possessing the best collection of the kind in the kingdom.

In the department of LITERATURE AND POLYGRAPHY, your Committee have had the gratification of procuring a very good collection of the works of English authors, a large proportion of which are of the best editions, and in satisfactory condition. This department is also especially rich in English poetry; but even here your Committee are very sensible that they have but made a good beginning.

The Library already possesses the second and fourth editions of Shakspeare (as well as the reprint of the first,) and the excellent modern editions of Mr. Charles Knight and Mr. Payne Collier. It possesses also above a hundred volumes of *Shaksperiana*. But the first and third folios, the 21-volume edition of Johnson, Steevens, and Reed, together with many important works illustrative of our great dramatist, are still to be desired.

It must also be mentioned, that amongst our collective works of English authors,

those of Sir Isaac Newton, by Horsley; of Selden, by Wilkins; of Spelman, by Gibson; of John Hales, by Dalrymple; and many others, have not yet been obtained.

The several sections which compose this department of Literature and Polygraphy may be thus enumerated:—

	Vols.
Poetry and the Drama.....	1,353
Prose Fiction	313
Polygraphers	602
Periodicals and Cyclopædias	1,810
Bibliography	125
Literary Miscellanies	423
	<hr/>
Total.....	4,626

In the remaining classes—those of **THUOLOGY**, **PHILOSOPHY**, and of **SCIENCES** and **ARTS**—the books which the Library already possesses, are amongst the best which are extant, but they are very few in number. Of Scientific and Artistic Works, there are but 1,310 volumes; and of Theological and Philosophical Works, but 665 volumes.

The latter include the collected works of many of our greatest Divines, and the nucleus of a collection of Biblical Literature; but in other respects this portion of the Library has yet to be formed.

In the **NATURAL SCIENCES** we have 498 volumes, namely:—On Natural History generally, 56 vols.; on Zoology, 231; on Botany, 174; and on Geology, 37. Amongst them are the best works of the zoologists, Buffon, Cuvier, Shaw, Bell, Forbes, Johnston, Wilson, Bonaparte, Horsfield, Donovan, Rymer Jones, Macgillivray, Mudie, Wood, and others; of the botanists, Curtis, Hooker, Lindley, Sowerby, Loudon, Baxter, and others; of the geologists, Lyell, De la Beche, Buckland, &c. But it must be obvious, that in order both to supply the present deficiencies in this department, and to keep pace in any degree with the rapid strides of physical science, a liberal expenditure hereafter will be absolutely indispensable.

Of **MATHEMATICAL WORKS** there are 176 volumes; and of **MECHANICAL** and **CHEMICAL WORKS**, 377 volumes; and of these also it may fairly be said, that they are amongst the best which are extant on their respective subjects. On the **ARTS** there are 259 volumes, which include a fine copy of the great work of Stuart and Revett, on the "*Antiquities of Athens*;" the "*Cathedrals and Churches*," and the "*Vetusta Monumenta*" of the Society of Antiquaries; the "*Public Works of Great Britain*;" the "*Life and Works of Telford*;" the "*Vitruvius Britannicus*;" the fine works of Smeaton, on the "*Eddystone Lighthouse*;" and of Stevenson, on the "*Bell Rock Lighthouse*;" Mr. Weale's admirable collection of "*Papers on Architecture*" and "*Papers on Engineering*;" the works of

Hope, Dallaway, Gwilt, Rickman, and Nicholson, on Architecture; those of Reynolds, Walpole, Ruskin, and Burnet, on Painting; and the work of Silvestre, on "*Universal Palæography.*"

The entire cost of the two Libraries (all the principal departments of which have now been noticed) has amounted to £4,282.; and your Committee believe that books of equal value and similar condition have rarely, if ever, been collected on terms so moderate. But the expenditure in this department, as also in that of the Building, having exceeded what was at first contemplated, it became indispensable to make renewed efforts to increase the subscriptions.

In order to effect this object to any adequate extent, it was found to be absolutely necessary to appeal again to those who had subscribed so liberally at the outset of the undertaking. And here your Committee must beg to record their grateful sense of the eminent services rendered by your excellent treasurer, Mr. Aspinall Turner. To the spirited exertions of that gentleman, your Committee mainly owe the large success of their renewed appeal to the first supporters of this Institution.

The list of second subscriptions now amounts to about £2,300., and an additional sum not exceeding £500. will suffice to pay off every liability.

It had been always contemplated that the ultimate maintenance of the Free Library should rest with the Corporation of Manchester as trustees for the public; and accordingly, in the month of July last, the subject was brought before the Town Council, by Sir John Potter, the chairman of your Committee. The Council determined, on the report of their Committee for General Purposes, to request the Mayor to take a poll of the burgesses on the question of maintaining the Library as one of the permanent institutions of the borough, under the provisions of the 13th and 14th Vic. c. 65, an Act introduced to Parliament by Mr. Ewart and Mr. Brotherton, and commonly known as the Public Libraries Act of 1850.

This Act provides that in case two-thirds of the votes given shall be in favour of its adoption, the Town Council may either purchase, or take on rent, any lands or buildings, for the purpose of forming a public library and museum, or either of them; or may erect or adapt any building or buildings for such purpose, and maintain the same in repair; and may from time to time provide such fixtures, furniture, fuel, lighting, and other matters, and also appoint such officers and servants as may be necessary for the convenient and useful occupation and enjoyment, by all the inhabitants, of the institutions thus established, *free of any charge whatever.*

To meet the requisite expenditure, the Council is empowered to levy with and as part of the borough-rate, such sums of money as may from time to time be needed, provided always that the whole amount of rate so levied shall not in any one year exceed one halfpenny in the pound on the annual value of the property rateable to the borough rate.

The Poll thus requested was taken on the 20th of August, and the number of votes recorded in favour of the adoption of the Act was 3,962; and against its adoption, 40. And your Committee believe that, however striking this numerical majority may appear, that majority would show itself in a manner still more remarkable, were an account prepared of the proportion of the borough assessment which is borne by those who voted for the imposition of the rate.

It will be for the Town Council to regulate and determine both the necessary annual expenditure, and the rules and regulations under which the institution shall be definitively constituted, when the property shall have been transferred to the Corporation, and the management vested in the Council; but your Committee would still discharge their duty were they to resign their present functions without recording their deep conviction that the Act of Parliament under which the Library is now to be maintained requires considerable alteration and amendment, in order to the attainment, by means of the powers it confers, of any result which can be satisfactory to this Community.

The Act, in its present form, provides for the purchase or hire of lands and buildings; for the payment of salaries; for the procuring of fixtures, furniture, and fuel; but makes no provision whatever for the purchase of books. It enables Town Councils to erect buildings for libraries and museums, without stint as to magnitude or cost other than the limit of the rate; but it does not enable them to place one book on the shelves or one specimen in the cases.

The grievance of the Act, if unamended, would in this case be the greater, inasmuch as the Free Library contains a very large proportion of valuable publications which are still in progress. If no provision be made for their continuation, what you already possess will become comparatively worthless. Nor can any library be of permanent value to a community unless its books in all departments are kept up by constant increase, so as to be in some degree of harmony with the rapid advancement of literature and science. Your Committee, trust, therefore, that an earnest and united expression of public opinion will go hence to the imperial legislature, and that some member of the House of Commons will immediately confer a boon on the public by introducing a bill for the effectual amendment of the Act in question.

With an adequate provision for future purchases of books,—with a liberal spirit of management, and a continued interest in the prosperity of the institution on the part of those who have now successfully launched it,—your Committee cannot doubt that the Free Library will prove to be one of the most valuable and enduring benefits which have been conferred on this town and district.

The Lending Library will, it is hoped, be the means of carrying the best works of our best authors to the homes and firesides of the artisan and the factory operative; whilst the Library of Reference will afford to readers of EVERY CLASS an impulse towards consecutive and thoughtful reading, and will encourage the pur-

suit of studies the results of which, under favourable circumstances, may extend the boundaries of human knowledge, and multiply the instruments of national civilisation.

In the Gallery of Prints and Pictures, the foundation of which has been laid by the generous contributions of two eminent print publishers in London, and of some of our fellow-townsmen, means will be provided for the cultivation of a taste for those delightful arts which at once charm the eye and enrich the mind.

And all these advantages—whatever the extent to which they may hereafter be developed—this community will mainly owe to the sound judgment, the enlightened liberality, and the indefatigable perseverance of one under whose Presidency it has been the privilege of your Committee to begin and to end its labours, and who must be regarded as emphatically the *founder* of the institution. Your Committee feel that any record of their proceedings, assuming to be historical, would indeed be tamely and impotently concluded without this public expression of their personal feelings of deep respect towards their Chairman, who, having long served this community in its highest offices, has now achieved a still greater and more enduring claim to grateful esteem, in the establishment of an institution which bids fair to benefit not alone those who can at once profit by its advantages, but those also who will come after them.

By order of the Committee,

EDWARD EDWARDS,

Principal Librarian.

II.—SPECIAL REPORT TO BOOKS SUB-COMMITTEE, ON THE SELECTION OF BOOKS ;

30TH JUNE, 1851.

When, at the beginning of February, I received the instructions of the Sub-Committee for the preparation of Lists of Books, suitable for the Reference Department of the Library, it was proposed that these lists should, *in the first instance*, be limited to the following classes of Works :—

Instructions
of the Sub-
Committee,
Feb. 1851, for
preparation
of Lists of
Books.

- “ 1.—Collective Works of British Standard Authors in all departments, excepting Theology, and the literature of particular professions ;—
- “ 2.—The History, Antiquities, and Topography of the United Kingdom and its Colonies ;—
- “ 3.—Biography,—and especially the Biography of British Worthies ;—
- “ 4.—Works relative to Commerce, Trade, Manufactures, Mechanics, Machinery, and Mining ;—
- “ 5.—Works in Natural History, Physics, and Mathematics ;—
- “ 6.—Voyages and Travels ;—
- “ 7.—A Copious selection of Standard Periodical and Serial Works.”

On the 7th of the same month, portions of each of the lists, 1, 2, and 3, were submitted and read, in rough draft, to the Sub-Committee, which thereupon resolved :—

“ That Mr. Edwards be requested to complete and to print the priced lists of the books proposed, under separate heads, and to supply a copy to each member of this Sub-Committee five days previously to the next meeting.”

In compliance with these instructions, I proceeded with the compilation, pricing, and printing of the lists as rapidly as the nature of the task, and the

performance of other duties connected with the general business of the Committee, permitted. During its progress, it was found desirable to make some modifications in the arrangement and sequence of the lists, which now appear in the following order :—

Arrangement
of the Draft
Lists now
submitted,

- I.—Works—collective and miscellaneous—of Standard British Authors ; with a selection of those of the Standard Authors of America.
- II.—Works relative to the History, Topography, and Biography of the United Kingdom, and of the United States of America.
- III.—Works relative to Political Economy, Finance, Trade, Commerce, Agriculture, Mining, Manufactures, Inland Communication, and Public Works.
- IV.—Works relative to Physics, Mathematics, Mechanics, Practical Engineering, Arts and Trades, &c.
- V.—Voyages and Travels.
- VI.—Works on Zoology, Botany, Mineralogy, and Geology.
- VII.—Periodical Publications and Transactions of Learned Societies, (not included in Lists 2, 3, or 6,) Collections, Encyclopædias, Gazetteers, Atlases, Dictionaries, Bibliographies, Indexes, &c.

Taken collectively, these Draft Lists include 4,582 distinct works ; extending to about 12,438 volumes, including pamphlets ; but exclusive of 553 Parliamentary Papers and Reports, or ‘ Blue Books ’—respecting which some special remarks will be submitted hereafter.

To the majority of the titles comprised in Lists 1, 4, 5, and 6, approximate prices were affixed before sending them to press. But, for the sake of expedition, as well as with a view to greater accuracy, the pricing of the other lists was deferred until after they had been printed and circulated amongst booksellers. Those lists, like the preceding, are now submitted to the Committee with prices affixed, as far as is yet practicable.

* * * * *

Under ordinary circumstances, there can be no doubt that it would be most economical, as well as most conducive to the efficient working of the Library, to buy as many books as possible in good and substantial bindings. But, in this instance, the special circumstances which have been already adverted to in Committee, appear to dictate a different course. Several of the booksellers have, therefore, been instructed to price the books as in *cloth binding*, or in *boards*, wherever practicable.

About 90 lists sent to booksellers have been already returned, with prices put to such books as they respectively possess, or are able to supply. These priced lists are submitted to the Sub-Committee, along with the present report.

* * * * *

The number of volumes comprised in each of the Draft Lists specified above, and their probable cost, as far as that cost can yet be estimated from the imperfect data hitherto obtained, are as follows:—

Number of volumes comprised in the Draft Lists, and their estimated cost,

	Works.	Volumes.	Estimated Cost		
			£.	s.	d.
List I.	696	2,414	581	0	0
List II.	1,600	3,294	1,133	0	0
List III.	667	1,355	219	0	0
List IV.	663	817	446	0	0
List V.	431	837	218	0	0
List VI.	338	901	811	0	0
List VII.	187	2,820	650	0	0
Total.....	4,582	12,438	£4,058	0	0

As the first list includes works belonging to each of the classes to which the subsequent lists more specifically relate, it will be obvious that this statement fails to indicate the relative numerical proportions of the books suggested in the several departments of literature. If, however, the *miscellaneous* works in List I. be assigned to their respective classes, and the *collective* works in that list to those classes to which they chiefly or most nearly belong, and if the periodical and miscellaneous publications in List VII. be similarly treated, these relative proportions may be thus approximately stated:—

Classification of the works suggested,

1.—HISTORY:—

	Works.	Vols.
Ancient History	20	54
Modern History (exclusive of British and American) ..	32	172
History and Topography of the United Kingdom ...	662	1,690
History and Topography of the United States of America	67	175
British and Irish Biography	893	1,487
American Biography	61	137
General and Foreign Biography	15	62
Voyages, Travels, and Geography	454	894
Total	2,204	4,671

2.—*MORAL AND POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY* :—

	Works.	Vols.
Ethics, Metaphysics, Natural Theology	55	100
Education	21	146
Government and Legislation	61	193
Colonization, and Government of Dependencies	56	83
Political Economy in general	75	128
Movement of the Population, Poor Laws, Emigration, Police, and Penal Discipline	91	151
Economy of Agriculture, Trade, Commerce, Mines, Fisheries, and Manufactures	503	799
Commercial and Maritime Law	48	66
Economy of Inland Communication and Public Works.	152	203
Finance, Currency, Banking, Annuities, &c.	218	334
Total.....	1,280	2,203

3.—*NATURAL PHILOSOPHY* :—

	Works.	Vols.
Physics	41	50
Mathematics	197	238
Mechanics [<i>See infra</i> , Arts and Trades] .....	...	...
Chemistry	46	54
Natural History in general	44	197
Natural History of Man	8	14
Zoology	137	276
Botany	74	258
Geology, Mineralogy, and Palæontology	71	128
Transactions of Scientific Societies, Scientific Periodicals and Miscellanies, including the Collective Works of Authors who have written chiefly on scientific subjects	35	780
Total.....	653	1,995

4.—*POLITE LITERATURE* :—

	Works.	Vols.
Poetry and the Drama	175	656
Prose Fiction	68	449
Literary History and Bibliography	29	78
Philology	36	63
Literary Periodicals and Miscellanies, including the Collective Works of Authors who have written chiefly on literary subjects	182	1,882
Total.....	490	3,128

5.—*ARTS AND TRADES* :—

	Works.	Vols.
Arts of Painting, Sculpture, and Engraving.....	92	123
Art and Science of Music	13	17
Architecture	70	86
Civil Engineering, Theoretical and Practical Mechanics, Machinery, &c.....	173	219
Useful Arts and Trades	70	87
Periodicals on Mechanics, Patent Inventions, &c.....	4	186
Total	422	718

6.—*ENCYCLOPÆDIAS, &c.* :—

	Works.	Vols.
Encyclopædias.....	9	267
Biblical Dictionaries	2	7
Directories	2	2
Total	13	276
GROSS TOTAL.....	5,062	12,991

As these lists, however, include a certain number of works which have been already presented to the Library, it is necessary, before proceeding further, to specify the extent and general character of the donations which have been received.

Number and character of the donations hitherto received, as compared with the Draft Lists,

The total number of volumes hitherto presented is 1,991,—exclusive of a useful series of “Rudimentary Treatises” liberally promised by Mr. Weale, the publisher, which have not yet come to hand.

Of these 1,991 volumes, 175 have been presented by Literary, Scientific, or Religious Societies; 144 by Booksellers and Publishers; 140 by Public Departments of State; and 1,532 by individual donors. They include many valuable works, but not a few of them belong to classes beyond the range of the lists now submitted, whilst others consist of inferior and inadequate editions. Taken as a whole, they tend rather to confirm than to qualify the opinion which had been already expressed to the Committee, that, as respects the great bulk of useful and standard books most essential for the contemplated Library, little reliance could safely be placed upon anticipated donations.

If the list of books thus presented be compared in detail with the draft lists of books suggested as desirable, it will be seen that of the works of “Standard British Authors,” comprised in List I., the following have been given in good and serviceable condition:—

Donations included in List I.—Collective Works of Standard British Authors,

- 5 ARNOLD...Lectures.
 18 BROUGHAM...Natural Theology.
 44 COLERIDGE...Aids to Reflection. 2 vols.
 _____ Friend. 3 vols.
 52 DODSLEY's Collection of Old Plays. 12 vols.
 100 HUNT, Leigh...Stories from the Italian Poets. 2 vols.
 103 JEFFREY...Essays. 4 vols.
 113 LANDOR...Pericles and Aspasia. 2 vols.
 115 LYTTON, Sir E. Bulwer...Athens. 2 vols.
 116 MARTINEAU, Harriet...Eastern Life. [*One vol. edit.*]
 _____ Travels in America. 6 vols.
 _____ Forest and Game Law Tales. 3 vols.
 _____ The Hour and the Man.
 _____ Life in the Sick Room.
 138 NAPIER...Peninsular War. *Best edition.* 6 vols.
 157 REYNOLDS...Literary Works. 3 vols.
 160 ROGERS...Poems. *Best edition.*
 _____ Italy. *Best edition.*
 161 ROSCOE...Poems.
 179 SOUTHEY...Uneducated Poets.
 195 TAYLOR, Isaac...Natural History of Enthusiasm.
 _____ Fanaticism.
 _____ Home Education.

- 207 VAUGHAN...Stuart Dynasty. 2 vols.
 ——— Religious Parties in England.
 218 WHEWELL...History of the Inductive Sciences. 3 vols.

It follows, therefore, that of this important class of works, 26 only—in 63 volumes—have been presented in good and sufficient editions. But, besides these, the following works, comprised in the same list, have been given in inferior, incomplete, or antiquated editions, many of which, however, will be very useful in the circulating department, although wholly inadequate for the Library of Reference :—

- 30 Burns. *16mo edition*. 1834.
 60 British Essayists. *Dove's edition*. 30 vols, 12mo. [Wanting vol. 20.]
 67a FOSTER...Essays. *12mo edition*.
 72 GIBBON...Decline and Fall. 2 copies, viz. :—
 Edition of 1806. 12 vols.
 Jones's small print edition of 1836, 4 vols.
 73 GODWIN...Political Justice. 2 vols.
 74 GOLDSMITH...Miscellaneous Works. 4 vols, 12mo.
 97 HOOKER...Works, by Dobson. 2 vols.
 99 HUME...History of England; with Smollett's continuation. *Jones's small print edition*.
 ——— Ditto ditto. *Cooke's edition*. 26 vols, 12mo.
 ——— Essays. 2 vols.
 ——— Political Discourses.
 105 JOHNSON...Lives of the Poets. 2 vols, 12mo. 2 copies.
 159 ROBERTSON...History of America. 3 vols, 12mo.
 ——— History of Scotland. 3 vols, 12mo.
 166 SHAKESPEARE...Works. *Cox's edition, in 1 vol*. 1847.
 176 SMOLLETT...History of England. *Third edition*. 1760. 9 vols.

Of the historical and biographical books comprised in List II. the following have been presented ;—for the most part, in satisfactory editions :—

A.

- 21 RAPIN...History of England; by Tindal. 21 vols, 12mo.
 30 FROISSART...Chronicles. 12 vols.
 31 MONSTRELET...Chronicles. 13 vols.
 49a RIDPATH...Border History.
 62 DODSWORTH and DUGDALE...Monasticon Anglicanum. 8 vols.
 65 GOUGH...History of the Quakers. 4 vols.
 77 SEWELL...History of the Quakers. *Sixth edition*. 2 vols.
 91 CARY...History of Edward II.
 124 AIKIN...Memoirs of James I. 2 vols.
 391 HUTCHINSON...History of Cumberland. 2 vols. 4to.

Donations
 included in
 List II.—Bri-
 tish, Irish, &
 American
 History, &c.

- 481 CAMBRIDGE ECCLESIOLOGICAL SOCIETY...Transactions. 3 parts.
 ----- Ecclesiologist. 11 vols.
 487^e NICOLSON...Historical Libraries.

B.

- 29 CHAMBERS...Lives of Scotsmen. 4 vols.
 7 ALLEN...Life. 3 vols.
 774 BELOE...Literary Life. 2 vols.
 87 CHALMERS...Life. 3 vols.
 CHURCHILL...Life; by Alison.
 201 FOX, George...Journal. 2 vols.
 JAFFRAY...Life, &c.
 313 JOHNSON...Life; by Boswell. 4 vols. (Oxford, 1826.)
 456 PENN...Life; by Clarkson. *Three copies.*
 636 TEMPLE, Sir William...Memoirs.

In addition to the 100 volumes thus enumerated, 34 volumes of the 180 specified under No. 58—"Parliamentary History and Debates"—have been recently presented. But, as at least two of the above-mentioned works will still have to be purchased,—viz., Rapin, in the folio edition of 1743-47, and Boswell, in the edition by Croker,—List II. will only be reduced, as far so the donations already received are concerned, by about 112 volumes.

In List III. about 23 volumes only have been presented—exclusive of Parliamentary Reports, &c.—viz. :—

- 25 BEAWES...Lex Mercatoria. fol.
 74 CLARKSON...History of the Slave Trade. *First edition.* 2 vols.
 144^a FRANCIS...History of the Bank of England. 2 vols.
 221 KELLY...Universal Cambist. *Second edition.* 2 vols, 4to.
 263 M'CULLOCH...Principles of Political Economy.
 293 MARCET...Conversations on Political Economy.
 349^a PALMER...Report on the Navigation of the Rivers Mersey and Irwell.
 370 POPE...Journal of Trade. 1837-38.
 372 PORTER...Progress of the Nation. 3 vols, 12mo. *First edition.*
 1836-43.
 377 POSTLETHWAITE...Dictionary of Commerce. 2 vols, 4to.
 422 SALT...Statistics and Calculations.
 — Facts and Figures.
 — Railway and Commercial Information.
 992 SYMONS...Arts and Artizans at Home and Abroad.
 490 THOMPSON...On the Distribution of Wealth; by Pare.
 562 WILSON...On the Influence of the Corn Laws.

Donations
 in List III.—
 Political Eco-
 nomy, Com-
 merce, &c.

The new editions of the above-mentioned works of Clarkson, of M'Culloch, and of Porter, are still *desiderata*.

In this list, and especially in its "Addenda," the Committee will have observed the titles of a considerable number of Reports and other papers printed for Parliament. I have inserted such titles principally for these reasons:—1. Because, despite the proverbial dryness of blue-books, it is certain that they constitute our best sources of information on a great variety of social, economical, political, and commercial questions. 2. Because I have good reason to believe that the little use which appears to have been made of such of them as are to be found in some of our existing libraries is, at least in part, to be ascribed to the want of accessible and intelligible indexes to the information they contain. 3. Because there is great probability that many of these books and papers may be obtained gratuitously if properly and speedily sought for. 4. Because we already possess—in the donations of the Colonial Office, of the Committee of Council for Education, of the Board of Trade, of the Registrar-General, of the Board of Health, and of the Poor-Law Board—the nucleus of a collection of Political and Economic literature, which may hereafter be found of service in promoting the study of some of those grave social problems, in the solution of which this Community may be expected to take no unimportant share.

In confirmation of the opinion that this class of books merits the special and early attention of the Committee, I may, perhaps, be permitted to add, that whilst the utility, for reference, of public and Parliamentary documents mainly depends upon their chronological completeness, there are few works which sooner pass out of the ordinary markets. A report which one day may sell for barely the price of waste paper, will, on another, be scarcely procurable at any price. Hence it is that nearly all the donations which have just been referred to are more or less incomplete; and both pains and patience will be required in order to supply the imperfections.

Lord Grey's donation includes all the reports and papers relative to the British Colonies, printed for either House of Parliament, during the sessions 1846, 1847, 1848, 1849, 1850, and 1851. When properly arranged for binding, they will make from 55 to 60 folio volumes. Future papers will probably be obtained through the same channel. It will, therefore, deserve consideration whether the documents of former sessions on similar subjects—or at least the most valuable of them—should not be sought for as opportunity may occur.

Of the important "Tables of Revenue, Population, and Commerce," our series begins with Part XIX.—for 1849—and its regular continuance is promised by the Board of Trade. The monthly "Accounts relating to Trade and Navigation" are also duly received—beginning with the present year. Those of preceding years, like the annual "Tables" prior to 1849, are very desirable, and might perhaps be obtained from some Member of Parliament willing to aid in the formation of the library. The early Reports of the Registrar-General—from the first to the sixth inclusive—are also *desiderata*.

Importance
of Parliamen-
tary Reports
and Public
Documents in
a Commercial
Library.

The set of Poor-Law Reports, I have already been able to complete by the purchase of the volume out of print. That of the Minutes of the Committee of Council on Education still wants the volume for 1843.

As respects List IV. the donations are very inconsiderable in number,—extending only to 27 volumes, 14 of which relate to Chemistry and the sciences allied therewith,—but they include books of great value, as will be seen from the following list:—

- Donations included in List IV.—Physics, Mechanics, Arts and Trades, &c.
- 610 ARNOTT...Elements of Physics. *Fourth edition.* (1829.) 2 vols.
 49 BRANDE...Manual of Chemistry.
 63 BUCHANAN...Treatise on Mill Work and Machinery. *Third edition,*
 by Tredgold and Rennie. 2 vols, fol. and 8vo.
 86 DALTON...New System of Chemical Philosophy. 2 vols.
 ——— Meteorology.
 146 FAIRBAIRN...Conway and Menai Tubular Bridges.
 ——— Truths and Tubes.
 162 FRESSENIUS...Chemical Analysis.
 163 FRESSENIUS and WILL...Elements of Alkalimetry.
 GREENWOOD...Pneumatics of Hero of Alexandria. 4to.
 HENRY...Elements of Chemistry. *Eleventh edition.* (1829.) 2 vols.
 273 LIEBIG...Chemistry of Agriculture.
 ——— Motion of the Juices.
 275 LIEBIG and KOPP...Annual Reports on the Progress of Chemistry,
 &c.; by Hoffman and Delarue. Vols. 1, 2.
 307 NICHOL...System of the World. (*Edition of 1846.*)
 PETZOLDT...Lectures on Agricultural Chemistry.
 361 REID...Elements of Practical Chemistry. *Second edition.* (1831.)
 ——— Illustrations of Ventilation, &c.
 325 STURGEON...Researches on Electricity. 4to.
 450 TURNER...Elements of Chemistry. *Second edition.* (1828.)
 440 TREGOLD...The Steam Engine, &c. *Second edition,* by Woolhouse.
 With Atlas. 4to and fol.

Of "VOYAGES AND TRAVELS"—the subject matter of List V.—31 volumes have been presented; but of these, 15 were not included in the printed list. The following are the titles of these donations:—

- Donations included in List V.—Voyages and Travels.
- 27 BACKHOUSE...Visit to the Mauritius.
 ——— Visit to the Australian Colonies.
 337 BORROW...Bible in Spain. 12mo.
 39 BRUCE...Travels in Abyssinia. 8vo. (1823.)
 BUCKINGHAM...America. 3 vols.
 42 CARNARVON, Lord...Portugal, &c.

- 53 COOK...Voyages to the Pacific. (1788.) 4 vols.
 MASSIE...Ramble in Belgium, &c.
 385 MORGAN...Tour through Switzerland. 12mo.
 NUGENT...Tour through the Netherlands, &c. 4 vols, 12mo.
 209 OLIN...Travels in the East. 2 vols.
 399 RUXTON...Adventures in Mexico.
 SHAW...Travels, fol.
 SNOW...Voyage of the Prince Albert.
 272 SUTCLIFFE...Sixteen years in Chili, &c.
 THOMPSON...Travels in Southern Africa. 2 vols.
 313 WHITE...Three Years in Constantinople. 5 vols.
 VOLNEY...Travels through Syria and Egypt 2 vols.

Of the books on NATURAL HISTORY enumerated in List VI. none whatever have been presented.

Of the Collections, Periodicals, &c. comprised in List VII. the following are amongst the donations already received:—

- 9 Chambers's Edinburgh Journal. *New series.* Vols. 1-14.
 12 Ecclesiologist. *First and second series.* 11 vols.
 24 Monthly Review. *Of the first series*—Vols. 11-14; 16-30; 32, 33, 44-51, and 66-81.
 ————— *Of the second series*—Vols. 1-17, and 37-52.
 29 Quarterly Review. *Complete to 1850.* 86 vols.
 41 Proceedings of the Archæological Institute of Great Britain. 3 vols.
 44 Reports of the British and Foreign Bible Society. 1805-1848. 15 vols.
 45 Reports of the British and Foreign School Society. 25th to 45th, inclusive, in 7 vols.
 63 Transactions of the Society of Arts, &c. 57 vols. Wanting vols. 4 and 28.
 ————— *New series.* Vol. 1.
 92 BRYDGES...Restituta. 4 vols.
 116 CHAMBERS...Miscellany. 20 vols, 12mo.
 167 National Cyclopædia. [An abridgement of the "Penny Cyclopædia."] 12 vols.
 174 BOTFIELD...Notes on Cathedral Libraries.

Donations
 included in
 List VII.—
 Periodical
 Publications,
 Cyclopædias,
 &c.

It follows, that of the books enumerated in this list, 204 volumes have been presented.

It appears, therefore, on a comparison of the donations hitherto received with the Draft Lists of Books suggested for purchase, that the total number of volumes is but reduced by about 382, *i.e.* from 12,438 to 12,056; and the total "estimated cost" by about £108., or from £4,058. to £3,950.

Probable extent of the purchases which may be effected with the funds at present available.

Considerable as is the disparity between the sum, *at present* available for purchases—taking it at only £2,600.—and the total Estimated Cost of the Books comprised in the Seven Draft Lists—that sum would even now suffice for the purchase of the whole of the works of British Standard Authors enumerated in List I.; of the whole of the Biographical and a considerable portion of the Historical works in List II.; of at least one moiety of the works on Commerce, Political Economy, &c., which form List III.: of a similar proportion of those on Physics, Mathematics, Mechanics, &c. in List IV.; of the whole of the Voyages and Travels comprised in List V.; of about half the works on Natural History—postponing those of great extent and costliness—in List VI., and of nearly all the Bibliographies, Dictionaries, Encyclopædias, and Miscellaneous Works of Reference included in List VII.;—should the Sub Committee be disposed to regard those several classes of works as amongst the most urgent and immediate wants of the Library.

Formation of Lending Library. Works adapted thereto which are included in the Draft Lists.

Although, agreeably to the instructions with which the Committee honoured me in February, I have kept the Reference or Consulting Department of the Library mainly in view, whilst preparing these Lists, yet, of necessity, they will be found to include a large number of books which are quite as suitable for the Lending as for the Consulting Library. This remark applies more especially to Lists I., II., IV. and V.

It is evident, for example, that any Lending Library which is intended to make the treasures of our standard literature thoroughly accessible to the people at large in their own homes, must circulate—in some edition or other—the bulk of those collective and miscellaneous works of British and American authors which form List I. ;* and it is equally evident that no Library of Reference or Deposit can be worthy of the name, unless it shall possess at least the *collected* works of such authors as are there enumerated, and these, too, in their best editions. It would

* There will, probably, be but one opinion as to the propriety of placing in the Lending Library the whole works—of course in their cheapest editions—of at least such authors as the following:—Addison, Arnold, Bailey, Brougham, Elizabeth Barrett Browning, Robert Browning, Bunyan, Burns, Byron, Campbell, Carlyle, Chalmers, Chaucer, Churchill, Coleridge, Collins, Cowper, Crabbe, Defoe, Dickens, Dryden, Edgeworth, Ebenezer Elliott, Fielding, Foster, Gibbon, Godwin, Goldsmith, Gray, Grote, Hall, Hallam, Hazlitt, Helps, Hemans, Herbert, Herrick, Hogg, Hood, Hooker, Hume, Leigh Hunt, Jeffrey, Johnson, Keats, Knowles, Lamb, Landor, Lytton, Macaulay, Mackenzie, Mackintosh, James Mill, John Stuart Mill, Milman, Milton, James Montgomery, Moore, Paley, Pope, Richardson, Robertson, Rogers, Roscoe, Scott, Shakspeare, Sidney, Adam Smith, Sydney Smith, Southey, Spenser, Steele, Sterne, Stewart, Isaac Taylor, Jeremy Taylor, Tennyson, Thackray, Thirlwall, Thomson, Vaughan, Walpole, Wilson, Wordsworth, Young. This list—which is far from being submitted as a complete one—would extend to about 960 volumes.

seem, therefore, that in this class, at all events, the purchase—in some cases, of duplicate copies, and in others of two or more different editions of the same author—will be essential.

In others of the Lists there are works which might be placed, with perhaps equal appropriateness, in either branch of the Library, but of which single copies may, for some time to come, be made to suffice. Many such works—in *British and American History*—in *Physics, Mechanics, &c.*—and in *Voyages and Travels*—together with a somewhat extensive series of the popular “Libraries” of Murray, Whittaker, Smith, Bogue, Bohn, Chapman and Hall, and others,—I have marked for the Sub-Committee’s consideration. They amount in the aggregate to above 1,800 volumes, and if the Committee should think it desirable to place these—or any considerable portion of them—at once in the Circulating Department, and there only, the total estimated cost of the Consulting Library—according to the Draft Lists now submitted—would probably be reduced from £3,950. to about £3,700.

It will be seen, on reference to the classified table of the works enumerated in the seven Draft Lists which accompany this Report, that if even all those works were approved, and could at once be purchased, the Library would still be very poorly supplied in several classes of literature; and more especially in that important class which comprises the History and Biography of foreign countries. Without in the smallest degree undervaluing this department, or any other that may also be inadequately represented, I would yet respectfully submit to the Committee my conviction that by thus concentrating the funds at their disposal upon a few classes of books, instead of diffusing them over a great many classes, they will give the Library a far more useful as well as a strongly distinctive character, and will greatly facilitate its judicious and systematic extension hereafter,—whenever the means for such extension shall have been provided.

EDWARD EDWARDS, *Librarian.*

Manchester, June 30th, 1851.

III.—FIRST ANNUAL REPORT TO THE LIBRARY COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MANCHESTER.

16TH OCTOBER, 1853.

Mr. Edwards begs leave to report, that the issue of books from the FREE LIBRARY, during the first year in which it has been open to the public, is 138,312 volumes;—namely, from the Reference Department, 61,080 volumes; and from the Lending Department, 77,232 volumes.

If this issue be compared with the issues during a similar period of other libraries in Manchester and Salford, it will be seen that it exceeds the aggregate issue of the three principal institutions of this kind taken together;—the total number of volumes given out during the year 1852, in each of the several libraries referred to, having been as follows:—

Free Library of Salford.....	33,461	Vols.
Manchester Athenæum Library	51,000	“
“ Mechanics’ Institution Library	53,151	“
Gross Total	137,612	Vols.

The Library having been open during 298 whole days in that year, (in addition to six days in Easter week, on which it was open during only a portion of the day,) the average daily issue, on such days, has been 461 volumes; namely, from the Reference Department, 204 volumes, and from the Lending Department, 257 volumes.

The following table exhibits the total issue, and the daily average during each month of the year:—

	Total Issue.	Daily Average.
	Vols.	Vols.
1852. September 6th—30th	11,279	512
“ October... ..	16,820	646
“ November	15,471	595
“ December	13,523	520
1853. January	13,253	509
“ February	10,757	448
“ March	9,370	407
“ April	10,537	405
“ May	8,493	326
“ June	8,493	353
“ July	9,770	375
“ August	9,363	346
“ September 3rd—5th.....	1,183	591
Gross Total.....	138,312	

In classifying these issues, according to the respective subjects of the books issued, the same broad and general system of classification has been adhered to which was adopted in the arrangement of the books themselves on the shelves, in preference to any more exact and elaborate system, involving a larger number of divisions, and a consequent difficulty in comparing the issues of each class of books with the number of volumes in such class actually contained in the Library.

This classification, therefore, comprises but six main divisions:—1. Theology; 2. Philosophy; 3. History; 4. Law, Politics, and Commerce; 5. Sciences and Arts; 6. Literature and Polygraphy.

The class “PHILOSOPHY” comprises all works which treat either of Ethics or Metaphysics. But works on “Natural Philosophy” are placed in the class “Sciences and Arts;” and works on “Political Philosophy” in that of “Law, Politics, and Commerce.”

The class “HISTORY” comprises not only all works which are historical in the more restricted sense of the term, but also all biographical, topographical, and archaeological books; together with “Voyages and Travels.”

The class “LITERATURE AND POLYGRAPHY” includes Poetry; Novels and Romances; Essays; Literary History; Bibliography; Encyclopædias; and all such periodicals, serials, and other collections, as are not restricted to some one science or subject; together with all collective works of authors which embrace more than one of the five first-named classes.

When the Free Library was first opened to the public it contained, in the whole, 21,318 volumes. Of these, 16,013 were in the Reference Department, and 5,305 in the Lending Department. But of the former about 700 volumes (consisting of Parliamentary Papers and of Tracts) were not available for the service of readers, being unbound, and but partially catalogued.

At the completion of the year the Library contained, in the whole, 25,209 volumes; of which 18,104 are in the Reference Department, and 7,195 are in the Lending Department. But of the former about 2,360 volumes (consisting, as before, of Parliamentary Papers and of Tracts) are not yet available for the service of readers, being for the most part unbound, and, to a considerable extent, uncatalogued.

The present numbers of *available* volumes are, therefore, as follows:—

	Volumes.
Reference Department	15,744
Lending Department	7,195
Total.....	22,939

These 22,939 volumes may be thus classified :—

	Reference Department. Vols.	Lending Department. Vols.	TOTAL. Vols.
1. Theology	414	131	545
2. Philosophy	281	96	377
3. History	6,897	2,870	9,767
4. Law, Politics, and Commerce.....	2,072	359	2,431
5. Science and Arts.....	1,373	600	1,973
6. Literature and Polygraphy.....	4,707	3,139	7,846
Gross total.....	15,744	7,195	22,939

The following table exhibits a similar classification of the issues of the year :—

	Aggregate number of available volumes in the Library in each Class.	Reference Department. Vols issued.	Lending Department. Vols issued.	TOTAL. Vols issued.
1. Theology	545	1,184	1,130	2,314
2. Philosophy.....	377	1,569	845	2,414
3. History	9,767	22,864	22,837	45,701
4. Law, Politics, and Commerce	2,431	2,328	839	3,167
5. Sciences and Arts	1,973	8,618	4,319	12,937
6. Literature and Polygraphy...	7,846	24,517	47,262	71,779
Total	22,939	61,080	77,232	138,312

It would thus appear that, if an average be struck of the whole Library, each volume has been issued more than six times during the year; and, further, that each volume in the class "Theology" has been, on the average, issued somewhat more than four times; each volume in "Philosophy," six times; in "History," nearly five times; in "Law, Politics, and Commerce," about one and a half times; in "Sciences and Arts," nearly seven times; and in "Literature and Polygraphy," more than nine times.

Turning now to the Reference and Lending Departments of the Library, *severally*, the following table will exhibit the classified issues from the former department for each month of the year :—

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT.

	Theology.	Philosophy.	History.	Law, Politics, and Commerce.	Sciences and Arts.	Literature and Polygraphy.	TOTAL.
No. of vols. in the Department.....	414	281	6,897	2,072	1,373	4,707	15,744
1852.	Vols. issued.	Vols. issued.	Vols. issued.	Vols. issued.	Vols. issued.	Vols. issued.	Vols. issued.
September 6th—30th ...	127	174	3,143	360	932	2,815	7,551
October.....	88	174	2,964	279	821	2,356	6,682
November.....	95	171	2,760	278	858	3,001	7,163
December.....	82	164	2,145	216	845	2,478	5,930
1853.							
January	106	156	1,962	188	786	2,570	5,768
February	109	126	1,718	159	660	1,900	4,672
March	59	122	1,265	134	572	1,590	3,742
April.....	111	136	1,417	151	569	1,787	4,171
May	102	106	1,199	127	570	1,476	3,580
June	84	74	1,282	71	532	1,272	3,315
July	108	85	1,426	161	620	1,568	3,968
August	96	72	1,466	184	759	1,547	4,124
September 3rd—5th ...	17	9	117	20	94	157	414
Total of the year.....	1,184	1,569	22,864	2,328	8,618	24,517	61,080

It appears, therefore, that in this department each volume has, on the average, been issued nearly four times; and, further, that each volume in the class "Theology" has, on the average, been issued somewhat less than thrice; each volume in "Philosophy" nearly six times; each in "History" more than three times; each in "Law, Politics, and Commerce," little more than once; each in "Science and Arts" six times; and each in "Literature and Polygraphy" also, on the average, six times.

It will, doubtless, be evident that such comparisons can afford but a very partial test of the profitable uses to which the Library is put. Some of the books which are least often taken from the shelves, will sometimes render higher and more important service than most of those which are in daily demand. And, whatever the system of classification which may be adopted, it is scarcely possible so to distribute the issues of books as even to separate, with accuracy, those which are obviously read for mere amusement, from those which are used for the acquisition of valuable knowledge, or the cultivation of mental power.

In the preceding table, for example, the class "Sciences and Arts," although consisting chiefly of books which are used by readers who come to *study* a subject—and who, in many cases, apply daily for the same book for months together, until they have thoroughly mastered it—also comprises many books of prints, which are habitually in demand merely for pastime.

If, however, the main classes enumerated above be broken up into some of their principal subdivisions, the character of the demand which has hitherto obtained in this department of the Library may be better appreciated.

In the class "THEOLOGY," the largest demand has been for Biblical Dictionaries. Those of Calmet, of Dr. Kitto, and of Dr. Beard have all been in great request. The works of Jeremy Taylor, of Hooker, of Robert Hall, and of Bishop Horsley have also been much read. The same remark applies to Archbishop Whateley's treatise on "*The kingdom of Christ;*" and to Mr. Isaac Taylor's "*Saturday Evening.*"

The number of volumes in the class "HISTORY" issued *during the first six months* of the year was 14,692. Of this number 2,590 belonged to the section "Voyages and Travels," (of which there are now in the Library 1,628 volumes,) and upwards of 1,500 to the section "British and American History" (exclusive of biography).

The "*History of England,*" by Hume, with Smollett's continuation, was issued 31 times; that by Lingard, 41 times; that by Craik and Macfarlane, 60 times; that by T. B. Macaulay, 124 times.

The most popular work in the section "Voyages and Travels," appears to have been the compilation entitled "*Shipwrecks and Disasters at Sea,*" the issues of which were 215. Mr. Cumming's "*Hunter's Life in South Africa*" was in almost as great demand, having been applied for nearly 200 times. Dana's "*Two Years Before the Mast*" was issued 74 times, and Mr. Layard's "*Nineveh and its Remains*" about as frequently.

The demand for biographies has always been very considerable: and, more especially, for those of naval and military heroes. Of the "*Life of Wellington,*" and "*Wellington Despatches,*" there were 122 issues; of the "*Life of Nelson,*" 138; of the various histories of Napoleon, 303. Narratives of the Battle of Waterloo were asked for 180 times.

In "Topography," the most noticeable demand was for works relative to Lancashire. Of these the issues amounted to 396. As the Library at present possesses but 38 works in this section, each, on the average, was in use 10 times during the six months in question.

The number of volumes in the class "LITERATURE AND POLYGRAPHY," issued *during the first six months,* was 15,120. Of these 5,431 were Novels and Romances, and 664 were Plays, exclusive of those of Shakespeare, of which special mention will be made hereafter. In the former section the Reference Department possesses but 294 volumes; and in the latter 264. It follows, therefore, that, on the average, each volume of prose fiction was in use during this period 18 times, and each volume of plays somewhat less than thrice.

If the works of individual Novelists be compared, it appears that those of Scott have been most frequently in demand; and those of Defoe almost equally;

the issues of the former having been 1,141, and of the latter 984. "*Ivanhoe*" was issued 241 times; "*Robinson Crusoe*," 239 times; "*The Fortunes and Misfortunes of the Famous Moll Flanders*," 237; the "*History of the remarkable Life and Adventures of Colonel Jacque*," 170; "*The Fortunate Mistress; or, History of Mdlle. de Beleau, known by the name of the Lady Roxana*," 108; and "*The Life, Adventures, and Piracies of Captain Singleton*," 107 times.

The issues of the "*Thousand and One Nights*," during the same period, amounted to 294; of "*Gulliver's Travels*" to 123; of "*Roderick Random*" to 82.

Amongst the Poets, the first place is held, as it ought to be, by Shakespeare; the aggregate issue of whose works, and of books illustrative of them, reached 352. And here, as in the instance of works on British History, there is good reason to believe that the large supply, to a considerable extent, created the large demand.

Amongst "Literary Miscellanies and Periodicals," the most noticeable popularity has been attained by Chambers' *Edinburgh Journal*, the aggregate issues of which are no less than 670.

In the class "SCIENCES AND ARTS," the issues of works on Chemistry were during the same six months, 190; of works on the Steam Engine, 125; and of Treatises on the Art of Dyeing, 86. Many books of this class have been epitomized, and others textually copied by working men, as a means of improvement in their own handicrafts.

It may be right to add that, from the first, the Library of Reference has been extensively used by persons of all classes in society. Many clergymen and ministers of various denominations frequently visit it for purposes of research. Commercial men of all grades occasionally come thither in search of information on some pending question of Politics or Trade; on points connected with Patents of Inventions; and other like subjects. Young men of good education and acquirements come habitually; some to read History; some to read books on Commerce; others to study Theology or Philosophy. There are readers of this class who have come almost daily, both morning and evening, for many months. But the majority of *evening* readers,—and it is in the evenings that the Library is most largely frequented,—have always belonged to what are popularly termed "The Working Classes." Many, of course, read merely for amusement; but not a few consecutively, and with an obvious purpose of self-improvement.

The issues from the LENDING DEPARTMENT, during each month of the year, have been as follows:—

	Theology.	Philosophy.	History.	Law, Politics, and Commerce.	Sciences and Arts.	Literature and Polygraphy.	TOTAL.
No. of vols. in the Department.....	131	96	2,870	359	600	3,139	7,195
1852.	Vols. s u e d.	Vols. i s s u e d.	Vols. i s s u e d.	Vols. i s s u e d.	Vols. i s s u e d.	Vols. i s s u e d.	Vols. i s s u e d.
September 6th—30th ...	49	43	1,022	43	269	2,302	3,728
October	116	96	3,430	120	538	5,838	10,138
November.....	114	124	2,766	124	508	4,672	8,308
December	110	82	2,474	100	483	4,344	7,593
1853.							
January	114	52	2,336	50	451	4,482	7,485
February	80	51	1,824	42	370	3,718	6,085
March	60	48	1,579	61	325	3,555	5,628
April	107	74	1,792	84	388	3,921	6,366
May	84	55	1,309	55	246	3,164	4,913
June	102	70	1,250	44	220	3,492	5,178
July	110	82	1,509	66	276	3,759	5,802
August	77	60	1,357	44	219	3,482	5,239
September 3rd—5th ...	7	8	189	6	26	533	769
Total of the year ...	1,130	845	22,837	839	4,319	47,262	77,232

It appears, therefore, that in this department each volume has been issued, on the average, nearly eleven times; and, further, that each volume in the classes "Theology" and "Philosophy" has, on the average, been issued nearly nine times; each volume in the class "History," eight times; in "Law, Politics, and Commerce," twice; in "Sciences and Arts," seven times; in "Literature and Polygraphy," fifteen times.

If these issues be compared with those of the Reference Department, two points of disparity will be particularly apparent; the one, that whilst, on the average, each volume in the Reference Collection has been in use scarcely four times, each volume of the Lending Collection has been circulated nearly eleven times; the other, that the issues in the class "Literature" have been, in the Reference Department, less than five-twelfths of the aggregate issue, whilst in the Lending Department they have been nearly two-thirds of such issue.

The 3,139 volumes of the Lending Department, classed under "LITERATURE AND POLYGRAPHY," are thus composed:—

	Vols.
Poetry and the Drama	446
Novels and Romances	1,380
Essays and Literary Miscellanies	465
Periodicals and Cyclopædias	702
Collective Works of Authors	146
Total.....	3,139

The number of volumes issued in this class, *during the first six months*, was 25,356. Of these, about 22,000, or nearly seven-eighths, were "Novels and Romances." The aggregate issues in the Lending Department, during that period, having been 43,337, the circulation of works of prose fiction was more than half of the aggregate circulation. In the Reference Department, on the other hand, it was but one-seventh of the whole.

Adverting to particular works in this section of literature, the book of most frequent circulation appears to have been Mr. Dickens's Christmas story, "*The Chimes*," which, during the first six months, was issued 42 times; "*Oliver Twist*" had 30 readers, and "*Dombey and Son*" 20. One copy of Scott's "*Kenilworth*" was issued 34 times; of "*Peveiril*," 31 times; of the *Fortunes of Nigel*," 30 times. Mr. Sewell's "*Rudolph the Voyager*" had, during the same period, 36 readers; "*Pelham*" had 33; "*Vanity Fair*," 30. Of such works as these four or five times the number of copies which the Library possesses would be in equally eager demand were they forthcoming. Some considerable increase, indeed, in this class of literature, appears to be indispensable, if the present demand is to be adequately met.

In the class "HISTORY," the work most frequently issued was Whitaker's "*History of Manchester*," the first volume of which had 21 borrowers, but the second only 12. Macaulay's "*History of England*" was issued 20 times; Lingard's early volumes, 15 times; the ninth volume ten times; the tenth, 7 times; the thirteenth, only thrice. The first volume of one set of Hume had been issued to eleven readers, and that of another set to six; but of the former only two appear to have reached the sixth volume; and of the latter only one. The first and second volumes of Clarendon had, during the six months referred to, 14 readers, but the seventh volume only three. On the other hand, similar works in the Reference Library, together with the historical works of Herodotus, of Xenophon, and of Tacitus, have been in daily demand by individual readers for five or six weeks, and even for longer periods, until they had completely perused them. One reader, indeed, appears to have achieved the whole fourteen volumes of Sir Archibald Alison's "*History of Europe*."

The total number of applicants recorded, during the year, as having sent in "vouchers" for the privilege of borrowing books is 5,888. Of these 4,841 have been admitted, and 1,047 have been rejected for want of conformity with the regulations. The number of vouchers which have been withdrawn by the guarantees is 36, and the number of persons whose tickets have been cancelled for unduly detaining books without valid reason or excuse is 27. Nominally, therefore, 4,778 borrowers remain on the list; but it is believed that the actual number habitually availing themselves of the privilege has never exceeded 2,000 at one time. The number of volumes actually in circulation on the day on which this report is dated, is 1,556.*

The chief cause of this great disparity between the number of borrowers on the register and the number actually taking out books, appears to be the rapid *movement* of the working population. In the Lending department of the Library—differing in this particular from the Reference department—a large majority of the readers belong to the operative classes; and hence there is a more than usual degree of fluctuation both in the aggregate number and in the persons who compose it. Change of employment, and consequent change of abode, appears to be a very frequent cause of the disuse of the Library by those who have taken pains to procure admission to it.

This circumstance, conjoined with others,—namely, a practice of sending for books by other parties, and (consequently, perhaps) the very frequent loss of the tickets issued to the borrowers,—which have shewn themselves to be the principal impediments to the good working of the Lending Department, seem to make it highly desirable that, for the future, the admission to borrow books should be for a fixed period—say for one year,—at the end of which a fresh application should *in every case* be required in order to its renewal; that, secondly, the ticket should need to be endorsed with the name of any person authorized to receive books, not being the borrower; and, thirdly, that the chief rules concerning the circulation and return of books should be printed on the back of every ticket.

At present it is provided, by the "Rules and Regulations" provisionally in force, that a fresh application should only be requisite in case six months shall have elapsed without a book having been applied for. This condition, Mr. Edwards has reason to think, has been practically inoperative. The passage referred to is *underscored* in the copy of "PROVISIONAL RULES AND REGULATIONS," subjoined to this Report.

* The details are as follows:—

LENDING DEPARTMENT, 6th October, 1853.				
	Vols in circulation.	Vols on the shelves.	Vols at binder's or awaiting binding.	Total Vols in Lending Department.
Theology and Philosophy ...	6	163	8	227
History	425	2,374	71	2,870
Law, Politics, and Commerce	50	308	1	359
Science and Arts	81	489	30	600
Literature and Polygraphy...	944	1,929	266	3,139
Totals	1,556	5,263	376	7,195

It has been stated that a large majority of the *borrowers* of books belong to the operative class. No detailed account of the occupations or position of borrowers has yet been prepared; but it may be useful to add, as an approximation to such a statement, the following estimate of the classes frequenting the Lending Department, founded, like the preceding details respecting the classification of books issued, on the experience of the first six months:—

1.—MALES.		Estimated Numbers.
Warehousemen, Packers, and others employed in warehouses	400	
Artisans, Mechanics, and Machinists	350	
Mill Hands	200	
Assistants in Shops	120	
Clerks	100	
Shopkeepers.....	60	
Estimated Number of Adults		1,230
Persons of superior position to those enumerated	120	
Boys; partly at school, (including Pupil-teachers,) and living with their families; partly employed in offices and shops	350	
Wholly unascertained	50	
Estimated Total.....		1,750
2.—FEMALES.		
Dressmakers, Assistants in Shops and Warehouses, &c.	110	
Mill Hands	90	
Pupil-teachers belonging to Schools in connexion with the Committee of Council.....	20	
Persons of superior position	30	
Estimated Gross Total.....		2,000

During the first year the books of the Lending Department have been thrice called in and examined, viz., in March, in June, and in September. On the final examination of the Register Books on the first occasion, 45 books had to be sought for at the houses of the borrowers. Of these 41 were obtained, one was paid for, and three were lost. On the second occasion, 22 books had to be called for; 17 of which were obtained, and five were paid for. On the third occasion, 19 borrowers had to be visited; and of these 18 returned their books, and the nineteenth could not be found, but one of his guarantees has paid for the volume. In two other cases, books which had been lost were replaced by the borrowers without application. On the whole, so far as the examination of the Register

Books has proceeded, only three volumes have been actually lost to the Library, out of the 77,232 which have been issued from the Lending Department.

Mr. Edwards deems it desirable here to add that the general result of his examination of the *condition* of the Lending Books is, that works which are in constant circulation, like those which have been specified, will, on the average, need to be replaced within two years at most. It does not appear that such works, when in average condition at the outset, will circulate more than fifty times without needing to be rebound, or that they are likely to continue fit for rebinding more than once. He has observed but very few instances of what can be termed wanton carelessness on the part of the borrowers, but the wear and tear of books in such constant use must of necessity be great.

DONATIONS.

During the year, 1,933 volumes have been added to the Library by donation, exclusive of Parliamentary Papers and of Tracts. Amongst these are included 614 volumes, expressly selected and purchased for the Library (chiefly for the Lending Department) by the munificence of the present Mayor, Robert Barnes, Esq., and constituting the most valuable donation it has ever received. Three hundred and twenty-five volumes of valuable books have also been presented by Alexander Henry, Esq., and 140 volumes—purchased expressly for the Library—by Nicholas Heald, Esq. Very liberal contributions have also been received from the Legislature of the State of New York, (comprising the fine work on the Natural History of that State, of which eighteen volumes have already been published,) and from the Smithsonian Institution at Washington.

In addition to the books thus presented, an important augmentation of the Reference Library has been obtained by the gift of a very extensive collection of Parliamentary Reports and Papers, extending over a period of thirty years, from Henry Houldsworth, Esq., as one of the executors of the late Thomas Houldsworth, M.P. for North Nottinghamshire. This donation also included a considerable number of Tracts—many of them local—and of miscellaneous books. When the Parliamentary Papers are properly arranged and bound, it is estimated that Mr. Houldsworth's gift will add about 1,020 volumes to the Library of Reference.

An important collection of Parliamentary Reports and Papers has also been presented by Alexander Henry, Esq. These are, for the most part, of later dates than those of Mr. Houldsworth, and extend to the Session of 1852. When arranged and bound, they will probably make 300 additional volumes.

Donations of reports and public documents having been received prior to the opening of the Library from the then Secretaries of State for the Home Department and the Colonies, application has been made to their successors for the grant of similar papers of later dates. Lord Palmerston stated in reply, that he saw no reason for supplying them at the public expense; but His Grace the Duke of Newcastle most liberally forwarded about 25 volumes of documents on the affairs of the Colonies, from 1850 to 1853.

It will become the more desirable that all these Blue Books should, as speedily as possible, be made available for readers, as there is now little doubt that the collection will in future be kept up by the liberality of Parliament, without other expense to the City than that of binding and shelf room. In the recent report of the Select Committee on Parliamentary Papers, the following passage occurs :—

“ Wherever Free Libraries are established, your Committee recommend that *upon application from the managing body*, the Parliamentary Papers should thereupon be sent to them, free of all charge, immediately upon publication.”

That works of this class will be of great service in the Free Library, experience has already shewn. There have always been readers habitually frequenting it for the purpose of consulting such books, although hitherto very few have been available for their use. There have, indeed, been several instances of such readers coming four or five times successively to the Library in search of some report or other paper, access to which could not at once be obtained.

In addition to the books and public documents which have thus been presented to the Library, two donations of money have been received and expended in its augmentation. For this purpose, a sum of £5. was presented by Mr. Golland; and a sum of £75. by the Shakesperian Society of Manchester, being the proceeds of an amateur performance at the Theatre Royal.

With these sums, 447 volumes of books were purchased, chiefly for the lending department; and an important addition was made to the collection of Tracts on Commerce, and on the local affairs of the district.

Besides the donations which have been actually received, the Commissioners of Patents have promised a collection of Specifications of Patents and other documents connected with the business of the Patent Office; and Mr. Bazley, president of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, has promised a set of the valuable “Illustrated Catalogues” of the ‘Great Exhibition’ of 1851.

Mr. Alderman Moon, of London, has liberally presented 150 Engravings to the Library. Many of these are of high character, and very suitable for framing. The small collection of framed engravings which has hitherto been exhibited, has always been a great source of attraction; and during the year must have contributed to the gratification of many thousands of persons.

During the autumn and winter of 1852, a series of free LECTURES was most liberally delivered in the Library by the Rev. Dr. Vaughan, Principal of the Lancashire Independent College; by A. J. Scott, Esq., Principal of Owen’s College; and by F. Crace Calvert, Esq., Professor of Chemistry in the Royal Manchester Institution. Dr. Vaughan’s lectures were on the “Use and study of History”; Principal Scott’s, on “The Literature of Poetry and Fiction;” and Professor Crace Calvert’s, on “Coal and its applications.” These Lectures were

attended by crowded audiences, were listened to with evident delight, and were productive of a noticeable effect on the demand for books in the Library of Reference.

Up to the present period, the NEWS ROOM has been supplied exclusively by donations. The proprietors of the four Manchester papers have regularly contributed three copies of each publication. One London daily paper, *The Daily News*, has been regularly presented; another, *The Times*, has been occasionally received. *The Spectator*, *The Economist*, *The Builder*, *The Midland Counties Herald*, *The Carnarvon and Denbigh Herald*, *The Herald of Peace*, *The Non-conformist*, *The Patriot*, *The British Banner*, and *The Northern Daily Times*, are regularly presented. American papers are also habitually received (through the courtesy of Dr. J. W. Hudson) at the mere cost of postage.

The number of persons attending the News Room is estimated to be, on the average, at least 350 daily. To these readers, the regular supply of *The Times*, the London *Examiner*, *The Athenæum*, and of a few additional provincial papers, especially those of Liverpool, would be a great boon.

The following summary will serve to indicate the amount of WORK which has been performed in the Free Library during the past year :—

138,312 volumes have been taken from and restored to the shelves. Of these, 77,232 have been entered and chequed off in the Lending "Register Books;" and the tickets given for the 61,080 Reference volumes have been filed and examined. The whole of the 138,312 volumes issued have been classified according to their subjects.

5,800 "vouchers," or forms of guarantee, sent in by applicants for books from the Lending Department, have been examined and compared with the Burgess rolls. 4,840 tickets have been written for borrowers, and the names and addresses of the parties entered in the "Guarantee Book;" and about 1,000 tickets have been renewed. An alphabetical index of the names of borrowers has also been prepared.

6,790 volumes, and every plate and map contained in them, have been stamped and press-marked. 2,180 volumes have been catalogued in each of three sets of catalogues; and 1,933 of these have, in addition, been catalogued in the donation book.

Upwards of 700 volumes of Parliamentary Reports have been examined and roughly classified; and a portion of these have been revised and chronologically arranged for binding.

Of the Political and Commercial TRACTS, 3,158 have been examined, classified, and chronologically arranged, in 409 volumes.

The following table shews the several subjects of the Tracts thus arranged, and will afford some partial idea of the character of the collection:—

	No. of Tracts.
Bankruptcy Laws	32
Charities	11
Church Affairs	225
Church of Scotland	28
Chartism	15
Coal Trade.....	23
Corn Trade and Corn Laws	192
Corporations	23
Colonies.....	123
Cotton Trade.....	29
Crime	35
Currency	357
Docks	17
Education	225
India (British)	192
Inland Navigation.....	14
Manchester	33
Mines	20
Navigation Laws	23
National Distress	10
Parliament	59
Patents and Copyright	22
Peace and War	36
Peerage	14
Political Satires	25
Politics (Miscellaneous).....	266
Poor Laws.....	206
Population.....	13
Public Records	17
Public Works	36
Sanatory Affairs	20
Savings' Banks.....	29
Slavery	79
Taxation	328
Trade and Commerce (Miscellaneous)	201
Wages and Combinations	105
Wine Duties	10
Woollen Trade, &c.	65
Total yet arranged	3,158

310 Biographical Tracts have also been alphabetically arranged in 40 volumes.

During the year, 4,177 volumes have been bound, viz., 2,643 for the Reference department, and 1,534 for the Lending department. Every book has been twice entered: first, in the Binding book; and secondly, on a "Lettering" list, given to the binder;—and twice chequed off on its return. 1,279 additional volumes have been lettered, numbered, and labelled, for the Lending library; and 160 reference volumes have been repaired.

The whole of the books in the Lending department have been, on three several occasions, called over, for the verification of their presence on the shelves, And in order to the future more easy and more certain repetition of this necessary process, a new "Hand Catalogue" of the Lending Library has been prepared in which all the books are entered in the briefest form, in the order of their numbers.

A similar verification of the books in the Reference department is now in process, and a fair copy of its "Hand Catalogue" has been commenced.

Three new sets of catalogues have also been prepared for the Lending Library, and new transcripts of the Reference Catalogues, are in active progress.

The EXPENDITURE for the year ending on the 5th ultimo has been as follows:—

I.—PERMANENT EXPENSES.			
	£.	s.	d.
Books (in continuation of Reviews and Magazines).....	11	18	10
Bookbinding	423	9	3
Coals and Coke.....	18	5	7
Gas	83	10	5
Insurance	21	0	7
Postage, Parcels, Railway carriage, and other petty expenses...	31	2	8
Printing, Stationery, Registers, Catalogues, &c.	97	3	6
Salaries and Wages	633	15	2
Water.....	9	6	0
Total of permanent expenses.....	£1,329	12	0
II.—TEMPORARY EXPENSES.			
Advertisements	16	4	6
Law expenses	15	13	6
Lecture expenses	39	10	0
Police... ..	15	19	0
Repairs, Fittings, and Furniture	229	5	11
Gross Total.....	£1,646	4	11

To the present Report two lists of *Desiderata* are appended. The first is a List of Periodicals and other works in the Reference Department. which are yet imperfect. The second is a List of Books not at present contained in that Department, which have been repeatedly applied for by readers.

Those books in the last-named list which are marked with an asterisk (*)—such as “Repertory of Inventions,” “Patent Journal,” “Berzelius on the Blow-pipe,” “Burnet on Painting,” “Ure’s Dictionary of Arts,” &c.—have been asked for thirty or forty times; and the supply of them would be deemed a great boon by some of the most habitual and most studious of the readers.

EDWARD EDWARDS,

Principal Librarian.

Manchester, 6th October, 1853.

APPENDIX No. 1.

PROVISIONAL RULES AND REGULATIONS.

(October 23rd, 1851.)

I.—The Librarian shall have the general charge of the Libraries, and shall be responsible for the safe keeping of the books, and of all other property belonging thereto.

II.—The *Library of Reference* shall be open to the public gratuitously every day,—Sundays, Christmas Day, and Good Friday excepted,—from the hour of ten in the morning to the hour of nine in the evening; and the *Lending Library* from the hour of twelve at noon to the hour of two in the afternoon, and also from the hour of six to that of nine in the evening: except on Saturdays, when the *Lending Library* shall be open from twelve at noon until nine in the evening.

[III.—Every person, on entering the Library of Reference, or the Lending Library, shall write, or cause to be written, his or her name and address, in a book to be provided in each room for that purpose; and it shall be the duty of the person in charge of each department respectively, to see that this regulation is invariably complied with; and such signature shall be taken and considered to be an assent to these Rules and Regulations; and without it, no person shall be allowed to obtain any book.]

IV.—No person shall be admitted who is intoxicated, or in an uncleanly condition; nor shall any audible conversation be permitted in either of the Libraries; nor shall any person be allowed to partake of refreshments therein;—and any person who shall offend against these regulations, or shall be guilty of any other misconduct, shall not be allowed to remain within the building.

V.—No person shall be allowed to pass within the enclosure in the Lending Library, or to take any book from the shelves of the Reference Library, except by permission of the Librarian; and no book or other article shall be taken out of the Reference Library.

In compliance with a resolution of the Committee, passed on the 24th Sep. 1852, this 3rd Regulation has not been enforced.

VI.—Two or more Catalogues shall always be kept in the Reference Library for the use of the readers; [and the Librarian shall enter, or cause to be entered, in a book to be provided for that purpose, the title of every book delivered to a reader for perusal;] and each reader shall sign a receipt for every book [so] delivered; and shall, before leaving the room, return such book or books into the hands of the Librarian, or of his Assistant.

In compliance with a Resolution as above, so much of the 6th Resolution as is enclosed within brackets is not now enforced.

VII.—Two or more Catalogues shall also be provided for the use of the public in the Lending Library; but no person shall be allowed to borrow a book from the Library, without first obtaining the signatures and addresses of two ratepayers whose names appear on the burgess roll of Manchester, or on that of Salford, to the following Voucher:—

“ We, A— B—, of _____ in the _____ and C— D—, declare that we believe E— F—, of _____ in the _____ to be a person to whom books may safely be entrusted for perusal; and we hereby undertake to replace any book belonging to the MANCHESTER FREE LIBRARY which shall be lost or materially injured by the said E— F—.

(Signed) _____

“ Dated this _____ day of _____ 18 _____ .”

“ When either of the persons who may have signed this engagement shall desire to withdraw from it, he must give notice thereof in writing to the Librarian, who will give a release as soon as he shall have ascertained that no liability has been incurred.”

This Voucher must have been delivered to the Librarian three days before the first issue of books to the person recommended; and all books borrowed must be returned to the Library within the time specified on the respective covers thereof, under the penalties therein stated; and if in any case six months shall have elapsed between the due return of a book lent and the application for another, then a fresh voucher must be produced, as on the first application.

[See preceding Report, page 34.]

VIII.—The Librarian shall carefully examine, or cause to be examined, each book returned, and if the same be found to have sustained any damage or injury, or to have been rendered of less value by being soiled or written in, he shall require the person to whom the same was delivered, or the ratepayers on whose guarantee it was lent, to pay the amount of damage or injury done; or otherwise to procure a new copy of equal value; and in the latter case, such person shall be entitled to the damaged copy on depositing the new one.

IX.—If any person to whom a book shall have been delivered in the Reference Library shall not re-deliver the same to the Librarian or his assistant, before leaving the room, or if any borrower shall not return to the Lending Library,

within due time, the book or books lent to him, or shall refuse or neglect to pay on demand, the amount of any loss, damage, or injury, or to procure another copy as before mentioned, then the amount of such loss, damage, or injury, or the value of such book, shall be recoverable from the person or persons as aforesaid, as a debt, in any action or proceeding applicable to the recovery of debts of like amount, in which action or proceeding the Mayor, Aldermen, and Citizens of the City of Manchester shall be the plaintiffs; and the fact of their being the persons entitled, shall be taken to be admitted by the defendant.

X.—The two last preceding rules shall likewise be enforced, so far as the same are applicable, in cases where any damage or injury shall have been done to any other property in the Libraries.

XI.—The Librarian shall have power to refuse books to any reader or borrower who shall neglect to comply with the rules and regulations of the Library; but any person so refused shall have liberty to appeal to the Library Committee.

XII.—No person under the age of fourteen years shall be admitted to the Reference Library.

APPENDIX No. 2.

I.—LIST OF INCOMPLETE PERIODICALS AND OTHER WORKS.

- Agricultural Society's Journal; *wants from* Vol. 12, (1851,) *inclusive*.
 Annual Register; *wants* 1849; 1850; 1852.
 Archæologia; *wants from* Vol. 25, (1833,) *inclusive*.
 Archæological Journal; *wants from* Vol. 8, *inclusive*.
 Astronomical Journal; *wants from* 1847, No. 33, (Dec. 1851,) *inclusive*.
 Asiatic Society's Journal; *wants from* Vol. 1—7; *and* Part 2 of Vol. 12.
 Athenæum; *wants from commencement to* 1832, *inclusive*; *and from* 1849-52.

 Bancroft's History of the American Revolution; *wants* Vol. 3.
 Botanical Magazine; *wants from* Vol. 16, N.S. (No. 193.) *
 British Quarterly Review; *wants from* Vol. 1—11.
 Builder; *wants for* 1851 *and* 1852.

 Camden Society's Publications; *want for* 1853.
 Chambers' Edinburgh Journal, N.S.; *wants from* Jan. 1851, *inclusive*.

 De Bow's Commercial Review; *wants from* June, 1852.

 Ecclesiologist, N.S.; *wants from* Vol. 9.
 Engineer and Machinist; *wants from* Vol. 9 (Jan. 1852).
 English Review; *wants from* Vol. 3 (1845).

 Fairfax Correspondence; *wants* Vols. 3 *and* 4.
 Farmer's Magazine; *wants from* 1826 *to* 1846, *inclusive*, *and from* 1850 *to* 1853.
 Foreign Quarterly Review; *wants* Vols. 1—5, *and* 14 *to the end*.

 Geological Society's Transactions; *want from* Vol. 7, N.S. (1843.)

 Hakluyt Society's Publications; *want from* 1849.
 Hansard's Parliamentary Debates; first Series, *want* Vols. 37 *and* 38; third
 Series, *want from* Vol. 3 (March, 1831).
 Hazlitt's Plain Speaker; *wants* Vol. 2.

 Journals of the House of Commons; *want from* 1851, *inclusive*.
 Journal of Design; *wants* Vols. 4, 5, *and* 6.

Liebig and Kopp's Annual Report on Chemistry and the Allied Sciences ; *wants*
Vols. 3 and 4.

Library of Illustrated Scientific Works ; *wants from 1851, inclusive.*

Liverpool Philosophical Society's Proceedings ; *want from 1849, inclusive.*

London Gazette ; *wants from 1825 to 1833, and from Jan. 1850, to Oct. 1853,
inclusive.*

Magazine of Natural History, N.S. ; *wants from Vol. 5, inclusive.*

Manchester Guardian ; *wants all prior to 1833, and the year 1842.*

Manchester Courier ; *wants all prior to 1846, and 1852.*

Manchester Examiner ; *wants 1852.*

Monastic Ruins of Yorkshire ; *wants from Part 7, inclusive.*

Philosophical Transactions ; *want from 1830, inclusive.*

Public Works of the United States of America ; *wants from Part 3.*

Ray Society's Publications ; *want from 1848, inclusive.*

*Ruskin's Stones of Venice ; *wants Vols. 2 and 3.*

Shakespeare Society's Publications ; *want from 1849, inclusive.*

Silliman's Journal, N.S. ; *wants from June, 1852, inclusive.*

Sowerby's English Botany, Supplement ; *wants from No. 76, inclusive.*

Statutes at Large ; *want from Vol. 20, Part 2, inclusive (1850).*

Times ; *wants all prior to 1818, and all subsequent to 1850.*

Transactions of the Institute of Civil Engineers ; *want from Vol. 4, (1843),
inclusive.*

Transactions of the Society of Arts ; *want from Vol. 2, (N.S., 1849), inclusive.*

Zoologist ; *wants from Vol. 9, (1851), inclusive.*

2.—LIST OF WORKS NOT IN THE LIBRARY, BUT REPEATEDLY APPLIED FOR.

Aikin's Illustrations of Arts and Manufactures.

Art Journal.

Brewster's Treatise on Magnetism.

Bourne's Catechism of the Steam Engine.

*Brookes' Cottage and Villa Architecture.

*Burnet's Works on Painting.

*Bulwer Lytton's Poems and Plays.

————— Last of the Barons.

*Berzelius on the use of the Blow Pipe.

Britannia Depicta.

- Census Returns of 1851.
 Conchological Manual.
 Crowther and Bowman's Churches of the Middle Ages.
 Dodd's Church History of England.
 Dickens' Pictures from Italy.
 *Dyer and Colour Maker's Companion.
 Dynamical Theory of the formation of the Earth.
 *Eastlake's (Sir C. L.) Handbooks of Painting.
 Essay on Magna Charta.
 Enquiry into the origin and early history of Engraving.
 Elements of Curves.
 Essay on Symbolic Colours.
 Eloquence of the British Senate (by Hazlitt.)
 *Eclectic Review.
 Foxe's Acts and Monuments.
 Fox's Journals, Letters, &c., by Lord J. Russell.
 Featherstonhaugh's Canoe Voyage up the Minnay Sotor.
 Grier's Mechanic's Pocket Dictionary.
 Gilly's Shipwrecks of the Royal Navy.
 Gessert's Art of Painting on Glass.
 Hunt's Critical Essays on London Performers.
 *Hooker's British Flora.
 Hazlitt's Political Essays.
 Hullmandel's Manual of Lithography.
 Haydon's Autobiography.
 Henfrey's Outlines of Physiological Botany.
 Household Words.
 Illustrated London News.
 Indian Empire (Our)
 Landor's Bushman, or Life in a Colony.
 Lindsay's Irish Coinage.
 Lardner's Arithmetic.
 Larpent's Journal in the Peninsula.
 Lectures on the Theory of Grammar.
 Moore on Perspective.
 Murray's Guide to London.
 Moffat's Missionary Labours.
 Memoirs of Celebrated Female Sovereigns.
 Mechanical Engineering and Architecture.
 Potter's Mechanics.
 Peckston on Gas Lighting.
 Palatine Anthology.
 Practical Cabinetmaker.
 *Practical Dyer's Assistant.

Painting, the Art of.
 *Patent Journal.
 Reid's Treatise on Clock and Watch Making.
 Railway Mensuration.
 *Repertory of Inventions.
 *Shaw's Encyclopædia of Ornaments.
 Smee's Electro-Biology.
 Salisbury Cathedral, Historical Account of.
 Specimens of Ornamental Metal Work.
 Talfourd's Poems.
 *Tait's Edinburgh Magazine.
 Tyson's Mensuration.
 Treatise on the Manufactures of Great Britain.
 Theory and Practice of Ship Building.
 Treatise on Wood Engraving, Historical and Practical.
 Times, for 1851 and 1852.
 *Ure's Dictionary of Arts, Manufactures, and Mines.
 Upholsterer's Guide.
 Walker's Essay on Architectural Practice.
 Wightwick's Palace of Architecture.
 Watherston's Art of Assaying Gold

“ON THE LIBRARIE AT CAMBRIDGE.

“IN that great maze of books I sighed, and said,—
‘It is a grave-yard, and each tome a tombe;
Shrouded in hempen rags, behold the dead,
Coffined and ranged in crypts of dismal gloom,
Food for the worme and redolent of mold,
Trac’d with brief epitaph in tarnished gold.’—
Ah, golden-lettered hope!—ah, dolorous doom!
“YET, ’mid the common death, where all is cold,
And mildewed pride in desolation dwells,
A few great Immortalities of old
Stand brightly forth—not tombes, but living shrines,
Where from high saint or martyr virtue wells,
Which on the living yet works miracles,
Spreading a relic wealth richer than golden mines.

“J. M. 1627.”

*With the writer's
Compliment*

SECOND ANNUAL REPORT

TO

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
MANCHESTER,

ON THE WORKING OF THE

MANCHESTER

FREE LIBRARY.

OCTOBER 19TH, 1854.

MANCHESTER:

CAVE & SEVER, PRINTERS, PALATINE BUILDINGS, HUNT'S BANK.

1854.

SECOND ANNUAL REPORT

TO

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
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MANCHESTER:

CAVE & SEVER, PRINTERS, PALATINE BUILDINGS, HUNT'S BANK.

1854.

REPORT.

The *Free Public Library Committee* report—

Your Committee have received the annexed Report (and Appendix) of the working of the Library during the past year, prepared by Mr. Edwards, the principal librarian, and which your Committee have much pleasure in submitting for the information of the Council.

On behalf of the Committee,

JOHN SHAWCROSS, *Deputy Chairman.*

Town Hall, December 1st, 1854

REPORT.

MR. EDWARDS has the honour to report, that the issues of books from the FREE LIBRARY, during the year which ended on the 5th of September last, were as follows:—

	Vols.
1. From the Reference Department	64,578
2. From the Lending Department	77,767
Total issue	142,345

The Library having been open during 292 whole days in that year,—in addition to six days in Easter week, on which it was open during but a portion of the day,—the average daily issue on such days has been 487 volumes: namely, from the Reference Department, 221 volumes; and from the Lending Department, 266 volumes.

During the year ending on the 5th September, 1853, the average daily issue was 461 volumes: namely, from the Reference Department, 204 volumes; and from the Lending Department, 257 volumes. It follows, that during the last year, there has been an average increase in the Reference Library issues of about nine per cent.; and in the Lending Library issues of about three per cent. It will be seen, however, from the subjoined table of the issues for each month during which the Library has been open, that during the first four months of the year just completed, there was a large *decrease* in the issues as compared with those of the corresponding months of the former year; so that the *increase* now reported belongs exclusively to the period between January and September, 1854.

The total issue during that period, of eight months, has been 91,757 volumes, against 81,219 volumes in the corresponding period of 1853. The details run thus:—

	1853.	1854.	Increased issue in 1854 as compared with 1853.
	Jan. 1 to Sep. 5, both inclusive.	Jan. 1 to Sep. 5, both inclusive.	
	vols.	vols.	vols.
From Reference Department...	33,751	40,633	6,879
From Lending Department ...	47,465	51,124	3,659
Total	81,219	91,757	10,538

It follows, that during the first eight months of 1854, as compared with the first eight months of 1853, there has been an increase in the issues from the Reference Library of twenty per cent.; and an increase in those from the Lending Library of about nine per cent.

Table of monthly issues since the opening of the Library.

The following Table exhibits the monthly issues, and the daily average issue for each month, of both departments, during the two years which have elapsed since the Library was opened to the public:—

Year ending 5th September, 1853.				Year ending 5th September, 1854.			
		Month.					
Vols. issued from Reference Department.	Vols. issued from Lending Department.	Total No. of Vols. issued.	Daily average of Total issue. Vols.	1852.]		[1853.	
				September 6—30	October	November.....	December
7,551	3,728	11,279	512	5,163	5,506	10,669	485
6,682	10,188	16,820	646	6,353	7,507	13,860	533
7,163	8,308	15,471	595	6,571	6,594	13,165	506
5,930	7,593	13,523	520	5,858	7,036	12,894	537
5,768	7,485	13,253	509	7,478	7,360	14,838	593
4,072	6,085	10,757	448	6,813	6,335	13,148	547
3,742	5,628	9,370	407	5,476	7,217	12,693	529
4,171	6,366	10,537	405	3,443	5,821	9,264	484
3,580	4,913	8,493	326	4,408	5,938	10,346	383
3,315	5,178	8,493	353	2,989	3,811	6,800	324
3,968	5,802	9,770	375	4,250	6,646	10,896	436
4,124	5,239	9,363	346	4,991	6,961	11,952	442
414	769	1,183	591	785	1,035	1,820	455
61,080	77,232	138,312	Mean daily average, 461	64,578	77,767	142,345	Mean daily average, 487
				..... Totals.....			

The subjoined table shows the monthly issues from the REFERENCE DEPARTMENT in the several classes of Literature, for both years:—

Issues from Reference Department in the year ending 5th September, 1853.							Issues from Reference Department in the year ending 5th September, 1854.						
Month.							Month.						
Class I. Theology.	Class II. Philosophy.	Class III. History.	Class IV. Law, Politics, and Commerce.	Class V. Sciences and Arts.	Class VI. Literature and Polygraphy.	Total issue.	Class I. Theology.	Class II. Philosophy.	Class III. History.	Class IV. Law, Politics, and Commerce.	Class V. Sciences and Arts.	Class VI. Literature and Polygraphy.	Total issue.
127	174	3,143	360	932	2,815	7,551	132	73	1,786	154	894	2,124	5,163
88	174	2,964	279	821	2,356	6,682	100	186	2,125	244	816	2,932	6,353
95	171	2,760	278	858	3,001	7,163	69	142	2,202	236	780	3,142	6,571
82	164	2,145	216	845	2,478	5,930	84	114	1,947	165	702	2,846	5,858
							104	180	2,448	294	761	3,691	7,478
109	126	1,718	159	660	1,900	4,672	123	197	2,209	284	738	3,267	6,813
59	122	1,265	134	572	1,590	3,742	143	104	1,778	167	613	2,671	5,476
111	136	1,417	151	569	1,787	4,171	63	66	1,135	107	421	1,651	3,443
102	106	1,199	127	570	1,476	3,580	117	92	1,305	150	693	2,051	4,408
84	74	1,282	71	532	1,272	3,315	134	101	918	107	484	1,245	2,989
108	85	1,426	161	620	1,568	3,968	107	102	1,033	136	698	2,124	4,250
96	72	1,466	184	759	1,547	4,124	152	94	1,355	304	871	2,215	4,391
17	9	117	20	94	157	414	20	16	247	47	112	343	785
1,184	1,569	22,864	2,328	8,618	24,517	61,080	1,348	1,417	20,538	2,325	8,578	30,302	64,578
Totals							Totals						

Classification of the issues from the Reference Department of the Library.

SUMMARY OF ISSUES FROM REFERENCE DEPARTMENT.

First Year, 1852-3.	Classes.	Second Year, 1853-4.
Vols.		Vols.
1,184	... 1. Theology	1,348
1,569	... 2. Philosophy	1,417
22,864	... 3. History	20,538
2,328	... 4. Law, Politics, & Commerce...	2,395
8,618	... 5. Sciences and Arts	8,578
24,517	... 6. Literature and Polygraphy ...	30,302
61,080	..... TOTALS	64,578

During the year, 2966 vouchers have been received from applicants for admission to the LENDING DEPARTMENT. Of this number 2,163 have been accepted, and 803 have been rejected for want of conformity with the regulations. Sixteen Vouchers have been withdrawn; and fifty-six borrowers have been struck off the list for undue detention of the books lent to them, or for otherwise disregarding the regulations. The total number of persons admitted to the Lending Department from its opening,—exclusive of those whose tickets have been cancelled,—is 6,869.

During the same period, 38 volumes appear to have been lost or seriously injured whilst in the borrowers' hands;—29 of which have been paid for, or replaced, by the borrowers themselves; and 5 by their guaranties. The value of the remaining 4 volumes has not been recovered. In 35 other cases of slighter injury to books, or their bindings, compensation has been made by the payment of small fines. The total number of volumes actually lost to the Library, since its opening, so far as has yet been ascertained, is *seven*, out of an aggregate issue, in the Lending Department, of 155,000 volumes. But, as must have been anticipated, a considerable number of books have been fairly worn out by the extent to which they have been circulated. Most of those which are at present in this condition belong to the class "Prose Fiction," of which about 400 volumes need now to be replaced.

Since the beginning of July, a printed Catalogue of the Lending Library—compiled under the direction of the Library Sub-Committee, from the existing temporary Catalogue in MS.—has been on sale. Of that Catalogue 480 complete copies have been sold up to the date of this Report, and 628 copies of the several sections, namely:—

Of section 1. Theology and Philosophy.....	Copies.
" 2. History.....	88
" 3. Law, Politics, Commerce, Sciences, and Arts.....	134
" 4. Poetry and the Drama.....	110
" 5. Prose Fiction	64
" 6. Miscellaneous Literature.....	124
	108
Total of the various sections.....	628

At the date of the last Report, the estimated total number of volumes in the Library was 25,299. Of these, 18,104 volumes were in the Reference Department; and 7,195 in the Lending Department. The latter were all bound and catalogued. But of the former, 2,360 volumes—consisting chiefly of books and tracts on Political and Commercial subjects—were unbound, unarranged, and, for the most part, uncatalogued; and could not therefore be regarded as properly available for the service of readers. The total number of *available* volumes, in both departments together, was estimated at 22,939.

During the last year, 1059 volumes have been added to the Library by donation; a few of the periodical and serial works already in the Library have been continued by purchase; and considerable progress has been made with the classification and binding of the collection on “POLITICS AND COMMERCE” above-mentioned. And although no progress has been made with the *cataloguing* of this valuable collection, the volumes which are bound have been made partially available to readers.

Amongst the DONATIONS which merit special mention are those of H. R. H. the Prince Albert; of the British and Foreign Bible Society; of Sir John Potter; of Thomas Bazley, Esq., President of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce; of the Right Honourable the Earl of Yarborough; of the Trustees of the State Library of New York; and of Henry Houldsworth, Esq.

To Prince Albert the Library is indebted for a copy of the interesting work of Mr. Petermann on the recent expedition to Central Africa, undertaken by the late Mr. James Richardson and his colleagues, under the auspices of the Foreign Office. To the Bible Society,—and more especially to the Lord Bishop of Manchester, who loses no opportunity of testifying the kindly interest he continues to take in the progress of the Library;—we owe a most valuable series of translations of the *Holy Scriptures*, in German, Danish, Swedish, French, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, Hungarian, Polish, and Romic;—of the *New Testament*, in Armenian, Turkish, Russ, Tahitian, Samoan, Tongan, Feejee, and New Zealandic;—and of *St. Luke's Gospel* and the *Acts of the Apostles*, in Chinese. From Sir John Potter have been received, a complete set of the very useful work entitled *Repertory of Arts, Manufactures, and Patent Inventions*, from 1794 to 1853, in 119 volumes; and an extensive collection of Tracts on Political, Commercial, and Miscellaneous subjects—partly formed by the late Lord Bexley, when Chancellor of the Exchequer,—comprising 1,819 separate works and pamphlets, in about 360 volumes, and constituting an important addition to those valuable collections of the materials of our Political and Commercial History which were already a prominent feature of the Reference Department of the Library. Mr. Bazley has not only most kindly presented the *Official Descriptive and Illustrated Catalogue of the Great Exhibition of Industry of 1851*, (in four volumes,) with other works on the same subject, but has also placed in the Library a very valuable and extensive collection of printed and lithographed documents connected with the history of that Exhibition from its first projection to its close. Lord Yarborough has presented (through

Messrs. W. H. Smith and Sons) 58 volumes of the *Journals of the House of Lords*, with three volumes of *Indexes*. Mr. Houldsworth has added to the liberal gift mentioned in the Report of last year, about 120 volumes of Parliamentary Reports and Papers of recent date. About 50 similar volumes, of various dates, have been presented by James Heywood, Esq., M.P. And the Trustees of the State Library of New York have sent some excellent works on the history of that State, in continuation of former gifts.

Very few donations of books suitable for the Lending Department have been received during the past year. But the contribution of such books by any of its well-wishers would be a most acceptable boon.

The present contents of the Library may be thus enumerated:—

CLASSES.	No. of Vols. in Reference Department.	No. of Vols. in Lending Department.	Total No. of Vols.
1. Theology	560	137	697
2. Philosophy.....	292	97	389
3. History	7,113	2,956	10,069
4. Politics and Commerce.....	4,769	421	5,190
5. Sciences and Arts.....	1,902	615	2,517
6. Literature and Polygraphy	4,562	3,320	7,882
Totals.....	19,198	7,546	26,744

Of the 19,198 volumes belonging to the Reference Department, about 1,140 volumes—consisting, as before, chiefly of Tracts and of Parliamentary Reports and Papers—are still unbound.

The number of volumes bound during the past year, (including those which are still in the binders' hands,) is 4,434; of which 2,802 belong to the Reference Department, and 1,632 to the Lending Department. 640 volumes have also been repaired, lettered, &c., of which 482 belong to the Reference Department, and 158 to the Lending Department. The total number of volumes bound since the opening of the Library to the public, is 8,601; and the total number which have been repaired, or lettered, numbered, and labelled, is 2,079, making an aggregate of 10,680 volumes, which have passed through the binders' hands since September, 1852.

In the working of the NEWS ROOM during the past year, little has occurred which appears to call for particular remark. The supply of Newspapers has continued to be dependant on gifts, and has been nearly the same both in character and extent as was stated in the last Report. As before, the Proprietors of the *Manchester Examiner and Times* have presented three copies of each publication; the Proprietors of the *Manchester Guardian*, *Manchester Courier*, *Manchester Weekly Advertiser*, and *Church of the People*, each two copies; the Proprietors of

The Alliance, Carnarvon Herald, English Churchman, Herald of Peace, Midland Counties Herald, Musical World, Old Church Porch, Penny Post, Reasoner, and Weekly News, each one copy. Sir John Potter has presented throughout the year the *Daily News*; and during part of it, the *Times* and *Morning Chronicle*. From Nicholas Heald, Esq., *The Economist* has been regularly received; from Messrs. Holt and Bond, *The Nonconformist*, and occasionally, the *British Banner*. *The Builder* has been presented anonymously; as have also, occasionally, the *Leader, Leeds Mercury, Patriot, and Spectator*. Miscellaneous parcels of newspapers have also been received from Thomas Bazley, Esq.; Dr. J. W. Hudson (Athenæum); Miss Laidlaw (Clarence Hotel); John Leigh, Esq. (St. John's-st.); J. Sidebottom, Esq. (Kershaw, Leese, and Sidebottom); Mr. B. Wheeler (Exchange Arcade); and from the Editors of the *Manchester Examiner and Times*. It need scarcely be added that this supply—considerable as it is—has fallen far short of the popular demand, more especially as regards the London Daily Papers.

The value and importance of this section of the Library, in the opinion of a large number of its frequenters, have been strongly urged in a Petition for the Amendment of the "Public Libraries Act" which (in April last) received, in a few hours, 1,652 signatures, and a copy of which is appended to this Report. The question will again be brought before Parliament in the coming Session; and although one of the principal amendments which are sought has already been obtained for Manchester, individually, by the book-buying clause inserted in the Improvement Act of 1853, yet the Council will probably not regard with indifference the general improvement of the Statute under which their Free Library is maintained. The example set by Manchester and Salford has already been followed in Liverpool, Bolton, Oxford, Winchester, and Norwich, as well as in some smaller towns; whilst Aberdeen, Cambridge, Bristol, Sheffield, Preston, and Newcastle-upon-Tyne are also preparing to provide themselves with Free Libraries supported by rate. The attempt, therefore, to give increased efficiency to institutions the working of which hitherto has been highly encouraging, and which are likely to spread themselves throughout the great towns of the kingdom, will doubtless be thought to merit all the support which can be rendered to it. From all the towns which have been named, information has been sought (and readily afforded) on the organization and working of the Manchester Free Library; and in most of the Free Libraries which have been established, many of its regulations and arrangements have been copied.

EDWARD EDWARDS,
Principal Librarian.

Manchester, 19th October, 1854.

[APPENDIX.]

PETITION FOR AMENDMENT OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARIES
ACT, APRIL, 1854.

*To the Honourable the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and
Ireland in Parliament assembled.*

THE HUMBLE PETITION OF THE UNDERSIGNED INHABITANTS OF THE CITY OF
MANCHESTER AND BOROUGH OF SALFORD, BEING FREQUENTERS OF THE
FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF THE CITY OF MANCHESTER AFORESAID,

Sheweth,

That your Petitioners have derived very great advantages from the free access they have enjoyed to the Public Library, established in Manchester by voluntary subscription, in the year 1851, and transferred to the Council of that city in September, 1852, to be by such Council supported for ever, out of the proceeds of a rate authorised to be levied under the provisions of the Public Libraries Act, 1850.

That during the eighteen months which have elapsed since the opening of such Library to the public, more than 220,000 volumes have been issued to readers,—of all classes of society,—or, on an average, 489 volumes daily.

That although there was raised in Manchester, by public subscription, for the purpose of establishing the said Library, a sum exceeding £10,800., and although in addition thereto upwards of 7,000 volumes of books have at various times been gratuitously presented in aid of the formation of such Library, great inconvenience and disadvantage have nevertheless been sustained by its frequenters in consequence of the want of a provision in the “Public Libraries Act, 1850,” for enabling Town Councils, from time to time, to apply in the purchase of books any moneys which they are thereby empowered to levy for the maintenance of Public Libraries and Museums.

That this defect, so far as respects the city of Manchester, has indeed, during the last session of Parliament, been remedied by the insertion of a clause for that purpose in a local Act of the 16th and 17th Victoria, chap. 91; and that your petitioners are desirous that the same privileges and advantages may be enjoyed by the inhabitants of such other cities and towns as may seek to establish Public Libraries and Museums, without incurring the expense and delay attendant on the obtainment of separate local Acts for purposes which are strictly public and national.

That many of your Petitioners have also enjoyed the advantage of access to a Free News Room, which has been provided in connection with the Public Library aforesaid; that hitherto such news room has been entirely dependent on voluntary contributions, so far as regards the supply of newspapers thereto, which supply has, in consequence, been very uncertain and fluctuating, and that your petitioners believe free public access to newspapers to be a measure eminently educational in its tendencies, entirely accordant with the spirit and objects of the "Public Libraries Act" of 1850, and likely, in many ways, to be productive of advantage to the public. And, finally, that your petitioners have seen with much satisfaction that a Bill has been introduced into your Honourable House entitled, "A Bill to amend and extend an Act for enabling Town Councils to establish Libraries and Museums freely open to the Public;" and believe that the provisions therein contained will not only remedy the defect of which your petitioners more especially complain, but will also, in many other respects, greatly amend and improve the "Public Libraries Act" of 1850.

Your petitioners therefore humbly pray your Honourable House to pass the said Bill, with the insertion of the word "newspapers" after the word "books" in the 22nd clause thereof, or with such other amendment to that effect as to your wisdom may seem befitting.

And your petitioners will ever pray. &c.

MANCHESTER FREE LIBRARY.

SECOND ANNUAL REPORT.—OCTOBER, 1854.

THIRD ANNUAL REPORT

TO

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
MANCHESTER,

ON THE WORKING OF THE

MANCHESTER

FREE LIBRARY.

OCTOBER 31st, 1855.

MANCHESTER:

PRINTED BY CAVE AND SEVER, PALATINE BUILDINGS, HUNT'S BANK.
1855.

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THIRD ANNUAL REPORT

TO

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
MANCHESTER,

ON THE WORKING OF THE

MANCHESTER

FREE LIBRARY.

OCTOBER 31st, 1855.

MANCHESTER:

PRINTED BY CAVE AND SEVER, PALATINE BUILDINGS, HUNT'S BANK.
1855.

The Free Public Library Committee present the following report:—

Your Committee submit the Third Annual Report of the working of the Free Library prepared by Mr. Edwards, and to which they venture to direct the careful attention and consideration of the members of the Council.

Your Committee entertain the hope that a careful perusal of this interesting Report will induce many of their fellow-citizens to manifest a more active interest in the progress and success of this valuable institution, and by increased liberality, either in contributions of money to be expended in the purchase of such works as are most required, or by the donation of such works as are suggested, lend their aid to your Committee in making the Library increasingly useful to those for whose benefit it is more especially intended.

Your Committee regret that they are unable to refer with entire satisfaction to the list of Donations contained in the Report now submitted. The total number of volumes presented during the year is but 645, and of these only 245 come from donors who are either resident in or connected with this City. The expenditure which is absolutely necessary for book-binding, for additional fittings, and furniture, and, generally, for the more thorough adaptation of the building to the experience which has been obtained of the public requirements, has unavoidably the effect of greatly diminishing the means which might otherwise have been available for the purchase of books. This fact makes it imperatively incumbent on your Committee to urge upon their fellow-citizens the contribution of books, more particularly for the Lending Department of the Library, the increasing demands upon which are rapidly deteriorating and wearing out the works that are more especially attractive and popular. Amongst those the donation of which would on this account be highly acceptable and useful, your Committee may enumerate the productions of our standard writers of fiction, such as Scott, Lytton, Dickens, and Thackeray, as well as those of the Classic British Novelists of an earlier day. Standard works in History and Biography of all dates, and good books on Practical Science and the Arts, of recent publication, are also eminently desirable, and the gift of any such will receive the Committee's most grateful acknowledgments.

Your Committee desire also to call attention to the list of books and pamphlets illustrative of the history and local affairs of this City and district, which Mr. Edwards has appended to his Report.

Your Committee are of opinion that it is highly important that the Free Library should be provided as fully as possible with works of this character, so that it may hereafter become a well supplied store-house of the materials of our local history; and they hope that the circulation of the list may lead to the contribution of many such works and documents, which, whilst of comparatively little value as isolated in the hands of their present owners, may go far towards filling up the many wants and imperfections of the existing collection.

On behalf of the Committee,

JOHN POTTER, *Chairman.*

Town Hall, November 30th, 1855.

REPORT.

§ 1. ON THE ISSUES OF BOOKS.

MR. EDWARDS has the honour to report that the issues of books from the FREE LIBRARY during the year which ended on the 5th ultimo,—the third year of its working,—were as follows:—

	Vols.
1. To Readers in the Reference Department ...	66,261
2. To Borrowers in the Lending Department...	81,321
	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>
Total issue of the year.....	147,582
	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>

During this year the Library was open to the public on 298 days,—namely, for the whole day, on 292 days; and for part of the day, during the six days of Easter week. The average daily issue for the entire year is 495 volumes; namely, from the Reference Department, 222 volumes; and from the Lending Department, 273 volumes.

The issues of this year, as compared with those of the preceding years, shew a gradual though inconsiderable increase, in each department, as will be seen by the following comparative table:—

Years.	Issues in REFERENCE Department.	Issues in LENDING Department.	Aggregate Issue.	Average Daily Issue.
	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.
First Year, 1852—3 ...	61,080	77,232	138,312	455
Second Year, 1853—4 ...	64,578	77,767	142,345	478
Third Year, 1854—5 ...	66,261	81,321	147,582	495
Total aggregate issue...	191,919	236,320	428,239	476

e issue for each month, of both departments has been open to the public:—

COND YEAR, 1853—4.			
Vols. issued from LENDING Department.	Aggregate No. of Vols. issued.	Daily average of the Aggregate Issue.	Vols. Received Daily
5,506	10,669	485	
7,507	13,860	533	
6,594	13,165	506	
7,036	12,894	537	
7,360	14,838	593	
6,335	13,148	547	
7,217	12,693	529	
5,821	9,264	484	
5,938	10,346	383	
3,811	6,800	324	
6,646	10,896	436	
6,961	11,952	442	
1,035	1,820	455	
77,767	142,345	Mean daily average, 487	64

h year, and for each month of each year:—

COND YEAR, 1853—4.				COND YEAR, 1854—5.			
DEPARTMENT in the year ending 5th September 1854.				DEPARTMENT in the year ending 5th September, 1855.			
Class IV. POLITICS and COMMERCE.	Class V. SCIENCES and ARTS.	Class VI. LITERATURE and POLYGRAPHY.	AGGREGATE ISSUE.	Class IV. POLITICS and COMMERCE.	Class V. SCIENCES and ARTS.	Class VI. LITERATURE and POLYGRAPHY.	AGGREGATE ISSUE.
Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.
154	894	2,124	4,787	317	632	1,996	4,787
244	816	2,932	6,583	285	787	3,151	6,583
236	780	3,142	5,875	250	637	3,087	5,875
165	702	2,846	5,644	280	648	2,878	5,644
294	761	3,691	7,231	244	910	3,589	7,231
284	733	3,267	5,945	239	891	2,937	5,945
167	613	2,671	7,114	328	1,037	3,562	7,114
107	421	1,651	4,179	341	655	1,998	4,179
150	693	2,051	4,859	223	831	2,337	4,859
107	484	1,245	4,544	338	697	2,183	4,544
136	698	2,124	4,609	296	653	2,199	4,609
304	871	2,215	4,201	423	778	1,575	4,201
47	112	343	640	45	123	238	640
2,395	8,578	30,302	66,261	3,609	9,279	31,730	66,261

The subjoined Table will shew the monthly issues, and the daily average issue for each month, of both departments of the Library, for each of the three years during which it has been open to the public:—

Month.	FIRST YEAR, 1852—3.				SECOND YEAR, 1853—4.				THIRD YEAR, 1854—5.			
	Vols. issued from REFERENCE Department.	Vols. issued from LENDING Department.	Aggregate No. of Vols. issued.	Daily average of the Aggregate Issue.	Vols. issued from REFERENCE Department.	Vols. issued from LENDING Department.	Aggregate No. of Vols. issued.	Daily average of the Aggregate Issue.	Vols. issued from REFERENCE Department.	Vols. issued from LENDING Department.	Aggregate No. of Vols. issued.	Daily average of the Aggregate Issue.
September 6—30	7,551	3,728	11,279	512	5,163	5,506	10,669	485	4,787	4,567	9,354	492
October	6,682	10,138	16,820	646	6,353	7,507	13,860	533	6,583	7,617	14,200	546
November	7,163	8,308	15,471	595	6,571	6,591	13,165	506	5,875	6,772	12,647	506
December	5,930	7,593	13,523	520	5,858	7,036	12,894	537	5,644	7,772	13,416	559
January	5,768	7,485	13,253	509	7,478	7,560	14,838	593	7,281	8,161	15,442	594
February	4,672	6,085	10,757	448	6,813	6,335	13,148	517	5,945	6,329	12,274	533
March	3,742	5,628	9,370	407	5,476	7,217	12,693	529	7,114	8,444	15,558	648
April	4,171	6,366	10,537	405	3,443	5,821	9,264	484	4,179	7,077	11,256	469
May	3,580	4,913	8,493	326	4,408	5,938	10,346	383	4,859	5,776	10,635	425
June	3,315	5,178	8,493	353	2,989	3,811	6,800	321	4,541	6,131	10,675	427
July	3,968	5,802	9,770	375	4,250	6,646	10,896	436	4,609	6,559	11,168	429
August	4,124	5,239	9,363	346	4,991	6,961	11,952	442	4,204	4,904	9,105	379
September 1—5	444	769	1,183	591	785	1,035	1,820	455	640	1,212	1,852	463
Totals.....	61,080	77,232	138,312	Mean daily average, 461	64,578	77,767	142,345	Mean daily average, 487	66,261	81,321	147,582	Mean daily average, 495

The next Table exhibits a CLASSIFICATION of the ISSUES from the REFERENCE DEPARTMENT for each year, and for each month of each year, since the opening of the Library to the public:—

Month.	FIRST YEAR, 1852—3.							SECOND YEAR, 1853—4.							THIRD YEAR, 1854—5.						
	ISSUES FROM REFERENCE DEPARTMENT in the year ending 5th September, 1853.							ISSUES FROM REFERENCE DEPARTMENT in the year ending 5th September, 1854.							ISSUES FROM REFERENCE DEPARTMENT in the year ending 5th September, 1855.						
	Class I. THEOLOGY.	Class II. PHILOSOPHY.	Class III. HISTORY.	Class IV. POLITICS and COMMERCE.	Class V. SCIENCES and ARTS.	Class VI. LITERATURE and POLYGRAPHY.	AGGREGATE ISSUE.	Class I. THEOLOGY.	Class II. PHILOSOPHY.	Class III. HISTORY.	Class IV. POLITICS and COMMERCE.	Class V. SCIENCES and ARTS.	Class VI. LITERATURE and POLYGRAPHY.	AGGREGATE ISSUE.	Class I. THEOLOGY.	Class II. PHILOSOPHY.	Class III. HISTORY.	Class IV. POLITICS and COMMERCE.	Class V. SCIENCES and ARTS.	Class VI. LITERATURE and POLYGRAPHY.	AGGREGATE ISSUE.
Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.
September 6—30	127	174	3,143	360	932	2,815	7,551	132	73	1,786	154	894	2,124	5,163	128	125	1,589	317	632	1,996	4,787
October	88	174	2,961	279	821	2,356	6,682	100	136	2,125	241	816	2,932	6,353	140	110	2,110	285	787	3,151	6,583
November	95	171	2,760	278	858	3,001	7,163	69	142	2,202	236	780	3,442	6,571	80	116	1,705	250	637	3,087	5,875
December	82	164	2,145	216	845	2,478	5,930	84	111	1,947	165	702	2,846	5,858	99	99	1,610	280	648	2,878	5,641
January	106	156	1,962	182	786	2,570	5,768	101	180	2,448	294	761	3,691	7,478	130	183	2,225	214	910	3,589	7,281
February	109	126	1,718	159	660	1,900	4,672	123	197	2,209	284	733	3,267	6,813	99	134	1,645	239	891	2,937	5,945
March	59	122	1,265	134	572	1,590	3,742	143	104	1,778	167	613	2,671	5,476	125	169	1,893	328	1,037	3,562	7,114
April	111	136	1,417	151	569	1,787	4,171	63	66	1,135	107	421	3,143	6,813	85	109	991	311	655	1,998	4,179
May	102	106	1,199	127	570	1,476	3,580	117	92	1,305	150	693	2,051	4,408	120	91	1,257	223	831	2,337	4,859
June	84	74	1,282	71	532	1,272	3,315	134	101	918	107	484	1,245	2,989	111	84	1,131	338	697	2,483	4,544
July	108	85	1,426	161	620	1,568	3,968	107	102	1,083	136	698	2,124	4,250	106	98	1,257	296	653	2,199	4,609
August	96	72	1,466	184	759	1,547	4,124	152	94	1,355	304	871	2,215	4,991	161	48	1,216	423	778	1,575	4,204
September 1—5	17	9	117	20	94	157	414	20	16	247	47	112	313	785	10	16	208	45	123	238	640
Totals.....	1,184	1,569	22,864	2,328	8,618	24,517	61,080	1,348	1,417	20,538	2,395	8,578	30,302	64,578	1,391	1,382	18,867	3,609	9,279	31,730	66,261

out for TWO YEARS only, namely, for

THIRD YEAR, 1854-55.

ING DEPARTMENT, in the Year ending 5th September, 1855.

M ^Y .	Class III.	Class IV.	Class V.	Class VI.	AGGREGATE Issue.
	HISTORY.	POLITICS and COMMERCE.	SCIENCES and ARTS.	LITERATURE and POLYGRAPHY.	
	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.
Septemb	1,025	30	239	3,145	4,567
October	1,862	89	385	5,138	7,617
Novemb	1,613	78	352	4,601	6,772
Decemb	1,753	65	390	5,419	7,772
January	1,994	72	448	5,475	8,161
Februar	1,523	43	361	4,287	6,329
March	2,155	66	483	5,582	8,444
April ...	1,713	67	362	4,799	7,077
May ...	1,260	54	331	4,028	5,776
June ...	1,280	56	339	4,332	6,131
July ...	1,404	59	374	4,591	6,559
August	910	48	244	3,605	4,904
Septemb	203	8	50	926	1,212
Total	18,695	735	4,358	55,928	81,321

in the following SUMMARY :—

LENDING DEPARTMENT.		
Vols issued in FIRST YEAR, 1852-53.	Vols issued in SECOND YEAR, 1853-54.	Vols issued in THIRD YEAR, 1854-55.
1,130	1,123
845	482
22,837	18,695
839	735
4,319	4,358
47,262	55,928
77,232	81,321

The Table which follows exhibits a similar Classification of the Issues of the LENDING DEPARTMENT, but for TWO YEARS only, namely, for the *first* year 1852-3, and for the *third* year, now reported on:—

Months.	FIRST YEAR, 1852-53.							THIRD YEAR, 1854-55.						
	Issues from LENDING DEPARTMENT, in the Year ending 5th September, 1853.							Issues from LENDING DEPARTMENT, in the Year ending 5th September, 1855.						
	Class I. THEOLOGY.	Class II. PHILOSOPHY.	Class III. HISTORY.	Class IV. POLITICS and COMMERCE.	Class V. SCIENCES and ARTS.	Class VI. LITERATURE and POLYGRAPHY.	AGGREGATE Issue.	Class I. THEOLOGY.	Class II. PHILOSOPHY.	Class III. HISTORY.	Class IV. POLITICS and COMMERCE.	Class V. SCIENCES and ARTS.	Class VI. LITERATURE and POLYGRAPHY.	AGGREGATE Issue.
[1852.]	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.
September 6—30.....	49	43	1,022	43	269	2,302	3,728	[1854.] 74	54	1,025	30	239	3,145	4,567
October	116	96	3,430	120	538	5,838	10,138	100	43	1,862	89	385	5,138	7,617
November	114	124	2,766	124	508	4,672	7,593	85	43	1,613	78	352	4,601	6,772
December	110	82	2,474	100	483	4,344		103	42	1,753	65	390	5,419	7,772
[1853.]								[1855.]						
January	114	52	2,336	50	451	4,482	7,485	128	44	1,994	72	448	5,475	8,161
February	80	51	1,824	42	370	3,718	6,085	79	36	1,523	43	361	4,287	6,329
March	60	48	1,579	61	325	3,555	5,628	113	45	2,155	66	483	5,582	8,444
April	107	74	1,792	84	388	3,921	6,366	102	34	1,713	67	362	4,799	7,077
May	84	55	1,309	55	246	3,164	4,913	73	30	1,260	54	331	4,028	5,776
June	102	70	1,250	64	220	3,492	5,178	89	35	1,280	56	339	4,332	6,131
July	110	82	1,509	66	276	3,759	5,802	93	38	1,404	59	374	4,591	6,559
August	77	60	1,357	44	219	3,482	5,239	65	32	910	48	244	3,605	4,904
September 3—5.....	7	8	189	6	26	533	769	19	6	203	8	50	926	1,212
Total of the Year...	1,130	845	22,837	839	4,319	47,262	77,232	1,123	482	18,695	735	4,358	55,928	81,321

The general results of the Classification which has thus been given in detail, may be epitomized in the following SUMMARY:—

Class.	REFERENCE DEPARTMENT.				LENDING DEPARTMENT.		
	Vols issued in the FIRST YEAR, 1852-53.	Vols issued in the SECOND YEAR, 1853-54.	Vols issued in the THIRD YEAR, 1854-55.	AGGREGATE Issues for the THREE YEARS.	Vols issued in FIRST YEAR, 1852-53.	Vols issued in SECOND YEAR, 1853-54.	Vols issued in THIRD YEAR, 1854-55.
I. THEOLOGY.....	1,184	1,348	1,394	3,926	1,130	.....	1,123
II. PHILOSOPHY.....	1,569	1,417	1,382	4,368	845	.....	482
III. HISTORY	22,864	20,538	18,867	62,269	22,837	.....	18,695
IV. POLITICS and COMMERCE	2,328	2,395	3,609	8,332	839	.....	735
V. SCIENCES and ARTS	8,618	8,578	9,279	26,475	4,319	.....	4,358
VI. LITERATURE and POLYGRAPHY...	24,517	30,302	31,730	86,549	47,262	.....	55,928
Totals.....	61,080	64,578	66,261	191,919	77,232	.....	81,321

The average number of the volumes which, during the past year, have been available for the service of readers, may be estimated at 18,500 in the Reference Department, and at 8,000 in the Lending Department. It follows, that on an approximate average of the whole collection, each volume in the former department has been used somewhat less than four times; and each volume in the latter somewhat more than ten times. In the Reference Department, the class of books in which an *increased* demand (as compared with preceding years), has been most noticeable, is that of "POLITICS AND COMMERCE;" and also, but in a lesser degree, that of "SCIENCES AND ARTS." In the Lending Department, on the other hand, the first-named class has been in diminished demand (as compared with the first year), and the last-named has been stationary. The entire *increase*, indeed, in the circulation of the books of the Lending Department, belongs to works of fiction or amusement; as does also a portion, but a much smaller portion, of that in the Reference Department.

In the working of the Reference Department during the past year, there has been a very observable increase in the number of readers of the more educated classes; and especially of such as obviously read for purposes of study, research, and mental cultivation, rather than for mere amusement. In the Lending Department, the relative proportion of the better educated has also, in some degree, increased; but it does not appear that this increase has *there*, in any way, noticeably affected the character of the books in chief demand.

During the year, 2,521 vouchers have been received from applicants for admission to the LENDING DEPARTMENT. Of this number, 2,057 have been accepted, and 464 have been rejected for want of conformity with the regulations. Twenty-four vouchers have been withdrawn, and the tickets of fifty-two other borrowers have been cancelled for unduly detaining the books lent to them (without reasonable excuse), or for otherwise infringing the rules of the Library. The total number of persons admitted to the loan of books, from the opening of the Library to the end of the third year (exclusive of those whose tickets have been cancelled), is 8,850.

During the same period, 28 volumes appear to have been lost or seriously injured whilst in the hands of the borrowers. Of these, 18 volumes have been replaced or paid for by the borrowers themselves, and seven by their guaranties; the value of the remaining three volumes has not been recovered. In 214 cases of slighter injury to books, or their bindings, compensation has been made by the payment of small fines. The total number of volumes actually lost to the Library, since its opening, so far as has yet been ascertained, is *ten*, out of an aggregate issue, from the Lending Department, of 236,320 volumes. This statement is, of course, irrespective of the volumes which have been fairly worn out by the ordinary wear and tear attendant on constant circulation.

§ 2. ON THE ACCESSIONS TO THE LIBRARY.

(i.) *By Donation.*

The principal donations received during the past year have been from Public Boards, and more especially from the Hon. the Commissioners of Patents, the Hon.

the Court of Directors of the East India Company, and the Regents of the University of the State of New York. The total number of volumes presented is 645.

The gift of the Commissioners of Patents comprises an entire series of the Specifications and Indexes hitherto published by their order, the particulars of which are as follows :—

1. The series of the Specifications of Patents of Inventions, commencing with the 1st October, 1852, when the present Patent Law came into operation. (The continuation of this series is duly received as published.)
2. A collection of all the extant Specifications of Patents of Inventions, relating to Fire-arms and Projectiles. This series commences with Puckle's Patent, dated May, 1718, and ends with Newton's Patent, dated December, 1853.
3. A collection of all the extant Specifications of Patents relating to Reaping and Mowing Machines. This series commences with Meares' Patent of May, 1800, and ends with Austin's Patent of September, 1853.
4. A collection of all the extant Specifications of Patents of Inventions relating to improvements in Fireplaces, Furnaces, and Boilers, intended for the economizing of fuel and the prevention of smoke. This series begins with Wright's Patent, of August, 1756, and ends with Morris' Patent, of June, 1852.
5. A series of Indexes to the Specifications of Patents, and the names of the Patentees, from the earliest dates to the end of the year 1854, in twelve volumes, octavo.
6. The Commissioners of Patents' Journal, from 7th January, 1854, to the present time.

The donation of the Court of Directors of the East India Company is one of great value and liberality. It includes many books printed in various parts of India, which are not usually purchaseable in the market, and it usefully continues a collection of works on Anglo-Indian affairs already in the Library, on the gathering of which much pains has been bestowed. It also comprises the *Persian, Arabic, and English Dictionary* of Mr. Richardson and Sir Charles Wilkins; the *Sanscrit Dictionary* of Professor Monier Williams, the *Malay Dictionary and Grammar* of Mr. Crawford, Mr. Roebuck's *Collection of Persian and Hindustani Proverbs*, Professor Wilson's *Glossary of Judicial and Revenue Terms*, and his collection of Ancient Hindu Hymns, entitled *Rig-Veda-Sanhita*; Captain Baird Smith's *Report on the Agricultural Canals of Piedmont and Lombardy*, with the volume of maps and plans appended to it; the remarkable work on the Daily Prayers and Ceremonial Rites of the Brahmins, recently edited by Mrs. S. C. Belnos; the works of Colonel Dixon, on Mairwara, and of Lieutenant Burton, on Sindh; and an extensive series of the Philosophical and Philological Tracts printed for the Benares College.

The Regents of the University of the State of New York have added to former gifts the important volumes of the *Documentary Colonial History* of that State, which have been recently published, under the editorship of Dr. O'Callaghan;

and a series of the *Senate Documents* and *Assembly Documents* of the State, for the last four sessions. The Smithsonian Institution at Washington has continued to present its *Contributions to Knowledge*, and other works. The donations of the public bodies which have thus been enumerated amount, in the aggregate, to 380 volumes. Of the donors of the remaining 265 volumes, the following is an alphabetical list:—

Name of Donor.	Description of Donation.	No. of Vols.
ALBERT CLUB, Committee of the.....	English Periodicals.....	63
BAZLEY, Thomas	Reports of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce.....	3
BELL, Dr. C. W.	Cast of Fillan's Bust of John Wilson.....	..
BELL, John Gray	Works on Local Topography, &c.....	3
BIRCHALL, Mr. (Hobart Town).....	“ Tasmania.....	3
BOOKER, Rev. John	“ Local Topography.....	2
BROOKES, W. C.	Ruskin's Lectures	1
BUCKLEY, Samuel	American Documents.....	6
CLAY, Rev. John (Preston)	Reports on Preston Gaol	2
DAVIDSON, H. O.	Murray's Family Library	80
DEANE, J. C.	Three Engravings .....	..
DEARDEN, James (Rochdale)	Oriental MSS.	2
ELLESMERE, Earl of	Hakluyt Society's Publication	1
FOTHERGILL, Benjamin.....	Dalton's Meteorological Chart.....	..
GIBBS, John	On Architecture	1
GUILDHALL LIBRARY, London, Committee of the	Catalogue of London Tokens.....	1
HARTER, J. C. & Co.	Lowell Hydraulic Engineering.....	1
HISTORIC SOCIETY of Lancashire.....	Proceedings	2
HOPKINS, Thomas	On Atmospheric Changes	1
HUGHES, E. J.	Treatise on Patent Laws.....	3
JONES, Thomas (Chetham Librarian)...	Local Topography	1
KAY, Alexander	Tracts on Hulme's Charity.....	2
LAW LIBRARY, Manchester, Committee of the	Catalogue of the Law Library	1
LITERARY AND PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY (Liverpool).....	Transactions	1
Do. Do. (Manchester).....	“	2
LOCAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE.....	A Series of Educational Maps and Pamphlets .....	..
LOWE, Thomas	Miscellaneous Books	3
MACDONALD, George	Within and Without (a poem).....	1
NICHOLLS, J. A.	Lecture on Public Health.....	1
OWEN'S COLLEGE, Trustees of.....	Proceedings	1
PARNELL, Mr. Councillor	Gold and the Gospel, Young's Southern World, London Quarterly Review, &c... }	6
PAYNE, James.....	Miscellaneous Books	23
POTTER, Alderman Sir John	Five Engravings, framed and glazed.....	..
POYSER, Anthony	Stewart's Philosophical Essays.....	1
PROCTER, Mr.	Gems of Thought	1
RHODES, C. G.	Liber Scholasticus	1
RICHARDSON, J.	Kett's "Emily".....	3
ROBERTSON, James	Six Months in America.....	1
ROOK, J.	Quarterly Review.....	5
ROWBOTHAM, J.	Institutionum Linguae Turcicae, libri 4	1
ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY, Council of the	Journals of the Society.....	2
SHUTTLEWORTH, Mr. Alderman	Reports on Civil Service.....	2
SWALLOW, Charles.....	Chinese Testament, &c.....	3
TAYLOR, Robert.....	View of Manchester and Salford, and Aikin's Manchester	1
UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.....	Reports.....	2
WEBSTER, John (Aberdeen).....	Burnett Treatises	3
WILLIS, Captain.....	Manchester Police Reports	1
WISCONSIN AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,...	Transactions	2
WOOD, William	An Engraving .....	..
Minor Donations (chiefly anonymous)	Miscellaneous Books	19
Total Number of Volumes Presented..		645

This list is, it may be hoped, a briefer one than will usually have to be submitted to the Committee. The valuable donations of Mr. Councillor Parnell and of Mr. H. O. Davidson, comprise almost the only presented works which have been of essential service in the *Lending* Department; yet there can scarcely be any appropriation of good books so pregnant with usefulness as that which would place them at the service of a circle of readers so extensive, and of whom a very considerable proportion have hitherto had but extremely restricted access to sterling English literature.

As heretofore, the NEWSROOM has been dependent on donations for its supply during the past year, and the following are the names of the donors, and of the papers and periodicals presented:—

Alderman Sir John POTTER,...	{	<i>The Times.</i>
		<i>The Daily News.</i>
		<i>The Moniteur</i> (during part of the year).
Nicholas HEALD, Esq.		<i>The Economist.</i>
Mr. Councillor PARNELL,	{	<i>The Watchman.</i>
		<i>The Wesleyan Methodist Magazine.</i>
		<i>The Christian Treasury.</i>
		<i>The Christian Miscellany.</i>
Messrs. G. & R. HOLT,		<i>The Nonconformist.</i>
The respective Editors or Proprietors,	{	<i>The Manchester Guardian</i> (two copies).
		<i>The Manchester Courier</i> (two copies).
		<i>The Manchester Examiner & Times</i> (three copies).
		<i>The Manchester Daily Times</i> (one copy).
		<i>The Manchester Weekly Advertiser</i> (two copies).
		<i>The Midland Counties Herald.</i>
		<i>The Old Church Porch.</i>
		<i>The Alliance</i> (four copies).
		<i>The Herald of Peace.</i>

From John LEIGH, Esq., Mr. R. MARTIN, and Dr. J. W. HUDSON, miscellaneous parcels of newspapers, both English and American, have also been received. A larger supply, it may be added, of London newspapers is much needed; and some additional provincial ones, especially those of Liverpool and Leeds, would be highly advantageous.

(ii.) *By Purchase.*

The number of volumes purchased during the year is but 704, exclusive of the continuations of periodical and serial works already in the Library. Of that number, 400 volumes were for the *Lending* Department, and 304 volumes for the *Reference* Department.

Some attention has been bestowed on the collection, from time to time, of books and tracts illustrative of the history and local affairs of Manchester, and of the neighbouring townships. Inquiry for such works has been of frequent occurrence in the *Reference* Department of the Library, and occasionally much

disappointment has been felt and expressed at the meagre supply of them which it has been able to afford. It will be apparent, however, from the chronological list of publications of this class which is appended to this Report, that a beginning has been made; and it is hoped that the circulation of the list may in some instances lead to the donation of books or tracts which are wanting, and in others, to the offer by booksellers of such as the Committee will gladly purchase, for the improvement of the collection. It will also deserve the Committee's consideration, whether an attempt might not usefully be made to form a series of local maps and prints, as well as of books. Such a combined collection would at once render important furtherance to the pursuits and inquiries of many of the present frequenters of the Library, and would hereafter prove to be a most valuable storehouse of materials for the history of the City and district.

The present contents of the Library, in both departments, are as follows:—

CLASS.	In	In	Totals.
	REFERENCE Department.	LENDING Department.	
	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.
I. THEOLOGY.....	572	146	718
II. PHILOSOPHY.....	306	97	403
III. HISTORY	7,261	3,087	10,348
IV. POLITICS and COMMERCE.....	5,253	433	5,686
V. SCIENCES and ARTS.....	1,954	636	2,590
VI. LITERATURE and POLYGRAPHY	4,702	3,814	8,516
Totals.....	20,048	8,213	28,261

§ 3. PROGRESS OF ARRANGEMENT, BINDING, &c.

(i.) *Collection of Commercial and Political Tracts.*

The long task of the classification and arrangement for binding of the extensive collection of Tracts on Commercial and Political subjects—ranging in date from 1576 to 1850—has been brought to a close on the day of the date of this Report. It is not, as yet, practicable to give a full and adequate account of the collection, but an outline of its origin, its contents, and of the methods which have been followed in its arrangement may reasonably be expected.

The basis of this collection consists of a remarkable series of Tracts on Political and Commercial subjects, which was brought together towards the middle of the last century by Mr. Nicholas Magens,—a native of Denmark, and an eminent merchant of London. This collection continued in the Magens family, as a sort of heirloom, until the death of the late Mr. Dorrien Magens (well known as a London banker), when it was sold by auction. The commission given at the sale, on behalf of the Free Library, failed to secure it; and the entire series was purchased by Mr. Henry Stevens, of Vermont. It was ascertained, however, that Mr. Stevens' chief inducement to make the purchase lay

in a few tracts on the early Colonial History of America which the collection contained, and that after these had been taken out he would be willing to part with it. Mainly by the exertions of Mr. Crossley, who took very great pains to acquire for this Library a collection the worth of which few men can so well appreciate, such an arrangement was effected.

Several important purchases of Tracts on similar subjects had previously been made, at the sales of the respective libraries of Mr. Harrison, one of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue ; of Mr. Drummond Hay ; and of the late Lord Langdale, Master of the Rolls ; and also from the stock of the late Mr. Thomas Thorpe. Other considerable acquisitions of this kind have since been made, from the collections (amongst others) of the late Mr. William Mellish, M.P. ; Mr. Edward Baines, M.P. ; Mr. William Hill, of the Treasury ; Mr. Francis Place ; Mr. John Gibson Lockhart ; Mr. Davies (formerly of Magdalen College, Oxford), and the late Viscount Valentia ; and also from that which had been formed by John Perceval, Earl of Egmont,—one of the founders of the Colony of Georgia,—at about the same period as the Magens collection.

But the most considerable and most valuable of the recent accessions to the Tract collection is that for which the Committee were indebted, in 1852, to the liberality of their Chairman. It comprised 1,819 separate pieces, chiefly on political and commercial topics, and most of which had been collected by the late Lord Bexley, when Chancellor of the Exchequer. In this series are included many tracts and documents which were privately printed for the use of various departments of the Government, and many which, on other accounts, are both valuable and rare.

The entire series of Tracts—Miscellaneous as well as Political, but exclusive of printed *Collections*—extends to 15,019 separate works, and is arranged and bound in 2,576 volumes. Both the Magens and the Vansittart Libraries included many works on Politics and Trade, which, from their extent and bulk, cannot with propriety be termed *Tracts*, but are necessary to the completeness and proper sequence of the several subjects. This arrangement has therefore been continued.

About 360 Tracts (strictly so called) comprised in this series, relate to those local affairs of Manchester and the neighbouring district to which allusion has been made in a preceding section. The titles of all these are given in the Appendix. In the tabular enumeration they are of course included under the several divisions to which they respectively belong.

The main collection—that, namely, relating to POLITICS and COMMERCE—has been systematically arranged in 2,044 volumes, in the following order. The number of tracts or other works comprised in each section, and that of the volumes which contain them, are severally appended :—

TABLE I.

<i>Class</i> —POLITICS and COMMERCE.	No. of vols.	No. of Tracts, or of separate works.
1.—General Treatises on GOVERNMENT, POLITICS, or POLITICAL ECONOMY.....	77	119
2.—Constitution, Functions, and Privileges of PARLIAMENT	44	312
3.—LAW and LAW Reform	88	367
4.—CRIME, Police and Punishment	46	190
5.—TRADE and COMMERCE :—		
§ 1. General Treatises	77	177
2. Agriculture and the Corn Trade.....	67	412
3. Coal and Iron Trades, Mining, &c.	11	116
4. Cotton, Woollen, and Silk Trades.....	33	178
5. Fisheries	7	59
6. Other branches of Trade and Commerce	120	801
7. Wages, Combinations, and Regulation of Labour	14	129
8. Industrial Exhibitions	14	534
6.—ANNUITIES, Assurance, Savings Banks, and Provident Societies	17	120
7.—CURRENCY, Banking, Interest of Money, &c.....	96	542
8.—CHURCH Affairs	103	668
9.—MUNICIPAL and Local Affairs	28	337
10.—POOR and POOR LAWS	79	302
11.—EDUCATION and PUBLIC CHARTIES	131	677
12.—ARMY and NAVY; PEACE and WAR.....	55	258
13.—PUBLIC WORKS and SANITARY Affairs.....	65	539
14.—Affairs of IRELAND in particular	49	258
15.—COLONIES and Dependencies :—		
§ 1. Affairs of British India	135	535
2. Colonial Affairs	78	340
3. Slavery.....	32	206
16.—REVENUE, Taxation, and Public Debts	140	722
17.—FOREIGN Affairs	148	702
18.—Miscellaneous Treatises on Political Questions and Public Affairs (other than those specially enumerated).....	290	1,805
Total of Volumes and of separate Tracts in the Class POLITICS and COMMERCE	2,044	11,405
Add—Collections of Political Tracts on various subjects	78	2,153
Aggregate Total	2,122	13,558

It will be obvious, even from this bare enumeration of the principal contents of this collection of Political Tracts, that it is already one of great value to the student of British history, as well as to readers of all classes who may desire to attain a competent knowledge of important public questions, or of the growth and progress of our national commerce. Compared, indeed, with the vast collections of this kind which are preserved in the British Museum, and in two or

three other of the great national libraries of Europe, it may seem, in point of extent, almost trivial. There can, however, be no doubt that it is already the most valuable series of tracts on the subjects which it embraces that is to be found in any part of the United Kingdom, with the single exception which has been indicated. But its public utility will manifestly depend on the supply of its deficiencies from time to time, as opportunity may offer, and on the regular addition to it, year by year, of a systematic selection of the best pamphlets and treatises on political and commercial matters which may come from the press.

The miscellaneous portion of the collection extends, more or less, over all the other classes of the Library. It is comprised in 532 volumes, containing 3,614 separate tracts, the general arrangement of which is as follows:—

TABLE II.

<i>Class.</i>	No. of vols.	No. of separate Tracts.
THEOLOGY.....	84	623
PHILOSOPHY	20	95
HISTORY:—		
Biographical Tracts (British and Foreign).....	103	686
Other Tracts relating to British and Foreign History and Topography	101	600
SCIENCES and ARTS:—		
Medical Tracts.....	22	169
Tracts on other branches of Science and Art.....	70	553
LITERATURE and POLYGRAPHY	132	888
Totals.....	532	3,614

There are also, in addition, 317 tracts belonging to the several classes above enumerated, contained in the various printed collections which the Library possesses; making an aggregate total, in those classes, of 3,931 separate tracts.

(ii.) *Collection of Parliamentary Reports, &c.*

Considerable progress has also been made with the classification and binding of the Parliamentary Reports and Papers, but much remains to be done.

With reference to this section of the Library, Mr. Edwards solicits the attention of the Committee to the desirableness of some steps being taken to ensure the carrying out of the Resolution which was reported to the House of Commons, in 1853, by its Select Committee on the Distribution of Parliamentary Papers, and which was thus expressed:—

“Wherever Free Libraries are established, your Committee recommend that upon application from the managing body, the Parliamentary Papers should thereupon be sent to them, free of all charges, immediately upon publication.”

The lamented decease of the Chairman of this Committee (the Right Hon. Henry Tuftnell) was the first impediment which came in the way of direct action upon the Report, and the fact that the Select Committee had taken a broader and juster view of the requirements of the matter in hand,—as evidenced by their recognition of the claims of Free Libraries, supported by Rate and managed by Town Councils, to the *first* place in any such distribution,—than had been taken of them by some of those who had originally promoted the inquiry, has proved to be another and a serious hindrance. But it cannot be doubted that any influential member who may be induced to put his hand earnestly to the task, will soon obtain the result which is desired. The Reports and Papers of the House of Commons are of themselves worth some effort. In this Library they will be more valuable than in many others, both as serving to continue the considerable collection which it already possesses, and as supplementing the information on Political and Commercial subjects which is contained in the Tract Collections already described. Much use has already been made of the Parliamentary Papers, notwithstanding the difficulties arising from their but half-arranged condition. And those who have used them, being readers having a studious and serious purpose in their inquiries, are precisely those to whom it is most important that the Reference Department of the Library should be made as useful as possible. Much disappointment has been experienced by readers of this class at the stop which has been put to their investigation of a series of Reports or Papers as soon as they had reached the year 1851 or 1852—and on some subjects at a much earlier date. But the importance of the proceeding which has been suggested for the Committee's consideration is by no means limited to the Papers of Parliament. Other works of great value and extent are printed at the public cost, and their distribution to public institutions, or their non-distribution, appears at present to depend on accident or caprice, rather than upon any known and intelligible rules. Some of these works are under the control of the Master of the Rolls; others under that of the State Paper Commission; others again under that of the Lords of the Admiralty, of the respective Secretaries of State, or of the Board of Ordnance. Amongst them are Collections of State Papers, and of the Documents of our early history, such as the *Monumenta Historica Britannica*; Reports of the various scientific officers and naturalists who have accompanied H.M. Ships on Voyages of Discovery, and Narratives of such Voyages; Collections of Astronomical Observations; and the various publications connected with the Ordnance and Geological Surveys of the United Kingdom. These would be most important acquisitions for this and for other Free Libraries; and there appears to be reason to believe that some of those very works which are most desirable and, at present, least accessible, are embarrassing the official warehouse keepers by the weight and bulk of the stock in hand.

(iii.) Bookbinding; Sale of Catalogues, &c.

The total number of volumes bound during the year is 2,169; namely, for the Reference Department 1,167, and for the Lending Department 1,002; and the total number repaired, lettered, or press-marked, 445; namely, for the Reference Department 265, and for the Lending Department 180. The aggregate number of volumes bound since the opening of the Library to the public is 10,770; and that of the volumes repaired, lettered, or press-marked, 2524; making a gross total of 13,294 volumes. The average cost of the binding, all sizes included,—and there is in this Library a larger number of folios and quartos than might be expected from its date,—has been two shillings and threepence per volume.

The sale of the printed Catalogue of the Lending Department during the year has been as follows:—

	No. of Copies.
Of complete Copies.....	346
Of Section No. 1.....	85
“ “ “ 2.....	119
“ “ “ 3.....	102
“ “ “ 4.....	48
“ “ “ 5.....	138
“ “ “ 6.....	97
Total of separate Sections	589

The total sale, since the publication of the Catalogue, is, of complete copies, 826; and of copies of the various sections, 1,217; and the total produce of such sale, £42. 1s. 4d.

(iv.) Exhibition of Diagrams of Patented Machinery, &c.

Early in the Summer, a public Exhibition was made of a collection of Diagrams illustrative of Patent Inventions in three several classes: I. REAPING AND MOWING MACHINES; II. FIRE ARMS AND PROJECTILES; III. IMPROVEMENTS IN FIREPLACES, FURNACES, AND STEAMBOILERS, having in view the Economizing of Fuel and the Prevention of Smoke. The collection extended in the first class to 55 sheets of diagrams, illustrative of 38 several inventions, twenty of which were the subjects of patents, and eighteen had not been patented; in the second class, to 158 sheets of diagrams, illustrative of 101 patents; and in the third class, to 141 sheets of diagrams, illustrative of 109 distinct patents. The Exhibition was visited, during twenty-four days, by 3,115 persons, and it led to a very noticeable increase in the number of readers

on the subjects to which it related,—not only as regards the Specifications and the Indexes of the Patents themselves, but also in respect of various scientific periodicals and other works in which similar matters are treated of. It led also to the expression of earnest wishes for the formation of a permanent collection of models, and specimens of machinery and implements, and of industrial products and fabrics of all kinds, in connection with such a series of books and diagrams as should adequately explain and illustrate them. Of the importance of such a Trade Museum in Manchester it would be superfluous to say a word. And it can scarcely be matter of doubt that its intrinsic value would be considerably enhanced by conjunction with such a collection of standard works in Technology as it may be fairly hoped the Free Library will ere long contain.

EDWARD EDWARDS,
Principal Librarian.

MANCHESTER,
31st October, 1855.

APPENDIX.

CHRONOLOGICAL LIST OF PUBLICATIONS ALREADY IN THE FREE LIBRARY,
FORMING THE NUCLEUS OF A COLLECTION ON THE HISTORY, TRADE,
AND LOCAL AFFAIRS OF MANCHESTER, AND THE ADJACENT
TOWNSHIPS. (See page 10 of preceding Report.)

*** The order of this List is chronological, according to the date of the first known publication of the Book or Tract entered. Reports, and other Tracts that are numbered progressively, are entered with the first of each series which the Library may actually possess.

The donation of any deficient publications of this kind will be gratefully acknowledged by the Committee. Offers of any such which may come into the hands of Booksellers are also desired.

1642.

1. MANCHESTER'S Resolution against the Lord Strange, &c.
News from Manchester,.....sent in a letter from Mr. ROUSGORE...an Inhabitant of the said town of Manchester.
A verie true and credible relation of the severall passages at Manchester, on the 15th of July last, 1642, &c.
Newes from Manchester; being a true relation of the battell.....sent in a letter to a private friend.
Severall letters from the Committees, &c., to the Hon. William Lenthall, Esq., wherein is related how the townsmen of Manchester put themselves into arms...against the Lord Strange, &c.
A true and exact relation of the severall passages at the siege of Manchester, &c. (Reprint in the *Chetham Miscellanies*, vol 1.) 4to. *Manchester: printed for the Chetham Society*, 1844.

1643.

2. MANCHESTER'S Joy for Derby's Overthrow, &c. A Declaration and Summons sent by the Earl of Newcastle to the Town of Manchesterwith the resolute answer, &c. (Reprint in *Chetham Miscellanies*, vol 1.) *Manchester: printed for the Chetham Society*, 1844.

1649.

3. Good service hitherto ill rewarded. Or, an historicall relation of eight yeers services for King and Parliament, done in and about MANCHESTER, and those parts. By Lieutenant-colonel John ROSWORM. (Reprint in *Chetham Miscellanies*, vol. 1.) 4to. *Manchester: printed for the Chetham Society*, 1844.

1683.

4. A Sermon Preached at MANCHESTER, upon the 9th of September, being the Day of Thanksgiving for...delivery from the late Conspiracy. By E. FORENESS. 8vo. *London: Miles Fletcher.*

1716.

5. Rest from Rebels...considered in a sermon, most of which was preached at a Provincial Assembly of Ministers, held at MANCHESTER, May 8, 1716. By James GRIMSHAW. 8vo. *London.*

6. The history of Saul and David, and the xiiiith of Romans, considered in a Thanksgiving Sermon, preached at MANCHESTER, November 14, 1716, at the request of the young men there, who were minded to commemorate...the victory...at Preston, Nov. 14, 1715. By Jeremiah ALDRED, V.D.M. 8vo. *London: Eman. Mathews.*

1717.

7. The jure divino woe, exemplify'd in the remarkable punishment of persecutors, false teachers, and rebels: a Thanksgiving Sermon preached at MANCHESTER, Nov. 14, 1717. [With an address "To the young gentlemen of the Protestant Dissenting Congregation at Manchester," and an appendix on the penal laws affecting Dissenters.] By Charles OWEN. 8vo. *London: Eman. Mathews.*

1721.

8. The Bishop of Chester's Case, with relation to the Wardenship of MANCHESTER, in which is shewn that no other degrees but such as are taken in the University, can be deemed Legal Qualifications for any Ecclesiastical Preferment in England. Folio. *Oxford: printed at the Theatre.*

1749.

9. MANCHESTER Vindicated, being a complete collection of the papers lately published in defence of that town in the Chester Courant, &c. 8vo. *Chester: E. Adams.*

1753.

10. A collection of Acts of Parliament, relating to MANCHESTER and the adjacent townships, from 26 Geo. II. (1753), to 1 Vict. (1837), containing as follows:—]

- i. An Act for building a new church [St. Mary's], within the Town of Manchester. 1753.
- ii. An Act to enable Edward Byrom, Esquire, to complete a building intended for a new church in...Manchester [St. John's]. 1769.
- iii. An Act for providing a new Poorhouse for the township of Manchester. 1790.
- iv. An Act for Cleansing, Lighting, Watching, and Regulating Manchester and Salford. 1792.
- v. An Act for...recovery of small debts, within the Parish of Manchester. 1808.

- vi. An Act to improve Market-street, in the Town of Manchester, &c. 1821.
 - vii. An Act for Lighting and Watching, &c., within the Township of *Chorlton Row*. 1822.
 - viii. An Act for Lighting...and Improving the Township of *Hulme*, &c. 1824.
 - ix. Acts for better Lighting, with Gas, the Town of Manchester [and for amending the same]. 1824; 1830; 1831; 1837.
 - x. An Act for Lighting, Cleansing, &c., the Township of *Ardwick*. 1825.
 - xi. An Act for better Cleansing...and Improving the Town of *Salford*. 1830.
 - xii. An Act for Improving and Regulating the Township of *Chorlton-upon-Medlock*. 1832.
 - xiii. Acts for widening and improving.....part of Manchester [and for amending the same]. 1832; 1836.
- 1759.
- 11. A letter to a friend: occasioned by the late disputes betwixt the Check-makers of MANCHESTER, and the Check-makers' ill-usage (*sic*) of the Author. By Thomas PERCIVAL, Esq. 8vo. *Halifax, printed for the Author*.
- 1773.
- 12. The History of MANCHESTER. In four Books. By the Rev. Mr. WHITAKER. The Second Edition corrected. 2 vols. 8vo. *London: J. Murray*.
- 1777.
- 13. The MANCHESTER Mercury, and Harrop's General Advertiser, for 1777, 1779, 1783 to 1788 inclusive; 1791; 1792; 1794 to 1796 inclusive; 1798; 1802; 1803; and 1805. Fol. *Manchester*.
- 1779.
- 14. Characteristic Strictures; or Remarks on upwards of One Hundred Portraits of the most eminent Persons in the Counties of Lancaster and Chester; particularly in the Town and Neighbourhood of MANCHESTER. Now supposed to be on Exhibition. 4to. *London: J. Millidge*.
- 1782.
- 15. A Tribute to the Memory of Charles de Polier, Esq.; addressed to the Literary and Philosophical Society of MANCHESTER. 4to. *Manchester: C. Wheeler*.
- 1783.
- 16. A Description of MANCHESTER, giving an Historical Account of those Limits in which the Town was formerly included, some observations upon its public Edifices, present Extent, and late Alterations, with a Succinct History of its former original Manufactures, and the gradual advancement at which they are arrived. By a Native of the Town. 8vo. *Manchester: C. Wheeler*.
- 17. A Discourse against the Fatal Practice of Duelling; occasioned by a late Melancholy Event.....in MANCHESTER,.....March, 1783. By the Rev. John BENNETT. 4to. *Manchester: C. Wheeler*.

1785.

18. *Memoirs of the Literary and Philosophical Society of MANCHESTER.* (First and Second Series.) 18 vols. 8vo. *Warrington, London, and Manchester, W. Eyres, &c., 1785—1855.*

1788.

19. *A Charge to the Grand Jury of the Court Leet for the Manor of MANCHESTER.* By William ROBERTS, at the Michaelmas Court, October, 1788. 4to. *Manchester: C. Wheeler.*

1791.

20. *A Collection of the Correspondence, Letters, Papers, &c. relating to the Dispute between Mr. Walker and Mr. Roberts [at an Anniversary Meeting at MANCHESTER, in Commemoration of the Revolution.]* 8vo. *Manchester: J. Harrop.*
21. *The Charters of the Collegiate Church, the Free Grammar School, the Blue Coat Hospital [of MANCHESTER], and the Last Will and Testament of the late Catharine Richards, with other Ancient Curiosities.* 8vo. *Manchester: T. Harper.*
22. *Bibliotheca Chethamensis: sive Bibliothecæ Publicæ MANCUNIENSIS ab Humfredo Chetham Armigero fundatæ Catalogus, exhibens libros in varias classes pro varietate argumenti distributos. Edidit Joannes RADCLIFFE, A.M. [With Supplement by William Parr GRESWELL.]* 3 vols. 8vo. *Manchester; J. Harrop, &c. 1791—1826.*
23. *Rules for the Government of the Infirmary, Lunatic Hospital, and Public Baths in MANCHESTER.* As revised and corrected in the year 1791. 8vo. *Manchester: C. Wheeler.*

1792.

24. *A Reply to Mr. Burke's Invective against Mr. Cooper and Mr. Watt, [as Members of the MANCHESTER Constitutional Society,] in the House of Commons, on the 30th of April, 1792.* By Thomas COOPER. 8vo. *London: J. Johnson.*

1794.

25. *A Review of some of the Political Events which have occurred in MANCHESTER, during the last five years; being a Sequel to the Trial of Thomas Walker, and others, for a Conspiracy to overthrow the Constitution and Government of this Country, and to aid and assist the French, being the King's Enemies.* By Thomas WALKER. 8vo. *London: J. Johnson.*
26. *The Whole Proceedings on the Trial on an Indictment against Thomas Walker, of MANCHESTER, Merchant; William Paul, Samuel Jackson, James Cheetham, Oliver Pearsall, Benjamin Booth, and Joseph Collier, for a Conspiracy to overthrow the Constitution, Government, &c. Taken in shorthand by Joseph GURNEY.* 8vo. *Manchester: T. Boden.*

27. A Report of the Committee of the Associated Ley-Payers, in the Township of MANCHESTER, appointed to inquire into the Accounts of the Churchwardens and Overseers, and other matters submitted to their Consideration, relative to the Support and Government of the Poor of the said Township. Printed by Order of the Society, for the Information of the Ley-Payers. 8vo. *Manchester.*

1795.

28. A Description of the Country from Thirty to Forty Miles round MANCHESTER.....The Materials arranged, and the work composed by John AIKIN, M.D. 8vo. *London: J. Stockdale.*
29. Rules, Orders, and Regulations, to be observed by a Friendly Associated Female Society, consisting of Women only, for raising a Fund to support their Sick, Infirm, and Aged, and burying their Dead. Instituted [at MANCHESTER] the 8th of September, 1795. 8vo. *Manchester: Radford and Simpson.*
30. The Last Will of Humphrey Chetham, of Clayton.....Whereby he founded and endowed an Hospital and Library in MANCHESTER. Also, the Charter of King Charles II., dated Nov. 10th, 1665, for making the Trustees under Mr. Chetham's Will a body Corporate. 4to. *Manchester: J. Harrop. (Without Date.)*

1796.

31. A Disclosure of Parochial Abuse, Artifice, and Peculation, in the Town of MANCHESTER, which have been the means of burdening the Inhabitants with the present Enormous Parish Rates: with other existing Impositions of Office To which is added, A Book of County Rates. By Thomas BATTYE. 8vo. *Manchester: J. Thomson.*
32. Reflections on the Subjects of Deputy Constable, Billeting, &c., and a Reply to the Deputy Constable, with an Apology and Reasons for the Delay of the Red Basil Book [of the Parish of MANCHESTER]. By Thomas BATTYE. 8vo. *Manchester: Boden.*
33. A Reply to Mr. UNITE'S Address to the Ley-payers of MANCHESTER. By Thomas BATTYE. The Fourth Edition. 8vo. *Manchester: J. Thomson.*
34. The Beauties of the North, in a series of Picturesque Views,.....to be exhibited at Mrs. Dixon's Great Room, The Swan Inn, Market-street-lane, MANCHESTER, on Monday, 25th January, 1796. 8vo. *Manchester: G. Nicholson.*
35. Rules for the General Regulation of the Poor of the Township of SALFORD. 8vo. *Manchester: J. Harrop.*

1797.

36. Scholes' MANCHESTER and Salford Directory. Second Edition. 8vo. *Manchester: Sowler and Russell.*

37. The Red Basil Book, or, Parish Register of Arrears, for the Maintenance of the unfortunate Offspring of Illicit Amours; with a farther developement of most shameful and unprecedented Acts of Abuse in the Town of MANCHESTER. By Thomas BATTYE. 8vo. *Manchester: J. Hopper.*
1799.
38. A Sermon preached before the First Battalion of MANCHESTER and Salford Volunteers.....4th June, 1799. By Samuel HALL, A.M. 8vo. *Manchester: C. Wheeler.*
1800.
39. Bancks' MANCHESTER and Salford Directory. 12mo. *Manchester: G. Bancks.*
40. A Concise Exposition of the Tricks and Arts used in the Collection of Easter Dues; with a list of items, which compose this Divine Tax. By T[homas] B[ATTYE]. Second Edition, with Additions. *Manchester: E. Radford.*
1801.
41. Strictures upon the Churchwardens and Overseers of MANCHESTER: with some introductory remarks of Public Abuse, Parochial Taxes, &c. Also, observations extracted from the most eminent modern Writers, on the subject of the Poor's Laws, &c.....addressed to the inhabitants of Manchester. By Thomas BATTYE. *Manchester: J. Pratt.*
1802.
42. An Address to the Inhabitants of MANCHESTER, particularly to those Gentlemen who were present at the Reading of the late Constables' Quarterly Accounts, at the Collegiate Church, explaining certain Facts, &c. misrepresented at that meeting. By Thomas BATTYE. 8vo. *Manchester: Mark Wardle.*
1803.
43. The Townsman, No. 1. To be continued every Saturday. Addressed to the Inhabitants of MANCHESTER, on Theatricals. 8vo. *Manchester: G. Bancks.*
1804.
44. The Theatrical Inquisitor; or, an enquiry into what two worthy Managers [of the MANCHESTER Theatre] have promised, and what performed. 8vo. *Manchester: R. and W. Dean and Co.*
45. The MANCHESTER Guide. A Brief Historical Description of the Towns of Manchester and SALFORD, the Public Buildings, and the Charitable and Literary Institutions. 8vo. *Manchester: J. Aston.*
46. Letters to and from Charles Frederic Brandt, Esq. and Mr. John Jenkinson; and the Circular Letter lately addressed "To the Trustees of the MANCHESTER Infirmary, who are in the habit of attending the Boards." With Notes and Observations. By JOHN JENKINSON. 8vo. *Manchester: R. and W. Dean and Co.*

47. Reply to a Letter circulated by Mr. Simmons, containing charges against the House Surgeon of the MANCHESTER Infirmary. Addressed to the Trustees of that Charity. By John HUTCHINSON. 8vo. *Manchester : S. Russell.*

1805.

48. An Explanation of the real causes of the present disputes at the MANCHESTER Infirmary, with suggestions for the Restoration of Tranquillity. Addressed to the Trustees of the Charity. By a Calm Observer. 8vo. *Manchester : S. Russell.*

1806.

49. Rules to be observed by the Committee of the Commercial Travellers' Society, at MANCHESTER. 8vo. *Manchester : J. Harrop.*
50. The Thespian Review; an examination of the Merits and Demerits of the Performers on the MANCHESTER Stage. Pro and Con. 8vo. *Manchester : J. Aston.*

1808.

51. Dean's MANCHESTER and Salford Directory, for 1808 and 1809. 2 vols. 12mo. *Manchester : R. and W. Dean.*

1809.

52. The History of Johnny Shuttle and his Cottage: a homely, unvarnished Tale; interesting to the Inhabitants of MANCHESTER. [By Francis PHILLIPS.] 8vo. *Manchester : J. Aston.*
53. The whole proceedings on the trial of an indictment against Joseph Hanson, Esq., for a conspiracy to aid the weavers of MANCHESTER in raising their wages.....at the Lancaster Spring Assizes, 1809. Taken in shorthand by Mr. Jones. 8vo. *London.*
54. An Heroic Epistle, from the Quadruple Obelisk in the Market Place to the New Exchange [at MANCHESTER], &c. 8vo. *Manchester : J. Aston.*
55. Murder! Murder! Murder! The Snakes in the Grass found, or the Assassin shot to the Heart; with thoughts on the use and abuse of Local Preachers. In twelve Letters. By Omicrion (*sic*), a Traveller from MANCHESTER. 8vo. *Manchester ; M. Wardle.*

1811.

56. Report of the Committee appointed at a Town's Meeting, held at the Workhouse, SALFORD, on the 13th of September, 1811, "to Inspect the late Overseer's Accounts, and Superintend the collecting of the Arrears of Leys." 8vo. *Salford : W. Cowdroy.*

1813.

57. PRIGOT'S MANCHESTER and SALFORD Directory for 1813. 12mo. *Manchester : R. and W. Dean.*

1815.

58. PIGOT and DEAN'S MANCHESTER and SALFORD Directory for 1815, [1817; 1819-20; and 1824-25.] 8vo. *Manchester: R. and W. Dean.*
59. The Exchange Herald,—ASTON'S MANCHESTER Commercial Advertiser. From 3rd January, 1815, to 29th December, 1825. Folio. *Manchester.*
60. Theatre Royal, MANCHESTER.—The Prompter; or, Theatrical Investigator. 1815-16. [Imperfect. pp. 27-452.] 8vo. *Manchester: M. Wilson.*
61. Report of the Committee appointed [at MANCHESTER] for obtaining a Repeal of the Duties upon Cotton Wool. 8vo. *Manchester: J. Aston.*
62. A Statement of Facts respecting the Population of the Parish of MANCHESTER, shewing the great want of a new Free Church. By the Rev. Cecil Daniel WRAY. 8vo. *Manchester: C. Wheeler and Son.*

1816.

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212. Report of the Proceedings at a Public Meeting held in...MANCHESTER, on Wednesday, January 8th, 1851, to effect the establishment of a Free Public Library and Museum in Manchester: to which is prefixed Leading Articles on the subject from the Manchester Newspapers. 8vo. Manchester: *A. Ireland*.
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214. MANCHESTER and Liverpool Agricultural Society, [Report and Proceedings, 1851-51.] 8vo. Warrington: *Haddock and Son*.
215. Accounts of the New Bailey Prison [in SALFORD], for the Quarter ended 30th Nov. 1851. 8vo. Manchester: *T. Sowler*.
216. Supplement to the Pamphlets already published, relating to the recent Church Reform Proceedings in the Parish of MANCHESTER. 8vo. Manchester: *Cave and Sever*.
217. MANCHESTER and SALFORD Education Bill. Report of a Conversazione of Friends and Promoters, held in the Town Hall, Manchester, 28th Aug., 1851. 8vo. Manchester: *Cave and Sever*.
218. [Notes on the] MANCHESTER and SALFORD Education Bill. Nos. 1 to 4. 8vo. Manchester: *Powlson and Son*.
219. MANCHESTER and SALFORD Education Bill. Remarks upon certain Statements of Archdeacon DENISON and *The English Churchman*. 8vo. Manchester: *Powlson and Son*.
220. MANCHESTER and SALFORD Education Bill. Speech of the Rev. Canon CLIFTON, at a Meeting of the Friends and Supporters of the Bill, held at.....Manchester, December 2nd, 1851. 8vo. Manchester: *T. Sowler*.
221. A Sketch of some of the causes which, in MANCHESTER, induced the abandonment of the Voluntary System in the support of Schools, and the Introduction of the Manchester and SALFORD Education Bill. By the Rev. C. RICHSON, M.A. 8vo. London: *Longmans and Co*.
222. The Scheme of Secular Education proposed by the National Public School Association, compared with the MANCHESTER and SALFORD Borough Education Bill. By C. RICHSON, M.A. 8vo. London: *Longmans and Co*.
223. Special Report on the State of Juvenile Education and Delinquency in the Borough of SALFORD...By Stephen NEAL. Second Edition. 8vo. Salford: *W. F. Jackson*.
224. Catalogue of the Athenæum Library. Alphabetically arranged. [By Francis ESPINASSE.] 8vo. Manchester: *Harrison and Sale*.
225. A Catalogue of the MANCHESTER Athenæum Library. July, 1851. 8vo. Manchester: *Powlson and Son*.

226. SALFORD Royal Museum and Library.....Catalogue of the Library,
[by John PLANT] with the Rules and Regulations. 8vo. *Manchester:*
G. Falkner.
227. The Supply of Water to MANCHESTER. History of the Origin and
Progress of the Water Supply in Manchester, including a sketch
of the various Schemes for supplying the Town up to the present time.
[By John HARLAND.] 8vo. *Manchester: Cave and Sever.*
228. Newspapers, &c. containing a full account of the Visit of Her Majesty
Queen Victoria to MANCHESTER,.....Oct. 10, 1851. [Collected
and presented by Benjamin WHEELER.] Folio. *Manchester.*
229. Report of the Proceedings of the Executive Committee for arranging and
conducting the Assemblage of Sunday Scholars in Peel Park, on the
occasion of Her Majesty's Visit to MANCHESTER and SALFORD,
October 10th, 1851. 8vo. *Manchester; Cathrall and Co.*
230. Rules for the Government of the Pauper Lunatic Asylum, for the County
of Lancaster, situate at PRESTWICH, within the Hundred of SAL-
FORD. 8vo. *Manchester: Bradshaw and Blacklock.*
231. The First [and Second] Annual Report of the Directors of the PENDLE-
TON Mechanics' Institution. 12mo. *Manchester: [1851-2] A. Ireland.*
232. Introductory Address, delivered at the Chatham Street School of Medicine,
(at MANCHESTER), on the 1st October, 1851. By Thomas H.
WATTS, M.D. 8vo. *Manchester: Cave and Sever.*
233. Owen's College, MANCHESTER. [Prospectus of the Session, 1851.]
8vo. *Manchester: T. Sowler.*
234. Remarks upon the MANCHESTER and SALFORD Local Education
Bill. [By W. ENTWISLE.] 8vo. *Manchester; Poulson and Son*
235. Report of the MANCHESTER Homœopathic Hospital and Dispensary, ...
.....For the year 1850-51. 8vo. *Manchester: Cathrall and Co.*
236. Third Annual Report of the MANCHESTER Law Clerks' Friendly
Society, &c., 1851. 8vo. *Manchester: J. Bradshaw.*
237. Slater's Classified Commercial Directory of the Towns and Villages in the
manufacturing district round MANCHESTER, &c. 8vo. *Manchester:*
I. Slater.
- 1852.
238. Educational Facts and Statistics of MANCHESTER and SALFORD ;
being a Summary of some of the most important Statistical Tables
presented in Evidence before a Committee of the House of Commons,
on Manchester and Salford Education, May and June, 1852: with
Notes. By the Rev. C. RICHSON, M.A. 8vo. *Manchester: T. Sowler.*
239. A Comparison of Two Educational Bills of 1852. A Letter to Salis
Schwabe, Esq., to show the Points of Agreement and Difference in the
Educational Measures proposed by the National Public School Asso-
ciation and the MANCHESTER and SALFORD Committee on
Education. By C. RICHSON, M.A. 8vo. *Manchester: T. Sowler.*

240. Notes on the MANCHESTER and SALFORD Education Bill, explanatory of its Contents. By Wm. ENTWISLE. 8vo. *Manchester: Cave and Sever.*
241. Rules of St. Stephen's Church [SALFORD] Literary Association. 12mo.
242. Eighteenth Report of the Ministry to the Poor, commenced in MANCHESTER, January, 1833. Read at the Annual Meeting, May 17th, 1852. 8vo. *Manchester.*
243. Borough of SALFORD. ...Statement of the Circumstances connected with the Arbitrary Dismissal of Mr. Stephen Neal, Chief Constable, by the Watch Committee. 8vo. *Manchester.*
244. Letter from the Coroner to the Council of the Borough of MANCHESTER, upon the subject of the Report of the Watch Committee in relation to Coroners' Inquests. 8vo. *Manchester: G. Falkner.*
245. First Report of the MANCHESTER and SALFORD Temperance Society. March, 1851—March, 1852. 8vo. *Manchester; Ellerby and Cheetham.*
246. Slater's General and Classified Directory and Street Register of MANCHESTER and SALFORD; for 1852 and 1855. 8vo. *Manchester: I. Slater.*
247. Memorials of the Church in PRESTWICH, derived chiefly from Unpublished and Authentic Sources. An Abridged Edition. By John BOOKER, B.A. 8vo. *Manchester: Simms and Dinham.*
248. Report of the Proceedings at the Public Meeting, held in the Library, Camp Field, MANCHESTER, September 2nd, 1852, to celebrate the Opening of the Free Library. Revised. Also, Leading Articles on the subject, from the Manchester newspapers; List of Subscriptions, &c. 8vo. *Manchester: A. Ireland.*
249. The Duty of Increasing the Stipends of the MANCHESTER Clergy, stated and proved by a practical example 8vo. *Manchester: Hale and Roworth.*
- 1853.
250. The Jacobite Trials at MANCHESTER, in 1694. From an Unpublished Manuscript. Edited by William BEAMONT, Esq. 4to. *Manchester: printed for the Chetham Society.*
251. Cathedral Commission, and the Collegiate and Cathedral and Parish Church of MANCHESTER. 8vo. *Manchester: Beresford and Galt.*
252. The Wise Judgment: being a Chapter on the Competing Models for the MANCHESTER Wellington Testimonial. By Gabriel TINTO, Esq. [Pseud.] 8vo. *Manchester: Beresford and Galt.*
253. Notes on the Government Education Bill, addressed to the Members of the MANCHESTER and SALFORD Committee on Education. By William ENTWISLE. 8vo. *Manchester: T. Sowler.*
254. Cross-Examination of the Evidence given by Edward BAINES, Esq., before the Select Committee on MANCHESTER and SALFORD Education, 1852. By W. ENTWISLE. 8vo. *Manchester: T. Sowler.*

255. A Short Rejoinder, or Reply to certain objections against the employment of a rate for Educational purposes : being a few Notes on a Pamphlet entitled " Facts, and consideration on the MANCHESTER and Salford Education Bill." By C. RICHSON, M.A. 8vo. *Manchester: T. Sowler.*
256. Education. The Government Measure shown to be susceptible of Improvement on its own principles. By C. RICHSON, M.A. 8vo. *Manchester: T. Sowler.*
257. Report of the Sub-Committee-appointed by the MANCHESTER and SALFORD Committee on Education, to examine into and Report on the Government " Bill for the promotion of Education in Cities and Boroughs in England." 8vo. *Manchester: T. Sowler.*
258. Report upon the statistical inquiry instituted by the Executive Committee of the National Public School Association, in St. Michael's and St. John's Wards [of the city of MANCHESTER], in Nov. and Dec. 1852. By John WATTS. Folio. *Manchester.*
259. The Convent Inspection Bill. A Critical Review of the sayings and doings of.....Hugh Stowell, and his.....followers,at the Corn Exchange, MANCHESTER, June 13, 1853. By W. E. S[TRUTTER]. 8vo. *Manchester: W. E. Strutter.*
260. Congregational Reform. A Letter to the Members of Congregational Churches in MANCHESTER and SALFORD. By a Manchester Congregationalist. 8vo. *Manchester: Cave and Sever.*
261. Congregational Reform. A Letter to the Author of the Pamphlet entitled Congregational Reform. By P. Q. R., another Manchester Congregationalist. 8vo. *Manchester: Dunnill and Palmer.*
262. Three Reports on the Origin, Formation, and first year's Working of the MANCHESTER Free Library, with an Introduction on the results and the defects of the Public Libraries Act of 1850. By Edward EDWARDS. 8vo. *Manchester: Cave and Sever.*
263. The Inauguration of the MANCHESTER Free Library, September 2nd, 1852. A Poem. By George HATTON. 8vo. *Manchester: Cave and Sever.*
- 1854.
264. Second Annual Report to the Council of the City of MANCHESTER on the Working of the Manchester Free Library. October 19th, 1854. (Third Annual Report, &c. October 31st, 1855.) 8vo. *Manchester: Cave and Sever.*
265. MANCHESTER Free Library. Catalogue of the Lending Department. [Compiled by Charles DEWHURST.] 8vo. *Manchester: Cave and Sever.*
266. Catalogue of the Books of the MANCHESTER Law Library Society. Together with the Rules of the Society and a List of Members. 1854. 8vo. *Manchester: Arthur Burgess.*

267. A History of the Ancient Chapel of Blackley, in MANCHESTER Parish, including Sketches of the Townships of Blackley, Harpurhey, Moston, and Crumpsall, for the Convenience of the which several Hamlets the Chapel was originally erected; together with Notices of the more Ancient Local Families, and Particulars relating to the descent of their Estates. By the Rev. John BOOKER, B.A. 8vo. *Manchester: G. Simms.*
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269. A Letter to Benjamin Nicholls, Esq., Mayor of MANCHESTER, on Hulme's Charity. By Alexander KAY. 8vo. *Manchester: T. Sowler & Sons.*
1855.
270. Some Account of the Educational Charity founded by WILLIAM HULME. By Alexander KAY. (From the *Transactions of the Manchester Statistical Society.*) 8vo. *Manchester: John Harrison and Son.*
271. Owens College, MANCHESTER. Annual Report and Examination Papers. June, 1855. 8vo. *Manchester: T. Sowler.*
272. MANCHESTER Worthies and their Foundations; or, Six Chapters of Local History, with an Epilogue, by way of Moral. By Edward EDWARDS. 8vo. *Manchester: Jas. Galt and Co.*
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A D D E N D A .

1821.

274. A Report of the proceedings of the Board of Directors of the MANCHESTER Chamber of Commerce, from the time of its institution, in the year 1820, to the end of 1821. [With the subsequent Annual Reports, from the 5th (1826), to the 34th (1854), both inclusive; but wanting the 25th (for 1846); with Special Reports on the administration of the Bank of England; on the injurious effects of Restrictions on Trade; and on a Mission to India.] 2 vols. 8vo. *Manchester: C. Wheeler, &c.*

1822.

275. Report of the State of the Sunday Schools, in MANCHESTER and SALFORD, belonging to the Established Church, for the years 1821 [and 1832]. 8vo. *Manchester: [1822—1832] J. Gleave.*

1826.

276. Report of the MANCHESTER School for the Deaf and Dumb, 1826. [With the subsequent Reports for 1834; 1835; 1838; 1850; and 1851.] 8vo. *Manchester: [1826—1851] Robinson and Bent, &c.*

1835.

277. The Twenty-Fifth Report of the MANCHESTER and SALFORD Auxiliary Bible Society, &c., 1835. [With the 28th and 41st, 1838-51.] 8vo. *Manchester: [1835-51] J. Gleave, &c.*

1839.

278. Report of the MANCHESTER and SALFORD District Committee of the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge, 1838. [With subsequent Reports for 1839 and 1849.] 8vo. *Manchester*: [1839—1849] *Bancks & Co.*

1840.

279. A Report of the Sunday Schools belonging to St. Paul's Church, MANCHESTER, for the year 1840. [With subsequent Reports for 1842, 1844, and 1850.] 8vo. *Manchester*: [1840—1850] *H. Whitmore.*

1844.

280. The Twentieth Report of the MANCHESTER and SALFORD Auxiliary Society in aid of the London Society for promoting Christianity amongst the Jews. 8vo. *Manchester*: *J. Pratt.*

1850.

281. The Owens College [MANCHESTER]. Substance of the Report of a Committee of the Trustees for Educational Purposes, under the will of the Late John Owens, on the general Character and Plan of the College. 8vo. *Manchester*: *T. Sowler.*

282. Education in MANCHESTER: considered with special reference to the state of Church Day Schools, and the means of extending Education generally. By C. RICHSON, M.A. 8vo. *Manchester*: [1850?] *T. Sowler.*

1852.

283. Supplement to Appendix B. of a Reply to the Committee of the Promoters of the MANCHESTER and SALFORD Education Scheme. By George Anthony DENISON, M.A. *London*: *J. Masters.*

284. The MANCHESTER and SALFORD Education Bill (Mr. Entwisle's and the Rev. Hugh Stowell's) Infidel in its principle and dangerous in its Tendency. Second Edition. 8vo. *London*: *Simpkin and Marshall.*

285. A new general and commercial Directory of MANCHESTER and SALFORD... Together with the principal Villages and Hamlets in the District. To which is prefixed historical and descriptive sketches, exhibiting their Rise, Progress, Manufactures, and Commerce. By W. WHELLAN and Co. 8vo. *Manchester*: *Booth and Milthorp.*

1855.

286. Report on some of the Charitable Trusts of MANCHESTER; with proposals for their better administration. Addressed to the Charitable Trusts Committee of the City Council, by Alexander McDOUGALL, a member of the Committee. 8vo. *Manchester*: *Cave and Sever.*

287. Report of St. Mary's Hospital and Dispensary [at MANCHESTER],..... Dec. 1854. *Manchester*: *Cave and Sever.*

288. Narrative of the proceedings... at the laying of the foundation stone of St. Mary's Hospital... Manchester. 4to. *Manchester*: *Cave and Sever.*

MANCHESTER FREE LIBRARY.

THIRD ANNUAL REPORT.—OCTOBER, 1855.

FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT

TO

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
MANCHESTER,

ON THE WORKING OF THE

MANCHESTER

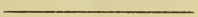
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MANCHESTER:
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MANCHESTER FREE LIBRARY.



FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT.—OCTOBER, 1856.

FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT

TO

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
MANCHESTER,

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MANCHESTER

FREE LIBRARY.

OCTOBER 31ST, 1856.

MANCHESTER:

CAVE & SEVER, PRINTERS, PALATINE BUILDINGS, HUNT'S BANK.

1856.

The FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMITTEE report :—

Your Committee submit the Fourth Annual Report on the working of the Library, prepared by Mr. Edwards, and (as on former occasions) venture to claim for it the careful perusal and consideration of the members of the Council.

The Report exhibits a gratifying progress during the year, both as respects the increase of the collection and its extended use by the public. If the latter be not yet so considerable as fully to meet the anticipations of the more sanguine among its first promoters, it is true, nevertheless, that the extent to which, in one or other of its departments, the Library has been used by all classes of the Community, during the four years which have elapsed since it was publicly opened, has hitherto been without any parallel in this country.

Your Committee are glad to find that the list of Donations is somewhat more considerable than was that of the preceding year. It will be seen, however, that of the entire 914 volumes which have been presented, no less than 800 are the gift of four donors, and of these only *two* have any direct connection with Manchester. Your Committee would fain hope that the useful and generous donations reported will incite imitation.

Your Committee also trust, that when the great amount of advantage which the Free Library has already conferred on this Community shall have been duly considered by the Council, the contents of this Report will induce a disposition to make use, at a befitting time, of the increased powers which the Legislature has recently conferred upon Corporations in relation to PUBLIC LIBRARIES and

MUSEUMS. It will hereafter be the duty of your Committee to bring under the consideration of the Council measures for increasing the utility of the institution, as well by extending the arrangements for the loan of books, more especially intended for those classes of the community who stand most in need of increased facilities for mental cultivation, as by providing good and thoroughly accessible catalogues of that REFERENCE DEPARTMENT of the Library which, with every passing year, is becoming more and more a credit to the City, and more widely useful in facilitating the researches and assisting the studies of ALL classes of the Community.

On behalf of the Committee,

JOHN POTTER, *Chairman.*

Town Hall, November 28th, 1856.

REPORT.

IN submitting the Fourth Annual Report on the working of the FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY of this City, Mr. Edwards has the gratification of stating that it will be found to exhibit both a larger addition of books to the Library shelves, and a more extended use of the Library by the public, than have been shewn in any preceding Report. The aggregate number of volumes in the Library has been increased from 28,261 to 32,573. The aggregate annual issues have increased from 147,582 to 156,553. The total number of volumes added since the Library was transferred to the Corporation is 11,255; and the total number of volumes issued—to readers and to borrowers collectively—is 584,792. This large aggregate issue of books from a single Library within four years is, it is believed, as yet without any parallel in the United Kingdom, except in the instance of the great National Library of the British Museum, which belongs, of course, to a quite different category.

Of the 584,792 volumes issued, no less than 322,103 volumes have been delivered to borrowers from the LENDING DEPARTMENT, yet,—so far as has been hitherto ascertained,—a sum of twenty-five shillings would fully cover all the *uncompensated* loss which the Library has sustained, beyond the ordinary wear and tear of books which are in frequent demand.

SECTION I.

ON THE ISSUES OF BOOKS.

The issues of the year have been as follows:—

	Vols.
To Readers in the Reference Department	70,770
To Borrowers from the Lending Department.....	85,783
Total issue	<u>156,553</u>

During the year the Library was open to the public on 299 days; namely, for the whole day on 293 days, and for part of the day during the six days of Easter week. The average daily issue for the entire year is 523 volumes, of which number 236 were supplied to readers in the Reference Department, and 287 to borrowers from the Lending Department.

The issues of the four years during which the Library has been open to the public, stand thus:—

Years.	Issues in REFERENCE Department.	Issues in LENDING Department.	AGGREGATE Issue.	AVERAGE Daily Issue.
	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.
First year, 1852—3.....	61,080	77,232	138,312	455
Second year, 1853—4.....	64,578	77,767	142,345	478
Third year, 1854—5.....	66,261	81,321	147,582	495
Fourth year, 1855—6.....	70,770	85,783	156,553	522
Totals of the four years ...	262,689	322,103	584,792	.....

The *average* number of the volumes which during the past year have been available for the service of readers in the Reference Department, may be estimated at 20,500, and the average number of volumes available in the Lending Department at 9,500. It follows that, on an approximate average of the whole collection, each Reference Library volume has been used by readers somewhat more than three times, and that each Lending Library volume has been taken out by borrowers about nine times.

The subjoined tables record the monthly issues, and the daily average issue, in both departments, for each month of the entire period during which the Library has been open to the public; and also indicate the various classes of books which make up the issues from the Reference Department in particular:—

I.—TABLES OF THE MONTHLY ISSUES FOR FOUR YEARS.

First Year, 1852—3.				
Month.	Vols. issued from REFERENCE Department.	Vols. issued from LENDING Department.	AGGREGATE No. of vols. issued.	Daily AVERAGE of the Aggregate issue.
September 6—30	7,551	3,728	11,279	512
October	6,682	10,138	16,820	616
November	7,163	8,308	15,471	595
December	5,930	7,593	13,523	520
January	5,768	7,485	13,253	509
February	4,672	6,085	10,757	448
March	3,742	5,628	9,370	407
April	4,171	6,366	10,537	405
May	3,580	4,913	8,493	326
June	3,315	5,178	8,493	353
July	3,968	5,802	9,770	375
August	4,124	5,239	9,363	346
September 1—5.....	414	769	1,183	591
Totals.....	61,080	77,232	138,312	Mean daily average, 461

Second Year, 1853—4.

Month.	Vols. issued from REFERENCE Department.	Vols. issued from LENDING Department.	AGGREGATE No. of vols. issued.	Daily AVERAGE of the Aggregate issue.
September 6—30	5,163	5,506	10,669	485
October	6,353	7,507	13,869	533
November	6,571	6,594	13,165	506
December	5,858	7,036	12,894	537
January	7,478	7,260	14,838	593
February.....	6,813	6,335	13,148	547
March.....	5,476	7,217	12,693	529
April	3,443	5,821	9,264	484
May	4,408	5,938	10,346	383
June	2,989	3,811	6,800	324
July.....	4,250	6,646	10,896	436
August	4,991	6,961	11,952	442
September 1—5	785	1,035	1,820	455
Totals.....	64,578	77,767	142,345	Mean daily average, 487

Third Year, 1854—5.

Month.	Vols. issued from REFERENCE Department.	Vols. issued from LENDING Department.	AGGREGATE No. of vols. issued.	Daily AVERAGE of the Aggregate issue.
September 6—30	4,787	4,567	9,354	492
October	6,583	7,617	14,200	546
November	5,875	6,772	12,647	506
December	5,644	7,772	13,416	559
January	7,281	8,161	15,442	594
February.....	5,945	6,329	12,274	533
March.....	7,114	8,444	15,558	648
April	4,179	7,077	11,256	469
May	4,859	5,776	10,635	425
June	4,544	6,131	10,675	427
July	4,609	6,559	11,168	429
August	4,201	4,904	9,105	379
September 1—5	640	1,212	1,852	463
Totals.....	66,261	81,321	147,582	Mean daily average, 495

Fourth Year, 1855—6.				
Month.	Vols. issued from REFERENCE Department.	Vols. issued from LENDING Department.	AGGREGATE No. of vols. issued.	Daily AVERAGE of the Aggregate Issue.
September 6—30	4,420	5,436	9,856	469
October	6,377	8,200	14,577	539
November	5,950	6,084	12,034	523
December	6,242	8,018	14,260	570
January	7,652	8,749	16,401	630
February	7,001	6,516	13,517	614
March	5,966	7,949	13,915	556
April	6,544	8,207	14,751	567
May	4,496	5,628	10,124	421
June	4,799	6,996	11,795	471
July.....	5,490	7,595	13,085	484
August	4,724	5,180	9,904	430
September 1—5	1,109	1,225	2,334	447
Totals	70,770	85,783	156,553	Mean daily average, 522

II.—CLASSIFICATION OF THE ISSUES FROM THE REFERENCE DEPARTMENT
FOR FOUR YEARS.

First Year, 1852—3.							
Month.	Class I.	Class II.	Class III.	Class IV.	Class V.	Class VI.	Aggregate Issues.
	TREOL.	PHILO.	HIST.	POLIT. and COMM.	SCIENCES and ARTS.	LITERAT. and POLYGR.	
[1852.]	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.
September 6—30..	127	174	3,143	360	932	2,815	7,551
October	88	174	2,964	279	821	2,356	6,682
November	95	171	2,760	278	858	3,001	7,163
December	82	164	2,145	216	845	2,478	5,930
[1853.]							
January	106	156	1,962	182	786	2,570	5,768
February	109	126	1,718	159	660	1,900	4,672
March	59	122	1,265	134	572	1,590	3,742
April	111	136	1,417	151	569	1,787	4,171
May.....	102	106	1,199	127	570	1,476	3,580
June	84	74	1,282	71	532	1,272	3,315
July	108	85	1,426	161	620	1,568	3,968
August	96	72	1,466	184	759	1,547	4,124
September 1—5 ...	17	9	117	20	94	157	414
Totals.....	1,184	1,569	22,864	2,328	8,618	24,517	61,080

Second Year, 1853—4.

Month.	Class I.	Class II.	Class III.	Class IV.	Class V.	Class VI.	Aggregate Issues.
	THEOL.	PHILOS.	HIST.	POLIT. and COMM.	SCIENCES and ARTS.	LITERAT. and POLYGR.	
[1853.]	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.
September 6—30..	132	73	1,786	154	894	2,124	5,163
October	100	136	2,125	244	816	2,932	6,353
November	69	142	2,202	236	780	3,142	6,571
December	84	114	1,947	165	702	2,846	5,858
[1854.]							
January	104	180	2,448	294	761	3,691	7,478
February	123	197	2,209	284	733	3,267	6,813
March	143	104	1,778	167	613	2,671	5,476
April	63	66	1,135	107	421	1,651	3,443
May	117	92	1,305	150	693	2,051	4,408
June	134	101	918	107	484	1,245	2,989
July	107	102	1,083	136	698	2,124	4,250
August	152	94	1,355	304	871	2,215	4,991
September 1—5 ...	20	16	247	47	112	343	785
Totals.....	1,348	1,417	20,538	2,395	8,578	30,302	64,578

Third Year, 1854—5.

Month.	Class I.	Class II.	Class III.	Class IV.	Class V.	Class VI.	Aggregate Issues.
	THEOL.	PHILOS.	HIST.	POLIT. and COMM.	SCIENCES and ARTS.	LITERAT. and POLYGR.	
[1854.]	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.
September 6—30..	128	125	1,589	317	632	1,996	4,787
October	140	110	2,110	285	787	3,151	6,583
November	80	116	1,705	250	637	3,087	5,875
December	99	99	1,640	280	648	2,878	5,644
[1855.]							
January	130	183	2,225	244	910	3,589	7,281
February	99	134	1,645	239	891	2,937	5,945
March	125	169	1,893	328	1,037	3,562	7,114
April	85	109	991	341	655	1,998	4,179
May	120	91	1,257	223	831	2,337	4,859
June	111	84	1,131	338	697	2,183	4,544
July	106	98	1,257	296	653	2,199	4,609
August	161	48	1,216	423	778	1,575	4,201
September 1—5 ...	10	16	208	45	123	238	640
Totals.....	1,394	1,382	18,867	3,609	9,279	31,730	66,261

Fourth Year, 1855—6.							
Month.	Class I.	Class II.	Class III.	Class IV.	Class V.	Class VI.	Aggregate Issue.
	THEOL.	PHILOS.	HIST.	POLIT. and COMM.	SCIENCES and ARTS.	LITERAT. and POLYGR.	
[1855.]	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.
September 6—30..	206	16	1,338	167	853	1,840	4,420
October	243	39	1,801	209	1,154	2,931	6,377
November	105	166	1,675	300	820	2,884	5,950
December	154	112	1,733	343	1,022	2,878	6,242
[1856.]							
January	251	78	1,876	423	1,037	3,987	7,652
February	207	100	1,474	368	945	3,907	7,001
March	152	76	1,239	567	1,025	2,907	5,966
April	167	89	1,233	1,296	1,037	2,722	6,544
May.....	174	97	1,058	391	616	2,160	4,496
June	146	51	1,058	988	565	1,991	4,799
July	177	52	1,306	576	647	2,732	5,490
August	147	83	1,227	798	563	1,906	4,724
September 1—5 ...	24	11	292	183	143	456	1,109
	2,153	970	17,310	6,609	10,427	33,301	70,770

Thus, of the 262,689 volumes which in four years have been issued to readers in the Reference Department, 119,850 have been either works of "LITERATURE," in the restricted sense of the word, or works treating of subjects that extend over more than one of those six classes in which the books of this Department have been arranged. Such works are termed "polygraphical," and are classed with those of Literature, in accordance with a method which has commanded the very general assent of Bibliographers. 79,579 other volumes are Historical; 36,902 relate to the Sciences and Arts; 14,941 to Politics and Commerce; 6,079 are Theological, and 5,338 treat of Mental or Moral Philosophy.

Of the 119,850 volumes which have been issued in the class "LITERATURE and POLYGRAPHY," somewhat less than 30,000 have been works of Prose Fiction. Such works therefore form less than *one-eighth* of the whole issue of the period in question so far as respects the Reference Department. It may be added, that whilst within six months of the *first* year 5,431 volumes of "Novels and Romances" were issued, out of an aggregate issue of 15,120 volumes in the class "LITERATURE;" within six months of the *fourth* year only 3,239 similar volumes were issued, out of an aggregate issue in the same class of 19,006 volumes.

The particular classes in which a greatly increased demand has obtained during the last year, as compared with preceding years, are those of "THEOLOGY," and of "POLITICS and COMMERCE." In both instances the increase appears to be owing to the greatly extended and daily extending use of this department of the Library by the professional and other educated classes of the community. The large demand for "Specifications of Patents," by readers of all grades, has also been a considerable element in the especially noticeable increase in the section

“POLITICS and COMMERCE.” The issues of books in this section of the Library were in the first year 2,328, and in the year which has just closed, 6,609.

Of the particular subject-matters of Patents, the “Specifications” of which have been applied for by readers, an account has been kept during six months. It shews that of the 3,732 issues of this kind, 869 have related to Railways; 868 to Steam Engines, Motive Power, and Propulsion generally; 411 to the Manufacture of Textile Fabrics and to the subsidiary processes connected therewith; 285 to Water and Gas Meters, Taps, and Valves; 150 to Shipbuilding and Navigation; 115 to the Working of Metals; 81 to Brewing; 58 to Waterproofing; 43 to Sewing Machines; 36 to Smoke-prevention, and 34 to Machinery for Hoisting.

The issues in the class HISTORY, although they indicate some diminution in the aggregate, shew a large increase in the demand for particular works. For example, Mr. Macaulay’s *History of England* has been delivered 214 times; that of Craik and Macfarlane, 113 times; that of Lingard, 68 times; that of Hume, 26 times. Thus, although somewhat fewer works of History have been issued in the whole, than were issued in the first year, the applications for works relating to *British* history—of which the foregoing are but a sample—have been nearly two-fold what they then were. It is curious also to note that Arthur Collins’ *Historical Peerage of England* (in the edition of Sir Egerton Brydges) is one of the *four* works in the entire class “HISTORY” which have been in greatest demand; that book having been issued 121 times in six months. Again, Alison’s *History of Europe* has had, during six months, 208 issues, and Grote’s *History of Greece*, 43. The increased demand for Atlases and Treatises on Geography has likewise been remarkable.

In the class “SCIENCES and ARTS,” Ure’s *Dictionary of Arts and Manufactures*, Tredgold’s *Treatise on the Steam Engine*, Works on Chemistry, of recent date, and the Mathematical Works of Mr. De Morgan, have been most conspicuously in request. The two first-named works are in daily and almost unintermitted use.

As respects the REFERENCE DEPARTMENT, indeed, in general, it may be said that its use by the public, both as a means of supplying information on points of serious and definite inquiry, and as a means of affording consecutive reading with a view to mental culture, is steadily on the increase. But it must be candidly added, as matter of some regret, though not at all matter for reasonable surprise, that no such statement can be made as regards the LENDING DEPARTMENT. This portion of the Library continues to be *chiefly* used, as it was intended that it should be chiefly used, by the less educated classes of the community, and the *chief* demand upon it continues to be, as it has always been, for books of amusement. During the past year,—as will be seen on reference to the tables which follow,—an aggregate number of 23,616 volumes in the several classes—“THEOLOGY”—“PHILOSOPHY”—“HISTORY”—“POLITICS”—“SCIENCES and ARTS,” has been issued; but it must be admitted that not only are the issues to borrowers, in these classes, relatively to the whole issue, less than they were in the first year of the working of the Library, but that they are even positively less, with a total issue

of 85,783 volumes in the fourth year, than they were with a total issue of 77,232 volumes in the first year. A similar result was observable in the statistics of last year, but it was not thought fitting that the point should be dwelt upon without increased experience and minutely-careful investigation into the details of the Register Books. Much interest was expressed (in other parts of the country as well as in this district), in the information on this head which was given in the First Annual Report. It has therefore appeared desirable that some pains should be taken to supply similar information on the present occasion.

Of the 44,669 volumes which were issued to borrowers from the Lending Department in the *first six months* of the fourth year, 31,838 were in the class "LITERATURE;" and of these 24,150 were Novels and Romances; 2,437 other volumes were popular Magazines, the staple of which is also Prose Fiction, and which are known to be mainly in request for the tales contained in them. It follows that of the issues to borrowers in the class "LITERATURE," more than *four-fifths*, and of the whole issue in all classes collectively, nearly *five-eighths* were works of Prose Fiction. The books in this department which the Library possesses are—it need scarcely be said—the best of their class. They comprise all the standard masterpieces of British Novelists, and several works of more recent date which will hereafter take rank as Classics in this kind. It may, too, be truthfully said that at no previous period in the history of our literature has Prose Fiction been made in so great a degree as now, the vehicle of the best thoughts of some of the best thinkers of the day. Nor, taking it as a whole, was it ever before characterized by so much general purity of tone or loftiness of purpose. But, whatever weight may fairly be attachable to considerations like these, it is still the fact that reading of this class is, in the main, reading for mere pastime, not for intellectual improvement.

Careful observation and inquiry have made it clearly evident that the chief obstacle which impedes the *Lending Departments* of Free Public Libraries in their due progress as means of carrying on the great work of popular education, is the insufficiency of that amount of command over the mere tools and implements of education which is imparted in many of the popular schools. An increasing proportion of the borrowers at the Free Library have been youths and boys who still attend schools of one kind or other, or who have but recently left them. In very many cases such persons have obviously possessed but the bare ability to read—and even that imperfectly—with no acquired training of the intellect to enable them to turn the ability to good account. It has been repeatedly observed that youths in this position are attracted by the titles of books of an instructive kind,—often by those of books remarkable alike for intrinsic value and for charm of style,—as they meet with them in the catalogues; apply for such once or twice; quickly return them; and then resort habitually and exclusively to mere tales and other "light literature." The inference appears to be irresistible that in many such cases the amount of schooling,—whatever may have been its duration or wherever it may have been had,—has failed to impart

the habit of mental application, or even to create that moderately discriminating mental appetite to which perpetual novel-reading would become nauseous, as surely as a table spread every day with confectionery, and with nothing else, would pall upon the healthy appetite for food.

Exaggerated depreciation of the results thus far attained by popular Lending Libraries is, however, alike premature and unwise. Of the books there to be found, it may be truly said that to read *any* is far better than to read none; and however interesting and useful statistics of circulation may be, mere numbers form neither the only nor the best criterion of the work really accomplished. The good effects which *may* ultimately spring from the impression made by but one book upon one mind are incalculable. Still more obvious is it that the eventual results to a Community of bringing into many homes which they never entered before, such books as those which Milton calls "the life-blood of master-spirits," cannot but prove a full justification and an ample reward of the exertions that have been made, and the liberality that has been called forth, in the foundation of the Free Libraries of this and of some other Towns, even if their unexampled success as TOWN LIBRARIES OF REFERENCE, for *all* classes of the Community, were left out of view.

As respects the *individual works* which have been in greatest request in the Lending Department during the past year, it may be stated that in the *first six months* of it (to which period these particulars are necessarily limited, on account of the labour which their collection entails), the periodical entitled, *Howitt's Journal*, was (in one or other of its volumes) issued 62 times. Of *Household Words*, there were 56 issues; 51 issues of *Ivanhoe*; 50 issues of *Chambers's Journal*; 49 issues of *Waverley*; 47 issues of Shakespeare's *Plays*, of Byron's *Poetical Works*, of Defoe's *Colonel Jack*, and of *Paul Clifford*, respectively; 46 issues of the *Antiquary*; 45 issues of *Rob Roy*, of *Ernest Maltravers*, of *Who shall be Heir?* and of the *Count of Monte Christo*, respectively; 44 issues of the *People's Journal*; 43 issues of *Margaret Lindsay*; 42 issues of *Peeveril*; 41 issues of *My Novel*, of *The Secret Foe* (by Miss Pickering), and of *The Wide, wide World*, respectively; 40 issues of *Our Village*, and of *The Last of the Barons*, respectively; 39 issues of *Eugene Aram*; 38 issues of Miss Brunton's *Self Control*, and 26 issues of Roby's *Traditions of Lancashire*. No other book in the class "LITERATURE and POLYGRAPHY" appears to have attained a greater number of issues than 24 during the same period.

In the class HISTORY the greatest demand has been for Macaulay's *History of England* (of which, of course, as of almost all the books mentioned in this Report, the Library has several copies). The number of issues of this work during six months has been 52. Whitaker's and Wheeler's *Histories of Manchester* were issued 40 times. There have also been 38 issues of the *Life of Napoleon* and of the *Life of Nelson*, respectively; 36 issues of Alison's *History of Europe*; 34 issues of Mr. Crowe's *History of France* (forming part of the *Cabinet Cyclopaedia*), and 33 of Lady Calcott's *History of Spain*. The Narra-

tive of Napoleon's *Campaign in Russia* was issued 34 times; D'Aubigné's *History of the Reformation*, 33 times; *Cook's Voyages*, 31 times; Palmer's *Narrative of the Siege of Manchester*, also 31 times. Of the translation of Josephus there were 30 issues; of the *Foundations of Manchester*, 28 issues; of a *Life of the Duke of Wellington*, 24 issues; and of Sir E. L. Bulwer Lytton's *Athens, its Rise and Fall*, 22 issues.

Amongst scientific works, treatises on the Steam Engine, on Practical Mechanics, and on Chemistry, have been in most frequent demand. Eight works of this kind have averaged 11 issues each in the six months under review. The book called *The Dyer's Assistant* has had a similar issue. Next to these comes Hugh Miller's *Footprints of the Creator*. Of political works the most popular has been a work on the British Army called *The Camp and Barrack-room*.

In THEOLOGY, Horne's *Introduction to the Study of the Holy Scriptures* has had the largest circulation, having been issued 11 times in six months; the *Biblical Reading Book* has had 5 issues, and Butler's *Analogy* four. In Philosophy Locke's *Essays* have been issued 8 times, and Paley's *Moral Philosophy*, 6 times. Beattie *On the Nature and Immutability of Truth* has been out 4 times, and his *Essay On Poetry and Music as they affect the Mind*, 6 times.

The Tables which follow exhibit a Classification of the Issues of the LENDING DEPARTMENT for THREE YEARS only, namely, for the *first* year, 1852-53, for the *third* year, 1854-55, and for the year now reported on:—

III.—CLASSIFICATION OF THE ISSUES FROM THE LENDING DEPARTMENT.

First Year, 1852-53.							
Month.	Class I. THEOL.	Class II. PHILOS.	Class III. HIST.	Class IV. POLIT. and COMM.	Class V. SCIENCES and ARTS.	Class VI. LITERAT. and POLYGR.	Aggregate Issue.
	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.
[1852.]							
September 6—30..	49	43	1,022	43	269	2,302	3,728
October	116	96	3,430	120	538	5,838	10,138
November	114	124	2,766	124	508	4,672	8,308
December	110	82	2,474	100	483	4,344	7,593
[1853.]							
January	114	52	2,336	50	451	4,482	7,485
February	80	51	1,824	42	370	3,718	6,085
March	60	48	1,579	61	325	3,555	5,628
April	107	74	1,792	84	388	3,921	6,366
May	84	55	1,309	55	246	3,164	4,913
June	102	70	1,250	44	220	3,492	5,178
July	110	82	1,509	66	276	3,759	5,802
August	77	60	1,357	44	219	3,482	5,239
September 3—5 ...	7	8	189	6	26	533	769
Total.....	1,130	845	22,837	839	4,319	47,262	77,232

Third Year, 1854-55.

Month.	Class I.	Class II.	Class III.	Class IV.	Class V.	Class VI.	Aggregate Issue.
	THEOL.	PHILOS.	HIST.	POLIT. and COMM.	SCIENCES and ARTS.	LITERAT. and POLYGR.	
[1854.]	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.
September 6—30..	74	54	1,025	30	239	3,145	4,567
October	100	43	1,862	89	385	5,138	7,617
November	85	43	1,613	78	352	4,601	6,772
December	103	42	1,753	65	390	5,419	7,772
[1855.]							
January	128	44	1,994	72	448	5,475	8,161
February	79	36	1,523	43	361	4,287	6,329
March	113	45	2,155	66	483	5,582	8,444
April	102	34	1,713	67	362	4,799	7,077
May	73	30	1,260	54	331	4,028	5,776
June	89	35	1,280	56	339	4,332	6,131
July	93	38	1,404	59	374	4,591	6,559
August	65	32	910	48	244	3,605	4,904
September 3—5 ...	19	6	203	8	50	926	1,212
Total.....	1,123	482	18,695	735	4,358	55,928	81,321

Fourth Year, 1855-56.

Month.	Class I.	Class II.	Class III.	Class IV.	Class V.	Class VI.	Aggregate Issue.
	THEOL.	PHILOS.	HIST.	POLIT. and COMM.	SCIENCES and ARTS.	LITERAT. and POLYGR.	
[1855.]	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.
September 6—30..	89	24	1,020	43	272	3,988	5,436
October	136	26	1,786	62	387	5,803	8,200
November	89	34	1,247	65	292	4,357	6,084
December	84	51	1,574	106	380	5,823	8,018
[1856.]							
January	94	51	1,954	72	485	6,093	8,749
February	70	44	1,380	60	366	4,596	6,516
March	104	53	1,716	80	382	5,614	7,949
April	104	46	1,751	58	386	5,862	8,207
May	87	47	1,010	37	213	4,234	5,628
June	86	35	1,272	51	274	5,278	6,996
July	97	34	1,460	54	324	5,626	7,595
August	75	22	840	30	212	4,001	5,180
September 3—5 ...	15	4	232	13	69	892	1,225
Total.....	1,130	471	17,242	731	4,042	62,167	85,783

During the year, 2,563 vouchers have been received from applicants for admission to the Lending Department. Of this number, 2,047 have been accepted, and 516 have been rejected for want of conformity with the regulations. Only eight vouchers have been withdrawn by the guarantees. The tickets of 132 other borrowers have been cancelled for unduly detaining (without reasonable excuse) the books lent to them, or for otherwise infringing the rules of the Library. The total number of persons admitted to the loan of books from the opening of the Library to the end of the fourth year, exclusive of those whose tickets have been cancelled, is 10,757.

Of the number of persons who are now actually availing themselves (more or less frequently) of the privilege accorded them, no precise account can be given. The Register Books have however been searched, and the books upon the shelves counted, on the 29th day of October instant. The result is that 2,106 volumes are at present in the hands of 2,103 borrowers; 380 volumes are in the hands of the bookbinders; and 7,524 volumes are on the shelves. The details are as follows:—

STATE OF LENDING DEPARTMENT, OCTOBER 29th, 1856.

	Cl. I.	Cl. II.	Cl. III.	Cl. IV.	Class V.	Cl. VI.	Total.
	THEO.	PHILO.	HIST.	POLIT.	SCIENCE.	LITERA.	
	Vols.		Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.
In the hands of Borrowers..	24		479	81	82	1,440	2,106
“ “ the Bookbinders	17		70	40	42	211	380
On the shelves	250		3,078	655	569	2,972	7,524
Totals.....	291		3,627	776	693	4,623	10,010

During the year, 25 volumes appear to have been lost whilst in the hands of borrowers. Of these, 17 volumes have been replaced or paid for by the borrowers themselves and five by their guarantees. In 210 cases of slight injury to books or their bindings, compensation has been made by the payment of small fines. In 188 of these cases payment has been made by the borrowers; in the remaining 22 by the guarantees. In three cases,—both borrowers and guarantees having removed their residences or having become otherwise inaccessible,—the value of books lost has failed to be recovered. So far as has yet been ascertained the total uncompensated loss to the Library is thirteen volumes, all of them of inconsiderable value. About five hundred volumes have been worn out during the four years by constant circulation.

The general results of the working of both departments of the Library during the entire period, may be briefly summed up thus:—

I.—CLASSIFIED SUMMARY OF THE ISSUES IN THE REFERENCE DEPARTMENT.

Class.	Vols. issued in the First Year, 1852-53.	Vols. issued in the Second Year, 1853-54.	Vols. issued in the Third Year, 1854-55.	Vols. issued in the Fourth Year, 1855-56.	Aggregate Issues for the Four Years.
I. THEOLOGY	1,184	1,348	1,394	2,153	6,079
II. PHILOSOPHY	1,569	1,417	1,382	970	5,338
III. HISTORY	22,864	20,538	18,867	17,310	79,579
IV. POLITICS and COMMERCE	2,328	2,395	3,609	6,609	14,941
V. SCIENCES and ARTS ..	8,618	8,578	9,279	10,427	36,902
VI. LITERATURE and POLYGRAPHY ..	24,517	30,302	31,730	33,301	119,850
Total..	61,080	64,578	66,261	70,770	262,689

II.—CLASSIFIED SUMMARY OF THE ISSUES FROM THE LENDING DEPARTMENT.

Class.	Vols. issued in the First Year, 1852-53.	Vols. issued in the Second Year, 1853-54.	Vols. issued in the Third Year, 1854-55.	Vols. issued in the Fourth Year, 1855-56.	Aggregate No. of vols. issued during the Four Years.
I. THEOLOGY	1,130	} 77,767	1,123	1,130	} 322,103
II. PHILOSOPHY	845		482	471	
III. HISTORY	22,837		18,695	17,242	
IV. POLITICS and COMMERCE	839		735	731	
V. SCIENCES and ARTS	4,319		4,358	4,042	
VI. LITERATURE and POLYGRAPHY ..	47,262		55,928	62,167	
Total.....	77,232	77,767	81,321	85,783	322,103

III.—SUMMARY OF ADMISSIONS TO THE LENDING DEPARTMENT.

	No. of Persons admitted to Loan of Books.	No. of Persons whose admission has been cancelled.
First year	4,841	63
Second year	2,163	72
Third year	2,057	76
Fourth year	2,047	140
Total.....	11,108	351

SECTION II.

OF THE ACCESSIONS TO THE LIBRARY.

At the date of the last Report the number of volumes in both departments of the Library collectively, was 28,261. Of this number 20,048 volumes were in the Reference Department, and 8,213 in the Lending Department. The present total number of volumes is 32,314, of which 22,304 are in the Reference Department, and 10,010 in the Lending Department. The increase during the year is, therefore, 4,053 volumes, of which number 918 have been presented, and 3,135 have been purchased.

(1) *By Donations.*

Among the more important donations which have been received during the past year are those of the Council of University College, London, as Trustee of the Peel Memorial Fund; of Her Majesty's Commissioners of Patents; of Mrs. Wildes, of Cheetham Hill; of Mr. Vere Foster, of Westminster; and of the Regents of the University of the State of New York.

The "*Peel Memorial Fund*" was created by the subscriptions of working men throughout the United Kingdom, contributed for the commemoration of the public services of the illustrious statesman whose name it bears. Mainly at the instance of the late Mr. Joseph Hume, M.P., it was determined that the subscriptions should be invested, and the yearly income applied to the purchase of books to be presented to Public Libraries, giving the preference to such as are both widely accessible and largely used. Twenty-five volumes of valuable books—selected by Mr. Edwards, with the Committee's sanction,—have already been presented to the Reference Department of the Library, each of which bears an inscription descriptive of the source and purpose of the gift. Amongst them is an entire series of the publications of the Cavendish Society, long a *desideratum* in the Library.

The *Commissioners of Patents* have continued to contribute all their publications; as have also the following boards, societies, and public functionaries, respectively:—The *Department of Science and Art*, the *Registrar-General*, the *Board of Trade*, the *Literary and Philosophical Societies* of Manchester and Liverpool, the *Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire*, and the *Royal Geographical Society of London*. The *Zoological Society of London*, and the *Royal Institution of Great Britain*, have also presented their respective "Proceedings," and the *Regents of the University of New York* have evinced their wonted liberality by continuing to present, from year to year, the entire series of documents printed by order of the Legislature of that State, and also several works of high value on its history and antiquities.

The donation of Mrs. Wildes comprised 76 volumes, and included some works of special value, as having been hitherto *desiderata* in the Library; that of Mr. Vere Foster consisted of 41 volumes, and formed a valuable addition to the

Lending Department. A detailed list of these and of other donations is subjoined by way of Appendix (No. I.) to this Report.

(2) *By Purchase.*

Amongst the more noticeable purchases of the year are the *Thesaurus Græcarum Antiquitatum* of Gronovius; the *Thesaurus Antiquitatum Romanarum* of Grævius; the *Novus Thesaurus Antiquitatum Romanarum* of Sallengre; the *Thesaurus Antiquitatum et Historiarum Italiæ, Neapolis, Siciliæ, Sardinie, Corsicæ, Melitæ, aliarumque terrarum insularumque adjacentium* of Grævius and Burmannus; together forming 73 vols. folio; the *Philosophical Transactions* of the Royal Society of London, 97 vols. quarto (in continuation of the series already in the Library); and a collection of historical and political tracts of the reigns of Queen Anne and of King George I., including an extensive series of the political writings of the illustrious author of *The True Born Englishman*, and of *Robinson Crusoe*. A selection of works in various departments of literature, amounting in the whole to 1,053 volumes, was also purchased at the sale by auction of the library of the late Mr. John Albinson, of Bolton.

These purchases at Bolton may be thus classified:—

	Vols.
Theology	182
History	312
Politics	56
Sciences and Arts	185
Literature and Polygraphy	318
Total.....	1,053

This sale afforded an opportunity of making a few acquisitions in departments—classical and foreign—which of necessity had hitherto received little attention in the formation of the Free Library; and also of adding to the collection, previously begun, of foreign versions of the Holy Bible.* It made, too, several important additions to the section “British History,” which has always been the best filled portion of the Library of Reference. A few principal acquisitions in these and in some other classes may be deserving of special mention. In the class “THEOLOGY” the following may be cited:—BIBLES—[1] The Polyglott Bible of Bishop Walton (6 volumes, folio). This is what is termed a “Republican copy,” having the preface in its original form, with the celebrated passage respecting the Protector Cromwell. [2] The Hebrew Bible, with Latin translation, and Commentary of Sebastian Munster. (Second and best edition, Basil, 1534-35, 2 vols.) [3] The Spanish Bible, with Commentary, of Philip Scio de San

* A list of all the versions of the HOLY SCRIPTURES which the Library now contains will be found in Appendix No. II. to the present Report.

Miguel, Bishop of Segovia. (Best edition, Valencia, 1790—93, 10 vols. 4to.) [4] The Portuguese Bible of Antonio Pereira de Figueiredo. (Best edition, Lisbon, 1790—1805, 23 vols. 8vo.) [5] The Italian Bible of Archbishop Martini, with the Supplement. (Florence, 1788—98, 25 vols. 8vo.) [6] The New Testament of Erasmus,—Greek and Latin—(Third edition, Basil, 1522, folio.) [7] The Beza Codex (or *Codex Cantabrigiensis*) of the Gospel and Acts of the Apostles, edited by Kipling. (Large paper copy, Cambridge, 1793, folio.) [8] The Historical Books of the Old Testament, in Sanscrit. (Serampore, 1811, 4to.) [9] The Poetical and Prophetical Books, in Sanscrit. (Serampore, 1811—1818, 8vo.) [10] The Pentateuch; the Historical Books, and the New Testament, in Bengali. (Serampore, 1801—1819, 8vo.) [11] The Pentateuch, the Poetical and Historical Books, and the New Testament, in Hindi. (Serampore, 1806—1816, 8vo.) [12] The Pentateuch, in Mahratta. [13] The Pentateuch and the Prophetical Books, in Orissa. (Serampore, 1809—1814, 8vo.) [14] The New Testament in the following languages or dialects of India;—Assamese, Guzerati, Panjâbi, Pushtoo, and Vikanera. (Serampore, 1811—1820, 8vo.) [15] Dr. Adam Clarke's Commentary on the Scriptures. The latest edition, with the author's final corrections. (6 vols. 4to.) Some additions were also made of the collective works of English Divines not already in the Library.

The following works may be particularized in British History:—[1] *Rerum Anglicarum Scriptores* of Gale and Fell, 3 vols. (Oxford, 1684—89, folio, a very fine copy). [2] *Fides Regia Britannica, sive Annales Ecclesie Britannicæ* of Michael Griffith, 4 vols. (Liege, 1663, folio). [3] *Collectanea Anglo-Minoritica, or, The Antiquities of the English Franciscans*. (London, 1726, 4to.) [4] *I Successi di Inghilterra dopo la morte di Odoardo VI.* (Ferrara, 1560, 4to.) [5] Dart's *Antiquities of the Abbey Church of Westminster*. [6] The *Antiquarian Repertory* of Grose and Astle; and many other volumes of British topography.

In Classical and Foreign History may be mentioned:—[1] *Scriptores Romanæ Historiæ Latini qui extant omnes*, 3 tom. (Heidelberg, 1728, folio.) [2] The *Opuscula* of William Caoursin, including his narrative of the famous Siege of Rhodes by the Turks. (Ulm, 1496, folio.) This volume, in addition to its historical and pictorial value,—it is illustrated by 36 wood cuts,—is one of the finest and rarest specimens of the press of John Reger, of Ulm. [3] A series of French Chroniclers and Memoir writers, extending from the thirteenth to the sixteenth centuries. [4] The works of the Spanish historian, Mariana. [5] The historical and miscellaneous works of Muratori. [6] Fifty-one volumes of the series of descriptions of the principal States and Commonwealths of the world, known as the *Elzevir Republics*. [7] *La Galerie agréable du Monde*, published by Van der Aa. [8] Several valuable works on the topography and architecture of Rome.

Heretofore much disappointment has occasionally been expressed by studious readers at the almost total absence from the Free Library of foreign works, however important. The purchases at the Albinson sale have enabled the

Committee to make some sort of commencement in this direction, although but on a small scale.

Of works relating to the Fine Arts a few purchases were also made, including the *Musée des Antiques*, (2 vols. Paris, folio); the *Collection of Prints in imitation of Drawings, with lives of their authors*, by Charles Rogers, (2 vols. Lond. 1788, folio); the *Iconographie*, or collection of portraits of illustrious men, after Vandyke (2 vols. Amst. 1759, folio); the *Ancient Architecture of Britain*, by Carter; the *Old English Mansions* of Richardson, (4 vols. Lond: 1842, folio): and the admirable *History of Engraving*, by Mr. W. Young Ottley, (2 vols Lond. 1816, 4to.)

In the class of "LITERATURE," may be cited the beautiful edition of Juvenal, with a French translation, by Dusaulx, (2 vols. Paris, Didot, 1796, 4to); the edition of Terence, by Cocquelines, from the text of D. Heinsius, (2 vols. Rome, 1767, folio); Kuster's edition of Suidas, (3 vols. Cambridge, 1805, folio); the great Spanish Dictionary of the Royal Academy of Spain, (6 vols. Madrid, 1726--39, 4to); the Italian Dictionary of Cardinali, Orioli, and Costa, (7 vols. Bologna, 1819--30, 4to); the curious Etymological work of Court de Gebelin, entitled *Le Monde Primitif*, 9 vols. (Paris, 1773--82, 4to); the *Annales Typographiæ* of Maittaire and Denis, 9 vols. (1722--89, 4to); the *Bibliotheca Hispana Vetus* of Antonio, 2 vols. (Madrid, folio, a copy on large paper); the *Bibliotheca Spenceriana* of Dibdin; and Southey's edition of the *Morte d' Arthur*, as printed by Caxton; with many early translations of foreign works, several of them by celebrated English writers. The average cost of the volumes purchased at this sale was three shillings and eleven pence per volume.

Special attention has also been bestowed during the year on the replacement of works in the Lending Library which have been worn out by constant circulation, and on the addition thereto of books both of a valuable and popular character. The contents of the Lending Library have thus been raised from 8,213 to 10,010 volumes. Many important serial and periodical works, in both departments, heretofore in arrear, have been completed.

The present contents of the Library stand thus:—

I.—REFERENCE DEPARTMENT.

Oct. 1855.	Class.	Oct. 1856.
Vols.		Vols.
572	I.—THEOLOGY	878
306	II.—PHILOSOPHY	314
7,261	III.—HISTORY	7,744
5,253	IV.—POLITICS	6,054
1,954	V.—SCIENCES and ARTS	2,192
4,702	VI.—LITERATURE and POLYGRAPHY ...	5,381*
20,048	Total	22,563

* Of this number, 385 volumes only are "Novels, Tales, and Romances."

II.—LENDING DEPARTMENT.

Oct. 1855.	Class.	Oct. 1856.
Vols.		Vols.
146	I.—THEOLOGY	184
97	II.—PHILOSOPHY	107
3,087	III.—HISTORY	3,627
433	IV.—POLITICS	776
636	V.—SCIENCES and ARTS	693
3,814	VI.—LITERATURE and POLYGRAPHY ...	4,623
8,213	Total	10,010

III.—BOTH DEPARTMENTS COLLECTIVELY.

Oct. 1855.	Class.	Oct. 1856.
Vols.		Vols.
718	I.—THEOLOGY	1,062
403	II.—PHILOSOPHY	421
10,348	III.—HISTORY	11,371
5,686	IV.—POLITICS	6,830
2,590	V.—SCIENCES and ARTS	2,885
8,516	VI.—LITERATURE and POLYGRAPHY ...	10,004
28,261	Aggregate Total	32,573

SECTION III.

PROGRESS OF INTERNAL ARRANGEMENT, BOOKBINDING, &c.

The most important tasks which have occupied attention during the past year, as far as respects the internal arrangement of the Library, are (1) the classification and binding of the Specifications of Patents; (2) the classification and binding of the Parliamentary Reports and Papers. The condition of the books, generally, as to binding, has also been brought up to a satisfactory point, as far as relates to those for which there is at present sufficient shelf-room.

(i.) Specifications of Patents.

The entire number of Specifications of Patents hitherto presented by Her Majesty's Commissioners under the 15 and 16 Vict., cap. 83, is 15,102, and the annual rate of increase is at present, about 4,950. Of the entire number, 4,071 have been already bound in 321 volumes. Every folding plate or diagram has been mounted on calico in the best manner. The diagrams being thus mounted,

thirteen or fourteen distinct Specifications have made, upon the average, a thick volume. It may be estimated, therefore, that the Specifications printed during a single year will, at the present rate of publication, make about 300 volumes. This includes as well those of the Old Patent Law on certain selected subjects—(as respects which the entire series of filed Specifications from the earliest dates down to the 30th September, 1852, is in course of issue.)—as the Specification of every Patent of Invention filed from day to day under the New Law, the operation of which commenced on the 1st of October, 1852. The number of issues to readers in the Reference department of “Specifications of Patents” alone (irrespective of the *Commissioners of Patents’ Journal* and of the *Indexes*) has amounted, within the last six months, to 3,732 volumes, or parts of volumes.

It is, therefore, sufficiently evident that, both on account of the number of volumes which is yearly accruing, and the cost of binding them, and on account of the extensive use made of them by the public, the question *how* they should be arranged and bound became one of considerable importance. Some detail on this head may therefore be thought not inappropriate on the present occasion; especially as applications for advice on this point have been recently addressed to Mr. Edwards from eight several towns in England and Scotland, to which similar grants have been made by the Commissioners.

That the *easiest* mode of arranging these documents into volumes would be simply to bind them in the order of their numbers, as issued from day to day, without regard to their contents, will be instantly obvious. Such an arrangement entails no thought or labour in order to its being effectually carried out, and under it the volumes may be bound as rapidly as the bookbinders can perform their work. This accordingly is the mode recommended by the authorities of the Patent Office itself.

But the question occurred whether or not the wants of the *readers* of these “Specifications” would be fairly met by such a plan; and a careful register of the applications and of their object gives the means of answering it.

Of seventy-five consecutive applicants for Specifications of Patents, twenty-six only appear to have been in quest of particular Patents, the names or numbers of which they could state or could point out in the *Indexes*, and forty-nine required to see *all* the published Specifications on some particular subject or branch of a subject. In other words, *two-thirds* of the readers in this department of literature require, in order to the complete and prompt supply of their wants, an arrangement in *classes*. And such an arrangement is not only, as respects them, the most useful and convenient one, but whilst it entails much thought and labour in the classification itself, it afterwards effects a great saving in the time of the attendants of the Library in carrying books to and fro, as well as of the time of readers in searching the indexes and catalogues.

Thus, for example, if the numerical order be adopted, a mixture of subjects like this will result:—

SPECIFICATIONS of 1856.

No. 250	.....	Dressing of Hides.
251	.....	Cannon.
252	.....	Soap.
253	.....	Reaping Machines.
254	.....	Furnaces.
255	.....	Brewing.
256	.....	Fog Signals.
257	.....	Compression of Metals.
258	.....	Fireplaces.
259	.....	Valves of Steam Engines.
260	.....	Apparatus for Ships' Boats.
261	.....	Joints of Metallic Bedsteads.

It is evident that if these twelve Specifications form "Volume 809" of the collection, a reader asking for the whole of the Specifications relating to "Furnaces," has a volume brought to him for the sake of one-twelfth of its contents. If one hundred other volumes, each containing one or two Specifications on "Furnaces," have also to be brought, the labour of the attendants becomes tenfold what it would be if all the Specifications on furnaces were bound up together. In order to the reader's knowing how to ask, so as to get the whole of what he needs, he must begin with the "Subject-matter Index" of Patents under the Old Law; must then proceed to the "Subject-matter Index" of 1852-3; then to that of 1854, and so on, through a long chase, in which he may, by some oversight, fail after all to run down his game. On the other plan, a search through the indexes remains as a last resort, when needed, against any inaccuracies in the classification.

In order, however, fully and promptly to meet the wants of readers who seek only for a known Specification, a table of progressive numbers must be prepared—which shall refer from every such number to the number of the volume in which it is to be found, as thus:—

SPECIFICATIONS of 1856.

*	*	*	*
No. 250	in	Vol. 409	
251	"	217	
252	"	802	
253	"	776	
254	"	830	
255	"	78	
*	*	*	*

Of the Specifications which have been presented, 12,656 have been provisionally classified under 98 several heads, and 2,446 await classification. The following table indicates the number of Specifications already classed under each head.

The system of classification which has been adopted agrees, to a considerable extent, with that which has been employed in the arrangement of the official Indexes. But the number of classes is smaller, and their nomenclature usually more brief. Some classes which appear in the "Subject-matter Indexes" have been omitted on account of their vagueness, as, for example, "ASSURANCE;—PREVENTING FORGERY and FRAUD" (under which heading appears in the index a series of Patents in the actual titles of which the word "Assurance" nowhere occurs save in a single instance). Others have been left out to avoid repetition and uncertainty, as for example, "BOTTLES, VESSELS, and JARS;" nearly the whole contents of which belong either (1) to "*Glass Manufacture*;" or (2) to "*Earthenware and Porcelain*;" or (3) to "*Casks and Barrels*;" but as far as seemed practicable and convenient, the method of the Indexes—the great value of which is familiar to all who are interested in the subject of Patents of Invention—has been adhered to.

No.	HEADING UNDER WHICH THE SPECIFICATIONS ARE CLASSED.	No. of Specifications classed under each head, up to Oct. 1856.
1.—	ACCIDENTS, Prevention of. (1) By Fire: <i>Fire Escapes—Means of Extinguishing Fires—Fire Guards.</i> (2) By Water: <i>Preventing Shipwrecks, &c.—Swimming Apparatus.</i> (3) In Window Cleaning	72
2.—	ACIDS. (Extracting—Concentrating—Distilling—Evaporating)...	44
3.—	ADHESIVE SUBSTANCES. (<i>Gelatine — Gum — Glue — Isinglass — Size—Paste—Starch</i>).....	30
4.—	AERIAL CONVEYANCES	6
5.—	AGRICULTURE. (Tilling — Ploughing — Harrowing — Manuring — Watering — Agricultural Buildings — Thrashing — Grinding — Dressing Flour—Fodder Cutting).....	546
6.—	AIR ENGINES and WINDMILLS. (<i>Blast Engines—Bellows—Air Pumps</i>)	47
7.—	ALARMS, SNARES, and VERMIN TRAPS	13
8.—	BATHS and BATHING MACHINES	18
9.—	BEARINGS, WHEELS, AXLES, and SHAFTS of MACHINERY.....	44
10.—	BELL-HANGING	5
11.—	BOOTS, SHOES, CLOGS, PATTENS, &c.....	75
12.—	BREWING, DISTILLING, RECTIFYING, and PREPARATORY PROCESSES..	97
13.—	BRIDGES, VIADUCTS, and AQUEDUCTS, Construction of.....	23
14.—	BRUSHES	26
15.—	BUILDING MATERIALS and PROCESSES.....	455
	Carried forward.....	1,501

Brought forward.....	1,501
16.—BUTTONS, BUCKLES, STUDS, and other DRESS FASTENINGS	75
17.—CALCULATING MACHINES, &c.	6
18.—CASKS and BARRELS.....	37
19.—CHAINS and CHAIN CABLES	10
20.—CHEMICAL COMPOSITIONS AND PROCESSES	111
21.—CLOCKS, WATCHES, CHRONOMETERS, and other TIMEKEEPERS	58
22.—COACHES, and OTHER ROAD CONVEYANCES	121
23.—COFFEE, COCOA, CHOCOLATE, and TEA (Processes connected with the Preparation of)	28
24.—CUTLERY	44
25.—CUTTING, SAWING, SHAPING, and WORKING WOOD, METALS, and other MATERIALS	147
26.—DIVING ENGINES and MATERIALS	7
27.—DRAWING and PHOTOGRAPHY	43
28.—DYEING and COLOURING, and processes related thereto. (<i>Bleach- ing—Ironing—Mangling—Washing</i>)	130
29.—EARTHENWARE and PORCELAIN, Manufacture of	36
30.—ELECTRICITY, GALVANISM, and MAGNETISM	58
31.—EMBOSSING, GILDING, and DAMASKING.....	24
32.—FARRIERY, and the VETERINARY ART.....	23
33.—FIRE ARMS and PROJECTILES	557
34.—FISH-HOOKS, HARPOONS, and other IMPLEMENTS for FISHING.....	11
35.—FURNITURE, CABINET-WARE, and UPHOLSTERY	159
36.—GAMES, EXERCISES, and AMUSEMENTS.....	14
37.—GAS, Manufacture and Consumption of	148
38.—GLASS, Manufacture of	65
39.—GRINDING, SETTING, CRUSHING, and POLISHING.....	33
40.—HEARSEs, COFFINS, and BIERs.....	8
41.—HOISTING MACHINES	51
42.—INDIA RUBBER and GUTTA PERCHA.....	89
43.—LIGHT and LIGHTING	204
44.—LOCKS and OTHER FASTENINGS.....	78
45.—MANURES, and Methods of DEODORISING FECAL MATTERS	63
46.—MATHEMATICAL, THERMOMETRICAL, NAUTICAL, GEOGRAPHICAL, and ASTRONOMICAL INSTRUMENTS	54
47.—MEASURING and NUMBERING	62
48.—MEDICAL and SURGICAL TREATMENT and APPLIANCES	134
49.—METALS and METALLIC SUBSTANCES	407
50.—MINING and QUARRYING	43
51.—MOTIVE POWER and PROPULSION.....	1024
52.—MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.....	89
Carried forward.....	5,752

Brought forward.....	5752
53.—NAILS and SCREWS	59
54.—OLEAGINOUS SUBSTANCES and their APPLICATIONS	143
55.—OPTICAL INSTRUMENTS	26
56.—PACKING and PRESSING, Methods of	26
57.—PAINTING, PAINTS, and VARNISHES	30
58.—PAPER and PASTEBOARD	215
59.—PAPIER-MACHE' and JAPANED WARES	8
60.—PAVING and ROAD MAKING	19
61.—PEARL, IVORY, and BONE, Treatment of.....	7
62.—PIN and NEEDLE MANUFACTURE	15
63.—PRESERVING and CURING PROVISIONS, and other SUBSTANCES and LIQUIDS	181
64.—PRINTING and ENGRAVING	189
65.—RAILWAYS and RAILWAY ROLLING STOCK	271
66.—REAPING and MOWING MACHINES	73
67.—REFRIGERATING and FREEZING APPARATUS	11
68.—ROPE MANUFACTURE	13
69.—SADDLERY and HARNESS	43
70.—SEWING, EMBROIDERING, and TAMBOURING	76
71.—SHIPBUILDING and NAVIGATION	299
72.—SMOKE PREVENTION. (<i>Consumption of Fuel—Construction of Fur- naces—Chimnies—Stoves—Grates, &c.</i>)	972
73.—SOAP MANUFACTURE.....	49
74.—SPRINGS and BUFFERS	56
75.—STATIONERY and BOOKBINDING	121
76.—STEAM and STEAM ENGINES.....	877
77.—STONE-WORKING and SCULPTURE	31
78.—SUGAR MANUFACTURE	82
79.—TANNING and CURRIERY	45
80.—TAR, PITCH, and RESIN, Manufacture of	21
81.—TEA and TABLE SERVICE	17
82.—TELEGRAPHS and SIGNALS	218
83.—TEXTILE FABRICS and PROCESSES CONNECTED THEREWITH	1844
84.—TOBACCO and SNUFF, Manufacture of	22
85.—TOOLS for MECHANICAL PURPOSES.....	46
86.—TRUNKS, BOXES, PORTMANTEAUS, and BAGS.....	32
87.—TUNNELLING, EXCAVATING, and EMBANKING.....	13
88.—TURNING	10
89.—TYPE FOUNDING	31
90.—UMBRELLAS, PARASOLS, and WALKING-STICKS	38
91.—VENTILATION OF BUILDINGS, CARRIAGES, SHIPS, and MINES.....	58
Carried forward.....	12,039

Brought forward.....	12,033
92.—WATER and other FLUIDS, Conveyance and Filtering of.....	309
93.—WATERPROOFING and FIREPROOFING	33
94.—WEAPONS and IMPLEMENTS OF WAR.....	36
95.—WEARING APPAREL.....	152
96.—WEIGHING	17
97.—WHEELS, Manufacture of (<i>Carriage-wheels—Paddle-wheels—Water-wheels</i>).....	51
98.—WIRE-DRAWING and WORKING	19
TOTAL	<u>12,656</u>

(ii.) *Parliamentary Papers.*

During the year the classification of the Parliamentary Reports and other papers has been completed, and the whole of those at present in the Library have been bound. The total number of volumes is 1,127. In date they range from 1819 to 1852. The papers printed before 1819 and those printed since 1852 are almost entirely wanting. Considerable public use has been made of these documents, and the inconvenience resulting from the absence of those of the last four sessions of Parliament in particular has been felt by many readers. Few persons ask for Parliamentary papers without a definite and useful purpose. Those who do use them know well that they form a valuable and indeed indispensable portion of any good Library of Reference. The supply of what is wanting will therefore well deserve the attention of the Committee on some fitting opportunity. The “dryness of the blue books” has been of late a favourite topic of small wits in the newspapers, but when tested the criticism will often be found just as shallow as it is flippant.

(iii.) *Collection of Political and Commercial Tracts.*

During the past year 1,342 Tracts have been added to the collection of Tracts, and have been arranged in 185 volumes. Mention has been already made (under the head “Accessions to the Library”) of a series of Tracts of considerable interest, relating to public affairs in the reigns of Queen Anne and King George I., recently purchased. The present contents of the political part of the collection are as follows:—

OCTOBER, 1855.			OCTOBER, 1856.	
No. of vols.	No. of Tracts, or separate works.		No. of vols.	No. of Tracts, or separate works.
I.—POLITICS and COMMERCE.				
77	119	.... 1.—General Treatises on GOVERNMENT, POLITICS, or Political Economy	79	122
44	312	.... 2.—Constitution, Functions, and Privileges of PARLIAMENT	45	315
88	367	.... 3.—LAW and Law Reform	92	388
46	190	.... 4.—CRIME, Police, and Punishment	46	190
5.—TRADE and COMMERCE :—				
77	177	..... § 1. General Treatises	78	178
67	412	..... 2. Agriculture and the Corn Trade	72	452
11	116	..... 3. Coal and Iron Trades, Mining, &c.	12	125
33	178	..... 4. Cotton, Woollen, and Silk Trades	35	202
7	59	..... 5. Fisheries	8	61
120	801	..... 6. Other branches of Trade and Commerce..	126	837
14	129	..... 7. Wages, Combinations, and Regulation of Labour	14	129
14	534	..... 8. Industrial Exhibitions	16	536
17	120	.... 6.—ANNUITIES, Assurance, Savings Banks, and Provident Societies.....	17	120
96	542	.... 7.—CURRENCY, Banking, Interest of Money, &c. ..	98	560
103	668	.... 8.—CHURCH Affairs	13	737
28	337	.... 9.—MUNICIPAL and Local Affairs	33	373
79	302	.... 10.—POOR and Poor Laws	80	307
131	677	.... 11.—EDUCATION and PUBLIC CHARITIES	138	734
55	258	.... 12.—ARMY and NAVY; PEACE and WAR	55	258
64	539	.... 13.—PUBLIC WORKS and SANITARY AFFAIRS	69	571
49	258	.... 14.—Affairs of IRELAND and SCOTLAND in particular.	51	274
15.—COLONIES and Dependencies :—				
135	535	..... § 1. Affairs of British India.....	137	543
78	340	..... 2. Colonial Affairs, generally	78	340
32	206	..... 3. Slavery.....	33	215
140	722	.... 16.—REVENUE, Taxation, and Public Debts.....	141	732
148	702	.... 17.—FOREIGN Affairs	158	765
290	1,805	.... 18.—Miscellaneous Treatises on Political Questions and Public Affairs (other than those specially enumerated)	331	2,153
2,044	11,405	.... Total of Volumes and of separate Tracts in the Class POLITICS and COMMERCE	2,155	12,217
78	2,153	.... Add—Collections of Political Tracts on various subjects	79	2,159
2,122	13,558	..... Aggregate Total	2,234	14,376

The miscellaneous portion of the collection extends, more or less, over all the other classes of the Library. It is comprised in 605 volumes, containing 4,138 separate tracts, the general arrangement of which is as follows:—

OCTOBER, 1855.		II.—OTHER CLASSES.	OCTOBER, 1856.	
No. of vols.	No. of separate Tracts.		No. of vols.	No. of separate Tracts.
84	623	... THEOLOGY.....	104	762
20	95	... PHILOSOPHY.....	22	103
		HISTORY:		
103	686	... Biographical Tracts (British and Foreign)	111	723
101	600	... Other Tracts relating to British and Foreign History and Topography	117	741
		SCIENCES and ARTS:—		
22	169	... Medical Tracts	23	177
70	553	... Tracts on other branches of Science and Art...	80	633
132	888	... LITERATURE and POLYGRAPHY	148	999
532	3,614	.....Totals.....	605	4,138

There are also, in addition, 317 tracts belonging to the several classes above enumerated, contained in the various printed collections which the Library possesses; making an aggregate total, in those classes, of 4,445 separate tracts.

Special attention has also been paid during the year to the continuation of the collection of books and tracts relating to the local affairs of Manchester and the adjacent townships. Many such have been presented, and others have been purchased. A list of the additions will be found in "Appendix No. III.," at the end of this Report, by way of continuation of the list which was appended to the Report of last year.

(4) *Bookbinding.*

The total number of volumes bound during the year is 1,953. Of these, 940 have been bound for the Reference Department, and 1,013 for the Lending Department. The former number includes 277 volumes of "Specifications of Patents," and 459 volumes of Parliamentary Reports and Papers. The total number of volumes bound since the transfer of the Library to the Corporation, is 12,723.

The total number of volumes repaired, lettered, or press-marked during the year, is 1,256. Of these, 106 have been repaired for the Reference Department, and 1,150 have been repaired, or labelled and press-marked, for the Lending Department. The total number of volumes repaired, lettered, or press-marked, since the transfer of the Library to the Corporation, is 3,780; making an aggregate of 16,503 volumes which have passed through the hands of the bookbinders during the last four years.

(5) *Sale of the Catalogue of the Lending Department.*

The sale of the printed Catalogue of the Lending Department during the year has been as follows:—

1854-5.		1855-6.
No. of Copies.		No. of Copies.
346	..... Of complete copies	311
	Of Sections, as follows :—	
	<i>Class, as printed :—</i>	
85	..... Section No. 1, Theology and Philosophy	32
119	..... “ No. 2, History	74
102	..... “ No. 3, Arts, Sciences, Politics, &c.	68
48	..... “ No. 4, Poetry and the Drama	33
138	..... “ No. 5, Prose Fiction	114
97	..... “ No. 6, Miscellaneous Literature	48
589	.....Total of separate Sections.....	369

The total sale, since the publication of the Catalogue, is, of complete copies 1,137; and of copies of the various sections, 1,586; and the total produce of such sale, £56. 18s. 2d.

(6) *News Room.*

Until nearly the close of the year now reported on, the News Room has been mainly dependent, as heretofore, on voluntary contributions for its supply. *The Times* and *The Daily News* have been presented by Alderman Sir John POTTER; *The Economist*, by Nicholas HEALD, Esq.; *The Nonconformist*, by Messrs. G. and R. HOLT; *The Watchman*, *The Wesleyan Methodist Magazine*, *The Christian Treasury*, and *The Christian Miscellany* (together with the *London Quarterly Review*), by Mr. Councillor PARNELL. Newspapers have also been occasionally received from John LEIGH, Esq., Mr. R. MARTIN, and Dr. J. W. HUDSON. The respective Editors or Proprietors of the following newspapers have also continued regularly to contribute copies of each publication:—*The Manchester Guardian* (two copies); *The Manchester Courier* (two copies); *The Manchester Examiner and Times* (two copies); *The Manchester Weekly Advertiser* (two copies). *The Manchester Spectator*; *The Midland Counties Herald*; *The Old Church Porch*; *The Church of the People*; *The Inquirer*; *The Herald of Peace*; *The Alliance* (two copies); and *The Stockport News*.

The following papers and periodical pamphlets are presented anonymously:—*The British Workman*; *The Bond of Brotherhood*; *The Illustrated Magazine*; *The Penny Post*; *The Band of Hope Review*; *The Montreal Gazette*; and *The American Railway Times*.

EDWARD EDWARDS,
Principal Librarian.

MANCHESTER,
31st October, 1856.

CONTENTS OF APPENDIX.

I.—LIST OF THE PRINCIPAL DONATIONS RECEIVED DURING THE PAST YEAR	33
II.—LIST OF TEXTS AND VERSIONS OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURES ALREADY PLACED IN THE REFERENCE DEPARTMENT	39
III.—CHRONOLOGICAL LIST OF PUBLICATIONS ON THE HISTORY, TRADE, AND LOCAL AFFAIRS OF MANCHESTER, ADDED TO THE FREE LIBRARY DURING THE PAST YEAR, (<i>in continuation of the List appended to the Third Annual Report</i>)	50
IV.—RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE FREE LIBRARY	59

APPENDIX.

No. I.

LIST OF THE PRINCIPAL DONATIONS RECEIVED DURING
THE PAST YEAR.

- (1) From His Royal Highness Prince ALBERT:—
The Natural History of Dee Side. By Wm. Macgillivray. Printed by
Her Majesty's command. (8vo. Lond. 1851.)
- (2) From Mr. W. A. ALGAR, Great John-street:—
The works of the author of *The Whole Duty of Man*. (folio, Oxford, 1695)
- (3) From the Rev. W. G. BARRETT, Salford:—
Geological Facts. (12mo. Royston, 1855.)
- (4) From Mr. Nathaniel BATHO:—
The *Manchester Guardian*, for the years 1853, 1854, and 1855.
- (5) From Messrs. CAVE and SEVER, Manchester:—
The Hopwood Will Case. (4to. Manchester, 1855.)
Several pamphlets on local subjects.
- (6) From David CHADWICK, Esq., *Borough Treasurer of Salford*:—
Several pamphlets on subjects chiefly local.
- (7) From the Rev. John CLAY, M.A., Preston:—
Reports on Preston Gaol. (8vo. 1855-56.)
- (8) Her Majesty's COMMISSIONERS of PATENTS UNDER the
GREAT SEAL:—
A series of Specifications of Patents printed in the years 1855 and
1856. 8vo.
The Journal of the Commissioners of Patents, (8vo. 1855-56.)
- (9) From Her Majesty's COMMISSIONERS of the EXHIBITION
of INDUSTRY of 1851:—
Report on the Appropriation of the Surplus Fund, &c. 8vo.
- (10) From the Rev. John DAVIES, M.A., Smallwood, Cheshire:—
The Races of Lancashire. (8vo. 1856.)
- (11) From the DEPARTMENT of SCIENCE and ART:—
First Report on the Paris Exhibition of 1855. 8vo.

- (12) From Charles Wentworth DILKE, Esq., London:—
 Catalogue of a collection of works on the Exhibition of 1851. Privately
 printed. (8vo. Lond. 1855.)
- (13) From Mr. DOBSON, Greenheys:—
 Designs for iron and brass work. (4to. 1856.)
 Guide to Photography. (8vo. 1854.)
- (14) From William FAIRBAIRN, Esq., F.R.S.:—
 Useful Information for Engineers. (8vo. 1855.)
- (15) From Vere FOSTER, Esq., Westminster:—
 Infidelity, its Causes, Aspects, and Agencies; by Pearson. (12mo.)
 Infidelity, its Causes and Cure; by Nelson. (8vo. 1854.)
 An Irish Gentleman's Travels in search of Religion; by Moore. (8vo. 1853.)
 Philosophy of Religion; by Dick. (12mo.)
 Philosophy of a Future State; by Dick. (12mo.)
 Discourse of Matters pertaining to Religion; by Parker—2 copies. (12mo.
 1850.)
 Sketch of all Religions; by Evans. (8vo.)
 Popular Christianity; by Foxton—2 copies. (8vo. 1852.)
 Phases of Faith; by Newman—2 copies. (12mo. 1854.)
 Public Discussion on Christianity and Secularism. (12mo. 1853.)
 War and Christianity; by Dymond. (8vo.)
 The Koran; translated by Sale. (8vo. 1850.)
 Tracts for the Times—2 copies. (8vo. 1852.)
 The Great Sin of Great Cities. (8vo. 1855.)
 History of the United States; by Bancroft. 2 vols, (12mo.)
 The Half Century; by Wilks. (8vo.)
 Life and Memoirs of Howard; by Dixon. (8vo.)
 The Life of Elizabeth Fry. (8vo.)
 Autobiography of a Working Man. (8vo.)
 The Pursuit of Knowledge under Difficulties. 3 vols. (12mo. 1854.)
 ————— Second Series; Women. 2 vols. (12mo.)
 Letters from Russia; by James Carr. (12mo. 1855.)
 Backwoods and Prairies; by Regan. (8vo.)
 Work and Wages; by Foster. (8vo.)
 The Well Spent Hour; by Mrs. Follen. (12mo.)
 Lives of Franklin and Washington. (8vo. 1840.)
 History of France; by Ritchie. (8vo.)
 A Kiss for a Blow; by Wright—3 copies. (12mo. 1854.)
 The Three Experiments of Living, and Elinor Fulton. (12mo. 1852.)
 Rolla at School, &c., 4 parts; by Abbot. (12mo.)
 Combe's Physiology. (8vo.)

- (16) From Messrs. GALT, GENT, and Co., Manchester :—
Examples of Ornament in every Style. (4to. London. 1855.)
- (17) From William Sydney GIBSON, Esq., F.S.A., Newcastle-on-Tyne :—
Notices of Northumbrian Castles, (8vo. 1855.)
Two Lectures on the Structure of the Earth. (8vo. 1856.)
- (18) From the Right Hon. William Ewart GLADSTONE, M.P. :—
Farini's History of the Roman State; translated from the Italian, Vols. 3 and 4. (8vo. Lond. 1855.)
- (19) From the Executors of the late George Bellas GREENHOUGH, Esq., F.R.S. :—
Greenhough's Geological Map of England.
- (20) From the Right Hon. Sir Benjamin HALL, *First Commissioner of Public Works* :—
Mackenzie's History and Description of St. Stephen's Chapel, Westminster. (Atlas folio. London, 1844.)
- (21) From John HARLAND, Esq., Manchester :—
A series of pamphlets on subjects chiefly local.
- (22) From James HARVEY, Esq., Liverpool :—
Gray's Lectures on the nature and use of Money. (8vo. Edinb. 1848.)
- (23) From the HISTORIC SOCIETY of LANCASHIRE and CHESHIRE :—
Proceedings of the Society (8vo. Liverpool, 1856.)
- (24) Leonard HORNER, Esq., F.R.S., *One of Her Majesty's Inspectors of Factories* :—
Memoirs of Francis Horner; 2nd edition, (8vo. Boston, Mass., 1853.
Reports of the Inspectors of Factories. (8vo. 1855-6.)
- (25) From the late Mr. JAMES HULL, Hulme :—
Periodical Accounts of the Moravian Missionaries, 4 vols.
Hymns of the Moravian Church. 2 vols.
- (26) From Thomas JONES, Esq., B.A., *Chetham Librarian* :—
Tracts on subjects chiefly local.
- (27) From Mr. R. A. LANCASTER, Moss Side :—
The Nature and Design of Christian Baptism—2 copies. (12mo. Manchester, 1856.)
- (28) From the LITERARY and PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY of LIVERPOOL :—
Proceedings of the Society. Vol. 10. (8vo. Liverpool, 1856.)

- (29) From the LITERARY and PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY of MANCHESTER :—
Memoirs of the Society. Vols. 12 and 13. New Series. (8vo. Manchester, 1856.)
- (30) From the Regents of the University of the State of NEW YORK :
Documents of the Senate and Assembly of the State of New York. 14 vols. 8vo.
Documentary History of the State of New York. 2 vols. (4to)
- (31) From the Rev. Richard PARKINSON, D.D., *Canon of Manchester*, and *Principal of St. Bees' College*.
The Hortus Siccus of Dr. Dalton. Collected in Westmoreland in the years 1790 and 1791, and arranged in ten fasciculi.
- (32) From the PAVING and HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE :—
The British Almanac and Companion. 21 vols. (8vo.)
- (33) From the Council of University College, London, as Trustee of the PEEL MEMORIAL FUND :—
Gmelin's Hand Book of Chemistry, Vols. 1—9. (*Cavendish Society*.)
Bischoff's Chemical Geology, Vol. 1. (*Ditto*.)
Laurent's Chemical Method. (*Ditto*.)
Lehmann's Chemistry, Vols. 2 and 3, and atlas. (*Ditto*.) [Vol. 1 was "out of print" at the time of the gift, but has since been purchased.]
Wilson's Life of Cavendish. (*Ditto*.)
Henry's Life of Dalton. (*Ditto*.)
Truran on the Iron Manufactures of Great Britain. (4to. 1855.)
The Engineer and Machinists' Drawing Book. (folio. 1855.)
Essai sur l' Industrie des Matières Textiles ; par Alcan. 2 tom., with Atlas. (8vo. and 4to. Paris, 1847.)
Quain's Elements of Anatomy, 2 vols. (8vo. 1848.)
Shaw's Decorative Arts of the Middle Ages. (royal 8vo. 1851.)
The Arabic Grammar of Faris El Shidiac. (12mo. 1855.)
Wright's Early Christianity in Arabia. (8vo. 1855.)
- (34) From Sir Thomas PHILLIPPS, Bart., Middle Hill, Worcestershire :—
Catalogus Librorum Manuscriptorum V. C. Antonii a Wood. [Privately printed.] (folio. Typis Medio Montanis, 1824.)
- (35) From the Committee of the PORTICO LIBRARY, Manchester :—
Catalogue of the Library. (8vo. Manchester, 1856.)
- (36) From Alderman Sir John POTTER :—
Sebastopol et ses Environs. [A print, framed and glazed.]
- (37) From the ROYAL INSTITUTION of Great Britain :—
Notices of the Meetings of the Royal Institution. (8vo. 1855-56.)

- (38) From the United Community of SHAKERS, Lebanon, New York :—

Testimony of Christ's Second Appearing exemplified in the principles and practices of the true Church of Christ; 4th edition. (8vo. Albany, 1856.)

- (39) From Junius SMITH, Esq., Strangeways Hall :—

Russell's History of Modern Europe, 6 vols. (8vo. London, 1827.)

History of Poland. (8vo. Lond. 1831.)

Boswell's Life of Johnson. (8vo. Lond. 1827.)

Belzoni's Narrative of Discoveries within the Temples, Tombs, &c., of Egypt and Nubia, 2 vols. (Lond. 1822. 8vo.)

Experimental Inquiry into the Laws of Life. (8vo. Edinburgh, 1829.)

Parkes' Chemical Catechism. (12mo. Lond. 1824.)

The Art of Employing Time. (8vo. Lond. 1822.)

The Rambler and Idler. (8vo. Glasgow, 1825.)

Knickerbocker's History of New York. [By Washington Irving.] (8vo. Lond. 1820.)

- (40) From Mr. Alderman SHUTTLEWORTH :—

Bridge's Treatise on Mechanics. (8vo.)

Davy's Elements of Agricultural Chemistry. (8vo.)

The Works of Gregor of Trevarthenick. (8vo. 1816.)

Addresses of Sir B. Heywood to the Members of the Manchester Mechanics' Institution. (8vo. 1843.)

White's Memoir of Samuel Slater, and of the Cotton Manufacture in England and America. (8vo. 1836.)

Jameson on Minerals. (8vo. 1817.)

Johnstone on the Drainage of Land. (8vo. 1814.)

Memorial Sketches of the Rev. David Brown. (8vo. 1816.)

The Reform and Boundary Acts, with notes by Finnely. (8vo. 1832.)

A series of Tracts, chiefly on local and commercial subjects, 25 vols.

- (41) From Miss SPEARING, Moss-lane :—

Novels and Tales, 7 vols.

- (42) From Mrs. WALKER, Relict of the late Samuel Walker, of Pendleton, Esq. :—

Publications of the Chetham Society. 4 vols. (Manchester, 1855-56. 4to.)

[In continuation of the series presented by the late Mr. Walker.]

- (43) From Mrs. WILDES, Cheetham Hill :—

History of China; by Du Halde. 4 vols.

History of Java; by Raffles. 2 vols. (8vo.)

History of Sumatra; by Marsden. (4to.)

History of Spain. 2 vols. (12mo. 1828.)

Franklin's Journeys to the Polar Seas. 2 vols. (4to.)

- Ward's Mexico. 2 vols. (8vo. 1828.)
 Timkowski's Travels in China. 2 vols. (8vo. 1827.)
 Trollope's America and the Americans. 2 vols. (8vo.)
 Parish's Buenos Ayres. (8vo.)
 Ruxton's Travels in the Rocky Mountains. (8vo.)
 Houston's Travels. 2 vols. (8vo.)
 Letters from the Old World. 2 vols. (12mo.)
 The Emigrant's Guide. (12mo.)
 History of Maritime Discovery; by Cooley. (3 vols.)
 Milburn's Oriental Commerce. 2 vols. (4to.)
 A Collection of Presidents' Messages, Official Letters, Reports, and other
 public documents of the United States of America. 7 vols. folio, and
 5 vols. 8vo.
 Works of Alex. Hamilton. 2 vols. (8vo.)
 Pebrer on the Taxation of the British Empire. (8vo. 1833.)
 Papers relating to the Bank of Manchester. (8vo.)
 Lardner on Steam Communication. (8vo. 1840.)
 Book of English Trades. (12mo. 1821.)
 Life and Works of Dr. Samuel Parr; by Johnstone. 8 vols. (8vo. 1828.)
 Life of Elizabeth Fry. 2 vols. (8vo.)
 Life of Andrew Jackson. (12mo. 1832.)
 Life of Van Buren. (12mo. 1835.)
 Channing's Discourses. (12mo. 1832.)
 Keith on Signs of the Times. 2 vols. (12mo. 1832.)
 The Christian Professor. (12mo. 1838.)
 Green's Mental Dynamics. (8vo.)
 Dunn's Account of the Chinese Museum. (8vo.)
 Scenes from the Hungarian Struggle. (8vo. 1853.)
 Lofoden, or the Exiles of Norway. 2 vols. (8vo. 1849.)
 Smith's Rejected Addresses. (8vo. 1841.)
 Sketches from Life; by a Physician. (8vo.)
 Peregrine Pickle. 2 vols. (8vo. 1831.)
 Burke's Anecdotes. 2 vols.
 Buxton's Botanical Guide. (8vo. 1849.)
 The Island Bride. (8vo. 1830.)

(44) From G. W. YAPP, Esq., Paris:—

Yapp on Import Duties into France. (8vo. 1856.)

(45) From the ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY, of London:—

Proceedings of the Society. 4 vols. (8vo.)

No. II.

LIST OF TEXTS AND VERSIONS OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURES ALREADY
PLACED IN THE REFERENCE DEPARTMENT (PARTLY BY PURCHASE AND
PARTLY BY THE GIFTS OF VARIOUS DONORS).

*** The Books to which an asterisk (*) is prefixed, have been presented by the BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY; those to which the mark + is prefixed, have been presented by other donors; the others have been bought. The donation of Texts or Versions in other languages will be gratefully received.

Titles *supplied* in English, in order to avoid the difficulty and cost of employing unusual typography, are enclosed within [brackets]. When an English or Latin title is prefixed to an Oriental or other Foreign Version, without the use of brackets, it is taken from the printed title-page of the book. Names of Translators or Editors, if supplied by the writer, when they do not occur on the title of the book itself, are also placed between brackets.

I.—POLYGLOTT TEXTS AND VERSIONS.

1. BIBLIA Sacra Polyglotta, complectentia Textus Originales, *Hebraicum* cum Pentateucho Samaritano, *Chaldaicum*, *Græcum*; versionumque antiquarum *Samaritanæ*, *Græcæ* LXXII. Interp., *Chaldaicæ*, *Syriacæ*, *Arabicæ*, *Ethiopicæ*, *Persicæ*, *Vulg. Lat.*, quicquid comparari poterat; cum textuum et versionum Orientalium translationibus Latinis. *Etc.* Edidit BRIANUS WALTONUS. 6 tom. *Londini*, *imprimebat Thomas Rycroft*, 1657. folio.

A "republican" copy. Castell's Lexicon is still a *desideratum*.

II.—TEXTS AND VERSIONS IN THE SEMITIC LANGUAGES.

2. *Hebraica Biblia*, latina planeq; nova Sebast. MUNSTERI trālatione, post omneis omnium hactenus ubiuis gentium æditiones euulgata, et quoad fieri potuit, *Hebraicæ* ueritati conformata: adiectis insuper è Rabinorum Commentarijs annotationibus, &c. 2 tom. *Basileæ*, 1546. folio.
3. *Biblia Hebraica*, secundum ultimam editionem Jos. ATHLE, a Johanne LEUSDEN denuo recognitam, recensita, atque ad masoram, et correctiores, Bombergi, Stephani, Plantini, aliorumque editiones, exquisite adornata, variisque notis illustrata, ab Everardo VAN DER HOOGHT. Editio nova, recognita et emendata a Rev. J. C. REICHARDT. *Londini*, 1846. 8vo.

4. [The Holy Bible in Hebrew, according to the text of VAN DER HOOGHT. London.] 12mo.
-
5. [The Holy Bible, in the Peshito or old Syriac version. Revised and Edited by Samuel LEE, D.D. London, 1826.] 4to.
- * 6. [*The New Testament* in the Peshito or old Syriac version. Revised and Edited by Samuel LEE, D.D. Lond. 1826.] 4to.
- * 7. [*The New Testament* in Syriac; and in Arabic, in the Carshun character. By SILVESTRE DE SACY.] 2 tom. Paris, Imprimerie Royale, 1823-24. 4to.
-
8. [The Holy Bible in Arabic.] 8vo.
9. [The Four Gospels in Arabic and Memphito-Coptic.] 1829, 4to.
- The two versions are printed, side by side, in double columns.
- * 10. [A portion of the *New Testament*, in Judæo-Arabic, containing the *Gospels according to St. Matthew and St. John*, the *Acts of the Apostles*, and the *Epistle to the Hebrews*. London.] 12mo.
-
- * 11. Novum Testamentum Domini nostri et Servatoris Jesu Christi Æthiopicæ. Ad codicum Manuscriptorum fidem edidit Thomas Pell PLATT, A.M. Londini, 1830. 4to.
-
- * 12. Novum Testamentum.....in linguam Amharicam vertit ABU-RUMI Habesinus. Nova editio cum levibus variationibus in publicum edita per Carolum Henricum BLUMHARDT. Londini, 1852. 8vo.

III.—TEXTS AND VERSIONS IN THE INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES.

(i.) *Greek.*

13. Novum Testamentum omne, tertio jam ac diligētius ab ERASMO Roterodamo recognitum; . . . uná cum annotationibus, &c. [Greek and Latin.] [Basil,] 1522. folio.
14. *Της Καινης Διαθηκης απαντα*. Novum Testamentum (ad editionem Buckianam recusum). Londini, impensis R. Knaploch, &c. 1728. 8vo.
15. Codex Theodori Bezæ Cantabrigiensis, Evangelia et Apostolorum Acta complectens, quadratis literis Græco-Latinus. Edidit. . . . notisque adjecit Thomas KIPLING. 2 tom. [LARGE PAPER.] Cantabrigiæ, 1793. folio.
-
- * 16. Τα Ιερα Βιβλια της παλαιας τε και καινης Διαθηκης. Μεταφρασθεντα εκ των Αρχετυπων. [Romaic] (8vo.)

(ii) *Latin.*

17. Biblia Sacra ex Sebastiani CASTELLIONIS interpretatione, ejusque postrema recognitione; cum annotationibus ejusdem, et historiae supplemento ab Esdra ad Machabæos, et, inde usque ad Christum, ex Josepho. Accessere in nova hac editione ejusdem Delineatio Reipublicæ Judaicæ ex Josepho; nota prolixior in Caput IX. Epistolæ ad Romanos; nec non defensio versionis Novi Fœderis contra Th. Beza. Francofurti, 1697. folio.
18. Novum Jesu Christi Testamentum Vulgatæ Editioni Sixti V. Pont. Max. jussu recognitum et Clementis VIII. auctoritate editum; annotationibus brevissimis illustratum. Londini, 1812. 8vo.
19. Novum Testamentum Domini nostri Jesu Christi; interprete Theodoro BEZA. Londini, 1811. 8vo.
-
20. Vecchio Testamento secondo la Volgata, tradotto in lingua Italiana e con annotazioni dichiarato dall' illustrissimo..... Monsignore Antonio MARTINI, Arcivescovo di Firenze. 15 tom. Firenze, 1782, &c. 8vo.
21. Nuovo Testamento del Signor nostro Jesu Christo, secondo la Volgata, tradotto, &c. 8 tom. Firenze, 1788. 8vo.
22. Istoria e Concordia Evangelica spiegata al popolo nella Metropolitana, dall' illustrissimo..... Monsignore Antonio MARTINI, &c. 2 tom. Firenze, 1798. 8vo.
23. La Sacra Bibbia, tradotta in Lingua Italiana, e commentata da Giovanni DIODATI..... Seconda editione,..... con l' aggiunta de' Sacri Psalmi, messi in rime per lo medesimo. Geneva, 1641. folio.
- * 24. La Sacra Bibbia che contiene il vecchio e il nuovo Testamento: tradotta in lingua Italiana, da Giovanni DIODATI. Londra, 1850. 8vo.
-
- * 25. If Neuf Testamaint da nos Segner Jesu Christo. Tradüt in Rumansch d' Engadina Bassa. [*The New Testament in the Enghadine dialect.*] Paris, 1836. 12mo.
-
26. Biblia en lengua Espanola, traduzido palabra por palabra de la verdad Hebrayca, por muy excellentes letrados. G. L. Ferrara, 1553. folio.

This is one of the rarest editions of the Holy Bible in any language. It is a Spanish version, made, or principally made, by Jews, and intended for circulation amongst Jews. The title page is wanting; and also the *Tabla de las Haphtaroth* (as it is in almost every described copy). The passage of Leviticus (vii. 36, to viii. 7, inclusive) which Crevenna mentions as deficient in some copies appears in this. Bibliographers speak of *two* editions of the Ferrara or "Jews' Bible," but it appears probable that they were rather two issues of the same edition, with some slight variations introduced whilst the type was standing; the principal difference being in the imprint and in the dedicatory epistle.

27. La Biblia Vulgata Latina, traducida en Espanol y anotado conforme al sentido de los santos Padres y expositores Cathólicos, por el Rmo. P. Phelipe SCIO DE SAN MIGUEL. 10 tom. Valencia, 1790-91. 4to.
- * 28. La Biblia ô el antiguo y nuevo Testamento: traducidos al Espanol de la vulgata Latina, por el Rmo. P. Phelipe SCIO DE S, MIGUEL. Londres, 1828. 8vo.
-
- * 29. Lo Nou Testament de nostre Senyor Jesu Christ: traduit de la Vulgata Llatina, en llengua Catalana ab presencia del text original. Londres, 1835. 12mo.
-
30. Testamento velho traduzido em Portuguez, segunda a vulgata Latina; illustrada de pefações, notas, y lições variantes por Antonio PEREIRA DE FIGUEIREDO. 17 tom. Lisboa, 1791—1804. 8vo.
31. Testamento novo traduzido em Portuguez, &c. [as above.] 6 tom. Lisboa, 1805. 8vo.
- * 32. A Biblia Sagrada, contendo o velho e o novo Testamento; traduzida em Portuguez, segundo a vulgata Latina, por Antonio PEREIRA DE FIGUEIREDO. Londres, 1850. 8vo.
-
- * 33. La Sainte Bible, qui contient le vieux et le nouveau Testament; revue sur les originaux, par David MARTIN. Paris, 1851. 8vo.
- * 34. La Sainte Bible, ou l'ancien et le nouveau Testament, d'après la version revue par J. F. OSTERSVALD. Londres, 1856. 32mo.
- * 35. Le Nouveau Testament de N. S. Jesus Christ; d'après la version revue par J. F. OSTERSVALD. *French and English.* Londres, 1840. 12mo.
-
- * 36. Testament nevez hon aotrou Hag hor Salver Jesus Christ. Lekeed e Brezonec, &c. [*The New Testament, in the Breton dialect.*] Brest, 1854. 12mo.
-
- * 37. Nova Testament, &c. [Translated into Wallachian.] Smyrna, 1846. 8vo.

(iii) *English.*

- † 38. The Holy Bible, containing the Old and New Testaments, with the Apocryphal Books in the earliest English versions, made from the Latin Vulgate, by John WYCLIFFE and his followers. Edited by the Rev. J. FORSHALL and Sir Frederick MADDEN. 4 vols. Oxford, 1850. 4to.
39. The Holy Scriptures of the Olde and Newe Testaments; with the Apocrypha; faithfully translated from the Hebrew and Greeke. By Myles COVERDALE, Bishop of Exeter. [Reprint.] London, 1847. 4to.

- † 40. The Holy Bible, containing the Old and New Testaments. Translated out of the Original Tongues; with the former translations diligently compared and revised. [*Authorised Version.*] London, 1849. 4to.
41. ————— With a Commentary and critical notes, by Adam CLARKE, LL.D. New Edition, with the author's final corrections. 6 vols. London, 1836. 4to.
42. The Christian's complete Family Bible..... With notes and comments. by several eminent Divines. 2 vols. Manchester, *J. Harrop*. 1804. 4to.
- † 43. The Seven Seals Broke Open; or, the Bible of the Reformation Reformed: containing the whole of the Old and New Testaments, according to the generally received English Protestant version, but under an entirely new arrangement in every part; with preface, introduction, commentary, indexes, &c. By John FINCH, Merchant, Liverpool. London, 1853. 12mo.
- † 44. The Psalms of David, according to the Bible version; together with a summary exposition of the internal sense therein contained. Translated from the original Latin of the Hon. Emanuel SWEDENBORG. London, 1788. 12mo.
- † 45. The Psalms, a new translation from the Hebrew, with the internal sense, and exposition, from the writings of Emanuel SWEDENBORG. With observations by the Rev. John CLOWES. Manchester, 1836. 8vo.
- * 46. The Book of Psalms. Printed for the Blind of Great Britain and of the United States, by the *British and Foreign Bible Society*, under the direction of S. G. HOWE. Boston, 1837. 4to.
47. The New Testament in English. Translated by John WYCLIFFE, circa 1380. Now first published from a contemporary MS. formerly in the Monastery of Sion, Middlesex, late in the collection of Lea Wilson, F.S.A. *B. L.* Chiswick, 1848. 4to.
48. The New Testament; translated from the Latin in 1380; by John WICLIF, D.D. Edited by the Rev. H. H. BABER. Lond. 1810. 4to.
49. The New Testament, published in 1526; being the first translation from the Greek into English. By William TYNDALL. Reprinted verbatim, with a memoir of his life; by George OFFOR. Lond. 1836. 8vo.
50. The New Testament of Our Lord, and Saviour Jesus Christ: a fac-simile reprint of the celebrated *Genevan Testament*, 1557; with the marginal annotations and references, the initials, and other wood cuts, prefaces, and index. 8vo. London, *no date*,
51. The New Testament of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Conferred diligently with the Greeke, &c. London, *Christopher Barker*. 1576. 4to.

52. The New Testament of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Translated out of Greeke; by Theodore BEZA: with briefe summaries and expositions. Englished by L. TOMSON. Together with the annotations of Fr. JUNIUS upon the Revelation of St. John. 4to. London, 1599.
- † 53. The English Hexapla; exhibiting the six important English translations of the New Testament Scriptures:—
 Wiclif, 1380. Cranmer, 1539. Anglo-Rhemish, 1582.
 Tyndale, 1534. Genevan, 1557. Authorized, 1611.
 The Original Greek Text after Scholz; with various readings. Preceded by a history of English Translators and Translations. London, *No Date*. 4to.
- 54 The New Testament in an improved version, upon the basis of Abp. NEW-COME's New Testament, with a corrected text, and notes, critical and explanatory. London, 1808. 8vo.
- † 55. The Gospel Narrative, according to the authorised Text of the Evangelists, without repetition, or omission, with a continuous exposition, marginal notes, and proofs in full, &c. By the Rev. John FORSTER. Lond. 1847. 8vo.
- † 56. The Gospel according to MATTHEW. Translated from the original Greek and illustrated by extracts from the Theological Writings of the Hon. Emanuel SWEDENBORG; with notes, by the Rev. John CLOWES. Manchester, 1840. 8vo.
- † 57. The Gospel according to Luke. Translated from the original Greek, and illustrated from the Theological Writings of the Hon. Emanuel SWEDENBORG. With notes, by the Rev. John CLOWES. 1842. 8vo.

(iv.) *Other Germanic Languages.*

- 58 [A portion of the Old Testament and of the Apocrypha. Translated from the Latin vulgate into Dutch. FIRST EDITION OF ANY PORTION OF THE HOLY BIBLE IN DUTCH. Containing *Pentateuch; Joshua; Judges, Ruth; Four Books of Kings; Daniel; Two Books of Maccabees*; ending thus:—*Deese ieghenwoerdighe bible mit horen boecken, ende elc boeck mit alle sijne capitelen bi ené notablen meester wel ouergheset wt den latine in duytsche..... was gemaect te delf in hollant, mitter hulpen gods, ende bij ons iacob iacobssoen én mauricius yemants zoen van middleborch, &c.*] *B.L. Delf, 1477.* 4to.
 Without title page, pagination, signatures, or catchwords. Printed in double columns. 38 lines to a full page.
- * 59. Bijbel dat is de gausche Heilige Schrift.....volgens het besluit van de Synode Nationaal gehouden te Dordrecht, in de jaren 1618 en 1619, uit de oorspronkelijke talen in onze Nederlandsche getrouwelijk overgezet. Breda, 1849. 8vo.

- * 60. Die Bibel, oder die ganze Heilige Schrift des alten und neuen Testaments, nach der Deutschen Uebersetzung Dr. Martin LUTHERS. Cöln, 1850. 8vo.
-
- * 61. Bibelen; eller den Heliga Skrift, innehållande gamla och nye Testamentets canoniska Böcker. [Swedish.] Stockh. 1851. 8vo.
-
- * 62. Bibelen, eller den Hellige Skrift, indeholdende det gamle og nye Testamentes canoniske Böger. [Danish.] Christiania, 1848. 8vo.

(v.) *Celtic Languages..*

- * 63. Leabhuir an Tsean Tiomna, &c. [*The Holy Bible*, in Irish. Translated by William DANIEL, Archbishop of Tuam, and others. Revised by William BEDELL, Bishop of Kilmore. Dublin, 1827. 8vo.]
- * 64. Leabhraichean an T-Seann Tiomnaidh agus an Tiomnaidh ruaidh; air an tarruing o na ceud chanainibh chum Gaelic Albannaich. [*The Holy Bible* in Gaelic, from the 12mo. edition published at Edinburgh in 1826-7] London, 1855. 8vo.
- * 65. Yn Vible Casherick, ny yn chenn Chonaant, as yn Conaant noa: veih ny chied ghlaraghyn dy kiaralagh chyndait ayns Gailck, ta shen dy ghra, chengey ny mayrey Ellan Vannin. [*The Holy Bible*, in Manks.] London, 1819. 8vo.
- * 66. Y Bibl Cyssegr-lan; sef yr Hen Destament a'r Newydd. [*The Holy Bible*, in Welsh]. Caer Grawnt, 1853. 12mo.
- * ————— Llundain, 1855. 8vo.
- * 67. Testament Newydd, ein Harglwydd a'n Hiachawdwr Iesu Grist. The New Testament in Welsh and English, Llundain, 1854. 32mo.

[vi.] *Languages and Dialects of India, and of the Indian Archipelago.*

- 68 [*The Historical Books of the Old Testament, in Sanscrit.* Serampore, 1811.] 4to.
- 69 [*The Poetical Books of the Old Testament, in Sanscrit.* Serampore, 1811.] 8vo.
- * 70. Kitáb ul quds — Purána aur Nayá Ahdnáma yaane tauret, zabúr, nubúwat aur injíl.....*The Holy Bible, in the Hindústáni language.* Calcutta, Asiatic Press, 1843. 8vo.
- 71 [*The Pentateuch; with the Historical and Poetical Books of the Old Testament, in Hindi.* Serampore, 1806-1816.] 8vo.
- 72 [*The New Testament, in Hindi.* Serampore, 1812.] 8vo.

- * 73. The Holy Bible; translated into the Hindui language, by the Rev. William BOWLEY, under the patronage of the *Calcutta Auxiliary Bible Society*. (Vol. 1, *Genesis to Kings*.) 8vo.
- 74 [*The Pentateuch and Historical Books of the Old Testament, in Bengali*. Serampore, 1801-1805.] 8vo.
- * 75. The Old Testament, in the Bengali language. Translated out of the original Hebrew, by the Calcutta Baptist Missionaries, with native assistants. Calcutta, 1845. 8vo.
- 76 [*The New Testament, in Bengali*. Serampore, 1819.] 8vo.
- * 77. The New Testament of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, in the Bengali language. Translated from the original Greek, by the Calcutta Baptist Missionaries, with native assistants. Calcutta, reprinted with alterations, 1855. 8vo.
- 78 [*The Pentateuch and the Prophetical Books of the Old Testament, in the Oriya or Orissa language*. Serampore, 1809-14.] 8vo.
- * 79. The Holy Bible, in the Oriyá language, A new translation, with the former versions in Bangáli and Oriyá diligently compared and revised. 3 vols. Cuttack, Orissa Mission Press, 1842-44. 8vo.
- Vol. 1 contains *Genesis to Joshua*.
 “ 2 “ *Judges to Job*.
 “ 3 “ *Psalms to Malachi*.
- 80 [*The New Testament, in Guzeratti*. Serampore, 1820.] 4to.
- 81 [*The Pentateuch, in Mahratta*. Serampore, 1812.] 8vo.
- 82 [*The Historical Books of the Old Testament, in Panjábí*. Seramp. 1811.] 8vo.
- 83 [*The New Testament, in Panjábí*. Serampore, 1811.] 8vo.
- 84 [*The New Testament, in Vikanera*. Serampore, 1820.] 8vo.
- * 85. The Holy Bible.....in the Tamil language. Madras, 1840. 8vo.
- * 86. The New Testament.....Translated from the original Greek into Canarese, by a Committee of Missionaries belonging to the German, London, and Wesleyan Societies, appointed by the *Madras Auxiliary Bible Society*. Bellary, Mission Press, 1850. 8vo.
- * 87. The Holy Bible, translated into Singhalese, by Missionaries from the Church Missioaary Society. Ceylon, Church Mission Press, Cotta, 1846. 8vo.
88. [*The New Testament, in Assamese*. Serampore, 1819.] 8vo.
- * 89. The New Testament of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ: translated into the Malayalim language. Cottayam, 1843. 12mo.
- * 90. The Book of Psalms in Telugu. Madras, American Mission Press, 1845. 12mo.

(vii.) *Persic Language.*

- * 91. The New Testament.....Translated from the original Greek into Persian ; by the Rev. Henry MARTYN, B.D. Fourth edition. London, 1837. 8vo.
- * 92. [The Four Gospels in Judæo-Persic.] 12mo.

(viii.) *Slavic Languages.*

- 93 [The New Testament, in Modern Russ. 1850.] 8vo.
- * 94 Biblia Swieta; to jest: Wszystko pismo Swiete Starego i Nowego Przy-
mierza Z. Zydoskiego i Greckiego, jczyka ma Polski pilnie i wiewnie
przetlumaczone. [The Holy Bible, in Polish.] W Lipsku, 1846. 8vo.
- * 95. Biblia Sacra, to gest: Bibli Swatá aneb wssecka Swatá Pisma Starého i
Nowého Zákona, &c. [The Holy Bible, in Bohemian.] W Kyscku, 1851.
8vo.
- * 96. Naujas Testamentas músû Wieszapatiês ir Iszanytojo Jezaus Kristaus, i
Lietuwiskaje Kalba iszwerstas. [The New Testament, in Lithuanian.]
Frankfurte prie upês Main, 1853. 8vo.
- * 97. Psalmi Dowido, i Lietuwiskaje Kalba iszwersti. [The Psalms of David,
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- * 98. Biblia, tahm Latweeschahan Deewa Draudsibalim par labbu
istaisita. [The Holy Bible, in Lettish.] Peterburgá, 1825. 8vo.
- * 99. [The New Testament, in Bulgarian]. 1840. 8vo.

IV. VERSIONS IN OTHER LANGUAGES OF EUROPE AND ASIA.

- † 100 [The Holy Bible, in Turkish.] 4to.
- * 101 [The New Testament, in Turkish.] 8vo.
- * 102. [The Four Gospels and the Aets of the Apostles, in Turkish. Published
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12mo.
- * 103 [The New Testament, in Armenian. 1849.] 8vo.
- * 104 Szent Biblia, azaz: istennek és új Testamentomában, foglaltatott egész
Szent Irás, Magyar nyelvre fordittatott Károli Gáspár által. Kőszegen,
1852. Small folio.
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- Kőszegen, 1852. 8vo.
- * 105. Biblia, se on Pyhä Raamattu Wanha ya Nusi Testamenti. [The Holy
Bible, in Finnish.] Stockholm, 1852. 8vo.
- * 106. [The Gospel according to St. Matthew, in the Sirenian dialect.] 12mo.

- * 107. Meie Issanda Jesusse Kristusse uns Testament ehk ue Seädusse Ramat. [*The New Testament, in Reval-Esthonian.*] Peterburri Liinna, 1825. 12mo.
- * 108 [*The New Testament, in Chinese.*] 2 vols.
- * 109 The Gospel of St. Luke, and the Acts of the Apostles. Translated into Chinese by the late Rev. Dr. Robert MORRISON. London, 1815.
- * 110 [*The New Testament, in the Mandchon language.*] 4to.
- * 111. The New Testament.....Translated out of the original Greek into the Mongolian language, by Edward STALLYBRASS and William SWAN. London, 1846. 8vo.

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- * 113. O le Feagaiga fou a lo tatou alii o Jesu Keriso, ua liu i le upu Samoa. [*New Testament, in the Samoan language.*] London, 1849. 16mo.
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- * 116. Ai vola ni Veiyalayalati vou ni noda Turaga kei na nodai vakabula ko Jisu Kraisiti. [*New Testament, in the Feejeean language.*] Londini, 1853. 12mo.
- * 117. Te Bibilia Tapu Ra, Koia te Kororomotu Taito, e te Kororomotu Ou Kiritiia ei tuatua Rarotonga. [*The Holy Bible, in Rarotongan. Second Edition.*] London, 1855. 8vo.
- * 118. Ny teny n' andriamanitra, atao hoe, Tesitamenta ny Jesosy Kraisty, &c. [*The New Testament, in Malagasse.*] London, no date. 12mo.
- * 119. 'Indjilu—'lkhudus Xisáj 'Elmesêhh, &c. [*The New Testament, in the Malay language.*] Di-Bendar Hârlém, 1823. 8vo.

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- * 120. Buka ea Lipesalem tsa Davida, khosi le moperofeti mo yesereleñ, &c. [*The Psalms of David, in the Sechuana language.*] London, 1841. 12mo.
- * 121. Itestamente entsha Yenkosi Yetu Kayesu Kristu, gok wam axosa. [*The New Testament, in the Kaffir language.*] Emtati, 1846. 8vo.
- * 122. Sadsi Kpakpai edsue le, ye Ga wiems le mli. The four Gospels in the Ga [or Accra] language. London, no date. 12mo.

- * 123. The Gospel according to St. Matthew. Translated into Yoruba, for the use of the native Christians of that nation [*sic*], by the Rev. Samuel CROWTHER, Native Missionary. London, 1853. 12mo.
- * 124. Extrait d'une traduction MS. en langue Berbère de quelques parties de l'Écriture Sainte; contenant xii chapitres de S. Luc. Londres, 1833. 12mo.

VII. VERSIONS IN THE LANGUAGES OF THE ABORIGINES OF AMERICA.

- * 125. Testamentiták terssa Nálegauta Annaursirsvt Jesusib Kristusib, &c. The New Testament, translated into the Greenland language, by the Missionaries of the Unitas Fratrum, or United Brethren. Second Edition. Budisime, 1851. 8vo.
- * 126. Testamentetak tamedsa : Nalegapta Piulijipta Jesusib Kristusib Apostelingitalo pinniarningit o kausingillo. [*The New Testament, in Esquimaux.*] London, 1840. 12mo.
- * 127. The Gospel according to St. Matthew, in the Micmac language. Printed for the use of the Micmac Mission, by the *British and Foreign Bible Society*. Charlottetown, 1853. 12mo.
- * 128. Oo Meyo achimoowin St. Mark. The Gospel according to St. Mark, translated into the language of the Cree Indians, of the diocese of Rupert's Land, North West America. London, 1855. 12mo.
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1809.

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1815.

296. The First Four Chapters of the Chronicles of the City [*i. e.* the Town of MANCHESTER]. 8vo. *Manchester* [1815?]

1817.

297. Report of the Trial of James Ashcroft and others, for the Wilful Murder of Margaret Marsden and Hannah Partington, at PFNDLETON, April 26th, 1817. 8vo. *Manchester.*

1818.

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1819.

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302. An Answer to Joseph Johnson's Attack upon Mr. Hunt; or, a Slap at the Duke: in a letter addressed to the Editor of the "MANCHESTER Observer." By Rob. TYKE. 8vo. *Manchester.*

1820.

303. Letters of the late John Thorp, of MANCHESTER, a Minister of the Gospel in the Society of Friends, to which is prefixed a Memoir of the Life of the writer. 8vo. *Liverpool.*
304. An Appeal to the Sense and Piety of the Public of MANCHESTER and Salford. By the Rev. M. HORNE. 8vo. *Manchester: R. and W. Dean.*
305. Notes and Observations, critical and explanatory, on the "Papers relative to the internal state of the country," recently presented to Parliament; To which is appended a reply to Mr. Francis PHILIPS's *Exposure of Calumnies* against the Magistrates and the Yeomanry Cavalry of MANCHESTER and Salford. By a MEMBER of the MANCHESTER COMMITTEE for Relieving the Sufferers of the 16th August, 1819. 8vo. *London: E. Wilson.*
306. The Trial of Henry Hunt, Esq.,.....for an alleged Conspiracy [at MANCHESTER, in August, 1819] to overturn the Government, &c., by Threats and Force of Arms. 8vo. *London.*

1821.

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1824.

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1829.

319. The Benefits of General Knowledge; being an Address delivered at the opening of the Banksian Society, MANCHESTER. By the late Rowland DETROSIER. 8vo. *London.*

320. Deed of Settlement of the Bank of MANCHESTER, ... established under the authority of an Act...7 Geo. IV. .. to which is appended an Abstract of the said Act, and a List of the Shareholders. 8vo. *Manchester*; *Henry Smith*.

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1834.

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1835.

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1840.

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341. Papers on Scientific Subjects. By William HADFIELD: Read before the Philosophical Society of MANCHESTER. 8vo. *Manchester.*
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1844.

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No. IV.

RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE
FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

(OCTOBER, 1851.)

I.—THE LIBRARIAN shall have the general charge of the Libraries, and shall be responsible for the safe keeping of the books, and of all other property belonging thereto.

II.—THE LIBRARY OF REFERENCE shall be open to the Public gratuitously every day,—Sundays, Christmas Day, and Good Friday excepted,—from the hour of Ten in the morning to Nine in the evening; and the LENDING LIBRARY from the hour of Twelve at noon to the hour of Two in the afternoon, and also from the hour of Six to that of Nine in the evening, except on Saturdays, when the Lending Library shall be open from Twelve at noon until Nine in the evening.

III.—Every person, on entering the LIBRARY OF REFERENCE, or the LENDING LIBRARY, shall write, or cause to be written, his or her name and address, in a book to be provided in each room for that purpose; and it shall be the duty of the person in charge of each department respectively, to see that this regulation is invariably complied with; and such signature shall be taken and considered to be an assent to these Rules and Regulations; and without it, no person shall be allowed to obtain any book.]

This 3rd Regulation has not been enforced, in compliance with a resolution of the Committee, passed on the 24th Sept 1852.

IV.—No person shall be admitted who is intoxicated, or in an uncleanly condition; nor shall any audible conversation be permitted in either of the Libraries; nor shall any person be allowed to partake of refreshments therein;—and any person who shall offend against these regulations, or shall be guilty of any other misconduct, shall not be allowed to remain within the building.

V.—No person shall be allowed to pass within the enclosure in the LENDING LIBRARY, or to take any book from the shelves of the REFERENCE LIBRARY, except by permission of the Librarian; and no book or other article shall be taken out of the Reference Library.

VI.—Two or more Catalogues shall always be kept in the REFERENCE LIBRARY for the use of the readers; [and the Librarian shall enter, or cause to be entered, in a book to be provided for that purpose, the title of every book delivered to a reader for perusal;] and each reader shall sign a receipt for every book [so

So much of the 6th Resolution as is enclosed within brackets is not now enforced, in compliance with a Resolution as above.

delivered; and shall, before leaving the room, return such book or books into the hands of the Librarian, or of his Assistant.

VII.—Two or more Catalogues shall also be provided for the use of the public in the Lending Library; but no person shall be allowed to borrow a book from the Library, without first obtaining the signatures and addresses of two ratepayers whose names appear either on the burgess roll of Manchester, or on that of Salford, to the following Voucher:—

“ We, A—— B——, of in the ward of —— and C—— D——,
 “ of in the ward of —— declare that we believe E—— F——,
 “ of in the to be a person to whom books may
 “ safely be entrusted for perusal; and we hereby undertake to replace any
 “ book belonging to the MANCHESTER FREE LIBRARY which shall be lost or
 “ materially injured by the said E—— F——.

(Signed) _____

“ Dated this day of 18 .”

“ When either of the persons who may have signed this engagement shall desire to withdraw from it, he must give notice thereof in writing to the Librarian, who will give a release as soon as he shall have ascertained that no liability has been incurred.”

This Voucher must have been delivered to the Librarian three days before the first issue of books to the person recommended; and all books borrowed must be returned to the Library within the time specified on the respective covers thereof, under the penalties therein stated; and if in any case six months shall have elapsed between the due return of a book lent and the application for another, a fresh voucher must be produced, as on the first application.

VIII.—The Librarian shall carefully examine, or cause to be examined, each book returned, and if the same be found to have sustained or damage any injury, or to have been rendered of less value by being soiled or written in, he shall require the person to whom the same was delivered, or the ratepayers on whose guarantee it was lent, to pay the amount of damage or injury done; or otherwise to procure a new copy of equal value; and in the latter case, such person shall be entitled to the damaged copy on depositing the new one.

IX.—If any person to whom a book shall have been delivered in the REFERENCE LIBRARY shall not re-deliver the same to the Librarian or his assistant, before leaving the room, or if any borrower shall not return to the LENDING LIBRARY, within due time, the book or books lent to him, or shall refuse or neglect to pay on demand, the amount of any loss, damage, or injury, or to procure another copy as before mentioned, then the amount of such loss, damage, or injury, or the value of such book, shall be recoverable from the person or persons as aforesaid, as a debt, in any action or proceeding applicable to the recovery of debts of

like amount, in which action or proceeding the Mayor, Aldermen, and Citizens of the City of Manchester shall be the plaintiffs; and the fact of their being the persons entitled, shall be taken to be admitted by the defendant.

X.—The two last preceding rules shall likewise be enforced, so far as the same are applicable, in cases where any damage or injury shall have been done to any other property in the Libraries.

XI.—The Librarian shall have power to refuse books to any reader or borrower who shall neglect to comply with the rules and regulations of the Library; but any person so refused shall have liberty to appeal to the Library Committee.

XII.—No person under the age of fourteen years shall be admitted to the REFERENCE LIBRARY.

By order,

EDWARD EDWARDS,
PRINCIPAL LIBRARIAN.

MANCHESTER FREE LIBRARY.

FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT.—OCTOBER, 1856.

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