

public reading room and an entrance porch in brick. In 1891, Mr. F. Stedman, who had acted in the joint capacity as Registrar of Canterbury College and Librarian since 1876, retired and was succeeded as Librarian by Mr. A. Cracroft-Wilson who retained the position until 1906.

Until 1896, almost the only money spent on the maintenance and expansion of the Public Library was that derived from subscriptions and that voted by the Board of Governors from the endowment. However, in that year, the death occurred of James Gammack, a farmer of Springston, who, in his will,⁽⁴⁹⁾ bequeathed 1678 acres of land to the Public Library, the revenue from which (averaging £600 to £1000 per year) was to be devoted to the purchase of books for the circulating department. Three years later, Arthur Postle of Papanui became the second benefactor of the Library. Under the terms of his will,⁽⁵⁰⁾ he left, for the benefit of the reference department, property from which the annual revenue was about £80. No doubt, largely from the additional money made available by these bequests, the number of books in the reference department increased from 11,537 in 1898 to 18,221 in 1908, while the corresponding figures for the circulating department were 17,925 and 23,933. In 1903, in a further attempt to improve the financial position of the Library, an application for a grant was made to Mr. Andrew Carnegie but proved unsuccessful. During the same year, a gallery was set apart for women but, because of the poor attendance and the con-

49. Will of James Gammack, - copy deposited at Registrar's Office, Canterbury College.

50. Will of Arthur Postle, - copy deposited at Registrar's Office, Canterbury College.