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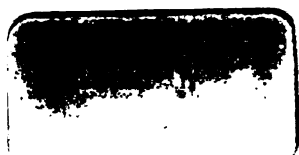
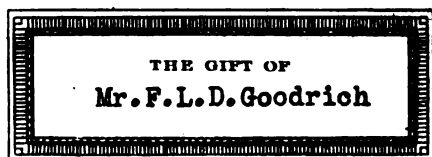
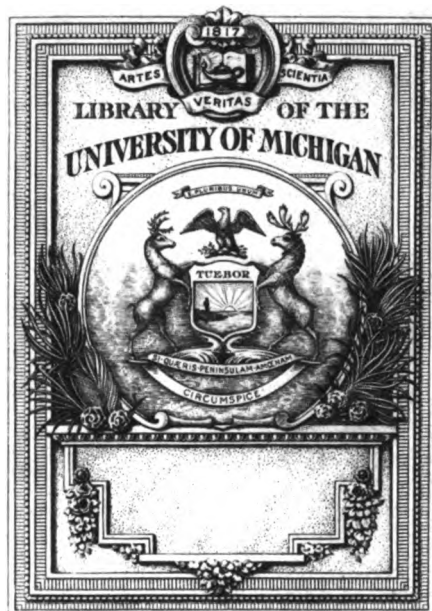
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*A short history of the Library
Company of Philadelphia*

George Maurice Abbot



150

A
Book of Minutes.

containing
An Account of the Proceedings
of the Directors
of the
Library Company
of
Philadelphia.

Beginning
November 8th 1731.

taken by
the Secretary to the Company.



Vol. 1st

Collected, corrected & continued
by Fra^s Hopkins
1759



**A Short History
of
The Library Company
of Philadelphia**

**Compiled from the Minutes, together with
some personal reminiscences**

By

**George Maurice Abbot
Librarian and Treasurer**



**Published by order of
The Board of Directors**

**Philadelphia
1913**

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This attempt to tell the story of the Library Company in a few words, has been read before the Philadelphia Booksellers' Association, for whom it was prepared, and also before The Pennsylvania Library Club.

November, 1912

G. M. A.



Charter granted by John, Thomas and Richard Penn, in 1741

THE LIBRARY COMPANY
OF PHILADELPHIA

THE beginning of the Library Company of Philadelphia was largely owing to the "Junto," a club founded by Benjamin Franklin for literary and scientific discussion, the reading of original essays, poems, and so forth, called a "Club of Mutual Improvement." Franklin says in his autobiography:—

"About this time, our club meeting, not at a tavern, but in a little room of Mr. Grace's set apart for that purpose, a proposition was made by me, that since our books were often referr'd to in our disquisitions upon the queries, it might be convenient for us to have them together where we met, that upon occasions they might be consulted; and by thus clubbing our books to a common library, we should while we lik'd it keep them together, have each of us the advantage of using the books of all the other members, which would be nearly as beneficial as if each owned the whole. It was lik'd and agreed to, and we fill'd one end of the room with such books as we could best spare. The number was not so great as we expected; and tho' they had been of great use, yet some inconvenience occuring for want of due care of them, the collection, after about a year, was separated, and each took his books home again. And now I set on foot my first project of a public nature, that for a subscription library. I drew up proposals, got them put into form by our great scrivener, Brockden, and by the help of my friends of the Junto, procured fifty subscribers of forty shillings each to begin with and ten shillings a year for fifty years, the term our company was to continue. We afterwards obtained a charter, the company being increased to one hundred; this was the mother of all the North American subscription libraries, now so numerous."

The Instrument of Association was dated July 1, 1731, and between that date and 1742, when they obtained their second charter, eighty-five signed the Articles.

The first to sign was Robert Grace, described by Franklin as being, "a young gentleman of some fortune, generous,

lively, and witty; a lover of punning and of his friends." The second was Thomas Hopkinson, father of Francis Hopkinson, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. The share passed from father to son for four generations and finally became the property of Christ Church, in which name it now stands, having been in but five names in one hundred and eighty years. The third signer was Benjamin Franklin; his share descended to Benjamin Franklin Bache, William Duane, Jr., Franklin Bache, and is now in the name of Thomas Hewson Bache.

Other original shares are still owned by the descendants of those who first signed the Articles of Association.

As the "Junto" was composed of but few members, the greater part of the subscribers were not those associated with the original club. William Rawle acquired share No. 42 in 1732; he appears to have been the first American donor, having presented on the 12th of March, 1733, "six volumes of the works of Mr. Edmund Spencer" and the Minute recording this gift with great simplicity says: "the famous old English poem called Spencer's Fairy Queen is included in these works." The William Rawle share is now in the name of William Brooke Rawle. Samuel Coates had share No. 67, in 1736, which descended to Dr. Benjamin Hornor Coates and is now owned by Joseph Hornor Coates, having been in the name of Coates for one hundred and seventy-six years.

By one interested in such matters quite a long list might be made of original shares coming down in the same family to the present time, in fact one of the most interesting books in the Library is "A Chronological Register of the names of Members," prepared in 1839 by Zachariah Poulson, one of the Directors, and continued to the present time.

The first Board of Directors was as follows:—Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Hopkinson, William Parsons, Philip Syng, Jr., Thomas Godfrey, Anthony Nicholas, Thomas Cadwalader, John Jones, Jr., Robert Grace, and Isaac Pennington, Treasurer William Coleman, and the first meeting was held on the evening of the 8th of November, 1731, at the house of Nicholas Scull. The Minutes of the Company begin as follows:—"The Minutes of me, Joseph Breintnall, Secretary to the Directors of the Library Company of Philadelphia, with such of the Minutes of the same Directors as they order me to

make. Begun the 8th Day of November, 1731. By virtue of the Deed or Instrument of the said Company dated the first Day of July last." Several meetings were held at the house of Nicholas Scull and much discussion took place as to when the first importation of books should be made and what books should be ordered. At a meeting held March 29th, 1732, "it was thought best to meet for a private conversation, Thomas Godfrey at this meeting informed us that Mr. Logan had let him know he would willingly give his advice of the choice of the books . . . he was desired to return the thanks of the Committee to Mr. Logan for his generous offer—and the Committee esteeming Mr. Logan to be a Gentleman of universal learning, and the best judge of books in these parts, ordered that Mr. Godfrey should wait on him and request him to favour them with a catalogue of suitable books." At a meeting held March 31st, 1732, Robert Grace, "to expedite the affair, offered to draw on his own correspondent in London for such a sum sterling as would answer the money in the Treasurer's hands." Accordingly a Bill of Forty Five Pounds Sterling, on Peter Collinson, Mercer in Gracious Street, London, payable to Thomas Hopkinson, together with a list of the books wanted, was sent to Mr. Hopkinson.

It is of interest to know what books were on this list as showing the tastes and wishes of the readers of that time and it is also of interest to know that at the present time (1912) a number of the books then ordered are still on the shelves of the Library.

Books ordered March 31st, 1732:—

CATALOGUE OF BOOKS

Puffendorf's Introduc'n. 8 vo.	Hayes upon Fluxions.
Dr. Howel's History of ye	Keil's Astronomical Lectures.
World. 3 vols. Fo.	Drake's Anatomy.
Rapin's History of England.	Sidney on Government.
12 vols. 8 vo.	Cato's Letters.
Salmon's Modern History.	Sieurs DuPort Royal moral essays.
Vertot's Revolutions.	Crousay's Art of Thinking.
Plutarch's Lives in small vol.	Spectator.
Stanley's Lives of ye Philo-	Guardian.
sophers.	Tatler.
Annals of Tacitus by Gordon.	Puffendorf's Laws of Nature, &c.

Collection of Voyages. 6 vols.	Addison's Works in 12mo.
Atlas Geogra. 5 vols. 4 to.	Memorable Things of Socrates.
Gordon's Grammar.	Turkish Spy.
Brightland's English Grammar.	Abridgmt. of Phil: Trans: 5 vols.
Greenwood's	4 to.
Johnson's History of Animals.	Gravesend's Nat. Philos. 2 vols.
Architect by Andw. Palladio.	8 vo.
Evelyn's Parallels of the ancient and modern Architecture.	Boerhaave's Chemistry.
Bradley's Improvmt. of Hus- bandry, and his other Books of Gardening.	The Compleat Tradesman.
Perkinson's Herbal.	Bailey's Dictionary—the best.
Helvicius's Chronology.	Homer's Iliad and Odyssey.
Wood's Institutes.	Bayle's Critical Dictionary.
Dechall's Euclid.	Dryden's Virgil.
L' Hospital's Conic Sections.	Ozanam's Course of Mathem.
4 to.	5 vols.
	Catalogues.

Some of the books ordered were not received and were replaced by others carefully chosen. They arrived in October 1732, and among them as a gift from Peter Collinson, were two books—"Sir Isaac Newton's Philosophy" and "Philip Miller's Gardener's Dictionary." In regard to the latter book, it is rather a curious thing that recently this Gardener's Dictionary has been used quite a good deal in spite of its one hundred and eighty years.

The books were taken to Mr. Grace's chamber at his house in Jones' Alley, (also called Pewter Platter Alley and now Church Street) and there placed on the shelves.

"A new catalogue was made out; in one corner of it the time each book or sett of books was to be lent for, and in another the value or sum for which every borrower should give his note of hand to the Librarian."

"Orders were agreed to be set up in the Library room for those persons to observe who came to read or borrow books."

"Louis Timothee (who rented the said house of R. Grace) was contracted with to be Librarian" and articles of agreement were signed and sealed by him and a Committee of Directors, the 14th of November, 1732.

It was agreed that he should be Librarian for three months from the above date—and—"That he shall give due attendance in the Library on Wednesdays from two till three o'clock, and

THE
Historical and Chronological
THEATRE
OF
Christopher Helvicus,

Distributed into equal Intervals of Tens, Fifties and Hundreds:

With an Assignment of

EMPIRES, KINGDOMS, GOVERNMENTS,

Kings, Electours, Princes, Roman Popes, Turkish Emperours,
and other Famous and Illustrious Men, Prophets, Divines, Lawyers,
Physicians, Philosophers, Oratours, Poets, Historians, Hereticks, Rabbins, Councils,
Synods, Academies, &c. and also of the usual EPOCHÆS.

Faithfully done into English according to the two best Editions,
viz. that of *Frankfurt*, and that of *Oxford*.

And enlarg'd with Additions all throughout, and continued down to
the Present Times.

L O N D O N,

Printed by *M. Fleisher*, for *George West* and *John Crofley*, Booksellers in
O X F O R D. MDCLXXXVII.

In the first importation



THE
Gardeners Dictionary:

Containing the METHODS of
CULTIVATING and IMPROVING
THE
Kitchen, Fruit and Flower Garden.

AS ALSO, THE
Physick Garden, WilderNESS, Conservatory,

AND
VINEYARD,

According to the PRACTICE of the
Most *Experienc'd* Gardeners of the *Present Age*.

Interpers'd with
The History of the PLANTS, the Characters of each GENUS, and the Names of all
the particular SPECIES, in *Latin and English*; and an Explanation of all the TERMS used
in BOTANY and GARDENING.

Together with
Accounts of the Nature and Use of *Barometers, Thermometers, and Hygrometers* proper for
GARDENERS; and of the Origin, Causes, and Nature of METEORS, and the particular
Influences of *Air, Earth, Fire and Water* upon *Vegetation*, according to the best NATURAL
PHILOSOPHERS.

Adorn'd with COPPER PLATES.

By PHILIP MILLER, Gardener to the BOTANICK GARDEN
at *Chelsea*, and F. R. S.

— *Digna minet divini gloria ruris.*

VIRG. GEO.

L O N D O N :

Printed for the AUTHOR;

And Sold by C. RIVINGTON, at the *Bible and Crown* in *St. Paul's Church-Yard*

M. DC. XXXI.

In the first importation

on Saturdays from the hours of ten till four . . . and may permit any civil gentlemen to peruse the books of the Library in the Library room, but shall not lend to, or suffer to be taken out of the Library by any person who is not a subscribing member, any of the said books, Mr. James Logan only excepted."

The Committee of Directors in "consideration of the said Louis Timothee's care and trouble in the premises and for the use of the room . . . shall pay . . . at the expiration of the said three months the sum of Three Pounds lawful money certain, and such a further allowance as then after such time of experience shall by the parties hereto be thought and concluded to be a reasonable reward." In 1733, Mr. Timothee having vacated his office as Librarian, Benjamin Franklin offered to take his place for the current year. He occupied the position for three months and a day.

And now, some books having been bought, a room and a Librarian engaged, the Library was prepared to begin its work. What that work has been we are to a certain extent able to understand from the Minute Books, extracts from which are here given:

EXTRACTS FROM THE MINUTES

January 8th, 1732 . . . it was resolved that the books of the Library should be covered with sheathing paper and that Stephen Potts should be spoke to, to do it, for the preservation of the binding.

December 11th, 1732, At this meeting "B. Franklin was asked what his charge was for printing a catalogue . . . for each subscriber; and his answer was that he designed them for presents, and should make no charge for them."

May 14th, 1733, "This evening a Committee of Directors . . . met at Mr. Timothee's and consulted about addressing our Proprietor (Thomas Penn) in order for his countenance and protection in an affair so useful and well intended as the Library. . . ."

The following day . . . "the persons appointed to draw up an address, brought and delivered it to the Directors . . . some objection was made to the style by those who had accustomed themselves to what is called the 'plain language' . . . but the address was agreed to."

February 11th, 1734 It was proposed "that the time of the Librarian's attendance should be only one day in the week (it having been found by experience that the borrowers of books did not commonly come to the Library on Wednesdays)."

May 1st, 1738, a letter came to the Gentlemen of the Library Company from John Penn, Esq'r., one of our Hon'ble Proprietors, by the hands of Mr. Samuel Jenkins, as follows:—

"GENTLEMEN—

It always gives me a pleasure when I think of the Library Company of Philadelphia, as they were the first that encouraged knowledge and learning in the Province of Pennsylvania. I have herewith sent you by Mr. Samuel Jenkins, the bearer hereof, an air-pump with some other things to shew the nature and power of the air; which will be both useful and pleasant; and Mr. Jenkins being a gentleman well acquainted with natural knowledge, and the mathematics, has been so kind as to offer his assistance in explaining the many experiments to be made thereon. I am with much regard, your sincere friend,

JOHN PENN.

London, 31, Jan'y 1738.

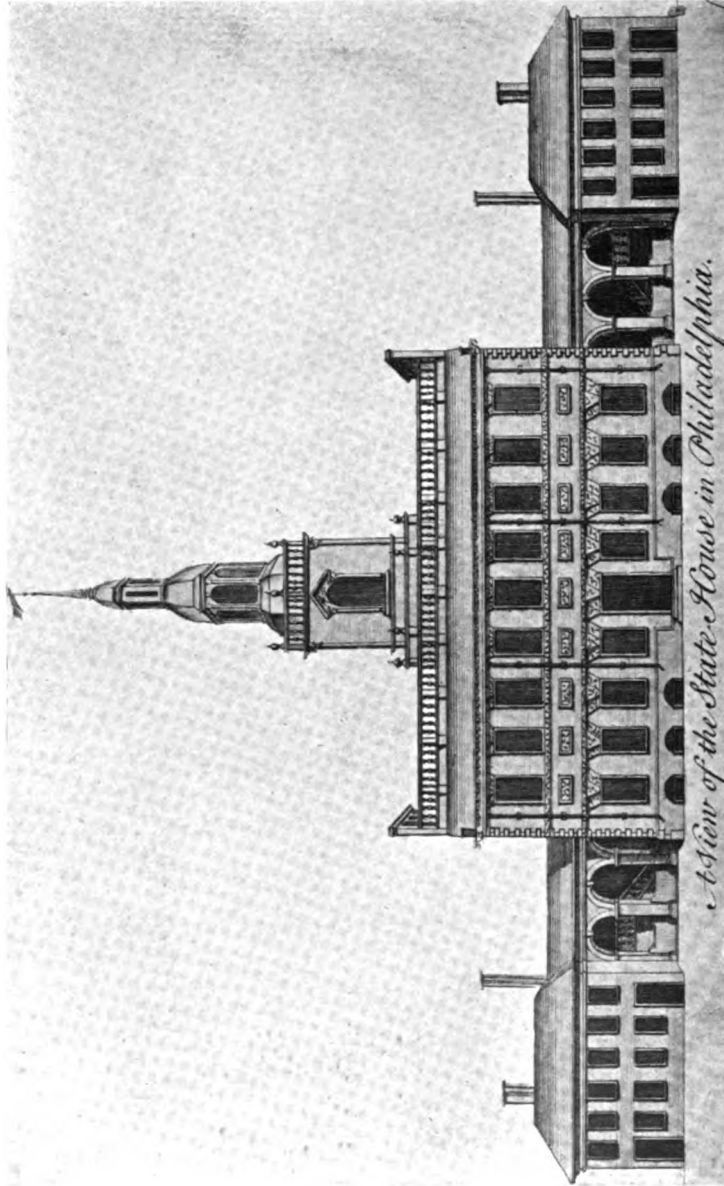
"The Directors regarding the mention of Mr. Samuel Jenkins, in our Proprietor John Penn's letter to the Company, to show them the use of the air-pump sent by him, as in the foregoing minutes, did this day invite Mr. Jenkins to an entertainment at the house of Thomas Mullen, together with the Proprietor Thomas Penn, Mr. Freame, Mr. Forbes, Capt. Norris, Mr. Grace, Mr. Willing and James Hamilton. The Proprietor being pre-engaged could not be present, but all the Directors with the other gentlemen, and the Librarian, Treasurer and Secretary, dined together at Mr. Mullens and enjoyed a facetious agreeable conversation."

It was "Ordered that B. Franklin, P. Syng and H. Roberts get a frame and case made, with glass lights in the door to receive and preserve the air-pump with its appendages, and to look ornamental in the Library room." This case still stands, with the remains of the air-pump in it, an ornament to the Library room and a rare specimen of the hand carving and



Case made to contain the air pump presented by the
Hon. John Penn, in 1738.





The State House as it was about the time the Library occupied the
 "upper room of the Westernmost office"

wood work of the period. The meetings of the Directors were at this time held at the house of John Roberts, and afterwards for years at the house of his widow. The annual meetings were at the Library Room.

November 12th, 1739, "At a monthly meeting at (the widow of) John Roberts . . . there was some discourse concerning moving our books and air-pump in a short time from Wm. Parson's house, to a room in one of the vacant offices belonging to the State House; the use of which was lately granted the Company by the Assembly, upon a petition of the Directors, drawn up by B. Franklin."

On the 7th of April, 1740, the books were removed to the "upper room of the westernmost office of the State House."

April 13th, 1741, "At a monthly meeting at the Widow Roberts, . . . the Committee appointed last August . . . to make a catalogue . . . report that they have done so; whereupon it is agreed that two hundred of them shall be printed by B. Franklin."

October 12th, 1741 . . . "the Directors present discoursing together concerning the Charter lately granted to the Library Company by our Proprietaries, and signed by George Thomas, Lieut. Gov'r, with the Great Seal of the Province affixed, came to an opinion that the Directors present should . . . shew it to . . . members of the Company and get them to subscribe their names."

In the Minutes of the 10th of May, 1742, appears the following, "The Directors then went to the Widow Roberts to sup, where they remembered their benefactors."

In 1746 Benjamin Franklin printed the Charter, the Laws, and a Catalogue of all the books added since 1741.

On the 13th of November, 1752, is noted "A noble present of antient medals, from Mr. Grey, Member of Parliament for Colchester."

The Widow Roberts no longer appears, but in 1746, the meetings seem to have been at the Widow Breintnals; in 1749 at the Widow Pratt's; in 1757 at the Widow Biddle's.

Dr. Franklin acted as agent for the Library in London from October, 1760 till 1775.

May 10th, 1762, John Dickinson, the author of the "Farmers's Letters" "applied . . . to be admitted a member

of the Library Company; to which the Directors present unanimously agreed."

November 12th, 1762, "Mr. Byrnes complained that he had provided a supper for the last meeting and nobody came but the Sec'y, it was agreed that for the future every absentee should pay a fine of one shilling for his absence, which should go to the house as a recompense."

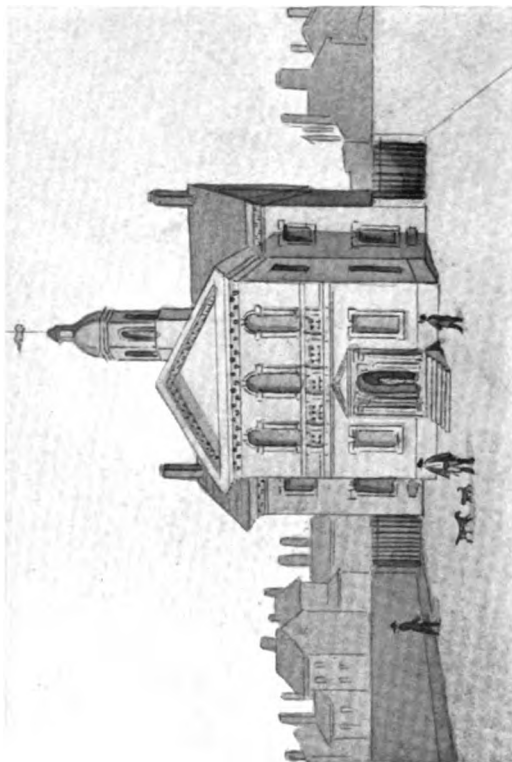
June 13th, 1763, "The Secretary reported that the Widow Biddle had declined keeping a public house any longer: upon which the Directors agreed to meet for the future at the 'Indian Queen,' and desired the Secretary to inform the keeper of the said Inn of their intention."

December 14th, 1767 . . . "The Secretary reported that Mr. Benjamin West, formerly of this city but now of London, historical painter, had presented to the Company with his respectful compl't a woman's hand taken from an Egyptian mummy, in good preservation."

February 13th, 1769, "a Committee from the Union Library in this city, waited on the Board of Directors and expressed themselves to the following purpose, 'That having been informed that a union between theirs and the Philadelphia Library Company might take place The Union Library Company (so far as the Committee had collected their sentiments), were willing and desirous to unite on the following terms, viz't—That they would resign their own charter and name and join themselves under the Charter and name of the Library Company of Philadelphia, and deliver up and make over and assign all their estate and property as a company . . . to become members of one and the same body corporate . . . ' agreed to April 6th, 1769. The Association Library which had been merged in the Union Library some time before, in this way became a part of the Library Company.

A Minute of November 13th, 1769 shows that another Library had been absorbed "an order was drawn upon James Pearson for the Minute books, accompt books, etc. that remain in his hands belonging to the late Amicable Library Company."

May 4th, 1770, "Josiah Hewes reports that he has not lett the Company's house in Third St. as no one had applied to rent it." This house was formerly occupied by the Union Library.



Carpenter's Hall to which the Library moved in 1773

June 24th, 1771, "The members of the Library Company of Philadelphia are desired to meet at their Library Room at the State House on Monday, the 22nd day of July next . . . to consider the expediency of purchasing a lot and building a house for the use of the Company . . ." at a second meeting held October 5th, it was decided that it was expedient to build a new Library Room and that the Directors, should apply to the Assembly for part of the State House square. In the following April the Directors report "that the Assembly have declined granting the Company liberty of erecting a library on the State House square."

December 28th, 1773, Extract from a letter from the Library Company to Dr. Franklin "since our last the Library has been removed to a new building called the Carpenter's Hall, in the centre of the square in which Friends' School stands, the books (enclosed within wire lattices) are kept in one large room and in another handsome apartment the apparatus is deposited and the Directors meet." The Library was now kept open from 2 until 7 o'clock P. M.

On the 31st of August, 1774, it was upon motion ordered that the Librarian furnish the gentlemen who are sent to meet in Congress in this City, with such books as they may have occasion for during their sitting, taking a receipt for them. It might be well to note here that the same courtesy was shown in January, 1791 when Congress again sat in this City, on the latter occasion a letter of thanks was received beginning "In obedience to the commands of the President of the United States" and signed "Tobias Lear, Secretary." The members of the Legislature of Pennsylvania likewise enjoyed the use of the books for a long period free of charge.

May 7th, 1776, "The Board direct the following advertisement be inserted in the Pennsylvania Gazette, Journal, Packet, Ledger and Evening Post, viz'.—The members of the Library Company of Philadelphia are requested to attend at the Library room on Thursday the thirtieth of May inst. at two o'clock in the afternoon, in order to consider the propriety of empowering the Directors to remove the books and effects of the Company and determine on the place where they shall be deposited in case any future event should render that measure necessary."

A meeting was held May 30th and another June 6th but

no business was done and the books were allowed to remain and nothing happened to disturb them.

After the battle of Trenton and Princeton, Philadelphia was filled with soldiers, and there was much sickness; at a meeting of the Directors March 11th, 1777, "Messrs. Alison, Jones and Hewes are appointed a Committee to wait on General Gates, Commanding Officer in this city, in order to procure if possible an order for the removal of the sick soldiers from the Library."

The Secretary is ordered to insert the following advertisement in the Pennsylvania Gazette, Packet and Evening Post.

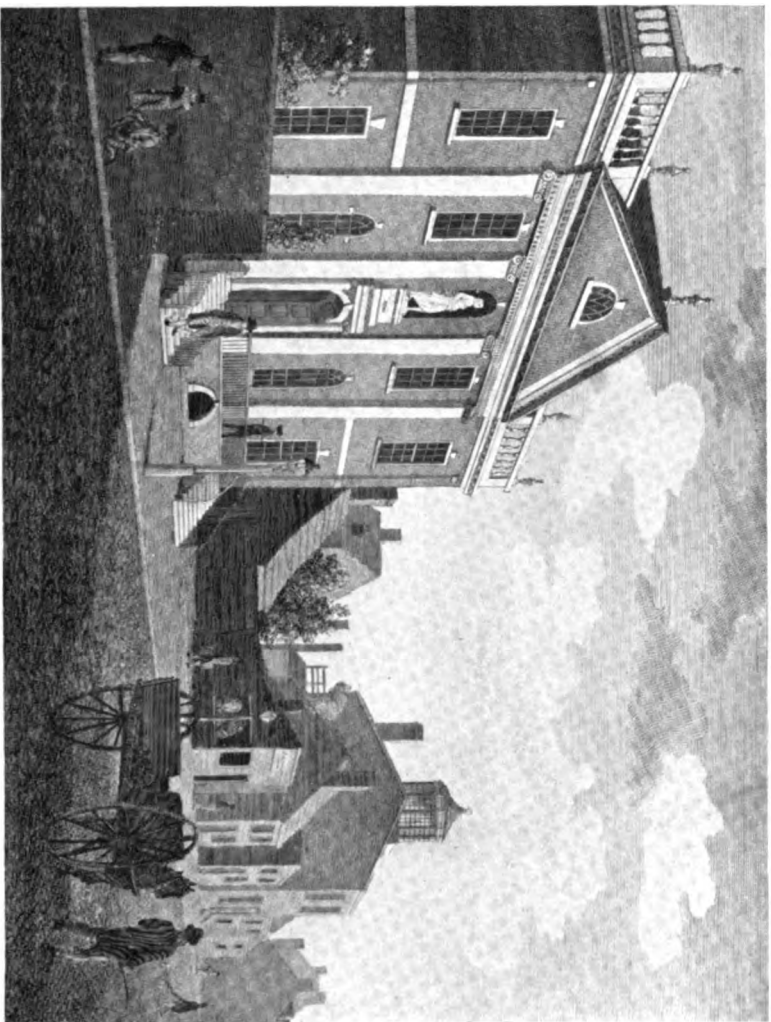
"The Members of the Library Company of Philadelphia are hereby notified that books may be procured from the said Library by application at the house of the Librarian on the south side of Market Street, four doors below Fourth Street, between the hours of five and seven in the afternoon of every day and leaving a signed note for such books as they may respectively want. The lower part of the Library being at present used as an infirmary for the sick soldiery, renders it inconvenient for the Librarian to attend at the Library Room as usual. . . ."

The British army had possession of Philadelphia from September 26th, 1777, to June 18th, 1778, but the Library does not appear to have suffered any inconvenience. The British officers who made use of it, left deposits and paid hire for the books they borrowed, just as any one, not a member, would be expected to do.

At a meeting of the Directors held August 12th, 1777, "An extract from the will of the Honorable William Logan, Esqr., late of this City, was laid before the Board, by which it appears that he had bequeathed to the Library Company a very considerable collection of ancient authors, which had been accordingly delivered to the Librarian. . ."

In November, 1778, the following minute occurs, "The Directors taking into consideration the high prices of firewood, candles, &c., agreed that the Library be opened during the winter months only upon Wednesday and Saturday from two till eight."

May 4th, 1781, "The Directors agree that thirty shillings, State money, be received in lieu of a basket of wheat, by which the annnal payments were last year directed to be made."



Birch's view of the building in Fifth Street as it was in 1800



Fifth Street building from Independence Square about 1879

June 10th, 1783, the Directors sent to London a list of books wanted, together with a remittance of two hundred pounds sterling in payment; this was the first money sent to England since 1774.

In 1784 the Librarian was removed for his inattention to the duties of his office.

In the same year another effort was made to obtain from the Assembly a lot for a library building in the State House square, but with no greater success than on the former occasion.

December 7th, 1786, "An account was presented from John Kaighn for two boxes of tallow candles for the use of the Library."

On the first of June, 1789, at a general meeting of the Company, Bishop White acting as chairman, a law was passed giving the Directors power to carry out the project of a new building as soon as one hundred new members should be added to the list. This number having been obtained, all but nineteen, a lot was purchased from Mary Norris, and a lot adjoining from George Logan and Deborah his wife, in Fifth street below Chestnut, part of the ground upon which the Drexel Building now stands, and a building designed by Dr. William Thornton was erected.

Sept. 3d, "The Building Committee reported that the first stone of the edifice was laid on the 31st of August last; that upon the suggestion of Dr. Benjamin Franklin a large stone was prepared and laid at the southwest corner of the building with the following inscription, composed by the Doctor, except so far as relates to himself, which the Committee have taken the liberty of adding to it:—

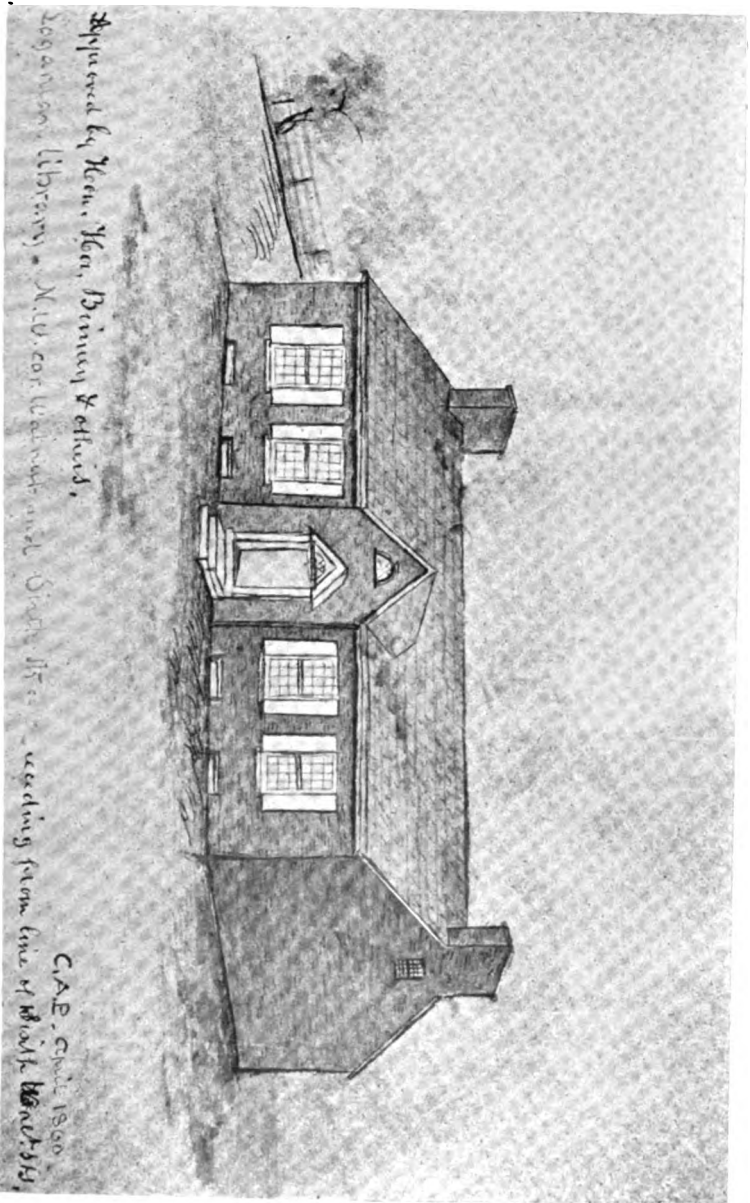
Be it remembered
In honor of the Philadelphian Youth,
(Then chiefly artificers)
That in MDCCXXXI,
They cheerfully,
at the instance of Benjamin Franklin
one of their number,
Instituted the Philadelphia Library;
which tho' small at first,
Is become highly valuable & extensively useful,

And which the Walls of this Edifice
are now destined to contain and preserve;
The first Stone of whose Foundation,
was here placed
The thirty first Day of August, Anno Domini
MDCCLXXXIX

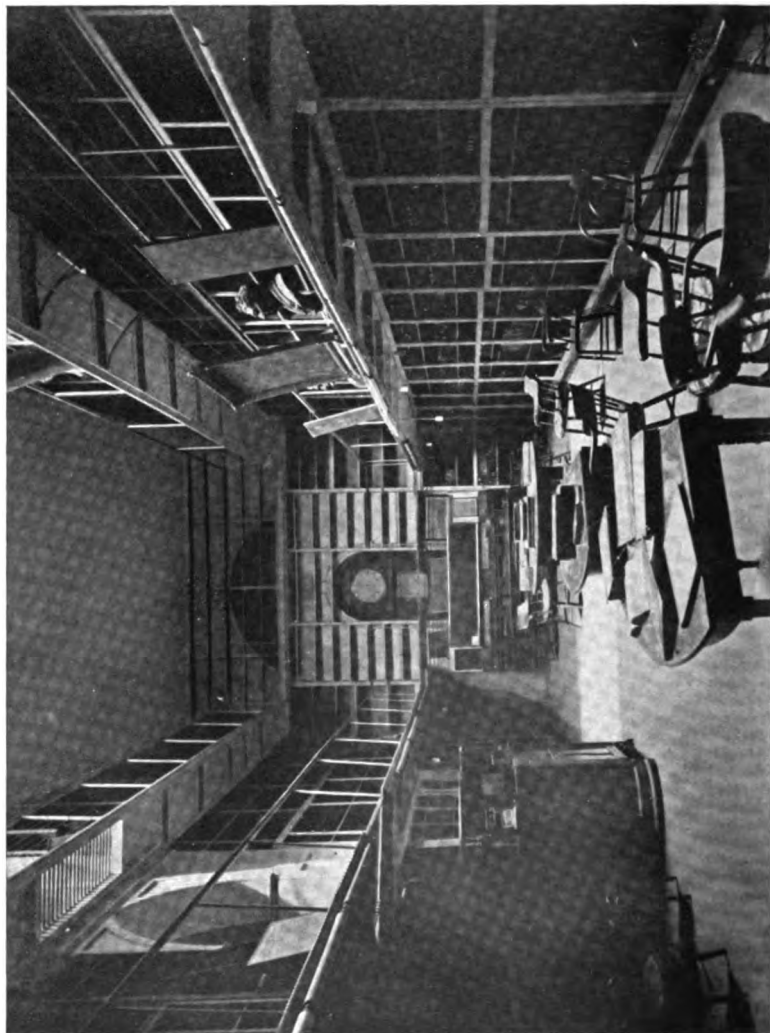
Information was given that "William Bingham having heard of the intention of the Directors, to erect a statue of white marble, of Doctor Franklin, as the founder of the Library, in a niche in the front of the building, was willing to furnish it at his own expense." This statue is now over the front door of the Locust street building.

By the 30th of December, 1790, the books were all removed and ready for delivery, when it was resolved to have the rooms open daily, from one o'clock to sunset.

In 1792, the Library Company, by an act of the Legislature, became the Trustees of the Loganian Library, and an addition was made to the building to accommodate the books. This valuable collection owes its origin to the Honourable James Logan, the confidential friend and counsellor of William Penn, and for some time President of the Council. Its foundation consists of a portion of his private library, which having collected at a considerable trouble and expense, he was anxious should be of use after his death and a help to others as it had been to him. With this object in view he put up a small building in Sixth Street near Walnut, where his books, some two thousand in number, might be safely housed; and by deed vested them (the books and certain rents, for the purpose of increasing their number and paying a librarian) in Trustees, for the use of the public forever. This deed he afterwards cancelled, and prepared, but did not live to execute, another in which some alteration was made in the funds and regulations. His will, however, dated March 25th, 1749, recognized the intention of the trust, and his children, carried into effect this intention, by deed of 25th of March, 1760, by which the building, books, etc., were conveyed to Israel Pemberton and others, in trust for the purposes of a public library, and it was therein provided that certain of the descendants of James Logan should always be among the trustees. With the idea of carrying out the wishes of the Founder, William



Original building used by the Ioganian Library in Sixth Street, from an old drawing



Showing where the books in the Fifth Street building of the Loganian Library were kept

Logan, his eldest son, was appointed librarian and served until his death, 1776.

The following announcement was made in the *Pennsylvania Journal* for October 23rd, 1760: "Notice is hereby given that the LOGANIAN LIBRARY, founded by the late James Logan, Esq., deceased, for the use of the public, situated on on Sixth Street between Chestnut and Walnut Streets, beyond the State-House Square, will be open on Saturday, the eighth of November next, where attendance will be given every Saturday from the third hour in the afternoon until the seventh hour following in the Summer time, and so long as one may see to read in the Winter, by Lewis Weiss." Soon after there was published a 116 page octavo, entitled, "*Catalogus Bibliothecae Loganiae: being a Choice Collection of Books as well in the Oriental, Greek and Latin as in English, Italian, Spanish, French, and other Languages. Given by the late James Logan, Esq., of Philadelphia, for the use of the Publick. Numbered as they now stand in the Library Built by him in Sixth Street over against the State-House Square, Philadelphia. Printed by Peter Miller & Comp. in the year 1760.*"

After the death of William Logan in 1776 the Library remained closed for a number of years. In 1782 it was suggested, and in 1792 the suggestion was carried out, that the Library Company should become Trustees. The following report was read at a meeting of the Library Board, February 25th, 1792—"That application should be made to the Legislature for a law to unite the Loganian Library to the Library belonging to the Library Company of Philadelphia, so as to retain, as much as may be, the principles originally intended by James Logan:—that the books shall be received into one of the apartments of the Philadelphia Library, or a commodious room prepared contiguous thereto, on reasonable terms;—the said books and others hereafter to be acquired by the Loganian Library, to be and remain distinct and apart from the books of the Library Company of Philadelphia;—that the Directors of the said Library Company of Philadelphia, from time to time chosen, together with James Logan, the surviving son of James Logan, the Donor, and two associates whom he may choose, shall form a Board of Trustees for the conducting and managing the affairs of the said Loganian Library, and that his successor and successors, in the order and manner prescribed by the Deed

of Trust, shall, in all future time, form one of the said Trustees, with power to nominate two associate trustees, or in case of death or resignation to supply, from time to time, the place or places of such associate trustee, so dying or resigning."

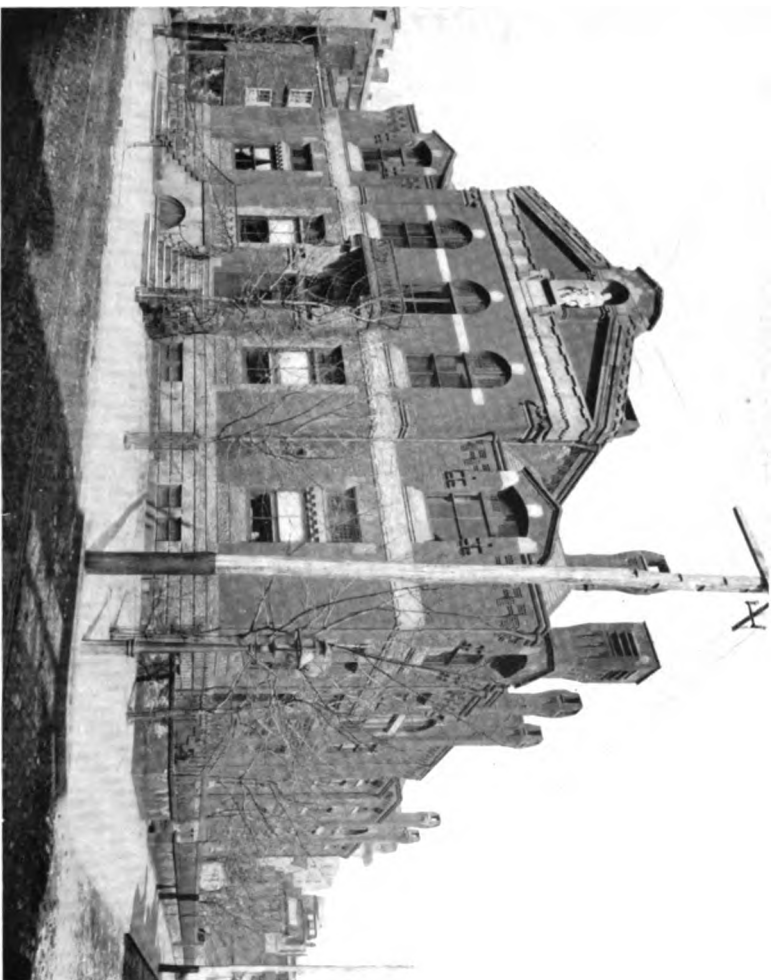
The Act of Assembly approved the 31st of March, 1792, provides "for continuing a succession of trustees, composed of the descendents of the said James Logan, the elder, or of persons appointed by such descendants."

At this time (1912) the Loganian collection consists of some fifteen thousand volumes, which are kept at the Ridgway Branch, Broad and Christian Streets.

In 1793 the price of shares was raised to forty dollars, the present price. For three successive years, 1797, 1798, 1799, the Autumn meeting of the Directors was not held owing to the epidemic of yellow fever.

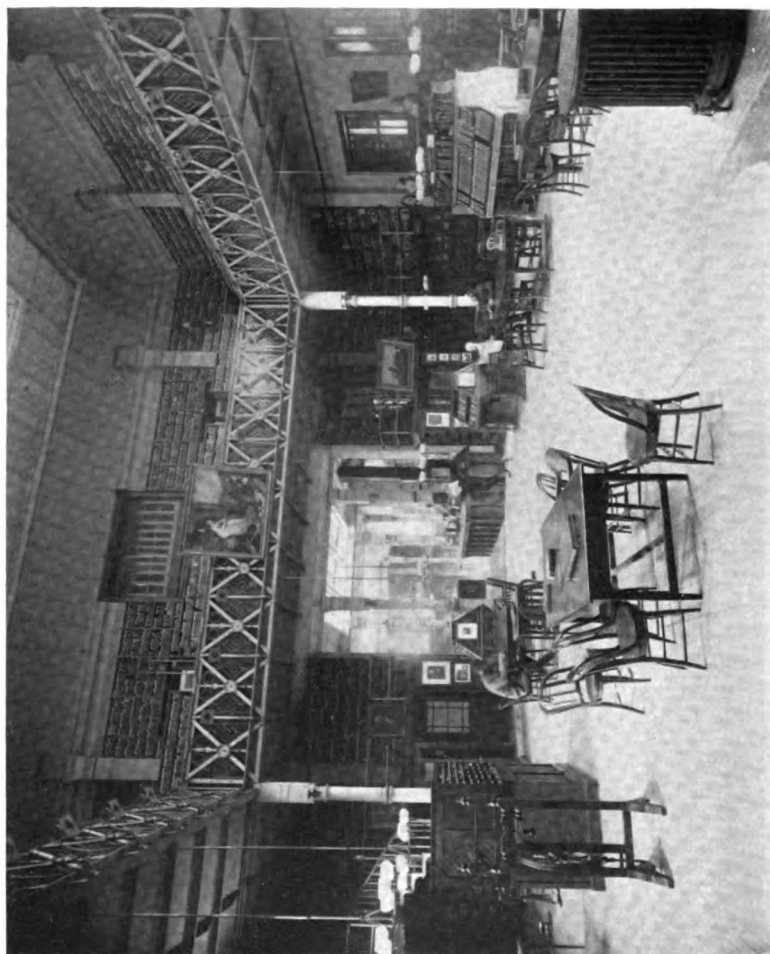
November, 1797 "the Secretary was directed to present to the President of the United States, a handsome bound catalogue of the books belonging to the Philadelphia Library, and to offer him the use of them during his official residence in this city."

In April, 1799, Henry Cox of Ireland presented a large number of manuscript volumes relating to the history of his native country:—the later history of these manuscripts is rather curious: in the Autumn of 1866, the attention of the Directors was called to them, and an examination made it evident that they were part of the National Archives of Great Britain. They consisted of official correspondence relating to Ireland, many of the letters bearing the sign manual of King James I. The Directors considering that there was an eminent propriety in the manuscripts being restored to the British Government as a portion of their public archives, an offer was made to Lord Romilly, the Master of the Rolls. The offer was gratefully accepted and the Lord Commissioners as some return, presented to the Library a set of the publications of the Master of the Rolls, at the present time over four hundred volumes and still growing, and believed to be the most complete set in America. In 1897, the return to this country of the manuscript volume, known as the "Log of the May-flower," under a decision of the Court in London, led to an editorial in the London Times of the 26th of March 1897, which says:—"The precedent of the Library Company of



Present Library, Northwest corner of Locust and Juniper Streets





Interior, Locust Street

Philadelphia just referred to, has unquestionably played a considerable part in determining the action of the Consistory Court."

In 1804 the Library received a bequest of one thousand pounds from John Bleakly, and from Dr. Samuel Preston a very valuable collection of books. Dr. Preston, an Englishman, had only heard of the Library Company from his friend, Benjamin West, the artist, but became so interested in the Institution that he remembered it liberally in his will. Mrs. West gave the Library a portrait of Dr. Preston painted by her husband. There is a minute that in the same year "Congress refused to remit the duties on Dr. Preston's legacy of books."

In 1808, permission was given to the Pennsylvania Fire Company to build on the northwest corner of the Library yard, and the Fame Hose Company appear to have had the same privilege for which later they returned thanks.

August 5th, 1824, "Resolved that the use of the Library be offered to General LaFayette."

In 1829, George Campbell, who for twenty-three years had been Librarian, resigned, having never during that period been "detained from the exercise of" the duties of his position.

January 6th, 1831, while a meeting of the Directors was being held in a room next to the Library building, there was an alarm of fire. One of the Directors put his head out of the window and called to a passer-by, "Friend, can thee tell me where the fire is?" "It's your darned old building that's a' burning," was the reply, and so it was. Some valuable books in the Loganian Library were destroyed and others injured, an original portrait of James Logan and a bust of William Penn were also burned, but the loss was much less than might have been expected. Many of the injured volumes had their backs burned off, but were rebound at the top, opening like a note-book. The fire originated in the breastwork of the chimney from a grate recently fixed in the Loganian Library, with the view to the greater safety afforded by a coal fire.

In a statement issued by the Directors in regard to the fire they say—"to the prompt and energetic exertions of the Fire and Hose Companies, particularly the Pennsylvania and the Fame, whose location enabled them to bring their powerful apparatus into almost immediate action, the preservation of the Library is chiefly attributable."

I remember an old gentleman, a member of the Library Company and also of the "Fame" who described with great delight his Company training their hose over the desk in the middle of the room, and "letting her go."

Now, having given so much time to the older history of the Library, it will be necessary to glance more sparingly at the later, which, as a matter of fact, does not seem to contain so many matters of interest.

The following quotation from the Rev. J. W. Alexander's *Forty Years' Familiar Letters* published in 1860, show how it impressed a stranger:—"The Astor Library is a-going; but no library I have ever seen, not even the Bodleian, has left such traces on my imagination as the old Philadelphia, which I want to see again."

In 1864, the Library received from the Estate of Joseph Fisher about fifty thousand dollars. This sum with an accumulation of interest formed a "Building Fund," which in 1879-80, enabled the Directors to put up the present Library at Locust and Juniper streets. Although it is not within the scope of this article to mention the acts of individuals, yet the change to Locust Street was so important and the result so satisfactory; the advancement in the usefulness of the Institution so great that it is but fair to say that this most important move was brought about by the labors of Mr. Henry Wharton, Mr. William Henry Rawle, and Mr. John S. Newbold, of the Board of Directors. The inception and successful carrying out of the scheme was very largely owing to the zeal and untiring efforts of Mr. Wharton, whom the Library should ever regard as a benefactor.

In 1869, Dr. James Rush died, and the Directors were informed by his Executor, Henry J. Williams, Esqr., that the Library was made, on certain conditions, the devisee and legatee of his large estate, the Executor asked that immediate steps be taken to ascertain the decision of the Company. A special meeting was called June 29, 1869, for the purpose of considering "the propriety of accepting the devises and bequests in the will of Dr. James Rush." At this meeting nothing was done, but at an adjourned meeting, held October 19th, the legacy was accepted by three votes—the whole number voting being 597.

Under the will of Dr. Rush, certain limits were defined, as



Women's Room, Locust Street

to the site of the proposed building for the Library, but unfortunately, the Executor, Mr. Williams, had promised Dr. Rush, almost on his death bed, to build on the lot at Broad and Christian Streets, and felt obliged to abide by this promise. The members of the Company did not want the building to be in such an out of the way spot. Therefore, although they accepted the bequest, they brought suit to compel the Executor to build within the limits as laid down in the will. They lost: the Court supporting the view of the Executor, who at once began the erection of the building, which on the 6th of May, 1878, was handed over to the Library Company of Philadelphia.

In 1882, the Library was first opened on Sunday, since that time it has been opened every Sunday afternoon after one o'clock.

In 1884, the old library in Fifth Street was sold to Drexel & Co. and is now occupied by their banking house.

The same year the Library purchased the Chess Library of Professor George Allen.

In 1888-9, "Lea Hall," doubling the capacity of the Locust Street building, was erected by Mr. Henry C. Lea at a cost of fifty thousand dollars.

The "Andre' Collection" belonging to the late General John Meredith Read, was presented to the Library Company in 1889, by his family. It comprises a large mirror, which formed part of the decoration of the Wharton House at the time of the Mischianza; profiles cut by Major Andre' for Miss Rebecca Redman in 1778, of Captain Lullum Batwell of the 46th Regiment of Foot, and of himself; a ticket for the Mischianza, May 18th, 1778, with the invitation written on the back and signed by Sir Henry Calder, profile of Major Edward Stanley, of the 17th Light Dragoons, afterwards the twelfth Earl of Derby, and verses written to a German air by Major Andre' at the request of Miss Redman, January 2d, 1777.

The Anne H. Brewster collection, books chiefly relating to Italy, came into the possession of the Library in 1893.

In 1896, the Library received from the estate of the late Albert G. Emerick, a very valuable collection of books relating to music.

Mr. Henry C. Lea resigned from the Board of Directors

in 1902, and although he had already given the Library Company an addition to their building, he now gave them the sum of five thousand dollars to be expended as they thought best.

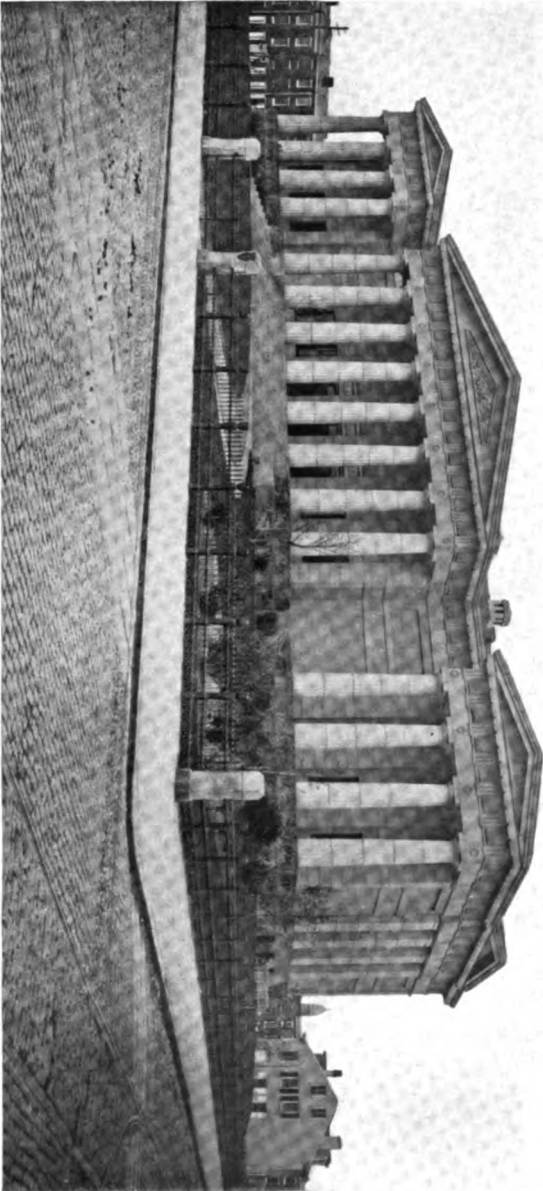
The valuable Sower collection was given in 1904, among other rare books are all the editions of the Saur Bible, the first to be printed in German in this country.

In 1908, the American Philosophical Society presented a medal which had been struck by the order of the Congress of the United States to commemorate the Two Hundredth Anniversary of the birth of Benjamin Franklin.

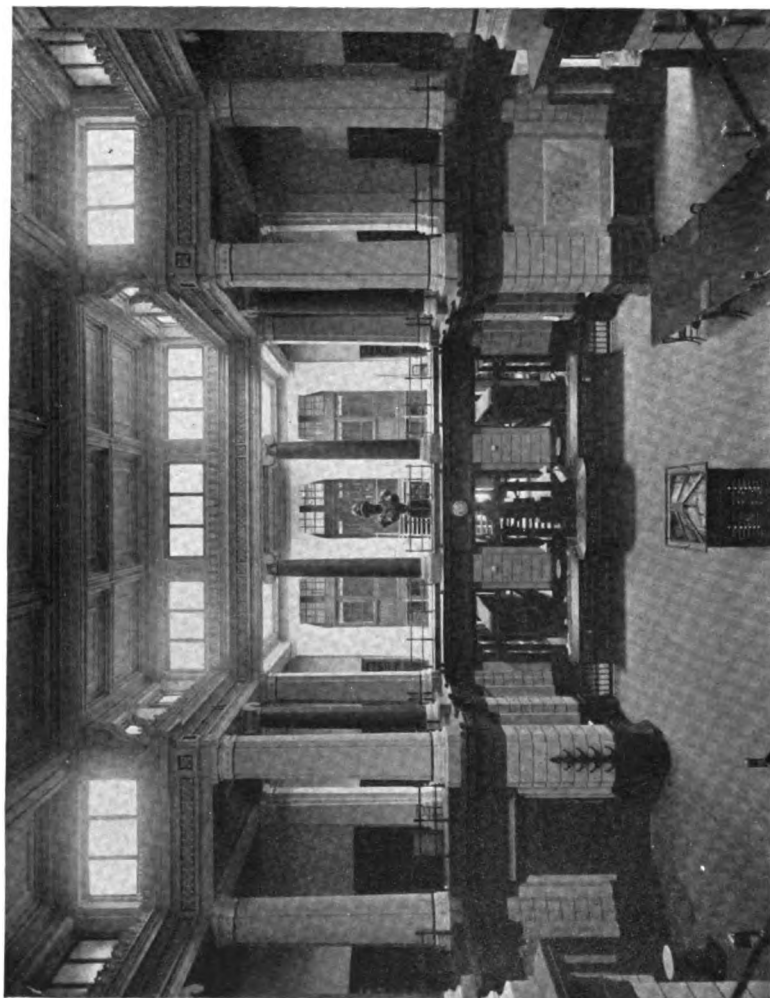
The motto of the Library Company is said not to be classical Latin, neither is it a quotation, most likely it was the work of Dr. Franklin. In the "Articles of Association" we find, "That for distinction sake, the subscribers in the Company aforesaid now and hereafter at all times are and shall be called The Library Company of Philadelphia, and shall have a common seal, with this device, two books open, each compass'd with glory, or beams of light, between which water streaming from above into an urn below, thence issues at many vents into lesser urns, and motto circumscribing the whole, 'Communiter bona profundere deum est,'" which freely translated means, "To distribute good things is an attribute of the gods."

We find in the annual report of the Library, May, 1912, that the total number of books, including the Loganian and the Ridgway, is two hundred and thirty-seven thousand, six hundred and seventy-seven. The books are about equally divided between the building at the northwest corner of Locust and Juniper, and the Ridgway Branch at Broad and Christian Streets. The Library has 909 members and many subscribers.

I entered the services of the Library Company on the 24th of June, 1863, a short time before the battle of Gettysburg. I was not quite sixteen and entirely ignorant of library work, which at that time was not thought, as it is now, to require any special training, and did not rank as a science as it does at the present time. As a matter of fact those who had been unsuccessful in other pursuits, broken-down clergymen, and others, were considered eligible for this office. This did not



Ridgway Branch of the Library Company of Philadelphia, 1878



Interior of the Ridgway Branch

apply to my preceptor, Mr. Lloyd P. Smith, who was by nature and education a scholar, a reading man, and somewhat of a writer. His father had been a librarian before him, and he himself had had charge of the Library since 1849, and therefore was well-equipped for his post. The Library force consisted of Mr. Smith, myself, and an old colored woman, Margaret Gibbs, the latter attending to the cleaning. After I had been at work for a few days, the invasion of the State by the Confederate Army caused much alarm, and all who were able joined the various companies of Home Guards and left for the scene of hostilities. Among them went Mr. Smith with the Germantown Company. The Library was closed for a week, and I on the inside could hear the remarks of discontented members, as they turned from the closed doors. At the end of the week, the father of the Librarian, came to town to try to fill the place of his son, not yet returned. The father had not tried library work for years, and I was almost useless, and as I look back, I pity the poor people who tried to use the Library at that time. Fortunately they were not a large number, the men most of them in the army, and the women too anxious to read. My efforts to find the books asked for, were so strenuous that many nights I had horrible dreams of looking on the shelves for books and not being able to find them. However, in time things were straightened out and all went most smoothly.

During the war we had a map arranged with colored pins to show the positions of the armies. The pins were altered from time to time and every day old gentlemen would come in to read the war news and compare it with the map. All of our visitors were not on the Union side, and some were what in those days they called "Copperheads." In fact we were in rather a non-patriotic position, to the north of us, in Chestnut Street below Fifth was the office of the "Age" a Democratic paper, at that time supposed to be more in sympathy with the South than the North. Its rear was in full view from our side windows and at times it would be very exciting, and frequently upon the news of Union reverses, a mob would form with the avowed intention of "tearing out" the "Age." This they never did, not even on the day following the assassination of Mr. Lincoln, one of the most exciting and at the same time melancholy days we have ever had.

It was my duty to run the flag up on occasions, this was rather perilous, as I had to straddle the peak of the roof; the day after the assassination we were so flurried that we forgot to put up our flag, however we were soon reminded of the omission by the cries of the people in the street. I hurried up the narrow stairs to the loft and the roof, crept out and began to hoist the flag, but in a short time was almost scared to death by hearing cries from the street of "put that flag right;" In my haste I had raised it, not at half mast, but with the Union down. It was quickly changed, you may well believe. Feelings were so strong in those days that one had to be careful not to arouse them.

At the time of the Sanitary Fair held in Logan Square, in 1864, the Library contributed its old clocks, books and furniture.

Mr. Lloyd P. Smith carried the Library through a most trying time during the four years of the Civil War with such admirable skill that I feel some note should be made of it. It was a time when our people were living at a high tension and were not giving much time to reading nor to the support of libraries. Money was scarce and prices high, and the problem at the Library was how to make both ends meet. This problem Mr. Smith solved; with economy in one direction and what seemed almost extravagance in the other, he managed in spite of the hard times, to buy the best publications of the day, and I am often struck with the fact when I have had occasion to use books of that period, that the Librarian of the "war time" had purchased wisely under very unusual circumstances.

The novels most in demand at this time were those of Mrs. Henry Wood, Miss Braddon, Miss Broughton, Charles Reade, Wilkie Collins, LeFanu and others, almost unknown to our present readers. There was some curious superstitions among the people of the neighborhood; one being that at midnight the statue of Benjamin Franklin over the front door came down, sat on the fireplug in front of the building and drank a mug of beer. Our colored cleaner was quite sure that from time to time she saw an old gentleman in knee breeches and cocked hat, wandering around the galleries, and on one occasion she declared he struck her niece who was helping her, with a cane, so that the poor girl had to go to

bed. For my own part, the only spirits I saw there were the rum and peach brandy used in making the Fish-house punch which we always had after our annual meetings and elections in May. This was the one day of the year we were sure of being popular; not only did our members come but they brought many friends and relations and the lawyer's offices in the neighborhood contributed their quota. Certain persons not understanding the power of Fish House punch, sometimes took a little too much. This did not seem out of the way in quiet old Fifth Street, of a late afternoon in those days, but when tried in the Locust street building, it was found after the second year that we must "cut it out"—the sun was too bright, the streets too full of people. The result was that we had to make up in proxies for those who did not come (the main inducement being removed) and now on election day some five or six people attend, the rest being represented by proxies.

I remember that for many years a profile of George II, together with a crown, both carved in wood and painted white, hung in the Fifth street building. These had originally been on the Second street wall of Christ Church. They were there before and through the Revolution, but in 1796, they were torn down by order of one of the Vestry, and thrown in the gutter. Zacheus Collins rescued them from this position and carried them to the Library, of which he was a member, where they remained until 1872, when they were given back to Christ Church, and can be seen now in their old position over the eastern window of that church.

Like all libraries we have our stories, repeated so often, that we believe them ourselves, but I shall be merciful in only relating one or two. We had in the Fifth street building, (it is now at the Ridgway Branch) a colossal bust of Minerva which formerly stood behind the Speaker's chair of the first Congress that sat in Philadelphia. It was made of terra cotta and six feet in height. One day a respectable colored servant came to the Library, and looking up said: "Mr. Smith, what is that?" "That, Sammy," said Mr. Smith, "is Minerva, the goddess of wisdom." Sammy with awe said, "Was she as big as that?" To have heard Mr. Smith repeat this story, which he did many times, and to have heard him laugh, was something to remember.

A man on one occasion wanted a book containing all the information of the Library in one volume. Some one asked for a book under the title, "Past, Present and Future." She wanted, "Yesterday, To-day and Forever."

When I first came, the Library hours were from ten until sunset; this made a long day in summer. The cataloguing was done by Mr. Smith, and later by me, and it was not until 1892 that we had a regular cataloguer. The Library force, three in 1863, is now (1912) twenty-two.

Queer people from time to time have made a practice of coming to the Library. I remember two in particular, one was known as the old Swede; he came every day for years, kept pen and ink in the John Dickinson reading desk, and appeared to be taking notes, all day busily writing, but strange to say, rarely asking for a book. Finally he came no more, and in the Dickinson desk was found only an old pen, some dried ink, and a roll of manuscript meaning nothing. The other enigma was a very tall, thin, pale-faced man, always dressed in shabby black, with a long crape scarf streaming from his rusty hat. He never spoke to any one but we thought the "weeper" on his hat had more to do with his political feeling and was worn for his country's woes. It is certain it was longer after the death of Mr. Lincoln. As time went on he grew thinner and thinner, and at times smelt strongly of assafoetida which it is supposed he took in place of food. It was reported from outside sources that he had been seen preparing to go to bed on a stall in the Spring Garden market. No one knew him, nor of him. He was certainly very poor, and in time he faded away.

The old rule of the Library—"Any civil person" to use the books is very little abused. It is customary to ask a person to leave if they have to be awakened twice, or if any evidence of "*Pulex irritans*" is observed.

A few of the rare books and collections in the Library:—

Biblia Sacra, printed by Sweynheim and Pannartz, the first printers at Rome, 1471; Pliny, *Historia Naturale*, on vellum, by Jenson, Venice, 1476; *Latin Vulgate*, Christopher Plantin, Antwerp, 1583; *Illuminated Choir Book* on vellum, about 1400; Caxton's *Golden Legend*, 1483; *The Recuile of the Histories of Troye*, printed by William Copeland, 1553, the bookplate

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tells us that this was part of the library of "William Byrd, of Westover, in Virginia, Esq'r;" *Augustinus Liber de Vita Christina*, printed by Fust and Schöyffer, about 1459; Fysshers on the *Seven Penitential Psalms*, printed by Wynkyn de Worde, London, 1508; Johannes Duns Scotus, *Super . . . Sententiarum*, Venice, John de Cologne and Jo. Manthen de Gherretzem, 1477; *Illuminated manuscripts; Heures Gothiques*, on vellum, by Anthoine Verard, Gillet et Germain Hardouyn, Guillaume Hardouin, Paris, 1503-1510; Eliot's *Indian Bible*. All the editions of the *Saur Bible*; Cicero's *Cato Major*, Phila., printed and sold by B. Franklin, 1744; Thomas Campanius Holm, *Kort Beskrifning om Provincien Nya Sverige uti America . . . Pennsylvania*, Stockholm, 1702; *Holy Bible, King James' Version*, London, 1611; *English Bible* printed by Grafton in 1539; *Statham's Abridgment*, printed by Richard Pynson, 1503; *Sacred Treatise on the Archangel Michael* in Ethiopic, manuscript, highly colored pictures; *Illuminated manuscript of the 15th century, Requiem Mass*; Plantagenet's *New Albion*, 1648; *Trial of Soldiers in His Majesty's 29th Regiment of Foot*, for the murder of Crispus Atticks (and others, killed in what was known as the "Boston Massacre") Boston, 1770; Whitefield's *Voyage from London to Gibraltar*, printed by B. Franklin, 1740; The *Abridgment of the Gardener's Dictionary* by Miller, with General Washington's book-plate and signature; Bradford's *American Mercury*, 1719-1745; *Pennsylvania Gazette* (Franklin's paper), 1728-1804; *Pennsylvania Packet*, afterwards *Poulson's Advertiser*, 1771, etc.; Pastorius' *Beschreibung von Pennsylvania*, Frankfurt, 1704; A large collection of *Broadsides of the "Enemy in Philadelphia,"* 1777-1778; A large lot of *play bills of early theatres in Philadelphia;*" and a *chess collection* said to be the fifth in importance in the world.

Among our valuable possessions, aside from the books, portraits, busts, clocks, and etc., we have an oil painting some eight feet long, in the vestibule, entitled, "A South East Prospect of the City of Philadelphia," by Peter Cooper, painter. It is supposed to have been painted in 1720, and is interesting as showing the houses on the water front with the names of the owners. It was found in a second-hand dealer's shop in London by the Hon. George M. Dallas and by him given to the Library. Another large picture hangs on the

gallery and has been called a "prophetic picture." It represents the Goddess of Liberty, distributing wisdom and instructing the blacks. A close examination shows that her arm rests on the Catalogue of the Library Company of Philadelphia. It was the gift and work of one Samuel Jennings of London.

We have John Dickinson's reading desk and the Heraldic Hatchment used at his funeral in 1808; a desk used by Penn at his manor on the Delaware; the machine used by Franklin in making his first electrical experiments. On the north wall of the building, outside, may be seen the corner-stone of the Fifth Street building, removed in 1888, and on the north wall, inside, will be found an old clock, made by John Child in 1832, to replace one destroyed in the fire. This Child clock, as I remember it in my early days at the Library, struck an alarm at sunset, which was then the hour for closing; and this would seem to be an appropriate place for me to bring this short sketch to an end.

DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS OF THE LIBRARY COMPANY OF PHILADELPHIA

Philip Syng,	{ 1731-1732 1734-1755	Joseph King,	1748-1749
Benjamin Franklin,	{ 1731-1757 1762-1764	Charles Norris,	1749-1752
Robert Grace,	{ 1731-1734 1739-1740	Amos Strettell,	{ 1749-1753 1754-1760
Thomas Godfrey,	1731-1735	Abel James,	{ 1749-1751 1765-1769
Isaac Penington,	1731-1732	Tench Francis,	1751-1752
John Jones,	1731-1735	Francis Allison,	{ 1757-1765 1772-1778
Anthony Nicholas,	1731-1733	Isaac Paschall,	1762-1763
William Parsons,	{ 1731-1734 1746-1749	Charles Thomson,	1762-1771
Thomas Hopkinson,	1731-1733	John Dickinson,	1762-1769
Thomas Cadwalader,	{ 1731-1732 1733-1739 1752-1769 1773-1774	Edward Shippen,	1763-1769
Hugh Roberts,	{ 1732-1746 1753-1754	Jacob Shoemaker,	1763-1768
Henry Pratt,	1732-1734	Joseph Sims,	1764-1766
John Nicholas,	1732-1733	Jacob Lewis,	1764-1769
William Maugridge,	1732-1733	Joseph Swift,	1766-1767
William Rawle,	1733-1737	Daniel Rundle,	1766-1769
William Coleman,	{ 1734-1742 1758-1763	Nicholas Waln,	1767-1771
Francis Richardson,	1734-1737	Thomas Mifflin,	1768-1770
William Plumsted,	1735-1740	John Kaighn,	{ 1769-1778 1781-1812
Evan Morgan,	{ 1735-1737 1740-1762	Josiah Hewes,	1769-1799
Charles Willing,	1737-1738	Joseph Paschall,	1769-1795
Alexander Graydon,	1737-1740	Michael Hillegas,	1769-1771
John Sober,	{ 1737-1738 1746-1749	Lindsay Coats,	1769-1771
Richard Peters,	1738-1739	John Morton,	1769-1770
William Allen,	1738-1740	David Evans,	1769-1770
Samuel Rhoads,	{ 1739-1769 1772-1774	Robert Strettell Jones,	1770-1782
Israel Pemberton,	1740-1742	John Drinker,	1770-1771
Phineas Bond,	1740-1742	Robert Tuckniss,	1770-1772
Joseph Stretch,	{ 1740-1751 1753-1766	Mathew Clarkson,	1771-1776
Samuel Morris,	1742-1762	James Biddle,	1771-1772
Jacob Duché,	{ 1742-1746 1748-1749 1761-1762	William Bettle,	1771-1773
John Jones,	1742-1746	William Moore,	1771-1772
John Mifflin,	1746-1758	Francis Hopkinson,	1771-1772
Lynford Lardner,	{ 1746-1748 1760-1761	Sharp Delany,	1772-1775
		Joseph Parker,	1772-1777
		Philip Benezet,	1774-1776
		Reynold Keen,	1774-1776
		Ezekiel Edwards,	1775-1778
		Mordecai Lewis,	{ 1776-1777 1780-1799
		Joseph Stansbury,	1776-1781
		Isaac Bartram,	1776-1777
		Benjamin Poultney,	{ 1777-1778 1793-1794
		Thomas Morris,	1777-1792
		Samuel Shaw,	1777-1780

DIRECTORS—CONTINUED

James Logan,	1778-1781	Henry J. Williams,	1842-1869
Thomas Parke,	1778-1835	I. Pemberton Hutchinson,	1844-1866
John Nancarrow,	1778-1783	David Lewis,	1855-1883
Richard Wells,	1781-1801	J. I. Clark Hare,	1856-1905
Isaac Wharton,	1782-1784	Peter McCall,	1857-1880
Richard Wister,	{ 1783-1792	Alexander Biddle,	1858-1870
	{ 1793-1821	Henry Wharton,	1862-1880
Benjamin Gibbs,	1784-1792	Henry Cramond,	1864-1884
William Rawle,	{ 1792-1798	S. Morris Waln,	1867-1869
	{ 1821-1825	James S. Biddle,	1870-1900
Samuel Powel,	1792-1793	Henry C. Lea,	{ 1870-1879
William Bingham,	1792-1793		{ 1887-1902
Benjamin Rush,	1792-1793	John S. Newbold,	1871-1887
Samuel M. Fox,	1793-1808	Casper Wistar,	1872-1888
James Read,	1794-1823	Fairman Rogers,	1872
Joseph P. Norris,	1795-1840	Edward S. Buckley,	1873-1910
John Bleakley,	1798-1803	S. Weir Mitchell,	1875
Robert Waln,	1799-1836	James H. Hutchinson,	1880-1889
James Gibson,	1799	Wm. H. Rawle,	1881-1888
Gideon Hill Wells,	1801-1803	Charles Platt,	1881-1909
Joshua Gilpin,	1803-1811	Francis W. Lewis,	1884-1901
Zaccheus Collins,	1803-1831	Craig Biddle,	1885-1908
George Fox,	1808-1829	Ellis Yarnall,	1887-1905
Samuel W. Fisher,	1811-1817	Horace Howard Furness,	1889-1904
Zachariah Poulson,	1812-1844	James B. Leonard,	1889-1900
Joseph S. Lewis,	1817-1836	Owen J. Wister,	1890-1895
John Read,	1823-1827	Isaac J. Wistar,	1896-1905
Benjamin R. Morgan,	1825-1840	George Harrison Fisher,	1900
Horace Binney,	1827-1840	David Pepper,	1900-1906
John Sergeant,	1828-1840	Henry C. Chapman,	1902-1909
Charles Chauncey,	1831-1840	Owen Wister,	1903
John Penington,	1835-1837	George Tucker Bispham,	1904-1906
William Smith,	1836-1861	Clement B. Newbold,	1905
Lewis Waln,	1836-1863	George E. de Schweinitz,	1905
William Rawle,	1837-1855	Charles E. Dana,	1906
Thomas I. Wharton,	1840-1855	Sydney G. Fisher,	1906
George W. Norris,	1840-1874	J. Percy Keating,	1906
Thomas Biddle,	1840-1857	John Cadwalader, Jr.,	1909
Edward Penington,	1840-1842	Horace H. Furness, Jr.,	1909
Joseph Hopkinson,	1840-1842	William J. Taylor,	1909
Charles Willing,	1842-1887	Charlemagne Tower,	1911

TREASURERS

William Coleman,	{ 1731-1734	Richard Hill Morris,	{ 1795-1798
	{ 1742-1757		{ 1804-1805
James Morris,	1734-1742	John Dorsey,	1798-1804
Joseph Morris,	1757-1766	Samuel W. Fisher,	1805-1806
Daniel Williams,	1766-1769	Zachariah Poulson,	1806-1812
Samuel Morris,	1769-1774	James P. Parke,	1812-1823
Joseph Hillborn,	1774-1775	Thomas Morris,	1823-1830
Samuel Sansom,	1775-1784	Edward Penington,	1830-1840
Samuel Coates,	1784-1793	John Jay Smith,	1840-1857
Joseph P. Norris,	1793-1795	Lloyd P. Smith,	1857-1886
		George Maurice Abbot,	1886

SECRETARIES

Joseph Brientnall,	1731-1746	Benjamin R. Morgan,	1792-1825
Benjamin Franklin,	1746-1757	William Rawle,	1825-1836
Francis Allison,	1757-1759	George Campbell,	1836-1855
Francis Hopkinson,	1759-1769	William E. Whitman,	1856-1876
John Hughes, Jr.,	1769-1770	Wm. Henry Rawle,	1877-1880
John De Mauregnault,	1770-1771	George Harrison Fisher,	1880-1901
William Attmore,	1771-1774	Owen Wister,	1901-1903
Andrew Robeson,	1774-1781	John Cadwalader, Jr.,	1903-1909
John Potts, Jr.,	1781-1782	Horace Howard Furness,	
Joseph Fawcett,	1782-1784	Jr.,	1909-1910
Samuel Sitgreaves,	1784-1786	James P. Hutchinson,	1910
William Rawle,	1786-1792		

LIBRARIANS

Louis Timothée,	1732-1733	Samuel Lobdill,	1777-1778
Benjamin Franklin,	1733-1734	John Todd,	1778-1779
William Parsons,	1734-1746	Bernard Fearis,	1779-1780
Robert Greenway,	1746-1763	Joseph Fawcett,	1780-1784
John Edwards,	1763-1764	John Todd, Jr.,	1784-1785
Francis Hopkinson,	1764-1765	Zachariah Poulson,	1785-1806
James Johnston,	1765-1768	George Campbell,	1806-1829
Ludowic Sprogle,	1768-1770	John Jay Smith,	1829-1851
John De Mauregnault,	1769-1771	Lloyd P. Smith,	1851-1886
William Attmore,	1771-1773	James G. Barnwell,	1887-1907
Charles Cist,	1773-1774	George Maurice Abbot,	1907
Francis Daymon,	1774-1777		

The corner stone of the old building at Fifth and Library Streets, which now is in the north wall of the Locust Street Library has the following names on it:—

Benjamin Gibba,	Josiah Hewes,
John Kaighn,	Mordecai Lewis,
Thomas Morris,	Thomas Parke,
Joseph Paschall,	Benjamin Poultney,
Richard Wells,	Richard Wistar,

being at that time Directors.

Samuel Coates, Treasurer.
William Rawle, Secretary.
Zachariah Poulson, Junior, Librarian.

1789.

