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SEVENTH BIENNIAL REPORT

(1891-92)

OF THE

MINNESOTA

HISTORICAL SOCIETY,

ST. PAUL,

TO THE

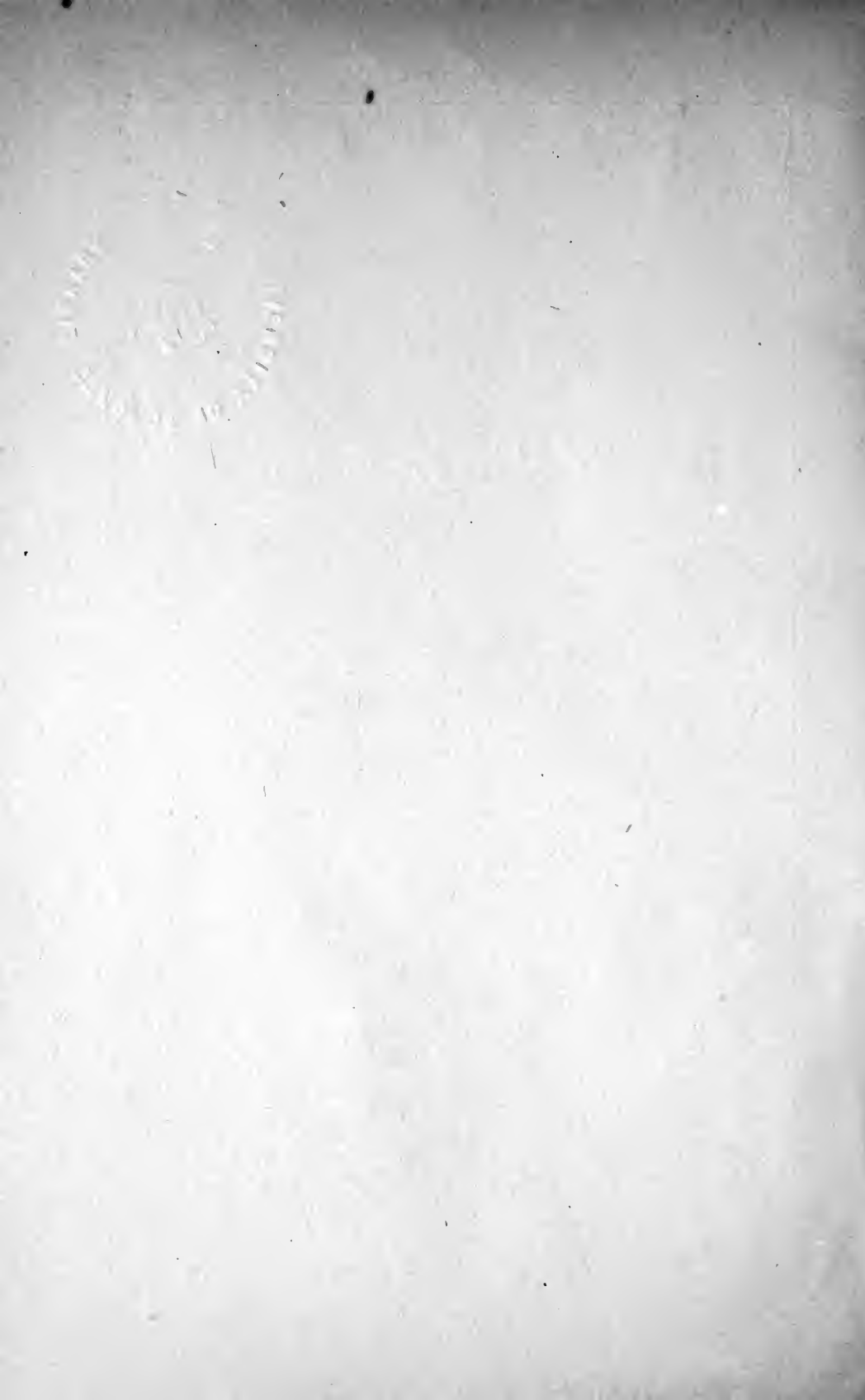
LEGISLATURE OF MINNESOTA,

SESSION OF 1893.



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HARRISON & SMITH, STATE PRINTERS.
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REPORT.

The Minnesota Historical Society offers herewith to the legislature of the State, and to its own members and patrons, this record of its work, and of its management of the trust imposed upon it by its charter, with a feeling of gratitude and pride at the prosperity which has been vouchsafed to it since the beginning of its career. In presenting the splendid record of our twenty-four months' work, and of its results, notwithstanding the many drawbacks with which we have been hampered and impeded in that work, we congratulate the people of our State, for whose benefit that work has been carried on, that their generous provision for our support has borne such good fruits, in the building up of an institution which, under Providence, has become not only useful to the citizens of the State, but an honor to the commonwealth, whose enlightened and liberal policy of support has so successfully fostered it.

ORGANIZATION AND OBJECTS.

As this report may fall into the hands of some who are not familiar with the objects of the society, it may be well to explain them at the outset of this recital.

The society was organized in 1849, by a few of the pioneers of the Territory, and incorporated by an act of the first territorial legislature, approved October 20, 1849, thus being the first literary institution organized in the Territory; and its "library," then only a few volumes, was the first ever established in Minnesota. The original charter of the society stated its objects to be: "The collection and preservation of a library, mineralogical and geological specimens, Indian curiosities and other matters and things connected with, and calculated to illustrate and perpetuate the history and settlement of said Territory." The amended charter of 1856 enacted: "The objects of said society, with the enlarged powers and duties herein provided, shall be in addition to the collection and preservation of publications, manuscripts, antiquities, curiosities and other

things pertaining to the Social, Political and Natural History of Minnesota, to cultivate among the citizens thereof, a knowledge of the useful and liberal arts, science and literature."

The amended charter of 1856 also enacted: "The said society shall be allowed to receive by bequest, donation, or purchase, any amount of property, real or personal, and shall hold the same in perpetuity, as a sacred trust for the uses and purposes of said society, without in any manner mortgaging, or by debts encumbering such property now in possession, or thereafter to be acquired; nor shall any such property be liable, in any manner or form whatever, for any debt contracted by said society; and the real property now vested in the society, in the city of St. Paul, and the building hereafter to be located thereon, as a hall for the same, and the personal property of the society, shall be exempt from taxation."

Thus the Minnesota Historical Society was established to act as the trustee for the management and care of its property, for the use and benefit of the people of the State.

The work of this society may therefore be formulated thus:

I. (1) The Collection, (2) the Preservation, and (3) the Publication of materials for the history of Minnesota and its people.

II. The collection and management of a library containing useful works of reference on the most valuable departments of knowledge.

III. The diffusion among the citizens of the State, of useful knowledge.

It will thus be seen that important and responsible duties are laid upon this society. The following pages will show how we have discharged this trust.

LIBRARY INCREASE, AND PRESENT CONDITION.

The continual growth and prosperity of our library, is an occasion for gratitude on our part, and for some pride that our efforts and work are meeting with such success.

At the date of our last biennial report, Jan. 1, 1891, there were on our shelves, bound volumes, 19,205; unbound volumes, 22,157. Total, 41,362.

During 1891 there were added: Bound volumes, 1,497; unbound volumes, 1,680. Total increase, 1891, 3,177. Total in library, January 1, 1892: Bound volumes, 20,970; unbound, 23,837. Both together, 44,807.

During 1892 there were added: Bound volumes, 1,029; unbound volumes, 845. Both together, 1,874.

Making the total number of volumes in the library on January 1, 1893: Bound, 22,008, and unbound, 29,732. All together, 51,740.

The bound volumes acquired during 1891 and 1892 were from the following sources: Gift or exchange, 815; purchased, 866; by gift unbound, and bound by us, 533; purchased unbound, and bound by us, 312. All the pamphlets were gifts, except 204 purchased.

All the above books were duly catalogued, requiring the writing of 3,085 cards during 1891, and of 1,744 during 1892, making a total of cards in the catalogue January 1, 1893, of 52,606.

The foregoing figures are really encouraging. They show that we are steadily progressing, and that our institution is enjoying a fair share of prosperity, and is under good and judicious management. The growth of the library is one indication of that fact, and there are others, besides, as significant. One is, the great increase of the number of patrons of the library; the steady growing of the number of our donors; the enlarging of the value and usefulness of our splendid library, and the enhancing of the good will and confidence felt for us as a public institution; an institution organized and conducted for the benefit and use of the people of the State, from whose funds it draws its support.

The correspondence of the society is constantly increasing. In 1891, there were received 782 letters, and in 1892, 687. The letters written by the secretary were, in 1891, 793; in 1892, 850. These figures do not, however, include postal cards. Of the latter, there have been mailed, for various purposes, since January 1st, 1891, nearly 4,000. Letters are written to the secretary in great numbers, on many subjects, asking information on matters which sometimes have to be answered at considerable length, after no little research to procure the facts.

PRINCIPAL PURCHASES OF 1891 AND 1892.

The past two years have had a marked influence on our library, in the increase by purchases of valuable and rare books. We have steadily pursued our policy of securing such works as would enlarge and enrich our already extensive and strong department of *Americana*, and since our last biennial report, have made many and gratifying advances in that direction. Some mention of a few of the books which we have been fortunate enough to obtain, in that field, may not be out of place as show-

ing the kind of works which are sought by us to enrich our library, and render it more complete in the department of early American history.

Among them are a few rare books in Spanish, on the first voyages to the New World, and the earliest Spanish explorations. "Cartas de Indias" heads this list, a publication of the first documents, in the Archives of Madrid, on American discoveries, issued from the press in 1877, folio, costing us \$58; Navarette's work, *Coleccion de los viajes y descubrimientos*, 5 vols. Madrid, \$19; Padilla, *Historia de la fundacion y discursion de la provincia de Santiago de Mejico*, in folio, Paris, 1665, at \$34.50; *Historia de la conquista de Mejico*, by De Solis, 1829, 9 vols, \$24; also, *La historia del mundo nu vo*, by Benzoni, Venetia, 1572, \$8; Buckingham Smith's translation of the letter of Hernando de Soto, folio, \$18.40; HARRISSE's recent work, the discovery of North America, purchased, and placed in sumptuous Russia binding, by that artist of bibliopegists, Ringer, all costing \$29.50. The Amsterdam edition of Hennepin also follows, at the price \$12. Next Doniol's great work, "Participation de la France a l'Etablishment des Etats Unis d'Amerique," of which four quarto vols. have been placed on our shelves, at a cost of \$32.

The supplement to Allibone's Dictionary of Authors, the publications of the American Economic Association, four volumes, the Century Dictionary, and Collom's Biographical Dictionary of Graduates of West Point, three volumes, are among the other works acquired. Also, the Religious Encyclopediæ of Schaff and Jackson, Wilson's Ornithology, three volumes, in fine condition. Natural History of the State of New York, twenty-two volumes; Pinkerton's Collection of Voyages, 1808; Goldsmith's Voyages of the English Nation to America, before 1600; Sparks' Diplomatic Correspondence of the American Revolution, twelve volumes; Foster's Alumni Oxonienses; Russell's History of America, bought in poor binding, which we have had clothed in rich covers; Genesis of the United States, by Brown; Great Cathedrals of the World; Fiske and Winsor's Works on Columbus, &c., &c. Just as this report is being closed we received a valuable invoice from London, containing, among other rare works, Almon's Parliamentary Register, or History of the Proceedings and Debates of the House of Commons (and House of Lords), during the fourteenth Parliament of Great Britain, 1774-1780, seventeen volumes; cost \$21. This is a valuable work, covering our revolutionary period. We

have also added the recently published Colonial Records of North Carolina, in ten volumes, and a fine set of the Journals of Congress, from 1800 to 1813, a copy once owned by Col. Benj. Tallmadge, an officer of the Revolution.

One of the most valuable accessions of the past biennium, has been a complete set of the publications of the "Haklvyt Society," of England, 79 volumes in all, in perfect condition, costing us \$176. A quite full set of the Almanach de Gotha, from 1839 to 1891, may also be added to this class.

These are only a tithe of the scores of valuable volumes which we have added to our treasures during the past two years, and are not mentioned with any idea of boasting of them, particularly, but of simply showing the kind of books which we are trying to get by purchase, and the prices which we are paying. Most of the works mentioned are in fine condition, and generally in choice binding. There are several other classes of books which we have also bought largely of. Among these are county histories, city histories, atlases of counties and of cities, atlases of states, local histories, works on the rebellion, travels in the United States, works on the North American Indians, on the American revolution, war of 1812, the Mexican war, and on American biography. And we should give, also, a prominent place among our desiderata to American genealogy, long one of our leading specialties, and in which we have had such splendid success.

Our Library Committee give the most vigilant attention to the catalogues of dealers in books, both in America and Europe. We buy regularly from nearly a hundred dealers, in most of the principal cities in the United States, and also in Europe. And we have generally been quite successful in getting our orders filled, making in many cases, good hauls of rare and desirable books, and at prices which are very satisfactory. Thus, by our vigilant watch of the book marts of the old and new world, and getting the choicest tidbits of the catalogues, we are steadily enriching our collection, and building up a splendid and valuable library. Still, it is slow work, selecting the books from a hundred sources, here and there, over a dozen countries, and among a hundred dealers, of several different tongues. It requires a large amount of correspondence and a close oversight into the catalogues, a minute study of bibliographies, and a good share of experience regarding the best editions, the probable desirability of the copy, the price, etc. We do not get, usually, many rare prizes in a year,

but by perseveringly "sticking to it," and promptly siezing the offered gem in season, we have made quite a good record in the line of successful buyers.

The limited means at our disposal, must explain why we do not increase faster by purchases than we have, though our gain from that source is nevertheless, respectable. Our outlay for books, maps, &c., the past two years, has been as follows: 1891, \$1,776; 1892, \$1,593. Since 1868, the year in which we commenced to purchase, we have expended in all, \$24,278.89 for purchase, and \$6,001.26 for binding. In view of our somewhat circumscribed finances, this is a very satisfactory showing, yet we cannot help wishing it were better, as we are placed in a sort of rivalry with other libraries, whose means enable them to far outdo us in securing the prized books for which each must seek in the book markets. The catalogues which we receive are crowded with desirable books, but we have to pick sparingly from those rich bills of fare. Libraries with longer purses generally take the plums. Our distance from the markets is another drawback to our better success, and also the fact that everything we buy, has to be selected from catalogues, and we do not have the advantage of personal inspection. Yet, with all these drawbacks, we have had a very gratifying success in securing rare and desirable books. In some orders, indeed, we have met with instances of remarkable good luck.

We are building up a library designed to contain useful books for the information of the public, and not to gratify any hobby, or carry out any idea. A book is valuable only, generally, for what can be got out of it. There are, of course, special collections which we ought to make, but for the present we content ourselves with laying out our money to the best advantage, so as to produce the best results for the least outlay. As there are first rate public libraries in each of the two cities, amply furnished with funds, and buying largely of popular works, it seems useless for us to go over the same field, or ground traversed by them, but we should endeavor to purchase books not sought after by them, so that the libraries of the two cities will thus cover a wider range of reading, than if all gleaned over the same field,

In some sense, we must confess, that our regrets that we cannot purchase more books, are useless, as elsewhere in this report, we dwell quite forcibly on the growing want of room in our apartments, and to the fact that very soon we will have absolutely no more space to shelve books. Still, it behooves

us to seize every chance to secure a valuable or rare book that comes within our reach, and if we cannot give it a place on our shelves, to pack it away in a bin, and wait for a more enlarged space for our library, where we can expand our bibliothecal treasures to the full of our bent.

GIFTS OF BOOKS, MAPS, MANUSCRIPTS, ETC.

We have to acknowledge, with real gratitude, the receipt, from an increasing list of donors, of a large and very valuable collection of books, pamphlets, maps, manuscripts, and other similar articles of library property, many of them of decided value, and all interesting and desirable. By this generosity and good will of our annually increasing *clientele* of patrons and collaborators, our library is receiving, continually, a steady stream of accessions, which is building up an institution of which the people of our State may be proud. We can, however, only designate some of the largest and most important of these contributions:

Dr. Samuel A. Green, of Boston, Mass., whose generous and well selected gifts to this library for some years past have made his name familiar to the readers of our reports, continues his liberal contributions to our library, having given, since our report two years ago, fifteen bound volumes and 424 pamphlets, all of real value, and forming a most acceptable gift. Prof. Thos. H. Kirk, of St. Paul, a member of our executive council, has made us his debtor for forty-seven bound volumes and 171 pamphlets. R. O. Sweeny, of Duluth, also a member, sends us 173 bound volumes and 178 pamphlets, besides 1,080 numbers of scientific and natural history periodicals, which we have bound into volumes, and which forms a much prized addition to our library. J. Fletcher Williams, our librarian, has donated thirty-six bound and ninety-three unbound volumes.

From the Sibley estate, the devise of the testator, we have received fifty-two bound, and a number of unbound volumes, many of them of great value. Among them are six volumes of Porter's Spirit of the Times, a well-known sporting paper, published in New York, about forty years ago, and to which, for some years, Gen. Sibley was accustomed to write papers about field sports in the Northwest, some of which were afterwards copied into works on that topic, and rank high in the field of literature. Hon. Alex. Ramsey, president of the society, gives us 256 pamphlets, on national and political subjects. Hon. John D. Ludden also gives 139 pamphlets. H. H. Young,

St. Paul, gives 158 bound, and 134 unbound volumes. Prof. Theo. H. Lewis, the archæologist, sends us three bound and 111 unbound volumes, including a complete set of his own valuable writings on archæology. Hon. Albert S. Gatschet, the learned scholar in ethnology and Indian philology, of Washington city, has given us numerous pamphlets of his writings, and Mr. J. C. Pilling, of the Bureau of Ethnology, lays us under obligations for copies of his valuable works on bibliography of the Indian tongues. Wm. H. Grant, of St. Paul, one of our members, has contributed forty-one volumes of miscellaneous works, and also seventy-four volumes of that valuable serial, the New Hampshire Register, from 1812 to 1892, which Mr. Grant purchased expressly for this society, during what the eminent Dr. Dibdin would call "a bibliographical, antiquarian and picturesque tour" through his native state, to gratify his well known propensity for "browsing" into rare and curious things. This is a treasury of New Hampshire history, and sets so complete as the one given us, are very rare. Several of the officials of that state gave much aid to him in his efforts to pick up the more rare numbers. Mr. Grant also found, in his searches, in the depositories of historical material in Concord and other places, a set of that rare and valuable old journal, the New Hampshire Patriot, reaching from 1809 to 1856, in seventeen volumes, bound, and having succeeded in enlisting the interest of Gen. John B. Sanborn, and of Hon. Greenleaf Clark, both members, these three gentlemen generously contributed a sufficient sum to purchase the set of newspapers, and donated them to our society. We prize them very highly. Prof. Theodore H. Lewis gives us a very rare and interesting volume which he found in an old book store in a small town in this State. It is a volume of pamphlets published against Andrew Jackson, dating from about 1823 to 1832, furiously denunciative of "Old Hickory," and all of them very rare and curious. The volume is probably worth \$50.

Rev. John Wright, of St. Paul, whose studies on early American printed bibles is mentioned elsewhere, has given us a copy of the very rare German bible, printed by Christopher Saur, one of the first printers in America, issued from his press at Germantown, Pa., in 1776, and in a state of fine preservation. So rare is this edition of Saur's bible, that this copy is one of only eleven, in the libraries of America. Dr. Wright has also added to the above gift a copy of the very rare New Testament also printed by Saur, in Germantown, 1795. For these

generous tokens of Dr. Wright's good wishes for this society, we extend especial thanks. From Mrs. Geo. T. Barr, of Mankato, Minn., we have received a finely preserved set of the account of Lewis and Clarke's expedition to the western coast, 1814, the best edition published of that work. Also, the London edition of Catlin's Indian Tribes of North America, in fine condition. We return sincere thanks to the donor for these valuable works. From the Pennsylvania State Library, we have received fifty-one bound volumes of state documents, and from the state library of Michigan, nineteen bound volumes. Hon. C. H. Smith, our state insurance commissioner, gives us nineteen bound volumes, and also several thousand numbers of insurance periodicals and magazines, which had been received in his office, dating from 1886 to 1892. The latter we have had bound into twenty-nine large volumes, and they form a very valuable collection on the subject to which they relate. Prof. H. W. Slack, St. Paul, gives us forty-nine pamphlets; Hon. L. G. Powers, labor commissioner, five bound volumes and fifty pamphlets. Frank Henderson, Kalamazoo, Mich., gives sixty-eight pamphlets, proceedings of secret societies; Irving Todd, Hastings, Minn., forty-seven pamphlets; J. L. Helm, of St. Paul, thirteen volumes, directories and gazetteers; Thomas Montgomery, grand secretary of the various Masonic grand bodies, in Minnesota, six volumes of the proceedings of said bodies. Hon. Charles F. Johnson, of Duluth, sends us thirty-five pamphlets and one bound volume. Mr. W. A. Burt Jones, formerly of St. Paul, now of Helena, Mont., contributes a memoir, written by the donor, of his great-grandfather, John Rice Jones, the first practicing lawyer in Illinois, and also twenty-seven interesting pamphlets on the resources of Montana. From Mr. Don N. Norris, Minneapolis, we have received twenty-three bound and thirty-five unbound volumes, and from Mr. Eben S. Martin, same city, twelve bound and 112 unbound.

Two large and handsomely printed quarto volumes have been presented to us by two firms in this city, the C. W. Hackett Hardware Company, and the Farwell, Osmun & Kirk Hardware Company. Each of these costly and elegant volumes are gratifying evidences of the enterprise and liberality of the mercantile class of this city. The contents exhibit their stocks, and are illustrated by thousands of engravings.

Gov. Wm. R. Merriam has presented us with the sumptuously printed volume of the Centennial celebration of the inauguration of President Washington, in New York, in 1891, a rare piece of the printer's and engraver's art, gotten up at great expense. Mr. Henry M. Knox, of Minneapolis, gives us a sort of companion volume to the foregoing, a volume devoted to reproducing all the known engravings and paintings of Washington, and gotten up in the most elegant style, with biographies of the various artists whose works are embraced in the volume.

Gen. John B. Sanborn, a member, has procured for us from his own files, and by gift of another valued member, Judge Nelson, of the United States district court, a complete set of the briefs printed for the famous Middlings Purifier Flour Suit, which among other things, gives a complete description of the new process of flour making, as now practiced in the manufacturing cities of Minnesota, and which has wrought such a revolution in that great industry. Perhaps not more than three or four of these complete sets, which fill four large volumes, are in existence.

Rev. E. C. Mitchell, of St. Paul, has presented us with 18 volumes of city directories. From the Republican National Committee we have received 32 of their documents of the campaign of 1892, and from the Democratic Central Committee, a similar gift, 22 pamphlets. The American Protective Tariff League also donates to us 51 pamphlets. From the Department of the Interior we have received 76 volumes of the regular government documents. To Hon. W. D. Washburn, our senator, we are indebted for the set of the Congressional Record, for the past session, 8 volumes. The St. Paul Dispatch Printing Company also lays us under obligations for a copy of their elegantly printed volume of St. Paul and its Resources, while the Minneapolis Journal Company also generously send us a similar souvenir volume relating to the City of Minneapolis. From Capt. Benjamin H. Randall, of Winona, we have received a newspaper history written by himself of the Siege of Fort Ridgely, in 1862, which we have mounted in pamphlet form for preservation. Maj. T. M. Newson, our consul at Malaga, sends us a number of Spanish newspapers. Hon. M. K. Armstrong, of St. James, a member, gives us two large scrap books of cuttings relating to Dakota Territory, covering the period that the donor was delegate from that region in Congress. Col. John H. Stevens, of Minneapolis, also lays us under obliga-

tions for an elegant set of Gifford's "History of the Wars Occasioned by the French Revolution," a very rare and interesting work, printed in 1817.

Of maps, we have received several valuable ones. Mr. Edward Corning, of St. Paul, gives us an atlas of the world, date 1821. From the war department, we have received a number of maps intended to illustrate the battles of the rebellion, and to accompany the great series of volumes now being published by the government, on the official reports of the two armies. From the U. S. Geological Survey, we have received twelve maps. Mr. Brower, the commissioner of Itasca state park, gives us a copy of his elaborate map of the Itasca basin. And we have secured by purchase, a new and complete atlas of Minneapolis, as also one of St. Paul, the latter in two volumes, both just issued. For our regular library use we have purchased a new copy of Cram's atlas of 1892.

In manuscripts, we have some accessions which are quite notable. Mr. J. J. Dillery, of St. Paul, gives us a manuscript book kept by a fur trader, at Traverse de Sioux, on the Minnesota river, in 1840-42, containing the accounts of the Indians of that locality with him, and illustrating the peculiarities of the fur trade, in a very interesting manner. Among the accounts with Indians there recorded, we find one with the afterwards famous, or rather infamous Ink-pa duta, the cruel and desperate leader of the Spirit Lake massacre in 1857. On closer examining the curious volume, and comparing it with manuscripts known to be those of Martin McLeod, the well-known pioneer of Minnesota, it was found that the book was one kept by him while a trader at Traverse de Sioux, and a manuscript dairy kept by him at that time, which we secured subsequently, proves this fact. The book in question, was found at Fort Snelling, by the donor, while serving there as a soldier.

Mrs. Carli, the well-known pioneer of Stillwater, contributes a valuable manuscript written by E. Walcott, another old settler of the St. Croix valley, relating to historical events of the long ago in that locality. Mr. E. S. Radcliff, of Duluth, gives us an interesting manuscript. Rev. R. M. S. Pease contributes an autograph album, with many interesting autographs. Mr. A. J. Hill gives us a manuscript sermon preached on fast day, 1808, but we fear the donor omitted to read it prior to sending it to us. Hon. M. K. Armstrong, of St. James, a councilor of this society, has given us a manuscript dairy of Harney's ex-

pedition against the Indians in Nebraska, in 1857, kept by Capt. Todd, of the U. S. Army. It is illustrated with manuscript maps and forms quite a valuable addition to our historical material.

Hon. R. C. Judson, of Farmington, Minn., gives us two interesting autographs of two eminent American statesmen, Jackson and Webster, being letters written by them to Mr. Judson's father. We have had them framed.

One of our objects of collection has always been, gathering the published works of Minnesota authors. These will be very valuable in future, as materials for writing the literary history of our State. Our collection of these productions of the pens of our home authors, is pretty fair, but by no means complete, as it is difficult to keep the record of additions to the list, and undoubtedly there are quite a number of books by Minnesota authors issued from the press, of which we have no record whatever. But we design to continue our efforts to complete our set, until we have secured all of them. During the past two years, we have added a few. Among these are the delightful volume of life reminiscences by Rev. Augustin Ravoux, the pioneer missionary, full of valuable historical facts relating to early Minnesota history. Hans Mattson, formerly our secretary of state, has written a volume of personal reminiscences of pioneer days, entitled, "Minnen" published both in the Swede and English tongues. Dr. Melville C. Keith, of Minneapolis, has published 5 volumes of medical books, useful to all classes of readers. H. W. Holley, formerly a well known resident of Minnesota, but now a denizen of Spokane, Wash., sends us four interesting volumes of his writings, two of them, in verse. Hon. Hanford Lenox Gordon, has also wooed the muse, by the publication of a meritorious volume of verse, entitled, "The Feast of Virgins and Other Poems." Mr. Edward L. Fales, of St. Paul, has essayed the same perilous path, in a pleasing brochure entitled "The Pillars of the Temple."

Mr. C. A. Stevens, of Shakopee, has published a well-written history of Berdan's corps of Sharp Shooters, and Mr. Alonzo L. Brown, another Minnesotian, has published a valuable history of the Fourth Minnesota volunteers. Rev. John Wright, D. D., of St. Paul, has recently given to the light, an exceedingly interesting and instructive work, entitled Early Bibles of America, which has met with a cordial reception from the scholars of the country. Dr. W. is already contemplating a second edition, greatly enlarged. Our own assistant libra-

rian, J. B. Chaney, has published a very complete and well written history of Acker Post, G. A. R., of St. Paul, an accurate record of an honored institution.

The Dispatch Company, of St. Paul, have issued a large and finely illustrated volume, descriptive of this city, and containing numerous biographical sketches of old settlers, with their portraits, while the Minneapolis Journal Company has also issued a like volume for the city named. Handsomely executed atlases of Minneapolis and of St. Paul have been published, and also an atlas of Morrison County, Minn. The junior classes of nearly every one of our colleges have issued a junior annual, which are fine specimens of the typographical art, and the matter is well gotten up. Mr. Donnelly contributes another volume to his list—a brochure entitled “The Golden Bottle,” to punish him for which, most probably, Mr. E. W. Fish has written a biography of the disbeliever in Shakespeare, entitled “Donnelliana.” The State Military History Commission have published a handsome volume on the part which Minnesota took in the war for the Union, and also its Indian war. Hon. C. B. Elliott, of Minneapolis, contributed to the “Green Bag” a law periodical published in Boston, two well written papers, giving memoirs and portraits of the Supreme Bench of Minnesota. Prof. T. H. Kirk, of St. Paul, has also published an able treatise on “Elements of Civil Government of the State of Minnesota,” from the press of the Merrill Publishing Company.

Quite a number of breezy and sketchy books, written by Minnesota authors, within a few months past, have been published by the printing house of Price-McGill Co. Mr. Franklyn W. Lee, one of our rising young journalists, has written three clever ones; “A Shred of Lace,” “Senator Lars Erikson,” and “Two Men and a Girl.” Miss Minnie L. Armstrong, “A Study of Marriage.” By Oscar F. G. Day, “A Mistaken Identity.” By M. E. Torrance, “Hildegard’s Campaign.” By Clementine B. Allen, “The Last Delamar.” By S. S. Morton, “A Little Comedy of Errors.” By Jeanne M. Howell, “A Common Mistake.” While Mr. Squier L. Pierce, of St. Paul, has given to light a very readable book entitled “Di.”

There are undoubtedly other meritorious works written by Minnesota authors, within the past two years, that we have not secured the titles of, but the above list at least shows an increasing literary activity in this community. A new and ably-conducted magazine, called the “Literary Northwest,”

from the house of the Merrill Co., has been established within a few months to act as a medium to the growing literary taste of the great Northwest.

Will not our friends and patrons aid us in our endeavor to collect and preserve all the productions of Minnesota pens? It is a work which appeals to our state pride, and is a worthy object.

HISTORICAL MANUSCRIPTS ADDED.

Since our last report we have added to our store of manuscripts, some of much value and interest, relating to events or persons of Minnesota history. One of the most important of these is a manuscript diary kept by Martin McLeod, the fur trader, as far back as 1837, and containing many thrilling recitals of adventures undergone by him in the pioneer days. Our secretary copied this valuable manuscript in full, and will, whenever his time permits, prepare a chapter or two from its pages for one of our future volumes of collections. The trader's account book kept by McLeod is mentioned elsewhere. We have also been presented by the venerable missionary to the Dakotas, Rev. Samuel William Pond, whose death occurred some months ago, with two manuscript volumes of the Dakota-English and English-Dakota Dictionary, which was the joint work of himself, the late Dr. S. R. Riggs, and of the late Gideon H. Pond, compiled by them in the early days of their missionary labors, and of which they each had a copy. We also secured by the bequest of our late president, Gen. Henry H. Sibley, a manuscript volume of the English-Dakota lexicon, written for the donor, by Dr. Riggs, about the year 1835 or 1836, probably to aid the general in learning the Dakota tongue. This volume is neatly written and bound, and is an interesting relic of our pioneer days, as well as of the writer and the donor of the volume. Still again we have to acknowledge the gift of a manuscript volume of the Dakota dictionary, evidently an exact copy of the volume given us by Mr. Pond. This manuscript was found by Mr. A. E. Messenger, an old settler, in a house occupied by him at Kaposia, and which house had been used as the old mission house by the Methodist missionaries, Kavanaugh and Pope, who occupied the same during their labors among the Indians, in the years 1838-1841. Mr. Messenger found the volume in an attic of the house, where it had been placed many years before by its owners and forgotten. Thus this society now possesses three manuscript copies of the Dakota lexicon, written by our

reverend missionaries, at the beginning of their self-sacrificing labors for the conversion of the savages. We prize very them highly, too.

Rev. Samuel W. Pond also prepared during the last few years of his life, although much of the time suffering from infirmity, a very full and valuable work on the religion, customs, daily life and superstitions of the Dakota race, with which he had mingled so many years, and knew as thoroughly as any other missionary who ever dwelt in such close contact with them. This work he wrote in response to an urgent request from Mr. Williams, secretary of this society, in the year 1871, who believed Mr. Pond had peculiar fitness for writing such a work, and that it was a duty that he owed to his fellow men to place on record his extensive and accurate knowledge of the red man. The work was completed but a short time prior to his death, and the manuscript is in the possession of his son, Samuel W. Pond, Jr., of Minneapolis, who has kindly promised us its use whenever we are desirous of publishing it, which we have resolved to do, as soon as we can make the necessary arrangements therefor. This work will make a volume of perhaps 500 pages, and will beyond doubt be found to be the most valuable and entertaining work on the Dakota race which has ever been penned. We are anxious to see it in print.

During the past year Andrew R. Tully, late of New York, who was one of the family, three members of whom were murdered by the Sioux near Grand Forks, in the year 1823, and who, with his infant brother, John Tully, were taken captive by the savages, and were rescued soon after by Col. Snelling, died in New York. The events narrated are of great interest, and our secretary has accumulated enough material to form a memoir of the Tullys, which it is our intention to insert in our next volume of published collections.

From Herman Haupt, Jr., of Chicago, a corresponding member, we have received a manuscript account of his exploration of the old rifle pits used by the Ojibwas, on the Mississippi river, opposite the mouth of the Crow Wing, in attacking a raiding party of Sioux, and another paper giving valuable descriptions of aboriginal implements and fabrics.

The late president of this society, Gen. Sibley, left at his death, a very large and valuable collection of correspondence, papers, manuscript books, etc., which relate to events in the Northwest, back as far as 1826. A more interesting set of private papers covering that period, has not, perhaps, been pre-

served by any one connected with the events themselves, and it was with much pleasure that we heard that his heirs announced their intention to donate them to this society. There are perhaps thousands of them, embracing autograph letters from prominent pioneers of the Northwest, of whom doubtless the only autographs in existence are those in this collection. As soon as the family and private letters can be separated from the others, which task is in progress by his sons, the manuscripts will be placed in our hands, and they will be mounted in file books and properly indexed. This set of papers will form a most valuable addition to our manuscript collection, and cover much the same period as the Taliaferro manuscripts, spoken of in previous reports. In this connection it may be remarked that those papers have been bound into four volumes, and carefully indexed.

Another very valuable set of autographs has recently been given us by Col. John H. Stevens, the well known pioneer of Minneapolis, consisting of over 800 letters, of pioneers and public men of the State, reaching back to the period prior to the Mexican war. These contain a vast amount of data for the early history of Minnesota, the Indian war period, and the political movements of pioneer days. When arranged and indexed, as they will be soon, the Stevens Papers will form one of the most interesting departments of our materials for Minnesota history.

Mrs. Carli, of Stillwater, the first female settler in the St. Croix Valley, has sent us a manuscript relating to early days on the St. Croix, accompanied by a relic of the sanguinary contest of Battle Hollow. Mrs. Elizabeth T. Ayer, now of Belle Prairie, Minn, contributes a manuscript written by herself, giving facts regarding the history of the Pokegama Mission, of which we had not been hitherto in possession. Mrs. Ayer also contributes a very entertaining manuscript account of the early days of the Red River Settlement. A short time since, the Society purchased from Mrs. Eli Pettijohn, an old resident of this State, a lengthy manuscript written by her father, Philander Prescott, one of the oldest fur traders of the Northwest, whose recollections reached back to a period prior to the building of Ft. Snelling. This manuscript details thousands of incidents of the long ago, biographical facts regarding early pioneers, of whom we had had no other data hitherto, and a large amount of valuable information regarding the Sioux Indians, with whom Prescott lived many years, and

marrying a member of the race. As soon as the manuscript can be revised and annotated by our secretary, it will be published in our collections.*

Some progress has been made to record the lives of our earliest pioneers. Our secretary, recently, secured materials for a complete memoir of Hazen Mooers, one of the earliest fur traders in Minnesota, which has been written up and placed on file. He also wrote a full biography of the late Alpheus Robert French, at the time of his death the oldest living settler in the State, who came to Ft. Snelling in 1826, and was a veteran of four wars. He has been prevented from giving as much attention to this important department of our work, by the fact that the rapid increase of the library work so taxes his time, as to leave but little for purely historical research in the field mentioned.

HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM.

During 1891-92, we have received a considerable number of valuable contributions to our museum, some of which are interesting and instructive. One of the truly historical relics, given to us by Caleb Horsford, of Rich Valley, Minn., is an U. S. musket, once carried by a Sioux Indian, who was killed at the battle of Wood Lake, Minn., in 1862, by Nich. Kessel, of the 7th Minn., vols. Mr. C. E. Sawyer, St. Paul, donates a fragment of the rope with which Goheen, the murderer, was hung at Fergus Falls, 1891. J. F. Williams, adds to our collection, an iron arrow head, which was shot into the body of a member of Brackett's Battalion, during a fight with the Sioux on the Missouri river, 1864, and was withdrawn by a comrade, after the wounded soldier's death, who afterwards gave it to Mr. Williams. Mr. W. also gives several relics from the battle field of Ft. Henry, and Ft. Moultrie, and five flint weapons, from

* We give, below, an incident of early days, as a specimen of Prescott's reminiscences. It narrates a scene at Fort Snelling in 1825;

During the last Spring, a duel was fought between Lieut. Hunter and Col. Snelling's son, Joseph. The Colonel heard that the parties had gone out to fight, and sent a guard out and stopped them. The parties moved off, and the guard went home, and the combatants met in another place, and exchanged shots. Snelling had the end of his five fingers shot off. This ended the strife, and they went home. Some time after this, another duel was fought between Lieut. Baxley and Capt. Leonard. They fired some six or eight shots apiece. Lieut. Baxley got one shot the most. Capt. Leonard's second had forgot to cock his pistol, but Lieut. Baxley missed fire. Seconds interfered and tried to reconcile matters, but nothing would or could be done satisfactorily, and at it they went again. I believe the eighth shot Lieut. Baxley's ball struck Capt. Leonard in the corner of the eye, near the temple, but did not kill him, although it came very near it. Lieut. Baxley had 32 ball holes through his clothes, that did not draw blood once. Capt. Leonard was sutler for the fort. He was boarding with Lieut. Baxley, and was a very wicked man, and it was for some bad language used by him before Mrs. Baxley that brought on the trouble.

Dover, Tenn. From Herman Haupt, Jr., of Chicago, a corresponding member of the society, we have had the gift of a number of relics of the mound builders, gathered by himself from mounds in Wis. and Minn. during extensive researches made in those states. From Mr. D. C. Fritsch, of St. Paul, a stone hammer, found in Pipestone county. Hon. S. R. Thayer, of Minneapolis, U. S. Minister to The Hague, sends us three bronze coins, or medals, which were stricken by the Kingdom of the Netherlands, in commemoration of historical events. Robert Inglis, of Bayfield, sends us a pack saddle, which was used by the surveying party which ran the line of the Northern Pacific railroad, across the continent, in 1871. Hon. Wm. R. Marshall donates a reminder of Minnesota's wild cat currency days, in the shape of \$1 bank bill of the State Bank of Austin, Minn., date 1858. Maj. T. M. Newson, our U. S. Consul at Malaga, in Spain, sends a curious Spanish coin, stricken for a historical memento; also, several packages of Malaga daily papers.

Mr. Leedom Sharpe, of St. Paul, contributes a framed lottery ticket, dated Philadelphia, 1804. Hon. Moses K. Armstrong, adds to our museum a chair and desk, once used by himself in Congress, from 1861 to 1865. The Wyoming Historical Society of Wilkesbarre, Pa., gives us a medal stricken in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the Wyoming massacre. Hon. Alex. Ramsey, several admission tickets to the Republican National convention at Minneapolis, in 1892.

Mr. Henry Hunt Snelling, of Cornwall, N. Y., sends a pair of colonel's epaulettes, worn by the late Col. Josiah Snelling, during his army service from 1810 to 1826. Two rare coins also accompany the epaulettes.

Several valuable and interesting additions to our picture gallery have also been made since our last report. Mrs. H. W. Haines, of Newport, Minn., donates a handsomely executed oil portrait of Gen. John C. Fremont, made during his candidacy for the presidency of the U. S. in 1856. This fine likeness was painted by Mr. Francis G. Haines, a young American artist, whose ability gave promise of a brilliant career, but was prematurely terminated by death before he had attained the full zenith of the fame he could have won, had his life been prolonged. Capt. Russell Blakeley, of St. Paul, the old and valued member of this society, gives us a handsome and faithfully executed painting of Fort Snelling, made about 1851, by an artist whose name is not now recalled. Mr. Snelling, whose

gift of the Snelling epaulettes was noted above, has also made our society his debtor by a gift of framed portraits of Capt. James Snelling, U. S. A., (a son of Col. Snelling), and of the donor, H. H. Snelling, and of his wife, Mrs. Anna L. Snelling, the authoress. The portraits of Capt. and Mrs. Snelling are water color paintings and have evidently been executed by a skillful artist. Mr. Snelling, himself, the donor, was for many years a talented artist, but at a later date lost his sight entirely and is now at an advanced age almost destitute. We tender him, in connection with our very grateful thanks for his generous gifts, our heartfelt sympathies in his affliction. In addition to the above portraits, Mr. Snelling also sends two elegantly executed medallions of Henry Clay and Daniel Webster, executed by the well-known artist, D. F. Jones, of New York in 1850. They are handsomely framed.

Hon. C. H. Smith, state insurance commissioner, gives us a framed portrait of the late Ex-Gov. Miller, and an autograph of the same. From the family of the late Elias F. Drake, a member of this society, we have received his framed portrait. Mr. Richard Gesel, of Alma, Wis., has also sent us a framed group picture of the early settlers of Buffalo county, Wis. Mr. E. A. Bromley, of Minneapolis, contributes a group photographic picture of citizens. From Prof. Winchell, we have received two photographs of the explorer Nicollet. From Mr. Charles E. Mayo, vice president of the society, a photograph of himself. From Mr. D. W. Wellman, of Frazee, Minn., a photo group picture of the great industrial parade at Minneapolis. From Mr. B. F. Irvine, St. Paul, a photo group picture of old settlers of Minnesota. Mr. S. S. Eaton, Jr., St. Paul, gives us a valuable and rare steel engraving by Boydell, of the circumcision, after Guido Reni's great painting. Mr. J. F. Williams gives two interior photographic views of the rooms of the Minnesota Historical Society. The directors of the World's Fair, Chicago, have sent us a fine and striking chromo-lithograph view of the fair grounds. E. C. Starkey, St. Paul, gives a framed ornamental roll and souvenir of the junior pioneers of Ramsey county. Mrs. C. T. Whitney, of St. Paul, gives a daguerrotype view of St. Anthony Falls, taken by the late Charles T. Whitney, an early artist of this state, in 1852. From C. E. Mayo, we have a steel engraving of St. Paul in 1853. Hon. Charles E. Flandrau has contributed five photographic views of the Memorial Battle Monument recently erected in New Ulm, in honor of the siege of that town by the savages

in 1862. Mrs. Angelina Hinckley, now of Mankato, (formerly Mrs. Henry Jackson, of St. Paul) has sent us two drawings, one of the old log cabin in which the first post office in St. Paul was held, in 1843, and the other the first post office building in Mankato.

Mr. Charles M. McCluer, of Stillwater, is now having painted by the artist Carling, of St. Paul, a life-sized portrait of his father, the late Wm. M. McCluer, for many years a judge of the district court of the first judicial district, which we hope to have on our walls soon. Mr. Henry L. Moss, of St. Paul, has also ordered of Carling, a life sized portrait of himself, which we will have in hand soon.

Mrs. Abigail Sharpe, of Spirit Lake, Iowa, who is better known as Miss Gardner, the Indian captive of the Spirit Lake massacre of 1857, contributes to our collection three photographs of scenes and persons connected with that historic event. Mr. Charles Zimmerman, of St. Paul, the well-known photographic artist, sends us a fine photo of the old city hall, in this city, which was demolished in 1891. Mr. C. M. Burton, Detroit, Michigan, sends us an engraving of the Steamer Walk in-the-Water, the first steamer on the northern lakes.

FURTHER REMARKS ON OUR MUSEUM OF HISTORICAL AND ARCHÆOLOGICAL CURIOSITIES.

Our museum department perhaps increases more slowly than any other of the sections of our collections. The reason of this is the want of room to store, and especially to display, the curios belonging to it. At present it is displayed in small and unsuitable cases, and in a portion of the rooms where the light is very deficient, so that it is difficult for visitors to see the relics. There is absolutely no more space to place any more show cases, and practically, our museum work is at a stand-still for the present. This is unfortunate, as we could do such useful and valuable work in this department if we had the space to devote to it. We are continually offered desirable curios, but are compelled to decline them, as we are not in possession even of storage room at present. In fact, we are afraid that we will soon be compelled to lay aside our museum entirely, to give place to book cases, as our space is becoming quite exhausted.

At the date of the disastrous fire which so nearly destroyed our entire possessions, (March 1, 1881) we lost a museum of historical and archæological curiosities of great extent and

variety, which we had been years in gathering and many of whose relics were entirely unique. They represented the weapons, costumes, implements and ornaments of the Indian tribes which once occupied this State, and was a very well-selected collection of the kind. There were also a quantity of mound builders' relics and objects showing the early life in this region. This fine museum, worth at least \$10,000, was entirely lost; not by fire merely, but by theft of the throng which, under pretense of aiding the saving of the specimens, carried off the finest of them, hardly one of which was ever recovered.

This is the more unfortunate, as we are able to now replace the lost specimens only to a partial degree. When we gathered them, the red races were still with us, and their implements, weapons, etc., were plenty. Now, the native races are almost extinct in this State, and it is difficult to secure good specimens of their fabrics. Thousands of articles, illustrating their life and customs, have been siezed by eager tourists, and been taken to enrich the collections of eastern states, while our own is but poorly supplied with them. And, even if we now had the means to replace our lost collection, we have absolutely no space, to give it a resting place, in our contracted apartments.

At one time, it would have been easy to have made extensive and rich gatherings regarding the aborigines, and especially in the line of personal sketches of their chiefs and noted warriors. Such accounts would, at some day, have been read by those who follow us, with the keenest interest. But the want of means to carry out such a plan, prevented the society from doing this to any great extent, and thus a great quantity of irreplaceable information, was lost. Nearly every one who formerly knew the principal dignitaries of the two tribes which once occupied our State, are now dead, and thus that source of information is cut off. Even some materials on this interesting topics, which had been collected by our secretary, were destroyed by the fire of 1881.

But a few years ago, the "Red River Cart," a once familiar object to the old settler, were as plenty as grasshoppers, almost. Now, it is an "extinct" species. Only one specimen of that curious piece of architecture, is known to exist in this State, and is preserved as a relic of our early days, which it certainly is. A Red river dog sledge, which we had, was burned up in the capitol fire, as also a very handsome birch bark canoe.

About the period of our last biennial report, Mr. H. H. Snelling, whose appreciated gifts are mentioned elsewhere, offered to this society a sword, once owned by his father, Col. Josiah Snelling, and which was carried by him undoubtedly at the battle of Tippecanoe, and during the movements of Hull's army at Detroit, and in Canada, in 1812. The sword had also revolutionary associations, having belonged to Col. Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, and was undoubtedly carried by him in that memorable struggle. Subsequent to the revolution, he gave it to Col. Snelling, in whose possession it remained until his death. Mr. Snelling offered to sell this historical weapon to this society for the sum of \$1,000, saying that he much regretted that he could not donate it instead, but that poverty had so pressed him, owing to total blindness, that he did not feel able to make such a gift. As the society had no funds to make such a large purchase, it was agreed to request the legislature, then in session, to make an appropriation for its purchase. A bill to that effect was introduced by Hon. John B. Sanborn, a member of this society, and also a member of the Minnesota state senate, and its passage advocated by the mover with great earnestness. The measure would have been adopted had not the great pressure of business toward the close of the session, prevented the senate from reaching the bill on its file. It is the intention of the society to urge its passage again, at the approaching session, and it will then undoubtedly meet with success.

Hon. Moses K. Armstrong, now of St. James, Minn., and who was delegate from Dakota Territory from 1871 to 1875, donates a relic of congress of those days, being the desk and chair used by him during his membership, the halls having been refurnished in the period of his service.

Despite the fact noted above, that the portion of our rooms devoted to the museum are very poorly lighted, and crowded, the number of persons visiting it is surprising. It indicates the throng which would resort there, if our apartments were convenient and well lighted. And it is as well that no more visit it, as the cabinets are in such close contiguity to the reading room, that the noise of the conversation of the sight-seers disturbs the readers very much, sometimes. Our rule, conspicuously posted up, "no loud talking," is not much observed by the tourist class, generally. In the projected building which we hope to occupy, ere long, there must be a spacious hall devoted to the museum, entirely, or to that and our picture

gallery in common. As it is now, much time of our librarians is taken up by acting as "showmen," a demand that cannot be well evaded oftentimes, but it is found that much time can be spent in answering questions of no great importance, asked by those inspecting our rooms and its contents.

Some of the curiosities of the present day, though not much value now, will, in the future, be priced at sums that we can hardly imagine. A few weeks ago, a person exhibited in our rooms, a badge printed on silk, faded, that was worn in 1832, by a member of a whig club. It had a medallion of Clay, and the motto, "Protection to American Industry." This badge is valued at \$50. So, many of our curios will reach fabulous prices in future years.

Mr. A. L. Heikes, proprietor of the Lake Review, Osakis, Minn., claims to have the first printing press ever brought to Minnesota and on which the first number of the Minnesota Pioneer, in 1849, was printed by James M. Goodhue. Mr. John C. Terry, of St. Paul, who worked on the press in the above year, says it is the genuine Goodhue press. Mr. Heikes offers it to this society, for sale, but we now have no room to keep it on exhibition.

OUR NEWSPAPER COLLECTION.

Our newspaper department has grown with surprising rapidity since our last report. It has attained proportions that give us pride and satisfaction. If this society had never done any other work than collect our remarkable library of newspapers, it would have entitled those who achieved it, to the everlasting gratitude of the people of the State, and repaid the latter for every cent of its outlay. There are but few collections of newspapers in the Union, which are larger and more valuable than ours, and certainly none where more care and attention is bestowed on the collection and preservation of the issues of the press. Gentlemen from other states, or connected with other libraries, visiting this one, have been loud in their praises of our newspaper collection, and the systematic manner in which it is conducted. And one of our Minnesota journalists wrote to us: "The publishers of Minnesota owe you a great debt for your care in these matters."

Since our last report, our department of newspapers has increased greatly. We have added 322 bound volumes to it. Our total number of volumes now is 2,353. This is a direct result of methodical and vigorous efforts to collect them. Finding

that, notwithstanding our repeated solicitations to newspaper publishers in a general way, to send us their papers to preserve, that there were still many which we did not get, we determined on a more systematic mode. Manuscript letters to the number of over two hundred were written by the secretary, one to every publisher in Minnesota, whose address could be obtained, and they were informed of the efforts we were making to make our collection complete, and also informed as to the value, to themselves, of having a complete file of their journals preserved in a fire proof vault where it would be absolutely secure from destruction by fire, as many publishers lose their files by fire, and thus every copy of their paper perishes. These efforts were rewarded by a generous response from the journalists of the State. A steady increase of the number of papers sent us began, and continued until we had more than doubled our list. The following will show the increase during some months; July, 1890, 135; Sept. 25, 1890, 196; Oct. 20, 1890, 240; April, 1891, 303; May 19, 1891, 321; November 14, 1892, 355; thus will be seen the result of well directed efforts to interest the newspaper publishers in the value of having their files kept in a safe depository.

THE WORK ENTAILED BY THIS DEPARTMENT.

The large increase of our newspaper department, however, proportionally increased the amount of work necessary to properly receive and care for them. The labor of the assistant librarian, who has charge of that department, was more than doubled. Indeed, it became necessary for him to devote almost all of his time to that work. The portion of our rooms where the newspapers are cared for, became crowded with the new stacks of "pigeon holes" rendered necessary for so many new papers. This also threw on the chief librarian additional duties, which his assistant had formerly performed, but could not now do. The object in mentioning these apparently unimportant details, is only to show the amount of our time and efforts, which the newspaper department has caused us to expend.

The amount of labor which has to be spent on this department would hardly be understood by any one, except one who has had some experience in that work. The flimsy nature of the paper used by newspapers now-a-days, has been referred to in our previous reports. Its quality is steadily deteriorating, and a considerable proportion of the newspapers which we take, reach us in a very dilapidated state, being torn, and some

very badly so. All these must be carefully repaired with transparent paper, and this, where there are so many, consumes a great deal of time. Then many of the papers, especially the large dailies, which consist of several leaves, reach us badly registered, so that if bound in that shape, the edges of the printed matter would often be cut away. They have to be taken apart, often by saturating the paste, straightened out, and repasted and refolded. Then, many times, numbers are missing. These *hiati* are carefully noted, and a card is addressed to the publisher requesting another copy. Often this meets no reply, and a second request must be sent out. Monthly, in the case of the dailies, the files must be collated, and, if complete, tied up in packages. At regular intervals they are dispatched to the bindery. On the return from the binder, each volume must be carefully examined to see whether the papers are all fastened securely, and arranged in the proper chronological order. This description of the various processes that the papers have to go through, will give some idea of the amount of time which has to be expended on our newspaper department.

During the earliest days of the society its want of means, and of apartments to preserve a library, prevented it from gathering newspapers just at a period when, if we had them now, they would be of priceless value. Still, our collection of those days is, nevertheless, a fair one.

THE VALUE OF OUR NEWSPAPER COLLECTION.

But its great value fully compensates for all that outlay of labor and money. Had we done no other work than this, in return for all our expense, the money would have been well expended, and the gatherings collected well worth the outlay. We have accumulated a collection of material for the history of the State and its people, that could, by no means, be at all approximated, and which must forever be unique and of priceless value. The cost, whatever, it may be, is not to be weighed against the incalculable value of the collection. And it may be remarked, the papers, excepting three from outside the State, are all sent to us free, thus saving us an outlay of many hundred dollars, and constituting a gift of that much to the people of our State.

When the incompleteness of our files is commented on by searchers, our librarians are accustomed to remark, that the wonder is, rather, that we have anything, considering the fires, and other casualties which we have endured.

If, in years to come, any one finds fault with us that our files are not complete, we are not to blame for the defects. We have used every possible exertion to get them all.

It is easy to perceive how valuable our newspaper volumes will become in a few years, simply because they will be the only files of most of the papers in existence. Perhaps many of them are worth \$100 each at the present time, and this value must enhance as years go by. In libraries all books that are "unique," that is, of which there is no other copy in the world, must become priceless. Most of our newspaper volumes are of this kind, no other copy existing. The prices of old newspaper files are sometimes very extravagant. As much as \$150 have been paid for volumes of revolutionary papers. There are many of our unique files, which, a century from now, will be priced at the same figure.

No other department of our library is so much used as the newspapers, and serve such a variety of needs. They are in daily use and for an infinite variety of purposes. The varied nature of their contents explains this. They are the most complete chronicle of the times. They record everything. A century or so ago, the papers had but meagre supply of news. Now they are insatiable in their pursuit of it. And the ability and vigilance with which they are edited, make them valuable and complete chroniclers of current events. There are innumerable facts of all kinds, which are only recorded in newspapers. If any reader of this report has imbibed the idea that old newspapers have no value, he should serve a short term in a library like this. The kinds of information for which they are searched are sometimes very curious, and show the useful nature of their contents. Many instances could be narrated of these occurrences, which would be very interesting, but a single one must suffice:

In 1856, Mr. Thomas B. Hunt, a young and able man, was a representative from Scott county, in the Minnesota legislature. While stopping in St. Paul, at the American House, he was married to a young lady who was also a boarder there. At that period, there were no records kept of marriages, but fortunately it was published in one of the city papers. Mr. Hunt subsequently enlisted in the Fourth Minnesota Vols., and after the close of the war was commissioned a captain in the regular army. Years passed away. It became necessary for him to have some legal proof of his marriage. Capt. Hunt was, in 1886, stationed at Washington. He wrote to the secretary of

this society, stating the fact of the publication of the marriage, in March, 1856, and requested that the secretary search for the advertisement among our files of newspapers, and if found, make a certified copy of it and send it to him. This was done, the advertisement found, and the certified copy sent to Capt. Hunt. It undoubtedly filled the purpose for which it was sought. It might be added that Capt. Hunt died in the service a few months ago.

The generous assistance given to us by the publishers of Minnesota, in sending to us their files free, deserves the acknowledgment of the people for whose benefit this gift is made. The interest taken in our work by them, is creditable, and shows that they appreciate the efforts we are making to preserve the results of their own work. Many of them, convinced of the advantage of having their files preserved so safely as we are doing it, have sent us their back volumes, for us to keep securely.

MUTILATION OF NEWSPAPER VOLUMES.

All libraries have had reason to complain of the mutilating of newspaper files, by persons using them. This class of books seems to be exposed to that kind of mutilation, more than any other. To such a degree has it sometimes reached, that libraries have been compelled to provide that no newspaper volume could be used by any one, except in the immediate presence of an attendant. It is not possible to enforce such a rule in this library at the present time, however, as our working force is too limited. At one of our meetings, not long ago, a member gave an account of the destruction, by a party who was interested in destroying the evidence contained in a newspaper advertisement, which affected the title of valuable property, of every copy of said advertisement in all the files of the paper containing it. Our own was one which suffered from this shameful plot. There is a statute law severely punishing such an offense, but its commission is so easy, if secretly managed, that it is not easy to prevent it. Other means, more dishonorable, are resorted to, to accomplish the same end. Not long ago, a person offered our librarian a bribe of fifty dollars, if he would turn his back a moment and not see the party tear from a newspaper volume, a leaf containing an article which he wished to obliterate.

THE LARGE USE MADE OF NEWSPAPER VOLUMES.

On various occasions persons have spent several weeks in searching our newspaper volumes for some needed information. One young lady, an employe of some office, spent many days searching for an advertisement. Rev. Dr. Tanner, the historian of the Episcopal church in Minnesota, has carefully searched perhaps 150 volumes. Prof. Goodhue, of Carlton College, searched perhaps seventy-five of them for material to prepare a history of the State Teachers' Association. These are but few of the many instances which serve to illustrate the value of our newspaper collection as a great depository of valuable facts. We have received, a thousand times, the warmest expressions of gladness from persons who have found, after searching for them, facts of great value to them.

Searchers into newspaper volumes generally complain at the time they have to spend in fruitless searches. The want of indexes is generally commented upon. It is refreshing to know that one library, at least, has means to index their newspapers. That is the Massachusetts state library, which has recently received from the state treasury, \$12,000 for indexing their files.

In addition to our Minnesota journals, we have quite a number of others, some of them over 200 years old. We only subscribe for three dailies outside our own state, respectively at New York, Chicago and San Francisco. This is done for the purpose of getting the views of other sections, and of more fully recording their history. Our only regret is that we have not the means to subscribe for a large number of these papers in the principal cities of the union. In a few years such a collection would become of untold value. From inquiries made by our librarian at a number of other libraries in different states, he gained the idea that libraries, generally do not give enough care and effort to collecting papers. A few of the best libraries, well equipped with funds, do so, but it is feared that a large proportion of journals published disappear entirely, not a file of any completeness being saved, in secure manner, for the use of generations who are to follow, and who will search in vain for the newspaper records which have not been saved.

During the past two years, our librarian made a very interesting collection of newspapers, from almost every country in the world, where they are published at all, by securing the aid of our U. S. ministers and consuls. Many of these are very curious and interesting, and give a good idea of journalism in foreign lands.

The total number of bound volumes of newspapers which we have now, is 2,353. Our fire-proof vault is crowded to its utmost capacity, and we are devising an additional vault, to be constructed under the main hall and front steps of the capitol building. This would hold about 1,000 more bound volumes, and might last until a new building for our use, is constructed.

In closing our remarks on our newspaper department, we take this occasion to thank the publishers who have so generously contributed their journals to our library, and by this enlightened policy, built up in our State, such a splendid monument to their own profession, and such a notable record of our own times.

THE INCREASING USE AND USEFULNESS OF OUR LIBRARY.

The use of this library is extending with rapid proportions. Our *clientèle* of patrons, and of users of our collection, increases daily, and for an also constantly increasing number of subjects of study and investigation. The library is used equally by the citizens of the two cities, and the people of all the State, indeed, resort to it for information, because in many towns of the State there is no library, or no good one, and those wishing extensive research on any topic, must seek a library where the supply of works covering the field in which they wish to make investigations, is quite complete. On every thing relating to State history, archives, statistics, proceedings of societies, or bodies, as well as the great body of facts such as can alone be found in newspapers, those desiring that information, must resort to this library. The cities are now brought so near together by cheap and rapid transportation facilities, that as far as the library advantages are concerned, the libraries of one are used interchangeably with those of the other. The students of the state university use this library very freely, sometimes coming in considerable groups, especially when some special thesis or topic is given to them to study, and it is requisite to seek our alcoves to find the needed text books on said topic. Sometimes these visits of parties of students tax the attendant force of the library to its utmost, as we are not well prepared just now, either as regards our staff, or reading rooms, to accommodate many investigators at one time, but in no case have our patrons been unable to get the works, or material, necessary to pursue their studies with. It has been a pleasing fact that we have been able, from our stores of treatises, and works on special topics, to extend to scholars the helping hand so often, and with such fruitful results.

Our library has also been extensively used by the scholars of the St. Paul high school, by those of Hamline university, and of Macalester college, all three located in this city, in cases where they needed books on certain topics which could not, in the very nature of the case, be furnished by the libraries of their respective institutions. Many of the inquiries made and searches undertaken, were upon unusual and peculiar topics, which our catalogue, complete as it is, did not throw much light on, and had to be furnished by the librarian, by dint of his familiarity with the material in the library, and information regarding out-of-the-way things, after laborious search. The use, by the students of four institutions of learning in our vicinity, shows the value of such a collection in this central location, and the necessity of more fully than it has yet been, being supplied with means and resources to meet such imperious demands on its facilities, and enable it to carry on its work in a better manner than at present.

The University Extension movement has also increased the number of seekers after facts and knowledge on various useful topics, and the Chautauqua courses of study has likewise influenced a still extended circle of readers to resort to our stores of published lore. Reading and historical clubs have also been established. All these facts point to the growing importance of public libraries, while they forcibly make felt the insufficiency of the equipments and resources of nearly every library in our State.

Another large class of readers have been evolved from the two societies—the Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution. These are spoken of more fully in another place.

Still, it cannot be denied that the scholar class is not yet a very large one, in a community like this, where almost everybody is under the thralldom of toil for the necessities of life, and have but little spare time for studying. In eastern communities, on the contrary, where there is more inherited wealth, and it might be truly said, more inherited culture and taste for research, the reading and investigating class is much larger. Still, there are evidences that it is steadily growing here, as our continually increasing list of readers shows. Those who now frequent our library, do so mostly for a specific purpose. They are in pursuit of some definite information, or following the lead of some hobby. But few come for promiscuous reading, or to read simply for pleasure. Only one case of the latter fell under our observation—that of a young lady, who read,

volume after volume, two complete sets of popular magazines, though why she spent so many hours, days even, in frequenting our not very comfortable or attractive rooms, when she could have borrowed the same books at the circulating library and taken them home, was a problem we could never solve.

We are impressed with the belief that the Spartan comforts of our reading room (or the little corner of space which we have dignified by that pretentious name) rather represses the desire of readers to come again to our rooms, than entices and encourages them to repeat their visits. Were our apartments somewhat more pleasant and wholesome, it is safe to say that we should find our rooms much more thronged with visitors. But they are quite unsuited for library purposes. They are dark in most portions, the ventilation—well, there is simply no ventilation. The air is necessarily impure, stiflingly hot in winter, and cold and damp in summer. Not many would be attracted to regular attendance under such surroundings.

Still, we ought not to complain at this, as every library possibly, in the days of early development, may have to pass through such a period of effort to overcome untoward surroundings. The St. Paul library also labors under somewhat similar drawbacks. Every library ought to study how to increase its patrons, so as to extend the benefits and use of the library as much as possible. We would gladly do so, but it is difficult to effect as good work in our present quarters as if they were larger. They are growing more and more confined, every day, as our library grows and our space does not increase.

THE LIBRARY AS A SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION.

The value of the public library, as a school of instruction, is not sufficiently recognized, except perhaps by those who, like the librarians themselves, see the instances of it so often. The encouragement of young people to take advantage of its benefits, should be kept steadily in mind by instructors and parents. Libraries have been fittingly termed the "universities of the people." Their doors should be as widely opened as possible. Young people should receive every encouragement possible, and all facilities be given to them which are within reach. Many of our readers are young people, and the librarian gives them every possible chance to get any information which they may seem to be in search of, although their ideas of what they really want are often quite vague and unformed. But everything available is always pleasantly put at their disposal, as freely as if they were the most important persons in the realm.

Our museum, although quite limited in variety, and poorly lighted, attracts large numbers of the younger classes of our community. The noise of the ingress and egress of these juvenile visitors, their loud talk, and the fact that they invariably leave the door open, either in going or coming, and especially so in the coldest weather, does not altogether make their patronage desirable, to some of our readers, but we bear it patiently, because our duty is to do so, for the benefit of the class mentioned, whose wants are so great, and whose advantages so limited. The throwing open of museums and art galleries for free visitation of the street juvenile class, is one of the most useful works of the education of the untutored young. It may awaken in the mind of some neglected youth, new and valuable ideas, which may be the germ of great development.

A careless boy, looking at the objects of a museum or at a painting, may have thoughts awakened in his mind, which may lead the way to his becoming one of the greatest scientists or artists of the country. The curiosity shown by the young folks, in visiting free museums, should be encouraged, not repressed. It should be turned into channels where it will lead to higher results. One cannot look at the groups of children attracted by the objects in our museum, without seeing the possibility, and the duty, of trying to lead their attention into the paths of study and investigation. They are an interesting study. Every little knot of these future citizens shows their varied origin. The flaxen haired descendants of the Northmen, the dark-skinned children of Italy, the well-known types of the Teutonic, the Slavic, and even the African races, are all mingled in every group which seeks the privilege of seeing the curiosities in a public museum. Still, we have not now the facilities, nor the room, to make our exhibition of historical and archaeological curiosities so free as we would wish. In the larger and better edifice, arranged for those purposes, which we hope to have in the future, that can be all provided for. But now we can only sow the seed of our coming harvest. The street gamin who cautiously approaches the desk of the librarian with the inquiry: "Mister, haint you got no books about pirates, or killing Injuns?" is only stepping in the first tracks towards the evolution into a reader and scholar. This feeble desire to read, to learn, must be encouraged, and supplied with the proper food. Libraries and museums here find their real work.

THE INCREASING IMPULSE FOR RESEARCH.

The renewed attraction toward research and historical studies, is one of the characteristics of the times. Never, at any previous period, has the impulse towards investigation and research been so marked. All the libraries find indications of this awakened thirst for study, the most marked of which is in the field of history. We live in a prying and investigating age. The systematic study of history has taken a new advance. In all our American universities, a greater attention to this branch of learning is being cultivated, and the libraries of the country are being laid under contribution, as never before. The best materials for research and study are sought for, and new subjects are continually pressing for recognition. Broader fields for the cultivation of scholars, in the lines of political economy, social science, the relations of man to man, and of man to the state, are daily being unfolded, and every possible fact or data bearing on them is brought to the light, and spread to the world through the printing press. Scholars, and authors, and thinkers, no longer follow the old ruts, but advance into new paths of thought. Thus, the demands upon the resources of libraries, is increased to a great degree, and lays upon them a larger work in providing books that will be useful to the scholars of the new schools, and aiding them in their studies. In this library, the demand for works in the higher grades of thought, and in the more advanced reaches of investigation, has been largely increased, and leads us to realize, more than ever before, how insufficient are our means, and our facilities, for keeping abreast of the increasing wants of scholars, and students. Our departments on many subjects of knowledge, should be largely increased.

The term "history," in a library, includes a great range of subjects. Its scope embraces a number of topics, some of them quite widely separated in point of analogy. The number and different kinds of books which may be included under the head of history, would astonish any one who had not given the subject much attention.

There are occasional instances of searches being made that give an idea of the usefulness of some of our works. For instance, we have a very complete collection of the Adjutant Generals' reports of the various states, during the war period. They have been of incalculable aid to seekers after pensions, widows and others, in searching the names and records of old soldiers. Sometimes the clues to the soldiers recorded are

very slight. A person came here once to get the record of a relative, of whose military history the only thing known was "that he served in a Pennsylvania regiment." It was thus necessary to search the printed rolls of that state from end to end, of the 366,107 separate enlistments, a task which took one person several entire days.

THE COLLECTION OF SERIAL REPORTS.

One of the departments of our work, which requires more time and exactness than any other, is that of collecting serials—that is, the annual reports of bodies, societies, or corporations, and all other regular publications, which are issued from the press at stated intervals. The importance and value of this portion of our collections, is a sufficient justification for the labor laid out on it. The vast number of annual, (or more frequent) reports of the innumerable boards, commissions, bureaus, societies, secret orders, institutions of learning, and science, etc., etc., all of which are so valuable, and so almost impossible to get after some time has elapsed from their publication, renders necessary vigilant and prompt systems for collecting them at the the time of their issue.

We have now, on our list of these serials, the names of more than five hundred sources of issue of such publications, to which we apply annually, or oftener, for their reports, and make every effort to have the sets of the same complete. Thus can then be readily seen the amount of labor which this one department entails on our librarians, but so important is the work mentioned, that it repays all the outlay of time expended on it. There is no other way to secure these perishable issues of the press, than by seizing them at the time of their appearance, or very soon after. After a very few months, or even weeks, elapse, they become so hard to obtain, and disappear so entirely, often, that only great outlays of money or time, would secure them.

It is a fact well known, that societies and institutions do not make any systematic effort, generally, to keep sets of their own reports, or other publications, and thus, a few weeks or months after their publication, to find a copy would involve a costly search. In such case, the only copy accessible, would be in a public library, such as our own, and it is this fact that shows the value of our system, of collecting them promptly and systematically. So quickly do these fugitive issues of the printing press disappear, that there are many cases where every copy of some of these serials has disappeared, and no

evidence is on record that such an institution as the one which issued them, ever existed. Such serial reports are not kept in stock by book-sellers, except in a very few cases, and in a brief time they become "out of print."

The loss of collections of pamphlets, and their destruction by those who do not know their value, is deplorable. Frequently our librarian has asked some one for pamphlets, and received the reply: "Do you care for such things? I sold a big lot of them to a junk dealer the other day." Quite large collections of them are often sold by heirs, after the death of a collector, for old paper.

Of many of the serial reports of institutions in this State, we undoubtedly have the only copies in existence, and an idea of the value of the sets preserved by us, can be gained from this fact. If it were not for our care and persistence in collecting them, not a copy, of many of them, would now be in existence, and thus all record of the history of these institutions perish from the earth.

It is unfortunate that some of these institutions issue their reports for several years, before we have been aware of the fact, as this could easily happen, without any neglect of watchfulness on our part. A chance places in our possession a copy of the publication, and we then set about securing a set of the same. This has generally been attended with great trouble, and outlay of time and money, both, and we regret to say that our most strenuous efforts to obtain full sets have often been futile. The steps which our librarian took to hunt up copies, and the disappointments experienced, would in some cases, make an interesting story, which, but few, except those who had tried the difficult task of searching for old pamphlets, could realize, fully. Sometimes we are appalled with the reflection that, after all our persistent efforts to gather serials, we get such a disappointing proportion of the great list that we seek for.

THE VALUE OF PERSISTENT BEGGING.

Thus the only way in which we can gather in these transient waifs of the printer's art, is to beg them from everybody who has them and who can be persuaded to send them to us. To this end, postal card requests for the needed pamphlet, are sent out annually, and from this source, we are building up our truly valuable department of serials. These thousands of begging letters, sent abroad by our secretary, have garnered a

notable harvest. There are but few people, who, on being politely asked for such a favor, will not respond in the affirmative; and thus, by our "keeping everlastingly at it," we are accumulating in our library a wealth of this material, which, one day, will be of incredible value, simply because we have had the foresight to gather and preserve these perishable little publications, which undoubtedly no other person, and no other library has taken the care to do.

The "eternal vigilance" which is the "price of liberty," is also the price of getting our collections complete. Hunting for missing numbers of serials is often a very vexatious and fruitless task. The letters written, the visits to persons, the searches in garrets, or closets, and "begging" requests, in season and out of season, are a part of the history of almost every pamphlet gained to our store. Wishing to complete our set of a serial of which we had not the earlier issues, our secretary wrote more than 30 postal cards to persons supposed to be able to furnish them. At other times printed postals have been dispatched to numerous parties, urging them to make a search in their drawers or shelves. Securing missing numbers, especially the older ones, is vexation and vanity of spirit oftentimes. Sometimes this search would be pursued for years, until victory was won, and the fugitive pamphlet was at last fitted in its niche. Sometimes the effort to fill a desperately incomplete set, was much like the story of the man who took a bung-hole to a cooper and desired to have a barrel made around it. Even libraries lamentably fail, sometimes, in preserving copies of pamphlets issued in their immediate vicinity. Our librarian made search by letter in over 20 libraries in Ohio for a copy of a catalogue of an Ohio college, of a remote date, but not one of them had preserved it.

How difficult it is to get trace of the existence of some of these serials, no one but those who have tried it would know. They make their appearance in the world so obscurely, and disappear so quietly, that no clue is left of their entry or exit. Right in our own city, dozens of pamphlets are printed and circulated, and die off the earth so completely, that our librarian never hears of them. Of course, in the case of a serial, when we get its identity, it is listed, and thenceforth cannot escape us. This is a work in which our own members could give valuable aid, as they could rescue from oblivion an infinite number of the ephemeral spawn of the press. But those engaged in the hurry and worry of ordinary business life, have but little

chance to do such work. Besides, the value of such things is not realized. We are often asked the question, "Do you care for such things?" (meaning pamphlets.) Care for them, indeed! They are, in some sense, the most valuable portion of our library. In collecting pamphlets, there is nothing too small or insignificant, for a library to gather. All are materials for history, the most insignificant, sometimes, the most scarce and valuable.

The issue of such reports is constantly on the increase, and the sources of their supply is extending. The number which we could get, and ought to get, would be exceedingly large, but our staff is too limited to go into the work so extensively. We must confine our collection to those of our own State, and others of the greatest importance. Societies and institutions are beginning to see that it is to their advantage to have their reports preserved in the way we are doing it, and many regularly mail us their reports or catalogues. As they seldom save sets of their own proceedings and reports, it would be a valuable thing for them to be able to find a file of their publications in our library, in case there was a necessity to refer to it at any time. As the work we are doing in this line is for their benefit, as much as for our own, a hearty co-operation in our work would be a good policy, and we shall undoubtedly receive it.

During the past two years, efforts have been made by this library to collect material for the history of secret societies in America. The documents sought were the printed minutes of the supreme or grand lodges of the various fraternal societies. It will surprise many to learn that there are now in full operation, in the United States, nearly seventy of these orders, all publishing minutes of their state and national bodies. We have succeeded, by persistent search, in getting quite complete sets of these journals of most of the societies named. It is probable that very few other libraries in the country have made a specialty of such a class of literature. To show the large amount of these issues, it is found that in Minnesota alone, there are over thirty grand lodges issuing annual or biennial proceedings. Many if not all of these, publish carefully prepared memoirs of deceased members, Minnesota citizens; and thus their proceedings have a historical value that warrants the outlay of time and labor necessary to gather and keep complete the sets of their publications. During the year past the proceedings of thirteen new grand lodges in Minnesota were added to our list.

All these proceedings contain many facts of value to the sociologist and writer on political economy. Their vital statistics are also valuable.

We have also made special efforts to collect the journals of the national synods, conferences, conventions, &c., of the various religious denominations of the country, in which we have succeeded very gratifyingly. Most of these cover the entire history of the respective bodies, from their planting on American soil.

THE INCREASE OF GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH.

The number of persons studying genealogy in this library is steadily on the increase, and that department of our works shows more readers than any other, unless it be, perhaps, the newspaper section. One reason for this increase will be found in the organization, within a year or two past, of the two societies, "Sons of the American Revolution," and "Daughters of the American Revolution." These two societies have given a new impulse to the study both of American genealogy and that of the revolutionary period. This library was fortunately well provided with a collection on both these subjects, and a more full and well selected department on that subject than any other library in the State possessed. We were patronized by the Sons and Daughters of the Revolution to a very creditable extent, and we were greatly pleased that our library responded so well to the demands on its resources. Nearly every one who pursued their investigations in our library, found a record of their "grandfathers" and were happy. The two societies in this city and Minneapolis (for the people of the latter used it as much as those of this city) received many accessions of membership, which were largely furnished with their proofs for it by documents found in this library. A large proportion of the students were ladies.

The great demand all through the country for facts relating to revolutionary soldiers, and other data regarding that historic period of American history, led congress to pass an act, which became a law the last week of the recent session, ordering the proper officers of the various departments to copy, from the archives in their possession, the names and other facts about every revolutionary soldier whose record could be found in the documents under their charge. This splendid record will not, probably, be completed for some months to come, but it will be of incalculable value to genealogical students.

This library was compelled to buy, to fill the demand for books on the revolutionary period, the three scarce volumes of rolls of revolutionary pensioners, published by Congress, in 1835, costing us \$30.

The regular study of genealogy has largely increased in this State. In our library, the demands for books on those subjects, is constantly increasing. Several persons in Minnesota, have recently published genealogies of their families. Among these are the Kelley and Seward families.

We have also noticed the great increase of that class of persons who believe that they are heirs to estates in England. They have received circulars to that effect from sharpers who prey on the credulity of fortune hunters. They are all sanguine of getting proofs to substantiate their supposed claims. The advice of our librarian, not to waste their money on the swindling "agents" of these estates is generally received with indignation. It demonstrates the truth of the axiom, that "people like to be swindled."

While on the subject of our splendid genealogical collection, we copy a flattering word of praise from one of the highest literary authorities in the world, to wit: "The Athenæum," of London, under date of July, 12, 1890:

"Genealogical studies, which are less active here than they used to be, are extending in the United States. The historical societies in the western cities, which appear useless because there is no local history, devote themselves to family records. A reminder comes to us, from the Historical Society of Minnesota, at St. Paul. In the library of that society are seven hundred volumes of English genealogy, being the seventh collection, for extent, in the states. The report informs us that one lady spent two months in St. Paul in 1880, making 1,200 searches in relation to the history of her family. In this way grow up closer ties with the mother island, and an ever-growing sentiment of kindred with the English-speaking races. Although family records are of deep interest to their members they are of none to others, and often pass unnoticed. One late work from St. Paul is the 'Ancestry, Life and Times of General Henry Hastings Sibley.' The career of this distinguished pioneer of the West and his services against the Indians of the territory, are vigorously depicted by the author, Rev. Nathaniel West. To the Sibley family is devoted a mass of research from mediæval records by Dr. West, which is not to be found in such notices as we

have in Hasted and our other county historians. While a family here often sinks into obscurity and has got to the time when history is no longer concerned with it, it sometimes gains new lustre by the rise of its scions in New England. Thus with the Sibleys. A man of that name, with two sons, went to Connecticut in the beginning of the seventeenth century. In the beginning of this century, seven hundred men named Sibley voted in one township election in that State. Now they are growing few in New England and have taken their share in the settlement of the West."

Several months after the publication of the foregoing paragraph we received a letter from a gentleman in New Zealand dated December 22, '90, as follows :

"I have lately read in the *Athenaeum*. Review of London, that your society possesses seven hundred volumes of books on English Genealogy, and as we have nothing of the sort in this out of the way place, I venture to ask you to give me a few extracts from them."

The letter contained some queries regarding the gentleman's family, which our librarian made search for, and forwarded him the results.

COLLECTION OF ATLASES AND MAPS.

Our map and atlas department has received some notable accessions the past term. Our specialty has, of course, been to gather the rarest and oldest maps relating to America, and in this we have been very successful. The issue from the press of so many works on the Columbian discovery largely increased our store of maps, or better speaking, of copies of the earliest American maps. The publication of Henry Harrisse's great book, the "Discovery of North America," added a great many to our list of reprints of archaic maps. The new issue of maps illustrating the battle fields of the rebellion, by the war department, is a splendid series of the handsomest maps we have received from any source. We are also indebted to Prof. Henry Gannett, of the Geological Bureau, for a large number of the maps of the geological survey, executed in the highest skill. We have added atlases of St. Paul and Minneapolis, by purchase, and one or two other similar works. The value of maps in a historical library cannot be overrated. We have been very successful, so far, in collecting them, and a large proportion rare and old. The only drawback we experience, now, in pursuing this important department of our accessions, is the want of proper place to keep our maps, and

the want of a good catalogue of them. We cannot have a suitable place to keep them, until we get new apartments, and we cannot catalogue them, until we get an increase of our working force.

To a fair extent, but by no means as rapidly as we could wish, we have added to our already good collection of county and city, and State atlases. But our limited means have kept us from buying them as much as we had wished. Still, by persistently seeking them, we will, in time, get the greater part of those relating to the western states, which will make a department of rare value.

CONGRESSIONAL DOCUMENTS, AND THEIR DISTRIBUTION.

The Department of the Interior, from which we have received in years past, such a large and valuable series of the publications of Congress, has continued their distribution in the most satisfactory manner. We desire to acknowledge, with special thanks, the very valuable services rendered by Mr. John G. Ames, the experienced and efficient officer who controls the distribution of the public documents, and has done so for many years. His management of this important work has been a great boon to the libraries of the country.

This library has now some 1,500 volumes of our governmental documents, reaching from 1840 to 1892, pretty complete, and previous years, somewhat fragmentary. The publication of these volumes by order of Congress, began about 1784. There are very few of the libraries of the country, however, which have many of the issues of the earlier congresses. It is stated that the library of Congress itself does not possess an entirely complete set. Under this head the public library of Boston, claims to have the most complete set in existence. Its bulletin of December, 1867, says: "The set in the public library, is believed to be as complete as any in the world, if not absolutely, the most complete of any."

It may be policy for the government to some time reprint the earlier sets, say from 1784 to about 1825, after which date sets are more plenty. This could be done by the new photographic process, by which it could be executed rapidly and cheaply.

There are four sets in the public libraries of St. Paul, and eight sets in those of the State altogether.

For two or three years, the American Librarian's Association has been endeavoring to secure the passage, by Congress, of a bill to provide for the better distribution of the public

documents, and also their better and more uniform printing. A bill, drawn up under the suggestions of the Association, was introduced during the winter of 1891-92, into the house, and good progress was made towards its passage, but such was the pressure of work towards the end of the session, it could not be reached. It is believed, though, that it will soon become a law.

There are costly and valuable volumes continually printed by order of Congress, which are never distributed by the regular way, at all, but are all taken by the members, who distribute them to their special friends, and libraries are thus prevented from getting them, except at great expense. This library made efforts to get the splendid volume entitled, "The Growth of Industrial Art," but could not succeed. There is not a copy in a public library in this State. The passage by Congress of the bill mentioned, would give the people of this State a chance to share in the enjoyment of such good things, free.

THE GENERAL WORK OF LIBRARIES IN AMERICA.

The rapid increase of libraries in America, is one of the characteristics of this age. Nothing approaching it has been known in any other country, or in any other period. New libraries are springing up everywhere, with large endowments, generally, and thus are created full grown, in a single night. The Chicago University Library might be mentioned as a remarkable instance of this. It was purchased at one transaction, from dealers in Europe, containing 260,000 volumes, for the sum of \$300,000, which sum was contributed by several individuals, after a few minutes of conference on the subject.

The co-operation of libraries and historical societies, for their common purposes, has also greatly quickened the growth of the library movement in the United States. The American Historical Association, is an instance of this. This society was represented at its last meeting, in Washington city, in the winter of 1891-92, by two of our members. This society was also represented at the annual meeting of the Royal Historical Society of Canada, in May, 1891, at Montreal, by its secretary. Our relations with all the historical societies, and many of the libraries of the United States, have been of the most profitable nature, and conducted to the advantage of both parties, especially in the matter of exchanging publications. These exchanges are an important thing in our work, as a very large part of our library increase is owing to the gifts which we get from other libraries, in return for what we send them.

This library has always endeavored to supply its corresponding societies and institutions, with the documents of this State, and other publications relating to it, and have, within a few years thus distributed hundreds of executive documents, legislative manuals, geological reports, directories, city reports, horticultural reports, military histories, etc., etc., to other libraries. We are also constantly collecting and preserving as many duplicates of State and city documents, and reports of all kinds relating to this State and its institutions, as we can get, knowing that they will, in a few years, be needed by the libraries which will be established in the towns and cities of our State.

The experience gained by one library, in its practice, and in its experimenting on problems regarding the profession, is of great value to all others, and all libraries are willing to share their gains of knowledge with sister societies. Thus the growth of the library science is constant, and the common sum of skill and experience, augments daily. The publications, by libraries, of their bulletins and reports is also valuable to all others, by enlightening the latter on many points which they had not yet worked out by their own experience.

The American Library Association, which has lived long enough to demonstrate its *raison d'être*, is also a valuable help to American libraries. It is by co-operation that libraries can become strong, the same as in all other aggregation of forces and resources. At the annual meeting of the latter, in 1892, this society was represented for the first time, by its librarian. The principal business was, discussing ways and means to make libraries more useful to the public. A single library, working in this line might accomplish considerable, but a general co-operation of all, would have a greater effect.

Many plans for the aid and bettering of libraries is being considered by the association and its committees. One object is to elevate the grade of the profession of librarian, to have better trained librarians, and to have more efficient service done. A valuable adjunct to the latter desideratum, is a library school which is in successful operation in the New York State Library. This, and similar plans for giving practical instruction in librarianship, will soon be felt in all libraries, by the better service and more able administration.

In this State some attention has been given to the same object, and a State Librarians' Association has been formed, for co-operation among all the librarians in Minnesota, and for mutual aid and instruction. It promises good fruits, in enlarging and broadening the field of the profession.

In the preliminary address of the General Committee on Literary Congresses, of the World's Fair, written by Dr. Poole, of the Newberry Library, Chicago, the increase of American libraries is forcibly noted:

“Concerning the subject matter of the first section (libraries), it may be remarked that in no other department of organized literary activity, during the last 25 years, has there been such a marked development, as in that of libraries—in number, in accession of books, in funds for their support, in methods of administration, and the construction of library buildings. The amount of money given by private beneficence, within the last few years, for endowing libraries and erecting buildings, has no parallel in the history of public charities.”

CO-OPERATION IN HISTORICAL WORK.

The growth of the taste for historical research is one of the prominent features of the literary progress of the period. History, in all branches, is now being studied as never before. Historical societies are a most important feature of this movement. They show the value of co-operation. The studies and the discoveries resulting from them, made by some, are of benefit to all scholars. They increase the common fund of knowledge on the subjects pursued. One scholar, working alone, could succeed fairly, but by co-operation there would be much gain to all. Thus, in a historical society, a single officer devoting his time to its work, would secure good results, but the concentrated efforts of the entire membership, working to a common end, would succeed in far greater accomplishments. Another good result would be, that the work could be subdivided into departments. Each could devote himself to a specialty. In a society like this there is great need of such a plan. The librarian should not be left to do all the gathering. He can cover but a small part of the field of collection. All the members should vigilantly seek whatever will be of value to the collection. All should practice “begging” books, pamphlets, or whatever it may be, and thus a harvest of additions will be reaped. The habit of persuading persons to give, should be encouraged. If our 150 members each gave, or collected from others, 10 pamphlets each, the total gain to our library would be a gratifying thing. It is all within the limits of possibility.

A GENERAL VIEW OF OUR WORK.

While there is much that we have not done, it is pleasanter to contemplate what we have done. The accommodation of the public is, of course, our first aim, and this has been kept in view as far as possible. We have been quite devoid of many ap-

pliances for the best library work, which other libraries have, and thus have been handicapped to some extent. That we have done as well as we have, amid our drawbacks of too limited space, insufficient light, poor ventilation, and absence of that quiet which should mark every reading room, is a fortunate thing. We have cherished plans for increasing and perfecting our collections, but have had no means to carry them out. How can we make our library more useful? has been the question most anxiously pondered by us. This cannot be a "popular" library, in the common acceptation of the term. It has certain uses and intentions which, well carried out, would give it a gratifying success in its proper field. What is the province of a historical society? may be asked. Not so much, it may be replied, to write history, as to gather the materials for it. And this work we have successfully performed. To collect and preserve the history of the State and its people, is the chief specialty of this library, and a field that is not cultivated, as a main object, by any other library in it.

LOOKING AHEAD TO THE FUTURE.

The history of all institutions like this, shows that when once securely established, they grow with increasing ratio. We expect this rule to apply in our case, for as we have done so well in our struggling years, when we were poorly equipped as to means, and imperfectly organized for our work, our future progress when we are well provided with means, and housed in a commodious and well arranged building, will be a gratifying and bright one. What cannot we accomplish under such auspicious surroundings? Now, we are not able to keep pace with the increasing demands upon us. Even were we to receive, unexpectedly, large gifts of money or books, we have scarcely the proper facilities to avail ourselves of the advantages of such a piece of good fortune, in the apartments where we are now. But it is little likely that such a stroke of the fairy's wand will happen, until we secure our contemplated building. Our best chance, then, of getting liberal gifts, is to secure a housing worthy of them, and where they can be made of use. Almost every one using the library, remarks on its poor location, and the ill adaptation of its apartments for its purpose. Yet, with all these drawbacks of location, we have steadily grown, and increased the size and value of our library, extended its usefulness, and broadened our influence and resources. Yet it has taxed, to an extreme degree, the ingenuity and patience of our librarians, to adjust this growth, and growing demands, to our too limited quarters.

OUR RETURN FOR THE COST OF OUR MAINTENANCE.

The inquiry may be made, what return have we made the public for the cost of our maintenance? We reply, first, the library which we have accumulated. This is valued at \$100,000. Our real estate which cost the State nothing, being a gift to it from our membership, is worth \$50,000. Our own fund, accumulated by the sale of life memberships, amounts to \$25,000. Here are tangible assets to show for our outlay. Then, for thirty-two years our doors have been open to the public, the free use of our splendid collection being at the request of any citizen, and many thousand persons have, during that period, here found information and facts useful to them, in the archives and documents, and works, which we had gathered, and secured not only by purchase, but by gifts solicited from private individuals and institutions, almost all over the world, which constitutes a library of which our State can be proud. We have also published seven volumes of matter relating to the history of this State, and of its people, which, distributed to the libraries of other states and countries, have given Minnesota an honorable name among educated and cultured communities throughout the world.

By our labors we have awakened a spirit of study and of research among our citizens, which has raised them in the scale of mental culture, and increased their standing among the commonwealths of the Union. For these reasons, and many others, the people of this State ought to feel a pride in an institution so creditable to them, and so manifestly useful.

These remarks about the value of our collection, and of our work, are not made in a self-laudatory spirit, as we have received numerous testimonials from other institutions, to the same effect, and from scholars and public men of this and other states, which have spoken in the warmest terms of the useful and well planned work we have performed, in the field of American history. The press of our own State and elsewhere have also generously given us unsolicited testimonials of the same nature.

LIBRARIES AND THEIR TRUE FIELD OF WORK.

In no country in the world are libraries more estimated at their true value than in this. Their educational value is becoming appreciated more and more. Carlyle well said, "The true university of these days, is a collection of books." The public library is open to all. The burning of the Alexandrian library has been called "The paralysis of a great lobe of human mem-

ory." The rapid growth of libraries in the United States is one of the remarkable features of the age. Libraries with opulent endowments are springing up here and there like a work of magic. Witness, for example, the princely endowments for this purpose, recently made by Rockefeller, Tilden, Sutro, Crerar, Newberry, Stanford and others. Libraries with such opulence can come into being almost full grown. The Chicago University, as referred to elsewhere, recently purchased a collection in bulk, in Germany, consisting of 260,000 volumes for the sum of \$300,000. Such master strokes as this are rapidly placing Chicago to the front as a literary and scholarly center.

A statement, apparently with some authority, has been recently made, that, within a few years, \$25,000,000 have been given to libraries in America as endowments. This evinces the estimate on their value and usefulness set upon them by the liberal and generous friends of education and knowledge. The expenditure of such an enormous sum on the libraries of the new world, ought to give this country the best libraries on the globe. They will have the freshest and best collections of works that are attainable, because bought in the best markets with money. It is a fact that Americans who have visited Europe must have noticed, that the libraries of that country, though large and possessing a multitude of old and rare books, do not have as great a proportion of recent and fresh books as the libraries of the United States, which have generally been purchased with the object of getting the very best and latest works on any subject. There are, according to the best authorities, 50,000,000 books in the libraries of America, and but 21,000,000 in those of Europe. Undoubtedly there is one, at least, copy of every known printed book in some one of these great collections. It is asserted that there have been issued from the press, since the first book appeared, 13,000,000 different works. The most costly volume now in existence, is the Hebrew bible in the Vatican library, for which its weight in gold was refused, that is \$103,000.

Amid this quickening of interest regarding libraries, what is to be our harvest.

THE EXACTIONS OF THE LIBRARIAN'S PROFESSION.

With the rapid growth of the libraries of the country, and the multiplication of new classes of subjects, and additional branches of investigation, the librarian's profession becomes

more and more exacting, and requires more ability and more application to keep abreast of the demands made upon him. The old idea of a library was that it was a collection of old and musty tomes, presided over by some antiquated fossil, deep in scholarship, but asleep to new and progressive ideas, where old foggy antiquarians would resort to pore and dream and ponder over obsolete topics. But the awakened thirst for original investigation and thorough research has changed all this. Libraries are placed under demands that have abolished all the old routine of their work. New appliances for study and analysis are a necessity now, and the freshest and latest books on every subject. Books are kept now for use. Their custodian must be alive to the wants of the public. The amusing description by Oliver Wendell Holmes, of "The old librarian," would hardly apply to the latter day incumbent of a library. The following is his picture of the character he drew:

"The old librarian was a peculiar character, as these officials are apt to be. They have a curious kind of knowledge, sometimes immense in its way. They know the backs of books, their title pages, their popularity or want of it, the class of readers who call for particular works, the value of different editions, and a good deal besides. Their minds catch up hints from all manner of works, on all kinds of subjects. They will give a fact or reference to a visitor, at which the latter is surprised to find they remember, and which the visitor might have hunted for a year. Every good librarian, every book-owner who has grown into his library, finds he has a bunch of nerves going to every book-case, a branch to every shelf and a twig to every book. These nerves get very sensitive in old librarians sometimes, and they do not like to have a volume meddled with any more than they would to have their naked eyes handled. They come to feel at last that the books of a great collection are a part, not merely of their own property, though they are only the agents for their distribution, but that they are, as it were, outlying portions of their own organization. The old librarian was getting a miserly feeling about "his" books, as he called them." (April Atlantic).

No library, no matter how carefully catalogued, would be equal to the demands on it for information, without a skilled librarian. There are innumerable subjects which readers need, which cannot be catalogued. The information regarding them must be sought from some one familiar with them, and whose acquaintance with a large range of subjects, is extensive and

accurate. This is the desideratum which the skilled librarian fills. The most splendid collection of books would be of but little value without the experience and general knowledge of a trained librarian, to aid seekers after facts or ideas. He should literally, "know everything." He must know more than the mere titles of books. The questions which are daily asked of librarians, show the necessity of a versatile acquaintance with all knowledge.

In the work of this library, in addition to the ordinary topics of inquiry, there is an extensive search for matters purely relating to this State, its history, the history of its people, its politics, its wars, its legislation, its official documents, its geography, and a thousand and one miscellaneous queries, some of them very strange and odd, but shows that the people regard this society as the fountain and treasury of every fact relating to Minnesota, and Minnesota people. And they are seldom sent away empty-handed. Our librarian, from his long residence in the State, has become familiar with almost every thing which goes to make up a record of its life and composition.

Of course this keeping a general depository of knowledge, added to the multifarious details of a librarian's duties, taxes the time to a great degree. And a good modicum of his time is consumed in entertaining visitors, who do not want anything in particular, but who consume about so much time, nevertheless. The librarian has often remarked that a very useful and quite indispensable official in the library, would be one whose sole duty would be to "entertain bores." This would leave the librarian time to pursue his duties uninterruptedly. For want of such a functionary, he has often been heard to say, that he has need of cutting himself into about four pieces, provided they could be each endowed with the working faculties of the original body, and thus he could accomplish the necessary work depending on him. Our librarians find that the growing work of the library exacts from them, more and more, assiduous application, and ten hours steady work daily are necessary to keep abreast of it, a term of service that is very rare, perhaps, in other libraries.

THE PERSONNEL OF LIBRARY FREQUENTERS.

Perhaps no other profession meets with curious characters more frequently than librarians. The library is a place where that class are apt to be attracted, and where the pursuit of their hobby, whatever it is, can be more uninterruptedly carried on, than in almost any other place. Some of these characters

are of that class who live on the debatable line between sanity and mental aberration. They have enough of a definite object to be admitted to the privileges of a library, and yet they might by a rigid construction of the rules, be rightfully excluded. During the past twenty-five years, this library has had the patronage of several of these gentry. Seldom, though, more than one at a time, and after trying the patience of the librarian for a few months, in the natural process of evolution, or the "survival of the fittest," each one has folded his tent and stolon away, to give place to a successor of the same ilk.

One of the most persistent and disagreeable of the class, fell on us in the spring of 1888. He gave his name as Dr. Julius H. Stackemann, and said he was a journalist, or free lance newspaper contributor, and wished the use of our library to prepare articles. We soon found Stackemann was quite a scholar. His early life, we afterward learned, had been an erratic one. Of a good family in Germany, he was entered at a university, where he fought a duel with another student, and supposed he had left the latter dead on the field. He fled to the haven of such fugitives, the United States, and our civil war being on, enlisted under a false name. Released from this life, he began the career of a *Bohemien* scribbler here and there, until he became a habitue of our rooms, which he patronized four years steadily.

One of the German papers, referring to him after his death, said, "Stackemann was a brilliant man, but so disagreeable that no one could endure him." We found this true. To add to his other peculiarities, we soon noticed that he gave signs of insanity. It was exceedingly difficult to get along with him without an open breach. He was impudent, unscrupulous and fault-finding to an unreasonable degree. All these things were borne by the librarian, either patiently or impatiently, and several times he urged the library committee to order his exclusion, but no steps of that kind were ever taken. Stackemann continued to evince more and more marked signs of insanity. At length, an unexpected occurrence brought the problem to a sudden solution. Stackemann had a quarrel with a woman in the city, and wrote to her, on a postal card, some abusive and obscene words. For this, her friends were about to cause his arrest, when he suddenly left our rooms, on June 13, 1891, and we never saw him more. The next morning the following note was found on his desk:

"J. B. Chaney, Asst. Libr. Hist. Society.—Dear old friend: Let Mr. Frederick Sander have all what there is on my table

and in its drawers, as also my yet incoming mail. Give my love and esteem to Mr. Williams. Many, many thanks to both of you for the manifold kindnesses which you bestowed upon me. I am worn and weary, and must have rest. Good-bye.

J. H. STACKEMANN."

Thus ended by suicide, at an untimely age, what might have been a brilliant career.

THE EXTENT OF PRIVILEGES GRANTED TO PATRONS.

Recognizing that the privileges of any library ought to be made as free to its patrons as is consistent with its safety and good management, we have always acted on the policy of giving all facilities to our readers, that was in our power, consistent with our limited force of attendants. There are a number of our regular patrons (those who are commonly known to book men as "bibliomaniacs," or "bookworms"), who are granted the privilege of searches into the book cases *ad libitum*, and this has been of great assistance to them. Of course, this unrestricted freedom could not be made very general. It might, and would, be badly abused. The tendency so common among our fellow men, to disregard the observance of the ethics of *meum* and *tuum*, would greatly abridge this rule. We, in common with all libraries, have suffered from the exploits of the kleptomaniac, and we realise what the height of ingratitude can reach to.

Mr. Barton, the librarian of the American Antiquarian Society, in his last report, refers in a very pleasant mood to the subject of "browsing," and quotes from a paper on the topic, read before the American Library Association, by Prof. James K. Hosmer, since librarian of the Minneapolis Public Library, in which Prof. Hosmer pleads for the bookworm's privilege of browsing, and quoted Lord Bacon's saying, that "some books are to be brushed merely by the feelers; others to be touched by the mandibles in a more cursory nibble; into still others you may expediently work your way in a considerable perforation, while in the case of a few the demands of duty will not be satisfied until they are thoroughly honey-combed in a labyrinth of burrows." "While visiting a far away library, (Mr. Barton continues), I was not pleasantly impressed by seeing a placard bearing the legend "Prowlers not Wanted." The expression did not seem to be a happy one even in a library, but it reminded your librarian of some excellent searching work by two of our young genealogists and biographers. Their journeyings

in search of material, resulted in bringing from one town to another a missing volume of its early records, while in a second, manuscripts were rescued from the attic of a retired town clerk, &c."

In some respects, as far as this library is concerned, it is a necessity of our condition to let as many of our patrons as can be trusted to do so, help themselves, since our force of librarians is too limited to wait on all, and supply them with the works they wish. It would need the entire time of an official for that work alone.

Before dismissing this section of our report, it may as well be confessed that the tendency of a considerable part of the human race to appropriate the property of others, is an unfortunate thing for public libraries.

MATERIALS FOR BIOGRAPHIES OF MINNESOTA PEOPLE.

One of the most important departments of our historical work is the collection of materials for the biographies of Minnesota citizens. We are continually enquired of for facts of that kind. Our store of data for this department of state history, is quite full, and yet we have to confess that we should have done much more in that line. Hundreds of our old pioneers have died, in early days, about whom there is very little on record, in an accessible shape. The part which they took in the settlement and building up of the State is so imperfectly recorded that the credit due to them will be only imperfectly rendered by the future historian. It is unfortunate that in the early days of the State, when these old pioneers were living, and could have furnished much material regarding the history of the State, that this society did not have the means to have collected the story of their part in the planting and developing of the institutions of Minnesota. It would have been done presumably, had the society had the means, and thus a vast quantity of material for our history, and that of the prominent actors in the founding of our commonwealth, been preserved. A systematic endeavor, even at this day, would secure a great store of facts on this subject, and it deserves to have some steps taken for cultivating such a valuable field, taken with a determination that will reap a good harvest of historical matter.

There has never been a period when the value of biography has been more appreciated at its true rate, than recently. The number of publications on that subject, recently, evince this fact. Many of these are gotten up by inexperienced writers, and largely with a view to profit, but imperfect as they are,

they add greatly to the sum of historical materials, and increase the stores of information. In the early days of this society, an effort was made by its librarian to collect biographical material regarding the most prominent citizens of our State, by sending out circulars containing blanks, for recording, by those receiving them, of the correct data of their lives, and the part they took in building up our commonwealth. A large number of responses were received, many of which have been since found of great value in furnishing facts for Minnesota history. The work would have been extended greatly, but the secretary found his time so engrossed by the rapidly growing work of the library, that he was compelled to abandon the securing of biographical material. In our Minnesota newspapers, of which we have 2,700 volumes, reaching back to 1849, there is an immense record of obituary notices of deceased citizens, constituting a great storehouse of Minnesota biography, but the lack of a general index to the volumes, somewhat deteriorates the value of the collection. The time may come when we can have this index made.

Something has been done by the publishers of county histories to cover this field, but they of course confine their memoirs to those only who become subscribers of their volumes. Thus this only partially supplies the want. Still, we have found the works referred to quite valuable in many cases, and only wish there were more of them published. Keeping records of the people of our State is one of our objects. A large portion of the men of the period will die and leave no sign. Even the city directory will contain about all that will ever be known, in a printed shape, of most of them. The numerous inquiries made at this library for clues to old residents, disappeared years ago, and leaving only a mere record of their name written in some deed, perhaps, show the value of efforts to secure some record of persons, who now obscure and unnoticed, may some time prove to have been an important link in the chain of sublunary events.

OF BINDING AND BINDERS.

In libraries, binding is always an important item. To get it done suitably, and at a reasonable price, is quite a problem. It is the poorest economy for a library to get cheap binding. Poor material and poor workmanship is nothing but vexation. In our early days, we had frequently to pay so-called binders for ruining our books, but fortunately, that is a thing of the past. We now are well served in that line. And our librarian

has become quite an expert in bibliopegy. Poor work cannot be palmed off on him. Carefully drawn specifications accompany each volume to the bindery. The choice of material is also a thing carefully looked to. So that the binding done for this library, is creditable and satisfactory. Our binding bills are quite an item in our annual outlay. Sometimes we have had some trouble to get it promptly done, as the binderies of this city are often not very well supplied with employes, skilled ones, at least. We have had books at six binderies at one time. Our choicest binding is done at the celebrated shop of Ringer & Co., at Chicago. Mr. Ringer is not a "high-binder" by any means. We are well satisfied with his work and prices.

Finding that binding of large volumes, such as newspapers, was recommended by the American Librarian's Association, to be done in "duck," we have made a fair experiment of that material, and are satisfied with its service and durability. Besides, it is cheaper than leather. We have also used linen, recommended by the association, for smaller books, and believe it to be a fairly strong and servicable material, besides reasonable as to price.

Some libraries in the United States, are in the habit of sending their books to Europe to be bound, to avail themselves of the very low prices of that country. This library has received offers from foreign binders, which are very tempting, but so far we still patronise our fellow countrymen with our work.

THE CATALOGUE AND ITS NEEDS.

The work of cataloguing the current accessions is constantly kept up, and much of the time of the chief librarian is consumed by it. Not much can be done at present, to enrich or perfect the portion already furnished. We hope the time will soon come, when this can be done, but it can only be by an increase of the staff. As the library increases in size, the need for more complex work in cataloguing is evident, and will have to be provided. Then there are our maps, which are now only imperfectly catalogued, for want of room to arrange them, and for want of force to do the work. The same may be said of our portraits, and of our manuscripts, which are also quite unarranged, for want of proper space. In fact, the entire time of an expert cataloguer will be requisite for this department of our work, when the day comes that we have suitable rooms for our library.

CELEBRATION OF THE DISCOVERY OF AMERICA, IN 1492.

The occurrence of the quadro-centennial anniversary of the discovery of the new world, by Christopher Columbus, in 1492, gave rise to many historical observances of the occasion. Our own society was one of those bodies which formally celebrated the event. The exercises were held on Oct. 21, 1892, in the hall of the House of representatives, state capitol, in St. Paul. There was a large audience of cultured and appreciative persons present, and all the parts of the arranged program were successfully gone through. The opening number was an historical poem, on the discovery of the new world, written and delivered by Hon. Hanford Lenox Gordon, of Duluth, and was an able and pleasing epic. The historical oration was delivered by Hon. Henry W. Childs, Assistant Attorney General of Minnesota, and was listened to with the deepest attention by the audience, both for the great thoughts enunciated by the speaker, and his pleasing and graceful delivery. Fine music, by an orchestra, animated the occasion, and the whole exercises passed off in the most successful manner. It is the intention of the society, to print the full report of the celebration, in their next volume of collections.

IN MEMORIAM—GEN. HENRY H. SIBLEY.

On Feb. 18th, 1891, the honored president of this society, Gen. Henry Hastings Sibley, died at his residence in St. Paul, in the eightieth year of his age. Thus closed a life full of honors, one distinguished by devotion to the public service, of continual usefulness, and ennobled by upright living, the practice of all manly virtues, and by good deeds of benevolence and kindness. Gen. Sibley was, at the time of his death, the foremost citizen of our commonwealth, in the exalted dignity of his character, the personal eminence he had attained, his ability and his rank in civil and military life. Perhaps no other citizen had reached such a high place in the esteem and veneration of the people of this State.

It is not now necessary to enter into the details of his long and honorable career in this report. A full and just eulogy in his memory will be found in our Vol. VI., and it is unnecessary to repeat them here.

In his death, this society has lost one of its most active and faithful members. Gen. Sibley was one of its charter members in 1849, and remained an active member until his death, but did not become a member of the Executive Council until

after his residence in St. Paul, in 1862. He was twice president, the last time for thirteen years continuously, and until his death. He was a regular attendant at the meetings, and took a deep interest in the proceedings.

His bequest of a portion of his library to this society, is mentioned under another head.

Under the head of deceased members mention should also be made of the death of Hon. Elias F. Drake, another old member of the society and of the Executive Council. Mr. Drake's services to the society were of great value, and he was sincerely attached to it and worked for its success.

The *personnel* of the Executive Council of the society is a quite unchangeable body. Most of its members are of years in active membership, and very few changes have been made even by death. The president of the society has been in constant active membership since 1849, and Mr. Henry L. Moss's membership dates from the same year.

After the death of our beloved president, ex-Gov. Alex Ramsey, the first vice-president, was elected to fill the vacancy and Capt. Russell Blakeley, second vice-president, was promoted to the station of first vice-president; Mr. Charles E. Mayo, who has been in constant membership since 1854, was elected second vice-president.

THIS SOCIETY'S PUBLISHED COLLECTIONS.

The issue of the society's published collections still continues with regularity. Since our last biennial report the society published Part II of Vol VI, a volume of much interest and value, containing pages 29-319 of that volume. Among the contents of this part are a full account of the celebration of the Hennepin bicentenary, held by the society July 2, 1881; Reminiscences of Mrs. Adams, a pioneer of the Red River settlement, and of Fort Snelling, 1821-29, an intensely interesting narrative of life on our northwestern frontier, dictated to our secretary by Mrs. A., and by him written up and edited. Protestant missions in the Northwest, by Rev. S. R. Riggs, since deceased; autobiography of Lawrence Taliaferro, for many years Indian agent at Fort Snelling; a Memoir of Hon. Henry H. Sibley, late president of this society, by its secretary, Mr. Williams; and a very readable paper by the archæologist, Mr. Alfred J. Hill, on Indian mounds in Dakota, Wisconsin and Minnesota. This volume was received by the public with warm words of praise, and also by the press of the State, and adds an important contribution to our already published volumes.

It has also been received by other societies with testimonials of commendation. Its typography is neat and tasty. Twelve hundred copies were distributed to our members, the press, and to corresponding societies.

A notice of our seventh volume, "The Mississippi River and its Source," will be found under the head, "The Glazier Lake Imposture."

THE "GLAZIER LAKE" IMPOSTURE.

We had, in our last report, hoped that we would not again be compelled to mention the name of Glazier, the impostor whose lying claims to the discovery of the real source of the Mississippi River, we had completely refuted, more than once, and whose falsehoods had been scouted by almost every learned society in the world, but the charlatan still persists in flaunting his pretensions to the world, and we are again compelled to denounce him.

In August, 1891, Glazier, undaunted by the flayings which he had received from every reputable source of geographical authority on the globe, actually made another expedition to the Itasca basin, with the intention of having a few persons who accompanied him, certify that his original claim was genuine. While *en route* to Itasca, the Congress Internationale des Sciences Geographiques was sitting in the city of Berne, Switzerland, and among other subjects on which it pronounced authoratively, was the Glazier fraud. It was denounced in the most effective terms by a committee of geographers, to whom it had been referred. This report was widely published by the press everywhere, but it fell on the pachydermatous hide of Glazier without producing any impression, as might be expected from his previous lawless course. He continued his expedition, and secured from his companions on the trip, an endorsement, such as it was, of the genuineness of his discovery in 1881, which he again published widely through newspapers that he had won to his cause, and even had the assurance to address a copy to this society, asking it to do him justice, by recognizing his claims as a discoverer. This request was referred to a committee of the society, who very tersely disposed of the captain's absurd and dishonest assertions.

The Society has recently had published, as one of its regular volumes of historical collections, the admirable report of Prof. J. V. Brower, the commissioner appointed by the Society in 1889 to make a scientific survey of the Itasca basin, and report all the facts concerning it. This report was referred to at

length in our last biennial report. The volume is a well written and interesting account of the topography and hydrography of the Itasca basin, and gives the full data of Prof. Brower's careful and exact survey. The facts therein given leave no ground for the false statements of Glazier to rest upon. His lies are utterly exploded and his claim as a discoverer vanishes in thin air. The volume will be given a wide circulation in all the countries of the globe, and thus the truth will, at last, strip the falsehoods of the imposter, of their mask, and place on record the absolute facts.

Prof. Raub, of Dorchester, Mass., voices thus tersely the opinion of Glazier, which hundreds of others have written in like strain:

"I do not see how any sane man can continue to believe in him, even if he was at first imposed upon. For cool effrontery and audacious cheek, Glazier would be a prize winner."

THE ITASCA STATE PARK.

The attention directed to Lake Itasca, by the survey made by Prof. J. V. Brower, under the auspices of this society, in 1889, spoken of in our last report, was further increased by the proposition made by Mr. Emil Geist, a citizen of St. Paul, and an active member of this society, who addressed a communication to the same in 1891, proposing that it take steps to memorialize the State legislature, asking that body to establish a state park on and around Lake Itasca, and create a public reservation there. The proposition was favorably considered by the society, and a committee appointed to examine the subject, which, after due consideration of the same, reported that it was a meritorious measure, and recommended the society to use its influence to persuade the legislature to create such reservation. Accordingly, a memorial of the society, asking such legislation, was prepared and presented to the legislature at its session of 1891. After due consideration, the measure was adopted by that body, and the following act duly passed and enrolled, among the laws of the session:

CHAPTER 56—S. F. NO. 461

An act to establish and create a public park to be known and designated as the Itasca State Park and authorizing the condemnation of lands for park purposes.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:

SECTION 1. That section six (6), township one hundred and forty-two (142), range thirty-five (35); sections six (6), seven (7), eighteen (18), nineteen (19), thirty (30) and thirty-one (31), township one hundred and forty-three (143), range thirty-five (35): sections one (1), two (2), three (3), four

(4), nine (9), ten (10), eleven (11), twelve (12), thirteen (13), fourteen (14), fifteen (15), sixteen (16), twenty-one (21) twenty-two (22), twenty-three (23), twenty-four (24), twenty-five (25), twenty-six (26), twenty-seven (27), twenty-eight (28), thirty-three (33), thirty-four (34), thirty-five (35) and thirty-six (36), township one hundred and forty-three (143), range thirty-six (36); and sections one (1), two (2), three (3) and four (4), township one hundred and forty-two (142), range thirty-six, (36), or so much thereof as the State is now or may hereafter become seized, shall be set apart and perpetually used as a public park.

SEC. 2. The name of said park shall be the Itasca State Park, and the same is by this act dedicated to the perpetual use of the people of this State under the proper restrictions hereinafter provided, or which may be hereafter provided by law.

SEC. 3. The general care and supervision of the Itasca State Park, until otherwise provided for, shall be vested in the state auditor, acting as state land commissioner.

SEC. 4. Any person who shall willfully cut, destroy or mutilate, or who shall willfully cause to be cut destroyed or mutilated any tree, timber or evergreen in said park, or who shall kill or cause to be killed any moose, bear, deer, fox, otter or other wild animal in said park, or who shall in any other manner than with a hook and line take any fish from the waters of said park shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be fined for the first offense fifty (50) dollars, for the second offense two hundred (200) dollars, and for the third or further offense he shall be fined and imprisoned not less than ninety (90) days, nor more than one (1) year, in the discretion of the judge presiding at the trial of the cause. All offenses charged for misdemeanors as hereinbefore provided shall be tried and determined under the general laws of this state applicable to the trial of criminal actions in like causes.

SEC. 5. The state auditor shall take proper proceedings, under existing laws relative to the appraisal and sale of school lands, to cause the transfer of the school lands in said park for park purposes, and at the sale thereof the same shall be bid in by the state for such park purposes.

SEC. 6. The governor shall appoint a qualified resident of this State a commissioner, who shall file with the state auditor his oath to support the constitution of this State and conscientiously perform the duties of his office.

It shall be the duty of the commissioner to take all reasonable steps to procure for the State from landed property holders, railroad companies, corporations or individuals owning lands within the limits of said park, concessions to the state for park purposes by contract or deed, subject to the approval of the governor. In case any tract or parcel or parcels of land within the limits of said park cannot be satisfactorily secured, the governor may direct the said commissioner to institute, for and on behalf of the State, proceedings in condemnation, as now provided by law, for condemning and converting private property within this State to public use. In case of any proceedings in condemnation the said commissioner, under the direction of the attorney general, may appear for the State in prosecuting to a final determination all causes and actions thereunder.

Whenever any proceedings in condemnation are had and taken for the condemnation and conversion of any of said lands, all of the provisions of an act approved March 9, 1874, entitled "An act to provide for obtaining title to lands by the state of Minnesota for the use of the State," and all amendments thereto shall be applicable in all proceedings for the condemnation herein provided for.

SEC. 7. The commissioner herein provided for shall receive a compensation of five (5) dollars per day for the time he is actually employed and his reasonable traveling expenses necessarily incurred, a schedule of which and time expense he shall make under oath and file with the state auditor. *Provided*, that the number of days for which compensation shall be allowed shall not exceed sixty (60).

SEC. 8. The commissioner shall prepare a detailed chart of said park, and shall make and file a report to the governor of all action taken by him which shall be transmitted to the next session of the legislature.

SEC. 9. The said commissioner shall have power to administer oaths and take acknowledgments and to serve all necessary notices in the performance of his duties as a commissioner, and he shall examine the records in the office of the register of deeds for the counties of Becker, Hubbard, Cass and Beltrami in perfecting title to the State for said lands, and the registers of deeds for said counties are hereby required to permit of the examination of titles to any of said lands without charge to the state.

SEC. 10. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved April 20, 1891.

Governor Merriam, under the provisions of the above act, commissioned J. V. Brower as the commissioner of the park, and he at once entered upon his duties. His first work was to secure from the owners of the lands within the limits of the park, a concession of the title to their lands. A part of these were owned by railroads, a part by the general government, and a part by private parties, generally lumbermen. After using the proper exertions, Mr. Brower succeeded in securing a promise from all the owners that they would convey their rights to the State of Minnesota, provided the State legislature would appropriate the means sufficient therefor. The last step to be taken was to secure from congress an act giving the United States lands within the limits of the park, to the same purpose. Congressman Castle introduced the bill for that purpose in the House, and it passed there without any opposition, as well as in the Senate, and was enrolled as an act on August, 1891. Mr. Brower has made to the governor a full report of the whole matter, to which we make reference to save the space necessary to give the facts in detail.

THE PSEUDO VIEW OF ST. ANTHONY FALLS.

In our biennial report of 1891, was made mention of a curious engraving, date unknown, of the Falls of Saint Anthony, taken from a painting, and of whose history and identity we could learn but few facts. Since that date, by a mere chance, we have secured a copy of the work in which the engraving of the falls first appeared, and for which it was probably engraved. It is a pictorial publication, entitled "Picturesque Views of America," and was issued from the press in Philadelphia, about the year 1820. We have part two only of this work, but it would seem to have contained, in the two parts, about a dozen copper-plate engravings of folio size. The following paragraph is all that is found descriptive of the remarkable view of St. Anthony Falls:

"The view from which the annexed engraving is copied was taken and colored on the spot by Capt. Watson, of the British navy." If this is so, the worthy captain had taken an extra dram of grog that day.

Another rare book which we are searching for, is a collection of lithograph views of points on the Upper Mississippi river, taken by some wandering artist, about 1845, and gives, among others, a view of the present Saint Paul, the first ever taken. The book was printed in Dusseldorf, Germany, about 1848 (?) and only one copy is known to exist in America.

OUR SOCIETY AS A STATE INSTITUTION.

Those unfamiliar with our objects and organization may possibly ask, what is the distinctive field which we occupy? There are, of course, libraries in the State; but the State itself has no library of its own, of a general nature, except this one. Its law library is exclusively for the bar and courts. That library does not pretend to collect or keep any other books than law books. In order to accumulate a collection of books useful to the citizens—books which would not be found easily in any other library in the State—the legislature created this society and laid certain duties upon it, which are stated in the opening paragraphs of this report. One of the most important sections of our work is the preservation of the archives of the State. Its documents, the materials for its history, and the history of its people, are here for the free use of the citizens of Minnesota. It may be properly called a "Bureau of Archives." The preservation of these is its main specialty. It is organized for that object, and it has accomplished it.

The state departments are compelled to rely on it to an extent more than would be readily credited by any one who had not opportunity to know practically of the fact. Some of them have not files of their own official reports, owing, perhaps, to the fire, and find our well arranged collections of documents a convenient place for reference on a multitude of subjects, such as would naturally come up in the ordinary course of official life.

We make systematic efforts to gather a store of duplicate state documents and reports of all kinds, because we recognize the great value of such a collection, and no other institution is doing it. We are continually receiving requests for these works from other libraries, in this and other states, to fill sets, and have been gratified at being able to provide them with documents of great value to them. This has been done to the extent of hundreds of volumes, worth hundreds of dollars, for which we have made no charge. We also take great pains to preserve printed matter of almost all sorts relating to Minnesota and its institutions, believing that the libraries of this

State, to be established in the future, will find such a supply a most welcome boon to them. Ordinary duplicate books, such as accumulate in every library, have been freely given to societies which have recently been established, but are as yet without means to purchase, in the case of the South Dakota Historical Society, and the Nebraska State Historical Society, to the extent of perhaps two or three hundred volumes.

We are generously supplied by the State with a number of its documents, and find it a valuable source of exchange with other libraries. Our exchange list is constantly increasing, and the increment from this source is large and valuable. The number of societies and institutions in the United States which issue collections, or bulletins, is constantly increasing, and all the said publications are valuable. The documents of our State are much better gotten up than they were formerly, and on a better and more uniform system, so that they are more valuable now than in former years. This reform, and it was one much needed, was mainly brought about by Mr. David Ramaley, the superintendent of public printing, whose skill and experience have been of great value to the State. Under this head it may be mentioned that the American Library Association has inaugurated a movement to encourage State governments in the United States to adopt uniform sizes and style of issuing their documents, which would be a great boon to public libraries.

OUR APARTMENTS—MORE ROOM NEEDED.

In this report one or two allusions were incidentally made to the fact that our apartments were becoming too limited for our needs, in the face of the rapid growth of our library, and the increase of our readers. In a little while we will reach a period when our space for books will be utterly exhausted. It is now, almost, entirely so. What course we will take to provide the room needed, is uncertain.

And, in addition to the other drawbacks mentioned, we are in an inflammable building, where our valuable library, containing many thousands of precious and utterly irreplaceable books, might be destroyed in a single night by the flames. We have already endured a partial misfortune of that nature, and feel very apprehensive of a renewal of the calamity. We ought not, as a duty we owe to the people of the State, for whose use and benefit we have gathered this splendid library, remain in this dangerous building another month, another night, indeed, if there were any way of escaping from it to a safe one. We

are continually apprehensive of a disaster of the worst nature, one that will destroy, utterly, this library, which is the work of so many years, and the result of so much outlay. Such a calamity would be a criminal fault on our part, if it were to happen under circumstances that could be avoided, but in the present case, we are powerless to prevent it, as we have no means to provide ourselves with a fire proof building.

The only way out of this dilemma, it seems to us, is to devise some way of securing a building of our own, to be erected on our own property, and which should be built within a reasonable period.

PROJECTS FOR A FIREPROOF BUILDING.

For several years we have been scheming for the erection of a fireproof building for the sole use of this society, one commodious enough to last for a generation to come, of handsome exterior, and arranged expressly to meet our wants. Twice we presented our claims before the legislature, asking an appropriation of money from the public funds sufficient to erect a building commensurate with our needs, but we were met with the objection that the State funds were too much absorbed in other enterprises of a like kind to spare us the amount wanted. Since we first began petitioning the legislature for this appropriation at least five new State institutions have sprung into existence, which have been provided with capacious buildings and furnished with ample equipments. We believe now that our turn has come to share the beneficence of the State.

We had once supposed that we might be able to erect our building from contributions secured from persons interested in the work of the society, but a trial of this plan showed that it was not practicable. The reason was, that the society being a public institution, there was no cause for the citizens of the State contributing their own means to its erection, when the outlay was properly a charge upon the public exchequer.

OTHER PLANS TO SECURE A BUILDING.

Other measures to provide a building for our use, were considered from time to time. In February, 1891, Hon. John Lind, member of Congress from this State, introduced a bill in the House of Representatives, enacting that the St. Paul custom house be ceded by the government to the State of Minnesota, for the use of the Minnesota Historical Society, after its use was no longer necessary for the government

offices in St. Paul, for the reason that a new building for that purpose is in process of erection. If no other resource was left us, this would be a great boon for us, and one which we would grasp at with eagerness. But the difficulty in the way is, that it will be years before the new government building in St. Paul will be ready for occupancy by the officials and departments; and we must have new quarters as soon as they can be provided. It would be impossible to wait, and occupy the rooms where we now are, for anything like that length of time. Our work would have to be suspended practically, during the greatest part of the interim.

Another means of relief offered us, was to secure apartments in the proposed new State capitol, which may be located upon the same grounds as the present one. This plan is open to the same objection as the one just mentioned, regarding the United States custom house. The time needed for the completion of the building, would be from eight to ten years. It would be out of the question for us to wait that long to get larger apartments for our occupancy. It would be equivalent to the paralysis of this society.

The duty of the State to foster and promote the growth of institutions such as the Minnesota Historical Society, is clear and imperative. In every enlightened people, libraries are viewed as one of the most indispensable aids to education and learning, and receive the liberal patronage of the State. They are the storehouses of the accumulations of the wisdom of past ages, from which the people can draw supplies of erudition, and useful knowledge. They spread intelligence in the community, and elevate the grade of education and culture permanently. A commonwealth without libraries would indeed be but a narrow, an unprogressive people, for everywhere the advancement in all that makes society prosperous and progressive, is in ratio with its supply of libraries, and other means of study and investigation.

It is, therefor obligatory upon our legislators to use all means in their power to foster and build up all agencies for the promotion of intelligence among the people. Thereby the prosperity and dignity of the State is enhanced, and its power increased, for knowledge is power and wealth too.

FINANCES, RESOURCES, ETC.

The following statement of the expenditures of the society out of its annual appropriation from the State funds, shows how we have made use of the amount granted during the past two years:

	1891.	1892.
Purchase of books.....	\$1,776.03	\$1,593.53
Binding of books.....	605.23	597.68
Express and freight.....	99.92	72.30
Postage.....	113.02	33.00
Insurance.....	8.20	5.45
Printing and stationery	32.40
Furniture	341.28	127.40
Miscellaneous.....	18.39	203.64
Service.....	2,700.00	2,700.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$5,694.46	\$5,332.74

Our annual appropriation from the State, as a state institution, has been \$6,000, and out of this we have to pay all the expenses of the society.

CONCLUSION.

In concluding this report, we tender our grateful thanks to our many friends and patrons, for their constant and unflinching liberality in giving us so many generous gifts, and for their good will and kind expressions of encouragement and confidence in our management of this great and responsible trust confided to us.

APPENDIX A.

THE MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

ITS FOUNDING, AND EARLY STRUGGLES, AND LATER SUCCESS.

[From the Magazine of Western History, 1889.]

The Territory of Minnesota was created by an Act of Congress, approved March 3, 1849, and the first session of the Legislature assembled at Saint Paul, on September 3, of the same year. The fifth act passed by that body was entitled "An Act to incorporate the Historical Society of Minnesota," and was dated, Oct. 20, 1849. Thus the Society, a sketch of whose career I attempt to give in this paper, sprang into existence almost coeval with the birth of the Commonwealth of Minnesota itself, and is consequently the oldest institution in the State.

The act of incorporation declared that "C. K. Smith, David Olmsted, H. H. Sibley, Aaron Goodrich, David Cooper, B. B. Meeker, A. M. Mitchell, T. R. Potts, J. C. Ramsey, H. M. Rice, Franklin Steele, Charles W. Borup, D. B. Loomis, M. S. Wilkinson, L. A. Babcock, Henry Jackson, W. D. Phillips, Wm. H. Forbes, Martin McLeod, and their associates, be and they are hereby constituted a body corporate and politic, by the name and style of" etc. These 19 men were among the most prominent citizens of the Territory at that date, and almost every one of them occupied high official positions in the Territorial or State Governments, either then or subsequently. Of the entire 19, only four, Messrs Rice, Sibley, Loomis and Wilkinson, are now living. The moving spirit in the formation of the society, was Charles Kilgore Smith, the Territorial Secretary of State, a man of much activity and ability, though he made some bitter political enemies subsequently, and did not hold his office long.* He was very active in promoting the success of the society for some two years, during which he was its secretary. The incorporators organized at a meeting held Nov. 15, 1849, at which Gov. Alex. Ramsey was chosen president, and remained such, for thirteen years consecutively.

The fact that such an institution was organized at the very beginning of society in this State, which in older states had only been the outgrowth of time, and wealth, and culture, was a matter of surprise to those not familiar with the energy with which western men, in the very first stages of society, provide themselves with the institutions of older communities. James Watson Webb, the eminent journalist, of New York, in commenting on the fact, said, "That there is nothing too flattering to predict of the future greatness and prosperity of a people, who commence to write their history as soon as the foundations of their commonwealth are laid."

*A full memoir of Mr. Smith will be found in Vol. 2, "McBride's Pioneer Biography," published in "The Ohio Valley Historical Series."

THE OUTLOOK NOT AN ENCOURAGING ONE.

It was not, however, a very encouraging prospect for an institution of that kind. The population of St. Paul was not over 400 or 500, and there were but three or four other towns in the Territory, which was then almost entirely occupied by the Indians, whose title to the soil had not been extinguished. The entire population of Minnesota was perhaps not over 1,500 white inhabitants. These were mostly poor settlers, and in the struggle for bread and butter in a new country, still a wilderness, had but little means and no leisure to cultivate æsthetics, or study philosophy or history. Consequently, the development of the society was very slow for the first few years. In 1858 there were only 441 volumes in the library, and most of those of minor value.

The first annual meeting of the society was held January 1, 1850, at which Rev. Edward Duffield Neill delivered the historical address, (given in the first volume of the society's collections) which, with other papers, were published soon after, and aided greatly in introducing the society to the attention of scholars abroad. One pressing want which the society experienced in its early days, was a proper place for its meetings, and for the preservation of its "library," and curiosities. While C. K. Smith was secretary of the Territory, the meetings were generally held in his office and he took care of the society's collections. After his hasty leaving the Territory, in the fall of 1851, all the books collected up to that time, mostly public documents, presented by Congressman Sibley, were lost. It was not until November, 1855, that a room was provided for the occupancy of the society in the new capitol, and it has enjoyed the use of apartments in the state house ever since that date, excepting for a few months at a more recent period.

THE DAKOTA LEXICON.

In 1851, an important contribution to philology was secured through the co-operation of the society, viz., the Grammar and Dictionary of the Dakota Language, written by Rev. S. R. Riggs, assisted by Rev. Messrs. G. H. and Samuel W. Pond, and Dr. T. S. Williamson, the missionaries to the Sioux. The cost of printing the work, and its necessarily small sale, would have been an insuperable barrier to its publication, had not this society, by means of committees appointed for that purpose, procured subscribers enough to justify the expense of the work, and thus gave to our aboriginal literature this valuable contribution. It forms Volume 4, of the Smithsonian Contributions to Knowledge.

Hon. C. K. Smith, having left the territory in November, 1851, Rev. E. D. Neill was chosen as secretary of the society in his place, and at once commenced active exertions to place the society on a successful footing, and to collect all possible material for the history of Minnesota. A considerable portion of the published collections of the society from that time to 1864, were written by him, and, during some years, his services to the society as secretary were of the highest value.

The means of the society were very limited during this period, (1850-56). The membership was small, and the amount which could be secured from annual dues did not allow of much outlay except for the barest necessary expenses, printing, postage, etc. No books were purchased for some years after this period, but many good ones were donated. Meantime, the annual meetings of the society had been regularly held in public, im-

portant and valuable papers read and addresses delivered, which, with other contributions concerning the early history of Minnesota, were published in pamphlet form under the title, "Annals of the Minnesota Historical Society," during the years 1850, 1851, 1852 and 1853, and circulated as widely as the means of the society would permit. The editions were small, however, and ultimately the society was compelled to reprint them, becoming Vol. 1, of its regular series of publications. During this period, we find the names of the following gentlemen mentioned in the minutes, as among the most active members: Rev. E. D. Neill, H. H. Sibley, Henry M. Rice, Charles E. Mayo, Col. D. A. Robertson, Alex Ramsey, Geo. L. Becker, Aaron Goodrich, Peter Berkely, R. R. Nelson, J. W. Bond, Thomas Foster, Parker Paine, Theo. French, W. G. LeDuc, and and Wm. Hollinshead. Several of the above are still active members.

APARTMENTS IN THE NEW CAPITOL SECURED.

Most of the meetings of the society had hitherto been held at chance places, professional offices of its members, etc., but it now seemed necessary to have some secure and permanent location. Jan. 17, 1854, it was voted "that Messrs. Olmsted and LeDuc be a committee to procure from the proper authorities, a room in the capitol, for the use of the society." It was not, however, until Nov. 27, 1855, that the minutes record: "The society met for the first time in the hall set apart in the capitol for their use, and properly furnished with shelves for the reception of books and other donations." It was agreed that Mr. Richard Walker, (a law student), have the use of the room during the winter, for taking charge of it. This was a room in the rear wing of the old capitol. It was also used by Judge Sherburne, as his chambers. It was not over eighteen feet square. The entire "library" of the society was shelved in a stained pine book case, about five feet wide and seven in height. This was destroyed in the fire of 1881.

PURCHASE OF A BUILDING SITE.

At the same period (1855), the improved condition of the society seemed to call for some special exertions to provide a building for its use. One necessary preliminary step was to secure a site. This was accomplished by the sale of sixty-two life memberships, at \$25 each, and two very eligible lots, on the northwest corner of Wabasha and 10th streets were purchased in December, 1855, for \$1,531. To Col. Daniel A. Robertson is due the credit of conceiving and carrying to a successful conclusion this scheme, which, though its expected benefits, were not immediately realized, was an important move for the society, as the property, then purchased, is now valued at \$50,000.

Important legislation was secured at the session of 1856; an amended charter for the society was passed, which gave it additional powers and privileges, and firmly established it as an institution of the State. An executive council of twenty-five members was created. The legislature also authorized an annual grant of \$500 to the society, to aid it in carrying on its work: and a joint resolution was also adopted, requesting Rev. E. D. Neill, secretary of the society, to prepare a compilation of materials for the History of Minnesota, of which 1,500 copies were ordered printed.

A LIBRARY BUILDING BEGUN.

The rapid increase of population about this time, and also the sudden enhancement of value (*i. e.*, the supposed value) of real estate, and the ease of the money market consequent on the speculative mania which was prevailing, having the appearance of a *real* increase of wealth, led the Society to the belief that money enough could be raised by subscription to erect a building on their property and, perhaps, with too little deliberation it was resolved to commence the same. On June 24, 1856, the corner-stone of the proposed hall was laid with Masonic and military ceremonies. An oration was pronounced by Lt. M. F. Maury, U. S. N., and a number of distinguished guests were in attendance. A procession, composed of all the civic societies of St. Paul and other towns in the territory, with a military escort, composed of Capt. Thos. W. Sherman's celebrated light battery from Fort Snelling, marched through the principal streets, forming a holiday fete of considerable magnificence. The foundation walls of the building were completed, and there the work ceased and was never resumed, after a debt of several hundred dollars had been incurred, which was not liquidated for some years. The whole movement seems (at this day) to have been premature and ill-advised. No mode of raising the \$15,000, necessary for the building, had been determined on, nor a cent subscribed toward it, nor had a plan for the building ever been adopted. The inflated condition and ease of the money market at the date mentioned, had led the members of the society to believe that the means necessary could be raised without trouble. This would probably have been the case, but before any further funds were secured, the financial revulsion of 1857 supervened, and all further effort to complete the building was abandoned.

In the summer of 1857, the capitol building caught fire and narrowly escaped destruction. Some loss occurred to the society's collections by the haste in which they were removed. One of the books injured at that time was a second time damaged, in the fire of March 1, 1881.

THE STRUGGLES OF THE SOCIETY TO LIVE.

In January, 1858, Wm. H. Kelley, Esq., a very accomplished gentleman and a thorough antiquarian, was appointed actuary of the society, for want of which officer, but little progress had hitherto been made in collecting a library, but which now rapidly increased. Mr. Kelley was in daily attendance at the rooms, and put successful measures in operation, to attract gifts and receive co-operation. It had been the intention that his salary should be partly defrayed by collections of membership fees. The annual fee for members was, at that date, \$5.00. But the period of the severest financial stringency following the panic of 1857 now set in. Everybody felt the pressure severely, and in this condition of things, new members were received very slowly. To add to the troubles of the society, the state appropriation of \$500 annually, owing to the depreciation of the treasury warrants, scarcely brought more than 50 cents on the dollar in current money. In view of these facts, Mr. Kelley, after a year or so of faithful efforts, gave up the work which he was carrying on with such promise, and the doors of the society were closed to the public. Even the small appropriation granted by the State was withdrawn, and not renewed until 1864, when the finances of the State had become more bright, and to crown its other misfortunes, the modest apartment it then occu-

pied in the north side of the eastern wing of the capitol, being needed for one of the departments of the state government, the society was compelled to vacate the same, and its collections were for some months packed away in a rear room, devoted to other uses, where they were exposed to loss by theft.

This suspension of its work, at a period when so much could have been done with adequate means, a period so fraught with historic events and rich in material which could only be secured at the time, was a very serious injury to the society. It was absolutely left without means to pay a postage bill. Its membership was small, and composed of men affected severely by the monetary stringency. Besides, it would have been difficult to have raised money for an institution which had practically ceased work. Mr. Neill, Col. D. A. Robertson, Gov. Ramsey, Charles E. Mayo, Mr. A. J. Hill and one or two other devoted ones, were about all who attempted to carry on the society's work during this discouraging period. During 1858 and 1859 there appear to have been no formal meetings of the Executive Council, or at least none are recorded. In 1860, a public annual meeting was held, and an address delivered by Lieut. Governor Ignatius Donnelly; and in Jan. 1861, an annual meeting, at which Hon. James W. Lynd made the address, the legislature forming the main part of the audience. A memorandum in the minute book here sadly records, "No meetings for three years!"

The breaking out of the civil war was a farther blow to the Society. Rev. E. D. Neill, its faithful and devoted secretary, was appointed a chaplain, and resigned his office, not returning to the State for eight or nine years afterwards. Mr. A. J. Hill enlisted in the service and was absent for three years. Both of these gentlemen, as opportunity offered, bore the Society in mind during their absence, and sent to it original historical papers, which were subsequently published, but the Society itself was practically dead.

A RESUSCITATION EFFECTED.

Towards the close of 1863, several members, among them D. A. Robertson, Wm. R. Marshall, Wm. H. Kelley, Peter Berkey, Charles E. Mayo and A. H. Cathcart, resolved on an effort to resuscitate the Society, and the meetings were resumed. Several gentlemen interested in historical pursuits were elected to membership, among them Capt. Russell Blakeley, Rev. John Mattocks, Rev. S. Y. McMasters, R. O. Sweeny, D. W. Ingersoll, J. Fletcher Williams, etc., all of whom became active members. Thus reinforced the Society took a fresh start. Geo. Ramsey having been elected to the United States senate in February, 1863, Hon. H. M. Rice was chosen president, and Charles E. Mayo, secretary. As there was no room suitable for meetings in the capitol, for some months the Society met in the rooms of the St. Paul Library. Meantime, most of its collections were still stored in one of the rooms of the capitol. The State legislature of 1864 renewed the annual appropriation of \$500, and the Society began once more to move on its way successfully. From this time on, the meetings were held regularly. Mr. Geo. W. Fahnestock, a Philadelphia gentleman, then residing temporarily in St. Paul, for his wife's health, made the Society liberal gifts of money and books, which aided it greatly. An apartment in Ingersoll's block was rented for its use.

A NEW PERIOD OF PROSPERITY.

The annual meeting in 1867, and the period closely following it, witnessed still further accessions to the working roll, among them Geo. A. Hamilton, Rev. John Ireland, Josiah B. Chaney, Henry P. Upham, John D. Ludden, and others; while Mr. A. J. Hill, now "home from the wars," and Judge Goodrich, returned from Brussels, after an absence of several years, again took their places in the ranks of workers. Gen. H. H. Sibley was chosen president, and J Fletcher Williams, secretary and librarian. From this period dates the most successful era of the Society.

Mr. Williams was a native of Cincinnati, O., and came to St. Paul in 1855, where he engaged in journalism. Having always had a great fondness for the study of history, especially that relating to the West, this naturally led him to writing articles for the daily papers on which he was employed about the early history of Minnesota, and he thus became intimately acquainted with most of its pioneers and early settlers, whose reminiscences he was endeavoring to secure. When the Minnesota Historical Society was resurrected, in 1864, he joined it and became one of its most zealous members. When elected secretary and librarian, in January, 1867, he was still engaged in the laborious and exacting duties of a city reporter, and had but little leisure for the actual work of the Society, or opportunity to be in attendance at its rooms. But as an offset to this, his duties led him to visit and converse with a number of persons daily, and this gave him an excellent opportunity to press the claims of the Society, to increase its membership, to solicit gifts for it, and to further its objects generally, and also to keep the Society and its objects prominently before the public, by frequent allusions thereto, in the columns of the daily journals. All these efforts bore good fruit, and the collections of the Society and its roll of active and paying members increased rapidly. In the annual report of the secretary, read January 20, 1868, he presents this encouraging outlook:

"Never, during any previous year of the Society, have we made such rapid, solid and substantial progress, as this year. Indeed, in some respects, we have accomplished more than in all the previous career of the Society. Our members have largely increased; our library and cabinet have almost doubled; our exchange list has been enlarged, and made to yield us valuable returns; our finances have been greatly improved; our list of correspondents and donors more than trebled; an interest and pride awakened in the Society among all classes of our citizens; our effectiveness greatly increased by means of Standing Committees, who have been appointed for the first time this year; through the repeated publication of our proceedings by the press of the State, the name of the Historical Society has become familiar to all our citizens, where a few months ago it was almost unknown; while our meetings, once slimly attended, and frequently without a quorum, are now too large for our limited rooms to accommodate." This year, also, began the purchase of books for the library, which has been systematically kept up ever since.

ONCE MORE IN THE STATE HOUSE.

This encouraging picture showed the necessity of better facilities for carrying on the work of the Society. It was resolved that a vigorous effort should be made to secure apartments in the State capitol again which the Society had ceded, on account of the crowded condition of the

building. The only available room seemed to be in the basement. This was, as yet, unoccupied and unfinished. On looking it over, it was found that very suitable and commodious rooms could be prepared there, and an outlay for this purpose was so ordered by the legislature of 1868. This was a great gain to the Society, and enabled it to advance faster than ever. Its library and museum now began to make a fine appearance, and was visited more largely than formerly. The rapid increase of the work attached to the office of Secretary and Librarian, severely taxed the time of that officer, as he was still pursuing his profession of journalist, and could only give to his Historical Society work such leisure as he could snatch from his newspaper duties, and this without any compensation from the Society. Ultimately, this became so onerous, that Mr. Williams found that he would be compelled to withdraw from official work for the Society; but the other members were unwilling to permit this, and it was suggested that some steps be taken to induce the legislature to increase the annual allowance to the Society, so as to employ his entire time for its work.

LIBERAL GRANT FROM THE STATE.

At the next session, (1869) this was proposed, and met with no opposition, an act being passed allowing the society \$2,000 per year, to pay all its expenses. This was an important event in the history of the society, as it was the commencement of that liberal patronage on the part of the State, which has enabled the society to achieve such splendid success. Mr. Williams withdrew from journalism in April, 1869, and has since that time devoted himself entirely to the work of the society.

Although the society had little trouble in getting its first appropriation, in 1869, its attempts to renew it year after year, met with persistent opposition from members of the legislature, who could not see any use in such an institution. Several times the bill to appropriate money to it was defeated, and only by vigorous efforts of the secretary, was resuscitated and finally carried. The various sums voted during these years, were: 1868-1870, \$2,000; 1871-1875, \$2,500; 1876-1880, \$3,000; 1881-1882, \$4,000; 1883-1892, \$6,000.

By these liberal appropriations, the library grew rapidly both by purchase and gift, and the publication of its collections was continued steadily. Its membership increased, also, gratifyingly. Its printed annual (more lately, biennial) reports, show a continual and rapid advance in all departments of its work. Twice, its apartments were increased by additions made to the capitol, and still seemed too small for the growing collections of the society.

LITIGATION BETWEEN PARTIES IN THE SOCIETY.

But in the year 1878, a cloud arose in the sky, which, seemed for a time to be fraught with portentous consequences to the society. Judge Aaron Goodrich, a charter member, and for some years an active and liberal worker of the society, conceived the idea that the latter had been organized and carried on in an illegal manner, contrary to the intent and meaning of its charter. In short, that the charter conferred powers and rights, and membership, only on the nineteen corporators named in that instrument, and on successors to such of them as should die, to be chosen by their survivors, the number to never consist of more than nineteen; and that, in consequence, the action of the society, in electing other per-

sons as members by ballot, during nearly thirty years, and conferring on them the right to participate in the management of the society, was illegal, and not contemplated by the framers of the law. It is somewhat curious that Judge Goodrich had never, prior to this date, broached this surprising theory at a meeting of the society, although he attended them regularly, nor did he ever speak of the matter to any of the active members, while he had, himself, frequently proposed persons for membership; but he went secretly to work to call a meeting of the surviving incorporators, seven in number, whom he falsely informed that if two or more of them should die, "it would reduce the number of members of the society to less than a quorum, and the organization and chartered rights would lapse." Consequently he asserted, it would be necessary for them to elect successors to those who had died since 1849. His statements regarding this having been accepted by them without investigation, the action advised by him was taken, and a list of members which the Judge proposed was so elected, composed mostly of his personal intimates. Among them were some who had never been members of the society and had shown no interest in it. Articles of incorporation were drawn up by them and filed with the Secretary of State. Their publication in the journals next day was the first intimation which the other members had of the action taken.

THE ACTION OF "QUO WARRANTO."

Thus it came about that there were two bodies, or organizations, each claiming to be the legal and genuine "Minnesota Historical Society." An effort was made at once, to adjust the difference between the two contestants, but this was found impossible. Matters went on thus for some months. Great efforts were made by the members to prevent publicity of these disagreements, but of course this could not be successful long, and the newspapers soon published exaggerated and incorrect accounts of the contest. The legislature finally brought the disputants to a settlement, by enacting that the State appropriation should only be given to that party which should establish its rights before the courts. The old organization then proceeded to bring an action of *quo warranto* in the supreme court of the State against the new claimants. After some months, that court filed a decision (written by Justice Cornell, since deceased) that the respondents had no grounds for their claim, and that they be ousted from jurisdiction. This decision was generally acquiesced in, and the whole controversy was soon forgotten by both parties. It might be proper to say here, that it did not in the least interfere with the work of the Society, which went on as successfully as ever, and there was complete cordiality of feeling between the two wings. The legal expenses of this contest which were considerable, were paid by subscriptions of the members, and no part was taken from the state appropriation.

Twice the Society celebrated anniversaries of events connected with the settlement of the Northwest. On May 1, 1867, it formally celebrated the one hundredth anniversary of the visit of Capt. Jonathan Carver to the cave now within the limits of St. Paul, and his treaty with the Indians there. These proceedings were afterwards published. On July

1880, the society also celebrated at St. Anthony's Falls, the 200th anniversary of the discovery of said falls, by Father Louis Hennepin. Addresses were made, and poems read, a collation served &c., and the entire proceedings were very interesting, to the immense crowd assembled. A full account of the event has been published in the society's collections.

THE DISASTROUS FIRE OF 1881.

From time to time, had been agitated by the Society; the question of erecting its long contemplated fire-proof library building, a measure imperatively needed, in view of the presence of such a valuable collection as the society owned, in an inflammable building like the State capitol. The destruction by fire was frequently predicted, and always feared. On March 1, 1881, at nine o'clock p. m. the fatal hour came! The capitol was found to be on fire in the dome. Both houses of legislature were in session, and a large crowd of spectators in attendance. Vigorous efforts were made at once by the latter to save the valuable library of the Historical Society. The doors and windows leading to the society's apartments were thrown open, and soon two or three score of men were busily engaged in carrying out armfuls of books and depositing them on the seats of the Unitarian Church near by. Thus, in an hour, before the fire penetrated to the society's rooms, almost every book and pamphlet belonging to its library were safely carried out. The contents of two inner rooms (mostly duplicates) were destroyed, together with all the book cases, and some other property. It was miraculous, how the splendid library of the society was saved with but little loss, and no damage to speak of. Much of the cabinet, however, was lost, stolen probably. Apartments were at once furnished the society in the newly finished market house of the city, and the library was moved into it, and rearranged. In a few weeks, all was running again smoothly. The apartments were dark, damp, and unhealthy, but the society got along after a fashion there for two years, and made some progress, until in April, 1883, when the new capitol building was completed, and the library moved thither again, into some apartments very nearly situated as those which the society has occupied before the fire. The insurance companies meantime had paid the society \$8,585 in payment of its losses, though over \$10,000 was claimed.

ONCE MORE IN THE STATE HOUSE.

As soon as the library was again arranged in its new quarters, the necessity of a complete catalogue seemed urgent. Miss Mary B. Merriam, a professional cataloguer of the highest skill, who, (fortunately for us) was just then out of an engagement, was employed, and spent two years on the work. The next step was the printing of the catalogue, which also consumed some time, and was not completed until April, 1888. The entire cost of the catalogue was \$8,500.

During this period, the society received some accessions of members, whose names appear frequently on its minutes, as active workers, viz: Gen. John B. Sanborn, Charles E. Flandrau, E. F. Drake, Henry L. Carver and W. P. Clough. Of the thirty members of the executive council, fourteen have been active members and constant attendants, for twenty-two years, and some for a still longer period. The *personnel* of the executive council has changed less than almost any other body in the State.

J. F. W.

August, 1889.

APPENDIX B.

LIST OF DONORS.

I. INDIVIDUALS.

	Bound Vols.	Pamph- lets.
Adams, Augusta J., Minneapolis.....	..	1
Adams, Charles Francis, Boston.....	1	1
Adams, F. G., Topeka, Kan.....	..	1
Adams, Rev. M. N., Goodwill, S. D.....	..	1
Adams, Saml. E., Minneapolis.....	..	1
Ames, John G., Washington, D. C.....	..	1
Armstrong, Hon. M. K., St. James, Minn.....	2	..
Ayer, Mrs. E. T., Belle Prairie, Minn.....	1	..
Babbitt, Miss Franc C., Coldwater, Mich.....	..	3
Barker, J. G., New York.....	..	41
Barr, Mrs. Geo. T., Mankato, Minn.....	4	..
Barton, E. M., Worcester, Mass.....	..	2
Benson, Jared, Anoka, Minn.....	1	..
Blakeley, Capt. R., St. Paul.....	6	3
Blanchard, Rufus, Chicago, Ill.....	..	1
Block, M. J., Baltimore.....	..	3
Bolton, A. L., St. Paul.....	..	2
Boynton, N. S., Port Huron, Mich.....	1	1
Bradlee, C. D., Boston.....	..	8
Bray, N. J., Minneapolis.....	..	1
Brigham, J. E., St. Paul.....	..	16
Brock, R. A., Richmond, Va.....	..	1
Bromley, E. A., Minneapolis.....	1	3
Brower, J. V., St. Paul.....	..	2
Brown, Hon. F. P., St. Paul.....	36	..
Canfield, T. H., Burlington, Vt.....	1	2
Castle, Henry A., St. Paul.....	..	3
Castle, J. N., Stillwater, Minn.....	..	1
Chaney, J. B., St. Paul.....	10	69
Charde, W. D., Kansas City.....	..	1
Chatfield, E. C., Minneapolis.....	..	1
Cleveland, J. R., St. Paul.....	1	..
Collett, O. C., St. Louis, Mo.....	..	1
Conley, C. C., Philadelphia.....	..	21
Corning, Edward, St. Paul.....	1	..
Curtis, Wm. E., Washington.....	4	..
Davenport, E. J., Minneapolis.....	..	1
Davis, C. K., St. Paul.....	4	12
Demarest, Rev. G. L., Manchester, N. H.....	..	5
De Peyster, J. W., Tivoli, N. Y.....	..	11
Detzer, Rev. J. A., St. Paul.....	..	1
Dorival, N. E., Caledonia, Minn.....	..	10
Dove, P. Edward, London.....	1	..
Dunnell, M. H., Owatonna, Minn.....	..	2
Durant, E. F., Stillwater, Minn.....	..	1
Edwards, Rev. M. N., St. Paul.....	..	2
Egan, John M., St. Paul.....	..	5
Espy, John, St. Paul.....

	Bound Vols.	Pamph lets.
Fairchild, H. S., St. Paul.....	3	8
Fales, E. G., St. Paul.....	..	1
Farwell, Osmun, Kirk & Co., St. Paul.....	1	..
Flandrau, C. E., St. Paul.....	..	1
Folwell, W. W., Minneapolis.....	1	5
French, A. D. Wild, Boston.....	1	..
Gannett, Henry, Washington.....	..	5
Gatschet, Albert S., Washington.....	..	7
Grant, Wm. H., St. Paul.....	119	10
Gordon, H. L., Duluth, Minn.....	1	..
Green, Dr. Samuel A., Boston.....	21	31
Gregg, O. C., Minneapolis.....	..	1
Griffin, Wm. E., Boston.....	1	..
Hackett, C. W., St. Paul.....	1	..
Hadden, Archibald, Minneapolis.....	..	1
Hall, Edw. W. Waterville, Minn.....	..	2
Harrity, Wm. F., Harrisburg, Pa.....	6	..
Haupt, Rev. A. J. D., St. Paul.....	..	1
Hazen, Henry A., Boston.....	4	..
Hazen, John M., Minneapolis.....	3	..
Hazzard, Geo. H., St. Paul.....	..	4
Heatwole, Joel, Northfield, Minn.....	..	1
Helmn, J. E., St. Paul.....	13	..
Herod, Clay D., Topeka, Kas.....	..	6
Hill, Alf. J., St. Paul.....	..	4
Hill, Hamilton A., Boston.....	2	15
Hobart, Mrs. C., Red Wing, Minn.....	..	1
Holly, Henry W., Tacoma, Wash.....	4	..
Holt, George D., Minneapolis.....	..	2
Hughes, G. T., Duluth.....	..	3
Jennings, Rev. H. C., Red Wing, Minn.....	..	1
Johnson, Charles F., Duluth.....	1	35
Johnson, R. W., St. Paul.....	..	1
Johnson, Charles W., Minneapolis.....	4	2
Jones, W. A. B., Helena, Mont.....	..	32
Keith, M. C., Minneapolis.....	3	2
Kelley, Wm. H., St. Paul.....	..	1
Kelton, Capt. D. H., U. S. A.....	..	1
Kimball, Nathaniel F.....	1	..
Kirk, Thos H., St. Paul.....	47	171
Knox, Henry M., Minneapolis.....	1	3
Knight, H. A., Minneapolis.....	..	3
Savage, G. N., Duluth.....	..	2
Edgerwood, Geo. E., Minneapolis.....	..	1
Lewis, Theo. H., St. Paul.....	6	161
Lochren, Wm. Minneapolis.....	..	1
Long, Peter, St. Paul.....	..	1
Luce, Clint. L., Albert Lea, Minn.....	..	1
Ludden, John D., St. Paul.....	..	139
McClevey, W. S., Indianapolis.....	..	14
McDonald, F. S., Minneapolis.....	..	2
McGillivray, J. A., Toronto, Canada.....	..	7
McLaughlin, A. C., Ann Arbor, Mich.....	..	1
Mahoney, P. M., St. Paul.....	..	1
Martin, Ellen S., Minneapolis.....	12	115
Marvin, Richard, St. Paul.....	8	..
Mattson, Hans, Minneapolis.....	2	..
Merriam, Wm. R., St. Paul.....	1	..
Minneapolis Journal Co., Minneapolis.....	1	..
Mitchell, Rev. E. C., St. Paul.....	13	..
Montgomery, James M., New York.....	1	..
Montgomery, Thomas, St. Paul.....	2	8
Moore, J. K., St. Anthony Park.....	..	2
Mott, Henry.....	1	2

	Bound Vols.	Pamph- lets.
Neill, Rev. E. D., St. Paul.....	..	3
Nelson, R. R., St. Paul.....	2	..
Nelson, Samuel, Buffalo, N. Y.....	..	11
Newson, T. M., Malaga, Spain.....	..	5
Nicholson, J. P. Philadelphia.....	1	1
North, Professor Edward, Clinton, N. Y.....	..	7
Norris, Don N., Minneapolis.....	35	237
Northrop, Dr. Cyrus, Minneapolis.....	..	1
Norton, Dr. A. K., Minneapolis.....	2	..
Noyes, Professor J. L., Faribault.....	1	..
Nye, W. G., Minneapolis.....	..	6
Olson, O., Wilmar, Minn.....	..	2
Orr, Grier M., St. Paul.....	..	4
Parker, B. F., Milwaukee.....	..	5
Pattee, W. S., Minneapolis.....	..	2
Parvin, T. S., Cedar Rapids, Iowa.....	1	2
Phelps, Wm. F., St. Paul.....	..	1
Pierce, S. L., St. Paul.....	1	..
Pillsbury, John S., Minneapolis.....	1	..
Pollock, S. L., St. Paul.....	..	11
Pond, Samuel W., Minneapolis.....	..	1
Poole, Dr. William F., Chicago.....	..	2
Pope, Albert A. Boston.....	..	1
Powers, L. G., St. Paul.....	12	50
Ramaley, David, St. Paul.....	..	1
Ramsey, Alex., St. Paul.....	3	384
Ravoux, Rev. A., St. Paul.....	2	..
Regan, Wm. M., Minneapolis.....	..	1
Rice, W. C., Zumbrota.....	..	4
Riggs, Rev. A. L., Santee Agency, Neb.....	1	..
Roberts, M. F., Kenosha, Wis.....	..	1
Robson, W. O., Boston.....	..	1
Sanborn, J. B., St. Paul.....	5	..
Seward, V. E., Stillwater.....	..	1
Sheire, Geo. H., St. Paul.....	..	4
Sibley, H. H., estate of, St. Paul.....	52	..
Shields, James, St. Paul.....	4	1
Simmon, Karl, St. Paul.....	..	3
Slack, Prof., H. W., St. Paul.....	..	49
Slafter, Rev. E. F., Boston.....	..	4
Smith, Dr. C. E., St. Paul.....	5	..
Smith, Hon. C. H., St. Paul.....	..	2019
Smucker, Isaac, Newark, O.....	..	5
Snider, Hon. S. P., Minneapolis.....	..	1
Stephens, W. H., Lowville, N. Y.....	..	1
Stevens, H. F., St. Paul.....	..	1
Stevens, Col. John H., Minneapolis.....	2	..
Stowe, Rev. A. D., Stillwater.....	1	2
Strong, Dr. J. W., Northfield Minn.....	..	2
Swan, Robert T., Baltimore.....	..	2
Sweeney, R. O., Duluth.....	173	198
Tanner, Rev. James, Fairbault.....	1	..
Taylor, H. K., St. Paul.....	..	8
Taylor, W. H. H., St. Paul.....	..	12
TenBrook, W. G., Duluth.....	1	..
Thornton, Hiram, Anoka.....	..	5
Thwaites, R. G., Madison, Wis.....	1	1
Thwing, Rev. E. P., Brooklyn, N. Y.....	1	..
Todd, Irving, Hastings, Minn.....	..	47
Trask, W. B., Boston.....	..	1
Trimble, J., Washington, D. C.....	..	21
Upham, H. P., St. Paul.....	..	4
Wade, E. P., St. Paul.....	71	74
Waiter, Alf., Worcester, Mass.....	..	1

	Bound Vols.	Pamph- lets.
Walker, J. B., Concord, Mass.....	..	1
Warnock, Adam, Boston, Mass.....	1	..
Washburn, Hon. W. D., Minneapolis.....	8	..
Weber, Charles, St. Paul.....	..	34
Webber, Frederic, New York.....	3	..
Weir, A. Stanley, Boston.....	..	1
Wheeler, L. G., Minneapolis.....	..	15
White, Maj G. Q., St. Paul.....	..	1
Williams, J. Fletcher, St. Paul.....	36	93
Willis, F. D., St. Paul.....	..	49
Wilson, G. L., St. Paul.....	..	6
Wilstach, John A., Lafayette, Ind.....	..	1
Winchell, N. H., Minneapolis.....	15	2
Winslow, Arthur, Jefferson City, Mo.....	..	4
Wright, Carroll D., Washington, D. C.....	1	..
Wright, Rev. John, St. Paul.....	3	12
Wright, Walker, Boston.....	..	7
Young, H. H., St. Paul.....	158	131

II INSTITUTIONS.

Academie Royale, Copenhagen.....	..	7
Adams Nervine Asylum, Jamaica Plain, Mass.....	..	1
Albert Lea College, Albert Lea, Minn.....	..	2
American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, Mass.....	..	2
American Association for the Advancement of Science.....	..	1
American Bankers' Association, New York.....	..	1
American Bar Association, Philadelphia.....	7	1
American Catholic Association, Philadelphia.....	..	4
American Congregational Association, Boston.....	..	3
American Geographical Society, New York.....	..	2
American Historical Association, Washington.....	..	5
American Jewish Historical Society, New York.....	..	1
American Library Bureau, Boston.....	..	1
American Metrical Society, Boston.....	..	1
American Museum of Natural History, New York.....	..	4
American Protective League, New York.....	..	51
American Unitarian Association, Boston.....	..	38
Amherst College, Amherst, Mass.....	..	2
Andover Theological Seminary, Andover, Mass.....	..	2
Astor Library, New York.....	..	2
Auburn Theological Seminary, Auburn, N. Y.....	..	2
Augustana College, Rock Island, Ill.....	..	2
Australian Royal Geographical Society (Brisbane).....	..	6
Baldwin school, St. Paul.....	..	2
Baltimore, Corn and Flour Exchange.....	..	1
Barnard school, St. Paul.....	..	1
Beloit college, Beloit, Wis.....	..	1
Boston Associated Charities.....	..	3
Benevolent Fraternity of Churches.....	..	4
Children's Aid Society.....	..	2
Children's Hospital.....	..	1
City Hospital.....	1	2
Gwynne Temporary Home for Children.....	..	2
Home for Aged Men.....	..	3
Home for Good Samaritan.....	..	2
Overseers of the Poor.....	..	1
Park Commissioners.....	..	1
Provident Association.....	..	1
Public Library.....	..	8
University.....	..	2
Bostonian Society.....	..	5
Bowdoin college, Brunswick, Me.....	..	1
Brooklyn library, Brooklyn, N. Y.....	..	4

	Bound Vols.	Phamp- lets.
Brookline library, Brookline, Mass.....	..	1
Buffalo Historical Society, Buffalo, N. Y.....	2	8
Buffalo Merchants' Exchange, Buffalo, N. Y.....	..	2
Brown university, Providence, R. I.....	..	2
Bryn Mawr college, Bryn Mawr, Pa.....	..	2
California State university, Berkeley, Cal.....	..	6
California State Agricultural college, Berkeley, Cal.....	..	1
California State mineralogist.....	..	1
Canadien, St. Paul.....	1	..
Carlton College, Northfield, Minn.....	..	2
Case School of Applied Sciences, Cleveland, O.....	..	2
Catholic University of America, Washington, D. C.....	..	6
Cayuga Historical Society, Auburn, N. Y.....	..	2
Chicago, Board of Trade.....	1	..
College of Physicians and Surgeons.....	..	2
Public Library.....	2	5
Rush Medical College.....	..	1
Sunset Club.....	1	..
Theological Seminary.....	..	1
University.....	..	12
Chicago, West, Park Commissioners.....	..	2
Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce.....	10	15
Public Library.....	..	1
Cleveland, Board of Trade.....	..	1
Cobden Club, London, Eng.....	..	1
Colby University, Waterville, Me.....	..	1
Colorado School of Mines, Golden.....	..	1
Columbia, Republic of.....	1	1
Connecticut Historical Society.....	..	1
Humane Society, Hartford.....	..	1
Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.....	..	1
Dr. Martin Luther College, New Ulm, Minn.....	..	2
Dartmouth College, Hanover, N. H.....	..	2
Dedham Historical Register, Dedham, Mass.....	..	2
Historical Society, Dedham, Mass.....	2	..
Delaware Historical Society, Wilmington, Del.....	2	..
Democratic National Committee, New York.....	..	22
Denver Chamber of Commerce.....	..	2
De Pauw University, Greencastle, Ind.....	..	1
Detroit Board of Trade.....	..	2
Dispatch Printing Co., St. Paul.....	1	..
Duluth Board of Education.....	..	1
Board of Public Works.....	..	3
Board of Trade.....	..	1
Essex Institute, Salem, Mass.....	..	11
Fargo College, Fargo, N. D.....	..	1
Great Northern Railroad Co., St. Paul.....	..	4
Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, Minn.....	..	2
Hamline University, St. Paul.....	..	2
Hamilton College, Clinton, N. Y.....	..	1
Hampton Institute, Hampton, Va.....	..	2
Hartford, Conn., Theological Seminary.....	..	4
Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.....	1	3
Library.....	..	29
Helena, Mont., Board of Trade.....	..	4
Free Public Library.....	..	1
Hope Academy, Moorehead, Minn.....	..	1
Huguenot Society of America.....	..	1
Illinois State Historical Library, Springfield.....	..	1
Illinois State University.....	..	1
Indiana Historical Society, Indianapolis.....	..	4
Iowa College, Grinnell, Iowa.....	..	1
Iowa Historical Society, Iowa City.....	..	3
State University, Iowa City.....	..	2

	Bound Vols.	Pamph- lets.
Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore.....	..	1
Kansas Historical Society, Topeka.....	..	4
Kansas University, Lawrence.....	..	3
Kansas City Commercial Exchange.....	..	1
Knox College, Galesburg, Ill.....	..	1
LaCrosse Board of Trade.....	..	1
Lafayette College, Easton, Pa.....	..	2
Lake Forest University, Lake Forest, Ill.....	..	4
Laval University, Quebec.....	..	2
Los Angeles Historical Society.....	..	1
Public Library.....	..	4
Louisville Board of Trade.....	..	1
Loyal Legion, Commandery of Minn., St. Paul.....	..	25
Lutheran Augustana Book Concern, Rock Island.....	..	8
McGill College, Montreal.....	..	2
Manitoba Historical and Scientific Society, Winnipeg.....	..	4
Mankato, Minn., Normal School.....	..	2
Marietta College, Marietta, O.....	..	2
Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore.....	..	5
Massachusetts Bureau of Statistics.....	2	..
College of Pharmacy.....	..	1
General Hospital.....	..	2
Historical Society.....	2	..
Horticultural Society.....	..	11
Institute of Teachers.....	..	5
Medical Society.....	..	2
School for Feeble Minded.....	..	1
Secretary of the Commonwealth.....	2	..
Soldiers' Home, Chelsea.....	..	1
Memphis Merchant's Exchange.....	..	2
Miami Medical College, Cincinnati, O.....	..	2
Michigan Mining School, Houghton, Mich.....	..	6
Michigan Pioneer Association, Lansing.....	..	1
Michigan State Library, Lansing.....	29	1
Michigan University, Ann Arbor.....	..	2
Milwaukee Chamber of Commerce.....	..	1
Public Library.....	..	10
Minneapolis Academy, Minneapolis, Minn.....	..	2
Academy of Sciences.....	..	1
Associated Charities.....	..	1
Board of Education.....	..	1
Board of Health.....	..	3
City Clerk.....	2	..
College of Physicians and Surgeons.....	..	1
Journal Company.....	1	..
Maternal Hospital.....	..	1
Public Library.....	..	4
Northwestern Hospital.....	..	1
Sisterhood of Bethany.....	..	2
Young Men's Christian Association.....	..	2
Minnesota Labor Bureau.....	..	8
State Agricultural Society.....	2	..
University.....	..	2
University Agricultural College Exp. Sta.....	..	12
Masonic Relief Association.....	..	1
Missouri Geological Survey.....	..	2
Missouri State University, Jefferson City.....	..	1
Moorhead, Minn., Normal School.....	..	2
Mitchell Library, Glasgow, Scotland.....	..	1
Nashotah Home, Nashota, Wis.....	..	1
National Educational Association.....	1	..
National Normal University, Urbana, O.....	..	1
Nebraska State Historical Society, Lincoln.....	5	5
State University.....	..	2

	Bound Vols.	Pamph- lets.
Newberry Library, Chicago.....	..	2
New England Historic Genealogical Society, Boston.....	..	8
Hospital for Women and Children, Boston.....	..	2
Methodist Historical Society, Boston.....	..	2
New Jersey Historical Society, Newark.....	5	59
New South Wales Government.....	1	..
New York (State) Library.....	..	5
University.....	..	2
Board of R. R. Commissioners.....	4	..
New York (City) Bellevue Hospital.....	..	1
Board of Trade and Transportation.....	..	1
Chamber of Commerce.....	1	..
Mercantile Library.....	..	1
Nicaragua Canal Construction Co.....	..	1
North Dakota State University, Grand Forks.....	..	4
Numismatic and Antiquarian Society, Philadelphia.....	..	3
Northern Pacific R. R. Co., New York City.....	..	2
Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill.....	..	4
Notre Dame University, Notre Dame, Ind.....	..	2
Nova Scotia Historical Society.....	..	1
Oberlavsitches Gesellschaft der Wissenschaften, Görlitz.....	..	2
Oberlin College, Oberlin, O.....	..	4
Conservatory of Music.....	..	1
Theological Seminary.....	..	1
Ohio Historical and Philosophical Society, Cinn. O.....	..	2
Ohio State University, Columbus.....	..	2
University, Athens.....	..	3
Ohio, Secretary of State.....	1	..
Old Colony Historical Society, Taunton, Mass.....	..	1
Omaha Board of Trade.....	..	2
Oneida Historical Society, Utica, N. Y.....	..	4
Parker College, Winnebago City, Minn.....	..	2
Pasadena, Cal., Public Library.....	..	1
Peabody Institute, Baltimore.....	..	2
Pennsylvania State Library.....	31	2
University.....	..	2
Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana.....	..	3
Perkin's Institute for the Blind, Boston.....	..	1
Philadelphia Board of Trade.....	..	1
Library Co.....	1	1
Pillsbury Academy, Owatonna, Minn.....	..	1
Portland, Oregon, Chamber of Commerce.....	..	2
Providence, R. I., Public Library.....	..	2
Quebec Literary and Historical Library, Quebec, Canada.....	..	1
Republican National Committee, New York.....	..	27
Rhode Island Historical Society, Providence.....	2	2
Rochester University, Rochester, N. Y.....	..	1
Royal Historical Society, London.....	4	..
Royal Historical Society, Canada.....	1	..
Saint Cloud, Minn., Normal School.....	..	2
St. John's University, Collegeville, Minn.....	..	4
St. Joseph's Academy, St. Paul.....	..	2
St. Louis, Mo., Medical College.....	..	2
Merchants Exchange.....	2	..
Mercantile Library.....	..	1
St. Mary's Hall, Faribault, Minn.....	..	2
St. Paul, Minn., Acker Post, G. A. R.....	1	..
Board of Education.....	..	2
Chamber of Commerce.....	..	1
Civil Engineers' Club.....	2	..
Public Library.....	..	2
Protestant Orphan Asylum.....	..	2
Society for Relief of Poor.....	..	1
St. Olaf's College, Northfield, Minn.....	..	2

	Bound Vols.	Pamph- lets.
St. Paul's College, St. Paul Park.....	..	2
Salem, Mass., Public Library.....	..	2
San Francisco Board of Trade.....	..	1
Mercantile Library.....	..	3
Shattuck School, Faribault, Minn.....	..	2
South Dakota Agr. Col., Exp. Sta., Brookings, S. D.....	..	19
South Dakota University, East Pierre, S. D.....	..	3
Southern California Historical Society, Los Angeles, Cal..	..	4
Stanford Leland Junior University, Palo Alto, Cal.....	..	7
Surrey Archæological Society, London, England.....	..	2
Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, Pa.....	..	2
Syracuse University, Syracuse, N. Y.....	..	2
Tennessee Industrial School, Nashville, Tenn.....	..	2
Toronto, Canada, University.....	..	2
Trinity College, Hartford, Conn.....	..	1
Tufts College, College Hill, Mass.....	..	2
Tulane University, New Orleans.....	..	2
United States Agricultural Department.....	1	56
Board of Geographical Names.....	..	1
Bureau of American Republics.....	..	7
Bureau of Education.....	2	3
Bureau of Ethnology.....	1	3
Census Bureau.....	..	234
Chief Engineer.....	6	..
Civil Service Commission.....	2	1
Coast Survey.....	1	..
Commissioner of Labor.....	2	..
Commissioner of Pensions.....	..	1
Geological Survey.....	2	24
Interior Department.....	52	24
Interstate Commerce Commission.....	2	..
Military Academy.....	..	2
National Museum.....	..	2
Naval Observatory.....	..	3
Patent Office.....	..	48
Smithsonian Institution.....	..	9
State Department.....	3	23
War Department.....	21	..
Union College, Schenectady, N. Y.....	..	2
Union University, Albany.....	..	1
Virginia Historical Society, Richmond, Va.....	..	1
Virginia State University, Charlottesville.....	..	2
Wabash College, Crawfordsville, Ind.....	..	2
Washington University, St. Louis, Mo.....	..	3
Washington Historical Society, Tacoma, W.....	..	1
Wellesley College, Wellesley, Mass.....	..	2
Wesleyan University, Middletown, Conn.....	..	1
Westchester County Historical Society, New York.....	..	1
Western Reserve University, Cleveland, O.....	..	1
Williams college, Williamstown, Mass.....	..	2
Windom institute, Montevideo, Minn.....	..	2
Winona, Minn., normal school.....	..	2
Wisconsin Historical Society.....	..	3
Wisconsin University.....	..	2
Worcester Society of Antiquity, Worcester, Mass.....	..	3
Worcester public library.....	..	1
Wyoming Historical and Geological History, Wilkes- barre, Pa.....	..	2
Yale college, New Haven, Conn.....	..	8
Yonkers Historical and Literary Association.....	..	1

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