

book-cases, &c., leaving the said company only an income sufficient to defray the ordinary and strictly appropriate expenses of such an institution.

I have observed that large annual incomes in corporate bodies almost invariably lead to wasteful extravagance, and cause the institutions to become the prey of schemers, who, under the specious cloak of liberality, or of being what is called public-spirited citizens, have no hesitation in spending the money of other people, in order to gratify their own vanity, or to promote their private interests. Such persons pass so much of their time in the distraction of change from one place of popular importance to another, that they have no opportunity for observation and reflection, to gain intellect enough to comprehend the purpose of books of knowledge, and therefore can be of no service, but rather the means of disturbing the quiet duties of a public library. Let them find instruction in its volumes with thankfulness and modesty, yet beware of admitting them to even a part of its government, or they will be sure—unless the managers are wise and watchful—by some manœuvre to direct the whole. They are consequential spend-thrifts, who, under the plea of patriotic improvement and of ornamenting a city, misapply government taxes, and embarrass the funds of scientific, literary, and charitable, as well as moneyed institutions, over which, by popular artifice, they have gained a control. As a condition, therefore, of my will, let the managers and contributors join to exclude all such persons from the direction of the