

the Company by him, in making them the Trustee of his residuary estate, and the fact that a fire-proof building for the reception of its literary treasures will be secured, should all combine to procure our co-operation to carry the plans of the testator into effect.

At present the executor considers himself bound to regard the Company as strangers, because he is not advised of their acceptance of the provision of the Will, or indeed of any such action on their part as would enable him to determine whether he shall erect a building suited for them and for the Ridgway branch of the Philadelphia Library, or whether he shall found and endow the Ridgway Library.

After a careful consideration of the whole case, the Committee think that in fairness to the Executor, the Company should decide at once whether they will accept or reject the bequest, and thereby relieve him from all embarrassment so far as they are concerned.

If the Company accept, they will at once place themselves in such relations with the Executor as to be able to influence to the fullest extent practicable, all his plans, and thus secure the erection of a building adapted for their use and the reservation of as large a fund for the purchase of books and the payment of current expenses, as the terms of the Will may permit.

It must be borne in mind that the views of the munificent testator were not limited to the present time, but are to extend over all time, as independently of the provision for the lot, building, expenses, &c.; all the principal of the annuities as it falls in, will become available for the purposes of the library.

It cannot be doubted that our Company is better fitted than any other corporation or any new one that might be

