

removed than it is from the residences of those who use them. In this country, wherever the plan of building in the centre of population has been followed, it has been found in a few years, from its shifting so frequently, that they have become so disadvantageously located as to make removal a matter of constantly recurring agitation. The Astor Library in New York, a comparatively modern institution, is now many miles distant from the mass of the reading public, and the Boston Public Library has been compelled to establish a branch quite distant from the original location, from which an entire removal is proposed.

I have chosen this site for these, among other reasons:—

1. It is on the finest street of our city.
2. It is, so far as I know, the only lot on that street sufficiently large for the building I must erect, which I can obtain at a reasonable cost.
3. If compelled to purchase a lot elsewhere, I will not be able to erect the building ordered by the testator.
4. I know of no suitable lot on any other street which can be had at the same cost.
5. It is but little distant from the centre of the city, and is within easy reach, by car, of all portions of it.
6. It will not be necessary to have the library building torn down in twenty years and the lot sold because of its limited dimensions (Codicil, p. 25).
7. Its size insures, for all time light, air, retirement, quiet, and safety from external dangers.
8. It already belongs to the estate.
9. It is exactly suited for the kind of library Dr. Rush proposed to endow—not a reading-room, nor one containing the light and ephemeral literature of the day, but one for readers and students of a higher grade.
10. It will carry out the cardinal intent of the testator as *he* understood it, because it is the one he selected himself.

I adhere to this choice and to my determination to build thereon notwithstanding the opposition which has been raised, because it was to my judgment, and not to that of others, Dr. Rush confided the performance of his testamentary dispositions.