

nication with the directors on this subject, I have determined to mention it.

During the three or four weeks previous to Dr. Rush's death, he desired me on various occasions to make pencil memoranda of several articles which he directed me to give to his friends as remembrances. I reduced these memoranda to form; wrote them in ink, and read them over to him in presence of Miss Little, a friend who was constantly with him. They were not signed because his physical weakness rendered his writing a labor, and he did not wish his tremulous signatures to be attached to his will. I said to him, no one could object to them but the Library Company, and if they gave their assent, however informally, I would assume the pecuniary responsibility and carry out his instructions. I mentioned all these facts to the directors, at one of the only two meetings I have attended since Dr. Rush's death, and stated the value of those articles would not exceed \$2000—and several were intended for me, but I declined to take any of them, and spoke only for the sake of others.

No notice was taken of this request, and after waiting many months I consulted my counsel whether I might not consider these memoranda as part of Dr. Rush's will and carry them into effect.

They both advised me strongly against it, and I was obliged to inform the intended beneficiaries, that for want of the assent of the Library Company, they could not have their remembrances.

Now, the Library Company give me notice that the company "are now ready to undertake the performance of their duties as trustees for the Ridgway branch of the Library,"—*duties* and *trusts* which I understand commence only when the building is finished; but I am not aware that they have shown, in any one instance, a disposition to comply with the last instructions of one whom I shall always consider as their munificent benefactor.

Very truly yours,  
H. J. WILLIAMS.

DR. CH. WILLING,  
*Chairman.*

