

3. To all persons, for a small compensation, who wish to use the books without the building, and give security for their return.

V. The original purpose for which the corporation was created was the collection and use of books by the members at their homes, as a circulating library. It was the first of that kind in this country, and has ever since preserved its character. The profits arising from subscriptions and other sources are devoted exclusively to the expense of the library and to its increase, and are not employed for the pecuniary use or benefit of the members.

VI. Your orators, therefore, are advised and aver that they are a corporation for charitable and literary uses, and are entitled to the aid of a court of chancery for preserving and protecting their rights.

VII. From the first organization of the library down to the present time, the complainant has never been considered to be a proper subject of taxation.

By the first section of the ninth article of the Constitution of this Commonwealth, it was provided that the General Assembly might by general laws exempt from taxation public property used for public purposes, actual places of religious worship, places of burial not used or held for private or corporate profit, and institutions of purely public charity; and in pursuance of this provision the legislature, by an act approved the fourteenth day of May, 1874 (P. L., 158), enacted that amongst other things, all hospitals, universities, colleges, seminaries, academies and associations and institutions of learning, benevolence or charity, with the grounds thereto annexed and necessary for the occupancy and enjoyment of the same found [founded], provided, endowed and maintained by public or private charity, should be exempted from all and every county, city, borough, county, road, school and poor tax: *Provided*, That all property other than that which was