"tainments for managers, visitors, shareholders, or for any
"other persons whatever.

"*Fifth.* I do not wish that any work should be excluded
"from the library on account of its difference from the or-
"dinary or conventional opinions on the subjects of science,
"government, theology, morals, or medicine, provided it
"contains neither ribaldry nor indecency. Temperate, sin-
"cere, and intelligent inquiry and discussion are only to be
"dreaded by the advocates of error. The truth need not
"fear them, nor do I wish the Ridgway Branch of the Phila-
"delphia Library to be encumbered with the ephemeral
"biographies, novels, and works of fiction or amusement,
"newspapers or periodicals, which form so large a part of
"the current literature of the day. The great object of a
"public library is to bring within the reach of the reader
"and student works which private collections do not, and
"cannot, contain, and which in no other way could be ac-
"cessible to the public. Its excellence will depend—not
"upon the number of its volumes—but upon their intrinsic
"value, and I wish this principle to be carried out by the
"managers, who, I hope, will never be influenced by the too
"common ambition for mere numerical superiority.

"*Sixth.* I give and bequeath all my pictures, my private
"library, my manuscripts, copyrights, and papers, and also
"those of my father, Dr. Benjamin Rush (in my possession)
"to the Library Company, to be by them placed in a room
"in the new building, and there safely kept. The books
"may be used as the other books of the Library Company,
"but this room is not to be opened to gratify idle or object-
"less curiosity.

"*Seventh.* I will and direct that the building to be erected
"for the Philadelphia Library Company, under the provi-
"sions of my will, shall have a basement story, of a height
"not less than eight feet six inches above the level of the
"pavement at its front, leaving the height of such basement
"in the rear to depend upon the grade for the drainage of
"the lot. The entrance to the front of the story, immediately