ate, sincere 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 Philadelphia 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 accessible 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."

The trust would therefore be abundantly satisfied, and would be best performed in accordance with the wishes of the testator by removing to the new building the bulk of the Library Company's books, including, of course, those most valuable to the student and most appropriate for the purposes of a public library as designated by him, and excluding therefrom all books of that class of ephemeral or current literature with which he did not wish this building encumbered, and which, consequently, and all books of like character hereafter to be acquired by the Library Company, may well be retained and stored in its present building or such other as the managers may chose to use for this purpose. The Master is therefore of opinion, and so reports, that the Library Company has conformed to and complied with the conditions prescribed by the testator under which it was to hold the said devise and bequest.

3. He further reports, that the plaintiff has done and performed all things necessary to entitle him to call upon the said defendant Library Company to elect to accept or decline the said devise and bequest.

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