

Address of W. Peale to the Directors of the Library Company
in Philadelphia

Gentlemen

It is with reluctance that the subscriber intrudes
on the time of Gentlemen forming the Library Company,
yet he hopes for their ready concurrence when a
public benefit is the principal object of the application.

The time is now at hand which will manifest
the importance of a good repository of Natural History
in our City, and consequently justify with the
friends of Science the Idea that led him to an
uncommon exertion of his powers for many of his last
years. — His attention of late has been directed
towards the publication of a Catalogue of the subjects

of his Museum. It has occurred to him that this
would not only facilitate an acquaintance with the
subjects of Natural History in his repository by putting
into the hands of the Visitor an accurate description
of the object of his attention; but also present to the
American as well as the European World, an evidence
of our progress in a department of Science, whose
successful cultivation has always been a charac-
teristical mark of an advanced civilization.

To make this Catalogue as correct
as possible by its descriptions, frequent recourse to
the best Authors are absolutely necessary, in order to
compare the plates with the several Animals,

therefore