

Another gratifying fact which the Board are able to communicate at the present time, and one which removes the principal objection heretofore felt to the acceptance of Dr. Rush's gift, is that the Supreme Court has recently decided that so much of the Company's property as is actually used for library purposes is exempt from taxation.

In the mean time the present library building has become so crowded that there is little or no further shelf room available for the storage of books. Immediate relief from this embarrassment will be afforded by the use of the Ridgway Branch, to which the Directors propose to remove not only such books as, if destroyed by fire, could never be replaced, but also—with the approval of their co-trustees—the entire Loganian Library, together with that portion of the Company's own collection which may be considered more particularly as a library of reference. The business of a circulating library, which was the original and primary object of the association, will still be carried on mainly in the present building, which will be connected by telephone with the one at Broad and Christian Streets, the American District Telegraph Company affording facilities for sending books from either to the houses of members and others.

The above-mentioned action of the Court, investing the Company with the management of the Trust created by Dr. Rush's will, finds the Board of Directors charged with the administration of another trust, that is to say, the Building Fund started in 1856. This fund, as will be seen by the accompanying Report of the Treasurer, now amounts to \$117,544.44, of which \$71,809.18 is invested in real estate at the corner of Locust and Juniper Streets. The remainder would be sufficient, at the present reduced cost of building, to put up a fire-proof structure on that or some other convenient lot, sufficient to contain all the books which it is necessary for the Company to keep in a central location; and whenever a satisfactory offer is received for the Company's property at Fifth and Library Streets the question of removal will be seriously entertained.

In conclusion, the Directors once more congratulate the Company on the prosperous condition of its affairs, and confidently predict for the Institution an increase of usefulness in the future.

MAY 6TH, 1878.

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