



That after examining the constitutions and laws of other institutions of a similar character, they have prepared and now submit the sketch of such a plan, as, in their opinion, will meet the views of the gentlemen by whom they were appointed, and which they hope will receive the approbation of the subscribers generally. They have avoided detail as far as possible, believing it to be the appropriate duty of directors hereafter to be chosen, to make such special regulations and arrangements as may be necessary. The title of the company, the number, the mode of election, and generally the duties of its officers, the price of the shares of stock, and the amount of the annual contribution, together with the terms of forfeiture, are particularly regulated by the constitution which the committee have prepared. In relation to these matters, they have endeavoured to be sufficiently explicit, to enable the directors to know on what terms it is desirable for them to obtain from the proper authorities, a charter for the company; but have not thought it expedient, or within the scope of their appointment, to go further. They therefore submit the accompanying Constitution for adoption, and recommend that the stockholders proceed to the election of a board of directors, whose duty it shall be, as soon as convenient, to obtain an act of incorporation.

The committee take this opportunity to state, what they suppose to be the object of the individuals who have promoted the plan of a Public Library of Foreign Literature, and to correct misapprehensions which they are led to believe exist. The plan of a Foreign Library originated in no spirit of opposition to any existing institution, but merely in the wish to supply a deficiency that had long been felt and regretted, and which none of the public institutions of the city, from the limited resources at their command, are able to remove.

So far was the idea of opposition, in the opinion of the committee, from the minds of those with whom this design originated, that the wish was, if possible, to attach the new library to some one or other of the public collections in this city, in such a way as to save expense, and promote mutual benefit. This idea of a connection is now

