

Appeal
for a
Fund to erect a fire proof Building.
for the
Library Comp^y of Philada^a

The Directors of the Philadelphia Library Company have felt for a long time serious apprehensions with regard to the safety of the Company's property at the corner of Fifth and Library Streets, and the valuable collection of Books &c it contains. It was formerly in the midst of an open Lot, separated from the neighbouring buildings by a sufficient space to protect it from the danger of fire. But now it is so completely surrounded by stores and workshops, in some of which hazardous trades are carried on, that it has become exceedingly insecure. It is to be observed that an alarm would be almost as injurious as an actual fire, if it were necessary to throw water on the present building; the one element would be but little less destructive than the other.

The value of this Library is scarcely appreciated. It contains 65,000 volumes. It is among the very first in point of age and numbers in the United States, and many Works

