

PREFACE.

THE Catalogues of the Library Company of Philadelphia, now brought down to 1856, are contained in three volumes, of which the first and second, published in 1835, comprise the books in the library at that date, and the third—the present issue—contains the titles of all books added since that time, together with a general Index. This is exclusive of the Loganian Library, to which the members have access, and of which a catalogue in 450 pages, octavo, was published in 1837.

It is believed that the general *Index* hereto appended (p. 1681) obviates most of the disadvantages of the supplementary character of the third volume, at the same time that it secures important ends not otherwise to be attained. Volume 3 is paged continuously with volumes 1 and 2, and the alphabetical Index contains a reference to all the leading words in the titles of the whole three volumes. Thus, not only the names of all authors, translators, and annotators are indexed, but also all subjects of biography, all works of fiction, and generally such important words in each title, that a book may be found even if the author's name is unknown to the seeker, or if the work is anonymous. So copious an Index cannot fail, practically, to add much to the value and utility of the collection.

As regards the classification of the body of the work, the method of the Catalogue of 1835, consisting of the five great divisions of Religion, Jurisprudence, Sciences and Arts, Belles Lettres and History, each subdivided into appropriate heads, and the whole preceded by Bibliography, has been followed in the present volume. Where necessary, the same work has been inserted under two or more heads. In copying the titles, an endeavor has been made, on the one hand, to avoid the redundancy which a title absolutely full would entail, and on the other, to make the transcription so complete that nothing really important might be omitted. Names of the authors of books published anonymously, and other explanatory additions to the title, are placed within parentheses ().

The well-selected books of the Library of Foreign Literature and

