

was present, as to his wish that the Directors would or could not accept of Dr. Rush's bequest?

A. At the last meeting at which Mr. Williams was present, he was very much irritated by the unwillingness of the Directors to advise an immediate acceptance of the bequest of Dr. Rush, without legal advice as to the construction of his will, and he expressed himself somewhat to the effect (I may be wrong as to the exact words) that he would not care if the members rejected the bequest. I do not mean that this was a formal statement to the Board, but as occurring in the general discussion. He subsequently, in a letter of June 22, 1869, to Dr. Morris used these words:—

"I address this note to you as the oldest of the Directors of the Library, because I do not intend to be present at your meeting on Thursday next, nor to take any part in inducing the decision which they are then to make in reference to Dr. Rush's magnificent gift. Indeed, the coolness and, I may say, indifference, with which it has been received, almost lead me to hope that it may be rejected, and the Ridgway Library be established wholly independent of the Philadelphia Library."

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December 8, 1871.

Q. You have already testified to the meeting of Directors of the 10th June, 1869, at which Mr. Williams was present. Please state, as far as you can recollect, all the statements there made by him as to any promise which he had made to Dr. Rush.

A. Mr. Williams stated the fact of the promise which he had made to Dr. Rush in such a manner that it became a matter of consideration by the Committee appointed to consider the question at that meeting, (composed of Judge Hare, Mr. McCall, and myself,) whether Mr. Williams had not thereby disqualified himself from acting under the power of selec-