

*Resolution of June 29th, 1869, offered by Peter McCall, Esq.,  
on behalf of the Directors.*

*Resolved*, That the Directors of the Library be and they are hereby authorized to accept the bequests and devises in Dr. Rush's will, if and when they shall deem it advisable so to do, and be authorized to procure any legislation necessary for the purpose.

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EXHIBIT No. 21b.

CIRCULAR OF STOCKHOLDERS.

*To the Shareholders of the Library Company of Philadelphia:*

The undersigned, members on behalf of the Shareholders, of a Joint Committee of Directors and Shareholders, appointed on the subject of the bequest and legacy of the late Dr. James Rush, respectfully ask your attention to a few matters connected with the question of the acceptance or rejection of the munificent donation of the testator.

The value of the property bequeathed to the Library equals nearly one million one hundred thousand dollars; and from its nature, we believe that it will considerably exceed that value, before it will become necessary to transmute it into money. We think that all will agree, that there is no institution more wanting in our large and beautiful city than a great public library, in which may be collected for public use those works of literature and science so necessary for intellectual development. In the magnificent donation of Dr. Rush an opportunity is afforded to accomplish an object so much to be desired.

The reasons which should lead to the rejection of such a legacy, and thus defeat this great public good, ought certainly to be clear, grave, and imperative. The Joint Committee of Directors and Shareholders has given those assigned a long, most anxious, and careful scrutiny; and has come to the conclusion that none of them separately, nor all combined, are adequate to such a result.