

Nineteenth Meeting, May 17, 1872.

Present—Messrs. RAWLE, JOHNSON, and EXAMINER.

ALEXANDER BIDDLE affirmed.

Q. Do you remember attending the first two meetings of the Board of Directors of the Library Company after Dr. Rush's death?

A. I can't say that I specifically remember each of the meetings apart from each other, but I doubt whether I was absent from any. I think the minutes will show my attendance.

Q. Do you remember hearing read at either of those meetings, whilst Mr. Williams was present, a report by Mr. McCall, Mr. Wharton, and Judge Hare upon the matters growing out of Dr. Rush's will?

A. I recollect no report, prior to the stockholders' meeting, but an opinion on which Mr. George W. Biddle's name appears. I think Mr. McCall read a report at a meeting some time after the first stockholders' meeting. I don't know who signed it.

Q. State what you remember concerning a mention by Mr. Williams to the Board of Directors of oral testamentary dispositions by Dr. Rush, and any request made concerning them.

A. My impression is that Mr. Williams had informally mentioned those gifts to the Board afterwards—I should place this at the last meeting at which Mr. Williams was present—that he expressed his desire that the Board should assent to those gifts. The expression of his desire was received in silence. I recollect feeling at the time that it would be imprudent to suggest that they should be confirmed, for fear that the Board should express unwillingness.

Q. Did this silence imply, in your opinion, an assent?

(Objected to.)

A. I understood it expressed dissent.

