

To the Members of the Library Company of Philadelphia.

The Directors of the Company respectfully present the following Report.

The present Library Building was opened for use on the 24th of February last. It took less than a year to build, including the ~~taking down~~ ^{removal of} the old houses on the lot of ground. The total cost of its erection, its furnishing, ^{to} fitting up, ^{of the} shelving and ^{of the} moving of the books, in fact of all that was necessary to put it in complete working order, and not only ^{of} these ~~matters~~ but ^{of} the laying out of the grounds, and ^{new} the external outlay on what pertained merely to ornament or decoration, not specially needed for Library purposes, has been about \$53,000, leaving \$2,000 or \$3,000 of the building fund unexpended. As the Building itself is fire proof, which ~~of course~~ added considerably to the expense of construction, - as the best artistic taste and the most skilful artisans have been employed in making it sightly as well as useful, - as the arrangement of the interior for its special purpose is not surpassed, if equalled in convenience and fitness, by any other Library in this country, it is generally conceded that no ~~such~~ ^{similar} building has ever been erected in this City ~~with~~ ^{with} greater economy, nor, as will be seen from what has been above stated, in ~~so~~ ^{less} little time.

It has been the aim of the Directors both in the plan of the Library, and in the details of

49,350.11 paid
3,405.41 outstanding
52,755.52 cost
57,570.24 B.N.
1,185.31 deficit