

Be it remembered,
In Honor of the Philadelphian Youth,
(Then chiefly Artificers)

That in MDCCXXXI

They cheerfully,

At the Instance of BENJAMIN FRANKLIN,

One of their Number,

INSTITUTED THE PHILADELPHIA LIBRARY,

Which, though small at first,

Is become highly valuable,

And extensively useful;

And which the Walls of this Edifice

Are now destined to contain and preserve:

The FIRST STONE of whose FOUNDATION,

Was here placed

The thirty-first Day of AUGUST,

Anno Domini, MDCC LXXXIX,

{ Benjamin Gibbs,
2 Josiah Hewes,
3 John Kaighn,
4 Mordecai Lewis,
5 Thomas Morris,
Thomas Parke,
Joseph Paschall,
Benjamin Poultney,
Richard Wells,
Richard Wistar,

} then being Directors.

Samuel Coates, Treasurer,

William Rawle, Secretary,

Zachariah Poulson, jun^r. Librarian.