



COMMISSIONERS OF THE LIBRARY.

OHIO STATE LIBRARY, February 9, 1850.

To the Honorable the General Assembly :

The Commissioners of the Library respectfully submit the following as their annual report.

RECEIPTS.

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From J. F. Desilver, for reports,	-	-	-	\$73 20
H. W. Derby, for statutes,	-	-	-	7 50
J. W. Riley & Co., on account,	-	-	-	270 00
Whiting & Huntington, on account,	-	-	-	205 00
J. Phillips, on account,	-	-	-	10 0
Linton, Holcomb & others, on account,	-	-	-	14 40
Balance as per last report,	-	-	-	8 51
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				\$588 66

PAYMENTS.

H. W. Derby & Co., for books,	-	-	\$289 57
C. C. Bennett and H. F. Adams for books,	-	-	60 00
Expenses and freight,	-	-	15 75
D. Appleton & Co., balance due as per last report,	-	-	80 00
J. Matthews, for services in Library,	-	-	1 00
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			446 32
Balance in hands of Commissioners,	-	-	<hr/>
			142 34

The amount received from Whiting & Huntington embraces the amount due from J. R. Scroggs, \$191 59, reported last year, the payment of which was assumed by them. Their have also been received

during the past year, on account, books to the following specified amounts :

From J. F. Desilver,	\$40 05
J. W. Riley & Co.,	270 00
Whiting & Huntington,	21 50
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	331 55

There is now due from Whiting & Huntington,	\$181 94
J. H. Riley & Co.,	766 59
J. Phillips,	9 50
Parsons & Co.,	74 40
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	1,032 43

If to this amount be added the balance, \$142 34, in the hands of the Commissioners, there will exist \$1,174 77, as an available fund for future purchases. That which is due from the persons designated is entirely safe. The additions to the Library have been less during the past, than for many previous years, and from that cause a larger amount than usual remains to be appropriated.

The entire cost of books purchased since last report is \$720 17. It was intended, in accordance with the advice of many specially interested in the prosperity of the Library, to increase largely within the past year the law department, by the purchase of all the standard works on jurisprudence with which we are not supplied. Our full design could not be accomplished, as none of the Commissioners, owing to the prevailing sickness and other causes, could give his personal attention to the matter, and visit those places where are the fullest collections of such works. We have, however, been successful, by purchases here and in Cincinnati, in obtaining the books most needed, and especially in completing the series of American Reports. As works in law are more needed for reference and research, than any other class of books it is deemed to be specially important to place this department in a commanding position, and to afford the fullest facilities to the Bar, Bench, and General Assembly. It has been our aim to select the best and most substantial productions in the different departments, and thus to render the Library most useful to those who are specially entitled to its benefits. All suggestions and recommendations of measures or improvements by which the character and advantages of the Library may be enhanced will be at all times acceptable.

We would suggest as a suitable and necessary change, that the room now occupied as the office of the Board of Public Works, be added to the present room, and thus that the entire space on the second floor be used for the accommodation of the Library. The room now occupied is too limited even for present wants. If another place could be had as a suitable depository for the Reports and other documents, the present room would be quite sufficient. It is believed, however, to be safer that the books designated should be kept under the immediate care and supervision of the Librarian, than that they should be placed

in a separate building, as they were previous to 1848. If the room specified could be obtained, the advantages indicated could be realized at less expense than in any other way.

The Librarian was authorized by joint resolution, passed at the last session of the Legislature, to ascertain, by publication and correspondence, where, and at what price, certain laws and journals, specified in said resolution, could be obtained. There is but one person known to possess the desired documents, and he has declined fixing any price upon them. It is certainly very important that these books should be secured, and it is believed that the Library Committee of either branch of the General Assembly might be able to effect the purchase. The Librarian will be ready to co-operate in any measure which may be desired to effect this object.

There are on hand, and on commission, unsold of Ohio Reports, 536 of vol. 11, 671 of vol. 12, 680 of vol. 13, 738 of vol. 14, 826 of vol. 15, 854 of vol. 16, and 415 of vol. 17—in all 4,722. Of these, 4,397 are in the room of the Library. There yet remain between 900 and 1,000 copies of Revised Statutes. Of the last vol. (17) there have been sold, during the year, 438, and distributed to the counties, states and officers entitled to receive them, 141 copies.

Respectfully,

SEABURY FORD,
SAMUEL GALLOWAY,
JOHN GREINER,

Commissioners of the Library.