

tute as you may deem best adapted to fulfil my intentions as expressed in this letter.

Mr. Peabody's first letter.

In the general scheme and organization of the Institute, I wish it to provide:

First. For an extensive Library, to be well furnished in every department of knowledge, and of the most approved literature; which is to be maintained for the free use of all persons who may desire to consult it, and be supplied with every proper convenience for daily reference and study, within appointed hours of the week days of every year. It should consist of the best works on every subject embraced within the scope of its plan, and as completely adapted, as the means at your command may allow, to satisfy the researches of students, who may be engaged in the pursuit of knowledge, not ordinarily attainable in the private libraries of the country; it should be guarded and preserved from abuse, and rendered efficient for the purposes I contemplate in its establishment, by such regulations as the judgment and experience of the Trustees may adopt or approve. I recommend, in reference to such regulations, that it shall not be constructed upon the plan of a circulating Library; and that the books shall not be allowed to be taken out of the building, except in very special cases, and in accordance with rules adapted to them as exceptional privileges.

Second. I desire that ample provision and accommodation be made, for the regular periodical delivery, at the proper season in each year, of lectures by the most capable and accomplished scholars and men of science, within the power of the Trustees to procure. These lectures should be directed to instructions in science, art and literature; they should be established with such regulations as in the judgment of the Trustees shall be most effectual to secure the benefits expected from them, and should, under proper and necessary restrictions, be adapted to preserve good order and guard against abuse, be open to the resort of the respectable inhabitants, of both sexes, of the city and State; such prices of admission being required, as may serve to defray a portion of the necessary expenses of maintaining the lectures, without impairing their usefulness to the community.

In connection with this provision, I desire that