

the present session of the Legislature and other purposes have exceeded the appropriations in the sum of \$5,349.35.

We, therefore, recommend suitable Legislation to cover this deficiency, as well as to leave at the disposal of the Librarian a sum sufficient to meet contingencies during the recess of the Legislature, which in our judgment should be not less than 6,500 dollars.

Your committee would further suggest that the mode by which the Library is now warmed is highly detrimental to the books, &c., a vaporised warmth may be the best for respiration, but is fatal to the interest of the Library, and ought in our opinion to be changed.

In conclusion, we beg leave to bear our testimony in favor of the general care, taste and cleanliness, apparent in all parts of the Library, the assiduous attention, the gentlemanly deportment, and the apt appreciations of the wants of all who have business with the Librarian, are qualities highly essential, and practically carried out in the conduct of the present worthy incumbent.

JAS. H. McNEAL, Chairman,  
*Committee on Library.*

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### STATE LIBRARY,

ANNAPOLIS, *January 20th*, 1865.

*To the Committee on the Library:*

GENTLEMEN:—Under the instructions of the committee on the Library, I advertised for proposals to do the repairs and make the improvements and additions to the Library, and gave the contract to the lowest bidder. When the work was done, the Hon. Hopewell Hebb, Chairman of the committee on the part of the House of Delegates, examined the work and pronounced it “a most complete job.” The books, I am happy to say, are in the best state of preservation, and the improvement in the appearance of the Library is a full compensation for all expenditures. The appropriation made by the last General Assembly for the repairs and improvements was sufficient for all purposes and leave a small balance.

#### *Contingent Fund.*

On coming into the office on the 1st day of May, 1863, the retiring Librarian gave me a statement of the contingent fund, showing a balance to the credit of the Library of \$888.-41, being \$111.59 less than the proportionate part for the eight months remaining of the year.