

that they might be so distributed, as would most effectually conduce to the general information of the people—this has not been done since the 7th Congress, (1801,) with the exception of the 8th, 11th, and 13th Congress—so that the accumulation of them has become immense; and it is very respectfully suggested, that some disposition of them be devised, by which they may be made of more utility than they can possibly be while they remain in their present condition.

The growing importance of the Library, is manifested, from the fact, that the issues from it during the past year, to the Legislature, were upwards of 1,000 volumes, and to the Executive and Judiciary departments, more than 800 volumes—a fact evidently setting forth the utility of the institution;—and, when we consider what has been so recently done to better its condition and to elevate its character, it will not be venturing too much to hope, that at no distant day it will rank pre-eminently as a State Institution.

The recent additions have already furnished, united with the former Stock, plentiful and rich materials—which, while they aid the different officers of government to discharge their respective duties—cannot fail to “strengthen and adorn the mind of the general reader.”

All which is respectfully submitted,

D. RIDGELY, Librarian.