

in the furniture and arrangement of the Library. A portion of the shelves are now occupied by books of little value, and of which there are many copies more than are used. If a suitable place were provided for the purpose, many of these might be packed away in boxes, and thus preserved as well as they now are in the Library, and the space they now occupy, left for works more valuable and in constant use. The principal alteration I propose, by which the capacity of the Library would be greatly increased, and perhaps made amply sufficient, consists in removing the present gallery, and erecting one at the height of six or eight feet from the floor, with a series of others above it, each about the same distance from the one next below it, the galleries and the alcoves upon them, respectively, as they ascend, decreasing in depth, the fore part receding towards the wall. A very large increase of the capacity of the Library, beyond its present measure, would thus be obtained. It has, also, been suggested, that a series of circular shelves might be erected near the centre of the room where the circular table now stands, with a light staircase winding round it, which would be ornamental, and at the same time make another considerable addition to our means of orderly and convenient arrangement of the Library. Other provisions for the Library might be suggested, in view of its prospective increase, and its being desirable that it should rather remain within the walls of the State House than be removed to any other building. But it is deemed unnecessary, at present, to detail them, as those above presented would be amply sufficient for many years to come. Your attention is asked to the condition of the cellar beneath the Library. At times large quantities of gas escape from the furnace and finds its way through the floor into the Library; which, I presume, might be entirely prevented by plastering the ceiling of the cellar. You may, perhaps, on examination, think it also advisable to have the floor of the cellar paved with brick or stone. It is highly desirable that some permanent plan of arrangement of the Library should be adopted and executed. With such an arrangement, having a Catalogue completed up to the present time; and the subsequent additions to the Library regularly added to the Catalogue, and indicating clearly the position of every thing in the Library, great confusion and trouble would be avoided. Without such an arrangement, every thing will be thrown into confusion at every change of the Librarian, and the order, indispensable in such an institution, can never be attained or preserved. A permanent arrangement, however, cannot be now established without some enlargement of the capacity of the Library. I exhibit herewith a statement showing the condition of the Fund for augmentation of the Library up to the 1st of January, 1854.

All which is respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM HARWOOD.