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FOURTEENTH REPORT  
OF THE  
FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY  
COMMISSION  
OF  
MASSACHUSETTS.

1904.



BOSTON:  
WRIGHT & POTTER PRINTING CO., STATE PRINTERS,  
18 POST OFFICE SQUARE.  
1904.



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DEC 31 1918

STATE HOUSE BOSTON

*Mass. Officials*

APPROVED BY  
THE STATE BOARD OF PUBLICATION.

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## MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION.

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DELORAINÉ P. COREY, Malden, . . . .	term expires 1908.
Miss E. P. SOHIER, <i>Secretary</i> , Beverly, . . . .	term expires 1907.
C. B. TILLINGHAST, <i>Chairman</i> , Boston, . . . .	term expires 1905.
Mrs. MABEL SIMPKINS AGASSIZ, Yarmouth, . . . .	term expires 1904.
SAMUEL SWETT GREEN, Worcester, . . . .	term expires 1904.



## REPORT OF THE COMMISSION.

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*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives.*

In accordance with the provisions of chapter 347 of the Acts of the year 1890, under which the Free Public Library Commission was organized, the commission herewith presents its fourteenth report, covering the calendar year 1903.

### THE COMMISSION.

The Hon. Henry S. Nourse was reappointed for the full term of five years, but died November 14, and Mr. Deloraine P. Corey of Malden has been appointed his successor.

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## Henry Stedman Nourse.

BORN APRIL 9, 1831, LANCASTER; DIED NOV. 14, 1903, LANCASTER.  
MEMBER OF COMMISSION, 1890-1903.

Born of the fine fibre of native New England parentage; nurtured amid scenes glowing with the romance of history; graduated from Harvard half a century ago, with eminent men for his classmates; teacher of the classics in one of the most famous of American preparatory schools; a true soldier on many battlefields, who marched with Sherman to the sea; constructive engineer of many important works; pure, high-minded legislator for his town in the House and his district in the Senate; faithful historian by nature and instinct, with congenial honors from associates in the great historical societies of the Commonwealth; loving husbandman of the records of his native town and its people. Enriched with experience in these and other paths of private trust and civic honor, he came willingly and heartily to the service of this commission. Appointed one of its original members in 1890, he was twice

reappointed, and the closing hours of his life found him active in the work he loved. The commission has held more than a hundred and fifty meetings, and, though further removed by time and distance than any of his associates, his seat was vacated for the first time by death. His cheerful readiness to devote his time and ability to its interests — notably in the preparation of its historical ninth report — has produced more lasting results than the work of any other member. He had the highest ideal of the public library as the fountain of popular intelligence and the treasure house of local history. Wise, discreet, progressive, his mature thought and his loving interest were modestly, unselfishly and with tireless industry given to the cause this commission was established to promote. He was not born for himself alone, but to be of service to his fellowman.

Independent and vigorous in the expression of his own opinions, he always had that considerate regard for the opinions of others that endeared him in an unusual degree to all his associates. Tender, genial, helpful, he fulfilled the oriental idea of a friend, — one who renders assistance, who is faithful in prosperity and adversity, who gives judicious advice and shows kindness of feeling.

Those who survive in the afterglow of his life are rich in its memories and in the stimulus of his devoted enthusiasm.

#### BOOKS SUPPLIED DURING THE YEAR.

The town of Lakeville has been supplied with \$100 worth of books under the provisions of chapter 347 of the Acts of 1890, it having established a free public library.

The following towns have been supplied with a first installment of books, under the provisions of chapter 233 of the Acts of 1900 : —

Blandford,  
Lakeville,

Prescott,  
Mount Washington. — 4.

The second installment, completing in each case the \$100 worth allowed by law, has been supplied to the following towns : —

Ashby,	Erving,	Rowe,
Berkley,	Florida,	Russell,
Carlisle,	Mendon,	Rutland,
Colrain,	Norfolk,	Truro,
Eastham,	Rochester,	Wales. — 15.

## TOWNS STILL ENTITLED TO BENEFIT UNDER THE LAW.

The full allowance of \$100 worth :—

Alford,	Gill,	Shutesbury,
Auburn,	Lanesborough,	Southampton,
Boylston,	Middleton,	Washington. — 13.
Clarksburg,	New Marlborough,	
Egremont,	Savoy,	

The second allowance is due to the following towns :—

Alford,	Halifax,	Oakham,
Auburn,	Hampden,	Orleans,
Berlin,	Hancock,	Otis,
Blandford,	Hawley,	Paxton,
Bolton,	Heath,	Pelham,
Boxborough,	Holland,	Peru,
Boylston,	Huntington,	Phillipston,
Brimfield,	Lakeville,	Plainfield,
Charlemont,	Lanesborough,	Plympton,
Chester,	Leverett,	Prescott,
Chilmark,	Leyden,	Royalston,
Clarksburg,	Mashpee,	Sandisfield,
Dana,	Middlefield,	Savoy,
Dunstable,	Middleton,	Shutesbury,
East Longmeadow,	Monroe,	Southampton,
Egremont,	Monterey,	Southwick,
Gay Head,	Montgomery,	Sunderland,
Gill,	Mount Washington,	Tolland,
Goshen,	New Ashford,	Tyngsborough,
Gosnold,	New Braintree,	Tyringham,
Granby,	New Marlborough,	Warwick,
Granville,	New Salem,	Washington,
Greenwich,	North Reading,	Whately. — 69.

## TOWNS CLASSIFIED AS TO LIBRARIES.

The following classification of the towns, revised to date, shows the free library facilities they now enjoy :—

## CLASS 1.

*Towns which have libraries owned and controlled by the town and free for circulation to all the people.*

Abington,	Chilmark,	Halifax,
Acushnet,	Clarksburg,	Hamilton,
Adams,	Clinton,	Hampden,
Agawam,	Cohasset,	Hancock,
Alford,	Colrain,	Hanover,
Amesbury,	Conway,	Hanson,
Andover,	Dalton,	Hardwick,
Arlington,	Dana,	Harvard,
Ashburnham,	Dartmouth,	Hatfield,
Ashby,	Dedham,	Hawley,
Ashland,	Deerfield,	Heath,
Athol,	Dennis,	Holbrook,
Attleborough,	Dighton,	Holden,
Auburn,	Douglas,	Holland,
Avon,	Dover,	Holliston,
Bellingham,	Dracut,	Hopedale,
Belmont,	Dudley,	Hubbardston,
Berkley,	Dunstable,	Hudson,
Berlin,	East Bridgewater,	Hull,
Beverly,	Eastham,	Huntington,
Blackstone,	East Longmeadow,	Hyde Park,
Blandford,	Edgartown,	Kingston,
Bolton,	Egremont,	Lakeville,
Boston,	Erving,	Lancaster,
Bourne,	Essex,	Lanesborough,
Boxborough,	Everett,	Leicester,
Boylston,	Fall River,	Leominster,
Bridgewater,	Falmouth,	Leverett,
Brimfield,	Fitchburg,	Leyden,
Brockton,	Florida,	Longmeadow,
Brookfield,	Foxborough,	Lowell,
Brookline,	Framingham,	Ludlow,
Burlington,	Freetown,	Lunenburg,
Cambridge,	Gay Head,	Lynn,
Canton,	Gill,	Lynnfield,
Carlisle,	Goshen,	Manchester,
Carver,	Gosnold,	Mansfield,
Charlemont,	Granby,	Marblehead,
Charlton,	Granville,	Marlborough,
Chelmsford,	Greenfield,	Marshfield,
Chelsea,	Greenwich,	Mashpee,
Chester,	Groton,	Mattapoissett,
Chesterfield,	Groveland,	Maynard,
Chicopee,	Hadley,	Medfield,

Medford,	Plainfield,	Templeton,
Medway,	Plympton,	Tewksbury,
Melrose,	Prescott,	Tolland,
Mendon,	Provincetown,	Topsfield,
Merrimac,	Quincy,	Townsend,
Middleborough,	Reading,	Truro,
Middlefield,	Revere,	Tyngsborough,
Middleton,	Richmond,	Tyringham,
Milford,	Rochester,	Upton,
Millbury,	Rockland,	Uxbridge,
Millis,	Rockport,	Wakefield,
Milton,	Rowe,	Wales,
Monroe,	Rowley,	Walpole,
Montague,	Royalston,	Waltham,
Monterey,	Russell,	Warwick,
Montgomery,	Rutland,	Watertown,
Mount Washington,	Salisbury,	Wayland,
Nahant,	Sandisfield,	Webster,
Natick,	Sandwich,	Wellfleet,
Needham,	Saugus,	Wendell,
New Ashford,	Savoy,	Wenham,
New Bedford,	Seekonk,	Westborough,
New Braintree,	Sharon,	West Boylston,
Newburyport,	Sheffield,	West Bridgewater,
New Marlborough,	Shelburne,	West Brookfield,
New Salem,	Sherborn,	Westford,
Newton,	Shirley,	Westminster,
Norfolk,	Shrewsbury,	West Newbury,
North Adams,	Shutesbury,	Weston,
Northampton,	Somerset,	Westport,
North Andover,	Somerville,	West Springfield,
North Attleborough,	Southampton,	West Stockbridge,
Northborough,	Southborough,	Westwood,
North Brookfield,	Southbridge,	Weymouth,
Northfield,	South Hadley,	Whately,
North Reading,	Southwick,	Whitman,
Norwood,	Spencer,	Wilbraham,
Oakham,	Sterling,	Williamsburg,
Orange,	Stoneham,	Williamstown,
Orleans,	Stoughton,	Wilmington,
Otis,	Stow,	Winchendon,
Oxford,	Sturbridge,	Winchester,
Paxton,	Sudbury,	Windsor,
Peabody,	Sunderland,	Winthrop,
Pelham,	Sutton,	Worcester,
Pepperell,	Swampscott,	Wrentham. — 274.
Peru,	Swansea,	
Phillipston,	Taunton,	

## CLASS 2.

*Towns which have free libraries in which the town has some representation in the management.*

Acton,	Franklin,	Malden,
Ayer,	Georgetown,	Methuen,
Barre,	Grafton,	Norton,
Bedford,	Haverhill,	Pembroke,
Belchertown,	Hingham,	Petersham,
Bernardston,	Hinsdale,	Pittsfield,
Braintree,	Holyoke,	Randolph,
Concord,	Lawrence,	Salem,
Cummington,	Lenox,	Springfield,
Danvers,	Lexington,	Warren,
Easthampton,	Lincoln,	Westfield,
Enfield,	Littleton,	Woburn. — 36.

## CLASS 3.

*Towns in which there are free libraries to which the town appropriates money, but is not represented in the management.*

Amherst,	Great Barrington,	Scituate,
Ashfield,	Harwich,	Stockbridge,
Boxford,	Lee,	Tisbury,
Brewster,	Monson,	Ware,
Chatham,	Nantucket,	Wellesley,
Cheshire,	Northbridge,	Westhampton,
Cottage City,	Palmer,	West Tisbury,
Duxbury,	Plymouth,	Worthington. — 26.
Gardner,	Princeton.	

## CLASS 4.

*Towns in which there are free libraries which have no connection with the town.*

Barnstable,	Fairhaven,	Norwell,
Becket,	Gloucester,	Raynham,
Billerica,	Hopkinton,	Rehoboth,
Buckland,	Ipswich,	Wareham,
Easton,	Marion,	Yarmouth. — 15.

## CLASS 5.

*Towns which have the free use of public libraries in other places.*

Newbury, . . . . .	Newburyport Public Library.
Washington, . . . . .	Becket Athenæum. — 2.

The James Library in Norwell has been made free to all the people, and now every town in the State has the privilege of a free library.

## NOTES OF PROGRESS FROM THE LIBRARIES.

From the replies to a circular letter of inquiry sent to the librarians of the over 400 free public libraries of Massachusetts, and from the annual reports of the town and city trustees, have been derived the following notes. They indicate a very satisfactory growth of usefulness and prosperity in our libraries throughout the Commonwealth.

**ABINGTON.** From the proceeds of a concert given in 1901 and a gift from the Woman's Afternoon Club, supplemented by a small sum from the town appropriation, a new encyclopædia, very much needed, has been purchased for the main library. Through strict economy in binding and other items, new sets of Scott and Dickens have been obtained.

**ACTON.** In October a valuable oil painting was presented to the library by Mr. E. M. Raymond of Boston, in memory of his father, who was born in Acton; this picture has been placed in the room where the books are kept, and hung above the librarian's table. It is said to be by one of the old masters, and represents an old gipsy woman telling a peasant girl her fortune. Another gift was that of a case of stuffed native birds, which promises to be a beautiful and appropriate ornament of the reading room. The library has also received a bequest of \$4,000 from its early benefactor, the Hon. William A. Wilde of Malden; Mr. Wilde, who was one of the oldest and best known residents of Malden, died suddenly on the second of December, 1902. In the early summer the librarian, Miss Viola S. Tuttle, who for six years had performed the duties of that office in a very acceptable manner, resigned, by reason of overwork and impaired health. The trustees unanimously elected Mr. Arthur F. Davis to succeed Miss Tuttle as librarian.

**ACUSHNET.** Gifts of single books have been occasionally received. The circulation is increasing, and the library seems to be a more prominent factor in town than formerly.

**ADAMS.** In the selection of books for the past year especial attention has been paid to the addition of books of reference. Patronage of the reference room is increasing every month. Two lists of new books added to the library have been printed for free distribution to patrons, and it is probable such a list will be issued twice a year.

AMESBURY. The most important change in the library this year has been the cataloguing of the books by the Cutter system of classification. The library has used the Browne charging system since September, and it is very satisfactory. Several pictures, a valuable set of art books, a collection of stuffed birds, minerals and arrow heads, also a valuable file of local papers, have been received. During the year the Hon. Robert T. Davis of Fall River, a former citizen of the town, signified his appreciation of the library by the generous donation of \$500, to be used at the discretion of the trustees. Mr. Moses N. Huntington of this town has given, as a memorial to his sister, Ruth A. Huntington, a card catalogue case, cases for periodicals, pictures and reference books, at a cost of \$500. Mrs. McAllister has presented a fine engraving.

AMHERST. Three of the narrow alcoves at one end of the library were thrown together into a small room for the children. This was effected without material loss of shelf room, and has made the library much more available to the younger readers, this separation being also to the advantage of the older frequenters of the library.

ANDOVER. The superintendent of the Cornell Art Collection reports the daily average of attendance the same as in the previous year, although the art room was closed for nearly two weeks on account of the prevalence of small-pox, and for a longer period during the coal famine. This shows that the interest taken in this important feature of the library is not one of merely transient interest, but that it is of lasting attractiveness and usefulness, especially to the children and youth of the town.

ARLINGTON. The use of the reading room both on week days and on Sundays shows a gain. The public has made good use of the opportunity of selecting books directly from the shelves, while the library has not lost thereby a single volume. Exhibitions of photographs are given each month.

ASHFIELD. The value of the library as part of an educational system is coming to be more and more appreciated. Many new books have been added, which have proved useful to the teachers and pupils in their work on various subjects not found in the regular text books.

ASHLAND. The offer of \$10,000 for a library building, received from Andrew Carnegie, was referred to a committee of fifteen to report in April. This committee reported unanimously in favor of receiving the gift, and the town voted to do so. Abner Greenwood offered a suitable site on Front Street, which was also accepted.

**ATHOL.** The Browne charging system has been introduced, and since moving into the new quarters open shelves have been inaugurated. It is proposed to have the library open every afternoon. The will of the late Alpheus Harding of Boston contains a bequest of \$300 to the Athol Public Library for the purchase of books.

**ATTLEBOROUGH.** The past year has been a most successful one. There has been an increase in circulation of nearly 9,000 volumes. The growth in circulation is largely due to the effort that has been made to induce the pupils of the public schools to use the library freely. Early in the year the "Graded Course in Reading," prepared by the superintendent of schools and the librarian, was distributed among the schools, and a copy given to every child above the third grade. The result was that the library literally swarmed with children. Some came just for the novelty of the thing, but with the majority the interest has been permanent. In March the experiment was tried of extending library privileges to the rural school districts. The children sent in lists of books wanted, these books were selected and carried back and forth by boys, the library paying the car fare. Now an arrangement has been made to have the books delivered by the rural delivery, which is much more satisfactory. The books are changed every two weeks. The percentage of fiction added this year has been somewhat smaller than usual. During the year Miss Elizabeth J. Wilmarth resigned her position as librarian, and Mrs. Eleanor S. Carpenter was elected to fill the vacancy.

**AUBURN.** At the annual meeting of 1902 the town passed a vote directing that a note should be given the trustees of the Free Public Library for the amount of the library fund. This action on the part of the town was gratifying to all concerned.

**AVON.** The establishment of a branch library at the Gifford school, in charge of Principal Carroll, is a feature which adds to the present value of the library. Books are loaned by the principal for indefinite periods, as required by the studies in literature. In the reading room will be found the encyclopædia which had been loaned to the high school, the pupils of which had through their own endeavors raised a sum almost sufficient for a new set, when the trustees gave them the sum of \$10, believing that the efficiency of each department would thereby be strengthened.

**AYER.** There has been a gratifying increase in the number of books taken from the library, as well as in the number of readers, during the past year, between 600 and 700 more books having been issued by the librarian than in any previous year. Special atten-

tion has been given to the addition of books to aid pupils in their school work, and courses of reading have been mapped out by the teachers as a part of the regular course. It is the purpose of the trustees in the purchase of books to keep in mind the ever-growing need of the school children.

**BARRE.** Open shelves have been tried for six months, with success. Books to a very limited extent have lately been carried to outlying places in town. Dr. George A. Brown has presented a set of facsimiles of manuscripts of famous people, which have been exhibited several times, and which are available for reference at any time to persons who may desire to consult them. Miss Mary Elizabeth Lane resigned the position of librarian, having been appointed librarian of Atlanta University.

**BEDFORD.** A bequest of \$100 has been received during the year.

**BELCHERTOWN.** The new method adopted Dec. 1, 1902, gives patrons access to the shelves. It has been the means of bringing forward many books not much in use before the "open-shelf system" was in use, and it is helpful to children, who learn much more in regard to the arrangement of the books and their classification than by the delivery from the desk.

**BELLINGHAM.** The library has been more frequently used for reference than any previous year.

**BELMONT.** The Belmont Public Library has occupied its new building since June 17, 1902. The public was then given free access to the shelves, and after Sept. 1, 1902, the library was open every day but Sunday, instead of three days a week, as formerly. Miss Ada Thurston became librarian on Sept. 1, 1902, and during the year with the open shelves no book has been lost from the general library, and only a few from the children's room. In the children's reading room are arranged the books intended for juvenile use; the children have direct access to them, and a place of their own in which to read them. The increase of circulation was 3,616, — an increase of more than 25 per cent. over the preceding year. Miss Thurston resigned the librarianship, her resignation taking effect on Nov. 1, 1903, and Miss Florence E. Whitecher was appointed librarian.

**BEVERLY.** During the autumn libraries have been placed in four schools. The books are kept for three or four months in each school, when they are to be exchanged. The circulation shows a gain of nearly 5 per cent. The circulation of works in natural science is greater by 400 than last year. The experiment of using the books without paper covers, which was begun three years ago, is successful; the books are returned in decidedly

better order than formerly. The library has subscribed to the Tabard Inn Library and the Library of Congress cards. A sum of \$100 was given by Miss E. P. Sohler for buying books for the schools.

**BLANDFORD.** Mrs. Porter, who so kindly sends new books from time to time, has generously insured the library and contents for \$10,000 for a term of three years. She gave the library an oil portrait of her son, John Addison Porter; she also gave a book case for the volumes of the Encyclopædia Britannica, and 11 new volumes of the Encyclopædia, bringing it up to date.

**BOLTON.** The Whitney Memorial Library, described in our report for 1903, proves upon completion one of the most beautiful of the small libraries in New England. The formal laying of the corner-stone was delayed until June 17, when Dr. Robert T. Edes, son of the late Rev. R. S. Edes of Boston, delivered the chief address. Mrs. J. Wyman Jones has given the library nearly 100 volumes.

**BOSTON.** Last summer the bindery and printing establishments were removed from the central library to Stanhope Street; the room formerly occupied by these establishments is now used by the patent department. A portion of the second section of the mural decoration made by John Singer Sargent for the library has been put in place. There have been purchased over 800 photographs, at a cost of \$402.37. A collection of 175 manuscript orchestral scores, representing chiefly masters of the Italian school, has been secured. Three thousand volumes were given by Joseph Carter (deceased) of Boston, who has made the library his residuary legatee, so that the library will receive some money from that source. The executors of the Robert C. Billings estate gave under the authority of his will \$107,000 to the Boston Public Library. The trustees formally accepted the legacy on April 24, setting apart \$100,000 as a fund, the income of which will be used for the purchase of books, and appropriating \$7,000 to the placing in the library of a bas-relief memorial to the testator. In May a bequest of \$5,000 was received from Mrs. John A. Lewis's estate, establishing the Mrs. John A. Lewis fund, the income of which is to be used for purchasing old and rare books for augmenting the collection known as the John A. Lewis Library. Charles Eliot Norton has given the library a file of broadsides, 1863-65, of which he was editor. A legacy amounting to \$4,154 has accrued from the estate of John C. Paige. Horace G. Wadlin assumed the duties of librarian February 1.

**BOURNE.** Last February a fair was held for the benefit of the library; the summer residents were interested, and with their contributions \$175 was raised. This sum was expended for new books. A set of the Century Encyclopædia has been presented to the library. The summer residents seem to take an interest in the library, and occasionally contribute, — usually books.

**BRAINTREE.** Especial attention was paid to Old Home Week, in order that the institution might act in harmony with other town departments. By the will of the late Rachael Rebecca Thayer one share of stock of the Faneuil Hall National Bank was bequeathed to the library, for its "uses and purposes."

**BRIDGEWATER.** The most marked work of the past year has been the completion of the thorough renovation of the inside of the building. Of especial helpfulness has been the establishment of the reference room, in which all the various reference books are placed together. This room has been used to a much greater extent than ever before, thus proving that it is a needed improvement, and here have been placed from week to week the pictures from the Library Art Club. A gift of 75 volumes has been received from C. G. Beebe. The charging cards are stamped with the date the book is due; this is found to be a great convenience. The card catalogue case and cards are used for registration list, and the alphabetical arrangement is found to be of great help.

**BRIMFIELD.** James Danielson Lincoln (born in Brimfield, March 30, 1823) of North Attleborough has given to his native town a library building as a memorial to his mother, Sarah Danielson Lincoln, and his wife, Eliza Melcher Lincoln. It is built of native stone, has a frontage of 70 feet, and contains a book room 20 by 40 feet and a reading room 20 by 32 feet. On the side of the entrance will be inscribed "Danielson Lincoln Memorial."

**BROCKTON.** The past year has witnessed a notable increase in the circulation, especially among the young people, as promoted by the very welcome service through the public schools and their teachers. Two "Travelling Libraries," so called, of about 50 books each, were sent out in November, one to the high school and the other to the largest grammar school in the city. The former, being largely adult, will pass, next, after two or three months' use, to one of the two branch reading rooms at Campello or Montello; the latter will, after a similar time, pass to another grammar school. These libraries have been chosen chiefly from the best fiction and other literature, and are distinct from the books of the school delivery. A bequest of \$3,000, by the will

of the late Mrs. Henry L. Ford, has become available and is invested in Brockton water bonds. A bequest of \$1,000, by the will of the late Mrs. Abby B. Kingman, was announced in March, but is not yet available.

**BROOKLINE.** There has been an increase in the circulation over previous years. The younger children of the town have not been forgotten, and they have been encouraged to take books specially written for them from the room specially set apart for their convenience. The public school wants, too, have been considered. The establishment of a branch station in the upper end of Boylston Street, and the delivery of books for the use of the patrons of the Union building and of the various fire departments, have entailed a labor continuous and exacting. A new system for charging has been introduced during the summer, — the Newark book card system.

**CAMBRIDGE.** An arrangement has recently been made for sending books to the schools by express. The library is fortunate in having among its nearest neighbors four large schools, the pupils of which make direct use of the library, and the volume of the school work is in consequence greater than the statistics of circulation show. The music library has recently been somewhat enlarged, and there is now a satisfactory foundation for what is destined to be a useful and important department. The library has ordered during the year printed catalogue cards, issued by the Library of Congress, for most of the new copyrighted books purchased, and also for a limited number of old books for which cards were obtainable. Work is progressing on a card catalogue for the East Cambridge branch, and a beginning has been made on a special catalogue of local history and genealogy, which is to be placed in the local history room.

**CANTON.** The department of local history has become a permanent feature of the library, and during the year 25 volumes have been acquired. The reading room is used much more than formerly, and its facilities are often taxed to the utmost. The use of the library by the school children increases steadily.

**CARVER.** During the year two library stations have been established, one at North Carver and the other at South Carver; 50 books, which the people or those in charge of the station designate, are kept at each station, and are changed whenever it is thought best. The superintendent of schools gives to the library lists of books to be purchased for the benefit of the pupils.

**CHARLEMONT.** The circulation shows a gain of about 5 per cent. over last year.

CHELMSFORD. There has been a very gratifying increase in the circulation this year, 923 more books having been taken from the library.

CHELSEA. The year has been a phenomenal one in the history of the library, as there has been an increase of 20,000 volumes in the total circulation over that of 1902, and far exceeding that of any previous year. This increase in circulation was brought about through the superintendent of schools. He expects the teachers to use the library, and to see that their pupils do also, — something never before accomplished. The will of the late W. T. Bolton of Chelsea contains a bequest of \$500 to the Fitz Public Library.

CHESTER. The circulation for the past year shows a gain of 13 per cent. over the previous year. The usefulness of the library has been further increased by giving the teachers of the high school access to the rooms at all times, with permission to draw such books as are needed in the school work. The books so drawn are not included in the circulation above reported.

CLINTON. The Bigelow Free Public Library was opened to the public without dedicatory ceremony, in its commodious and elegant new quarters, on August 29. The building was briefly described in the report of the commission for 1903. Its total cost, including site, is nearly \$63,000; Mr. Carnegie's gift being \$25,000, the town's expenditure \$23,000, and George Washington Weeks's bequest \$15,000, the price of the lot. A further bequest of \$13,000 for library use, by Mr. Weeks, may be said to balance that much of the town's appropriation. The building is practically fireproof, with Guastavino arched ceilings, concrete floors, tile roof construction, wire lathing, brick partitions, glass flooring in stack room, etc. A beautiful feature of inner decoration is a frieze, copied from that on the front of the Parthenon, which enriches the central delivery room. This was a gift from the architect, Henry F. Bigelow, a grandson of the founder of the library. The heating plant consists of a sectional Puritan boiler, using both direct and indirect radiation. The interior finish is of ash, stained to a uniform dark tint, the walls being colored a light green. The finely appointed room for children's use, in the second story, and the newspaper room in the basement, with its special entrance from the street, have proved very valuable and popular departments of the library. The late Richard Foster of Clinton, by his will, dated June 25, 1900, bequeathed \$20,000 for a public library building, conditional upon a town appropriation of a like amount. As the building

was erected prior to his death, it is thought the bequest may be inoperative.

**COHASSET.** The Paul Pratt Memorial Library building is designed in the colonial style of architecture, and is cruciform in plan, the main reading rooms making the long arms of the cross, with the portico on the front and the stack room in the rear making the short arms. The walls are built of buff brick and trimmings of Indiana limestone, above a base course of Rockport granite. The roof is of copper with copper gutters, and is crowned by an octagonal cupola terminated by a vane in the form of a mackerel,—typical of Cohasset's former industry. In a circular hall opposite the entrance is the general delivery desk, and close to the left a card catalogue case let into the panelling of the wall. Beyond the desk, with an intervening lobby, is the book room, consisting of two tiers of steel stacks with glass floor. This room is of fireproof construction, and is shut off from the main building by an automatic fireproof door. It contains stack room for about 13,000 volumes, and, by reason of the basement being wholly above ground on the rear, it is made possible to increase the capacity by adding an equal amount of shelving below, making a total capacity of 26,000 volumes. This arrangement of stacks partly above and partly below the general delivery desk brings all of the books within easy access. The whole north wing of the building is given to a large reading room, and the south wing is divided into a smaller reading room, an alcove for reference books and a room for the use of the librarian and directors. Both reading rooms have fireplaces, and are panelled to the height of the windows and finished with birch in mahogany color, with birch floors. The spaces on either side of the vestibule are used for the janitor's room and stairs to the basement and loft.

**CONCORD.** The use of the library steadily increases. During the past year there has been an increase in the circulation of 1,109 volumes. This gain is due, in part, to the weekly delivery at Concord Junction, and to the change in the age—from twelve years to ten years—at which children may have cards. The use of the reference department, of which no record is kept, has undoubtedly increased as greatly. A weekly delivery of books at Concord Junction has been established for January, February and March. The collection of photographs of noted paintings, begun last year, now numbers 77. A catalogue of juvenile books has also been printed during the year. Several of these have been given to teachers in the Emerson and West Con-

cord schools, for the use of children in their rooms. A beginning has been made of putting into permanent binding the rare and valuable pamphlets, a considerable number of which have been bound this year.

**DALTON.** There has been an increase in the circulation and in reference work during the past year.

**DEDHAM.** The trustees appreciate the action of the town in the purchase of the lot in the rear of the library building, and its incorporation into the lands of the library. This action renders the handsome library building, with its growing collection of books, comparatively safe against fire, and will undoubtedly prove a wise and necessary move.

**DEERFIELD.** The South Deerfield Town Library reports an increase in the circulation of 300 over last year's report.

**DOUGLAS.** There has been an appreciable increase in the circulation during the past year. The public schools have made an extensive use of the library, a schedule of reading for each grade and term having been prepared by the superintendent of schools and placed in the hands of the librarian, from which the pupils are supplied with books for home reading, upon application. James M. Fairfield of Boston, formerly a resident of Douglas, has given the town a building for its library. It is constructed of brick and freestone, and is located on the main street of East Douglas. The front doors are of heavy oak, with brass trimmings. There are five rooms on the main floor. The stack room has the steel adjustable fixtures for the shelves. The librarian's counter and the card index cabinets are all arranged for the Browne card system. The heating is from hot air and the lighting from an independent gas plant. All the furnishings are of quartered oak, attractive in design and elegant in finish. The library is now called "The Simon Fairfield Public Library."

**DRACUT.** Through the efforts of Col. Butler Ames the library has been presented with an oil painting of Dr. Israel Hildreth, who was for so many years a noted personage in Dracut. The picture will be hung upon the walls of the library, where it is hoped before long to place others. The museum is now ready for the reception of such articles and collections as may be loaned.

**DUXBURY.** During the past year Mr. William B. Weston of Wilton presented to the library a painting of the brig "Smyrna," built in Duxbury in 1825 by Ezra Weston & Sons. This was the first American vessel that bore the national flag into the Black Sea after it was opened to our commerce. Together with the painting are several documents of interest. Recently the widow

of the late Hon. Gershom B. Weston presented to the library a number of volumes and engraved portraits of Charles Sumner and Theodore Parker, and a photograph of the late Rev. Dr. Allyn. Mrs. Frances M. Weed, who served as librarian very efficiently for nearly three years, resigned in December, and Miss Sara B. Higgins was elected librarian.

**EAST BRIDGEWATER.** The trustees are pleased to note the use made of the library by the schools. This, in a measure, is due to the teacher's card, permitting the loan of five books at a time. The teachers appreciate privileges, and co-operate with the librarian to influence the pupils' choice of literature. The teachers of the grammar school have been particularly active in this respect; lists have been prepared and posted on the blackboard; their untiring efforts deserve special commendation. Friday is children's day at the library; on that day an increase of 6 per cent. is noticed in juvenile fiction. Mrs. Aaron Hobart has given \$50 to be used in the purchase of books. Mr. Aaron H. Latham of Brookline has donated the library of his father, the late Eliab Latham; this collection contains many town histories. He also presented a map of the town in 1848.

**EASTHAM.** A legacy has been received from the Robert C. Billings estate. Through the kindness of the late Matthew Luce of Boston, one of the executors of said estate, the library received \$15,000, — \$1,000 down for improvements, and the remainder in trust, the income to be used for library purposes. The building, which was built through the efforts of the Village Improvement Society for the library, has been given to the town, and the library trustees are now having the building moved and raised, as there is to be a basement. A strip of land has been purchased so as to make the lot straight, and the building is to be moved into the centre. The grounds are to be extensively laid out. The large room in the basement is to be used for trustee meetings, etc.

**EASTHAMPTON.** A table has been placed in the delivery room for the music presented by Mrs. M. L. Gaylord, which has been of interest to the patrons. The books are 40 in number. Many of them which were in pamphlet form were bound by the library. In all, the books have been drawn 150 times. The Hampton Terrace Club has had its first installment of 50 books from the library.

**EASTON.** The library has sent out this year sets of 20 books each to the schools. A plan has been adopted of sending these sets of books to be kept for one month, the books to be on subjects studied, or on any good literature, history, travels or biog-

raphy, — not much fiction, except in lower grades, for sight reading, etc. This plan has been welcomed by the teachers in the outlying districts, and is no less popular in the village. Five classes have been received for instruction in the use of the card catalogue and reference books, such as Poole's Index, Index to St. Nicholas, etc.

EDGARTOWN. Mr. Carnegie has given the town \$4,000 for a brick library building; and Mrs. Caroline Warren, a native of Edgartown and a resident of Boston, has given \$1,000 additional, and also a lot of land adjoining her summer home, upon which the building is being erected. The building will be ready for occupancy by April of 1904.

ENFIELD. There has been an increase in the circulation the past year of 2,566 books. In November the Western Massachusetts Library Club held an institute in the Congregational chapel, for the promotion of further interest in books and reading. The club is cordially devoted to this good work, and it gave its services freely; its addresses are appreciated. A lot has been secured for a library building site.

EVERETT. The energy of the Parlin Library force has been devoted to card catalogue work. A complete dictionary catalogue of juvenile books has been made for use in the children's room; the catalogue for the adult department has been revised. Growth has been gradual, both in accessions and circulation. The money received from the Benedict legacy has this year enabled the library to purchase more expensive works of reference than the annual appropriation would have warranted.

FAIRHAVEN. During the past year the principal change in the library has been the developing of children's work, culminating in devoting a room entirely to them. The work with children includes, besides the direction of their individual reading, their education in the use of indexes, tables of contents, reference books and the card catalogue. The system of charging was changed during the spring to that commonly known as the Newark. The percentage of fiction, including both adult and juvenile, in 1900 was 73.2; in 1902, 60.2. This decrease may be ascribed in part to greater use by the schools of collateral reading, especially during the fall. The periodical circulation in the library is unusually large, despite the full allowance of two weeks for each loan. Minor changes in methods of charging and more attention to individual demands have resulted in an increase of 15 per cent. in circulation and of 100 per cent. in reference work. Instead of two books, each reader may now

draw one novel, one magazine, and as many books classed as non-fiction as he may desire.

**FALL RIVER.** The trustees in the report for 1901 noticed the encouraging work being done in the children's department. During the past year the department outgrew the single room devoted to it; it became necessary to open another room. The smaller room on the first floor is now used as a children's reading room, and the larger as a children's library. Books are selected at the cases by the children. A constant improvement is noted in the quality of books called for. In the general reading room the leading newspapers of the country have been kept on file during the year; with an increase in the appropriation, the library has been able to carry out the plan of keeping the papers on file. The reference room continues to be one of the most valuable features of the library work.

**FITCHBURG.** The two-book system, vacation cards, inter-library loans, special privileges to clergymen and teachers, co-operation with the schools and the enlargement of the reference department, with the free distribution of bulletins, are some of the methods adopted to aid readers to discover and use the best books. Mention may be made of a recent modification of the charging system, stamping the date on which the book is due, rather than when taken. The result at the end of the first month showed a decrease in fines, and very few over-due notices sent to delinquent borrowers. Co-operation with the schools has been carried on, with much success. Books to the number of 25 are sent to teachers of all grades that can use the library to advantage. Teachers with their classes are invited to visit the library from time to time. The library began the use of the printed catalogue cards, issued by the Library of Congress, in November, 1901. With this library the arrangement is an unqualified success; also the set of children's catalogue cards published by the Carnegie Library of Pittsburg and the Public Library of Cleveland. Early in the year the collection of scores in the musical department was largely increased. This collection originated by the gift of a few volumes of piano music from one of the trustees; it has now increased to over 800 volumes. It is accessible to the public on open shelves, and is for circulation as well as reference.

**GEORGETOWN.** The lighter class of fiction has been less in demand the last year, the best books being more often called for. The library has done better work in the juvenile department, a higher class of reading being sought. Natural history, travels and modern history have been read to a great extent.

**GRAFTON.** It has become the policy of the trustees to work in harmony, to a large extent, with the teachers and pupils of the schools. Books are purchased for their special use, and the pupils are encouraged to read them by a system known as the travelling library, a box of selected books being sent at regular intervals to the schools in the various outlying districts, and changed about from one to another, as required. These books are largely of a juvenile class, and by this system are placed in the hands of the youngest readers, who could not readily go to the library for them.

**GRANVILLE.** The new library building, presented to the town by the Granville Library Club and Hon. M. B. Whitney of Westfield, was opened to the public Feb. 22, 1902. Two branches have been established, one in Granville Centre and one in West Granville. Edwin Bancroft Foote of New York has given \$50 to buy papers and periodicals for the reading room. The Granville Library Club supplied games, etc., for the amusement room; and 2 daily papers, 6 weeklies and 10 monthly magazines for the reading room.

**GREAT BARRINGTON.** The increase in circulation has been over 300 volumes a month above that of last year. The library is now open eight hours a day, and after the first Sunday in December, 1903, the reading room will be open Sunday afternoons from 4 to 6 o'clock for those who care to come and read. This is an experiment, and for the present will be kept open by different ladies, who give their time. The library is trying the open-shelf system, with good success.

**GREENFIELD.** The number of books issued for home use outnumbered those issued the previous year by 27 per cent. The juvenile attendance and circulation show a gratifying increase. Over half the number of school children have borrowers' cards, and visit the library. A card catalogue of books for young people has been completed during the year. As opportunity offers, the children are instructed in its use. "Vacation reading" is the name given to a plan to encourage the reading of wholesome books by children during the two summer months of July and August. A selected list of 100 books was prepared. Each member who registered in the class promised to read at least 6 books. Certificates were given to 25 boys and 58 girls who successfully completed the work. The plan aroused considerable interest among parents as well as children.

**GREENWICH.** A legacy of \$475 has been received from Mrs. R. Spooner.

**GROVELAND.** Three shelves in the main room are open to the public. The Century Dictionary, two sets of encyclopædias, the Presidents' messages and the latest purchase of new books are kept on these shelves. This plan has been very popular with the public. As the library is open only two evenings and one afternoon in the week, the chairman and secretary of the trustees have a key, which they loan at their discretion to any one wishing to consult the books of reference in the library.

**HADLEY.** The Goodwin Memorial Library, erected in memory of Elder William Goodwin, one of the leading settlers of Hadley, was dedicated in connection with the Old Home Week reunion, Aug. 19, 1903, with appropriate exercises. A description of the building was given in last year's report. The principal addresses were by Bishop Frederick D. Huntington; William I. Fletcher, the librarian of Amherst College, and the author, George W. Cable of Northampton. Mr. Cable's subject was "An Author's Word to Readers."

**HAMILTON.** Books on special subjects, which are of interest to the general reader, have been furnished to the teachers and pupils of the public schools, to study clubs and societies. The principal of the South school, having established a school library for the pupils, has made generous selections, which have been loaned for a limited period. Under her supervision the pupils have been directed and encouraged to read the best literature, and the number of books in circulation has increased.

**HAMPDEN.** The circulation of books was over 800 more than last year, taken by a few less readers, so that the average number of books read by each patron was greater than any previous year.

**HARDWICK.** In October the legacy of \$10,000 was received from the executors of the will of the Rev. Lucius R. Paige.

**HARVARD.** Within the past year the bequest of the late Warren Hapgood to the town for the erection of an annex to the library building, to be known as the Hapgood Memorial, has become available. By the terms of Mr. Hapgood's will the sum of \$20,000 was left for the erection of the Memorial Annex, and a further sum of \$20,000 for a permanent fund, the income of which is to be used for maintenance. In case the cost of the annex should be less than the \$20,000 provided for it, the unexpended balance was to be added to the permanent fund. In accordance with the terms of this bequest, there has been erected an addition to the library building, at a cost of about \$16,500, comprising rooms for an art museum, for the use of the local historical society and for other uses. At the same time the stack

room in the old portion of the building was partially reconstructed, and the town put in new stacks, at an expense of about \$800. Of the permanent endowment fund, which will amount to about \$23,500, a portion has been received by the town from the executors of Mr. Hapgood's will, and the remainder will be paid as soon as the executors can realize on the securities of the estate.

**Haverhill.** There was an increase in the circulation of 10,665 volumes over that of 1901. Mounted pictures as well as books were used more in 1902 than in 1901. On national holidays and birthdays of great men pictures suited to the day were shown at the library or were sent to the schools. In the circulation of both books and pictures the teachers have co-operated most heartily with the librarian. Each teacher has a card, on which may be drawn and kept for four weeks 10 books suitable for school use. Ten travelling libraries of between 50 and 60 volumes each circulate among the union schools in the country districts of the city, remaining in each school about four months. Systematic work with the summer vacation schools was a new feature of the year's work. Between 75 and 100 volumes were sent to each school, not to be circulated at home, but to be used at the school by the pupils or to be read aloud by the teachers. Collections of pictures were sent to each school for exhibition for one week at a time. The reference use of the library has increased with the enlargement of the reference room. The library has subscribed for printed cards issued by the A. L. A. Publishing Board. Cards will be received for United States government publications, issued by the Smithsonian Institution, etc. Important additions were gifts and purchases of Haverhill newspapers; historic material relating to Haverhill, such as newspaper clippings, church registers, etc. The most valuable single gift was that of Miss Sarah S. Thayer, of bound volumes of the "Haverhill Gazette" from 1828 to 1835, covering the period when Whittier was editor of the paper.

**Heath.** The library has received a donation of over 400 books from the Conway Library, the gift of Mr. Marshall Field of Chicago, Ill., good books, and in good condition.

**Holbrook.** In the selection of books the trustees have had constantly in mind the needs of the children, and they have valued the co-operation of the school teachers in this direction. The constant faithfulness of the librarian extends a special interest in and oversight of the younger of this class of readers.

**Holland.** There was an increase in the circulation of 75 per cent. over that of last year.

**HOLLISTON.** The library, so far as patronage is concerned, is very successful; particularly benefiting pupils and those who have dropped out of the public schools before attaining a higher grade. The conditional gift of \$10,000 made by Andrew Carnegie for a public library building was accepted at the March town meeting, and an annual appropriation of \$1,000 was voted for library support.

**HOLYOKE.** J. Pierpont Morgan has given \$10,000 to the public library.

**HOPEDALE.** The year 1902 has been the most successful in the history of the library. In purchasing books during the year, special attention has been given to improving the department of travel. A branch library has been established at South Hopedale. Families who have many magazines, and back numbers in the way, bring them each month to the library; these extra copies are taken home by the people who subscribe to none, as their property, not as a loan.

**HUBBARDSTON.** Teachers and pupils are allowed free use of all books in their particular line of work, regardless of time limit, provided the books are properly cared for and returned within a reasonable length of time. There is quite a marked degree of interest in nature study among the people of the village. Sets of photographs have been sent to the library from the Woman's Education Association of Boston, with the privilege of keeping them for two or three weeks. Through the kindness of Mrs. Gilman Waite of Medford the library has a set of fifty pictures of birds commonly seen in the vicinity.

**HUDSON.** The first of the year the delivery room was rearranged to accommodate the children, and for their use stools were placed around the tables, and a book case was built. This has proved a success in two ways; the first, that more room has been gained; the second, that the librarian can keep an eye on the children. Miss Grace Whittemore, the librarian, received early in February from Andrew Carnegie the offer of \$12,500 for a library building, with the customary proviso. On May 6 the town voted to accept the gift, adopting the report of a committee previously appointed to consider the matter. The town also appropriated \$1,500 to build a basement for the new building. Mr. E. T. Worcester, Mr. M. T. Bailey and Mr. Henry Tower are the building committee.

**HYDE PARK.** The restriction limiting the number of card holders in a family has been withdrawn, and the age limit has been reduced from twelve years to ten, so that now all residents of the town

over ten years of age are entitled to draw books from the library. In the young people's department there has been a growing interest in better literature. During a few of the summer weeks Miss Adams read aloud for an hour on Wednesday afternoons to any who wished to come. Bits from choice books were read, resulting in a desire on the part of the children to read the books themselves.

**KINGSTON.** Owing to a new issue of stock by the Plymouth Cordage Company, and the consequent granting of "rights" to stockholders, the library, as the holder of ten shares, has been enabled to add to its permanent fund two more shares of Cordage stock, and to place \$154 in the Five Cents Savings Bank of Plymouth. This has been done without expense to the town. A collection of 24 photographs, mounted and framed, of the houses in the town of special historical interest, has been given to the library. These photographs have each a short, concise description beneath. A package of notes and papers, descriptive of the early history of the town, written by an historian of the town, has also been received.

**LAKEVILLE.** At the March town meeting the voters of Lakeville at last accepted the provisions of chapter 347 of the Acts of 1890, elected trustees, and established a free public library. The library was opened July 21. Two branches in remote neighborhoods were also established; 30 books are sent to each and changed monthly.

**LANCASTER.** In January a slight change was made in the charging system, which has been appreciated by the public; the date when due is stamped on the cards, instead of the date when taken out. The shelves in the reading room are accessible to the public, and on these are placed a selection of about 3,000 volumes in travel, biography, etc., from which the readers may choose. The late Frank N. Lincoln of Belmont, a native of Lancaster, left by will a legacy of \$500 to the library of Lancaster, payable after the death of his wife. The Hon. Henry S. Nourse bequeathed \$1,000 to the library, the income of which is to be devoted to the purchase of Lancasteriana and other books, excepting fiction.

**LAWRENCE.** The library has received a gift of \$500 for the purchase of reference books, from the trustees of the White fund.

**LEE.** The juvenile department is to adopt the Browne charging system. Aside from two or three individual gifts of books, the Young Men's Club gave 88 volumes, bought with money raised by a home talent entertainment in the winter.

**LEICESTER.** The Springfield Public Library, through its librarian, gave 250 volumes to the library. Through the kindness of Mr. J. W. Boardman and Mr. M. G. Clark, the Copeland Library has also come into possession of a large number of valuable volumes which originally belonged to the Clappville Lyceum. The circulation the past year has been the largest ever recorded; this increase is to be largely attributed to the children's use of the library, and for this much credit is due the teachers of the public schools. There have been on exhibition during the year nine collections of pictures.

**LENOX.** Mr. F. Augustus Schermerhorn has presented to the library this year the two rooms on the south side of the building, recently occupied by the Lenox Bank, and at his own expense had them remodelled, so that now the library has the use of the entire first floor of the Sedgwick building. The Dewey catalogue system has been introduced, through the exertions of Mrs. Edward R. Wharton and others.

**LEOMINSTER.** A change, greatly appreciated by the public, is the two-book system, which allows two books to be drawn on one card. The charging system has been altered, so that the date when the book is due may be stamped, rather than that when taken. This system is very satisfactory, as now very few overdue notices have to be sent out, and there is a decrease in fines. There is a marked increase in the use of the reference room by teachers and pupils. The library now supplies entire classes from the high school and some of the higher grades, and shelves are reserved for their special use, material being reserved for each class as long as needed. The teachers make the work at the library a part of the class work. Under the will of Robert C. Billings of Boston, a legacy of \$5,000 was received by the library.

**LEXINGTON.** The home circulation for 1902 increased 437 over that of the previous year. The main library shows an increased circulation of fiction; the branch library figures indicate a large decrease in fiction. Eight art exhibitions have been held during the year. The juvenile department now boasts of 1,939 volumes of the best juvenile literature, and, under the generous oversight of the librarian, her assistants and interested friends, this department is proving a strong help to child culture.

**LOWELL.** Two years hence the Public Library will come into possession of a bequest of \$140,000 from the estate of John Davis.

LUNENBURG. The sum of \$500 has been received by the library from the late Susan M. Howard, a native of the town; the income of this sum is to be used for the purchase of books. The number of books allowed teachers has been increased, until they may practically take any number they may desire for use in school work.

LYNN. Charles W. Bubier of Providence has given the library a painting by George Innes, entitled "The Jersey Shore." A portrait of Orsamus B. Bruce, late superintendent of schools in the city, was given to the library by the teachers and pupils of the city; and a "grandfather's clock" (1759) was bequeathed by William Henry Harney. In connection with a committee of the Lynn Historical Society, a department for the blind has been established. A room has been set apart, in which instruction by a blind teacher is given in the different methods of reading. A typewriting machine in the Braille system and 155 books in various systems have been purchased. Special readings have been given in this department by various citizens who have volunteered their services.

MALDEN. The library has obtained by purchase a file of Malden's earliest newspaper, the "Malden Messenger," the first issue of which bears the date July 16, 1856. The library has now, with few exceptions, complete files of the "Messenger," the "Mirror," the "Tribune," the "City Press," the "Daily News" and the "Daily Mail," with a few numbers of several papers which were born and soon died. The service of the school libraries, which was introduced in the latter part of 1901, has been continued. The books of these libraries are used by the pupils both in school work and for home use. The annual examinations of the shelves showed a total loss of 46 volumes, of which 33 volumes were from the open shelves in the children's room and the reference room. Four exhibitions of photographs from the Library Art Club have been shown in the trustees' room. A series of exhibitions of the works of local artists was begun in January. These exhibitions have proved to be a feature of much interest, and have drawn many visitors to the library. The art gallery has gained a worthy addition by the purchase of "A Wood Interior," by Thomas Hill. This picture came from the collection of Charles O. Elliott. William A. Wilde, a prominent and useful member of the board of trustees, died Dec. 2, 1902.

MANCHESTER. New and popular books have been placed in the delivery room, where the adult visitors can select for themselves. For some years all persons over twelve years of age, and in

some cases younger, have been allowed the freedom of the shelves. The Browne system of charging has been adopted, with success.

**MARLBOROUGH.** From various individuals the library has received nearly 3,000 volumes. The library was reopened February 10, six weeks after the destruction by fire of the city hall and 20,000 volumes. The new library building, now in process of erection, is to be a building of simple and dignified classic style, though not severe. It is approached by a broad flight of granite steps, flanked on either side by a granite wall. The basement walls are of pink granite; the principal walls are of gray brick, with terra-cotta trimmings of the color of Indiana limestone. The entrance vestibule opens into the lofty central hall, 22 feet square, which opens through arches into the reading room on the right, 25 by 30 feet; to the children's room on the left, 25 by 30 feet; to the librarian's room and stack room in the rear; and to a stairway leading to the trustees' room in a half story above. In the basement are a newspaper room, stack rooms, boiler room and toilet rooms. The stack room in the rear is a fireproof building, shut off from the rest of the building by fireproof doors, and is to be arranged in several stories from the basement to the roof with modern steel stacks and shelves. There is a fumigating vault in the basement. The building is to be heated by steam and by three large fireplaces, in the children's room, reading room and newspaper room. The building is to be lighted by electricity. The interior is finished in quartered oak. The building is constructed by J. F. Warren & Co. of Marlborough; the architects are Peabody & Stearns of Boston.

**MEDFIELD.** The library has received a gift of \$5,000 from the Billings estate, the income of which is to be used for the purchase of books.

**MEDFORD.** In January, 1903, it was decided to try the experiment of having books from the Bodley Club Library for the benefit of the patrons. By paying a yearly rental of \$150, the library has the use of 1,500 books of recent publication; the same amount of money would scarcely purchase 140 books; 125 books are sent back every month if desired, and 125 more sent to take their places. The public pay nothing for the use of the books, but they are given out in the same way as those belonging to the library. In the children's room many interesting and attractive bulletins were prepared of varied subjects. A story hour has been started for the young people; this has proved quite successful.

- MELROSE.** The corner-stone of the Carnegie Library building was laid with due ceremony on April 19, 1903. Addresses were made by Mayor Buttrick, Ex-Mayor Larrabee, Senator George R. Jones and Elbridge H. Goss.
- MENDON.** A bequest of \$27.68 has been received by the library from the estate of Charlotte A. Joy Mann.
- MIDDLEBOROUGH.** The library building is nearly completed, and it is expected that it will be ready for occupancy by spring. The library is being recatalogued by a professional cataloguer; the Dewey-Cutter system is used. The charging system is changed. Early in the year the library had a bequest of \$1,000 from Mr. Joseph E. Beals, one of the trustees, to whom the library owes its growth and success more than to any one person. From the Thomas S. Pierce legacy the library receives the interest of \$50,000 for periodicals and magazines.
- MIDDLEFIELD.** There has been a great increase in the number of boys and girls from ten years of age and upwards among the readers, and the class of juvenile books is inadequate to meet the new demand.
- MILFORD.** A room formerly occupied by the superintendent of schools has been equipped and furnished for a reference room. This was opened to the public on February 2, and the reference books and reading matter have been taken from the library shelves and placed in this reading room.
- MILLBURY.** Calvin W. Barker, late of Millbury, left the library \$1,000, which may be invested in Tabard Inn stock.
- MILTON.** The circulation and use of the library increase steadily, and the class of books circulated is better than in previous years. The house-to-house delivery in the Blue Hill and Brush Hill districts, the first delivery of which was made Jan. 2, 1902, has been a decided success; it has increased the circulation and the number of card holders, and has reached many residents of the town who have never used the library before. A delivery by messenger is made every Thursday. At the regular town meeting, in March, 1902, the town accepted as a gift a lot of land containing about one and a half acres, on which to build a new library building. A sum of \$50,000 was appropriated for the building, and, since the original appropriation was made, \$21,000 was added to the fund by private subscription. The building was designed by Shepley, Rutan & Coolidge. It is of red brick, with limestone trimmings. The main floor provides for a small reception room, a children's room, reading room and reference rooms, cataloguing room, room for the librarian, etc. The

stacks, with a capacity for 10,325 volumes, are on the main floor. Above the main floor are rooms for the trustees, rooms for storing duplicates, etc., and a room lighted from overhead, to be used for art exhibits. In the basement are a room to be used for historical collections, staff and janitor's rooms, etc.

**MONTEREY.** The library is fairly well patronized. It tries to reach the schools through the teachers in the outlying districts, by allowing them to take all they want, and by placing no two-weeks limit to the return of books. This plan has worked very satisfactorily. To reach the older ones is not as easy. The library is greatly helped by the travelling libraries of the Woman's Education Association.

**NAHANT.** During the year the board of trustees has tried to collect papers, pictures and other objects, curious or important, relating to Nahant. A case for the exhibition and preservation of these things has been placed in the delivery hall; also a book case of juveniles, for the unrestricted inspection of younger readers. This is of undoubted benefit, and is in accordance with the best modern practice. It adds interest if the reader can examine the books.

**NATICK.** Morse Institute Library. Through the kindness of Hon. George F. Hoar, the library became the recipient of a bronze memorial tablet, commemorative of the life and works of Henry Wilson. It is a facsimile of the one recently placed in the Vice-President's room in the Capitol at Washington. The great event of the year has been the presentation by Mr. J. O. Wilson of a life-sized picture of himself. The young people's library continues to be the popular rendezvous for the children of all ages. The circulation of this department constitutes one-fourth of the total issue. The children have free access to the shelves. The great good which the young people's library is affording its youthful patrons clearly confirms the wisdom and beneficent purpose of its founder, Mr. J. O. Wilson. Through the personal suggestions and co-operation of the teachers of the public schools many books have been purchased that would materially aid in the work of public instruction. Through the kindness of the Fortnightly Book Exchange the library has received 55 volumes, all published during 1902. The use of the reference department continues to increase. The reference room of the young people's library has been of great assistance to the older children, as they obtain not only the desired information, but also an insight into the best methods of independent work. Mineralogy being one of the favorite topics, Mr. James Broad

generously loaned a very valuable collection of minerals for several weeks.

**NEEDHAM.** All shelves are open to patrons, except the fiction. The special arrangement, allowing teachers and pupils to take out a number of non-fiction books at a time, is extended to all persons who have special reading in view. The number of books that may be taken out is not limited, except in cases where there is a great demand for the same books. The trustees have purchased several sets of mounted pictures of flowers, trees, etc., which will be of great service to loan to teachers for class work in nature study. The teachers are asked to co-operate with the librarian in directing the young in the choice of good books. By vote of the town, Mr. Carnegie's offer of \$10,000 for a library building was accepted. The building committee engaged the services of Albert Parsons Ross of New York as architect. The "turning of the first sod," on June 4, 1903, was witnessed by an assembly of a thousand people. The program consisted of prayer, singing by school children and brief addresses. The veteran library trustee, Samuel Hudson, eighty-two years of age, his son, granddaughter and great granddaughter, wielded the spade. In August the corner-stone was formally laid by Mrs. J. G. A. Carter, wife of the donor of the site, a lot upon the corner of Highland and Mellen streets.

**NEW BEDFORD.** The changes and improvements in the Free Public Library of New Bedford have been mainly in the direction of endeavors to make the books of worth easier of access to the public. The two branch reading rooms have been made into sub-stations of the library, with collections of books immediately available. An increasing amount of attention is given to the demands of the schools, societies, etc. Bulletins on timely topics and on standard subjects of special local interest are frequently prepared. The Bodley Club book service is now on its second year of service, and is giving good satisfaction. The public likes the accommodation; the books are of a good character; they cost the card holders nothing; they are clean; they allow the library to restrict the purchase of fiction.

**NEW MARLBOROUGH.** The library has been closed for nearly a year, but has now been moved to the church parlor, new cases have been made, and the books renumbered and rearranged.

**NEWBURYPORT.** Public school teachers are each allowed ten special cards. The library is stronger than ever in books dealing with the teacher's science and art. It has been the aim of the library to make it an efficient supplement to the public school system.

There have been added many books on the fine arts and biographical works on the masters, special impetus being given to this class of study by the art class of the Women's Club. The library received three fine oil portraits: one of Col. Samuel Swett, from the brush of the famous Gilbert Stuart, painted in 1806; the second, a portrait of Edward Strong Moseley, a director of the library for forty years, presented by C. W. and F. S. Moseley; the third, a portrait of William Cleaves Todd, founder of the reading room, the gift of a number of ladies and gentlemen who associated for the purpose. The last two portraits are the work of Robert Gordon Hardie. In the reading room, thanks to Mr. Todd, 38 daily publications, 38 weekly newspapers, 39 weekly publications, 67 monthly and 24 foreign publications are kept on file.

**NEWTON.** The number of trustees has been increased to 7, instead of 5. The library has been reclassified according to the Expansive system.

**NORFOLK.** The books have been renumbered and classified, and a card catalogue has been made of the books in the library.

**NORTH ADAMS.** Beginning with October, each of the hose houses has had sent to it a box of books for the use of the men during the part of the year when they must remain for the most part within doors. The Braytonville branch has been a decided success. That nearly 1,300 volumes were circulated in so sparsely settled a district as that about the East Mountain schoolhouse is a witness to the good work which can be done by a teacher in influencing the families of her pupils. The largely increased circulation at Blackinton is a source of gratification. The statistics of circulation show a gain of 12,016 over last year. The work with the children and with the schools has been carried on as in former years. The teachers are co-operating more and more with the library. Picture exhibitions have been held during the year. The work of the local schools in drawing and in manual training has been exhibited. Mr. F. C. Walker gave the library a beautiful glass case filled with live mosses, ferns, berries and wild flowers, many readers being thus given their first glimpse of the rare wild flowers alive and growing.

**NORTH ANDOVER.** The library has been reclassified and recatalogued. The system of classification used was the Dewey and the Cutter shelf numbers. The library has become a member of the Massachusetts Library Art Club. Exhibitions of pictures are given from time to time, and notices of these are given in the local papers.

**NORTHAMPTON.** Forbes Library. There has been an increase in the circulation of 6,019 volumes; the home use shows an increase. Photographs circulate to the extent of 10,000 a year, and music, mainly sheet, to the extent of 2,000. Once a month a box of about 100 volumes is sent to the village of Florence, to the Lilly Library. Smaller boxes are sent to schoolhouses in the outlying districts, which are lent by the teachers to the pupils and families. Every week library employees go to the manufacturing villages of Bay State and Leeds with baskets of books. The library has received \$500 from the trustees of Smith College, in grateful recognition of the services of the library to the college students. It is proposed by the authorities to make a similar contribution each year. Charles Ammi Cutter, the accomplished librarian and widely recognized authority in library science, died on September 6, at the age of sixty-six, at Walpole, N. H., after a few days' illness.

**NORTH BROOKFIELD.** The library has been co-operating with the public schools, not only with the high school, but the kindergarten as well, furnishing a department of illustrated books for children of kindergarten age. There have been shown on the walls of the reading room at various times pictures of men prominent in literature and politics, and lists of their works. The library has endeavored little by little to meet the demands of the pupils in their studies and inquiries, and to offer them a better quality of literature than the light stories.

**NORTHFIELD.** The donor of the Dickinson Memorial Library, Elijah M. Dickinson, died in Fitchburg, Oct. 10, 1902. Not only did Mr. Dickinson present to Northfield one of the finest library buildings in Massachusetts outside the large cities, but he manifested, by frequent visits, a constant interest in its care and equipment, nearly always bringing something of value to the library, either relics, books or pictures. The library pays a membership fee of \$5 each year to the Art Club, which entitles it to an exhibition of all photographs or other pictures possessed by the club. Sets of fifty pictures are circulated, each set being on exhibition in the library two or three weeks.

**NORTH READING.** The library has been reclassified. A picture of George F. Root has been presented to the library. Mr. Root was a former resident of North Reading.

**NORWOOD.** The circulation continues to increase, and new names are being constantly added to the borrowers' register. It is the desire of the trustees of the Morrill Memorial Library that the library shall be a supplement to the public school work. The

high school has been doing especial work at the library, and at this school lists have been posted for supplementary reading for each class in connection with English work. Some of the teachers in other schools are doing similar work in a smaller way, and it is hoped that this step in the right direction will lead to a closer connection between the schools and the library.

**OAKHAM.** The interest in the library increases year by year, the circulation having been larger the past year than any previous year. A complete set of "Abbott's Histories" has been presented to the library by a friend. The pictures loaned by the Woman's Education Association have been greatly enjoyed.

**ORANGE.** There has been a large increase in the circulation over that of last year. Recently many children have taken cards, revealing the fact that the public schools are doing the meritorious work of cultivating a healthy reading habit in the young. There is an insatiable demand for fiction, but it is pleasing to note that a more solid class of books is growing in favor. The North Orange branch gives increasing satisfaction to that community.

**OTIS.** The library has received in the past year several books from patrons and 100 books from the City Library Association of Springfield.

**OXFORD.** The library is in excellent condition, and the year has been a prosperous one. The patronage has greatly increased at the main library, and the branch at North Oxford reports a slight increase. The "Charles Larned Memorial" of Oxford, Mass., is a gift to his native town by a Boston gentleman, whose name it bears, in memory of his mother, a descendant of Rev. John Robinson of Leyden, for the perpetual use of its Free Public Library. It is situated on the west side of Main Street, at the corner of Sigourney Street, in the centre of a lot approximately 200 feet square, and will cost, including equipment and site, upwards of \$30,000. Its style of architecture is renaissance, its form T-shaped, its extreme length and breadth being each about 70 feet. The central portion is two stories in height, affording a spacious room on the second floor for the display of art and antiquities, a room for trustees, storage rooms, etc. The material is Kettanning, Pa., buff brick, with Milford pink granite for the Ashlar basement and trimmings. The roof is covered with Munson black slate, and trimmed with copper hip, ridge crestings and finials. The windows are of polished plate glass, with transoms of leaded glass in artistic designs; while above the porch is placed a beautiful arched window, commemorating "The Departure of the Pilgrims from Holland in 1620,"

and represents a group from the famous painting of Charles West Cope, R.A., one of a series decorating the British House of Parliament. The corner-stone was laid with Masonic ceremonies on the 20th of May, 1903, and the building is but recently completed. Entering the building from the main street, the top of the T, by a flight of eight granite steps flanked by heavy buttresses, we stand in the entrance porch between two polished granite columns. Over our heads, in heavy block letters, cut from the solid stone, stands out "FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY;" and surmounting this, in front of the balcony above, "CHARLES LARNED MEMORIAL;" while just to the right of the porch, in a niche corresponding to the window on the left, is placed a massive bronze tablet, bearing this legend: "This building, erected to the memory of CLARISSA ROBINSON LARNED, a lineal descendant in the seventh generation of Rev. John Robinson of Leyden, is presented to the town of Oxford for the use of its Free Public Library for all time." Entering the vestibule, a flight of stairs on the right leads to the basement; passing through the door in front, we are in the delivery hall, the floor of which, as also of the vestibule, is of marble mosaic. On the right stairs lead to the floor above. On the left is a small room, furnished with cases, table and chairs, for special study or conversation. Directly in front is the delivery counter and cataloguing room, immediately in the rear of which is the stack room. On the right or north of the delivery counter is the librarian's room, with toilet room adjoining. Corresponding to the librarian's room on the left or south of the delivery counter is the reference library. South of the delivery hall and reference library, and extending from front to rear of the main building, is the general reading room, lighted by windows on three sides. In the corresponding wing on the north side is the juvenile room, somewhat smaller. The stack room, 22½ by 30 feet, is designed for three tiers of stacks, including basement, with a total capacity for 40,000 volumes, and is practically fireproof, being separated from the main building by fireproof walls and doors. It is furnished with Library Bureau clutch double stack, glass floor, hand lift and iron stairway. Between the stack room and main structure there are stairs to the cataloguing room, and an entrance to the basement, which is spacious and well lighted, affording accommodation for the steam-heating apparatus, coal bunkers, toilet and storage rooms, and any additional equipment which may be required in the future. The building is piped for gas and wired for electricity throughout.

**PALMER.** H. M. Dean was appointed librarian, in place of C. B. Fiske, who resigned. Special emphasis has been put upon increasing circulation of books in the several villages. Through the courtesy of Mr. Hobbs, the Thorndike Company has had for several years an opportunity to secure books from the library without the expense of going to the building for them. Recently, through the assistance of those interested in the library, there have been established branch libraries in the schoolhouses of Thorndike, Three Rivers and Bondsville. The experiment promises to materially increase the circulation.

**PEABODY.** Peabody Institute Library. The library this year began the work of supplying schools in the outlying districts of the town with books. Twenty to 30 volumes are selected by the various teachers, which are charged to the respective schools, the teachers seeing to their distribution; after six or eight weeks a fresh supply is sent, and the previous lot returned. This plan seems to be working well.

**PELHAM.** The circulation of books is steadily increasing, interest gaining, especially among the children.

**PITTSFIELD.** Berkshire Athenæum. On March 31, 1903, Hon. Zenas Crane presented to the trustees of the Berkshire Athenæum the deeds to a large lot of land on South Street, Pittsfield, nearly adjoining the site of the Athenæum, together with a handsome building situated thereon, newly erected by Mr. Crane, and by him completely filled with rare and beautiful specimens of natural history in all departments, and with valuable works of art, including reproductions of statuary and paintings by eminent artists. Among the paintings may be specified a portrait by Sir Joshua Reynolds; "Children at Play," by Bouguereau; and "The Puritan Maiden," by Douglas Volk. One room is also filled with rare relics of antiquity, notably five figurines from Tanagra, ancient silver coins of Greece, iridescent glass, Babylonian tablets, old Chinese idols, and ancient busts from Palmyra. One room is devoted to Indian relics. This museum, known as the Museum of Natural History and Art, is the most notable gift received by the trustees since the founder's gift of the Athenæum land and building from Mr. Thomas Allen, and the endowment fund of nearly \$100,000 from the estate of Phineas Allen. In commemoration of Mr. Crane's munificence, the name of this institution has been changed to Berkshire Athenæum and Museum; and the board of trustees has been enlarged by the election of nine additional trustees, who were nominated by Mr. Crane. The picture by Bouguereau was the gift of Mr.

Crane's brother, Hon. W. Murray Crane, recently Governor of Massachusetts. The rental service of Bodley Club books has been increased to a total of 500 volumes per month, and proves one of the most important adjuncts ever made to the general library service.

**PLYMOUTH.** The library has received a gift from an unknown source of \$100 for the purchase of books; about 50 volumes of new books from a local book club, and smaller gifts of books from individuals; also numerous additions to the collection of photographs.

**PLYMPTON.** The new library building is of wood, built in colonial style. The outer doorway is supported by two columns, the door opening into a small vestibule. There is an ample fireplace with fluted pilaster on either side. On the left of the corridor is the stack room, 15 by 22 feet, and on the right is the reading room. The floors are of hard pine. The cost of the building was \$4,500.

**PRESCOTT.** A branch library was established at the parsonage on the hill; 141 books were taken from the library and placed in this branch, and a good set of shelves with glass doors was provided to contain them. A branch was also started at the home of Marshall F. Brown, in the easterly part of the town, with 141 books, a cupboard and case of shelves being provided for its accommodation.

**PRINCETON.** Since July the library has had the use of one of the Audubon travelling libraries. A branch in the western part of the town was started early in the year, and has been much appreciated.

**PROVINCETOWN.** A plaster cast of Charles Dickens was given to the library by a former resident of the town. The statue is historic as well as artistic, having been purchased at the auction sale at the old Boston Museum.

**QUINCY.** The experiment of placing new books on the tables for the public has been continued, with most gratifying results. The circulation is nearly 2,000 more volumes than last year. Some years ago the trustees gave to the teachers very wide privileges; it would seem as if those privileges ought to be of great advantage to school children at some distance from the library. A conference has been held with the superintendent of schools, and action will be taken by which it is hoped to bring the library into closer touch with those of the schools in which its influence has now considerably lessened.

**RANDOLPH.** Mrs. Frederick Howard has presented to the library the greater part of the foreign classics from the library of the late Dr. Howard,—a valuable collection of Greek, Latin, Italian, Spanish, Persian, Anglo-Saxon, Hindostan, French, German and Portuguese works. A large number of works on pedagogy and nature studies have been introduced into the library. The teachers in the public schools have been prompt to avail themselves of the special privileges accorded them by the trustees; in 1902 they used 2,203 books, while in 1901 only 774 were used. In the annex exhibitions of pictures have been given.

**READING.** Two changes in the usual routine of the library have been decided upon by vote of the trustees. These are, first, the opening of new accessions to patrons by placing the volumes upon shelves outside the regular alcoves, where they can be examined freely, and selections made for home use; second, the granting, upon request, of a special library card in addition to the ordinary card in use, entitling the holder to take any book not fiction. The library should be considered an important adjunct to the public schools, and its influence as an educational institution promoted in every possible way.

**REVERE.** The new library building was dedicated Nov. 18, 1903, President Faunce of Brown University making the principal address. The cost of the building and furniture was about \$26,000; of this amount, \$20,000 was given by Mr. Andrew Carnegie, \$2,000 from the Stephen A. Hall fund and \$3,100 from the Revere Woman's Club. Gifts to the library during the year include a marble drinking fountain, from one of the trustees, Mr. Theodore Grover, in memory of his mother, Mary E. Grover; a stained-glass window, from the Current Events Club of Beachmont; and a pair of andirons, one hundred years old, from Warren Fenno, chairman of the trustees. It was decided to use the money received from the Revere Woman's Club and from the Stephen A. Hall fund for furnishing the reading rooms; and a memorial tablet will be erected in each room, one for the Revere Woman's Club and the other to the late Stephen A. Hall. At the request of the principal, it was voted to allow 20 books to be taken from the library at a time, to be kept four weeks for use in the high school.

**RICHMOND.** After careful consideration, it was decided to adopt the card catalogue system. The dictionary card catalogue was the one selected, and the decimal classification of subjects used.

- ROCHESTER. The library has received a generous donation of books from the Millicent Library of Fairhaven.
- ROCKLAND. Through the efforts of Miss Angela Collins, librarian of the Public Library, Andrew Carnegie offered the town \$12,500 for a building, conditional upon its providing a suitable site, and promising an annual appropriation of at least \$1,250 for library support. Despite spirited opposition by the labor unions, the offer was accepted at a town meeting on April 29, and a lot on the corner of Union and Belmont streets has been purchased as the site of the new building, which will be known as "Soldiers' Memorial Library." To the Carnegie gift will be added for construction the town's appropriation and other money contributed for the soldiers' memorial.
- ROCKPORT. Mr. Andrew Carnegie's offer of \$10,000, with the usual conditions, for a public library building, was accepted November 11, by a vote of 148 to 3. A committee was appointed to select a site.
- ROWLEY. A bequest of \$10,000 from David E. Smith for the benefit of the Public Library is reported.
- ROYALSTON. The trustees are pleased to report an increased patronage of the library. A large number of volumes have been taken by teachers for use in the schoolrooms or for private reference. The library will be opened twice a week instead of once, as heretofore, through the generous provision of a summer visitor.
- RUSSELL. A branch library has been established at Fairfield, two and one-half miles from Russell Centre. The interest continues, and the volumes are well circulated.
- RUTLAND. An assistant from the Boston Public Library, who was boarding in Rutland during the summer, offered to help in beginning a system of classification, and to help by correspondence after her return. The Library Bureau, through her influence, sent cards for the work.
- SALEM. The legacies of the late Walter Scott Dickson to the Public Library and Essex Institute of Salem, one-fifth of the residuary estate to each, have been paid by the executors, and amount to \$25,588 for each institution. The late Dr. William Mack left \$5,000 to the Public Library as a fund, the income of which is devoted to the purchase of rare and expensive medical books.
- SANDWICH. The library has recently received a gift of \$500 toward a fund for a new library building.
- SAUGUS. The Browne system of charging, adopted about a year ago, has worked most admirably, reducing the time limit to its lowest terms. Especial pains is taken with the children, by looking over

their books as far as possible, and helping them to choose the best books. A handsome case of shells adds to the attractiveness of the room, and when there are several children in the room at one time the librarian gives them a few minutes' talk about the shells. Schools are allowed special privileges; teachers are welcome to go to the shelves.

**SHEFFIELD.** New books are no longer covered, but simply numbered.

**SHREWSBURY.** The Jubal Howe Memorial Library building, described in the report of last year as near completion, was not formally dedicated until September 24, when Maj. William F. Harlow of Shrewsbury gave an historical address, the Hon. George F. Hoar and the Hon. John R. Thayer made brief addresses, and the Rev. Frank T. Pomeroy of Medfield read a dedicatory ode. The total cost of the edifice was \$30,609.60, and about \$25,000 of the Howe bequest remains as a maintenance fund. The walls of the building are of yellow-gray brick, with gray sandstone trimmings. The roof is slated. The stack room, 36 by 36 feet, is fireproof, and is separated from the main room by a fireproof partition. The upper story is an assembly room, 34 by 35 feet, and a trustees' room. The lower floor is divided, half with children's room on the right and a reading room on the left, and the delivery and librarian's room at the side. The finish is quartered oak. The Browne system of charging has been adopted.

**SHUTESBURY.** The M. N. Spear Memorial Library building is a gift to the town under the provisions of the will of Mirick N. Spear, late of Amherst; he was a native of Shutesbury. The building was erected during the autumn of 1902, and it stands on a summit of his native hills as a fitting memorial.

**SOMERSET.** The set of bird and animal pictures loaned the library by the Woman's Education Association of Boston was of great interest to the children of the public schools, nearly all of whom visited the library to see and study them with their teachers. The same association also loaned a library of 25 volumes on Egypt, with 114 pictures.

**SOMERVILLE.** The library has purchased printed cards from the Library of Congress, resulting in a considerable decrease of labor in the cataloguing department, and an increased efficiency of service. The school department is doing a steadily increasing amount of work. A room has been fitted up for the department. Each school building is visited twice during the year, and in some schools talks with the children have been given and lists of books suitable to their needs have been fur-

nished. The children's department has been doing excellent work. The shelving capacity has been increased more than one-half by the erection of a double-faced stack on the northern side of the room. The reference and art department has been increasingly used by the public. There have been several art exhibits during the year. Through the Pitman art fund the library is enabled to purchase a number of fine pictures and a few art books. The American branch of the reference department has not been neglected; a considerable sum has been expended on it. The money has been devoted very largely to the purchase of Maine and New Hampshire town histories. The vacation card system has been continued, and has been increasingly appreciated by people who spend their vacations out of town. No act of the library has probably ever been received with such favor as the granting of free access to the shelves, which began in January, 1902. Since the library has voted to loan books to the Sunday-schools they have selected excellent books, and through their agency the library can be instrumental in getting a large number of inspiring, helpful and really meritorious books before the public.

**SOUTHAMPTON.** At their annual meeting, in March, 1903, the Library Association changed its constitution so as to increase the number of trustees from nine to twelve, adding three ladies to the board. These ladies were also added to the book committee. Later in the year the sum of \$5,000 for a library building was given to the town by H. W. Edwards, to fulfil the wish of his father, Rev. Henry L. Edwards, late of Northampton, who was a native of Southampton. The gift was limited by these conditions: that the town should furnish a suitable site; that the town should appropriate not less than \$100 for the support of the library; and that it should be known as the "Edwards Memorial Library." At a meeting of the Library Association it was voted to dissolve said association, and to give its property to the town. At a special town meeting it was voted to comply with the conditions imposed by Mr. Edwards, and accept the gift. A board of trustees was also elected. Work has begun on the new building, but it seems probable, owing to unavoidable delay in obtaining material, that it will not be ready for occupancy before spring.

**SOUTHBRIDGE.** During the year a catalogue of the library has been published. The card holders are allowed to take more than two books, other than fiction, at one time.

**SOUTH HADLEY.** The Gaylord Memorial Library is the gift to the town of Mr. William Gaylord, a life-long and public-spirited

resident of South Hadley. The library is beautifully situated on College Street, directly opposite Mary Lyon Chapel of Mt. Holyoke College. The building occupies the site of the old burying ground, the town giving the land. The library is one story, with basement. The reading room is across the delivery hall, directly opposite the entrance vestibule; it is circular in form, and opens on a loggia intended for use during the summer as a place for reading. To the right and left of the entrance vestibule, which is in the middle of the front of the library, are two rooms, respectively book and children's room. Off the book room to the rear is the librarian's room, and similarly placed, off the children's room, stairs descend to the basement. The book room, together with the bookcase extending entirely around the walls of the first floor rooms, will accommodate 7,000 volumes. This capacity can be increased to nearly 15,000. The basement contains a large circular room, to be used as an historical museum and trustees' meeting room; a room for newspapers, reading or storage; boiler room; toilets and fireproof vault. The library is built of local red brick, with Ohio sandstone cornices, columns and belt courses, granite base courses and steps. The cost, complete, was \$25,000, exclusive of architects' fees. Putnam & Cox of Boston were the architects.

SPRINGFIELD. Under the auspices of the library a series of talks was begun last spring, dealing with books in certain departments of the library. Two subjects dealt with were "Books on Architecture" and "Books on Gardening." The addresses were given by experts, who generously gave their services. These lectures differ somewhat from the free lectures not infrequently held under the auspices of libraries, since they deal solely with books. They were fairly well attended, and similar talks are about to be given this winter. In each case a list of selected books has been compiled by the speaker, or by the library with his advice, and printed. By the will of the late J. Searle Hurlburt, the library will in time receive \$500, the income of which is to be used for the purchase of dental books. By the will of the late Richard W. Rice, the library will similarly receive the sum of \$500 for the library, \$500 for the art museum and \$500 for the science museum. The library has also received the sum of \$1,000, to be known as the Aston fund, the income of which is to be used for the purchase of books on wood engraving, and proofs.

STERLING. The library trustees have put in order the room designed by Mr. Conant, the donor of the library building, for an antiquarian room, and have arranged it for the reception of relics.

The pictures were rehung, and the cabinets were opened to receive articles of historic interest. A custodian has been placed in charge of the room. The trustees invite the citizens to loan or present to this room anything of value or interest to the town, in order that the room may be made a place of interest, and for the purpose of preserving historical relics.

**STOCKBRIDGE.** During the year 1902 an opening was made in the overhead wall, and a wide gallery made around the room, thus making a much pleasanter room, and giving more space for books. A gift of \$1,000 has been received from the estate of the late Daniel R. Williams.

**STONEHAM.** Mr. Andrew Carnegie's offer of \$15,000 for a public library building was finally decided by a favoring vote passed at a town meeting on April 22, 1903.

**STOUGHTON.** The new library building, nearly completed, is constructed of red brick and Indiana limestone; the design is colonial, one story in height, with high basement. The plan provides for a central delivery hall, with three-floor stack room in the rear, capable of accommodating 30,000 volumes. On the same floor are adult and children's reading rooms and librarian's room, the latter to be used by the trustees. In the basement is a room which can be used for small gatherings. Mr. Lucius Clapp of Randolph is the donor. The building, including furnishings, will cost \$25,000.

**STOW.** While the circulation for home use has continued about the same, an improvement has been noted in the quality of books called for. The demand for a better class of books increases. The teachers find the library a valuable aid in broadening their instruction, especially in the line of geography and history. A valuable picture of Andrew Jackson was presented to the library by Frank P. Bond; the picture was given to Mrs. Bond, mother of the donor, by President Jackson, with his own signature on the back.

**STURBRIDGE.** In the gallery of the library all are cordially invited to make their own selection of books which are found there on history, travel, biography, agriculture, etc.; and it is hoped that the circulation of such books will be more general, since each card holder is entitled to a book of fiction and one of non-fiction at the same time.

**SUNDERLAND.** The City Library Association of Springfield presented the library with 91 volumes. The circulation was larger than any previous year in the history of the library. The following

facts with reference to the new library building, erected in 1901, the gift of John Long Graves of Boston, are added to the brief description of the building, given in the annual report for 1902. On the ground floor, besides the vestibule, there is a reading room, which extends upward to the roof, and a stack room of equal dimensions with the reading room. Above the stack room is a room designed for the use of officers, committees, etc. There is a basement containing a work room and a furnace room. The finish is of quartered oak, except the work room floor, which is of southern pine. The windows are of plate glass. The structure is of pressed brick, with Indiana limestone; the interior walls of the vestibule and reading room are of Columbia brick, and the roof is of moss green tile. Mr. Graves gave the furnishings also. The stacks are of oak, with a dull finish; and the large reading table and the chairs are of polished oak. The building is located on the home lot of Mr. Graves's father, Horatio Graves, and is designed as a memorial to his father and mother; and this design is indicated by a memorial tablet of bronze, which is placed on the outer wall at the right of the front entrance.

**SUTTON.** The library has been well patronized by pupils of the high school, and is a great help as a reference medium in many branches of their education. Not only have the pupils of the high school manifested much interest in the library, but many of the public schools, through the kindness of the superintendent, have derived much benefit from the books loaned for their use. Several teachers have been glad to avail themselves of privileges extended to them.

**SWANSEA.** The Agricultural Club of Swansea, having disbanded, voted to give its library of 197 volumes to the Free Public Library. An encouraging feature of the year's work is a slight increase in the circulation and in the number of cards issued. At a recent meeting of the trustees it was voted that holders of cards may take two books from the library at one time, one only to be fiction. Each year the library gives better facilities for study and pleasurable reading.

**TAUNTON.** Mr. Andrew Carnegie increased his original gift to the city for a library building by \$10,000, making a total of \$70,000. The corner-stone was laid Sept. 14, 1903. The library building represents a modern adaptation of the Roman classic style of architecture. Its plans include a main building and a spacious stack room in the rear. The building is chiefly of

Indiana limestone. The roof is to be of slate, with metal cresting and gutters. Upon the principal floor in the centre of the building is the delivery room, lighted directly by skylight, which connects with the main reading room and reference library on either hand. The librarian's rooms are easily reached on the right and left in the rear of the delivery counter. The stack room will accommodate about 35,000 volumes in each story, and is divided by a wide corridor. It is provided with steel stacks, with glass floors, and supported by steel beams and by columns in the basement. The walls are of Taunton brick. The upper or second floor of the main building is supplied with a large central art room, lighted by a skylight, a lecture room, a newspaper room, a room for the trustees, and three small rooms for study or other special purposes. In the basement there will be a children's room, a room for receiving and unpacking, janitor's room, etc. The architect is Albert Randolph Ross of New York.

**TEWKSBURY.** The circulation has shown a healthy increase. The system of giving out two books on one card is working well. There is an increase in the number of requests for new books, which have been honored whenever possible. At a meeting of the trustees resolutions were passed on the death of Miss Helen Eastman, a former trustee. The secretary in his record says: "We remember the hard work and wise counsel she gave the library in its earlier days, and have put on record our appreciation of it all, as well as the pure, noble life she lived."

**TOPSFIELD.** The patronage of the library is considerably increased during the summer months by the visitors in town, who are glad to avail themselves of the privileges of the library.

**TOWNSEND.** Each year sees the library growing more useful to the public schools, and the hearty sympathy between the teachers and librarian has been maintained. Especially has the library been used by the pupils in the high school, and many cards have been issued to the smaller children in the grade schools. A change in the "Rules and Regulations" has been made, and a book may now be kept from the library two weeks, and then renewed once, excepting books that have been in the library less than one year.

**TRURO.** Since the formation of the library the reading people of the town have had access to a storehouse of information and literary advantage not otherwise available, and some persons of careful observation note an improved mental capacity for book knowledge on the part of the people since the library has become an institution of the town.

**TYRINGHAM.** The schools have been recipients of valuable information, the library being a valuable adjunct to the school work. There is not a department in the schools that cannot be assisted in its work from this source.

**UPTON.** The rules of the library have been changed; young people of twelve years of age now have the opportunity of drawing books in their own names. The fine of 25 cents for retaining a book over two weeks has been changed to 2 cents for each day overdue.

**UXBRIDGE.** The first of the year the age limit was entirely removed. The library now gives cards to any children who can read and write, whose parents wish them to have books. The parent's signature is required on a certificate, not the teacher's; as it is the wish of the trustees that the parents be responsible for the books, and that they know what the children are reading. During the last few months puzzle maps have been used at the library. They have been found to be a source of great pleasure to the smaller children. Children from the schools are instructed in the use of the library and its reference books; previously, this instruction has been given at the different schools. Exhibits of school work are given in the hall when there are no picture exhibits. The library has been used more the past year than ever before in its history. During the spring of 1902 especial attention was given at the library to flowers and birds. Mr. F. S. Brick conducted the work on flowers. Talks on the subject were given by him in the lecture hall, which were illustrated by wild flowers of Uxbridge. A special list of books owned by the library on flowers was prepared. The books on birds were in active circulation during the spring, and they were materially supplemented by the collection of stuffed specimens. Two lectures by authorities on ornithology were given in the hall, the expense of the lectures being met by subscriptions by townspeople. There has been an increased use of the library by the teachers; the library has also been visited more and used more by the school children than before. A spirit of harmony and union between the library and the schools is of the greatest importance for the life and good of both.

**WAKEFIELD.** The library is a member of the Library Art Club, and notifies the teachers by postal of coming exhibitions. The library buys, as a rule, only one copy of a book. Any book which is out will be reserved for a card holder who fills out a postal which may be purchased at the delivery desk. As soon as the book is available, the postal will be mailed to the first name on the list, and the book is reserved for such person one

day. Bulletins are issued as books are added, usually monthly; and if a book is purchased by request, notice is sent to the person requesting its purchase. During the year the library has received a gift of a crayon portrait of Mrs. Harriet N. Flint, from Mr. Harvey B. Evans of Wakefield, her nephew. Mrs. Flint during her life gave to the town the sum of \$1,000 for the use of the library, the same to be used for the purchase of books. Special cards are furnished to the teachers, on which they are permitted to draw several books at a time, of which privilege many avail themselves.

**WALPOLE.** The Library of Congress cards are being introduced into the library. The Bodley Club is very helpful in furnishing a supply of fresh fiction and other works of transient interest. The list of photographs has been enlarged by 100 accessions of Roman subjects. The new library building was dedicated May 14, 1903. Its total cost was \$25,000, of which Mr. Andrew Carnegie gave \$15,000, and the remainder was raised by citizens. The new building is of brick, of one story, with a stone basement. The architect was J. Lawrence Berry of Boston. The interior furnishings, desks, tables and chairs are of English oak.

**WALTHAM.** The separation of the reading rooms for adults and children, with more space for each, the greater seclusion of the reference room and the more orderly and convenient arrangement of its volumes for consultation, are instances of the improvements made. During the year the open-shelf system has been inaugurated, and thus far is working well. The numbering of the books of fiction has been changed, and a new fiction catalogue has been printed. The plan of placing new books on the counter for public inspection, with the privilege of taking out in the ordinary manner any book thus selected, has proved of great practical value.

**WARE.** A meeting of the Bay Path Library Club was held in Ware Oct. 22, 1903.

**WAREHAM.** The Dewey system was selected for the cataloguing of the library. The dictionary catalogue, neatly arranged in a case, will be found very helpful in facilitating the work of selecting books upon any desired subject. The card catalogue will be supplemented by a printed one for home use.

**WARWICK.** The circulation is increasing each year, and there is a tendency toward a higher class of reading, shown in the decrease in the percentage of fiction circulated.

**WATERTOWN.** The reclassification has gone on as rapidly as the more immediate and pressing interests of the library have allowed. The Pratt reference room is being filled with works most valuable in their use in the social sciences and the useful arts. The Hunnewell Hall has its shelving filled with useful books of reference; these will naturally change as the library has funds to purchase newer or more specific works. Books are sent twice a week to East Watertown, as they are called for.

**WAYLAND.** The appreciation and use of the library have increased in a notable degree since the acquisition of the beautiful new library building, presented to the town by the late Warren Gould Roby by his will in 1898, and built in 1900 at a cost of \$28,000. This gift has stimulated the generosity of the citizens, as evinced in gifts of money, books, and objects of adornment and use in the new building. The use of the reading rooms has very much increased, and the privilege is highly prized by both adult and juvenile readers, a room for each, liberally supplied with current periodicals and book stacks available to all, being notable features of the library. As a testimonial of the gratitude of the town to Mr. Roby, a bronze tablet has been placed by the town in the delivery room, commemorating his gift. The funds available for the support of the library have been increased by direct gift, the proceeds of a lecture course and a legacy of \$300 to be used in the purchase of fine editions of standard works. Another valuable acquisition to the reading room has been the gift from a citizen of a large mounted terrestrial globe, of the latest and most improved construction. A large collection of minerals has been arranged under glass, classified and labelled. A fund of \$1,000 has been presented to the town during the year by a citizen, as a memorial to his wife, to bear her name, the income of which is to be used forever for the purchase of books.

**WEBSTER.** There has been a considerable increase in the use of the juvenile department, which is very gratifying. The reference department is also much used. Since Jan. 1, 1903, through the kindness of the teacher at the Gore school, the library has made weekly deliveries at the schoolhouse; 10 or 12 cards are now in use. The new library building has a basement and one story to the roof. It is constructed of brick and Georgia marble trimmings. There is no interior wood except doors and window casings; the walls are of bare brick, painted. The stacks are to be of steel, with wooden shelves with a capacity

for 10,000 volumes. The Dewey system, modified, and card index are in use in the library.

**WELLESLEY.** Mr. Walter B. Swift loaned to the library his valuable collection of Indian relics. This collection, made by a citizen of the town and gathered in large part from Wellesley and vicinity, is of peculiar interest to the citizens. The Hunnewell estate presented to the library three beautiful bronzes; these are not only appreciated for their own worth, but still more because they stood for years in the home of the founder of the library.

**WELLFLEET.** The Athletic Club donated \$40 to the library.

**WENDELL.** The library has been loaning books to the Sunday-school at the Centre, and also to the one at Locks Village, and they are found to be of great value to both. The branch library established at Farley last year is doing well, and the books are returned promptly at the end of six months and more taken for the same period. A gift of money from Mrs. Mary N. Phelps of Foxborough, formerly of Wendell, enabled the library to purchase an encyclopædia of universal history for reference and to loan to the schools, and some books on handicraft.

**WENHAM.** The use of the library by the schools has continued about the same as in former years. A branch library has been established in Wenham Neck, which has been well patronized. The east and west branches have been continued as heretofore. The whole town is now in fairly convenient touch with the library, and it is hoped that much real benefit will result to all concerned.

**WESTBOROUGH.** The reading room has been supplied abundantly with the best of American and English publications. These publications are placed upon the tables, within the reach of all who wish to consult them. This department of the library is very complete, much patronized and highly appreciated by the public. The reading and reference rooms are under the constant supervision of the librarians, who are ever ready to assist visitors in selecting such books of reference or reading matter as they may desire.

**WEST BRIDGEWATER.** In October, 1902, the trustees received from the executors of the will of Francis E. Howard a check for \$499.50, a bequest by Mr. Howard to the library. A condition of the bequest permits only the income being used for library purposes. The Cornelia Alger fund now amounts to about \$1,000.

**WEST BROOKFIELD.** A card catalogue on geography and history has been made for the high grammar school, largely subject cards referring to books in the town library.

**WESTFIELD.** The Westfield Athenæum during the past year has made special efforts to improve and enlarge the number of volumes which are kept in the children's room. The efforts have been so far successful as greatly to increase the circulation of that department, especially since the schools opened in September, as the circulation has increased 75 per cent. over that of the corresponding time of last year. The library has also maintained a branch library at Mundale, under the charge of a local committee. Certain volumes are loaned the committee indefinitely; others are loaned about six weeks and then returned and replaced by another list. By the kindness of a friend, \$15 was placed in the hands of the librarian, to be used in subscribing for magazines and newspapers for the Mundale branch. These have been highly appreciated and largely used. The appropriation to the Athenæum by the town was increased from \$2,250 to \$3,000; the dog tax, which was nearly \$1,000, has been given in addition for some years past.

**WESTFORD.** Mr. E. M. Raymond of Charlestown, Mass., a great-grandson of Ebenezer Prescott, one of the founders of the Westford Social Library, has given two large paintings of Biblical subjects; a marble statue of Pocahontas; a piece of Japanese hammered work in iron, silver and gold; several other works of art; and a collection of interesting relics for the historical room.

**WEST NEWBURY.** There are special cards for the use of the school teachers and pupils. In addition, the trustees have granted the principal of the high school the privilege of taking out 10 to 20 books of reference at one time for use in school work. The branch library for the benefit of people in the first parish was established in May, 1902. The books are sent by express. The expense has not been large, and the arrangement gives satisfaction. The circulation has increased very much. The trustees note with pleasure that some of the young people are taking more interest in works of history and biography, also in bird books and other books which contain valuable information.

**WEST SPRINGFIELD.** More books are being added of real value and literary merit; the books include that which is best in reference, science and religion. An encouraging feature of the work of the library is the growth in interest in those books which require thoughtful reading. Wednesday is children's day, and the library presents a busy scene at that time. The open-shelf plan is experimental, and will be continued only if successful. The board of trustees made the following conditions, as the limit:

“Borrowers from the library must keep the shelves in good order, reporting every book taken by them for home reading at the charging desk, and giving the volumes careful use while in their possession. If these conditions are not complied with, the shelves will be closed to the public without further notice.”

**WEST STOCKBRIDGE.** There has been an increase in the circulation, notwithstanding there has been a decrease in the population. At an entertainment given by Mrs. A. H. Blake the sum of \$65 was raised; the Century Dictionary, a fine picture and a bust of Abraham Lincoln were purchased with this money.

**WESTWOOD.** The library has been open Wednesday afternoon and Saturday evening. Wednesday afternoon it is used largely by the children. In the year 1901 the trustees were favored with a gift of \$50 from Edmund D. Codman, for the purchase of books for the library; with this money a set of Chambers Encyclopædia, bound in full Russia, was purchased. The \$20 received from Mrs. Joshua Crane is to be used for the purchase of reference books.

**WEYMOUTH.** Tufts Library. Class List No. 3 was published during the year; this completes the cataloguing of the library. Books have been sent to some of the more distant schools for deposit, for the use of the pupils in school and at home. The library received the gift of a portrait of the late Zechariah L. Bicknell, from his daughters, Mrs. S. C. Denton, Mrs. Charles Harrington and Mrs. G. A. Miles; also a portrait of the late Francis Ambler, from his daughter, Mrs. J. F. Welch. These gentlemen were members of the board of trustees for many years. They were always deeply interested in the welfare of the library, and did everything in their power for its advancement.

**WHATELY.** The circulation has nearly doubled in the last ten years.

**WHITMAN.** It is intended to increase the scientific department, that in this line the library may meet the needs of students as well as general readers. An effort has been made to secure greater co-operation between the library and the schools.

**WILLIAMSBURG.** Haydenville. There is hardly a family in the village of Haydenville that does not draw books either regularly or a part of the year; and the school children especially make an extensive use of these books at their disposal, both for assistance in their studies and for recreation.

**WILLIAMSTOWN.** A special effort has been made to accommodate teachers in the selection of books, and the library has been kept open one hour longer on Tuesday afternoons. The number of books drawn is steadily increasing.

**WILMINGTON.** Beginning in April, the library has been open twice a week. Thirty volumes have been presented to the library by friends.

**WINCHESTER.** During the present year the library has tried to keep in touch with the public schools, by sending the teachers lists of books on various subjects. In the spring the entire collection of nature books was displayed, for the use of both teachers and pupils. The anniversary of battles of Lexington and Bunker Hill were commemorated in the same way, and much interest shown. An exhibition of photographs by Winchester amateurs was given in December. A list of pedagogical works has been prepared for the school committee. A bulletin board has been added, on which pictures, etc., illustrating special days or books, are arranged. The vertical file boxes for pamphlets have been found both convenient and inexpensive.

**WINTHROP.** The library has adopted the reserve postal system, which has proved very satisfactory. Upon payment of one cent to the librarian, the borrower is provided with a postal card containing a printed form, which he fills out with the number of the book desired, and his own address. When the book comes in, the librarian mails the card and holds the book twenty-four hours, giving the borrower ample time to claim it. Travelling photograph exhibits from the Library Art Club have been shown in the art room almost every month. An arrangement has been made with the Boston Public Library, whereby students and others can obtain through this library such books as they desire. The fiction classes are excepted from this arrangement. The disposition of books received from families where contagious diseases exist has been a matter under consideration by the trustees. The custom is to burn all such books. The number of books so destroyed is increasing yearly, and many books which cannot be replaced have been thus consigned to the flames. It has been the hope of the trustees to find some simple, inexpensive method of disinfection. A report from forty-four representative libraries in the United States and Canada shows that no librarian actually knew of a case in which the germs were carried by a book to a reader or a library attendant. For disinfecting books, where moisture and heat must be avoided, aldehyde gas is recognized as the best disinfecting agent.

**WOBURN.** The open-shelf system continues to be popular, and no serious detriment to the property has occurred as a result. There have been exhibitions of interest to the children in their department, and a calendar of events has been posted on a

bulletin board. New and modern furniture for the children's department has been given the library by one of the trustees; this change is very popular with the little people. The library is open during the noon hour now; formerly it was closed from 12 to 2 o'clock. The Hon. Edward D. Hayden gave an oil painting by Benjamin Champney of Woburn, representing a scene in the White Mountains; this picture, mounted in a handsome frame, was hung in the reading room. The new Jonathan Thompson Library for North Woburn was accepted by the city council; trustees are to be appointed, and a building erected later.

WORCESTER. Pursuing the policy of former years, several bibliographical lectures by prominent teachers have been given, and a number of exhibitions representing various fields of art have been held. A few years ago a department for the use of children under fifteen years of age was established, and it has been a success from the beginning. Children have free access to a large number of volumes especially suited to their needs. For years the library has been used as an auxiliary of the public schools; and it is a matter of historic interest that Worcester was the first city in which was established a system of co-operative work between the library and the public schools. Supplementing this good work, provisions have been made by which Sunday-schools can use the library as an auxiliary to their work. The books are to be selected by the proper church authorities. The library of the Worcester Medical Society is still deposited in this library, and is available for the public use. The use of the rooms on Sunday is increasing; it is noticeable that many of the readers are working men, who devote the day to study of general literature, or books or papers devoted to their special industrial pursuits. Adult patrons of the library are now permitted to select books from the shelves. The sum of \$3,000 has been added to the John Green library fund, increasing it to about \$54,000.

YARMOUTH. The library is now open every afternoon, from 3 to 5 o'clock; formerly it was open only three afternoons for two hours each week; Saturday evenings it is open as formerly, for two hours.

#### WOMAN'S EDUCATION ASSOCIATION.

The annual report of the work of the committee on libraries of the Woman's Education Association is one of so great interest that we should be glad to print it in full. It has circulated

43 travelling libraries, containing in the aggregate 1,210 volumes, in 43 towns and villages, as follows:—

Acushnet,	Groveland,	Petersham,
Alford,	Hancock,	Plainfield,
Bernardston,	Heath,	Rowe,
Brimfield,	Huntington,	Russell,
Carver,	Hyannis,	Rutland,
Cheshire,	Lakeville,	Sandisfield,
Chilmark,	Leverett,	Somerset,
Clarksburg,	Littleville (in Ches-	South Yarmouth,
Colrain,	ter),	Wales,
Conway,	Monterey,	Washington,
Cummington,	North Chester,	Wendell,
East Freetown,	Oakham,	West Leyden,
Farley (in Erving),	Otis,	West Stockbridge,
Florida,	Paxton,	Williamsburg.
Goshen,	Pelham,	

Windsor, Bedford, Rochester, Dana, Millers Falls, Shrewsbury and West Cummington have also been aided by the committee. The circulation (4 libraries not reported) was 3,961, — an increase of 472 over last year, varying from 21 in Sandisfield to 354 in Rutland.

The special libraries are on Venice, Florence, Shakespeare, English architecture, Rome, Italian art, Egypt and French art. The special library on Florence had a circulation of 279 in Bernardston. The 4 Audubon libraries have been loaned to Berlin, Granville, Mendon, North Plymouth, Princeton, Southbridge and Warwick, and have proved of great value to the schools and libraries. Libraries of children's books which have proved very attractive and useful have been sent to Colrain, Hoosac Tunnel and Dana. The preparation of approved lists of new books has been continued, and they have proved useful guides to the larger as well as the smaller libraries. The active, generous and sympathetic effort of the ladies who have this work in charge has been widely recognized and appreciated. It has attracted attention in other States and other countries, and a movement has been inaugurated to begin a similar work under the auspices of the women's clubs of Italy. It is now ten years since this committee began its work, and in that time 56 travelling libraries have made 307 visits to 65 different towns, and circulated 22,997 volumes. Since 1898, 26 sets of pictures have been exhibited 732 times in 233 places.

## THE LIBRARY ART CLUB.

The work of the Library Art Club is steadily increasing in size and usefulness. It now has 70 sets of pictures in circulation, covering a large variety of subjects. There were 1,012 exhibitions of the club sets during the year.

The membership of the club now includes 108 libraries and educational organizations, of which 85 are in this State. Membership affords a rich return for a small expense.

## A FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY IN EVERY TOWN.

The conclusion of the year covered by this report shows that every town in Massachusetts now has the right and privilege of a free public library. When the commission was established, in 1890, there were 103 towns without a free public library. During the thirteen years of its existence libraries have been established by it in the following towns within the years named:—

## 1891.

Agawam,	Granby,	Plainfield,
Alford,	Greenwich,	Plympton,
Berlin,	Hamilton,	Prescott,
Blandford,	Hampden,	Richmond,
Bourne,	Leverett,	Rowley,
Boxborough,	Mashpee,	Sandwich,
Charlemont,	Monterey,	Sheffield,
Chilmark,	Mount Washington,	Southwick,
Edgartown,	New Ashford,	Tyringham,
Egremont,	Otis,	Westport,
Falmouth,	Pelham,	West Stockbridge,
Goshen,	Peru,	Windsor. — 36.

## 1892.

Avon,	Holland,	Shelburne,
Colrain,	Leyden,	Tolland,
Dana,	Lynnfield,	Wilbraham,
Essex,	Medway,	Wrentham. — 16.
Freetown,	Oakham,	
Gosnold,	Savoy,	

## 1893.

Berkley,	Hardwick,	Huntington,
Chelmsford,	Hawley,	Wellfleet. — 8.
Deerfield,	Heath,	

**1894.**

Bellingham,	Florida,	Truro,
Chester,	Granville,	Wendell,
Conway,	Hancock,	West Newbury. — 13.
Dighton,	Monroe,	
Dover,	Shutesbury,	

**1895.**

Bernardston,	Longmeadow,	Russell,
Carver,	Marshfield,	Salisbury,
Dartmouth,	Montgomery,	Sandisfield. — 9.

**1896.**

Acushnet,	Swansea,	Hanson. — 4.
East Longmeadow,		

**1897.**

Dennis,	Somerset,	Wales. — 5.
Dudley,	South Hadley,	

**1898.**

Clarksburg,  
Westwood. — 2.

**1900.**

Dracut,  
Hadley. — 2.

**1899.**

Seekonk,  
Williamsburg. — 2.

**1901.**

New Marlborough,  
Gay Head. — 2.

**1903.**

Lakeville. — 1.

The above list of 100 towns includes only those public libraries which were founded and made free by the gift of \$100 worth of books from the State. The commission has aided in the formation of several other libraries which were founded by bequest or otherwise.

### GREATER USEFULNESS AND FREEDOM.

Now that the advantages of a free public library are freely available to every man, woman and child in the State, there is a quickened interest in all measures for rendering the benefits of the library more widely useful.

A general effort is being made to secure a wider distribution of books, by the means of the establishment of reading rooms, sub-stations and deliveries, by loaning books to clubs, engine houses and manufactories, as well as by distribution to and

through the schools, and other special means which may be possible in individual towns. The two-book system quite generally prevails where the supply will allow, and especially in the rural towns a larger number of books are allowed to be taken at one time, and the time for which they are loaned is frequently extended. The tendency also is to remove the age limit, so that children may take books as soon as they can appreciate and care for them. Every year the library is more intimately and usefully related to school work, and the teachers are given almost unlimited opportunity to use the resources of the library to aid in their school work. The purchases of the library include special provision of books for the schools, from the kindergarten to those useful in all the higher grades. The demand for more useful books and of a higher grade of fiction is increasing. The open-shelf system is gaining in the small libraries, and the methods of administration are becoming simplified and more effective. The preparation of useful bulletins, calling attention to the resources of the library, by illustrations of the live topics of the day; the exhibition of pictures of noted scenery and works of art; together with collections of birds, flowers and other aids to nature study, — are quite common features of the good work, even in the smallest library. The marked tendency in all directions of library work is towards the greatest helpfulness and the largest freedom. Every person who reads can help his neighbor. The library furnishes the resources; let every patron utilize his experience to increase the interest and enjoyment of others.

The only treasure house open to all is a library; the only wealth which will not decay is knowledge. It is the birthright of every citizen of this Commonwealth to share these treasures and possess this wealth. The virtue and happiness of the individual, the felicity and refinement of the home, the civic and material prosperity of the people, are all strengthened by the wise administration of the public library.

C. B. TILLINGHAST,  
MABEL SIMPKINS AGASSIZ,  
SAMUEL SWETT GREEN,  
ELIZABETH P. SOHIER,  
DELORAINE P. COREY,

*Commissioners.*

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APPENDIX I.

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NAMES

OF

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES

AND

NAMES OF LIBRARIANS.

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# NAMES OF FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND NAMES OF LIBRARIANS.

CITIES AND TOWNS.	Name of Library.	Name of Librarian.
Abington, . . . . .	Abington Public Library, . . . . .	Mary Otis Nash.
Acton, . . . . .	Acton Memorial Library, . . . . .	Arthur F. Davis.
Acushnet, . . . . .	Acushnet Free Public Library, . . . . .	Elsie Collins.
Adams, . . . . .	Adams Free Public Library, . . . . .	Lucy C. Richmond.
Agawam, . . . . .	Agawam Public Library, . . . . .	Emma F. Pyne.
Alford, . . . . .	Alford Free Town Library, . . . . .	Mrs. Rachael E. Ploss.
Amesbury, . . . . .	Amesbury Public Library, . . . . .	Alice C. Follansbee.
Amherst, . . . . .	Amherst Public Library, . . . . .	Mary A. Robinson.
<i>North Amherst,</i> . . . . .	North Amherst Public Library, . . . . .	Esther L. Haskins.
Andover, . . . . .	Memorial Hall Library, . . . . .	Ballard Holt.
<i>Ballardvale,</i> . . . . .	Bradlee Library, . . . . .	Howell F. Wilson.
Arlington, . . . . .	Robbins Library, . . . . .	Elizabeth J. Newton.
Ashburnham, . . . . .	Ashburnham Public Library, . . . . .	Lona M. Davis.
<i>South Ashburnham,</i> . . . . .	South Ashburnham Library, . . . . .	Mrs. F. Z. Howe.
Ashby, . . . . .	Ashby Town Library, . . . . .	Eliza A. Kendall.
Ashfield, . . . . .	Ashfield Library Association, . . . . .	Julia A. Williams.
Ashland, . . . . .	Ashland Public Library, . . . . .	Mrs. Emily F. B. Metcalf.
Athol, . . . . .	Athol Free Public Library, . . . . .	Mrs. Mercie S. Doane.
Attleborough, . . . . .	Attleborough Public Library, . . . . .	Letitia S. Allen.
Auburn, . . . . .	Auburn Free Public Library, . . . . .	Josie E. Prouty.
Avon, . . . . .	Avon Public Library, . . . . .	H. Wallace Blanchard.
Ayer, . . . . .	Ayer Library, . . . . .	May M. Fletcher.
Barnstable, . . . . .	Sturgis Library, . . . . .	Elizabeth C. Nye.
<i>Centreville,</i> . . . . .	Centreville Free Public Library Association.	Eunice Hallett.
<i>Cotuit,</i> . . . . .	Cotuit Library, . . . . .	Adeline F. Bearse.
<i>Hyannis,</i> . . . . .	Hyannis Free Public Library, . . . . .	Elfrida J. Bradford.
<i>Marston's Mills,</i> . . . . .	Marston's Mills Library, . . . . .	Lillie Backus.
<i>Osterville,</i> . . . . .	Osterville Public Library, . . . . .	Mrs. Maurice G. Crocker.
Barre, . . . . .	Barre Town Library, . . . . .	Carrie E. Read.
Becket, . . . . .	Becket Athenaeum, . . . . .	Mrs. Eliza Millard.
Bedford, . . . . .	Bedford Free Public Library, . . . . .	Fannie A. Wood.
Belchertown, . . . . .	Clapp Memorial Library, . . . . .	Lydia A. Barton.
Bellingham, . . . . .	Bellingham Free Public Library, . . . . .	Sara T. Rockwood.
Belmont, . . . . .	Belmont Public Library, . . . . .	Ada Thurston.
Berkley, . . . . .	Berkley Public Library, . . . . .	Julia R. Burt.
Berlin, . . . . .	Berlin Free Public Library, . . . . .	Alice E. Babcock.
Bernardston, . . . . .	Cushman Library, . . . . .	Mrs. C. R. Hills.
BEVERLY, . . . . .	Beverly Public Library, . . . . .	Martha P. Smith.
Billerica, . . . . .	Bennett Public Library, . . . . .	Fannie S. Paige.
<i>Talbot Mills,</i> . . . . .	Talbot Library, . . . . .	Lillie Bottomly.
Blackstone, . . . . .	Blackstone Public Library, . . . . .	Timothy E. Curran.
Blandford, . . . . .	Blandford Free Public Library, . . . . .	Hattie Parks Herrick.
Bolton, . . . . .	Bolton Public Library, . . . . .	Fidelia C. Newton.
BOSTON, . . . . .	Public Library of the City of Boston.	Horace G. Wadlin.
Bourne, . . . . .	Bourne Free Library, . . . . .	Edith F. Nickerson.
Boxborough, . . . . .	Boxborough Free Public Library, . . . . .	Mrs. H. L. Priest.
Boxford, . . . . .	Boxford Public Library, . . . . .	Gratuitous services of different ladies.
<i>West Boxford,</i> . . . . .	West Boxford Public Library, . . . . .	Katharine G. Perley.
Boylston, . . . . .	Boylston Public Library, . . . . .	George L. Wright.
Braintree, . . . . .	Thayer Public Library, . . . . .	Abbie M. Arnold.
Brewster, . . . . .	Brewster Ladies' Library Association.	Emily Rowe.
Bridgewater, . . . . .	Bridgewater Public Library, . . . . .	Lucia L. Christian.
Brimfield, . . . . .	Brimfield Public Library, . . . . .	M. Anna Tarbell.
BROCKTON, . . . . .	Brockton Public Library, . . . . .	Clarence W. Ayer.
Brookfield, . . . . .	Merrick Public Library, . . . . .	Eliza R. Hobbs.
Brookline, . . . . .	Public Library of Brookline, . . . . .	Louisa M. Hooper.
Buckland, . . . . .	Buckland Public Church Library, . . . . .	Charles W. Trow.
Burlington, . . . . .	Burlington Town Library, . . . . .	Florence I. Foster.
CAMBRIDGE, . . . . .	Cambridge Public Library, . . . . .	William L. R. Gifford.
Canton, . . . . .	Canton Public Library, . . . . .	Lucy D. Downs.

## Names of Free Public Libraries and Names of Librarians — Con.

CITIES AND TOWNS.	Name of Library.	Name of Librarian.
Carlisle, . . . . .	Gleason Free Public Library, . .	Mary A. Green.
Carver, . . . . .	Carver Free Public Library, . .	Mrs. Bernice E. Barrows.
Charlemont, . . . . .	Charlemont Free Town Library, .	Lizzie M. Temple.
Charlton, . . . . .	Charlton Free Public Library, . .	Mrs. Hattie L. Carpenter.
Chatham, . . . . .	Chatham Public Library, . . . .	Florence Howes Bond.
Chelmsford, . . . . .	Adams Library, . . . . .	Charles H. Greenleaf.
North Chelmsford, . . . . .	North Chelmsford Library Association.	Emma J. Gay.
CHELSEA, . . . . .	Fitz Public Library, . . . . .	Medora Jennett Simpson.
Cheshire, . . . . .	Cheshire Library Association, . .	Emma E. Martin.
Chester, . . . . .	Chester Public Library, . . . . .	Grace E. Alvord.
Chesterfield, . . . . .	Chesterfield Free Public Library, .	Mrs. Hugh B. Gray.
CHICOPEE, . . . . .	Chicopee City Library, . . . . .	Anne A. Smith.
Chilmark, . . . . .	Chilmark Free Public Library, . .	Florence B. Mayhew.
Clarksburg, . . . . .	Clarksburg Public Library, . . . .	Robert S. McKay.
Clinton, . . . . .	Bigelow Free Public Library, . . .	Charlotte L. Greene.
Cohasset, . . . . .	Paul Pratt Memorial Library, . . .	Sarah B. Collier.
Colrain, . . . . .	Colrain Free Library, . . . . .	Katherine Holton Cram.
Concord, . . . . .	Concord Free Public Library, . . .	Helen Whitney Kelley.
Conway, . . . . .	Conway Public Library, . . . . .	Grace Pease.
Cottage City, . . . . .	Cottage City Free Public Library, .	Josephine Gallagher.
Cummington, . . . . .	Bryant Free Library, . . . . .	Lorenzo H. Tower.
Dalton, . . . . .	Dalton Free Public Library, . . . .	Mrs. M. E. Davison.
Dana, . . . . .	Dana Free Public Library, . . . . .	Susan E. Stevens.
North Dana, . . . . .	Dana Free Public Library, . . . . .	Mrs. A. W. Slate.
Danvers, . . . . .	Peabody Institute Library, . . . .	Mrs. Emille D. Patch.
Dartmouth, . . . . .	Dartmouth Free Public Library, . .	Mary A. Tucker.
South Dartmouth, . . . . .	Southworth Library, . . . . .	Henry M. Walker.
Dedham, . . . . .	Dedham Public Library, . . . . .	Frances M. Mann.
Deerfield, . . . . .	South Deerfield Free Public Library.	Flora E. Mentor.
Deerfield, . . . . .	Dickinson Library, . . . . .	Robert Pelton Sibley.
Pocumtuck Valley Association.	Library of the Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association.	George Sheldon.
Dennis, . . . . .	Jacob Sears Memorial Library, . .	Mrs. Nathan Sears.
Dighton, . . . . .	Dighton Free Public Library, . . .	Dwight F. Laue.
Douglas, . . . . .	Simon Fairfield Public Library, . .	Alice E. Luther.
Dover, . . . . .	Dover Town Library, . . . . .	Alma Chickering.
Dracut, . . . . .	Dracut Public Library, . . . . .	Amy H. Goodhue.
Dudley, . . . . .	Dudley Free Public Library, . . . .	Louise Easterbrook.
Dunstable, . . . . .	Dunstable Free Public Library, . .	Mrs. Lizzie A. Swallow.
Duxbury, . . . . .	Duxbury Free Library, . . . . .	Sara A. Higgins.
East Bridgewater, . . . . .	East Bridgewater Public Library, .	Lucy L. Siddall.
Eastham, . . . . .	Eastham Free Public Library, . . .	Mrs. Herbert C. Clark.
Easthampton, . . . . .	Public Library Association, . . . .	Dorcas Chapin Miller.
East Longmeadow, . . . . .	East Longmeadow Public Library.	Mary R. McIntosh.
Easton, . . . . .	Ames Free Library, . . . . .	Mary L. Lamprey.
Edgartown, . . . . .	Edgartown Free Public Library, . .	Eunice C. Ripley.
Egremont, . . . . .	Egremont Free Library, . . . . .	Margaret O'Neil.
Enfield, . . . . .	Enfield Library Association, . . . .	Ada L. Harwood.
Erving, . . . . .	Erving Town Library, . . . . .	Mrs. W. G. Walkup.
Miller's Falls, . . . . .	Erving Town Library, . . . . .	Mrs. W. A. Butman.
Essex, . . . . .	T. O. H. P. Burnham Public Library.	Jennie H. Woodman.
EVERETT, . . . . .	Frederick E. Parlin Memorial Library.	Ellen L. Johnson.
Glendale, . . . . .	Shute Memorial Library, . . . . .	E. Leona Lydiard.
Fairhaven, . . . . .	The Millicent Library, . . . . .	Drew B. Hall.
FALL RIVER, . . . . .	Fall River Public Library, . . . . .	William R. Ballard.
Falmouth, . . . . .	Falmouth Free Public Library, . . .	Clara L. Davis.
West Falmouth, . . . . .	West Falmouth Library, . . . . .	Albert S. Bowerman.
Woods Hole, . . . . .	Woods Hole Library, . . . . .	Joseph Walsh.
FITCHBURG, . . . . .	Fitchburg Public Library, . . . . .	George E. Nutting.
Florida, . . . . .	Florida Free Library, . . . . .	Mrs. E. J. Whitcomb.
Foxborough, . . . . .	Boyd Library, . . . . .	Mary D. Torrey.
Framingham, . . . . .	Framingham Town Library, . . . .	Emma L. Clarke.
Franklin, . . . . .	Franklin Library Association, . . . .	Mrs. Ella G. Campbell.
Freetown, . . . . .	Guilford H. Hathaway Library, . .	M. Florence Dean.
East Freetown, . . . . .	East Freetown Circulating Library.	E. W. Lawrence.
Gardner, . . . . .	Levi Heywood Memorial Library, .	Ellen B. Cramton.
Gay Head, . . . . .	Gay Head Public Library, . . . . .	Harry G. Reed.
Georgetown, . . . . .	Georgetown Peabody Library, . . .	Sarah T. Noyes.

## Names of Free Public Libraries and Names of Librarians—Con.

CITIES AND TOWNS.	Name of Library.	Name of Librarian.
Gill, . . . . .	Gill Free Public Library, . . .	Mrs. William Franklin.
<i>Riverside</i> , . . . . .	Gill Free Public Library, . . .	Frank D. Jones.
GLOUCESTER, . . . . .	Sawyer Free Library, . . . . .	Rachel S. Webber.
<i>Magnolia</i> , . . . . .	Magnolia Library, . . . . .	Elizabeth T. Thornton.
Goshen, . . . . .	Goshen Free Public Library, . .	Winnie A. Dresser.
Gosnold, . . . . .	Gosnold Free Public Library, . .	Bertha S. Stetson.
Grafton, . . . . .	Grafton Free Public Library, . .	Mabel L. Howe.
Granby, . . . . .	Granby Free Public Library, . .	Cora H. Kellogg.
Granville, . . . . .	Granville Free Public Library, . .	Mabel Root.
Great Barrington, . . . . .	Great Barrington Free Library, . .	Emma W. Sheldon.
Greenfield, . . . . .	Greenfield Free Library, . . . . .	May Ashley.
Greenwich, . . . . .	Greenwich Public Library, . . .	Helen I. Nevins.
Groton, . . . . .	Groton Free Public Library, . . .	Emma F. Blood.
Groveland, . . . . .	Groveland Public Library, . . .	Alice L. Quimby.
<i>South Groveland</i> , . . . . .	Hale Library, . . . . .	—
Hadley, . . . . .	Hadley Free Library, . . . . .	George C. Marsh.
Halifax, . . . . .	Holmes Public Library, . . . . .	James T. Thomas.
Hamilton, . . . . .	Hamilton Public Library, . . . .	Mrs. Grace C. Stone.
Hampden, . . . . .	Hampden Free Public Library, . .	Mrs. John Q. Adams.
Hancock, . . . . .	Hancock Public Library, . . . . .	Daniel Shepardson.
Hanover, . . . . .	John Curtis Free Library, . . . .	Alice L. Bailey.
Hanson, <i>South</i> , . . . . .	Wampatuck Library, . . . . .	Mrs. Abby F. Phillips.
Hanson, <i>North</i> , . . . . .	Hanson Free Public Library, . . .	Mary J. Drew.
Hardwick, . . . . .	Hardwick Free Town Library, . . .	Hannah R. Spooner.
Hardwick, . . . . .	E. R. Paige Library, . . . . .	Hannah R. Spooner.
<i>Gilbertville</i> , . . . . .	George H. Gilbert Manufacturing Company's Library.	Alfred H. Richardson.
Harvard, . . . . .	Harvard Public Library, . . . . .	Mrs. Estelle E. Clark.
Harwich, . . . . .	Broadbrooks Free Library, . . . .	Lulu B. Tobey.
Hatfield, . . . . .	Hatfield Public Library, . . . . .	John H. Sanderson.
HAVERHILL, . . . . .	Haverhill Public Library, . . . .	John Grant Moulton.
Hawley, . . . . .	Hawley Free Public Library, . . .	Mrs. Florence S. Bissell.
<i>West Hawley</i> , . . . . .	Hawley Free Public Library, . . .	Mrs. Willis Vincent.
Heath, . . . . .	Heath Free Public Library, . . . .	Henry Kirk Smith.
Hingham, . . . . .	Hingham Public Library, . . . . .	Hawkes Fearing.
<i>Nantasket</i> , . . . . .	Nantasket Public Library, . . . .	Mary W. Clark.
Hinsdale, . . . . .	Hinsdale Public Library Association.	James Hosmer.
Holbrook, . . . . .	Holbrook Public Library, . . . . .	Zenas A. French.
Holden, . . . . .	Gale Free Library, . . . . .	Mrs. Addie M. Holden.
Holland, . . . . .	Holland Public Library, . . . . .	Mrs. Bertha L. Howlett.
Holliston, . . . . .	Holliston Public Library, . . . . .	Josephine E. Rockwood.
HOLYOKE, . . . . .	Holyoke Public Library, . . . . .	Frank Grenell Wilcox.
Hopedale, . . . . .	Baneroft Memorial Library, . . . .	Harriet B. Sornborger.
Hopkinton, . . . . .	Hopkinton Public Library, . . . .	Sadie B. Stewart.
Hubbardston, . . . . .	Hubbardston Public Library, . . .	Lucy H. Grimes.
Hudson, . . . . .	Hudson Public Library, . . . . .	Grace M. Whittemore.
Hull, . . . . .	Hull School Library, . . . . .	The Three Trustees.
Huntington, . . . . .	Huntington Free Public Library, . .	Mrs. A. E. Munson.
Hyde Park, . . . . .	Hyde Park Public Library, . . . .	Elizabeth Ainsworth.
Ipswich, . . . . .	Ipswich Free Public Library, . . .	Lydia A. Caldwell.
Kingston, . . . . .	Frederic C. Adams Public Library.	Mrs. Jennie F. McLauthlen.
Lakeville, . . . . .	Lakeville Public Library, . . . . .	Frank J. Hall.
Lancaster, . . . . .	Lancaster Town Library, . . . . .	Virginia M. Keyes.
Lanesborough, . . . . .	Lanesborough Town Library, . . . .	Bessie E. Cummings.
LAWRENCE, . . . . .	Lawrence Free Public Library, . .	William A. Walsh.
Lee, . . . . .	Lee Public Library, . . . . .	Mary Stallman.
Leicester, . . . . .	Leicester Public Library, . . . . .	Mary W. Warren.
Lenox, . . . . .	Lenox Library, . . . . .	Anna Louise White.
Leominster, . . . . .	Leominster Public Library, . . . .	Florence Ethel Wheeler.
Leverett, . . . . .	Leverett Free Public Library, . . .	Mrs. W. P. Ames.
<i>North Leverett</i> , . . . . .	Leverett Free Public Library, . . .	Mrs. S. S. Graves.
Lexington, . . . . .	Cary Library, . . . . .	Marian P. Kirkland.
Leyden, . . . . .	Leyden Free Public Library, . . . .	Mrs. E. S. Whitcomb.
Lincoln, . . . . .	Lincoln Public Library, . . . . .	Lydia J. Chapin.
Littleton, . . . . .	Reuben Hoar Library, . . . . .	Sarah F. White.
Longmeadow, . . . . .	Longmeadow Town Library, . . . .	Katherine C. Gates.
LOWELL, . . . . .	City Library of Lowell, . . . . .	Frederick A. Chase.
Ludlow, . . . . .	Hubbard Memorial Library, . . . .	Mary Adams Birnie.
Lunenburg, . . . . .	Lunenburg Public Library, . . . .	L. Frances Jones.
LYNN, . . . . .	Lynn Free Public Library, . . . . .	John C. Houghton.
Lynnfield, . . . . .	Lynnfield Public Library, . . . . .	Elizabeth W. Green.
MALDEN, . . . . .	Malden Public Library, . . . . .	Lizzie A. Williams.

## Names of Free Public Libraries and Names of Librarians—Con.

CITIES AND TOWNS.	Name of Library.	Name of Librarian.
Manchester, . . .	Manchester Public Library, . . .	Delucena L. Bingham.
Mansfield, . . .	Mansfield Public Library, . . .	Ida F. Hodges.
Marblehead, . . .	Abbot Public Library, . . .	Mary Gerry Brown.
Marion, . . .	Taber Library, . . .	Mary E. Allen.
MARLBOROUGH, . . .	Marlborough Public Library, . . .	Sarah E. Cotting.
Marshfield, . . .	Ventress Free Public Library, . . .	Joshua T. Baker.
<i>Marshfield Hills,</i>	Clift Rogers Free Public Library, . . .	L. S. Richards.
Mashpee, . . .	Mashpee Public Library, . . .	Clara Collins.
Mattapoisett, . . .	Mattapoisett Free Public Library, . . .	Clara F. Sherman.
Maynard, . . .	Maynard Public Library, . . .	Mrs. Sarah F. Nyman.
Medfield, . . .	Medfield Public Library, . . .	Lucretia M. Johnson.
MEDFORD, . . .	Medford Public Library, . . .	Mary E. Sargent.
Medway, <i>West,</i>	Medway Free Public Library, . . .	Mrs. Anna Fales.
<i>Medway Village,</i>	Dean Library, . . .	Bertha E. Newell.
MELROSE, . . .	Melrose Public Library, . . .	Carrie M. Worthen.
Mendon, . . .	Taft Public Library, . . .	Annie E. Kinsley.
Merrimac, . . .	Merrimac Public Library, . . .	Louise C. Brackett.
Methuen, . . .	Nevins Memorial Library, . . .	Harriet L. Crosby.
Middleborough, . . .	Middleborough Public Library, . . .	Mrs. Adelaide K. Thatcher.
Middlefield, . . .	Middlefield Public Library, . . .	Metcalfe J. Smith.
Middleton, . . .	Flint Public Library, . . .	Samuel A. Fletcher.
Milford, . . .	Milford Town Library, . . .	Nathaniel F. Blake.
Millbury, . . .	Millbury Town Library, . . .	Carolyn C. Waters.
Millis, . . .	Millis Free Public Library, . . .	Mrs. Annie Macdonough.
Milton, . . .	Milton Public Library, . . .	Gertrude E. Forrest.
Monroe, . . .	Monroe Free Public Library, . . .	Mrs. W. L. Allen.
Monson, . . .	Monson Free Library and Reading Room Association.	Nellie F. Squier.
Montague, . . .	Montague Public Library, . . .	Kate A. Armstrong.
<i>Turner's Falls,</i>	Montague Public Library, Turner's Falls Branch.	N. P. Farwell.
Monterey, . . .	Monterey Free Library, . . .	J. J. Tryon.
Montgomery, . . .	Montgomery Free Public Library, . . .	Mrs. D. L. Allyn.
Mount Washington, . . .	Mount Washington Public Library.	Howard D. Lamson.
Nahant, . . .	Nahant Public Library, . . .	May W. Perkins.
Nantucket, . . .	Nantucket Athenæum, . . .	Sarah F. Barnard.
Natick, . . .	Morse Institute Library, . . .	Mira R. Partridge.
<i>South Natick,</i>	Bacon Free Library, . . .	Mrs. Adelaide Williams.
Needham, . . .	Needham Free Public Library, . . .	Riella J. Dunn.
New Ashford, . . .	New Ashford Public Library, . . .	George H. Halfacre.
NEW BEDFORD, . . .	Free Public Library of the City of New Bedford.	George H. Tripp.
New Braintree, . . .	New Braintree Public Library, . . .	Carrie F. Bush.
NEWBURYPORT, . . .	Newburyport Public Library, . . .	John D. Parsons.
New Marlborough, . . .	New Marlborough Public Library.	Rev. Edwin C. Gillette.
New Salem, . . .	New Salem Public Library, . . .	Winifred Cogswell.
NEWTON, . . .	Newton Free Library, . . .	Elizabeth P. Thurston.
Norfolk, . . .	Norfolk Public Library, . . .	Walter L. Sykes.
NORTH ADAMS, . . .	North Adams Free Public Library.	Mabel Temple.
<i>Blackinton,</i>	Oscar A. Archer Branch, . . .	Oscar A. Archer.
North Andover, . . .	North Andover Public Library, . . .	Hannah J. Quealy.
North Attleborough, . . .	Richards Memorial Library, . . .	Leda J. Thompson.
North Brookfield, . . .	North Brookfield Free Public Library and Reading Room.	Harriet B. Gooch.
North Reading, . . .	Flint Memorial Library, . . .	Addie W. Gowing.
NORTHAMPTON, . . .	Northampton Public Library, . . .	S. D. Kellogg.
NORTHAMPTON, . . .	Forbes Library, . . .	
<i>Florence,</i>	Lilly Free Library, . . .	Mary A. Fuller.
Northborough, . . .	Northborough Free Library, . . .	M. Evelyn Potter.
Northbridge, . . .	Whitinsville Social Library, . . .	Mrs. William H. Fuller.
Northfield, . . .	Dickinson Memorial Library, . . .	Mrs. F. J. Stockbridge.
Norton, . . .	Norton Public Library, . . .	Emily A. Titus.
Norwell, . . .	James Public Library, . . .	Joseph F. Merritt.
Norwood, . . .	Morrill Memorial Library, . . .	Jane A. Hewett.
Oakham, . . .	Oakham Free Public Library, . . .	Frank E. Davis.
Orange, . . .	Orange Free Public Library, . . .	Grace H. Dawley.
Orleans, . . .	The Snow Library, . . .	Hiram Myers.
Otis, . . .	Free Public Library of Otis, . . .	Mrs. Olive J. Davison.
Oxford, . . .	Oxford Free Public Library, . . .	Mrs. Maria C. Mann.
Palmer, . . .	Young Men's Library Association.	Harold M. Dean.

## Names of Free Public Libraries and Names of Librarians—Con.

CITIES AND TOWNS.	Name of Library.	Name of Librarian.
Paxton, . . . . .	Paxton Free Public Library, . .	Anna E. Woodruff.
Peabody, . . . . .	Peabody Institute Library, . .	Lyman P. Osborn.
Peabody, . . . . .	Eben Dale Sutton Reference Li- brary.	Augusta F. Daniels.
Pelham, . . . . .	Pelham Free Public Library, . .	Mary A. Keith.
Pembroke, . . . . .	Pembroke Free Library, . . . .	Ellen F. Cox.
<i>Bryantville,</i> . . . . .	Cobb Memorial Library, . . . .	Mrs. Julia Morton.
Pepperell, . . . . .	Pepperell Public Library, . . . .	Mrs. M. Fannie Shattuck.
Peru, . . . . .	Free Public Library of Peru, . .	Mattie Hathaway.
Petersham, . . . . .	Petersham Memorial Library, . .	Fanny Prince.
Phillipston, . . . . .	Phillips Free Public Library, . .	Mrs. Tina H. Chaffin.
PITTSFIELD, . . . . .	Berkshire Athenæum, . . . . .	Harlan H. Ballard.
Plainfield, . . . . .	Plainfield Public Library, . . . .	Anna M. King.
Plymouth, . . . . .	Plymouth Public Library, . . . .	Nellie Thomas.
<i>North Plymouth,</i> . . . . .	Loring Reading Room, . . . . .	Sara C. Van de Carr.
Plympton, . . . . .	Plympton Free Public Library, . .	John Sherman.
Prescott, . . . . .	Prescott Free Public Library, . .	Henry L. Berry.
Princeton, . . . . .	Princeton Public Library, . . . .	Susie A. Davis.
Provincetown, . . . . .	Provincetown Public Library, . .	Abbie Cook Putnam.
QUINCY, . . . . .	Thomas Crane Public Library, . .	Amella L. Bumpus.
Randolph, . . . . .	Turner Free Library, . . . . .	Dr. Charles C. Farnham.
Raynham, . . . . .	Raynham Free Library, . . . . .	Lucy W. Thompson.
<i>North Raynham,</i> . . . . .	North Raynham Library Associa- tion.	Mrs. Mary H. Barton.
Reading, . . . . .	Reading Public Library, . . . . .	Lizzie S. Cox.
Rehoboth, . . . . .	The Blanding Library, . . . . .	Nettie Earle.
Revere, . . . . .	Revere Public Library, . . . . .	Harriet T. Fenno.
Richmond, . . . . .	Free Public Library of Rich- mond.	Abbie E. Barnes.
Rochester, . . . . .	Free Public Library, . . . . .	Sarah A. Haskell.
Rockland, . . . . .	Rockland Public Library, . . . .	Angela W. Collins.
Rockport, . . . . .	Rockport Public Library, . . . .	Elsie M. Dann.
<i>Pigeon Cove,</i> . . . . .	Pigeon Cove Library, . . . . .	Lillie Aspegren.
Rowe, . . . . .	Rowe Town Library, . . . . .	Mrs. Alice E. Newell.
Rowley, . . . . .	Rowley Free Public Library, . . . .	Catharine N. Mighill.
Royalston, . . . . .	Raymond Public Library, . . . . .	Mrs. Emeline E. Mackenzie.
Russell, . . . . .	Russell Free Public Library, . . . .	Mrs. M. B. Shelley.
Rutland, . . . . .	Rutland Free Public Library, . . . .	Mrs. E. J. Prouty.
SALEM, . . . . .	Salem Public Library, . . . . .	Gardner M. Jones.
Salisbury, . . . . .	Salisbury Free Public Library, . . . .	Hannah Buswell Coffin.
Sandisfield, . . . . .	Sandisfield Free Public Library, . . . .	Carrie M. Barker.
Sandwich, . . . . .	Sandwich Free Public Library, . . . .	Annie A. Rogers.
Saugus, . . . . .	Saugus Free Public Library, . . . .	Emma E. Newhall.
Savoy, . . . . .	Savoy Free Public Library, . . . .	William F. Briggs.
Scituate, . . . . .	Satuft Library, . . . . .	Blanche C. Gardner.
<i>North Scituate,</i> . . . . .	Peirce Memorial Library, . . . . .	Mrs. Sarah J. Marsh.
Seekonk, . . . . .	Seekonk Free Public Library, . . . .	Edna T. Lane.
Sharon, . . . . .	Sharon Public Library, . . . . .	Emma A. Baker.
Sheffield, . . . . .	Sheffield Free Town Library, . . . .	Gertrude S. Gleason.
Shelburne, . . . . .	Shelburne Free Public Library, . . . .	Mercy A. Anderson.
<i>Shelburne Falls,</i> . . . . .	Arms Library, . . . . .	Daniel W. Wilcox.
Sherborn, . . . . .	Sherborn Town Library, . . . . .	M. Nellie Clark.
Shirley, . . . . .	Shirley Public Library, . . . . .	Estelle E. Ely.
Shrewsbury, . . . . .	Shrewsbury Free Public Library, . . . .	Mabel E. Knowlton.
Shutesbury, . . . . .	Shutesbury Free Public Library, . . . .	Mary L. Clark.
Somerset, . . . . .	Somerset Free Public Library, . . . .	Myra Babbitt.
SOMERVILLE, . . . . .	Somerville Public Library, . . . . .	Sam Walter Foss.
South Hadley, . . . . .	South Hadley Public Library, . . . .	Mrs. John Burnett.
<i>South Hadley Falls,</i> . . . . .	South Hadley Public Library, . . . .	Carrie E. Bardwell.
Southampton, . . . . .	Southampton Library Associa- tion.	Eva M. Gridley.
Southborough, . . . . .	Fay Library, . . . . .	Francena E. Buck.
Southbridge, . . . . .	Southbridge Public Library, . . . .	Ella E. Miersch.
Southwick, . . . . .	Free Public Library of South- wick.	W. B. Harding.
Spencer, . . . . .	Richard Sugden Public Library, . . . .	Nellie A. Cutter.
SPRINGFIELD, . . . . .	City Library Association of Springfield.	Hiller C. Wellman.
Sterling, . . . . .	Sterling Free Public Library, . . . .	Mary D. Peck.
Stockbridge, . . . . .	The Stockbridge Library Associa- tion.	Caroline P. Wells.
Stoneham, . . . . .	Stoneham Free Public Library, . . . .	Mrs. H. Marilla Boyce.
Stoughton, . . . . .	Stoughton Public Library, . . . . .	M. Alice Burnham.
Stow, . . . . .	Randall Memorial Library, . . . . .	Susan M. Lawrence.

*Names of Free Public Libraries and Names of Librarians—Con.*

CITIES AND TOWNS.	Name of Library.	Name of Librarian.
Sturbridge, . . . . .	Joshua Hyde Public Library, . . .	Mrs. Horace M. Locke.
Sudbury, . . . . .	The Goodnow Library, . . . . .	Mary L. Cutter.
Sunderland, . . . . .	Sunderland Public Library, . . .	Abbie T. Montague.
Sutton, . . . . .	Sutton Free Library, . . . . .	Sarah M. Mills.
<i>Manchaug,</i> . . . . .	Sutton Free Library, . . . . .	Francis Trescott.
<i>South Sutton,</i> . . . . .	Sutton Free Library, . . . . .	Mrs. Mary L. Littlefield.
<i>West Sutton,</i> . . . . .	Sutton Free Library, . . . . .	Jason Waters.
<i>Wilkinsonville,</i> . . . . .	Sutton Free Library, . . . . .	Angusta Houghton.
Swampscott, . . . . .	Swampscott Public Library, . . .	S. Louise Honors.
Swansea, . . . . .	Swansea Free Public Library, . . .	Julia R. Wellington.
TAUNTON, . . . . .	Taunton Public Library, . . . . .	Joshua Eddy Crane.
Templeton, . . . . .	Boynton Public Library, . . . . .	Henry F. Lane.
Tewksbury, . . . . .	Tewksbury Public Library, . . .	Louisa M. Blaisdell.
Tisbury, . . . . .	Vineyard Haven Library, . . . . .	Mabel T. Tilton.
Tolland, . . . . .	Tolland Free Library, . . . . .	Wilbert Munn.
Topsfield, . . . . .	Topsfield Town Library, . . . . .	Albert M. Dodge.
Townsend, . . . . .	Townsend Public Library, . . . . .	Mrs. Evelyn L. Warren.
Truro, . . . . .	Truro Town Library, . . . . .	Mrs. Laurena A. Ryder.
Tyngsborough, . . . . .	Tyngsborough Public Library, . . .	Ellen Lydia Perham.
Tyringham, . . . . .	Tyringham Free Public Library, . . .	Lucy M. Moore.
Upton, . . . . .	Upton Town Library, . . . . .	Mrs. Laura C. Sadler.
Uxbridge, . . . . .	Thayer Memorial Library, . . . . .	Beatrice Putnam.
Wakefield, . . . . .	Beebe Town Library, . . . . .	Mrs. Harriet A. Shepard.
Wales, . . . . .	Wales Public Library, . . . . .	Anna P. Thompson.
Walpole, . . . . .	Walpole Public Library, . . . . .	Ida J. Phelps.
WALTHAM, . . . . .	Waltham Public Library, . . . . .	Mrs. Mary E. Bill.
Ware, . . . . .	Young Men's Library Associa- tion.	Harriet B. Hayden.
Wareham, . . . . .	Wareham Free Library, . . . . .	Mrs. Harriet P. Harlow.
Warren, . . . . .	Warren Public Library, . . . . .	Joseph G. Hastings.
Warwick, . . . . .	Warwick Free Library, . . . . .	Clara A. Jones.
Watertown, . . . . .	Free Public Library of Water- town.	Solon F. Whitney.
Wayland, . . . . .	Wayland Town Library, . . . . .	Margaret E. Wheeler.
Webster, . . . . .	Webster Public Library, . . . . .	Mrs. Phoebe R. Kingsbury.
Wellesley, . . . . .	Wellesley Free Library, . . . . .	Julia F. Jennings.
Wellfleet, . . . . .	Free Public Library of Well- fleet.	Mrs. Kate E. Brown.
Wendell, . . . . .	Wendell Free Library, . . . . .	Julia DeWolf Kavana.
Wenham, . . . . .	Wenham Public Library, . . . . .	Benjamin H. Conant.
West Boylston, . . . . .	West Boylston Public Library, . . .	Edna C. Baldwin.
West Bridgewater, . . . . .	West Bridgewater Public Li- brary.	Mary L. Perkins.
West Brookfield, . . . . .	Merriam Public Library, . . . . .	Florence A. Johnson.
West Newbury, . . . . .	West Newbury Public Library, . . .	Caroline Carr.
West Springfield, . . . . .	West Springfield Public Library, . . .	Daniel G. White.
West Stockbridge, . . . . .	West Stockbridge Free Library, . . .	Frances J. Edwards.
West Tisbury, . . . . .	West Tisbury Free Public Li- brary.	Cyrus Manter.
Westborough, . . . . .	Westborough Public Library, . . .	Martha J. Eastman.
Westfield, . . . . .	Westfield Athenæum, . . . . .	Herbert W. Denio.
Westford, . . . . .	J. V. Fletcher Library, . . . . .	Mary P. Bunce.
Westhampton, . . . . .	Reunion Library of Westhamp- ton.	George E. Knight.
Westminster, . . . . .	Westminster Town Library, . . . . .	Mary Belle Hager.
Weston, . . . . .	Weston Town Library, . . . . .	Maud M. Pennook.
Westport, . . . . .	Westport Free Public Library, . . .	Annie R. Howland.
Westwood, . . . . .	Westwood Public Library, . . . . .	Annie L. Richardson.
Weymouth, . . . . .	The Tufts Library, . . . . .	Caroline A. Blanchard.
<i>South Weymouth,</i> . . . . .	Fogg Memorial Library, . . . . .	Ruth C. Tower.
Whately, . . . . .	Whately Public Library, . . . . .	Ella L. Elder.
Whitman, . . . . .	Whitman Public Library, . . . . .	Elena S. Spilsted.
Wilbraham, . . . . .	Free Public Library, . . . . .	Minnie M. Morgan.
Williamsburg, . . . . .	Meekins Memorial Library, . . . . .	Ada M. Chandler.
<i>Haydenville,</i> . . . . .	Haydenville Free Library, . . . . .	Charles A. Phillips.
Williamstown, . . . . .	Williamstown Public Library, . . .	Lucy F. Curtis.
<i>South Williamstown,</i> . . . . .	South Williamstown Public Li- brary.	Mrs. Lucy Torrey Sanford.
Wilmington, . . . . .	Wilmington Public Library, . . . . .	Anna T. Sheldon.
Winchendon, . . . . .	Winchendon Public Library, . . . . .	Mrs. Sylvia M. Manzer.
Winchester, . . . . .	Winchester Public Library, . . . . .	Cora A. Quimby.
Windsor, . . . . .	Windsor Free Public Library, . . . . .	Agatha Bicknell.
Winthrop, . . . . .	Winthrop Public Library, . . . . .	Bessie F. Cordes.

*Names of Free Public Libraries and Names of Librarians—Con.*

CITIES AND TOWNS.	Name of Library.	Name of Librarian.
WOBURN, . . .	Woburn Public Library, . . .	William R. Cutter.
WORCESTER, . . .	Free Public Library of the City of Worcester.	Samuel S. Green.
Worthington, . . .	Worthington Free Library, . . .	Katharine M. Rice.
Wrentham, . . .	Wrentham Public Library, . . .	Mary A. Smith.
Yarmouth, . . .	Yarmouth Library Association, . . .	Mrs. Lydia C. Matthews.
South Yarmouth, . . .	South Yarmouth Library, . . .	T. F. Baker.
West Yarmouth, . . .	West Yarmouth Library, . . .	Mrs. Cordella C. Baker.



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APPENDIX II.

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A ROLL OF HONOR.

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LIST OF GIVERS OF FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY  
BUILDINGS IN MASSACHUSETTS.

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## GIVERS OF FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY BUILDINGS IN MASSACHUSETTS.

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ACTON, . . . . .	Gift of Hon. William A. Wilde of Malden.
AMESBURY, . . . . .	Bequest of Mary A. Barnard and others.
AMHERST, NORTH, . . . . .	Mainly the gift of citizens.
ANDOVER, . . . . .	Gift of citizens.
ARLINGTON, . . . . .	Gift of Mrs. Maria C. Robbins of Brooklyn, N. Y., as a memorial of her husband.
ASHBURNHAM, . . . . .	Gift of George F. Stevens.
ASHBY, . . . . .	Gift of Edwin Chapman of Boston.
ASHLAND, . . . . .	Gift of Andrew Carnegie.
ATHOL, . . . . .	Gift of Andrew Carnegie.
AYER, . . . . .	Gift of Frederick F. Ayer of New York.
BARNSTABLE, . . . . .	Gift of Hon. William Sturgis of Boston.
BARRE, . . . . .	Gift of Henry Woods of Boston.
BECKET, . . . . .	Gift of Miss Blanche Perkins, as a memorial of her parents.
BELCHERTOWN, . . . . .	Bequest of John Francis Clapp.
BELMONT, . . . . .	Gift of Henry O. Underwood.
BERNARDSTON, . . . . .	Gift of Hon. Henry W. Cushman.
BILLERICA, . . . . .	Gift of Mrs. Joshua Bennett.
BLANDFORD, . . . . .	Gift of Mrs. Josephine E. S. Porter of Hartford, as a memorial of her son, Edgar Sheffield Porter.
BOLTON, . . . . .	Gift of Annie Eliza Whitney of Lancaster.
BOURNE, . . . . .	Gift of Miss Emily H. Bourne, as a memorial of her father, the Hon. Jonathan Bourne.
BRAINTREE, . . . . .	Gift of Gen. Sylvanus Thayer.
BRIMFIELD, . . . . .	Gift of James Danielson Lincoln, as a memorial of his mother and his wife.
BROOKFIELD, . . . . .	Gift of William A. Banister of New York.
CAMBRIDGE, . . . . .	Gift of Frederick H. Rindge of Los Angeles.
CANTON, . . . . .	Gift of Augustus Hemenway.
CARLISLE, . . . . .	Gift of Mrs. Joanna Gleason of Sudbury.
CHARLEMONT, . . . . .	Gift of E. R. Goodnow and other citizens.
CHATHAM, . . . . .	Gift of Hon. Marcellus Eldredge.
CHELMSFORD, . . . . .	Gift of Amos F. Adams of Boston.
CHELSEA, . . . . .	Gift of Hon. Eustace C. Fitz.
CLINTON, . . . . .	Gift of Andrew Carnegie.
COHASSET, . . . . .	Memorial of Paul Pratt.
CONCORD, . . . . .	Gift of William Munroe.
CONWAY, . . . . .	Gift of Hon. Marshall Field of Chicago, as a memorial of his parents.
CUMMINGTON, . . . . .	Gift of William Cullen Bryant.
DALTON, . . . . .	Gift of the Crane family.

DANVERS, . . . . .	Gift of George Peabody.
DARTMOUTH, SOUTH, . . . . .	Gift of John H. Southworth of Springfield.
DEDHAM, . . . . .	Bequests and gifts of citizens.
DEERFIELD, . . . . .	Bequest of Mrs. Esther Dickinson.
DENNIS, . . . . .	Bequest of Jacob Sears.
DOUGLAS, . . . . .	Gift of James M. Fairfield of Boston, as a memorial of his father and mother, Simon and Phoebe Churchill Fairfield.
DUNBURY, . . . . .	Gift of Mrs. George W. Wright, as a memorial of her son, George Buckham Wright.
EAST BRIDGEWATER, . . . . .	Gift of Cyrus Washburn of Wellesley.
EASTHAM, . . . . .	Gift of Eastham Village Improvement Society.
EASTHAMPTON, . . . . .	Gift of Mrs. Emily G. Williston.
EASTON, . . . . .	Gift of Hon. Oliver Ames and Mrs. Sarah L. Ames.
EDGARTOWN, . . . . .	Gift of Andrew Carnegie.
ESSEX, . . . . .	Bequest of T. O. H. P. Burnham of Boston.
EVERETT, . . . . .	Gift of Albert M. Parlin, as a memorial of his son.
EVERETT ( <i>Glendale</i> ), . . . . .	Bequest of William Shute.
FAIRHAVEN, . . . . .	Gift of Henry H. and Abbie P. Rogers, as a memorial of their daughter, Millicent.
FITCHBURG, . . . . .	Gift of Hon. Rodney Wallace.
FRANKLIN, . . . . .	Gift of daughters of Hon. Joseph G. Ray, as a memorial of their father.
FREETOWN, . . . . .	Gift of Mrs. E. Florence Hathaway Crowell, as a memorial of her father, Hon. Guilford B. Hathaway.
GARDNER, . . . . .	Gift of children of Levi Heywood.
GEORGETOWN, . . . . .	Gift of George Peabody.
GLOUCESTER, . . . . .	Gift of Samuel E. Sawyer.
GRANVILLE, . . . . .	Gift of Hon. M. B. Whitney and others.
GROTON, . . . . .	Partly the gift of Mrs. Charlotte A. L. Sibley.
HADLEY, . . . . .	Gift of John Dwight and others.
HARVARD, . . . . .	Mainly the gift of natives of the town.
HATFIELD, . . . . .	Bequest of Samuel H. Dickinson.
HAVERHILL, . . . . .	Gift of Hon. E. J. M. Hale and other citizens.
HINGHAM, . . . . .	Gift of Hon. Albert Fearing.
HINSDALE, . . . . .	Gift of citizens.
HOLDEN, . . . . .	Gift of Hon. Samuel C. Gale of Minneapolis.
HOLLISTON, . . . . .	Gift of Andrew Carnegie.
HOLYOKE, . . . . .	Gift of citizens.
HOPEDALE, . . . . .	Gift of Joseph B. Bancroft, as a memorial of his wife, Mrs. Sylvia Thwing Bancroft.
HOPKINTON, . . . . .	Gift of natives and residents of the town.
HUBBARDSTON, . . . . .	Gift of Jonas G. Clark of Worcester.
HUDSON, . . . . .	Gift of Andrew Carnegie.
IPSWICH, . . . . .	Gift of Capt. Augustine Heard.
KINGSTON, . . . . .	Bequest of Frederic C. Adams.
LANCASTER, . . . . .	Mainly the gift of Nathaniel Thayer and his sons.
LAWRENCE, . . . . .	Gift of Mrs. N. G. White and Miss E. A. White.
LEICESTER, . . . . .	Gift of Lory S. Watson, Dr. Pliny Earle, David E. Merriam and others.
LENOX, . . . . .	Gift of Mrs. Adeline E. Schermerhorn.
LEXINGTON, . . . . .	Gift of Mrs. Maria Cary.

LINCOLN, . . . . .	Gift of George Grosvenor Tarbell.
LITTLETON, . . . . .	Gift of children of William Stevens Houghton, as a memorial of their father.
LUDLOW, . . . . .	Gift of heirs of Charles T. Hubbard.
LYNN, . . . . .	Gift of Mrs. Elizabeth M. Shute, as a memorial of her husband.
MALDEN, . . . . .	Gift of Hon. Ellsha S. Converse and his wife, as a memorial of their son.
MANCHESTER, . . . . .	Gift of Thomas Jefferson Coolidge.
MANSFIELD, . . . . .	Gift of Mrs. Elizabeth F. Noble and others.
MARBLEHEAD, . . . . .	Bequest of Benjamin Abbot of Boston.
MARION, . . . . .	Gift of Mrs. Elizabeth Taber of New Bedford.
MARLBOROUGH, . . . . .	Gift of Andrew Carnegie.
MARSHFIELD, . . . . .	Bequest of Seth J. Ventress.
MEDFORD, . . . . .	Gift of Thatcher Magoun.
MELROSE, . . . . .	Gift of Andrew Carnegie.
METHUEN, . . . . .	Gift of heirs of David Nevins.
MIDDLEBOROUGH, . . . . .	Bequest of Thomas S. Pierce.
MIDDLETON, . . . . .	Bequest of Hon. Charles L. Flint.
MONSON, . . . . .	Gift of Mrs. Carrie R. Dale, as a memorial of her father, Horatio Lyon.
NATICK, . . . . .	Bequest of Miss Mary Ann Morse.
<i>South Natick,</i> . . . . .	Bequest of Oliver Bacon.
NEEDHAM, . . . . .	Gift of Andrew Carnegie.
NEWBURYPORT, . . . . .	Gift of citizens.
NEWTON, . . . . .	Gift of J. Wiley Edmunds and other citizens.
NORTH ADAMS, . . . . .	Gift of Hon. Albert C. Houghton, as a memorial of his brother, Andrew Jackson Houghton.
NORTHAMPTON, . . . . .	Bequest of John Clarke, supplemented by other gifts and by the city.
NORTHAMPTON, . . . . .	Bequest of Hon. Charles Edward Forbes.
<i>Florence,</i> . . . . .	Gift of Alfred T. Lilly.
NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH, . . . . .	Gift of children of Edmund I. and Lucy N. Richards, as a memorial of their parents.
NORTHBOROUGH, . . . . .	Gift of Cyrus Gale.
NORTH BROOKFIELD, . . . . .	Mainly the gift of Erasmus Haston.
NORTHFIELD, . . . . .	Gift of Elijah M. Dickinson of Fitchburg.
NORTH READING, . . . . .	Gift of Mrs. Charles L. Flint.
NORTON, . . . . .	Gift of Mrs. Eliza B. Wheaton.
NORWOOD, . . . . .	Gift of George H. Morrill and wife, as a memorial of their daughter, Miss Sarah Bond Morrill.
ORLEANS, . . . . .	Built partly by subscriptions.
PEABODY, . . . . .	Gift of George Peabody.
PEMBROKE ( <i>Bryantville</i> ), . . . . .	Gift of Mrs. Rozilla Cobb.
PEPPERELL, . . . . .	Bequest of Charles F. Lawrence of New York.
PETERSHAM, . . . . .	Built mainly by subscriptions.
PITTSFIELD, . . . . .	Gift of Hon. Thomas Allen.
PLYMOUTH, . . . . .	Gift of daughters of William G. Russell.
PRINCETON, . . . . .	Gift of Edward A. Goodnow, as a family memorial.
PROVINCETOWN, . . . . .	Gift of Hon. Nathan Freeman.
QUINCY, . . . . .	Gift of heirs of Thomas Crane.
RANDOLPH, . . . . .	Gift of heirs of Col. Royal Turner.

REHOBOTH, . . . .	Gifts of Darius Goff of Pawtucket, R. I.
REVERE, . . . .	Gift of Andrew Carnegie.
ROCHESTER, . . . .	Partly the gift of Mrs. Elizabeth Leonard of New Bedford.
ROCKLAND, . . . .	Gift of Andrew Carnegie.
SALEM, . . . .	Gift of heirs of Capt. John Bertram.
SCITUATE, NORTH, . . . .	Gift of Silas Peirce of Boston, as a memorial of his wife.
SHIRLEY, . . . .	Built mainly by bequest of Mrs. Betsey D. Hazen.
SHREWSBURY, . . . .	Bequest of Jubal Howe.
SOUTHAMPTON, . . . .	Gift of Winslow H. Edwards, as a memorial of his father.
SOUTHBRIDGE, . . . .	Gift of Holmes Ammidown of New York.
SOUTH HADLEY, . . . .	Gift of William H. Gaylord.
SPENCER, . . . .	Gift of Richard Sugden.
SPRINGFIELD, . . . .	Gift of the City Library Association.
STERLING, . . . .	Gift of Edward Conant of Worcester, as a memorial of his daughter, Elizabeth Anne.
STOCKBRIDGE, . . . .	Gift of Hon. John Z. Goodrich.
STOW, . . . .	Gift of Miss Belinda Lull Randall, for estate of John Witt Randall.
STURBRIDGE, . . . .	Bequest of George B. Hyde of Boston, as a memorial of his father, Joshua Hyde.
SUDBURY, . . . .	Bequest of John Goodnow of Boston.
SUNDERLAND, . . . .	Gift of John Long Graves.
SWANSEA, . . . .	Gift of Hon. F. S. Stevens.
TAUNTON, . . . .	Gift of Andrew Carnegie.
UXBRIDGE, . . . .	Gift of Hon. Edward C. Thayer of Keene, N. H.
WALPOLE, . . . .	Gift of Andrew Carnegie.
WARE, . . . .	Gift of Hon. William Hyde and others.
WARREN, . . . .	Gift of Nathan Richardson and others.
WATERTOWN, . . . .	Built by Hollis H. Hunnewell and others.
WAYLAND, . . . .	Bequest of Warren Gould Roby.
WELLESLEY, . . . .	Gift of Hollis H. Hunnewell.
WEST BROOKFIELD, . . . .	Gift of Charles Merriam of Springfield.
WESTFORD, . . . .	Gift of Hon. John Varnum Fletcher.
WESTMINSTER, . . . .	Bequest of Charles A. Forbush.
WESTWOOD, . . . .	Gift of Howard Colburn.
WEYMOUTH, . . . .	Gift of Quincy Tufts and his sister, Miss Susan Tufts.
<i>South Weymouth,</i> . . . .	Bequest of John S. Fogg.
WILLIAMSBURG, . . . .	Bequest of Stephen Meekins.
<i>Haydenville,</i> . . . .	Gift of Miss Anna Hayden.
WOBURN, . . . .	Bequest of Charles Bowers Winn, as a memorial of his father.
WRENTHAM, . . . .	Gift of heirs of Hon. Josiah J. Fiske.
YARMOUTH, . . . .	Gift of Nathan Matthews of Boston.

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APPENDIX III.

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FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY LAWS

OF

MASSACHUSETTS.

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# FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY LAWS OF MASSACHUSETTS.

[REVISED LAWS, 1902, CHAPTER 38.]

## GENERAL PROVISION.

SECTION 1. Library corporations and associations which have been legally established shall continue to have all the powers and privileges and be subject to all the duties and restrictions attaching thereto.

## LAW LIBRARIES.

SECTION 2. Attorneys at law who have been admitted to practise in the courts of the commonwealth and who are resident in a county for which there is no law library association may organize as a corporation, under the provisions of chapter one hundred and twenty-five, by the name of the Law Library Association for such county, and may adopt by-laws which shall be subject to the approval of the superior court.

SECTION 3. The inhabitants of the county shall have access to the library and may use the books therein, subject to the provisions of the by-laws.

SECTION 4. County treasurers shall annually pay to the law library associations in their respective counties all sums which are paid into the county treasuries during the year by the clerks of the courts, to an amount not exceeding two thousand dollars in any one year. They may also pay to said associations such further sums as the county commissioners may consider are necessary and proper. All sums which are so paid shall be applied to maintain and enlarge such libraries for the use of the courts and of citizens. The treasurer of the law library association, before receiving any money from the county treasurer, shall give bond, with sureties to the satisfaction of the commissioners, for the faithful application of such money, and that he will make a return annually to them, under oath, of the manner in which it has been expended.

SECTION 5. Each law library association shall be entitled to receive from the sergeant-at-arms, immediately after their publication, one copy of the legislative documents of the senate and house, the journal of the senate and the journal of the house.

## CITY AND TOWN LIBRARIES.

SECTION 6. A city or town may establish and maintain public libraries for the use of its inhabitants, under regulations prescribed by the city council or by the town, and may receive, hold and manage any gift, bequest or devise for such library. The city council of a city or the selectmen of a town may place in such library the books, reports and laws which may be received from the commonwealth.

## TRUSTEES OF TOWN LIBRARIES.

SECTION 7. A town which raises or appropriates money for the support of a free public library, or free public library and reading room, owned by the town, shall, at an annual meeting or special meeting, unless the same has been acquired entirely or in part through some gift or bequest which contains other conditions or provisions for the election of its trustees or for its care and management which have been accepted by the town, elect by ballot a board of trustees consisting of any number of persons, male or female, divisible by three, which the town determines to elect. When such board is first chosen, one-third thereof shall be elected for one year, one-third for two years and one-third for three years, and thereafter one-third shall be elected annually for the term of three years. The board shall, from its own number, annually choose a chairman and secretary and, if the town so votes, a treasurer, who shall give a bond similar to that given by the town treasurer, in an amount and with sureties to the satisfaction of the selectmen. The town treasurer shall act as treasurer of the board of trustees until the town otherwise directs.

SECTION 8. The board shall have the custody and management of the library and reading room and of all property owned by the town relating thereto. All money raised or appropriated by the town for its support and maintenance shall be expended by the board, and all money or property which the town may receive by gift or bequest for said library and reading room shall be administered by the board in accordance with the provisions of such gift or bequest.

SECTION 9. The board shall make an annual report to the town of its receipts and expenditures and of the property in its custody, with a statement of any unexpended balance of money and of any gifts or bequests which it holds in behalf of the town, with its recommendations.

SECTION 10. The provisions of the three preceding sections shall not apply to library associations, nor to a library organized under a special act.

## BOARD OF FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS.

SECTION 11. There shall be a board of free public library commissioners consisting of five persons, residents of the commonwealth, one of whom shall annually be appointed by the governor, with the advice and consent of the council, for a term of five years. The governor shall designate the chairman thereof.

SECTION 12. No member shall receive any compensation, but the board may annually expend not more than five hundred dollars, payable by the commonwealth, for clerical assistance and for other necessary expenses. It shall annually in January make a report to the general court.

SECTION 13. The board shall advise the librarian or trustees of any free public library relative to the selection or cataloguing of books and any other matter pertaining to the maintenance or administration of the library.

SECTION 14. Said board may, upon the application of the library trustees of a town which has complied with the provisions of sections sixteen and seventeen, and which has no free public library owned and controlled by the town, expend not more than one hundred dollars for books to be selected and purchased by said board and delivered to said trustees for the purpose of establishing a free public library.

SECTION 15. If a town, the valuation of which is not more than six hundred thousand dollars and which has a free public library, has complied with all laws relative to the maintenance of such library, and the trustees of the library provide, to the satisfaction of the board, for the distribution of books in different parts of the town where such distribution is necessary, by means of branch libraries or deliveries, and for practical and effective means of rendering the library useful to the teachers and scholars of the public schools in such town, the board may expend, in such amounts and at such times as they determine, not more than one hundred dollars for the purchase of books for each free public library owned and controlled by such town.

SECTION 16. A town shall not be entitled to the benefits of the three preceding sections until it accepts the same or has accepted the corresponding provisions of earlier laws and has elected a board of library trustees as provided in section seven, nor until said trustees have made provision satisfactory to said commissioners for the care and distribution of the books furnished by them.

SECTION 17. Such town shall, if its last assessed valuation was one million dollars or over, annually appropriate from the dog tax, or otherwise provide for the use and maintenance of its free public

library, not less than fifty dollars; if such valuation was less than one million dollars and not less than two hundred and fifty thousand, not less than twenty-five dollars; and if such valuation was less than two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, not less than fifteen dollars.

#### APPROPRIATION OF MONEY FOR LIBRARIES, ETC.

Section 15, chapter 25 of the Revised Laws, provides that towns may appropriate money "for the establishment, maintenance or increase of a public library therein, and for the erection or provision of suitable buildings or rooms therefor."

"For maintaining a library therein to which the inhabitants have free access and of which they have the use, and for establishing and maintaining a public reading room in connection with and under the control of the managers of such library."

#### THE DOG TAX.

Section 163, chapter 102 of the Revised Laws, provides that money received for dog licenses and refunded to the towns "shall be expended for the support of public libraries or schools."

#### DEFACING OR WILFUL DETENTION OF BOOKS, PAPERS, ETC.

Sections 83 and 84, chapter 208 of the Revised Laws, provide that "whoever wilfully, intentionally and without right, or wantonly and without cause, writes upon, injures, defaces, tears or destroys a book, plate, picture, engraving, map, newspaper, magazine, pamphlet, manuscript or statue which belongs to a law, city, town or other public or incorporated library shall be punished by a fine of not less than five nor more than fifty dollars or by imprisonment for not more than six months."

"Whoever wilfully, intentionally and without right, or wantonly and without cause, detains a book, newspaper, magazine, pamphlet, or manuscript which belongs to a law, city, town or other public or incorporated library for thirty days after a notice in writing from the librarian thereof, containing a copy of this section and given after the expiration of the time which, by the regulations of such library, such book, newspaper, magazine, pamphlet or manuscript may be kept, shall be punished by a fine of not less than one nor more than twenty-five dollars or by imprisonment for not more than six months."

#### DISTURBING PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

Section 33, chapter 212 of the Revised Laws, provides that "whoever wilfully disturbs persons assembled in a public library, or a reading room connected therewith, by making a noise or in any other

manner during the time when such library or reading room is open to the public shall be punished by imprisonment for not more than thirty days or by a fine of not more than fifty dollars."

#### LAND MAY BE TAKEN FOR LIBRARY BUILDINGS.

Section 47 of chapter 25 of the Revised Laws provides that "any land within the limits of a city or town not appropriated to public uses" may be taken "for the purpose of erecting thereon a building to be used for a public school, a library, or an engine house, or for the enlargement of a lot of land taken or used for such purpose," — but the land thus taken may not exceed two acres in extent.

#### PUBLIC DOCUMENTS.

Under provisions of chapter 9 of the Revised Laws, each town and city library is entitled to receive a copy of the Manual of the General Court, the Blue Book, and a copy of the series of public documents.

