

in consequence of all this, and, to use the words of the petition, as they are suffering many privations for the want of room and opportunities for the expansion of genius and encouragement to industry, they pray that a suitable territory may be laid off as an asylum for all negroes and mulattoes emancipated or to be emancipated within the United States; and that such donations, allowances, encouragement, and assistance be afforded them as may be necessary for conveying them thither, and settling them therein. The committee beg leave to observe that the Government is not in the habit of granting such advantages to white citizens, nor can they well perceive why they should be expected in favor of those of any other color. The public lands of the United States are sold or earned by services rendered to the country; and all those who wish to reside on them have heretofore (as most probably they must continue to do) paid their own travelling expenses. The committee, too, cannot but believe that there is no part of our highly favored country where industry and economy will not insure to those who practise them an easy and independent support. The committee can see no cause for the interference of the Government on this subject; they have consequently prepared a resolution, which is respectfully submitted:

Resolved, That the prayer of the petition ought not to be granted.

The honorable the Speaker and Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled: The petition of the Kentucky Abolition Society, at their annual meeting, holden in Franklin county, near Frankfort, Kentucky, October 18 and 19, 1815, respectfully sheweth:

That, whereas great numbers of slaves have been emancipated in different parts of these United States, and it may be expected, from the genius of our Government, and from a spirit of benevolence that seems to be taking place among all classes of citizens, that the number will be daily increasing; and whereas they are not allowed the privileges of free citizens where they are emancipated, and most of the States and Territories have passed laws to prevent this class of human beings from emigrating to them, and, from their poor and degraded situation where they at present reside, they are suffering many privations for the want of room and opportunities for the expansion of genius and encouragement to industry: and whereas there are vast tracts of unappropriated lands within the boundaries of the United States, and as we now enjoy a time of peace and prosperity, opening the way and inviting Government to so benevolent a project, we do therefore (and we make no doubt but we substantially speak the language of thousands of our fellow-citizens) most earnestly petition your honorable body that you cause a suitable territory of lands to be laid off as an asylum for all those negroes and mulattoes who have been, and those who may hereafter be, emancipated within the United States; and that such donations, allowances, encouragement, and assistance be afforded them as may be necessary for conveying them thither and settling them therein; and that they be under such regulations and government in all respects as your wisdom shall dictate.

The friendly attention of your honorable body to this our humble address will ever be remembered with gratitude by your petitioners.

Signed by order of the society in annual meeting, as above written.

DAVID BARROW, *President*.

Attest: MOSES MARTIN, *Secretary*.

14th CONGRESS.]

No. 396.

[1st SESSION.]

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS AND THE LIBRARIAN.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE, JANUARY 26, 1816.

Mr. FROMENTIN, from the Joint Library Committee, made the following report:

The first care of the Joint Library Committee, immediately after their appointment, was to inquire into the possibility of removing the library from where it now is to a place more convenient to the members of Congress; but they were not able to accomplish this most desirable object. The Capitol does not afford any room which could in its present state be deemed a safe place of deposit for the library. The room which had been selected for placing the library in the building now occupied by Congress did not appear to your committee to offer the advantages or to promise that security which by your committee was deemed indispensably requisite before they would submit to you a resolution recommending the removal of the library to that room. The efforts of your committee to procure rooms or a house which might have been used temporarily for the library in the neighborhood of the house where Congress now assemble proved likewise unavailing. A sum not less than \$1,000 per annum was asked for the rent of the only house which might have answered the object; and, taking into consideration not only the expense of the rent, but the expense of fitting out for temporary purposes only the necessary rooms for the library, the expenses attending this temporary removal, the portion of the session already elapsed, the length of time which would be consumed in the removal, during which, instead of a rather difficult, under present circumstances, no access at all could be had to the library; considering, further, that nothing is more injurious to books than these frequent removals, and considering, likewise, that the library is perfectly safe where it is now, and that within a few weeks, at a period probably not much more distant than that at which the library could again be opened, if it should now be attempted to be removed on Capitol hill, the greatest inconveniences now arising from the distance at which the library is placed will disappear with the season of the year which has created them, your committee are of opinion that the library ought not to be removed this winter, and that their attention should be wholly directed in securing a permanent place in the Capitol for receiving the library, which place ought to be ready before the next session of Congress; and with that view they have inserted a section, which to them appears calculated to obtain the object, in the bill which accompanies this report.

Your committee have received from the librarian several accounts of expenditures, amounting together to the sum of \$3,165 67½ exclusive of a sum of \$912 37½, paid for packing and transporting the library, and of the sum

of \$1,520 77 for fitting up the room where the library is now kept; which several sums were appropriated by the act of the 3d of March, 1815, entitled "An act to provide a library room, and for transporting the library lately purchased." Both the letters received from the Comptroller of the Treasury, as far as respects the expenses of packing and transporting the library, and from the Superintendent of Public Buildings in Washington, so far as respects the expenses for fitting up the room where the library is now kept, and the accounts exhibited by the librarian, are submitted with, and your committee pray that they may be considered as a part of, this their report.

With respect to the account of expenditures delivered to your committee by the librarian, your committee observe that, except the annual appropriation of \$800 which has been received by the librarian, there has been no appropriation made by Congress, nor, as far as your committee could ascertain, any authorization given by any person to the librarian. This unauthorized expenditure leaves a deficit to be provided for of \$2,365 67½. Your committee submit it to Congress whether the peculiar circumstances in which the librarian was placed justified, in part or in totality, the expenditures incurred by him? They cannot, however, help observing that some of the charges appear to them exorbitant; and, therefore, in the bill which they have reported, they have recommended that an authorization be given to the committee, before payment be made, to have a due investigation made of the several items of the accounts, advising at the same time an appropriation for the whole sum claimed, provided that, if a surplus should be unexpended in consequence of the investigation, it may be added to the annual library fund of \$1,000 for this year, to be expended for the purchase of books, under the direction of the Joint Library Committee.

It is enough to cast a rapid glance over the catalogue of the library of Congress to be immediately sensible of the immense *hiatus* which some of the departments of arts and sciences exhibit. Some of the branches of the arts and sciences are swelled to a prodigious size, which, at the same time that it is by no means a certain proof of a greater degree of health in these parasite branches, manifests every symptom of threatening decay in the tree itself. This was observable likewise in the old library of Congress, although in a less degree. This result is not to be wondered at, if we consider that the inconsiderable sums put from time to time at the disposal of the Joint Library Committee precluded the possibility of their availing themselves of the many opportunities which for twenty-five years past were daily offering in Europe of purchasing large collections of very valuable books on reasonable terms. Those opportunities are not yet all gone by; and your committee think that the convulsions of the eastern might, in a literary point of view, be made conducive to the interests of the western world. The present library of Congress is a good foundation; and one-half of the sum which it has cost, judiciously employed under the direction of the Joint Library Committee, would place within the reach of every member of Congress all the most valuable books in every department of arts and sciences, of which there is now such a lamentable deficiency. With that view, your committee propose an appropriation of \$10,000 for the purchase of books and maps, independent of the annual appropriation of \$1,000 for the same purpose, which they submit to Congress to make perpetual.

The Joint Library Committee have taken into their consideration a resolution referred to them by the House of Representatives on the 15th December last, and, upon the most serious consideration given to the subject, your committee do not deem it necessary to recommend the allowing any additional compensation to the librarian for services performed since the last session of Congress. The librarian has received from the treasury the sum of \$480, which (according to the law as it was at the time of his appointment, and as it is yet, by which he is entitled to \$2 per day for every day's attendance at the library, computing the number of days during which he was bound to attend at the rate of three days every week during the recess of Congress, and six days every week during the session) exceeds the sum to which he should be entitled by law for his services to this day. By the accounts of expenditures exhibited, it appears that the mechanical part of the duties required by law to be performed by the librarian has been actually performed by people hired by him, and for whose compensation you are now called upon to make an appropriation. The manner in which the scientific part of the duties devolving upon the librarian has been fulfilled do not, in the opinion of your committee, warrant the allowing of an additional compensation, which your committee suppose must be interpreted as conveying on the part of Congress something like an approbation for past conduct. The only evidence of the literary services of the librarian within the knowledge of your committee is, the publication of the catalogue with which we were presented at the beginning of the session; and the merit of this work is altogether due to Mr. Jefferson, and not to the librarian of Congress. Your committee are persuaded that, however ingenious, scientific, philosophical, and useful such a catalogue may be in the possession of a gentleman who (as was the case with the former proprietor of this, now the library of Congress) has classed his books himself, who alone has access to them, and has become, from long habit and experience, as perfectly familiar with every book in his library as a man who has long lived in a city is familiar with every street, square, lane, and alley in it, still this form of catalogue is much less useful in the present state of our library, consisting chiefly of miscellanies not always to be classed correctly under any particular head, than a plain catalogue in the form which had been adopted for the formation of the catalogue of the old library, which probably might not have cost more than \$100 (if that much) whilst the catalogue with which we were presented, including three copies of it bound, calf gilt, costs the United States \$1,360 50, one-third more than the annual appropriation made heretofore by Congress for the additional increase of the library, and more than one-twentieth of the actual cost of our whole library.

The committee have no hesitation in recommending to Congress to increase the sum appropriated for the salary of the librarian of Congress, and in the bill which they have the honor to submit is to be found a section to that effect.

In looking over the several acts concerning the library of Congress, your committee have observed, not without astonishment, that, by an act passed the 26th January, 1802, the librarian of Congress was to be appointed by the President of the United States solely. It is difficult to conceive why an officer of both Houses of Congress, as much so as the Clerk of the House of Representatives and the Secretary of the Senate are officers of their respective Houses, should not be appointed by the authority to which he ought to be amenable. The case might happen that a librarian should neglect his duties; are the members of Congress, in that case, to complain to the President of the United States? Such a thing need merely be mentioned to demonstrate the impropriety of vesting the President with the sole right of making so inconsiderable an appointment. Accordingly your committee have deemed it their duty to propose in the bill which accompanies this report the repeal of so much of the act concerning the library of Congress, passed January 26, 1802, as provides that the librarian shall be appointed by the President of the United States solely, and to vest in future the appointment of the librarian in the Joint Library Committee, provided that neither the Secretary of the Senate, nor the Clerk of the House of Representatives, nor any of the clerks employed in their offices, or any other officer of either House of Congress, be eligible to the office of librarian.

No. 1.

List of the debts and expenditures of the Library of the United States for 1815.

EXPENDITURES.

1815.					
December 1.	Paid G. Watterston for his services as librarian, commencing the 21st March and ending 31st December, 1815, at \$2 per diem, (Sundays excepted),	-	-	-	\$480 00
" "	Paid for five months' hire of negro boy,	-	-	-	20 00
" "	Paid for two months' hire of negro man,	-	-	-	52 00
November 15.	Paid William Elliot, in part, for printing,	-	-	-	190 00
July 14.	Paid Mr. Ferril for wood,	-	-	-	57 75
July 27.	Paid A. Ferril for putting away wood,	-	-	-	3 00
July 20.	Paid J. Bowen for hauling wood,	-	-	-	4 12½
November 8.	Paid Michael Larnar for labelling, in part,	-	-	-	2 28
September 14.	Paid E. Shanly for brass fender,	-	-	-	5 00
November 1.	Paid for broom,	-	-	-	0 20
August 1.	Paid Ingle & Co. for shears,	-	-	-	0 25
August 18.	Paid Mr. Weightman for ink,	-	-	-	0 37½
					814 98
	By appropriation,	-	-	-	800 00
	Due me,	-	-	-	14 98
DEBTS.					
	Due Mr. Rapine for stationary,	-	-	-	4 81¾
	Due Mr. Ott for candles, &c.	-	-	-	11 00
	Due Mr. Larnar for labelling, (balance,)	-	-	-	33 00
	Due Mr. Milligan for stationary,	-	-	-	1 12½
	Balance due,	-	-	-	\$64 92½

I certify the above to be a true copy.

GEORGE WATTERSTON, *Librarian.*

No. 2.

The Library of Congress to Daniel Rapine,

1815.					Dr.
September 25.	To binding eighteen volumes Encyclopedia, royal quarto, double titles, at \$3 50	-	-	-	\$63 00
" "	To binding twenty-five volumes large thick quarto, double titles,	-	3 00	-	75 00
" "	To binding eighteen volumes middle size quarto, single title,	-	2 50	-	45 00
" "	To binding fifteen volumes thin quarto, single title,	-	2 00	-	30 00
October 3.	To lettering five volumes,	-	0 20	-	1 00
" 4.	To binding eighteen volumes foolscap folio,	-	3 00	-	54 00
" "	To binding eleven volumes medium folio,	-	4 00	-	44 00
" "	To binding twenty-one volumes newspapers,	-	3 00	-	63 00
" "	To binding three volumes super royal large newspapers,	-	6 00	-	18 00
" "	To binding one volume flat foolscap,	-	-	-	2 50
November 17.	To binding ninety-seven volumes octavo, double titles,	-	0 70	-	67 90
" "	To binding sixteen volumes duodecimo, single title,	-	0 37½	-	6 00
" "	To binding seven volumes quarto demy, half-bound, single title,	-	1 50	-	10 50
" "	To binding one hundred and seventeen volumes octavo, single title,	-	0 65	-	76 05
" "	To binding one volume quarto royal, single title,	-	-	-	3 00
" "	To binding twenty-one volumes quarto, medium and demy,	-	2 50	-	52 50
" "	To binding one volume folio foolscap,	-	-	-	2 50
" "	To binding twenty-six volumes Encyclopedia, royal quarto, double titles,	3 50	-	-	91 00
" "	To binding thirteen volumes quarto medium, double titles,	3 00	-	-	39 00
" "	To binding six volumes octavo, half-bound, double titles,	-	0 60	-	3 60
" "	To binding nine volumes octavo, half-bound, single title,	-	0 55	-	4 95
" "	To binding five volumes folio, single title,	-	3 00	-	15 00
" "	To binding one volume quarto large royal, single title,	-	-	-	3 50
" "	To lettering one volume folio,	-	-	-	0 25
					\$781 25

I certify that the above books were bound by Mr. Rapine.

GEORGE WATTERSTON, *Librarian.*

No. 3.

The United States Library of Congress to William Elliot,

					Dr.
WASHINGTON, October 10, 1815.					
September 18.	To printing 11,100 labels, at 50 cents per hundred, for the inside of books,	-	-	-	\$55 50
" "	To printing 11,100 labels, at 50 cents per hundred, for the backs of the books,	-	-	-	55 50
" "	To printing 43 different labels, in large types, (each being a separate form,) for shelves, at \$1 each form,	-	-	-	43 00
" "	To printing one ream of folio post rule work, done on both sides, (being equal to two reams,) for a bond book,	-	-	-	47 50
					\$206 50

I certify that the above work was done by William Elliot, and will be paid when the committee pass the account:

GEORGE WATTERSTON,
Librarian of Congress.

Received the above account, in full, from Alexander Kerr, Esq.

JONATHAN ELLIOT.

OCTOBER 13, 1815.

No. 4.

Library of Congress to William Elliot,

			Dr.
1816.			
January 15.	To printing, paper, and binding 600 copies of catalogues, at \$2 25,	-	\$1,350 00
" "	To binding 140 volumes duodecimo, calf, gilt, at 75 cents,	-	\$105 00
" "	To binding 20 octavo volumes duodecimo, at \$1,	-	20 00
" "	To binding 3 catalogues, calf, gilt,	-	125 00
" "	Bill for labels, &c., lodged in the Bank of the Metropolis,	-	10 50
" "	Bill not presented, for binding three receipt books,	-	1,485 50
			206 00
			18 00
		Whole amount,	1,709 50
		By cash,	190 00
			\$1,519 50

No. 5.

Sir:

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE, *January 24, 1816.*

In reply to your letter of yesterday's date, I have the honor to state that the sum of \$584 37 was paid on the 10th, and the sum of \$388 on the 30th of May last, to Joseph Milligan, for the expenses of packing, transporting, &c. the library purchased of Thomas Jefferson, Esq.

The fitting up the library room was done under the direction of Thomas Munroe, Esq., superintendent of public buildings, of the expense of which no account has as yet been rendered to this Department.

With great respect,

The Hon. ELIGIUS FROMENTIN,
Chairman of the Library Committee.

JOSEPH ANDERSON.

No. 6.

Sir:

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE, WASHINGTON, *January 25, 1816.*

In reply to your letter of yesterday, I have the honor to state that the moneys expended in fitting up and furnishing the congressional library room, in the building now occupied by the Post Office Department, including the expense of finishing the staircase and passage in the third story leading thereto, amount to the sum of \$1,520 77, that is to say, for materials, principally lumber and lime, \$465 29; carpenters, bricklayers, and painters' work, \$742 36; furniture, including upholsterers' work, \$313 12.

It will of course be understood that these disbursements are such only as I have had an agency in. The expenses attending the transportation of the books from Mr. Jefferson's residence to the city have been adjusted at the Treasury; and there may have been other expenditures under the sanction of the President, or other authority, of which I have no knowledge.

I have the honor to be, with the highest respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

THOMAS MUNROE.

P. S. No part of the amount disbursed by me has been drawn from the treasury under the appropriation for the purpose, as I had other public money remaining in my hands sufficient.

The Hon. ELIGIUS FROMENTIN, *Senate U. S.*

14th CONGRESS.]

No. 397.

[1st SESSION.]

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES PROPOSED BY MASSACHUSETTS AND CONNECTICUT, AND REJECTED BY OHIO.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE, JANUARY 30, 1816.

Sir:

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF OHIO, CHILICOTHE, *January 20, 1816.*

I have the honor to transmit to you a copy of resolutions passed by the Legislature of Ohio.

Very respectfully,

T. WORTHINGTON.

The PRESIDENT of the Senate of the United States.