

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS,

EXHIBITING

THE PROGRESS OF THE LIBRARY

DURING THE

CALENDAR YEAR 1889.



WASHINGTON:
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE,
1890.

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LIBRARY OF CONGRESS,
Washington, June 20, 1890.

The undersigned presents herewith his annual statement of the progress of the library and the copyright business for the calendar year 1889, closing on the 31st of December last.

Increasing difficulty has attended the annual enumeration of the books in the Library, growing out of its still more overcrowded condition, scattered as are large portions of its stores in remote apartments in various parts of the Capitol. The count exhibits an aggregate of 633,717 volumes, besides about 206,000 pamphlets. The law department (included in the above aggregate) embraces 81,228 volumes. The increase of the year 1889 has been 17,936 volumes, derived from the following-named sources:

From purchase	3,246
From copyright	10,580
From deposit by the Smithsonian Institution	1,720
From additions to the Toner collection.....	178
From donations	1,231
From exchanges	981
Total	17,936

The copyright department exhibits an increased number, both of entries and of deposits of publications, over the year preceding (1888). There were entered from January to December, 1889, inclusive, an aggregate of 40,985 copyright titles, as against a total of 38,225 entries in 1888. The amount of fees received for copyright records was \$33,085.38, being an increase of \$1,981.63 over the preceding year.

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The different classes of publications entered for copyright are enumerated in the following table:

<i>Number of articles entered in 1889.</i>	
Books	15,380
Periodicals	7,646
Musical compositions	8,958
Dramatic compositions	620
Photographs	2,242
Engravings and chromos	2,138
Prints and cuts	742
Designs	938
Drawings	85
Paintings	267
Maps and charts	1,969
Total	40,985

The aggregate number of publications deposited in the copyright office, under each head, is exhibited in the following:

<i>Number of copyright articles received in 1889.</i>	
Books (including all printed matter so designated)	21,160
Periodicals	13,260
Musical compositions	15,694
Dramatic compositions	349
Photographs	5,060
Engravings and chromos	4,240
Prints and cuts	502
Designs and drawings	398
Paintings	121
Maps and charts	2,298
Total	63,082

As law requires two copies of each publication entered for copyright to be deposited, the net additions to the collections during the year from this source were approximately 31,541, of which 10,580 were books and 6,630 periodicals. The deficiency of deposits (as explained in former reports) does not arise wholly from negligence on the part of authors and publishers, although this is the chief source of the discrepancy shown between the number of entries and that of deposits. Of dramatic compositions comparatively few copies are deposited, the stage representation constituting the only publication of many plays, while others remain permanently in manuscript. There are also many entries of copyright which are not followed up by publication, or which are published under another title, causing duplications of entries.

There remained to the credit of the library funds January 1, 1890, the following balances unexpended:

Fund for increase of the library	\$7,640.51
Fund for contingent expenses of library	965.80
Fund for printing and binding	8,541.90
Fund for printing unpublished historical documents relating to early French discoveries in America	1,953.44

THE TONER LIBRARY.

The collection of books, pamphlets and manuscripts, donated to the Government by Dr. J. M. Toner, of Washington, has been further increased by the addition of one hundred and seventy-eight books during the year. The same gentleman has entered upon an extensive collection of all letters and papers from the hand of George Washington, excerpting from books and periodicals such as have appeared in print, and adding verbatim copies of all unpublished manuscript letters of Washington, wherever found. This valuable and interesting collection will form a part of the Toner library here deposited.

The undersigned again records the need of increased clerical help in all departments of the library service. It is with regret that the Librarian has found it necessary to employ more and more of the assistants who should be occupied with catalogue work, upon the exacting and rapidly growing labors of the copyright department, to avoid falling into serious arrears. An additional number of assistants should be provided, to promote the efficiency of the library service as well as that of the copyright department.

The new library building has made gratifying progress during the year, and promises to advance still more rapidly in the work of construction the present season. There is every reason for the belief that this long-deferred public necessity has at last been provided for with a liberality and energy worthy of the great end in view.

AINSWORTH R. SPOFFORD,
Librarian of Congress.

HON. W. M. EVARTS,
Chairman of the Joint Committee on the Library.