

The opening of the Library on May 18th, was merely a formal opening, to show the public what progress had been made since Colonel Donville took the initiative in obtaining a collection of books. The money which had been contributed from abroad and other contributions obtained in the city was expended in the purchase of books, largely of fiction for the circulating department. These books and the others that had been contributed were neatly arranged on shelving in two rooms in the Market building fronting on Charlotte street, and made quite a respectable showing. In all there were about 2,000 books, and for so small a number the selection was admirable. No department was complete, but there were books on every subject to suit all tastes.

The Commissioners appointed by the Council met and organized immediately after their appointment, and took charge of the Library on June 1. Pending the transfer from the Trustees to the Commission, but after the passage of the act, Miss Martin had been appointed librarian and was on duty on May 18, when the Library doors were first opened. A catalogue of the books under the control of the Commission was made and on June 13 1883, the first books were issued in the circulating department.

A ladies Library committee had been formed of which Mrs. Tuck, also a commissioner, was president. Prior to the organization of the Commission, the ladies undertook to raise sufficient money to pay the librarian, which they continued to do until the committee disbanded in 1889. These ladies did a large amount of work and were successful in obtaining much money for the purposes of the library. Had it not been for the work these ladies did, it would not have been possible to have made many additions to