

Owing to the personal action taken by Hon. Mr. Hyman, acting Minister of Public Works, the lighting of the Library has been greatly improved.

Among the donations the following have to be acknowledged:—

From Lady Meux, London, England.

The Book of Paradise, being a translation from the Syriac texts of the histories and sayings of the monks of the Egyptian desert, by Palladius Hieronymus.—8 vo. L., 1904.

From the Hon. T. Nosse, Consul General of Japan:—

Jikemura (W.)—The Russo-Japanese War. Illustrated.—8 vo., Tokio, 1904.

The American section of the Library has received a few valuable additions, among others a fac-simile of the famous Waldseemuller Maps of 1507, in which appears, for the first time, on a chart, the word America. The original of this important monument of geography was lost to the scientific world for a long time, when a few years ago, a copy of the same was accidentally found (1901) by Professor Fischer, in the library of Prince Waldberg at Wolfegg Castle, where it had been slumbering for many centuries.

The facts relating to the maps of 1507 are as follows: On April 25th, 1507, there was published at the little town of St. Dié in the Vosges Mountains, a small geographical treatise which has left its mark upon the world for all time. For in this little book it was first suggested that the then lately discovered fourth part of the world should be called America because Americus (*Vespucius*) discovered it. The book in question, entitled "Cosmographiae Introductio," was the first production of the printing press which had only just before been erected in the town. The work itself was projected and published under the auspices of the *Gymnase Vosgien*, a society for the cultivation of the arts and sciences, which had been established at St. Dié, by Gaultier Lud, about 1490, under the patronage of René the reigning Duke of Lorraine. Amongst the members of the Gymnase, at the commencement of the sixteenth century, were three who were more especially associated in the study of geography and in the issue of the "Cosmographiae Introductio"—Nicolas Lud, Mathias Ringman, and Martin Waldseemuller. The interest in the case centres in the last named, for he was the professed geographer and cartographer of the society.

It may be added that Professor Fischer also found in the volume containing the long lost treasure, a second map by Waldseemuller, dated 1516, and hitherto also absolutely unknown.

We may also mention that the Library has secured a complete set of the very important works: "*Early Western Travels*" (1748-1846). It contains 30 volumes replete with information on the explorations of Europeans in the regions now forming the states of Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky, Oregon, Illinois, &c., in the Rocky Mountains, on the wars with the Indians and the first progress of civilization in the West.

Another addition worth mentioning is the reprint of the first book printed in New England: The Bay Psalm Book, Cambridge, 1640.

The annual list of additions to the Library has been prepared and is in the hands of the printers. It will be distributed to members as usual when received.

The usual list of donations and copyrights is forwarded herewith.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. D. DECELLES, G.L.

MARTIN J. GRIFFIN, P.L.

Ordered, That the same do lie on the Table.

(For a list of donations to the Library, etc., Vide Sessional Papers No. 33.)

The Order of the Day being read for the consideration of His Excellency the Governor General's Speech on the opening of the First Session of the Tenth Parliament,