

and the good-will of our Fellows constitute the width and amplitude of the foundation from which we shall firmly and surely hope to gather our ever-growing accumulation of volumes. But this means labour and work, not for one, or a few, but for all; and with that work, a love in its performance. No words better tell the truth than those of Mrs. Browning:

“Our work shall still be better for our love,
And still our love be sweeter for our work,
And both, commended, for the sake of each.”

There are many ways in which each Fellow can assist the building of our library. He can give from his own storehouse of reading matter. If ever the saying “It is more blessed to give than to receive” holds true, it is in the case of our library. The possession of a book, or journal, or pamphlets benefits the possessor; but the placing of such in the library may benefit almost five hundred Fellows. Then, each Fellow may induce others to give some book, or manuscript, or rare old picture; for, in the language of Shakespeare, “They are the books, the arts, the academics, that show, contain, and nourish all the world.” But, more, a start should now be made towards the creation of an endowment fund for the maintenance of the library. There are many who would be willing to make donations to such a fund, who would not do so for the erection of buildings. To all these let us open the door, and write over it the words of Horace, “*Et genus et formam Regina pecunia donat.*”

The present titanic struggle in Europe has had its effect upon the work of the Academy, and specially upon the library department. Many of the active and generous Fellows are nobly serving their country on foreign fields, and we miss their many gifts to our book shelves. It has also imposed new burdens on the financial resources of the Academy, and made it necessary to exercise more economy in the purchasing of books. It has also seriously interfered with our foreign exchanges. None of the German and Austrian publications have been received since the declaration of hostilities; and, for a time, a number of the French periodicals ceased publication. This latter difficulty is gradually righting itself. As an offset to this condition of affairs, many of the Fellows have been most generous; with the result that more books and journals have been received and a larger number of books accessioned than in any previous year in the history of the Academy. The following figures make this very clear. In the report for 1915, the books purchased numbered 50 and those donated 300, the number accessioned 500, while the number of journals received was 249. In this year's report it is shown that the books purchased numbered 32, volumes donated 1,366, and those accessioned 849, while the journals received numbered 200. These figures show that the Academy has withstood the shock of war; and its efforts for good, like those of the