

Literary Exchanges

We have received 30 copies each, from the State, of State publications; 25 copies of the proceedings of the Wisconsin Editorial Convention, from the Convention, through its Secretary, Hon. James Ross; 15 copies of the Legislative Manual, 1867, from General T. S. Allen; and 10 copies of the Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, from Hon. J. G. McMynn—all for exchanges. And, during the year, quite a number of boxes and parcels have been made up and forwarded to the Public Libraries of the country, with which we have established a system of exchanges.

Binding Fund

The Executive Committee beg again to call the attention of the Society to the importance of providing a *Binding Fund*, the income of which to be used for binding purposes. This matter was discussed in our last Report, and referred to the Committee on Endowment for action; but the whole matter seems to have been buried "in the tombs of the Capulets." Let the subject be resurrected, and new life imparted to it. We have thousands of pamphlets and many valuable books that need binding, and the usefulness of our collection would be largely enhanced by such a needful provision. The American Antiquarian Society, and kindred institutions have them; and we should delay no longer in the matter. The calls on the General Fund are too numerous and pressing to permit us to do scarcely anything in the way of binding, except our newspaper files, and those in the cheapest possible manner.

One of Wisconsin's earliest pioneers, and most useful of public men, Hon. John Catlin, now of New Jersey, has transmitted us a hundred dollars as the nucleus of such a fund, which has been invested in a Government bond. The committee suggest that the regular dues, and money donations, if any, be appropriated to that fund; that subscriptions be secured payable one-fifth annually till paid. Earnest persistent action would ensure success.