

the English alphabet was used by GEORGE GUESS, or SEQUOYAH, a half breed Cherokee, the inventor of a syllabic alphabet of his native language, though he was himself unable to read, and had no knowledge of any language save his own. These curious files, representing the newspaper literature of so many distant and diversified countries, will be examined with singular interest by all classes of visitors.

Our newspaper files are becoming more and more complete and consecutive, and consequently more valuable and useful for all the purposes of history, statistics and general reference. There are but few collections of the kind in the country that exceed it—certainly none west of the New England States, New York and Pennsylvania. It is invaluable and richly repays the labor and expenditure necessary to its collection; and the Society should continue to make its newspaper department a special object of attention and augmentation. Such files serve to preserve, among other things, a vast number of statements and narratives relative to our unhappy internecine war, which will prove invaluable, and almost inexhaustible, sources of reference to the future historian of these troubled times.

Efforts have been made to secure pledges for a sufficient amount, payable in five equal annual installments, to erect a fire-proof building for the use of the Society. Success did not equal the efforts made. In these exciting war-times, with so much uncertainty attending all business calculations, most men are timid and cautious about making pecuniary pledges beyond what their necessities imperatively require. As the lease for the rooms now occupied by the Society expires with the present year, and ampler accommodations are demanded for our steadily increasing collection, the Executive Committee has concluded to seek suitable rooms in the Capitol, where greater conveniences, and increased safety from fire, will be secured. We cannot but hope that those having this matter in charge will generously respond to this request, and thus render the Library—now scarcely second in numbers or variety to any in the West—more accessible and useful to the State officers, Supreme Court and Legislature. It is quite certain that