

Thirty-two volumes of these newspaper additions are of the last century; making the total in the Library of the seventeenth century, 62 volumes; of the eighteenth century, 393 volumes; of the present century, 2,449; grand total, 2,904.

The number of periodicals now received by the Society is 209, fourteen more than last year; of which 4 are quarterlies, 12 monthlies, 2 semi-monthlies, 180 weeklies, 2 semi-weeklies, and 9 dailies. Of these 181 are published in Wisconsin, a noble contribution from the editors and publishers of our State.

*Pamphlet Additions.*—The pamphlet additions of the year have been unusually large, more so than in any preceding year, with a single exception. We should never weary in attesting their value, and urging their preservation and contribution to our archives. "Pamphlets," says Lord Beaconsfield, "those leaves of an hour, and volumes of a season, and even of a week, slight and evanescent as they appear, and scorned at by opposite parties, while each cherishes its own, are in truth the records of the public mind, the secret history of a people which does not always appear in the more open narrative."

In a report on Harvard Library, by the late librarian, J. Langdon Sibley, it was justly said, that though they often require more time and labor to collect than the same number of volumes, and are constantly said to cost more than they are worth, yet they contain information not elsewhere to be found; they reflect the spirit and sentiments of the age better than elaborate treatises, and are indispensable treasures in a good public library, where eminent historians, biographers, staticians, statesmen and men of letters, in general, naturally look for whatever may shed light on the subjects of their investigation. They are so small, too, that they are likely to be torn in pieces, and every copy of entire editions to disappear.

"The correctness of these statements," adds Mr. Sibley, "is confirmed by the action of the Bodleian Library, which is paying fabulous prices for pamphlets and books that its founder did not think worth preserving, and of the British Museum, which is doing the same for what could have been procured a century ago for little more than the asking—the rubbish of one generation being the