

James Lenox, of New York City, has proved himself one of the most munificent library donors of any age. For more than half a century he has been gathering one of the richest collections of books and manuscripts extant; in complete folio and old editions of the Bible, and parts thereof, it leads the world, far surpassing even the large and noble collection in the British Museum, backed as this great government library is, by the unstinted money grants of the British government. In the Lenox collection are thousands of manuscripts and volumes of Americana; five copies of the almost priceless first folio edition of Shakespeare; the Mazarian and other rare early editions of the Bible; six copies of Elliott's Indian Bible—the first Bible printed in America, which one person only now living, Hon. J. H. Trumbull, can read. Supplementing this large and invaluable collection is a costly and choicely selected gallery of paintings. For all these literary and artistic treasures, Mr. Lenox has provided a spacious building—the value of the ground and cost of the edifice exceeding a million of dollars—dedicating the whole to the use and benefit of the public, declaring that no necessary sums of money shall be withheld to complete the collection upon a scale commensurate with the intellectual wants of the age.

W. B. Astor's recent gift of \$250,000, and J. J. Astor's of \$10,000, added to the previous liberal bequests and donations of that family to the Astor Library, have greatly increased the usefulness and efficiency of that noble institution, and enabled it to expend the past year \$60,000 in making rich and valuable acquisitions to its literary collections.

By the liberality of Leonard Case, the Cleveland Library Association has come into possession of property valued at \$300,000, yielding an income sufficient to place that institution in independent circumstances.

Judge S. C. Hastings, of San Francisco, has tendered \$100,000 to found a law library for California.

The late Ezra T. Osborn, of Boston, has left one-half of his estate to the Sutton Library at Peabody, Mass., which is estimated to reach fully \$60,000.

The free library of Woodbridge, N. J., had \$50,000 bequeathed to it by the late Thos. Barron.