

pose. It is to be hoped, that the Society, with its wealth of solid literature, and the stimulus it has given to literary taste and culture—the many interesting fragments of history it has, by persistent efforts, gathered and preserved—will hereafter meet with the kindly encouragement it deserves.

The growth of the Library has been very satisfactory the year past, as the statistics show. All the departments of collection have received more or less increase—some of them quite large. Each successive year brings with it important additions to our collection of American history, not a few of them rarities; so that this department of our Library is regarded as one of the very best in our country.

Financial Condition—Binding Fund

The treasurer's report shows that the past year's receipts into the general fund, including the small balance of the previous year, were \$5,016.44; and the disbursements, \$4,915.27, leaving an unexpended balance of \$101.17.

During the year, the following additions have been made to the binding fund: From Hon. C. C. Washburn, \$200; Hon. E. D. Holton, \$20; Rev. R. M. Hodges, one of the Society's honorary vice-presidents, \$20; duplicate books sold, \$180.17; accrued interest, \$446.11; annual membership dues, net, \$62.70—thus showing an increase of \$928.98, and rendering the total present amount of this important fund, \$6,524.49.

It may be interesting to recur to the sources of the growth of this fund. For several years, the urgent need of a binding fund was presented in the annual reports of the Society; but it was not till early in 1867, that a beginning was made by a gift of \$100 from Hon. John Catlin.

The several donors, and the respective amounts of their contributions, have been as follows:

Hon. Alexander Mitchell	.	.	.	\$750 00
Hon. C. C. Washburn	.	.	.	300 00
Samuel Marshall, Esq.	.	.	.	150 00
Rev. R. M. Hodges, D. D.	.	.	.	140 00
Hon. John Catlin	.	.	.	100 00
Hon. Cyrus Woodman	.	.	.	100 00
Hon. G. W. Allen	.	.	.	100 00
Charles Fairchild	.	.	.	100 00