

ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS,  
EXHIBITING  
THE PROGRESS OF THE LIBRARY  
DURING THE  
CALENDAR YEAR 1888.

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LIBRARY OF CONGRESS,  
*Washington, February 20, 1889.*

The undersigned submits herewith his annual statement of the progress of the Library and the statistics of the copyright department during the calendar year closing December 31, 1888.

The annual enumeration of books and pamphlets has been conducted under increasing obstacles, owing to the continued accumulation of books in double rows and in piles, upon floors in all parts of the Library and its various annexes in the Capitol. It exhibits a closely approximate account of the present contents of the collection, which embraces an aggregate of 615,781 volumes and about 200,000 pamphlets. The law department numbers 78,481 volumes, included in the above aggregate. This shows an increase for the year of 7,035 volumes in the law library and 11,789 volumes in the general library, or 18,824 volumes in the aggregate.

These accessions were derived from the following sources:

From purchases.....	3,640
From copyright.....	10,129
From deposit by the Smithsonian Institution .....	1,943
From additions to the Toner collection .....	114
From donations.....	1,114
From exchanges .....	1,884
Total.....	18,824

The business of the copyright office again exhibits a very considerable increase over the large business of the year preceding. The aggregate number of copyright publications entered by title in 1888 was 38,225, as against 35,083 for the year 1887. The copyright fees received amounted to \$31,103.75, being an increase of \$3,187.50.

The special classes of publications entered for copyright were as follows, with the number of each:

*Number of articles entered in 1888.*

Books .....	14,783
Periodicals .....	7,086
Musical compositions .....	8,066
Dramatic compositions .....	589
Photographs.....	2,064
Engravings and chromos.....	1,988
Prints and cuts .....	684
Designs .....	842
Drawings .....	98
Paintings.....	341
Maps and charts .....	1,684
Total .....	38,225

The following table shows the number of publications of every description deposited in the Library during the year under the law of copyright:

*Number of copyright articles received in 1888.*

Books (including all printed matter so designated).....	20,258
Periodicals.....	12,194
Musical compositions.....	14,391
Dramatic compositions.....	363
Photographs.....	4,080
Engravings and chromos.....	3,840
Prints and cuts.....	450
Designs and drawings.....	381
Paintings.....	124
Maps and charts .....	2,169
Total .....	58,250

As the law requires two copies of each publication whose title is entered to be deposited upon publication, the net additions to the collections during the year were approximately 29,125, of which 10,129 were books and 6,097 periodicals. It should be observed that of some classes of entries (as dramatic compositions unpublished and designs for works of art) many are not deposited, or only one copy is received, while there are always many copyright entries not completed by publication, as well as renewals of copyright where no re-publication takes place the same year. There are also numerous entries in each year where the publication follows in another year, and these, together with the actual failures to comply with the law requiring deposit in the Library of two copies within ten days after publication, serve to account for the discrepancy between entries of copyright and the receipts of the Library under the law.

The various funds of the Library exhibit unexpended balances on the 1st of January, 1889, to the following amounts:

Fund for increase of the Library .....	\$8,645.80
Fund for contingent expenses of Library.....	1,230.60
Fund for printing and binding .....	9,719.65
Fund for printing unpublished historical documents relating to early French discoveries in America .....	1,953.44

## THE TONER LIBRARY.

Dr. Joseph M. Toner, whose valuable collection of books and pamphlets was presented to the Government in 1882, has increased the Library during the year by the addition of 114 books and 796 pamphlets.

It is a matter of regret that the constantly growing and indispensable demands of the copyright branch of the Library service have delayed the completion of the catalogue of this collection. The donor is still adding constantly to the biographical material in the library, which is so indexed and arranged as to be readily accessible.

The attention of the Joint Committee on the Library is again solicited to the important subject of international exchanges, and the suggestions of my last annual report are renewed.

The want of increased clerical assistance in the Library is emphasized by the great accumulation of work, and the necessities and engrossing labors of so heavy and increasing a service as the copyright business of the country demands, to avoid falling into arrears, have compelled the employment of a part of the catalogue force of the Library upon this work. There should be an addition to the assistants authorized to be employed by the Librarian commensurate with the advanced growth of the Library and its multifarious business.

The present Congress has provided liberally for continuing the work upon the Library building, which has been placed under the supervision of the Engineer Bureau of the War Department, and it is hoped that the structure will advance toward completion by the substantial progress of the present year.

AINSWORTH R. SPOFFORD,  
*Librarian of Congress.*

Hon. W. M. EVARTS,  
*Chairman of the Joint Committee on the Library.*