We propose in this article to give what facts and numbers we have been able to collect concerning our main and department libraries. For two very good reasons the Institute cannot properly arrange, as we should like to have it do, the books, etc., owned or deposited here. The first reason is want of funds; the second, want of room. To obtain the latter, the first, in the main, must be obtained. More room, however, could be obtained with a little better arrangement, which the present condition admits of. The first is obviously the objective reason to be overcome. If funds were to be had, room could be supplied in the shape of a new building. In the mean time the books, papers, pamphlets, drawings, etc., are scattered through the various departments. This is fairly well, but the professors can't have a person on hand to supply a demand at any moment.

The main or reading-room library is largely made up of books belonging to Prof. Rogers. These constitute what is known as the "Rogers Library," which has at present 850 volumes. It seems as if this library might be fitted with shelves, and a catalogue made, with very little expense. It is the custom of many schools and colleges to expect donations from the scholars, to assist in forming a library. It might, then, be a good plan for the lovers of the Institute to start a subscription paper and have the library put in ship-shape order. It would be a great benefit to all.

The next large library available is that owned by Prof. Atkinson. It makes up but a fraction of his possessions, yet it contains 1,875 bound volumes. The Physical Library has about 525 volumes, and contains probably the most valuable books in the Institute. The best set is that of Silliman's Journal. It dates from 1818, and is complete to the present day, making a splendid set of 120 volumes. This library also contains almost a complete set of the Philosophical Magazine, dating from 1798, and comprising 142 volumes. There is a bad break, however, between 1854 and 1872.

The books, etc., belonging to the Civil-Engineering Department are soon to be put in tip-top shape, and also increased in number. It will contain, with Prof. Vose's books, about 400 volumes. Besides these, it has several hundred French, German, and English engravings and drawings. It also contains a few books and manuscript drawings of Mr. James Hayward, one of Boston's first and best engineers.