

in the first place, supplemented by a grant of money." (17)

Thus the Board held that the Public Library contemplated by the Ordinance of 1870 and subsequently endowed in 1873 was merely a Reference Library - an adjunct to the Museum. However, the Board had considered that this might, with advantage to the public, be placed in the building which the Trustees of the Literary Institute had transferred to the Superintendent, and that a portion of the proceeds of the endowment which the Board, by law, was obliged to use for the maintenance of a Public Library, might fairly be applied to the purchase of books and the maintenance of the Reference Library in that building. But Mr. Montgomery felt sure that the Board had been aware that, should a doubt arise at any future time as to the legality of so appropriating the funds, then that doubt might be removed by transferring to the Museum the books purchased out of the proceeds of the endowment. This then was the stand taken by the Board in the ensuing negotiations.

Because of the importance of the matter, the City Council appointed a special committee to investigate the terms on which the Board would be prepared to transfer, with instructions that, if a greater burden would not be put on the City, it would be to the benefit of the citizens for the Council to assume control of the Library. Unfortunately no trace can be found of the exact terms proposed by the Library Committee of the Board, but in its report on January 7, 1884 (18) the special committee advised the Council

17. Report of Committee on Museum, Library, Etc., October 27, 1870
(in Journal of Canterbury Provincial Council)

18. C.C.C. Vol. 12 p. 529.