

brought forward a very important piece of evidence, when he quoted the conditions of transfer of the Literary Institute to the Superintendent (and later to Canterbury College), stating that the property was transferred

"for the purpose of a Public Library to be established and maintained under the provisions of that trust ... a reading room, a reference library, and a circulating library should be constantly maintained."

The next speaker, Dr. Turnbull (a member of the Board and President of the Literary Institute at the time of transfer), stated, with reference to the Circulating Library, that he had always upheld the view that it was a part of the Public Library, but the other members of the Board had repeatedly said that "they had nothing to do with novels and newspapers, and that the public money should not be spent on such trash." In replying to Dr. Turnbull, Mr. C.C. Bowen expressed the general opinion of the Board that it had no right to spend public money on a circulating library confined to subscribers and not open to the general public.

At the City Council meeting on April 18,<sup>(35)</sup> the Board's reply was received asking that four members of each body should meet to discuss the position more fully, and this request was acceded to by the Council. When this meeting took place on May 12,<sup>(36)</sup> the Mayor placed three proposals before the Board. In the first place, he suggested that the balance appearing to the debit of the Public Library account be struck out, and secondly, that the Public Library be entitled to one third of the endowment provided by the Canterbury

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35. "Press", April 19, 1884.

36. L.T. May 13, 1884.