

We have not had the new library contemplated by the legislature fitted up. Upon an examination of the law, and the part of the hall of the state house designated for the library, we did not feel ourselves warranted in fitting it up in the manner which was deemed by the library committee, the librarian and ourselves, most proper. To do so, we should have had to bring down the present floor, and so contract the cellar, heretofore appropriated to contain the wood necessary to be consumed in the public use, as to render it inadequate for that purpose. This would have created the necessity of building a wood-house,—for which we had no authority,—or of having a large portion of the wood kept out of doors. Under these circumstances, we deemed it most advisable not to proceed with the work, but to refer the matter to your consideration, for such further legislative action upon it as you may deem expedient.

Being authorised by resolution to allow to the gentlemen employed to supervise the printing of the report on the Digest of the Laws, by John Buchanan and Reverdy Johnson, esquires, such compensation as we should deem just and proper—Mr. Raymond and Mr. Teackle, who had been appointed to that duty, in May last, each presented separate accounts, different in amount for their respective services, which were rejected by us, as exorbitant, and greatly disproportioned to the services rendered. By the presenting of these accounts, and the explanations and representations which their consideration called forth, we ascertained to our surprise, that but a very small portion of the work directed to be performed, had been completed. We therefore deemed it our duty to arrest the printing, until we should be furnished with satisfactory evidence that the work was ready for the press: which we did by the adoption of the resolution of which we herewith submit a copy. At a subsequent session, having received from Messrs. Buchanan and Johnson the letter, of which a copy is herewith sent, we allowed to the supervisors, each, two hundred dollars, in full compensation for the services they had rendered under their appointment. No further communication having been received from the revisors, the printing of the work remains suspended.

Our investigations and reflections upon this subject have resulted in the full conviction that supervisors of the printing of the work, before it shall be acted on by the legislature, are wholly unnecessary. The laws annually passed, have heretofore been printed without any other supervision