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housing of books. It has now a million, with capacity for several millions, of books.

Of course it is not comparable to the many-sided and complete collections of the British Museum or the Nationale at Paris, and while we cannot claim the valuable ancient collections of the libraries of the older countries, still it is our National depository of archives. We can at least comfort ourselves with knowing that, while the early history of the older nations is uncertain and largely traditional, we have our national history in clear and distinct documents from the beginning. From our rapid survey of the libraries of other countries, we learn that our own possesses some decidedly superior features. In contrast to the British Museum and Nationale, Mr. Muensterburg says: "As a place to work the building is well nigh perfect. It is large, light, convenient, and well provided with attendants. In Paris and London one hour; and in Washington, five minutes."

Architecturally it is indeed a palace beautiful. It is an aggregation of beautifully expressed ideas, of artistic effects in color, in form, in all that appeals to the best in human nature.

It stands unrivalled in any land, the apotheosis of books by culture-loving Americans.

Lynchburg News

18 Mar 1906

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SOUL OF THE HUB.

BOSTON GLORIES IN ITS GREAT PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Largest in This Country With the Single Exception of the Congressional. Its Beginnings and Its Present Noble Proportions.

The oldest library in New England is the Harvard College Library, which was established in 1632. It began with a handful of books on theological subjects mainly, but now there are almost a million volumes in the beautiful Gore Memorial Hall. There are in Boston the State Library of Law, the extensive scientific collection of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the Athenaeum, which possesses the remnant of George Washington's library. The largest library in Boston, and second only to the Library of Congress, is the Boston Public Library. It is situated in Copley Square, in a Renaissance palace, near the Art Museum, and directly opposite the most beautiful church in America. This is Trinity, where Phillips Brooks preached.

Once inside the massive doors, the spirit and atmosphere of welcome and hospitality abound. The color effects are such that light seems to radiate even from the floors and furniture. The massive yellow marble stairways, the inviting inner court, the sun-lit halls, the wonderful wall paintings and historic statuary are indeed beautiful. It is estimated there are 15,000 students boarding in Boston every year, and to this class the library is the most attractive feature in the city. In and out, from early morn till ten at night, week days and Sundays, throng the masses of people.

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