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justifies the maintenance of a library at that station. There being no duplicate volumes in the system every section of the State can be constantly supplied with new reading matter for an unlimited time, and as new books are constantly being purchased the great value of such a system can be readily seen. Before the funds made available by the generosity of the last Legislature were at the disposal of the Library Board, about thirty libraries were donated to the travelling library system by friends of the system, and it was because of the splendid record made by these libraries that the Legislature felt justified in making a large appropriation for the purchase of books for the use of this system, and with the funds now at hand the Library Board expects to place in the field within the next year or eighteen months one hundred libraries, and will endeavor to place one in nearly every county in the State.

Lynchburg News

13 May 1906

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## LASTING MEMORIALS

### THE USEFULNESS OF THIS SORT OF LIBRARIES.

Desire of Individuals to Help the Common Interests—Benjamin Franklin and Andrew Carnegie—Monuments With Longer Memories Than the Pyramids.

(BY MRS. W. M. STROTHER.)

In Captain Harry Graham's new book, "More Representative Men," he has this good-natured fling at Mr. Carnegie's library-giving habit:

And now, his private hobby 't is  
To meet a starving people's need  
By making gifts of libraries  
To those who learnt to read;  
Rich mental banquets he provides  
For folks with famishing insides.

In all societies, even in wild beasts, the safety of association depends, in some degree, on consideration of the common good. In proportion as he gains in civilization, the individual feels this willingness to help the common interests. In fact, all social advancement may be measured by this devotion to the common good.

There are many ways in which such devotion is shown. In ancient times benefactors gave baths, gardens and aqueducts, statuary and arches, or strengthened the walls of their city. Later on they established monasteries and churches. About five hundred years ago, among the English people there came a change in the character of these gifts. Gifts and bequests began to be bestowed upon colleges and libraries. So the colonists of English America brought this notion with them and have never ceased to be guided by it.

Indeed it is a great pleasure to know that the custom of giving away money

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