

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT.

To His Excellency, WILLIAM E. SMITH,

Governor of the State of Wisconsin.

SIR:—It affords me great pleasure to be able to report that the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts, and Letters is in a flourishing condition, steadily gaining in membership and usefulness.

Every college and educational institution of high grade in the state is now represented in the Academy; thus bringing together many of the ablest men in science, literature and art. The summer meetings held in Racine and Milwaukee were well attended and were instrumental in exciting a lively interest in the society and its aims. We are satisfied that in inaugurating this summer migratory meeting, the society acted wisely, and that these sessions will be productive of good.

At the Milwaukee meeting, a number of ladies were elected members, several of whom are not unknown to science and literature. In electing these ladies, the Academy has gained valuable working members and has added not a little to its well-being, intellectually as well as socially. The society acted on the broad principle that science and letters, have neither country, color or sex. The straight-jacket of superstition and bigotry no longer cramps and cripples investigation in any department of knowledge.

The report of the librarian shows the extent and value of our exchanges from this and foreign countries.

We have already formed the nucleus of a valuable library. The finances are in a healthy condition, the funds are not large, but sufficient for the workings of the society, aside from the publishing of the proceedings, which is justly done by the state.

We are in need of suitable rooms to accommodate the society, We want space sufficient to display and securely keep a cabinet such as will certainly come into our possession as soon as we have permanent accommodations.

The usefulness of the Academy will be greatly enhanced by the possession of suitable rooms for cabinet and library.

Very respectfully,

P. R. HOY, *President.*