

**STATE AID TO LIBRARIES, AND
BENEFITS OF FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES
AND LAWS RELATING TO THE SAME,
TOGETHER WITH A PROPOSED LAW
(NOT COMPLETE PP.5-45)**

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JOSIAH H. WHITTIER

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STATE AID TO LIBRARIES,

AND

Benefits of Free Public Libraries and
Laws Relating to the Same,

TOGETHER WITH A

PROPOSED LAW

PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT, MAINTENANCE AND
SUPERVISION OF FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

By JOSIAH H. WHITTIER.

ROCHESTER, N. H.:

COURIER POWER BOOK AND JOB PRINTING ESTABLISHMENT.
1893.

1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions and activities. It emphasizes that proper record-keeping is essential for ensuring transparency and accountability in financial operations.

2. The second part of the document outlines the various methods and tools used for data collection and analysis. It highlights the need for robust data management systems that can handle large volumes of information efficiently and securely.

3. The third part of the document focuses on the role of technology in modern data processing. It discusses how advanced software solutions and cloud-based platforms have revolutionized the way data is stored, accessed, and analyzed.

4. The fourth part of the document addresses the challenges associated with data privacy and security. It provides insights into best practices for protecting sensitive information from unauthorized access and data breaches.

5. The fifth part of the document explores the ethical implications of data collection and usage. It stresses the importance of obtaining informed consent from individuals and ensuring that their data is used responsibly and in compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

6. The sixth part of the document discusses the future of data science and analytics. It predicts that as data continues to grow exponentially, the demand for skilled professionals in this field will increase significantly.

7. The seventh part of the document provides a summary of the key findings and conclusions drawn from the research. It reiterates the importance of a holistic approach to data management that integrates technical, legal, and ethical considerations.

8. The eighth part of the document offers recommendations for organizations looking to optimize their data practices. It suggests implementing regular audits, investing in employee training, and staying up-to-date with the latest industry trends and regulations.

9. The ninth part of the document includes a list of references and sources used in the research. It provides a comprehensive overview of the academic and professional literature that informed the study.

10. The tenth part of the document contains a list of appendices and supplementary materials. These include detailed data sets, charts, and additional information that supports the main text of the report.

HERK COUNTY
LAW LIBRARY
JULY 1928



THIS pamphlet is sent out with the hope that an additional interest may be awakened on the subject of the establishment of free public libraries, and that this question be accorded some share of the careful attention which its importance merits as related to the future welfare of the state.

J. H. WHITTIER.

EAST ROCHESTER, N. H., December 12, 1892.



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STATE AID TO LIBRARIES.

Paper read before the New Hampshire Library Association, at a meeting held in Concord, January 27, 1892,

BY J. H. WHITTIER.

In considering this question we shall endeavor to confine ourselves to practical ground, avoiding alike the schemes and theories of the enthusiast and the visionary, and leaving to others the position of the old fogy and the constitutional grumbler, who may always be depended upon to see insurmountable obstacles in the pathway of progress.

It is not our purpose to take your time in the contemplation of "castles in the air," or to advocate the launching of the state in a doubtful experiment, but rather that the state may assume its rightful position and, by methods which a just consideration of the principles of political economy shall direct, may aid in extending the power and usefulness of this branch of educational work.

The experience of the past fifty years has taught our people something of the benefits and advantages to be derived from a public library. Every year we are compelled to admit more fully that its influence and usefulness are important factors in the mental development of a community.

In the early history of our country, the sturdy pioneers who left home and friends to try their fortune in a new world, early recognized the advantages of education, and made such provision in this direction as their limited means would allow. At a later period we see them establishing a free school system that to-day leads the world, and is thoroughly recognized as one of the chief bulwarks of our civilization. Indeed, universal education may almost be said to be the one agency absolutely essential to the existence of our free institutions.

Now what of the public library? The school educates the pupil to read, the library furnishes the reading matter. The school trains the pupil in early life, thus providing the foundation for an education which only a lifetime can complete. But if the work of development is to be continued with the people who have passed the school age, we must necessarily recognize the influence of the library as an important element in the accomplishment of this work.

Many of our boys and girls are not able to secure the full advantage afforded by the public schools, some being deprived of their rightful inheritance by the carelessness or indifference of parents. Others are compelled by the necessities of life to exchange the schoolroom and its duties for the factory and its endless round of toil, thus failing to possess important vantage ground in the battle of life. Think you the library could be of any advantage in making up the lost ground? Think you the open doors of such an institution would offer any advantages or tend to exert an influence for good, by placing within the reach of all this class opportunities for self improvement and instruction? The answer is only too apparent and, should such advantages be available, a just consideration of their merits would very soon lead all classes to recognize the benefits to be obtained by availing themselves of the refining, elevating and educative influences offered in this way. Indeed, libraries may well be considered as supplementing and completing the work of the public school, exerting an influence that tends at once to make the home brighter, better and happier, and as an educating force extending its beneficent influence to all classes alike, to the old and the young, the rich and the poor, recognizing no class distinctions, but clearly demonstrating its power as an effective means of spreading intelligence among the masses, and well and richly earning the title of the people's university.

It ought not to be necessary, at this time and in this our state of New Hampshire, to argue the benefits to be derived from the public library, but when we look around over the state and see only a few libraries scattered here and there, while a large number of towns are entirely without educational facilities of

this kind, we are led to believe that there is trouble somewhere. Is it that the subject is lacking in importance, or are many of our people asleep and neglectful where they should be awake and aggressive?

It is needless to bring an array of facts and arguments to prove the close relation of the library to our educational system, or to demonstrate that the state should use all its influence to educate its people, thus better fitting them for the duties of citizenship. This matter considered in the light of the experience of the past, resolves itself into the question, not of whether library interests shall be advanced, not as to whether it would be a benefit to place a collection of books within the reach of every man, woman and child of our Granite state, but rather what means shall be employed to bring about the much desired result.

There seems to be a growing disposition throughout the country to extend the treasures of learning to the masses through this agency. The drift is in the right direction, the only question is as to the methods. New Hampshire was among the first to recognize by legislative enactment the value of libraries as an aid to education. Shall our state be among the first to recognize the necessity of their establishment in every town, as indispensable as the school itself to a complete educational system? To-day it is our privilege to lead in this great work; shall we prove ourselves worthy of the occasion? How can the aid of the state be best directed to extend a system, the foundation of which was laid by the enactment of our library law of 1849, so that the means of knowledge may be placed within the reach of all? Let us learn from the experience of other states, and profit from their successes or failures.

New York was the leader in this work, and from the year 1839 till the present time, the Legislature has annually appropriated the sum of \$50,000 or \$55,000 in aid of school district libraries. In this way there has been paid out a total sum of nearly \$3,000,000. The result has been at once a success and a failure, a success in that much good has been accomplished, a failure when considered as a whole. The number of books in the district libraries decreased from 1,604,210 in 1853, to