cerned with every worthy movement, and his amiable character, no less than his generosity and public spirit, gained him the sincere affection and esteem of his fellow-countrymen, who, in 1887, gave expression to their regard by electing him Jurat of the Royal Court of Guernsey.

As one privileged in the past to meet Mr. Guille frequently, the writer of this brief note is thankful for the opportunity of paying a small tribute of gratitude and esteem to his memory by testifying to his unselfish and noble character and the great and good work he has accomplished for Guernsey.

"Know thou, O Stranger to the Fame
Of this much lov'd, much honoured name!
(For none that knew him need be told),
A warmer heart death ne'er made cold."

—Burns.

A. C.

Legal Notes and Queries.

Question.

HAVE the committee of a public library in Scotland power to grant the use of the lending department of the library to others than those specifically mentioned in the Act, Clause 21, section beginning "To lend out, &c.?"

Answer.

There are no provisions in the Scotch Act corresponding with the English Act, either for amalgamation of districts or agreement for the use of a joint library. The only power under which outsiders could use the library is that contained in Section 21 of the Public Libraries (Scotland) Act, 1887, which enables the library committee to lend the books to any person carrying on business within the limits of the burgh or parish, or to any employé engaged in employment therein, although such person or employé may not be a householder, or may not reside in such limits. This is the law with regard to new libraries, but on the purchase by a library authority of an existing library, I can see no legal objection to its being part of the terms of the purchase that existing subscribers should be allowed to use the books in the library, although they may not reside within the library district.

Falkirk Library Committee and "Trilby."

AT a meeting of the general committee of Falkirk Public Library, the minutes of the Selection Committee, which were read, showed that in considering a list of new books proposed to be added to the library, they had by a majority decided to exclude *Trilby*, by George du Maurier. A somewhat heated discussion took place as to whether the action of the Selection Committee should be approved.

One member characterised the action of the committee as an apparent vote of censure on a work of genius. He thought that amongst those who had read the book the consensus of opinion was that it was a work of genius. He would not like it to go forth that the committee were conducting the library on narrow principles, and that they were objecting to the book because of its dealing with some small matters of creed. The ratepayers were not a church. They belonged to no one creed. The committee had not been elevated into the position of moral censors for the community, and were not in the position of saying what the public should and should not read. There were a great many books of a more pronounced character already in the library. He would like to see the library conducted in a more broad and liberal spirit, and he moved that the minute of the Selection Committee be to that extent disapproved of.

Ultimately it was agreed to remit the matter back to the Selection Committee, with instructions to reconsider their decision.

International Library Conference, 1897.

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT.

It has been definitely decided that the Conference will be held in London on July 13th, 1897, and the four following days. The American Committee reports that some three hundred persons have already given in their names as intending to take part in the Conference. The International Institute of Bibliography also will be represented, and there is reason to believe that representatives from the principal European countries and our own Colonies will be present. A strong committee has been formed to carry out the arrangements, and a detailed circular will shortly be issued, sketching the proposed programme and giving all possible information up to date. The Committee earnestly hope that the English members of the Conference will be well represented in the matter of papers, and offers of papers are now invited. It is advisable in the first place to send to the Hon. Secretary suggested titles and subjects of papers. A committee on papers will be appointed, and all manuscripts must be submitted to that committee for approval, probably on a date to be fixed in May.

It may be mentioned that the American contingent propose to make a tour of the libraries of the country, partly before and partly after the Conference.

J. Y. W. MACALISTER,
Hon. Sec. of the Conference (pro. tem.).

The Library Association.

A MONTHLY meeting of the Library Association was held at 20, Hanover Square, W., on Monday, January 11th, 1897, at 8 p.m. Present: Mr. Joseph Gilburd (in the chair), thirty-six members, and three visitors. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.