

queathed by the late American professor, Mr. Willard Fiske, is among the largest of its kind in Europe. The Library is entitled to receive two copies of every publication printed in Iceland.

Of other collections of books in Reykjavík, the library of the Menntaskóli, that of Althingi and the People's Library should be mentioned.

Outside Reykjavik there are four *Amt-libraries*, one for each quarter of the country; they are entitled to a copy each of every book (of two sheets and over) printed in Iceland. Almost every district (*sýsla*) has its public library, and circulating libraries are to be found in the parishes, some of them possessing considerable collections of books.

*The National Record Office (Thjóðskjalasafnið)*, founded in 1889, contains all the archives of the central and local official administration, the various departments having, as a rule, to hand in their material as soon as it is 20 years old. It, moreover, comprises a great number of old letters, some written on parchment, as e. g. *Reykjaholtsmáldagi* (a detailed list of goods, furniture etc. belonging to the church of Reykjaholt), the oldest portion of which was written as early as 1200.

#### MUSEUMS

The nucleus of the *Icelandic National Museum* is *Forngripasafnið* (Collection of Icelandic Antiquities), founded in 1863. As the museum has the right of pre-emption of such ancient Icelandic relics as are not yet in the collection, they have been entered in a catalogue kept in the museum. The curator of the National Museum has also the care of all old remains and ruins wherever found in the country. Besides antiquities the museum includes various other smaller collections, as e. g. that of photographs of men and women, and an art collection, chiefly paintings.

*Einar Jónson's Museum.* The museum contains a complete collection of the Icelandic sculptor Jónson's (b. 1874) works, a gift from him to his country. It is housed in a separate building erected at the expense of the State. The sculptor, who lives in the building on a pension granted him by Althingi, is himself the curator of the museum.

*The Natural History Museum (Náttúrugripasafnið)* was founded in 1889 by the Icelandic Natural History Society under whose management it stands, though its expenses are partly defrayed by the State. It contains mainly specimens of Icelandic animals (its largest collection), plants, and stones.