

Feb. 22, 1904.

A meeting of the Library Board was held Monday, at nine thirty A. M. Feb. 22, 1904, in the Library. Present: The President, Mr. Stuart, Dr. Boynton and Miss Brown. Minutes of Building Committee, for Nov. 4th, were read and approved.

Mr. Johnston brought some brick, rock faced, for the Board's inspection, and the matter of brick was discussed, and Secretary instructed to write to Brick Paving Co. & Contractors in Ottumwa regarding same.

Several changes were under discussion, regarding windows, shelving, etc., and Secretary was instructed to write the architect regarding them.

All bills from October 1903 to date, were read, and on motion, approved, as also a bill of \$94.25 for "New International Cyclopedia", and \$1.75 express paid by Mrs. Brown on same.

Miss Brown said Librarian's report for the year, ended Dec. 31st, was ready to present, but it was decided to postpone reading until next meeting.

There being no further business, meeting adjourned.

Approved Mch. 26-1903.

March 26, 1903.

A meeting of the library trustees was called for Saturday morning, Mch. 26, '04 in the library. There were present the President, Dr. Boynton, Mrs. Gibbon and Miss Brown. The minutes of Feb. 22nd were read and approved. The President then read his report to the City Council for the library year ending Dec. 31, 1903. The Secretary then read the librarian's report to the library trustees covering the same period, The same to be included in report to City Council with itemized statistical report on additions, circulation and expenses of library. This report was also presented to the board and copy of same here appended.

The reports were approved.

The appreciation of the board was extended to Mrs. Gibbon for her donation of \$5.00 toward purchase of the new International Encyclopedia.

All bills to date were allowed.

After some discussion in regard to the laying of the corner stone of the library, it was decided to call a meeting at an early date for the purpose of arranging plans for that occasion.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

approved July 19th

Margaret W. Brown

April 5, 1904.

Board of Library Trustees met at library
April 5-1904.

Members present: The President, Mrs Duwey,
Gibson, & Dr Boynton. The Secy being
absent Dr. Boynton was appointed by
the President a secy pro tem.

The President stated that the
object of the meeting was to talk over
& appoint a committee to prepare
a program for the laying of
the corner stone of the new library
Motion by Dr Boynton that a
committee composed of Mrs Duwey,
Gibson, Cupps & Mrs Brown be
appointed to prepare & arrange
a suitable program for said
occasion. Carried. No further business
board adjourned.

F. H. Boynton Secy pro tem.

At a meeting of the Library Board a committee was appointed to take charge of the laying of the corner stone of the Carnegie Free Public Library Building. The following named persons were appointed: Mrs. Victoria Dewey, Mrs. Laura Gibbon, Mrs. J. O. Crips and Miss Margaret Brown.

Saturday, April 23, 1904, was the date chosen, and Mrs. Dewey had named 5 o'clock p. m. as the time in hopes that Miss Brown might reach Chariton from Des Moines in time to take charge of the ceremonies. But Miss Brown failed to appear and Mrs. Dewey presided. The Rev. F. W. Henry offered prayer. Mr. Thomas Gay, President of the Board, made a brief address, congratulating the people upon the new building, and reviewing the library work of the past five years in Chariton.

Mr. F. R. Crocker, member of the board, was called upon and made some most appropriate remarks. He spoke of the first library started in Chariton over twenty years ago, and reviewed the library movement down to 1898, when the present Free Library Association was organized.

Mr. Crocker paid a warm tribute to Miss Margaret Brown, who he said had kept the library alive during its weakest days and Complimented Miss Bartholomew and Miss Cook on their excellent work done for the library. Senator Hasselquist and Col. Dungan were called for, and both eulogized the library and its workers.

At length the box having been placed in the stone, Mrs. Dewey proceeded to formally lay the stone. At the conclusion Rev. Henry pronounced the benediction. The box, which was presented to the board by G. W. Ensley, and made by his foreman, W. M. Dawson, contained the following articles: A history of the Chariton Free Public Library to the present time, including the minutes of the more important meetings, copy of the correspondence with Mr. Carnegie, written by Miss Brown, copy of the address of Mr. Gay at the laying of the stone, deed to the library lot, list of the city officials, members of the library board, the Chariton teachers and ministers, photograph of Miss Margaret Brown, copies of the city papers dated April 21st 1904, card of the First National Bank, coin presented by F. R. Crocker, names of the architects and contractors.

Respectfully submitted,

Victoria Dewey, Chairman.

A CHARITON WOMAN LAYS CORNER STONE

UNIQUE PROCEEDING ATTENDS LIBRARY CEREMONIES

**Construction of Carnegie's Gift to
Chariton Formally Commenced
by Mrs. Victoria Dewey—Rain
Interfered With Ceremonies—
What the Stone Contained.**

The exercises attending the laying of the corner stone of the Free Public Library in this city last Saturday evening were interrupted by the rain storm which came up just at that time. The deluge, while it dampened the wearing apparel of the crowd, did not dampen the enthusiasm of the participants, and they repaired to the Presbyterian church just across the street after an invocation by Rev. Frank W. Henry of the Episcopal church and the placing of the box in the stone. After all were comfortably settled in the church, Thomas Gay, president of the library board, read a historical sketch of the library movement since its organization, the same having been written by Miss Margaret Brown. F. R. Crocker, Senator Haselquist and Col. Warren S. Dungan each made impromptu speeches, and Rev. Henry pronounced the benediction.

By this time the rain had abated somewhat and the audience returned to the library location, where Mrs. Victoria Dewey laid the corner stone. This is the first time we have ever heard of a woman officiating at the formal laying of a corner stone of any public building. Mrs. Dewey performed her duties in that capacity with dignity and grace.

The box, which was placed in the stone was donated by G. W. Ensley and made by his foreman, William Dawson. It is a copper box, 7x9 inches and 5 inches deep, with a slip lid. In this box were placed a copy of the paper read by Mr. Gay, which article contained a copy of Mr. Carnegie's letter to the library board. A list of the city officials, officers and trustees of the library, names of the architects and contractors of the building, a copy of the deed to the lot, card of the First National Bank, a coin presented by Mr. Crocker, copies of last week's issue of the Chariton Patriot, Herald and Leader, constitution of the Lucas County Historical Association, names of the members of the library board, viz: Mesdames Victoria Dewey, Laura Gibbon, J. O. Crips, Misses Margaret McCormick, Margaret Brown, Messrs. Thomas Gay president of the board, T. M. Stewart, F. R. Crocker, Dr. F. H. Boynton. A splendid photo of Miss Margaret Brown, who has been the prime factor and promoter in the library movement in

whom much credit is due for her untiring effort in maintaining the same. Miss Brown is a public-spirited young woman, of whom Chariton may well feel proud. She is now connected with the state library and is interested in the library work all over the state. Miss Stella Cook is the efficient assistant librarian, and faithfully and well does she fill her position, having full charge of the library.

The exercises were entirely under the supervision of the women members of the Board, and were a success, despite the unfavorable conditions of the weather.

July 19-1954

The Library Board met July 19-1954 at the residence of the President.

Present: The President Mrs. Gray, Mr. Crocker, Mr. Stuart, Miss McCormick, Mrs. Copes & the Secretary.

Minutes of March 26 - April 15 read & approved. The President asked for a report of the Committee on Laying of the Corner Stone, & as the Chairman Mrs. Gray did not have a written report she has asked to prepare me, that the records of said occasion should be hereby spread upon the minutes.

The secretary read an itemized report of the building expense as nearly as it could be ascertained to date.

The report showed a total for building \$10,339.⁰⁰; Furniture \$510.⁰⁰, making \$49,65 in excess of amount received from Mr. Carnegie, not including finishing of lecture room & work room.

The members of the Board expressed satisfaction in the work of the Committee & action carried, that the action of the building committee be approved by the Board.

The President said that at the time of Annual Meeting of the Lucas Co. Historical Society, she and the secretary sent a formal letter (here appended) to that organization tendering the use of the room set aside for them in the new building, & naming conditions. The secretary then read the letter and on motion of the letter was approved.

Mr. Crocker moved that the annual levy of 2 (two mills) be made for 1955. Motion carried.

July 19-1904.
Continued -

The law regarding the provision for additional levy for providing building fund etc, was then read & discussed.

It being the desire of the Board to complete the building if possible & Mr Stewart moved that, we levy an additional tax of one & one half mills to aid in the erection & completion of our library building. Motion carried.

Mr Stewart & Miss Brown were authorized to certify said action to Council.

Motion carried that the President be empowered with full authority to employ janitor for new building at such salary and under such conditions as he deemed for the best interest of the library.

A discussion in regard to special finance committee resulted in a motion to lay action in regard to such a committee on the table.

Motion carried.

The Secretary was made to give names of original finance committee after examination of the Secretary's records and on motion Mrs Copes & Miss Drury were added to said committee.

It was moved that the President be empowered to appoint a committee of 3 to attend to the grounds about the building.

The President appointed

Ch. W. Crocker. Mr Stewart, Dr Baynton.

It was moved & carried that the President appoint a committee on dedication.

The President appointed, Miss Brown Ch, Mrs Drury, Mr Crocker.

On motion of Mr. Cockey, Miss Brown was instructed to attend to the matter of the printing of souvenir postal cards, having pictures of library there on.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned
 Margaret W. Brown
 Secy.
 Approved Aug 1st.

Copy.

June 9, 1904.

Col. Warren S. Dungan,

Pres. Lucas Co. Historical Society:

Dear sir:-

Believing that the preservation of historical matter is of great importance in the development of our County, and that the Library should be the depository, the trustees of the Chariton Library, desire to announce that a room in the basement of the new Carnegie building has been set aside for the use of the Historical Society. In turning over the room our conditions are, that all cases containing the valuable possessions of the society, shall be locked, and that at such times as the room is not in actual use, by your organizations for your meetings, the Library may make use of it, for such purposes as may be deemed expedient by the trustees.

Very truly,

Signed.

Thomas Gay Pres.
 Margaret W Brown. Secy.

TELEGRAMS, CLASHMORE,
STATION, BONAR BRIDGE.

SKIBO CASTLE,
DORNOCH,
SUTHERLAND.

July 9th, 1904.

Thos. Gay, Esq., Pres.,
Free Public Library Board,
Chariton, Iowa.

Dear Sir,

Your letter of June 16th received. Mr. Carnegie will be glad to give the extra One Thousand Dollars to complete the Library Building provided the City guarantees a correspondingly increased amount for maintenance.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jas Beith".

P. Secretary.

August 1st 1904.
 The Library Board met Monday Aug 1st
 at the residence of the President.
 Present the President, Dr Baynton, Mrs
 Dewey, Miss McCormick, Mr Stewart &
 Miss Brown.

Minutes of July 19th read & approved.
 The President presented a letter from
 Mr Carnegie, in answer to his request,
 offering additional \$1000⁰⁰ for finishing of
 building, if additional pay be
 assumed.

Motion carried that Mr Stewart be
 empowered to present the matter in regard
 to the additional levy to the Council.

The Board pleased that since the \$1000⁰⁰
 from Mr Carnegie, it would be
 unnecessary to ask the additional
 pay from Council for building & ground
 funds, as per action in meeting of
 July 19th.

The President said, Mr Copenhaffer
 had been employed at \$16⁰⁰ per month
 for one year, beginning with November to do
 all work pertaining to the care of the
 building & grounds. For labor entailed
 on account of any pay entertainment
 given in lecture room, he to receive
 \$1⁰⁰ (one dollar) extra for each
 entertainment.

The meeting then adjourned.

Margaret W. Brown, Secy.

Sept 16 -
 The trustees met with the President
 Sept 16th Minutes of Aug 1st read &
 approved.

Discussion of the program took
 place & it was decided to dedicate
 the library Oct 28th. (Friday).

Motion carried to put a cement
 side walk from front of building to
 side walk.

Motion carried that the expense
 of grading should be paid from
 Maintenance fund at the discretion
 of the President.

A tentative outline of the program
 for dedication was presented
 by the Committee, the theme
 being the unity of educational
 interest & work. This met with
 the approval of the Board & the
 meeting here adjourned.

Thompson W. Brown Secy

Council met in regular session
Mayor J. St. Bourne presiding
Councilmen present, Cornell, Emlow, Lamm
Manning, Van Dyke + Geigel
Minutes of last meeting read and

The following Bills were read

Illinois Electric Co supplies	\$ 225.00
H. W. Johns-Manville Co	47.25
General Electric Co	274
" " " "	16.22
A. D. Gray Light and other items	11.93
R. W. McCoy 3 night Special Police	4.50
H. H. Lammner Various items	71.15
Jno. O. Anderson Hauling Coal	78.66
Jm Frank	40.50
F. W. Frost Grading streets	87.75
Nels Norman for mowing park	40.00

It was moved that the Resolution adopted
Aug. 2^d 1904, in regard to levying an additional
one mill on the dollar of taxable property for the
purpose of raising an additional \$100⁰⁰ per year
for library purposes be rescinded and the
following resolution be adopted in lieu thereof

Chariton Iowa October the 17th 1904
To The Hon. Andrew Carnegie:
You are hereby advised that at a meeting
of the City Council of the City of Chariton on
this 17th day of October 1904 the following
Resolution was duly adopted and entered
of record to-wit:
Resolution accepting offer of donation
by Andrew Carnegie:
Whereas the Hon. Andrew Carnegie has
offered to make a second or additional donation
of one thousand dollars to aid in the
completion of our new free public library
Building in the City of Chariton, County of
Lucas and State of Iowa, upon the

will agree to provide and furnish an additional sum of one hundred dollars per year for the maintenance of said Library:

Now Therefore be it resolved by the City Council of said City of Choriton that said generous offer of Mr Learnique is hereby accepted, and said City of Choriton by and through its Council hereat agrees with Mr Learnique that it will provide and furnish annually an additional sum of one hundred dollars for the maintenance of said Library: That is; it will furnish and pay annually one hundred dollars towards the maintenance of said Library, in addition to the sum of One Thousand dollars which it heretofore agreed to pay annually for such purpose.

Upon a vote being taken the motion and Resolution was carried and the resolution was adopted.

In witness whereof we have hereto signed our names officially this 17th day of October 1904
A. D. Gray, Mayor
City Clerk of said City of Choriton

Dear

Chariton Volunteer Fire Dept filed a copy of the Consolidation of The Engine and H. & L. Companies and also Constitution and by law an invitation by the Library Board to the Council to be present at the dedication of the new Library Building on Oct 28th 1904 was read and also filed.

Upon motion the Council then adjourned

A. D. Gray

Clerk

City Council minutes
concerning library
1904.

Oct 27th

The Board of Trustees met Thursday
Oct 27th at the residence of Thomas Jay.
Present, The President, Mrs Copes,
Mrs Gibbon, Mrs Dewey, Dr Boynton,
Mr Crocker, Mrs McCormick & Mrs Ann.
As the time was short the reading
of the minutes was suspended & no
new business taken up.

After considering the building
expense it was decided to draw
on maintenance fund for amount
to assist in payment of certain
expenses connected with the building.
Secy stated, building expense to
date \$11,397.18; Maintenance
expenditures from Jan 1st to Oct 26th
\$552.82; estimate to Jan 1st 1905
\$819.82. Balance on hand 1904
\$130⁰⁰, Jan. \$990⁰⁰, making total for 1904
\$1120⁰⁰.

Motion carried to draw on
maintenance fund for amount not to
exceed \$250⁰⁰.

The question of insurance was
considered & Mr Crocker bid being the
lowest, he was authorized to write
insurance for the building.

Arrangements for the dedication were
discussed & Committee presented
printed program (here appended) & said
that Col. Saunders & Mrs H. J. Howe
would be unable to be present.

It was decided that the Board
should meet in the library building at
1:30 o'clock & march out a body in
company with the D. A. R. & W. A. R.
& speakers of the day, to the flag
staff. The committee also

Meeting of Oct 27 - continued.

reported that books and all
more & all details for education
had been arranged.

Meeting then adjourned
Mayaugh W. Brown Secy

THE LIBRARY DEDICATED

Andrew Carnegie's Gift to Chariton Opened to the Public with Impressive Ceremonies.

There never was a finer autumn day than was last Friday, and there never was a more inspiring sight than the one to be seen at the Carnegie public library building on Friday afternoon, when all of the school children of the city, carrying flags, and escorted by the Grand Army veterans and the members of Company H in full uniform, and fully 1,000 citizens, gathered in front of the building to witness the opening part of the dedication exercises. After a short address by Rev. Palmer, on Patriotism, the stars and stripes presented to the library by the local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution were floated to the breeze on the stately white flag staff, and three cheers were given by the assemblage, while the air was red, white and blue with the flags waving in the hands of the school children. Fully 2,000 people in all were in the audience, and after the flag raising, "America" was sung, and the children filed through the library to deposit on the shelves assigned to them the books which they desired to present to the library.

At three o'clock the gathering adjourned to the Methodist church, which had been lavishly decorated by the Clover Club with autumn leaves and vines, potted palms and ferns, and with flags and flowers. The audience room and annex were completely filled with the audience, the Noxall Club furnishing ushers. At three o'clock the invocation was pronounced by Rev. B. F. Miller, and after the singing of the doxology, with Mrs. Thayer at the organ, the introductory address was delivered by Frank R. Crocker, president of the day. Mr. Crocker gave a short review of the public library movement in Chariton, from its beginning in the early eighties, when a nucleus of books was secured by a few faithful organizers giving a series of home talent entertainments. A more extended review of his address will be found further down the column.

Mr. Thomas Gay, president of the board of trustees, was to have delivered an address on "The Influence of the Library in Character Building," but through continued ill health he was barely able to be present at the meeting, and it was indeed good fortune for the audience that he was able to be present at all. His paper was printed in pamphlet form, however, and distributed through the audience.

Mrs. Henry J. Howe, president of the Iowa Library Association, was unavoidably absent from the meeting, and her regrets and congratulations were conveyed by Mrs. Thayer.

Miss Hettie Lewis next sang, in a sweet and pleasing voice that showed natural ability as well as good training, the song that her mother wrote, "The Old Thirteen."

Mr. Johnson Brigham, state librarian, one of the noted visitors present, next spoke on "The Library Movement in Iowa." He highly complimented Miss Brown and the library building, and said he had observed that wherever a free library flourishes, it means that men and women have labored and sacrificed to do it, and the community is blessed by its flourishing. Carnegie, Peabody and others give of their surplus wealth, which is not as much as those who give the best part of their lives and thoughts to the library movement. Our children are the beneficiaries of our library effort, and by the betterment of our children the state is made better. In Chariton, as well as elsewhere, only a fair per cent of school children attend school, and only a very small per cent of them ever graduate. A large majority are thrust into life's work unprepared, and it is the free public library that can best repair the mistake in after life.

Mrs. Horace M. Towner, of the Iowa Library Commission, next spoke of "The Club and the Library." She too spoke of Miss Margaret Brown's value to the state library movement, and of the splendid reputation that the Chariton library has over the state. It is known, said she, that a safe government must have popular education as its foundation. It is the logical thing to make the library the educational center of the community, and nothing can bring this about better than the clubs. The club movement as well as the library movement can be benefited by them working together. And besides the benefit each will derive from the other, their duty to others should spur them both on to their best endeavors. Service to others is the highest work that any of us can hope to do in life.

Miss Laura Fitch, the county superintendent, next spoke on "The School and the Library." She spoke of the increasing favor with which the law providing libraries in public schools is received in the rural communities, and stated that over half of our rural schools now have good libraries, with 3,388 volumes in all. The child's thought can be improved by coming in contact with great minds through books. In times past the schools were thought to complete their work in literature when children were taught how to read, but now it is known that they must also be taught what to read, and for this the school library is necessary. For every cent expended for good books in the schools, the value will be returned an hundred fold in culture and refinement in the children.

Pres. Crocker read a congratulatory letter from President McClain, of the State University of Iowa, who mentioned Miss Alice Tyler as the representative of the University at the dedication. Miss Tyler is secretary of the Iowa Library Commission, and her subject was "The Library in its Local Relations." Man, said she, profits by the experience of his ancestors, and all this experience of past ages is recorded in books, to

which we all have access. Cities, states, as well as individuals, benefited by the study of books on public topics. And aside from utility, the improvement in character, as described in President Gay's paper, is a marked benefit of the public library. The work of the library to the whole community is one of co-operation and service. To build character is the great end of the free public library.

In conclusion Mr. Thomas Gay arose and spoke a few words to the audience. He said he had never felt so happy in his life, and he added his tribute also to the young lady who has done so much and who has been the important factor in library work in Chariton, and said Miss Tyler had also helped greatly in the work. As one has said, the minority makes civilization, and if the majority has sense enough to follow, they can be helped. In this case we all had sense enough to follow our good leaders. But the institution still needs money, and we should all help to keep it running and doing good to all with whom it comes in contact.

In closing, Mr. Gay formally declared the Carnegie library dedicated, and the exercises came to an end.

In the evening a public reception was held at the library building, with music furnished by the Chariton Orchestra, and Chariton people had an opportunity to meet the notable speakers present, as well as to inspect the model of architectural beauty which has been given to them in the library. The general expression was of surprise at the elegance of the building, within and without. Besides being an inspiration in the use of books, the library will be an inspiration to the people of the city in architecture and decoration, as nothing but the very best and most artistic of everything was secured, and the beauty of the general effect was a revelation to those who had not seen the building before.

The building is 40x60 feet, and is of red paving brick, on a stone foundation, with a tile roof. The finishing is of red oak on the main floor, and hard pine in the basement. The building is Corinthian in architecture, and the interior frescoing combinations, with the artistic wood work and furnishings, produce an effect which is wonderfully restful and pleasing. The library proper, on the main floor, is arranged so that one person, at the librarian's desk, can see the whole of both main reading rooms. A special study room and a trustees room occupy the two north corners on this floor. In the basement are a lecture room capable of holding 150 persons, a historical society room, toilet and work rooms, and a furnace room. Steam heat is used, and the lighting is by electricity. The cost of the building and furnishings was \$11,399.18, of which Mr. Carnegie furnished \$11,000. The architects were Patton & Miller, of Chicago, the decorators Spierling & Linden, of Chicago, and the builders Johnson & Best, of this city. The combined efforts of all concerned have given the city a library which in point of beauty and convenience is fully

equal to other libraries in the state which have cost \$20,000.

A number of fine donations were received from individuals and societies, as follows:—Wall portraits, from the Equal Suffrage Society; \$50 for decoration of walls of lecture room and basement, Mrs. Thayer; plaster relief of "Alexander's Triumph, by Thorwaldsen, Mrs. Crips; bust of Abraham Lincoln, G. A. R. and W. R. C.; andirons from the Iowa building at the Chicago exposition, Mrs. Mallory and Mrs. Thayer; electric light pedestals at entrance, F. R. Crocker; flag, D. A. R.; flag staff, E. H. Best and F. R. Crocker; flags of all nations, for children's room, Clover Club; Noxall Club \$100, Entre Nous \$15, P. E. O. \$15, Clio \$20, Excelsior Whist Club \$11.10, History Club \$12, Zeta-matheans \$10, Pandoras \$5, Eastern Star \$5, Clover Club \$40, Twentieth Century \$10, and Royal Neighbors \$10. Other clubs will also donate liberal subscriptions later.

It was the Clubs of Chariton that founded the present public library. There was in January of 1879 a Library and Reading Room Association formed, and a library was supported by subscriptions and entertainments. It did not live, however, and the books were loaned to the high school, and later stored away. Prof. Hanlin, as county superintendent, later started a teacher's library in the court house, and both of these together made about 800 volumes. In January of 1898 the History Club gave a reception to the other study clubs of the city, and proposed a federation for the purpose of supporting a library. The idea was adopted, and \$198 was pledged for immediate support. The 800 books at hand were secured, and twenty-three clubs aided in the work. Miss Ethel Bartholomew was president of the federation, Prof. S. M. Cart vice president, Walter Dewey secretary, Mrs. Mallory treasurer, and Miss Margaret Brown librarian. Later Miss Bartholomew, after faithfully leading the movement for a year, was called away, and the burden of the work fell on Miss Brown, and has been borne largely by her ever since.

The city voted a permanent tax to support the library, and in July of 1899 Mayor Alexander appointed as a board of trustees, Thomas Gay, T. M. Stuart, Miss Margaret McCormick, Mrs. Victoria Dewey, F. R. Crocker, Mrs. J. O. Crips, Miss Ethel Bartholomew, Rev. Whitten, and Miss Margaret Brown. Later Dr. Boynton and Mrs. Gibbon took the places of Rev. Whitten and Miss Bartholomew. The board has labored faithfully and efficiently to accomplish the great end realized last Friday, and to them and their co-workers is due the credit for the splendid library building and the 2,000 and more volumes that now constitute the Chariton Public Library.

The library work will largely be, as it has been for years, in charge of Miss Stella Cook, the very competent assistant librarian, whose excellent in-

fluence over the youthful patrons of the library and whose systematic work as supervisor of the reading room have made her one of the indispensable members of the library association. The building will be in charge of Mr. Frank Copehafer as janitor, and he takes as much pride in its appearance and condition as do any of the trustees or patrons.

Besides the speakers mentioned in the program at the church, there were present the following librarians from cities in Iowa, as visitors at the exercises:—Miss Mary E. Downey, Ottumwa; Miss Miriam E. Cary, Burlington; Miss Hannah Babb, Indianola; Miss Theo Hamilton, Simpson College; and Miss Mary Rosemond, of the state library.

As President MacLean of the State University expressed in his letter of regret, the fact that the public schools were dismissed that the children might take part in the exercises, and that particular emphasis was given throughout the program to "unity of education," is significant to the whole state of the progressiveness of Chariton as an educational center. And just such events as this one in Chariton will, he predicts, bring to consummation the highest aspirations of the state to maintain its leadership in the country and the world.

NEW LIBRARY IS DEDICATED HANDSOME BUILDING IS NOW OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Dedication Exercises Attract Many People—School Children Participate—Patriotic Speech by Rev. F. B. Palmer—Thos. Gay Delivered Principal Address.

The dedicatory services of the Chariton Free Public Library, last Friday afternoon were a decided success. The day was ideal. The handsome library building was open for inspection and all day was thronged with visitors. The interior was exquisitely decorated throughout. The children's room was decorated with plants and pictures and the flags of all nations, the latter a gift from the Clover Club. A life size bust of Lincoln, a gift from the G. A. R. and W. R. C. adorned a shelf. In the adult reading room were handsome pictures of the ruins of the Roman Forum, The Coliseum in Rome, the Arch of Constantinople, etc. which were brought from Europe by Miss Tyler. A beautiful picture in needle work, representing Lady Woodville, widow of Sir John Gray, who afterward married King Edward IV. exploring the King to restore the confiscated estates of her husband. It is made of zephyr and camels hair and required more than three years to complete it. The author died soon after its completion. It has been in possession of the McPherson family over one hundred years and was

kindly loaned to the library for this occasion by Miss Mary McPherson. Flags were draped and placed about the rooms in an artistic manner.

A guard of ten members of Co. H. under command of Capt. L. A. Hasselquist, guarded the building.

Promptly at 1:30 p. m. all the school children, about 1,000 in charge of their teachers, and carrying flags, marched from their respective buildings to the library, forming one of the most beautiful and inspiring scenes ever witnessed in Chariton. The procession from the Columbus building was led by the martial band, the teachers having invited the janitor, D. S. Myers, snare drummer, to lead their procession.

When the children were all lined up, the members of the library board, G. A. R. Post, D. A. R.'s., Mayor Bowen, Prof. J. B. Morris and the participants on the program marched out of the building and stood about the beautiful flag staff, which is surmounted by a huge bronze eagle and is a gift from E. H. Best and F. R. Crocker. Mrs. Anna Gibbon Copeland then raised the beautiful flag, which was a gift from the D. A. R.'s, she being a member of that order. As Old Glory floated on the breeze a grand salute was given by the children and vast crowd of people; handkerchief and flags were waived and drums beat, while tears coursed down many cheeks as they thought of all that flag meant to this nation. Three lusty cheers were then given for the flag, followed by three cheers for the library board. Rev. Fred B. Palmer then delivered a splendid short address on Patriotism which the Patriot will print in full next week.

At the conclusion of the address Miss Keenor led the children in singing America, at the close of which they all marched through the building, each room placing the books they had donated and marched back to their buildings.

The remainder of the program was carried out at the M. E. church. Here the large crowd was ushered in by Messrs. Will Fair Walter Gookin, Sanford Rea, W. A. Eikenberry, Henry Engebretsen, Dr. W. J. Ford, members of the Noxal Club. The church was beautifully decorated with flags, ferns, palms, vines and chrysanthemums, the work of the Clover Club. Invocation by Rev. Miller and singing of the Doxology: Mrs. Thayer presided at the organ. Thomas Gay, president of the Board, although present, was not able to deliver his most excellent address on "The Influence of the Library in Character Building," but it had been printed in pamphlet form and distributed to the audience.

F. R. Crocker, chairman of the day, gave an address of welcome, followed by the patriotic song of "The Old Thirteen" rendered by Miss Hettie Olive Lewis, the words of the song having been written by her mother, Mrs. Corvella Copeland Lewis, now deceased.

Johnson Brigham, State Librarian, spoke of the library movement in Io-

wa in a very able manner. He spoke highly of the work accomplished here and said it was a veritable homecoming to him. He paid a high tribute to school children, saying the future of our country can be safely left in their hands.

Mrs. Horace M. Towner of Corning read a very interesting paper on "The Club and the Library." Miss Laura Fitch read a most excellent paper on "The School and the Library."

Miss Alice Tyler spoke most entertainingly of "The Library and its Local Relations," and of the grand work that has been done by "your Miss Brown, our Miss Brown," for she said that not only in Chariton had Miss Brown upbuilt library interests but all over the state as well. She spoke of the free public library placing good literature in the hands of all classes, regardless of color, sex or politics and of its utility as a character builder.

Mr. Gay, who had been seated in a comfortable rocker on the platform, then arose and said: "I don't think I was ever so happy in my life. I feel hungry to say a few words to my friends on this auspicious occasion and add my tribute as to who is responsible for the building of the library." In closing he said: "It certainly is not out of place here in this sacred edifice, to say we may gather inspiration from the motto of your great order, 'Look up. Lift up' and act on the principle that no view is too lofty and no height too great to reach in library work." I can speak with assurance of the high ideals of the Board of Trustees and the dedication to proper library work, as you also, my friends, the great public of Chariton also dedicated to the work of making this consecration effective and perpetual by an unalterable purpose to build your institutions on safe foundation and to here resolve that within our walls "there shall in no wise enter anything that defileth neither whatsoever worketh abomination or worketh a lie." Your silence is affirmative answer. Then with officers and public dedicated to the perpetual fulfillment of our purpose, it is my happy privilege to close the most delightful exercises of this day by formally announcing that for the purpose of mental advancement, of proper character building, of ministering to legitimate and permanent happiness from childhood to age, and for the perpetual well being of all our people, the Free Public Library of Chariton is now most auspiciously dedicated."

In the evening a reception was held in the library building, which was attended by crowds of people from all the walks of life. The mandolin club furnished the music.

Chariton may well feel proud of her library, which was dedicated free from debt, and it is earnestly hoped that her progressive public spirited citizens will continue to donate in various ways to the maintaining of this splendid institution, which is the happy culmination of much earnest thought and expenditure of time and

other gifts to the library not mentioned heretofore are:

Electric light pedestals at entrance.	
R. Crocker.	
Noxall Club	\$100.00
Mrs. Thayer	50.00
Entre Nous Club	15.00
P. E. O. Society	15.00
Cllo Club	20.00
Excelsior Whist Club	11.10
History Club	12.00
Zetamathians	10.00
Pandoras	5.00
O. E. S.	5.00
Clover Club	40.00
Twentieth Century Club	10.00
R. N. of A.	10.00

To the people of Chariton:

Permit me to say in the write-up of the Chariton Free Public Library, that no account of its progress, from organization to the present, would be complete without presenting to the public the great service which has been rendered, both as an institution and completed building, by Miss Alice S. Tyler, secretary Iowa Library Commission.

Her extended knowledge and large experience in library work has been freely given to us during the five years of our endeavor to make a successful institution for the use of our people; and, on behalf of our trustees and people, I here am most happy to express to her our heartfelt gratitude for her great interest in our behalf. But this is not all; having largely assisted in establishing our institution on a healthy basis, she has most earnestly and effectively assisted our endeavors to secure a proper building both in the original bequest of \$10,000 from Mr. Carnegie and in that of a later period for \$1,000 additional, she

added her intelligent endorsement, which no doubt had great influence with Mr. Carnegie in our behalf. And through all our prolonged waiting to hear from our request she never lost faith that the funds would be given. And here again I wish to thank her for her many expressions of faith in our hope's fulfillment, a faith which I can truthfully say needed bolstering up for a good while.

So I say, to our people that in everything connected with the well being and successful housing of our library, you should associate the influence and personality of its steadfast friend, Miss Alice S. Tyler, Secretary Iowa Library Commission.

Thomas Gay.

The Dedication of Chariton's Magnificent Free Public Library

Friday, October 1904, was an eventful day in the history of Chariton as on that date the new Free Public Library Building, the gift of Andrew Carnegie, was formally dedicated to the use of the public. The weather was perfect and a great many people came from the country and from neighboring towns to attend the ceremonies. Joy and gladness marked the occasion.

The children's program was held at the Library Building at 1:30 p. m. The committee in charge consisted of Mrs. Jessie Mallory-Thayer of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Prof. J. B. Morris, superintendent of our public schools, Captain L. Hasselquist of Company H, Iowa National Guards.

The children assembled at the school buildings and marched to the library in charge of the teachers. The flag raising by the Old Thirteen Chapter D. A. R., assisted by the National Guards and G. A. R., was one of the most pleasing features of the program. The beautiful flag was donated by the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Rev. F. B. Palmer, pastor of the First Baptist church, made a splendid talk on "Patriotism." After the singing of "America," the grades passed through the library, placing the books presented by them on the shelves of the children's room.

The dedicatory ceremonies proper were held at 3:00 o'clock P. M. at the M. E. church, which had been tastefully decorated for the occasion by the Clover Club. Autumn leaves, ferns, palms and white chrysantheums were placed about the altar and the scene presented was a most beautiful one. The ushers were all members of the Noxall Club.

After an invocation by Rev. B. F. Miller, pamphlets containing the

printed address of Thomas Gay, president of the board of trustees, were distributed. Mr. Gay had been seriously ill for some time and it was thought that he would be unable to speak at any length, and as his address on "The Influence of the Library in Character Building" was exceptionally fine, the board had it printed in pamphlet form. This address will be found on the second page of this paper. Mr. Frank R. Crocker, chairman of the day, made a few appropriate introductory remarks. Mrs. Henry J. Howe, president of the Iowa Library Association, was unable to be present, and in her absence and at her request the audience was greeted by Mrs. Jessie Mallory-Thayer. Miss Hettie Olive Lewis, who possesses a sweet, clear voice, charmingly sang "The Old Thirteen," a song composed for the Daughters of the American Revolution by her mother, Mrs. Corilla Lewis, who passed away a few years ago. Miss Lewis was accompanied on the piano by Mrs. Jessie Thayer.

Mr. Johnson Brigham, state librarian, was present and spoke on "The Library Movement in Iowa." Mrs. Horace M. Towner of Corning, a member of the Iowa Library Commission, and one of the brightest women in Iowa, delivered an address on "The Club and the Library." Miss Laura Fitch, superintendent of the Lucas county schools, spoke entertainingly on "The School and the Library." Miss Alice S. Tyler of Des Moines, secretary of the Iowa Library Association, and who has rendered great assistance to the Chariton board of trustees, addressed the audience on "The Library and Its Local Relations." Mr. Thomas Gay, president of the Chariton board, had improved in health and was able to be present at the cer-

emony, a fact that caused great rejoicing among our citizens. He was called upon for a few closing remarks and he spoke as follows:

It certainly is not out of place here in this sacred edifice to say we may gather inspiration from the motto of your great "order." Look up! Lift up! and act on the principle that no view is too lofty and no height too great to reach in library work. I can speak with assurance the higher ideals of the Board of Trustees and their dedication to proper library work. And you also, my friends, the great public of Chariton also dedicated to the work of making this consecration effective and perpetual by an unalterable purpose to build your institution on a safe foundation and to here resolve that within our walls, "there shall in no wise enter anything that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination or worketh a lie." Your silence is affirmative answer. Then with officers and public dedicated to the perpetual fulfillment of our purpose. It is my happy privilege to close the most delightful exercises of this day by formally announcing that for the purpose of mental advancement of proper character building, of ministry to legitimate and permanent happiness from childhood to age, and for the perpetuation well being of all our people. The Free Public Library of Chariton is now most auspiciously dedicated.

The dedicatory program was brought to a close by the singing of "America" by the audience.

In the evening a reception was held at the new library building and was attended by thousands of people. Excellent music was furnished throughout the evening by the Chariton orchestra. A collection of cartoons by "Bart" (Chas. L. Bartholomew) of the Minneapolis Journal, formerly of this city, was on exhibition and was the subject of much favorable comment.

The exercises throughout the entire day were carried out in an excellent manner and were greatly enjoyed by

the throngs of people who feel a just pride in our magnificent new Free Public Library Building and who feel deeply indebted to Andrew Carnegie, through whose generosity, the imposing structure was erected and who has the heartfelt thanks of the entire community for his munificent gift.

Augusta Householder, treasurer; Miss Margaret W. Brown, librarian. The first regular meeting of the Federation of Clubs after the organization was held on March 5, 1898. A suitable place was procured in an upper room on the public square and on November 1, 1898, the Free Public Library consisting of about 800 volumes and fifteen standard periodicals, was opened to the people of Chariton and vicinity with \$198.12 pledged toward immediate support.

At the municipal election held on March 27, 1899, it was voted to establish and maintain a free public library under the library law of Iowa. After organization under the state law, the clubs and different individuals continued to support the library until the tax was available in the early part of 1900. Since that time, one and one-half mills, bringing an annual income of \$700 has been levied which was increased to two mills for the coming year.

It is with satisfaction that we can truly say that the movement so generously begun by clubs and individuals five years ago sees no abatement of interest and that the people recognize most fully the continued intellectual, and what is more marked, the moral force of this institution.

THE LIBRARY OFFICIALS.

The members of the board of trustees who have labored so faithfully to secure and complete the new building are Messrs. Thomas Gay, F. R. Crocker, T. M. Stuart, F. H. Boynton, Mesdames L. R. Gibbon, V. J. Dewey, J. O. Crips, Misses Margaret Brown, Margaret McCormick. They have exhibited tact and good judgment and their splendid work is heartily endorsed by every citizen. Miss Margaret Brown is the efficient librarian and it is largely due to her efforts that Chariton now boasts this magnificent new building.

Miss Estella Cook is her able assistant and carefully and courteously attends to the wants of the patrons.

HISTORY OF THE LIBRARY.

A free public library for Chariton had been under discussion for some time and formal steps were taken to establish it at the annual reception given by the History Club to the other study clubs of the city on January 11, 1898. At that time the question was taken up and discussed and the clubs decided to federate for the purpose of establishing a public library. Twenty-three clubs formed the federation, namely: The Chariton Improvement Association, the History, Olio, Lotus, Entre Nous, Zetamathean, Pandora, Clover, Noxall, Croquet, Mandolin, Teachers, and Excelsior Whist clubs, the Women's Relief Corps