



DEDICATION OF THE NEW CARNEGIE LIBRARY

Complete Report of the Ceremonies Held in the Magnificent New Building on Tuesday Evening May 31st.

[From the Indianola Herald of June 9, 1904.]

The large gathering of citizens which filled the new library, and crowded the hallway and entrance, was good evidence of the interest which the citizens of Indianola take in their public library. All listened with marked interest to the program prepared recounting the history of the Library from the time a few citizens purchased a hundred books to the present, marked by the opening of this beautiful building.

At the hour appointed, W. H. Schooley, Esq., President of the Board of Library Trustees, arose and called upon the senior pastor, Rev. G. W. Simons, to offer prayer. Rev. Simons voiced the thought of all as he expressed thankfulness for the donor of such a building and for the labors of the citizens who have attended to the construction, and hope that the library may ever prove a blessing prized by all.

Mr. Schooley, President of the Board in presenting the key of the building to the Mayor of the city, Hon. B. F. Clayton, spoke as follows:—

W. H. SCHOOLEY'S ADDRESS.

I am no worshiper at the shrine of Wealth—neither at the shrine of Poverty. I do not believe that a man is any better, or any worse, from the isolated fact of having amassed great

riches. I do not believe that the man of great wealth is any better or more to be commended for using a portion of his wealth for the benefit of his fellow men than is the man of more limited means who gives a like portion of his money for such purpose.

Great wealth affords great opportunities for doing good, and is accompanied by like great responsibilities.

There is a wide spread, and I believe rapidly growing, feeling against the unlimited accumulation of wealth in the hands of individuals and corporations—a widespread and growing feeling that some definite limit to such accumulations should be established, and some practical means adopted for keeping these accumulations within that limit. The growth of this feeling is doubtless due to the fact that so few men of large fortunes embrace the opportunities thereby offered them of doing good to their fellow men.

If the course adopted by Andrew Carnegie, of spending his fortune in ways of lasting benefit to his fellow men, were the usual course of the very wealthy, the hostility of the many to great wealth in the hands of the few would be much modified if not wholly dissipated. But his course is so rare and so felicitous as to provoke universal comment throughout the civil-

ized world. His course has made an epoch in the world's history. Independent of his many other great benefactions his donations for public libraries will give his name a place in history. These benefactions have given the building of public libraries such an impetus as the world has never before witnessed.

The fact that hundreds of other communities have shared, or will share in his munificence does not even tend to lessen our rejoicing that Indianola has been the favored recipient of \$10,000 from him for a public library building.

Considerably over a year ago this money was promised us on conditions not difficult to meet.

The Board of Trustees of your Public Library, fully realizing the responsibility thus placed on them, took considerable time to study Indianola needs in the way of a public library building and how they could best spend the money for the lasting good of the city. The result is the building that we now formally dedicate.

It is not fitting that I should now speak its praises. It must speak for itself—for the faithfulness and the wisdom of those to whom the planning and erection of the building was committed.

It is now fully ready to open to the public.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees it is my duty, as well as my great pleasure, to present the finished building, the munificent gift of Andrew Carnegie, to the City of Indianola, through his honor, the mayor, for the purpose of a Public Library.

Mayor Clayton, I herewith deliver to you, as the official head of our City, the keys of this building, Indianola's Public Library.

The Mayor in response expressed

his appreciation of the work that had been accomplished, and referred to the great influence of libraries in the past, that influence even antedating Christianity. He then turned over the keys to Mr. Schooley, and through him to the Board for their care as Trustees.

The paper which followed gave facts in the early history of the library, which must have soon been lost but for the care taken by Mr. J. F. Samson to collect them and present them on this occasion:

J. F. SAMSON'S ADDRESS.

In undertaking to write the history of events more than thirty years past, of which no regular record was kept, we have experienced much difficulty in our attempt to gather reliable data. We have had to rely almost wholly on the memory of those who had a part in those events, and therefore it will not be surprising if there are in this brief account many errors of record and more of omission.

It seems almost impossible at this date to furnish a complete list of the names of those who belonged to the earlier literary clubs that were finally merged into the Library Association. In some instances we can give but a few names, and to those whose names have been omitted from the list in which they properly belong, we herewith present our most humble apology, and to those who have so kindly assisted us in this work we hereby tender our sincerest thanks.

In about the year 1870 there was a literary and reading club formed by the business men and professional men of Indianola, and each member contributed a few books. They met from time to time, at rather irregular intervals, and discussed social, literary and political topics. In this club

were found such men as Hon. J. H. Henderson, Frank Leach, George Lee, H. J. Spray, C. W. Curtis, T. P. Crosthwait, J. Chapelle Clarke and others whose names for various reasons aforesaid, are omitted. This club continued in existence for some three or four years, when through lack of interest it went into liquidation, the books being returned to the donors.

In 1877 another reading club was formed by Messrs. Dr. E. L. Barker, A. A. McGarry, Dr. W. W. Loring, Hon. W. F. Powell, Edd R. McKee, J. Chapelle Clarke and others. This club had a lively existence until the year 1879, when a representative of Harper Brothers visited Indianola and offered to furnish one hundred selected books for one hundred dollars. An effort was made to interest twenty men who would contribute five dollars each toward this enterprise. This effort resulted in associating together the following named persons, to wit: W. H. Schooley, Mr. Osborne, Edd R. McKee, A. A. McGarry, Prof. C. M. Grumbling, Dr. E. L. Baker, Dr. W. W. Loring, Hon. W. F. Powell, Prof. Burke, Lewis Todhunter, E. W. Perry, J. Chapelle Clark, C. W. Honnold, John H. Eno, C. S. Litzenburg, Geo. Lee, and T. P. Crosthwait, seventeen in all, the first three of whom subscribed ten dollars each, and the other fourteen five dollars each, for the purchased of the one hundred books.

For this reading club Mrs. W. H. Schooley acted as librarian for about one year, when in 1880, the club was reorganized, many members being added, and more books purchased. A life-membership in this organization cost five dollars; an annual membership, one dollar and a half.

This library was installed in a nicely furnished room on the south side of the square with Miss Addie Hay-

den as librarian at one dollar per week, and W. H. Schooley, Edd R. McKee and C. M. Grumbling as trustees. Miss Hayden served as librarian about one year, when she resigned, and Mrs. Huffman was chosen to succeed her. The club struggled along for about two years, when for want of funds, the library was closed.

Miss Hayden was at this time occupying the position of county recorder, and the books were removed to her office for storage, where they remained until June, 1884.

In 1882 about 40 of the young people of Indianola organized an amateur theatrical and musical club to raise funds by means of public entertainments for the purpose of establishing a Free Public Library.

This club was known as the Enterprise Club, with the following named members, to wit: P. A. Vantassel, J. H. Carruthers, J. H. McGranahan, Ed Gardner, M. F. Miller, C. D. Miller, Will Elliott, Frank Perry, Ned Perry, Will Perry, J. F. Samson, W. S. Kelley, Silas Howard, Skeet Davis, Don Tarleton, W. H. McCammon, J. O. Baker, Frank Cheshire, Ed Swap and E. M. Davis, and the Misses Jennie and Ruth Williamson, Emma and Annette Parrott, Eva, Ethel and Alice Law, Edith McGee, Edith Beck, Mamie Noble, Hattie Spray, Hattie Purcell, May Hallam Clara Ingalls, Ollie and Laura Spray, Esther Baker and Amella Taylor.

The Enterprise Club kept up the greatest enthusiasm for over two years, giving a series of entertainments of various kinds at home, one entertainment at Winterset and one at Chariton. These entertainments at home were liberally patronized by our people, the Club being requested on two or three occasions to repeat the performance at a later date which requests were granted and in every

instance the Club played to a crowded house. The good people of Winterset and Chariton gave the Club a most cordial reception, and liberal patronage.

In the beginning of the year 1884 the members of the Enterprise Club assisted by many of the citizens, began to urge the advisability of voting a tax for the Free Public Library and at the spring election of the same year a tax of one mill was voted for this purpose.

Although the Enterprise Club had been quite successful in its entertainments still it had not sufficient funds to establish much of a library, but at the critical moment the stockholders in the old Library Association came forward with an offer to donate to the city their stock in the old association. The proposition was accepted and on June 27, 1884, the Indianola Public Library was opened in two large, handsome rooms over the hardware store at the northwest corner of the square, nicely furnished by the Enterprise Club. The old Library Association at this time turned over its entire library, consisting of 575 books.

E. M. Davis, an honorary member of the Enterprise Club, donated practically his entire private library, and many friends came forward with donations of books, papers and magazines and Indianola had a Public Library with Cornie Van Tassel as Librarian. P. A. VanTassel served as librarian until Sept. 12-84 when the city council appointed Miss Hannah Babb Librarian at a salary of \$12.00 per month. Dr. J. D. McCleary, Dr. Wm Irwin and O. K. Butler acting as trustees.

In March 1885 Miss Babb was re-elected librarian, Prof. Carpenter, L. Clapp and O. K. Butler trustees. The Perkins method of classification was adopted.

In March 1886 Report showed for the year.

Visitors for the year... 7390
 Receipts \$534.87
 Books on hands..... 943

Miss Babb was elected librarian. Prof. Carpenter, B. B. Boatright and Thos. Jeys trustees.

In March 1887 Report showed.

Receipts \$447.01
 Miss Babb elected librarian at \$15.00 per month. Prof. Carpenter, H. T. Metcalf, Dr. Wm Erwin and Henry Hayden trustees.

In March 1889 Report showed.

No of visitors 12082
 Books on hand..... 1554
 Receipts .. \$599.79

Miss Babb elected librarian. Dr. Wm Erwin, H. P. Shepherd, C. G. Shaw and Thos. Jeys Trustees.

In March 1890 Report showed

No of visitors 15350
 No of Books... 1765
 Receipts \$579.00

Miss Babb elected librarian, Salary \$18.00 per month. Dr. Wm Erwin, J. M. Kittleman, R. Vosburg and Thos. Jeys Trustees.

In March, 1891, report showed:

Number of visitors..... 16,974
 " " books..... 1,858
 Receipts \$613.12

Miss Babb elected librarian; Dr. Wm. Erwin, J. M. Kittleman, R. Vosburg, and M. R. Judkins, Trustees.

In March, 1892, report showed:

Number of visitors..... 19,189
 " " books..... 2,543
 Receipts \$697.51

Dr. Wm. Erwin, Dr. M. A. Dashiell, Lee Patterson, and J. Thompson, Trustees. Miss Babb, elected Librarian.

In March, 1893, report showed:

Number of visitors..... 21,966
 " " books..... 2,614
 Receipts \$712.78

Miss Babb, elected Librarian, salary \$20 per month. Dr. Wm. Erwin, J. A. Stewart, W. D. Houghtaling and Dr.

M. A. Dashiell, Trustees.

On February 1, 1894, the library was moved to the new room over the Indianola Bank. At this time the following donations to the library were made:

Proceeds of spelling school.....\$ 23.00
 Ladies' Aid Society..... 47.50
 Clock valued at..... 3.00
 Subscription by D. H. VanPelt 22.00

This money was used to purchase carpets furniture and books. The Library opened February 10th. At the annual meeting in March, Miss Babb was elected Librarian. J. A. Stewart, O. C. Brown, H. P. Shepherd, and F. M. Sadler, Trustees."

Mr. J. H. Whitney followed Mr. J. F. Samson with another paper, in which the history of the library under the present state law was traced, and the letters read which resulted in the new library building.

J. H. WHITNEY'S ADDRESS.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen and Citizens of Indianola:

"In accordance with an act passed by the 25th General Assembly at the session of that body held in 1894, providing for the appointment of nine trustees whose duty it shall be to have charge, control and supervision of the public library of any city, directing and controlling all the affairs of such library, the Mayor of the city of Indianola convened the City Council in special session on July 30th, 1894, and announced the following named persons as such board for the library of this city. Dr. Wm. Erwin, C. G. Shaw, W. G. Stanley, Prof. John L. Tilton, W. H. Schooley, J. O. Watson, Frank Perry, Henry Hayden and J. H. Whitney, which appointments were confirmed by the city council. On the 3d day of August 1894, the Board of Trustees met and proceeded to organize by electing W. H. Schooley president

and Henry Hayden, Secretary, and to cast lots for their respective terms which resulted as follows:

Prof. John L. Tilton, Frank Perry and J. H. Whitney for two years, Dr. Wm. Erwin, Henry Hayden and W. H. Schooley for four years, and C. G. Shaw, J. O. Watson and W. G. Stanley for six years. A levy of one mill was made for maintenance; and the first Friday of each month was fixed as the time of meeting.

J. H. Whitney, John L. Tilton, and W. Erwin were named a committee to secure an inventory and ascertain the financial condition of the library. W. H. Schooley and Frank Perry were appointed to confer with the City Council in regard to lights and fuel.

W. H. Schooley, J. O. Watson and W. G. Stanley were appointed to draft rules and regulations for the government of the meetings of the board.

John L. Tilton, Dr. Erwin and C. G. Shaw were appointed to look after the literature of the library.

Hannah Babb was retained as librarian until the third Monday in March 1895, and it was decided to change the classification from the Perkins system to the Dewey system.

At the regular meeting of the board Sept. 7th 1894 the following committees were appointed:

On supplies—Whitney, Hayden and Erwin.

On Ways and Means—Perry, Watson and Stanley.

Of the trustees originally appointed there are yet serving W. H. Schooley, John L. Tilton, J. O. Watson and J. H. Whitney, and of this number two only have served continuously up to the present time—W. H. Schooley and J. H. Whitney.

Up to the year 1896 the tax levy for library purposes was limited by stat-

ute to one mill which yielded us only about \$600 annually, a sum so inadequate for our needs that a movement was undertaken by some of the members of the board to bring about a change of the law, which would permit a larger levy for library purposes. This effort resulted in the passage of the following resolution at the regular meeting of the Board on February 7, 1896, with instructions to the secretary to forward same to Senator Berry with a statement of receipts and disbursements of the library fund for the year 1895:

Resolved, By the Board of Trustees of the Indianola Public Library, that we request our State Senator to use his utmost endeavors to secure an amendment to the laws controlling public libraries in cities of the second class whereby a maximum levy of two mills shall be provided.

The above resolution was forwarded to Senator Berry and by him a bill was introduced at the session of the Twenty-sixth General Assembly, which resulted in the passage of an act permitting of a maximum levy of two mills for library purposes as asked, which statute is now in force.

Since the passing of the management of the library under the control of a Board of Trustees as provided by law the revenues from taxation have been as follows:

1895....\$ 611.81	1896....\$ 597.99
1897..... 608.45	1898.... 952.43
1890..... 1,347.70	1900.... 836.40
1901..... 798.76	1902.... 765.64
1903.... 676.25	1904*.... 1,000.00

*Estimated.

From sources other than taxes there have been received the following sums:

From the order of the Knights of Pythias, \$78.65 in March 1895. Spelling school, \$23.00. Ladies of Indianola, \$47.50. D. H. VanPelt subscriptions solicited by him, \$22.00. Misses Nellie Heiny and Helen Jewett,

selling pop-corn, \$5.00. Lecture by Henry Watterson, \$20.30. Surplus from Fourth of July celebration 1896, \$20.00. Ladies of Indianola, \$32.80. Total \$248.25.

Additions to the library since the organization of the board have been as follows:—

Books purchased, 848, Books donated 660. Magazines bound 428. Total additions in ten years 2209 volumes. Not a very satisfactory showing in a period of ten years. The work of the board has been limited by lack of funds. To conduct the business of the institution at all has required the strictest economy and closest management, but up to the present year the work has been carried on without any debt and the Indianola Public Library now enjoys the proud distinction of standing in the front rank among all other institutions of its class in the state, and is an enterprise of which the citizens of this city may feel proud.

In April 1898 a system of selling tickets was inaugurated whereby any citizen could have the privilege of taking out one book at a time during the year by the payment of \$2.00, and family tickets for one year were issued permitting the drawing of one book per member on the payment of a fee of \$4.00. But only a few availed themselves of the privileges granted under this arrangement. On April 19th 1899 the institution became a free circulating library. A catalogue of books was prepared for free distribution and the institution continues to operate as a free circulating library. Under this system the patronage has largely increased which means of course a more rapid deterioration of the books and a large increase of labor involved in attending to the

wants of the patrons of the library.

In January 1900 it was found necessary to secure help for the librarian and Miss Maude Fenner was employed at a salary of \$1.25 per week and in September of the same year her salary was raised to Ten dollars a month for which salary she served two years and four months, when she resigned and Miss Lorena Slocum was chosen assistant Librarian at the same salary. Miss Slocum resigned in April 1904 and Miss Alice Dearth was employed at same salary namely, \$10.00 per month. The Librarian was receiving a salary of \$20.00 a month when the management passed under the control of the board of trustees in 1894 which sum was increased to \$25.00 per month in July 1899 and for which price she still continues to serve. The salaries paid are inadequate to the services rendered and the responsibilities imposed.

At the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees on November 11, 1902, Mr. Schooley was directed to correspond with Andrew Carnegie with reference to a donation for a library building. And in compliance with this action of the Board he addressed the following letter to Mr. Carnegie:—

Indianola, Iowa, Nov. 13, 1902.
Hon. Andrew Carnegie,
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Sir:—The members of the Board of trustees of our Indianola public library have noted with keen interest your many and liberal benefactions to public libraries, and with a wish that has ripened into a hope that our library may be added to the favored list. To this end they have directed me to write to you.

Some twenty-five years ago a library club started a library here. In ten years this library had grown to con-

siderable size. The club then turned it over to the town on condition that it be made a public library. Since then it has been supported by a tax. It now contains 4,233 volumes, is a fine library for a town the size of Indianola, and has a daily average of 80 to 90 readers during the entire school year.

For the last fifteen years Indianola has grown steadily. By the federal census of 1890 its population was 2,261; by that of 1900 it was 3,261 and now probably exceeds 3,500.

Simpson College (Methodist Episcopal) with an annual enrollment of about 700 students, is located here.

Our town's assessed valuation for 1901 was above \$558,000; for this year it was above \$680,000, and will probably exceed \$750,000 in 1903.

We have usually had one and one-half mills tax levy, which this year gives us \$1,020. Under the State statute we may levy two mills, which with the assessed valuation that we confidently expect, would give us \$1,500 for 1903.

Our present rooms are rented, but we are anxious for our town to have a library building of its own.

Our board directs me to ask you for \$15,000 for this purpose, and to say they have no doubt that we can furnish a good site and comply with all your usual requirements.

Permit me to hope for a favorable reply. Very respectfully yours,

W. H. SCHOOLEY, Mayor,
and Chm. Board of Library Trustees.

Some weeks after Mr. Schooley received a letter containing a blank form with a number of questions that Mr. Carnegie wanted answered. These he promptly answered and returned. A few days later he received the following:

New York, January 13, 1903.
Mayor Schooley, Indianola, Iowa:

Dear Sir: Responding to your communication in regard to Indianola: If the city will agree by resolution of the Council to maintain a free public library at a cost of not less than one thousand dollars a year, and provide a suitable site for the building, Mr. Carnegie will be pleased to furnish ten thousand dollars to erect a free public library building for Indianola.

Respectfully yours,

Jas. Bertram, P. Secretary.

As a result of the foregoing correspondence the board of trustees proceeded to act as set forth hereafter.— At a special meeting of the City Council on Jan. 26th 1903 called to consider the proposition of Andrew Carnegie for a public library building the following resolutions were adopted:—

Whereas, Andrew Carnegie has offered to donate to Indianola, Iowa, Ten thousand dollars for the purpose of erecting a Free Public Library Building on condition that the city will agree, by resolution of the Council to maintain a free Public Library, at a cost of not less than One thousand dollars a year and provide a suitable site for the building:

Therefore, Resolved: First that we hereby accept said offer.

Second, That in consideration of the receipt of said ten thousand dollars we agree thenceforth to maintain a Free Public Library at a cost of not less than one thousand dollars a year.

Third, That we take immediate steps to secure the necessary site. At the same meeting a committee of four, consisting of Lough, Buxton, Saddler and Honnald, one from each ward, was appointed to consult with the city solicitor as to powers of the Council in reference to the Public Li-

brary, investigate as to available locations, secure options and prices and report at the next meeting of the Council. In addition to the above committee from the Council there was also appointed a committee of four from the Board of Library Trustees, consisting of H. H. Hartman, Geo. Clammer, J. O. Watson and E. R. Guthrie, to act in conjunction with the committee from the council.

The above committees reported at the regular session of the council on Feby. 9, 1903 submitting several propositions for a library building site, and further consideration of the matter was postponed to Monday February 23, 1903. At the meeting of February 9, the city council approved the resolutions of the Board of Library Trustees fixing the levy for the maintenance of the library at two mills for the year 1903 and the levy for purchasing real estate for a library site at three mills for 1903.

At a joint session of the City Council and the Board of Library Trustees on February 23, 1903, a communication was submitted from the Board of Library Trustees of which the following is a copy:

Whereas, The Library Trustees have selected the Babb-Copeland lots as a library site, and recommend that the same be purchased on the proper terms, to cost \$1,800 for the Babb property and \$1,800 for the Copeland property. Be it

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Library Trustees be directed to certify said recommendations and terms to the City Council. The necessary certification being made, the foregoing preamble and resolution was adopted by the City Council, and the Mayor, City Clerk and City Solicitor were instructed to negotiate the purchase of said property for the purpose therein stated.

At the regular session of the City Council, on March 9, 1903, the Com-

mittee on Purchase of Library Site submitted the following report:

To the City Council of the City of Indianola, Iowa:

Gentlemen: We, your Committee appointed to complete negotiations for a site for the City Library Building respectfully report:

That we have contracted with Miss Hannah Babb for the west half ($\frac{1}{2}$) of the southwest quarter ($\frac{1}{4}$) of block three (3) Original town of Indianola for the sum of \$1,800; and with O. E. Copeland for the east half ($\frac{1}{2}$) of the southwest quarter ($\frac{1}{4}$) of said block for \$1,800, less \$50 for the barn and wood shed which he retains and for which he allows the city that amount and agrees to remove said buildings so retained at his own expense. Possession of all of said property to be given and purchases consummated on or before April 1, 1903, as detailed in the contracts with the parties hereby referred to and made part of this report and which contracts are now submitted for your action.

Respectfully submitted, March 19, 1903. (Signed).

W. H. Schooley,
E. W. Hartman, City Clerk.
A. V. Proudfoot,
Committee.

Accompanying the report were the contracts with Hannah Babb and O. E. Copeland.

Said report and contracts accompanying them were approved and adopted and the city clerk was instructed to issue warrants on the city treasurer for the amounts stated in the contracts on execution of proper conveyances to the city.

Messrs. Beymer & Keith of this city were employed as architects and on Sept. 8, 1903, the contract for the building which is dedicated here to night was approved, Mr. George W. James being the successful bidder. It stands on this ground as it were a monument erected to the memory of the man, the guiding principle of whose life appears to be, not to give rich hand-outs for the purpose of calling

forth hozaanas from a vast concourse of beneficiaries, or the plaudits of a fickle populace, but rather to help mankind to help themselves.

For this gift the citizens of Indianola, the students of Simpson College, the pupils of the public schools, and this Board of Trustees most heartily thank Andrew Carnegie.

Miss Hannah Babb's report, describing the present condition of the library and the extent of its use, reads as follows:—

I was to make a statement of the contents of the Library at the present time, and of the work last year. Number of books by classes,
General and reference,.....149.
Philosophy,.....64.
Religion,.....235.
Sociology,.....138.
Philology,.....13.
Science,.....121.
Useful Arts,.....35.
Fine Arts,.....23.
Literature,.....501.
Fiction,.....685.
Biography,.....235.
Travels,.....115.
History,.....282.
Public Documents,.....923.
Bound Magazines,.....613.
Total,.....4,132.

JUVENILE BOOKS.

General,.....4.
Religion,.....3.
Sociology,.....4.
Science,.....23.
Useful Arts,.....6.
Literature,.....5.
Travels,.....46.
Biography,.....27.
History,.....34.
Fiction,.....281.
Total, 416.

Number of Books in Library, 4573.

We have given the number of fiction as 625, as we have that number on the shelves and in circulation. In going over them carefully, we find only about 225 books in good condition. All the rest have pages missing or are so torn and soiled that they should be

classed as worn out books.

Of the Juvenile books in all classes there are only 416, of which only one hundred are in good condition.

Of Scientific Americans filed in cases of binding board we have 34 Vols.

Independent,..... 21 Vols.
In 1903 only 11 were added by purchase. The money which perhaps would have been used in buying books, was paid for binding our Magazines, 219 volumes. By constant use these Magazines have been worn out and lost, and as nothing is so valuable for reference as Magazines it was thought best to care for them first.

We have today 108 volumes of Magazines ready for the binder.
Readers for the year, 1903.15,848.
Largest number in one day,.....140.
Daily average,52.
An increase over 1902 of.....122.
Journal of Education,..... 4 Vols.
Christian Register,.....23 "
Miscellaneous Pamphlets and odd Periodicals filed in Cases,29 "

NEWSPAPERS.
Advocate Tribune,18 Vols.
Indianola Herald, 18 "
Indianola Record, 9 "
Warren County Record, Warren County Tribune, and Warren County Leader covering the period of 1870 to 1881.....18 Vols.

Of the Advocate Tribune and Indianola Herald, we have files from 1885 to 1904, and of the Indianola Record a complete set. All these have been donated to the Library by the Publishers.

We have also paper bound reports and pamphlets, 290.
On January 6th, 1904 we began a re-registration of book borrowers and on June 1st, 1904 we have entered 598 book borrowers.

Work of the Library for the past year
Circulation of books for home reading10529.
Books used for reference... 7851.
Total Circulation, ...18,380.

The daily Average Circulation.57.
The largest circulation on one month was November, 1903..... 1,912.
Largest circulation in one day,..168.

There was a decrease in circulation from 1902 of..... 2,396.

The decrease can be accounted for when we remember that since December 1899 but few books have been added to our Library.

The interest of the young people of the city was manifest in two beautiful gifts, one by the school children in the grades, the other by the students in the high school.

Miss Eloise Crabbe spoke for the school children, presenting for the juvenile room of the library, a beautiful steel engraving selected by the school children themselves.

Miss Crabbe spoke as follows:—
ADDRESS BY ELOISE CRABBE.
We children of the public schools think we have shown that we appreciated the library by our constant use of it.

From the second grade up we have gone singly, by twos and threes and even by the dozen sometimes. We have sat by the tables deeply interested in the best of juvenile literature when we might have been more harmfully employed.

As we grew older we went there for help and further reading along the line of our studies. Having so enjoyed its privileges we are glad to be able to offer to you a small token of our appreciation as we enter our beautiful new building.

Some one has said that if he could perform but one piece of benevolence for his native town but could have his wish concerning that he would buy a fine painting by an old master hung in the primary room at school so that the children at their most impressionable age might be under its influ-

ence for so many months.

And indeed a good picture is a thing of beauty and a joy forever.
And not only is it joy but is of a real educative value as well.

We present to you tonight this picture by Lionel De Lisser "Return from the pasture" hoping that it may have a message for all who see it. Its naturalness will appeal to the young while the beauty and symmetry of its figures will unconsciously develop their artistic sense.

The scenery of the picture with the mist rising from the water in the back ground is delightful.

But the thought suggested to the older ones perhaps will be such as are suggested by the peace and quiet restfulness of the summer evening.

It comes a gift of love from the children and may it prove a benefit and pleasure to many more as the days go by.

Mr. Earl Jones then presented in behalf of the members of the High School a beautiful painting, Aurora:

MR. JON. S' ADDRESS.

"I can heartily join you to-night as a representative of the Indianola High School, in congratulating the citizens of Indianola and the Library Board on having secured such a magnificent building in which to store these great thoughts of great thinkers. I am certain that to the High School pupils as a place of quietude and entertainment there is no other like the public library. In the years past this library has furnished teacher and pupils alike with all current news. The best books through this organization have found their way into many homes. Every pupil knows the excellency of books of reference found here. Many a wracked brain has found peace and quiet in the histories, the biographies and the books of fiction. The High

School students have not had the privileges of a library belonging to the school, but the good we have received from the public library can never be expressed in words. To show our appreciation of the benefit we have received, and to show the coming classes where their predecessors have been welcome to use these books every person now enrolled in the High School has contributed a certain sum as a sign of their individual benefit, as a result of which I now wish to present to you in the name of the Indianola High School this painting by Guido Reni, the Aurora, as a token of honor and respect which is rightfully due the citizens of Indianola and those to whom they are indebted for this magnificent building."

Mr. Schooley then expressed the pleasure of all in receiving for the library gifts of such intrinsic value, and especially in receiving such evidences of the interest of our young people in our public library. He then briefly mentioned the plan of the unfinished basement, and hoped that, before many years or even months, it would be possible to finish the basement. He called attention to the use intended for each part of the main floor; the reading room, the reference alcove, the children's alcove, the librarian's room, the stack room, the delivery room, and the trustee's and committee room; and invited the audience to inspect the various rooms.

Our worthy librarian now has the books arranged on the new shelves, and is again ready to assist all who call for reference.

A marked feature is the series of pictures of noted men. These pictures are tastily arranged on shelves not yet occupied by books.

Architects

W. W. Keith and Beymer Jordan

Contractor

James Jordanola

Building committee

W. H. Schooley, Guthrie, Mayes, Whitney

On painting & finishing John Mayes

Trustees.

W. H. Schooley President J. W. Radabaugh

Sec - J. H. Whitney, John Mayes

J. Guthrie J. H. Schae

H. H. Hartman J. O. Watson

Prof J. L. Lilton

Hannah M. Babb Librarian

Allie Dearth assistant Lib

