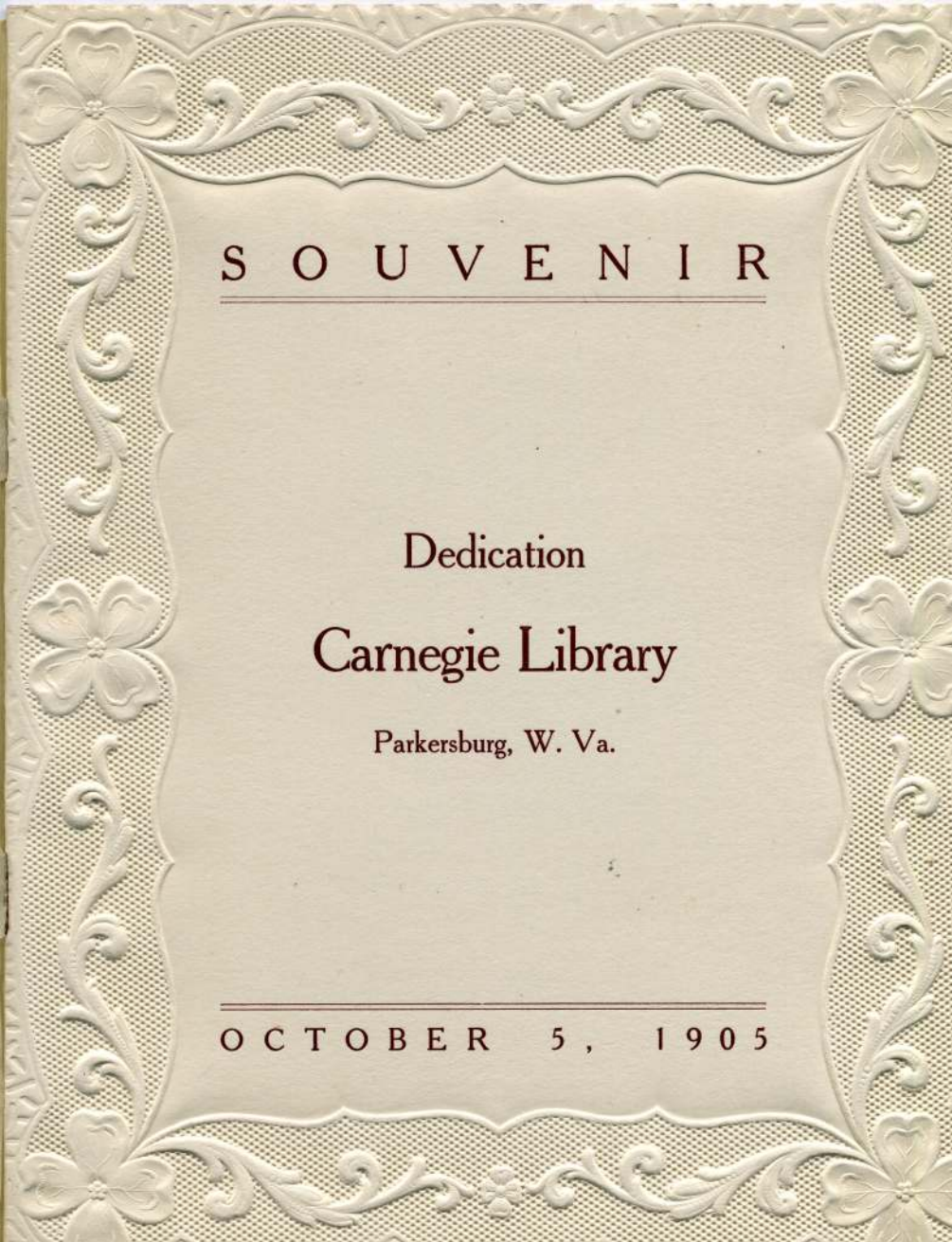


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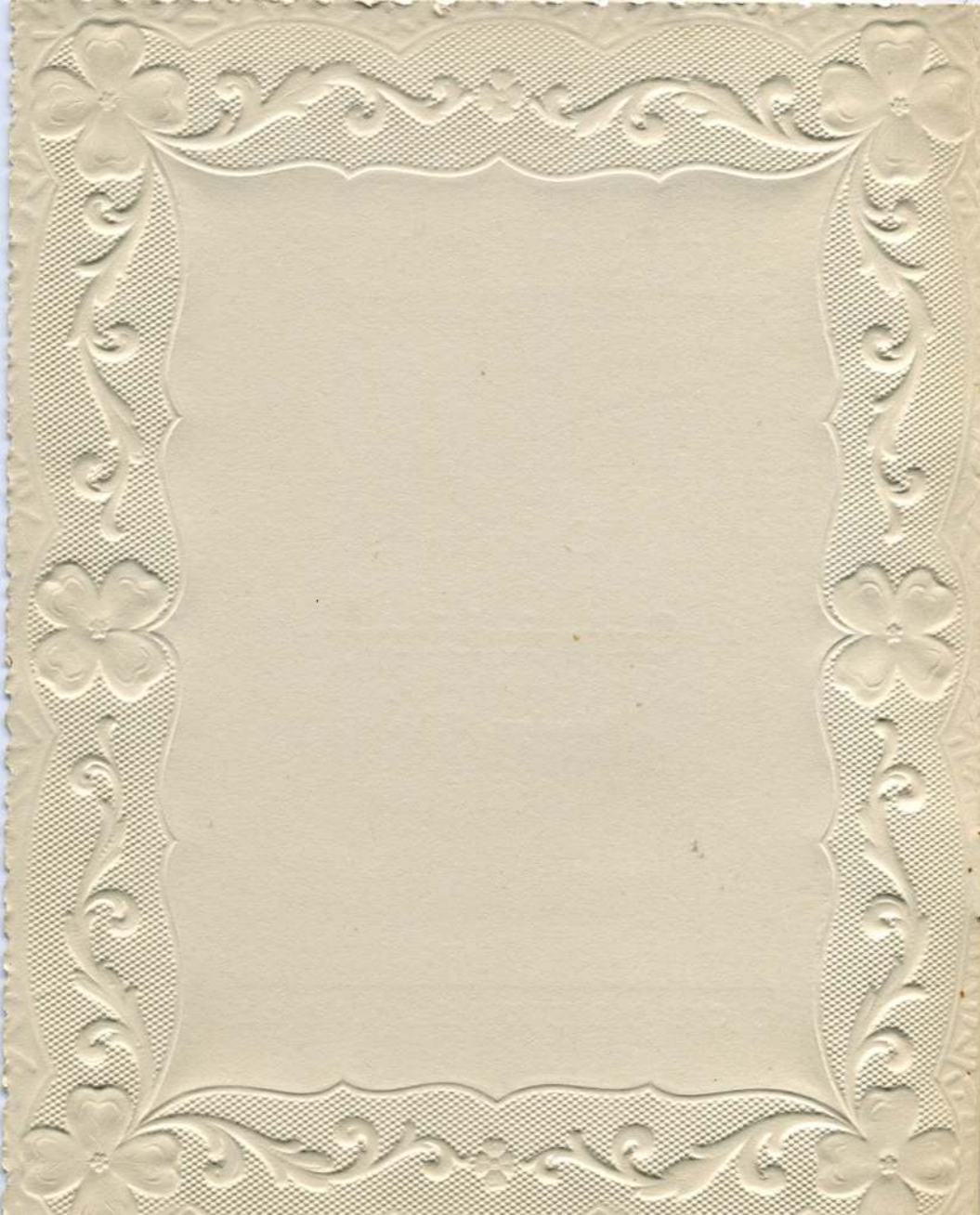
S O U V E N I R

Dedication

Carnegie Library

Parkersburg, W. Va.

O C T O B E R 5 , 1 9 0 5



*“Ignorance is the curse of God; knowledge
the wings wherewith we fly to heaven.”*

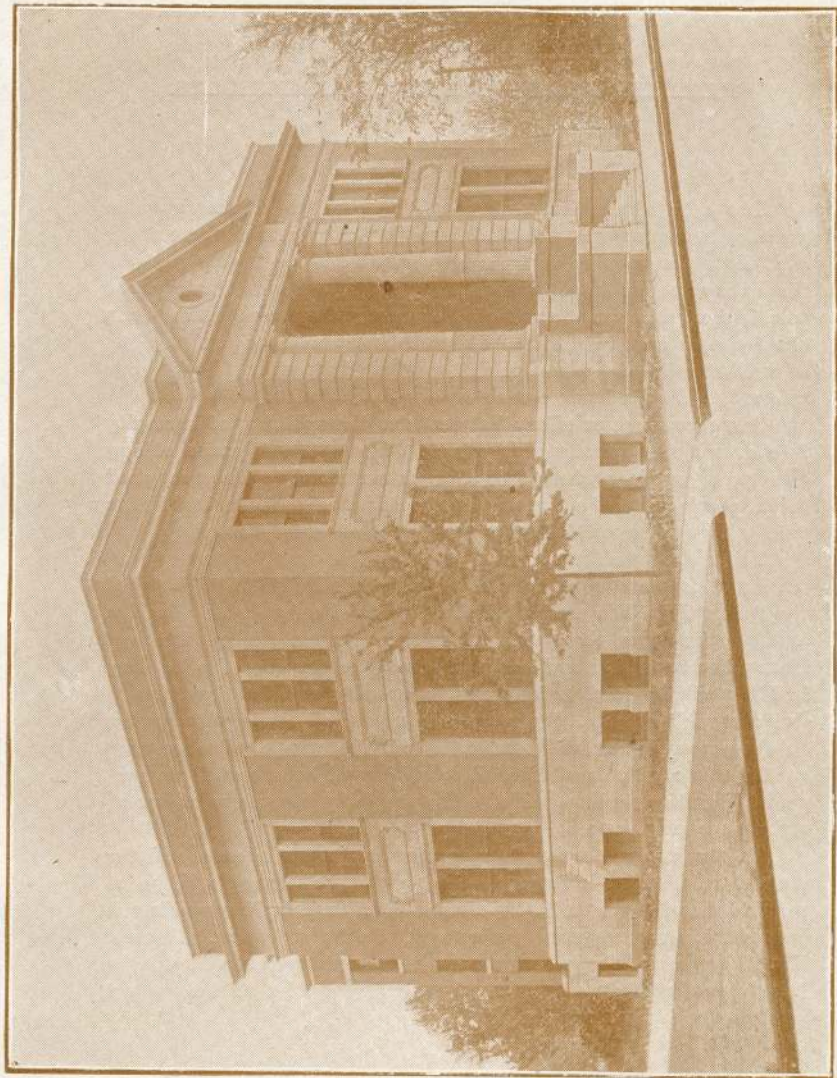
WHAT THE LIBRARY MEANS TO PARKERSBURG.

The establishment of a free public library in Parkersburg on a scale commensurate with the Carnegie gift, means for one thing that from the opening day the city will occupy a higher place in the estimation of her sister municipalities and will be advanced to a higher plane on the roll of the country's commonwealths than she has ever occupied before. It undoubtedly adds to the standing of a town when it is known that a great institution like the one referred to finds a home among its people.

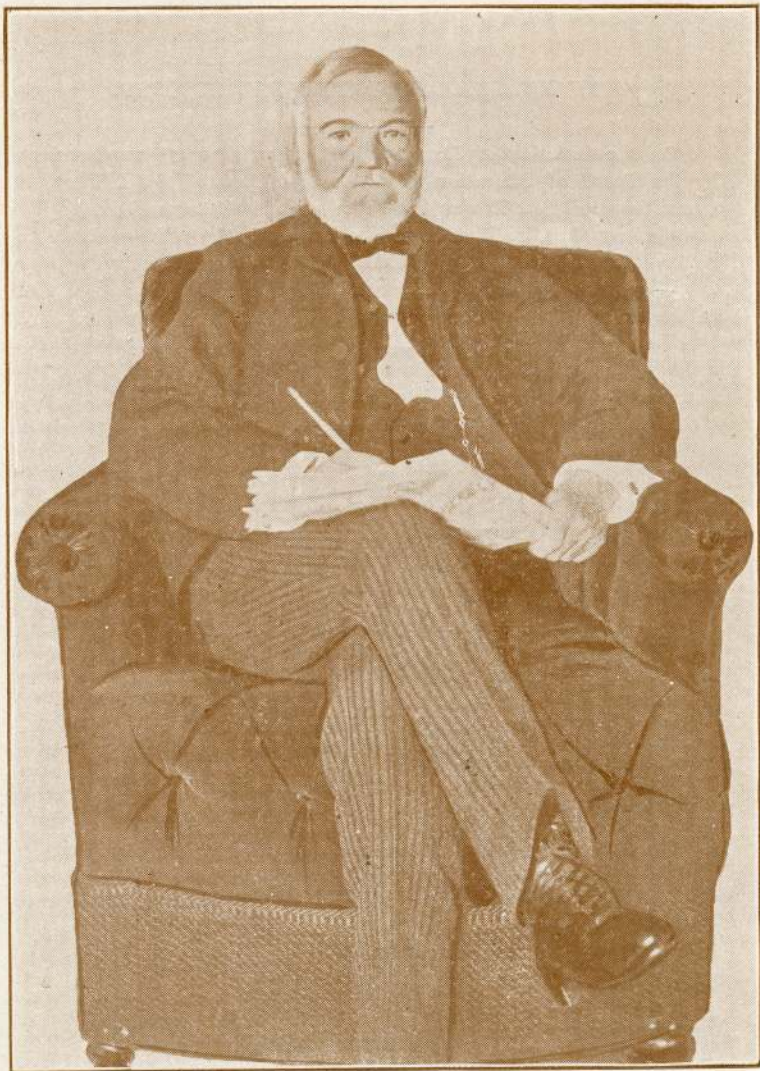
Any movement or effort that tends to the uplifting of humanity intellectually or morally redounds to the credit and praise of any community or place where that effort is made and to the great good of its people; and the opening of the doors of such an institution as this library is certainly that kind of a movement or effort.

The hours spent in a library room have an elevating tendency to mind and soul and one goes out from its precincts better equipped for the battle of life and in a better humor often with his situation and circumstances than without such influences. The movement means also an added architectural beauty to the city, for the new building will be good to look upon externally and for the mind to dwell upon internally. Its arrangements are all made with a view to the accomodation and comfort of all the people, whether they go there to read or rest, and all in all it will be one of those perennial blessings made possible to the people by the power of money and its generous use.

To the pupils, teachers and professors in the schools and the more intellectually inclined of the people the library will be of wonderful assistance and they of course will or should appreciate it beyond what a mere word can convey. To its promoters it means, if nothing more, the consciousness of a work well done and the knowledge that their efforts have been along the line of the greatest good to the largest number.



CARNEGIE LIBRARY
Corner Eighth and Green Streets, Parkersburg, W. Va.



ANDREW CARNEGIE
The Generous Donor of the Handsome Library Building.

HOW MR. CARNEGIE'S GIFT WAS SECURED.

On the first day of January, 1904, when a report was received by the Board of Education as to the condition of the Library, it was discovered that it would only be a short while until the rooms occupied by that institution in the High school building would be inadequate, and something would have to be done at once in order to relieve the crowded conditions which were bound to face the Board in the future.

Finally the financial condition of the School District of Parkersburg, was looked into and it was found to be in an excellent shape for carrying out the provisions contained in the proposed offer of Mr. Carnegie, which were that he required the Board to provide a suitable lot and guarantee an amount each year equal to 10 per cent. of the gift, which would be \$3,400 a year on the proposed offer of \$34,000. This was all that was necessary and on June 9, 1904, Mr. James A. Bryan, President of the Board of Education of this city, wrote a letter to Mr. Carnegie in New York City and received the following reply:

HOME TRUST COMPANY,
Hoboken, N. J.,
R. A. FRANKS, Pres.

June 15th, 1904.

Dear Sir:—In the absence of Mr. Carnegie and his secretary, who are spending the summer in Scotland, yours of the 9th inst. is referred to the writer.

Mr. Carnegie's offer to the City of Parkersburg contained certain conditions to be complied with. Please have a resolution passed, similar to the enclosed form, by the proper tax levying body, and send certified copy of same to me at above address; also advices when site has been provided. When this has been done, I shall take pleasure in advising you in the matter of payments on account of Mr. Carnegie's gift.

Your very truly,
R. A. FRANKS.

MR. JAS. A. BRYAN, President,
Board of Education,
Parkersburg, W. Va.

ACTION OF THE BOARD.

At the meeting following the receipt of the above letter, which was held on June 18, 1904, the following resolution was adopted and ordered forwarded to President Franks:

"A Resolution to accept the donation of Mr. Andrew Carnegie..

Whereas, Andrew Carnegie has agreed to furnish thirty-four thousand dollars to the Board of Education of Parkersburg district to erect a free public library building on condition that the said District shall pledge itself by resolution of the Board to support a free public library at a cost of not less than three thousand four hundred dollars a year, and provide a suitable site for said building, now therefore, be it

Resolved, By the Board of Education of Parkersburg District that said Board accept said donation, and it does hereby pledge itself to comply with the requirements of said Andrew Carnegie.

Resolved, that it will furnish a suitable site for said building, and will maintain a free public library in said building to be at a cost of not less than three thousand four hundred dollars a year.

Resolved, that the annual levy shall hereafter be made upon the taxable property of said District sufficient in amount to comply with the above requirements."

"On motion the site at the corner of Green and Eighth streets adjoining the High School Building was selected as the location for the Carnegie building."

This resolution and the order fixing the site for the building were forwarded without delay and within the course of a few days the following letter was received, which showed everything was perfectly satisfactory to Mr. Franks, the agent of Mr. Carnegie:

HOME TRUST COMPANY,
Hoboken, N. J.,
R. A. FRANKS, Pres.

June 21st, 1904.

Dear Sir:—I am in receipt of yours of the 18th instant with enclosure of Resolution of Board of Education and advices that site for proposed Library building at Parkersburg has been provided.

Mr. Carnegie's gift of \$34,000 for the erection of the building is now available, and I shall take pleasure in remitting the funds on this account in installments of \$5000 each, as needed from time to time during the process of construction.

Remittances shall be forwarded upon receipt of notification that funds on this account are required, accompanied by architect's certificates covering the installment called for. In requesting remittances please state to what official you wish payment made.

Yours very truly,

R. A. FRANKS.

GEO. D. HEATON, Esq., Sec'y.
Board of Education,
Parkersburg, W. Va.

At the regular meeting of the Board June 24, 1904, the matter was again taken up and the following order was entered. "Architect Sanderson was called into consultation with the Board in regard to plans for the Carnegie Library Building. After discussing the subject in a thorough manner, upon motion, Mr. Sanderson was instructed to prepare a set of plans for the proposed building.

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF PARKERSBURG DISTRICT.

The present Board of Education, under whose jurisdiction the Library was constructed and will be managed and maintained consists of

JAMES A. BRYAN, President.

STEPHEN DAVIDSON,

B. D. GANGWER,

R. B. TAYLOR,

J. W. SOLLEY.

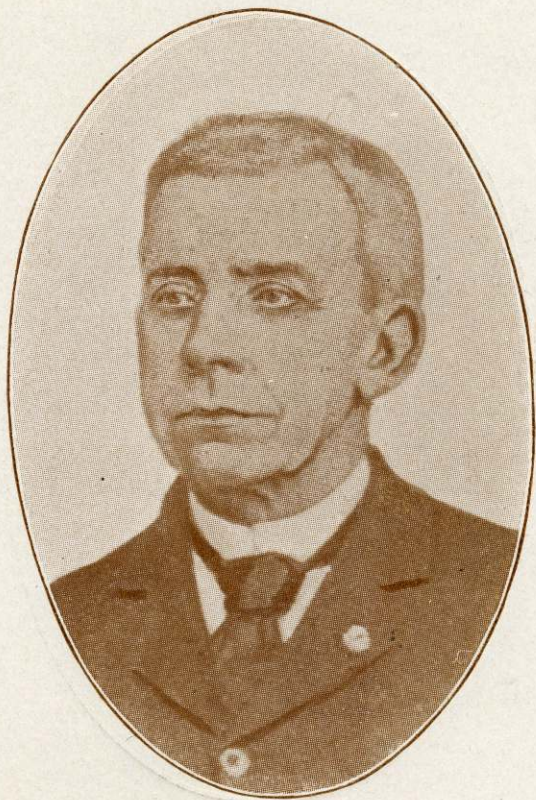
The Secretary who is not a member of the Board, is George D. Heaton.

Mr. Bryan has been a member of the Board since 1886; Mr. Davidson since 1901; Mr. Gangwer since 1903, Mr. Taylor since 1882; and Mr. Solley since January 1, 1905.

Up to this time the Board has held its meetings, on the second and fourth Friday evenings in each month, in the High School Building, in the rooms used for library purposes, but from now on the meetings will be held in this building, in the room immediately back of the parlor, on the right hand side of the corridor. It will be fitted up especially for their use and will contain all the things necessary for the transaction of their business. The librarian, who is the Secretary of the Board also, will have his office immediately joining the Board room in order that the business may be conducted without delay.

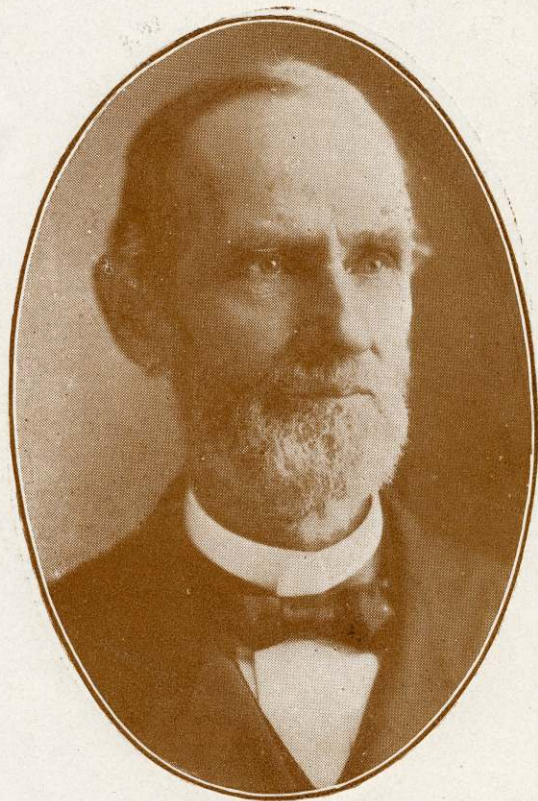


JAMES A. BRYAN.
President Parkersburg District Board of Education.



R. B. TAYLOR

Member Parkersburg District Board of Education.



STEPHEN DAVIDSON
Member Parkersburg District Board of Education.



B. D. GANGWER
Member Parkersburg District Board of Education



J. W. SOLLEY
Member Parkersburg District Board of Education.

WHAT THE LIBRARY BUILDING CONTAINS.

On the first floor will be the General Reading Room, the Parlor, the Board of Education Room, the Librarians room, the Delivery Desk and the entrance to the stack room.

On the second floor will be a Juvenile Reading Room, an Assembly room, two Special Study Rooms, Women's Toilet, and Cloak Room.

In the basement will be the Cataloging Room, the Newspaper Room, Supply Room, Men's Toilet, and Pioneer Museum.

The Stack Room, located at the back of the building, and entered from the first floor, will be free to the public and is so arranged as to make the ascent to the different floors easy for all persons. An electric elevator has been provided for the sending of books from one floor to the other.



J. W. SWARTZ
Superintendent of Schools.

GENERAL INFORMATION.

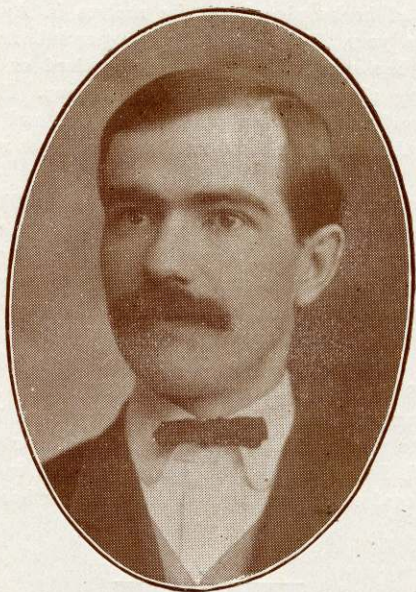
The Parkersburg High School and Public Library was established by the Board of Education of Parkersburg district in 1899 and the first purchase of books placed on the shelves in April, 1900. By the end of the year \$2500.00 had been expended, and over three thousand new books added to the three hundred or four hundred books remaining of the old High School Library. Each year has seen a large number of books of all classes added and placed on the shelves and at this time the total number of volumes reaches almost 10,000.

All the books are classified according to the Dewey decimal classification and catalogued by the card system alphabetically, according to authors. In the Dewey classification all general works, like cyclopedias, periodicals, etc., are numbered between 000 and 100; all books on philosophy have numbers between 100 and 200, on religion (300 to 400); Sociology (400 to 500); Philology (500 to 600); Natural Sciences (600 to 700); Fine Arts (700 to 800); Literature (800 to 900); History (900 to 1000).

One thousand of the books in the Library have been carefully selected for the pupils of the various grades of our public schools below the High School classes. These are covered in a substantial manner and placed on shelves apart from the other books.

READING ROOM AND REFERENCE LIBRARY.

Free to all who will observe the rules and regulations of the Library.



GEO. D. HEATON
Secretary Board of Education and Librarian
Carnegie Library.



MISS ANNA E. TAYLOR
Assistant Librarian, Carnegie Library.



MISS IDA M. PETERS
Assistant Librarian, Carnegie Library

RULES AND REGULATIONS.

For the Reading Room.

There must be no handling of books on the shelves without the express permission of the librarian.

Those using books must return them to the librarian's desk when they have done with them. Papers and Magazines must be returned to the racks.

There must be no talking aloud except in making inquiries of the librarian, and no disorderly conduct of any kind.

For Circulation of Books.

Each user of the Library must be provided with a borrower's card.

No person whatever is to be privileged to withdraw books from the library in the absence of the proper attendant to make immediate record of the withdrawal, or without presentation of the borrower's card. The same is true as to the return of the books.

But one book at a time can be withdrawn by each user of the Library, except that teachers are entitled to an additional volume from the Teachers' Library.

Books must be returned or renewed within two weeks. A fine of two cents a day or for each fraction thereof, shall be imposed for books kept out over time. No book can be renewed more than once.

Proper care must be taken of books. Any damage to or loss of a book must be made good by the borrower.

Books must not be lent outside of the family of the borrower.

No book shall be taken out by any member of a family in which a case of contagious disease exists; and on the occurrence of any such disease in a family having any library books all such books shall be returned to the Library on demand of the librarian.

No books shall be issued to any one who is in arrears for fines.

Serious or continued disregard of the above rules will result in the suspension of all library privileges, subject to the action of the Library Committee.

HOURS FOR OPENING AND CLOSING THE LIBRARY.

The Library will be open continuously from 8:00 o'clock in the morning until 9:00 o'clock in the evening. Legal Holidays excepted.

CIRCULATING LIBRARY.

Free to the following persons upon application:

Members of the Board of Education.

All officers and teachers of the Parkersburg Public Schools.

Pupils in the High School, when the application is signed by the teacher also.

Free to any resident of Parkersburg School District over sixteen years of age, who will make a deposit of \$2.00, or who is a property owner, who can present a guarantee acceptable to the Librarian.

Non-residents over sixteen years of age, who can present a similar guarantee as above referred to, or who can make a deposit of \$2.00, to provide for possible loss or injury to books while in their possession, to be allowed the same privileges as residents, upon payment of \$1.00 a year, or ten cents a month.

At the request of any teacher a book may be issued to a pupil under sixteen years of age, the teacher assuming the responsibility of the care and prompt return of the book.

This Library is for the public as well as for the schools, and any resident of the city and district, or any visitor in the city, is cordially invited to come to the Library to consult books of reference or to read the books and papers therein.

All applications to borrow books from the Library must be approved by the Librarian who will furnish the proper blanks.

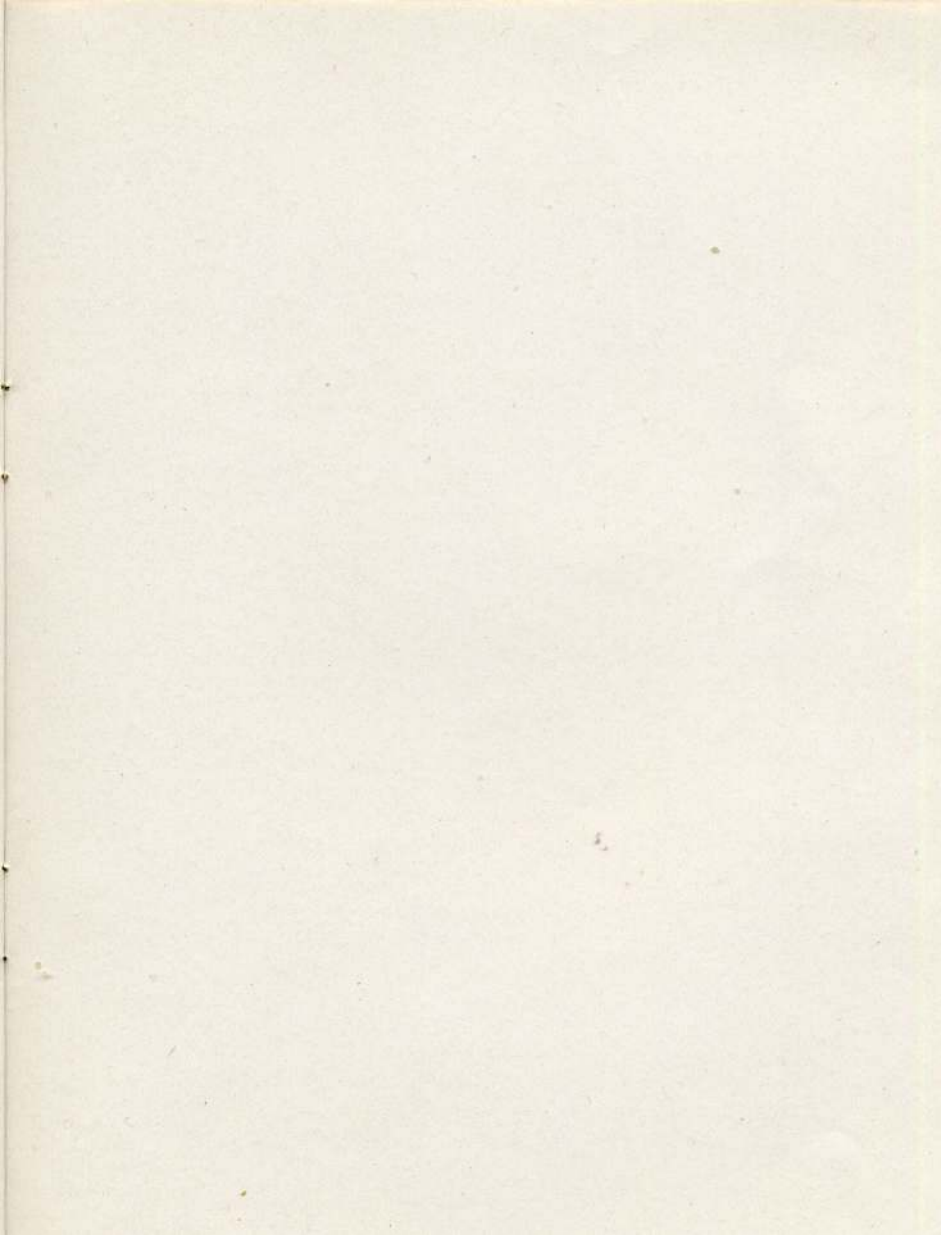
BOOKS WITHHELD FROM CIRCULATION.

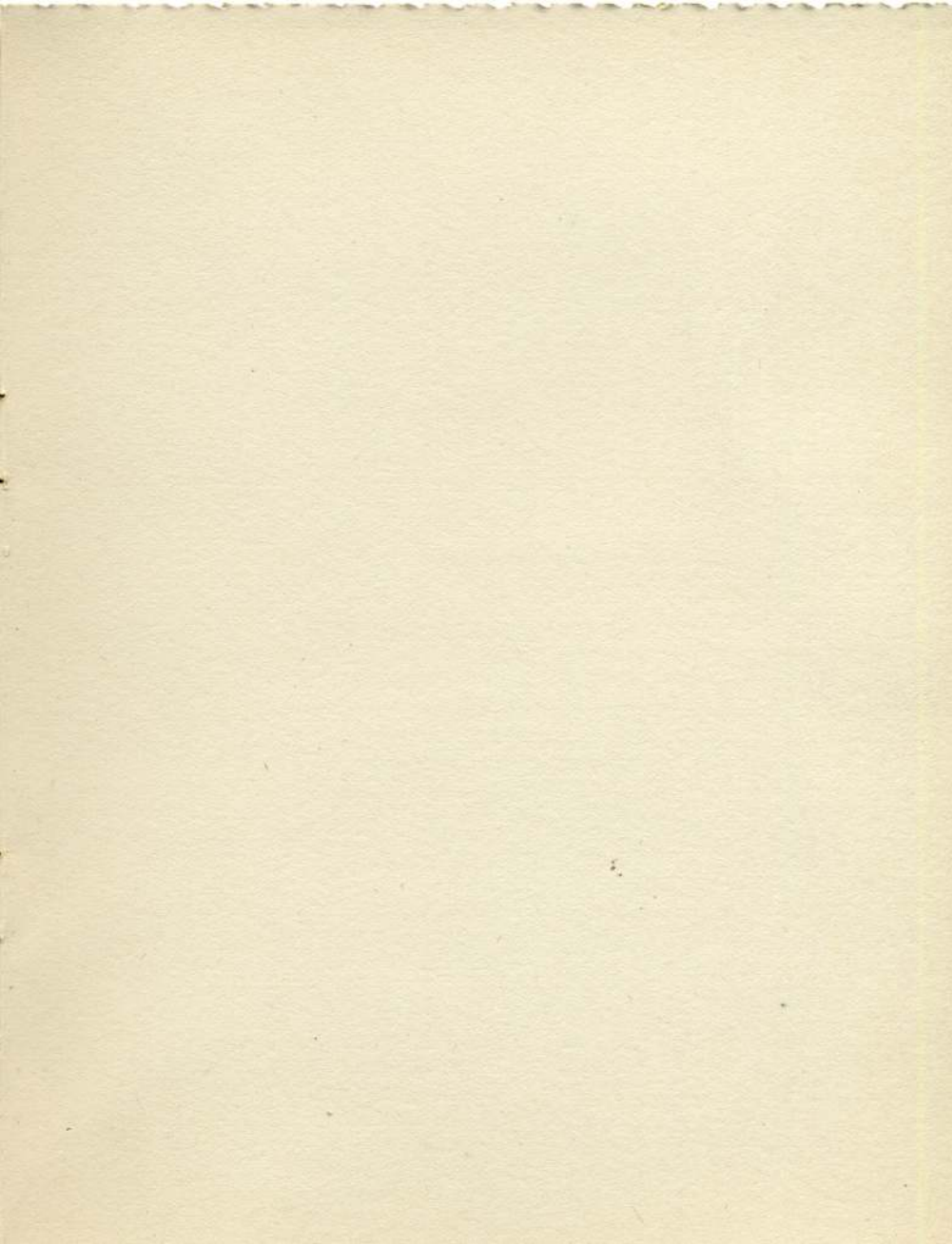
Encyclopaedias and works of reference.

Large folio and quarto publications.

Pamphlets and paper-bound books.

Magazines and newspapers are not to be taken from the Library.





Board of Education.

JAMES A. BRYAN, PRESIDENT.

STEPHEN DAVIDSON.

D. B. GANGWER.

R. B. TAYLOR.

J. W. SOLLEY.

GEO. D. HEATON, SECRETARY.

J. W. SWARTZ, SUPT. OF SCHOOLS.

