

THE SALIDA MAIL.

TWICE A WEEK

SALIDA, COLORADO, Friday, May 8, 1908

CORNERSTONE OF LIBRARY

Laid With Appropriate and Im-
pressive Ceremonies Before
a Large Gathering of People.

Despite the cold and disagreeable weather one of the greatest crowds ever assembled in Salida appeared for the ceremonies of the laying of the cornerstone of the new public library on Tuesday afternoon. The great throng was called to order by the president of the Tuesday Evening club who acted as master of ceremonies.

The exercises were opened with an invocation by Rev. George F. Sevier of the Presbyterian church. The school children directed by Miss Carr, sang, and then the first speaker of the afternoon was introduced—A. R. Miller, who took the place of Mayor Sisson, and spoke on behalf of the city council. Mr. E. S. Plimpton, Sr., spoke for the school board, saying that the thing which the people were celebrating was not the material building but that which it stood for and what it would impart to those who used it. Professor Edgar Kesner spoke on behalf of the schools in which he likened the library building to the body and the books which it would contain to the soul. Mr. D. J. Kramer on the part

of the Board of Trade made a neat speech and presented Mrs. A. C. Ridgway with a large bouquet of pink roses and Mrs. Spray with a bouquet of crimson and cream roses in the name of that body. Then the clergy of the city were called upon as follows: Rev. W. B. Crewdson of the Christian church, Father Thos. J. Wolchan of the Catholic church, Rev. Lew L. Thomas of the Methodist church and Rev. Morphy of the Baptist church, Rev. C. M. Burck of Ascension church being absent on account of a misunderstanding of the hour which had been postponed. The speeches were all bright and interesting and were confined to three minutes each. Mr. Morphy's time was given to a beautiful ode written by himself for the occasion. There was also an original poem written by Miss Coombs on the Tuesday Evening club, read by Mrs. Spray.

Then the handsome cornerstone, which was a gift of the Salida Granite company, was impressively put in place with formal ceremonies. Mrs. A. C. Ridgway placed the sealed box in its position, saying, "I now declare the cornerstone of the Salida Free Public library ready to be laid." The box contained:

A copy of the latest issue of each local newspaper.

Copy of correspondence between Mr. Carnegie and the Library association concerning the gift of \$9,000.

Copy of resolution of city council deciding to give levy tax for support of the library, with names of mayor and council.

Names of present mayor, city council and city officers.

Photograph of Salida, booklet and envelope, furnished by Board of trade.

Copy of articles of incorporation of the Salida Library association with names of president and members who signed it.

Copy of letter from Mr. Carnegie's banker stating that \$9,000 had been deposited for the Salida Library association.

Copy of first constitution and by-laws of Tuesday Evening club, and copy of latest published one.

Copy of the first year book published and copy of year book for 1907-1908.

A general meeting program of each department of the present year.

Copy of minutes of Tuesday Evening club meeting when Mr. Carnegie's letter granting the \$9,000 was received.

Copy of minutes of meeting at which it was announced that Mr. W. P. Harbottle had willed his property to the Salida Library association.

Copy of poem by Miss Anna Coombs which was read at laying of cornerstone.

Postal card containing photo of
Library building as planned.

Library button.

Statement that ground on which
the library was built was a present
from Mrs. Mary C. Ridgway, wife of
A. C. Ridgway, in 1908, signed by
the president and secretary of the
club and Library association, and
stamped with the seal of the associa-
tion.

All documents were tied with the
club colors, crimson and cream, by
Mrs. A. C. Ridgway, and placed in
box. The exercises were concluded
by the immense audience singing
"America."