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JAN'Y 1, 1897

ALMA RECORD

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VOL. XVII, NO. 39.

ALMA, MICH., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1895.

WHOLE NO. 371.

Alma Record.
PUBLISHED FRIDAYS, AT
ALMA, MICH.

SAMPLE COPY.

The five business men of Alma are sending out several hundred extra copies of the Record this week for the purpose of putting before the people their advertisements, at the same time soliciting your trade. It costs you nothing. After looking it over you shall be pleased to have each and every one subscribe. Leave \$1.00 with any business man running an advertisement and the Record will be sent to your address until Jan. 1, 1897, sixteen months. You can save the price by having a chance to read their advertisements.

THE CORNER STONE LAID. Gov. Rich and Washington Gardner Here.

Interesting Exercises in the Opera House.

The storm last Saturday did not abate the ardor of our Methodist friends, and they were astir early in the morning making final preparations for laying the corner stone of the new church. Some disappointment was expressed when a telegram was received from Col. A. T. Bliss expressing his regret that he could not be here. Then a little impatience when it was known that the Ann Arbor train, which would bring Gov. Rich and Hon. Washington Gardner, was an hour and a half late.

The train came at last, however, and the two distinguished guests were met by Dr. J. H. Lancashire and Dr. E. S. Pettyjohn, and driven to the Wright House, where Gov. Rich, Mr. Gardner, Dr. and Mrs. E. S. Pettyjohn and Rev. and Mrs. McAllister had dinner.

The storm made it impossible to have any exercises at the church, but the guests and a number of our citizens went there, and Rev. J. W. McAllister placed the corner stone, (the contents of which were given in our issue of Friday,) in position and adjournment taken to the opera house. Rev. McAllister called the meeting to order, and read the ritualistic service provided for such an occasion, after which Dr. Kendall Brooks, offered prayer. Scripture lessons were read by Revs. W. P. Jones of this place, and George Killeen of Ithaca, when an anthem was sung by the college double quartet, Miss Gertrude Whiting, accompanist.

Rev. McAllister then introduced Gov. Rich, who was greeted with enthusiastic applause. The governor congratulated the members of the church upon the success which has attended the new enterprise thus far, and predicted the early completion of the church. He said that whatever had been started in Alma had been pushed to completion. Sometime, said the governor, business comes to a town, which is not beneficial to the citizens thereof; other industries are started, which add to the material prosperity of the place; but a church not only adds to the intrinsic value of property, but more than all, is of inestimable value in its moral influence as a preventive of crime. The money invested in a church is a wise and permanent investment, and the governor said that the state should better afford to donate money to church building than to discourage the erection of churches by heavy taxation on church property. The state is directly and intensely interested in the success of a church, and in order that a church be successful, it must have a staple government behind it. The governor then spoke of the work the state has done for its dependent children, and said that it is wiser to care for them in this way than to maintain criminals a few years later.

After an anthem by the church choir, Hon. Washington Gardner was introduced. Mr. Gardner began his remarks by saying that while, so far as he knew, Gov. Rich was not identified with any christian denomination, he was identified with, and interested in every agency that works for the good of the commonwealth. He then said that while some of the objects for which the church has been organized are not stated in its discipline, the great body of its membership has taken the Master Teacher as a preceptor, and is trying to advance the work which He started. The church building is only the material by which the work of the Church is carried on. The membership is only the visible form, behind which is the spirit of the Living God. As men consider finance, the Church is a failure, as it has never declared a dividend, but on the contrary, invariably has to levy a tax on the stockholders. Notwithstanding this, men have always been glad to give to the Church for the good it does as a moral educator, believing, as they do, that morality is not only the foundation but the cap stone of manhood and womanhood. The Church is the only organized agency with that object in view. The public school is to develop and educate the mental powers. People do not support schools to teach morality, but to develop mind. It is true that every fiber of the life of a community is strengthened by the influence of an educational institution in its midst, but these institutions of learning would not have been had had not the Church previously existed. All the institutions of learning owe their existence to the Christ an Church, the corner stone of which is the Master Teacher of man. The strength of our people lies in the extension and growth of the Church and not in the vastness of material resources. The real strength of the Nation rests not in its material resources, as prime factors, but in the manifold of its citizens and unless there be a strong character as a foundation, the superstructure will fall. Mr. Gardner then spoke of the Church as the custodian of the Word of God, and the parent of all the missionary agencies which have done such a mighty work in saving the world for Christ, and closed his address by speaking of the Sunday school and its daily duty influence for good.

After a collection had been taken, the exercises closed with the singing of America by the college and church choirs and the congregation, with Miss Whiting at the piano.

The exercises in the opera house were necessarily brief, owing to the lateness of the hour when they commenced, and the fact that Gov. Rich and Mr. Gardner had to take the afternoon train to return to Lansing. After dinner and previous to the commencement of the exercises in the opera house, quite a number of our citizens called at the Wright House, and had the pleasure of meeting the Governor and the Secretary of State.

College Notes.

President Brunske preached in Milford Sunday.

The fellows are practicing basket ball in the "gym."

The "St. Cecilia Orphans" is the name of the musical society just organized.

J. C. Gibson preached at Forest Hill Sunday.

A class of young men has been organized to study the book of Job. Rev. W. F. Jones is the teacher.

Prof. W. A. Smith, who has large classes in music in Ithaca and St. Louis, is a pupil of Miss Bushnell.

A mandolin and guitar club has been organized composed of Messrs. Wheelie Plum and Mand Bishop and Messrs. McCabe and Mills.

The foot ball game to have been played in St. Johns Saturday between the college and Shepardsville teams was postponed on account of the weather.

The student who was seen wending his way across the river with a pumpkin under his arm, is asked to explain. He stayed later than a delivery-boy usually does.

A. J. Van Page has sold 550 copies of his translation of the "Sketch of the Life of the Apostle Paul." Monday he received an order for ten copies from a lady in Calumet.

The state board of corrections and charities has requested of the faculty the privilege of sending four specialists here to lecture on that branch of sociology which has to do with the indigent and dependent classes.

At Sophomore rhetorical Friday morning members of the class handed in slips of paper on which were written sentiments more or less brilliant. These slips were mixed, and each member of the class drew one to read. It seems the very sentiment of cruelty that the gentleman most interested should draw and be compelled to read the following: "A certain young lady delights in singing 'Marching through Georgia,' because it makes her think of 'Sherman marching to sea.'"

The Adelphe Theta society gave a reception in its rooms Monday evening to the Zeta Sigma's. There were 33 present. Miss Weston presided as toast master. Toasts were responded to as follows: Co-education, R. H. Sidebotham; Agriculture, F. W. Knox; Convalescence, L. S. Brooke; Have an eye on the pupil, Paul Brunske; The clapper, J. B. Stevens; Foot ball, J. I. Crane; Class meeting, J. T. Northon; Anything, Maurice Grigsby; Heaven, Prof. J. T. Ewing. The professor was pleased to be facetious, and said that he thought their present surroundings a fair example of Heaven, to which sentiment the fellows, with one accord, exclaimed, "So say we all."

School Notes

Tickets for the lecture course are out.

Miss Edna Forton visited school Tuesday.

Mr. Frye conducted chapel exercises Thursday morning.

Miss Ingalls and Miss Halstead visited school Monday.

Mr. Samuel Adams of Vermont visited school Tuesday.

Miss Button very pleasantly entertained a number of her friends Friday evening.

The first number for the lecture course is the concert to be given the evening before Thanksgiving by the Heberlein Concert company.

The program of classes on the upper floors has been changed, and recitations shortened half an hour, in order to enable teachers to give more attention to younger pupils and the grades.

The Ladies' Trio has been reorganized with Misses Woodward and Greig first soprano; Misses Wilson and Button second soprano, and Misses Hattie Woodward and Bertha Struble, alto.

A committee of five was chosen from the high school Tuesday, consisting of Elton Brock, Chester Walker, Atta Wilson, Edith Desmond and Ella Frye, for the purpose of making preliminary arrangements for the Thanksgiving exercises.

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