LIBRARY IS DEDICATED

IMPRESSIVE CEREMONIES MARKED DEDICATION EXERCISES OF THE PARMLY BILLINGS MEMO-RIAL LIBRARY.

DEED OF GIFT PEESENTED

Mr. Frederick Billings of New York, With Feeling Words, Tenders to City That Which Will Perpetuate a Monument to the Memory of the Deceased Brother—President James Reid Discusses Great Advantages Accruing From Public Libraries—W. F. Sanders Delivers an Address—Reception To-Night—History of the Library.

Special to Herald.

BILLINGS, Mont., Oct. 1.—The dedication exercises of the Parmly Billings Memorial library were held in the opera house this afternoon. Mayor W. B. George presiding. The house was crowded with a vast audience of the most representative people of the city. After a selection by the Logan orchestra, Judge James R. Goss made a few brief remarks, being followed by Mr. Frederick Billings, of New York, donor of the library, who presented the deed of gift. His remarks were brief, yet very feelingly made and showed his deep love for his deceased brother as well as his effort to perpetuate a monument to his memory.

Mayor W. B. George, on hehalf of the city, accepted the deed and conveyed to Mr. Billings the universal feeling of deep gratitude for his munificent gift. Mr. George said that the Billings family would be ever held in grateful remembrance, not only by the older citizens, but the rising generation of the city.

The Billings male quartette then sang a pretty selection. This was followed by an address by President James Reid of the Montana college, who said in part:

PRESIDENT REED'S ADDRESS.

"This is pre-eminently the age of public libraries. The vast and memerous gifts made for the establishment of these institutions has brought them into the foreground as a great educational agency. In the last three years 940 separate gifts have been made, amounting to over thirty million dollars."

The speaker touched upon the air and purpose of the public library; that it is to educate the people, half of whom, when children, leave the public schools at 12 years of age. The average time the American child spends in school is a little over four and one-half years. He gets the remainder of his education from outside sources. How important to teach him to love the companionship of books.

He spoke upon the policy of library management, the proper selection of books in the small library, upon the duties of the board of trustees and their responsibilities. The duties of the people were also dwelt upon. The relation of the library to the home and the public schools. The free public library and the free public school are the two great educational agencies, neither can fulfil its true mission without the help of the other. He urged the necessity of preventing partisan politics entering into library affairs. That the most efficient work may be done, a trained librarian should be in charge of the library. The library should not be a mere collection of books, but the center of varied educational agencies and influences, all the group of educational agencies known as home education are centering around and are rapidly becoming parts of the modern public library.

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'After another selection by the male quartette, Hon. W. F. Sanders, of Helena, delivered one of his splendid characteristic addresses, complimenting the city upon having so generous a friend. The exercises closed with the singing of "America."

Mr. Frederick Billings and Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Kilner arrived this morning from New York. They visited the library at 1:30 and expressed themselves as great pleased at the efforts of the building committee.

A reception will be tendered them at the library tonight, from 7:30 to 9:30, all citizens being invited to attend.

Helena Herald, Jue.