

with their sessions Friday. They will be dispensed with until next October, when it is expected that the new building will be ready for occupation."

Due to delays, the new building was not ready until February 1873, at which time this account appears "The various departments of our public school, which have been struggling for existence in out of the way, unsuitable rooms, were finally brought together and comfortably quartered in the fine new building Monday. It is 50 by 50 feet, three stories high. The house has 58 patent school seats to each room and can accommodate three hundred pupils. It is built of brick, and is well arranged for a graded school. Here almost any desirable study will be taught."

The Shelbina Collegiate Institute was established May 16, 1877 at a cost of \$6,000. There was a committee appointed to sell stock to raise the necessary funds. The building was located on the lot where the Charles Claggett home now stands.

Directors elected were J. H. Ford, C. H. Myers, J. W. Ford, John Dickerson, A. Moreman, Wm. A. Reid and W. O. L. Jewett. One price was charged for all different branches of study.

The dedication exercises were conducted in the principal room on the upper floor. Members of Institute, the board and others, occupied seats upon the rostrum. The exercises began with music, Mrs. John McAtee at the piano assisted by Messrs. McAtee and Johnson, violinists. This was followed by a ten minute speech by Wm. A. Reid, chairman of the meeting. Then came the toasts, omitting or overlooking the matter of prayer, which we think would have been a proper and appropriate service under the circumstances. First toast—John Dickerson; response—Jas. M. Willis; solo by Miss Dickerson; second toast—Judge Taylor; speech by R. P. Giles; vocal duet—Misses Downing and Marshall; vocal duet—Misses White and Gilbert. The last regular toast was proposed by Wm. A. Reid, responded to by Prof. Baier.

The affair on the whole was a grand success, and the entertainment, one of the most delightful we have had for many a day. Prof. Baier starts off with flying colors, and we trust he may never have occasion to trail his flag.

The first president was Leo Baier. During the two years he was head of the school, he gave it a good start, but its prestige increased when Prof. Ripley and wife took charge. They were both intelligent, broad and cultured. Prof. Ripley's motto was "the mind like the body becomes stronger with exercise." Other teachers in the College were T. E. Peters, Rev. W. W. Carhart, E. R. Edwards, Miss Anna McMurray, Miss Kate Crawford and Miss Orrington Jewett.

The Normal school opened Monday, the 26th, in the college building. There were present at this session about 40 teachers. Prof. Ripley gave a short introductory lecture. School adjourned to meet at 2:00 p.m. In the afternoon they were addressed by Prof. Ripley on the methods of teaching history. At 3:00 p.m. Mrs. Ripley gave a very interesting and instructive lecture on teaching Botany in the common schools. At 4 p.m. Prof. Ripley gave a lecture on the Philosophy of Education. Program for the week is as follows: Forenoon—8:00, Arithmetic; 9:00—Geography; 10:00—English Grammar; 11:00—Physiology; Afternoon—2:00, History of U. S.; 3:00—Elements of Botany; 4:00—School Management.

In the spring of 1878 the public school district was organized as a special district with members of the board of education: Newton Adams, pres.; W. T. Dean, secy.; S. G. Parsons, treas.; E. N. Gerard, A. Connely and G. A. Jenks.

The following is from newspaper clippings found in a scrapbook kept by Lizzie Willis in 1880:

Shelbina, Mo., May 17, 1880—"The Beautiful Prairie Girl City of Shelbina."

At Shelbina the public schools are closed for the summer vacation, but the college session will continue until June. Prof.

adornment. The public schools of Shelbina will be terminated Ripley is gaining well merited favor and popularity with his thorough and efficient corps of teachers and assistants.

Many students come from a distance and are not disappointed in their expectations of finding a good school, a good friend and guardian in Mr. Ripley, and a good home among the kind hearted people of Shelbina. At the close of the session, a normal course is held for teachers and others who wish, in a thorough review, to fit themselves better for their coming year's work, or more thoroughly complete the work of the past year. At this session visitors from a distance are generally entertained free of charge by the citizens, and all carry through the year pleasant memories of two or three weeks very pleasantly and profitably spent.

"A visit to the Shelbina Grades School"—We visited this morning, Dec. 11, the graded school of Shelbina, now in charge of an able and efficient instructor and disciplinarian, Prof. Willis. Arriving at the last bell, we had the pleasure of seeing the pupils and teachers enter upon their daily routine of business with promptness and precision. Entering the principal's room, we were entertained with music by the Prof. and his class in elocution, which is composed of quite a number of young ladies and gentlemen, some of whose countenances bespoke a mind more than ordinary. The lesson comprised the gesticulations of oratorical delivery. We found some inquiring, particularly into those forms of gesticulations peculiar to the bar, some into those of the pulpit, others into those of the sage and some indifferent to all.

From the professor's room, we passed into the room of his first assistant, William Johnson, whose father has been classed as one of the ablest instructors in Kentucky, and especially did we notice this inherited trait in the recitation of his son's class in history. The members did not only answer the ordinary lesson questions, but gave an interesting historical lecture.

Having a curiosity to see one matron judiciously nursing a hundred babies, we passed rooms of the second and third assistants and entered that of the fourth, the room of lilipu and wonder. It would be impossible to do justice to Mrs. Puckett's merits as a teacher, evidenced in the deportment and recitations and drill and calisthenical performances of her little charges.

We compliment the people of Shelbina upon their good fortune in having the cultivation of the minds of their children,

The Second and Third Schools



In 1894 Shelbina erected its second school building, the front portion shown in the accompanying picture, at a cost of \$10,000. This replaced the first one.

Description of this building has already been given. The back addition to the building was made in 1912 at a cost of \$22,000. A feature of this addition was the gymnasium on the top boor, built around posts which aided local basketball teams as they learned to play a game which used these posts to advantage.