

Lapeer County Democrat  
Wednesday, July 4, 1894

## Our Jubilee

The New State Building  
Corner Stone  
Properly Laid

A GREAT DAY LONG TO BE  
REMEMBERED IN THE  
HISTORY OF LAPEER

Over 50,000 People  
Here and Not One a Candi-  
date for Admission to  
the New Asylum.

The Bolstrous Drum, The  
Tingle of Cymbals and  
the March of Military  
Takes Possession  
of Our City.

Everybody Happy, Well Fed and  
Thirst quenched in Apple  
Pie Order.

The die is cast, the deed is done.  
The great and much-talked-of Lapeer jubilee is past and was carried out according to program.

The corner stone of the new Home for Feeble Minded and Epileptic established in this city was laid Tuesday, June 20th, with Masonic rites. Our citizens well understand the many advantages accruing to Lapeer in being selected as the most desirable place in all this broad state of Michigan to locate the institution and, appreciating the honor done them by the Commission, determined the day on which the corner stone was laid and from which the life of the institution would be reckoned should be observed with all due pomp and splendor; that it should be observed as no event was ever before in this section. For weeks they have labored steadily through able committees, planning and arranging for the splendid success which resulted. Had a local committee even the weather in charge it could not have been more satisfactory. Rain fell Monday night, thoroughly wetting the streets but ceased with the coming of the sun which rose with happy smile, accompanied by cooling breezes. All combined to make it an ideal day for the "nothing thousands."

The decorating committee, backed up by the individual efforts of the residents, had performed their work well and the city was a dream of beauty from end to end. Those streets honored by being included in the line of march were especially attractive.

From break of day the multitude began to flock into the city. Everybody, seemingly, in Lapeer and adjoining counties was here together with great numbers of prominent men from every part of the state. The city was crowded to the utmost. Though it is difficult to form a correct estimate of so great a crowd, the number of strangers within our gates on that day could not have been less than 50,000 souls. Not a candidate for admission to the new institution among them, either.

A detail of Nipping Lodge (R.K.P.) and the Lapeer band accompanied the members of the day to the depot and escorted the incoming delegations to their head quarters.

The procession formed at the foot of Nipping street at 1:30 p.m. and marched to the state buildings, in the following order:

Platoon of Police  
Gov. Rich and Staff  
Lapeer Band  
Fort Huron Guards  
Flint Union Blues  
Lapeer County Wheelmen  
Knights of the Maccabees  
Pontiac Knights of Pythias, I. R.  
Lapeer Knights of Pythias, I. R.  
Davison Band  
Davison Lodge F. & A. M.  
Visiting Lodges F. & A. M.  
Lapeer Lodge No. 54 F. & A. M.  
Schreiner's Band  
Detroit Commandery, No. 1, K. T.  
Flint Band  
Genesee Valley Commandery No. 19, K. T.  
Corunna Band  
Corunna Commandery, No. 21, K. T.  
Grand Master W. H. Phillips and Grand Lodge Officers F. & A. M., Mayor Vincent, Speakers of the Day and Invited Guests in Carriages  
Citizens in Carriages

Upon arrival at the grounds the impressive ceremonies were gone through with by Grand Master W. H. Phillips and the other grand lodge officers assisted by the thousands of Masons arrayed about the corner stone and were viewed by the immense crowd of spectators. Upon the platform besides the grand lodge officials were Gov. Rich and staff, Hon. Cyrus G. Luce, Hon. J. W. Begole, Hon. W. B. Baum, Commissioners L. A. Sherman and John Havenner, Mayor Vincent, Architect Hase, Supt. Brundage, Con-

tractors C. W. Smith and E. K. Earl, W. E. Brown, G. N. Lawrence, C. E. Palmerlee, E. C. Roberts, B. F. Loder, and B. F. Perkins, the four gentlemen last named being appointed by the Lapeer Lodge.

Mayor Vincent gave the address of welcome, cordially greeting the many guests of honor and numerous societies present and eloquently voiced the kindly feeling of hospitality felt by us all for every one of our visitors. He introduced the director of ceremonies, Grand Master W. H. Phillips of Muskegon who first asked the Grand Chapter to improve the Divine blessing. The Grand Secretary read the list of articles prepared for incorporation in the stone.

The Lapeer County Democrat

Engraved Copy of Bill

Photographs of Gov. John I. Rich, ex-Commissioner Cyrus G. Luce, Commissioners Loren A. Sherman, John Havenner, and John C. Sturges and Hon. William B. Baum

Invitation to Ceremonies

The Lapeer Clarion

Business Cards of the City

Roll of Common Council

Roll Water Board

Records Presbyterian Church

Records and Roll W.C.T.U.

B.Y.P.U. Card

Officers Romeo Commandery

Officers Genesee Valley Commandery

Relic of J. H. Koff

Card of Supt. W. H. Brundage

Record Class of 33 and Teachers

Commencement Program Class of '94

Program Alumni Banquet '94

Card J. M. Wattles, deceased

Bylaws Lapeer Lodge No. 54 F. & A. M.

Bylaws Chapter No. 95

Masonic Burial Service

Bylaws Lapeer Lodge 94 I.O.O.F.

Bylaws Nipping Lodge 64 K.P.

Bylaws I. F. of M.

Constitution and Bylaws of Friends

Bylaws A.O.U.W.

Bylaws I.O.O.F.

Bylaws K.O.T.M.

Bylaws G.A.R.

Michigan Common School Division

List Lapeer County Teachers '94 and '95

Roll Lapeer Tent K.O.T.M.

New Testament, G. N. Lawrence

The American Tyler

Masonic Corner Stone Laying Ceremonies

List of Grand Officers

Stock List of B. G. H. R.

Roll Oregon Tent K.O.T.M.

Roll Kings Min Tent K.O.T.M.

THE CORNER STONE LENTH, 1.5 M.

The box was small and must have been well packed. It was then placed in the stone. The emblems of Masonry, the square, the level and the plumb were applied to the stone and it was thrice reported "The craftsmen have done their duty." It was then consecrated with corn, wine and oil, emblematic of prosperity, joy and peace. The ceremonies closed with the proclamation, by the grand marshal, the exercise of grand honors by the assembled Masons and benediction.

The remainder of the afternoon program was carried out in the beautiful grove adjoining, which forms part of the state's property. Gov. Rich presided. The venerable ex-Gov. Begole being in the assembly, he was called to the platform and introduced to the people who received this statesman pioneer of Michigan with hearty cheering. He congratulated Lapeer on her success in securing the location of this institution. Flint has been vastly benefited by her asylum and ours is destined to be of far more importance.

Ex-Governor Luce delivered the oration of the day. He declared the leading characteristic of this century to be the onward march of humanity, inspired by the power of religion, and evidenced by the growth of state charities. The first institution to care for our unfortunate was the asylum for insane at Kalamazoo in 1809. A number of others have been provided since that time to care for various classes. But still how the terrible maddened and epileptic. The ones next in importance to the insane, considering their condition and their numbers, have been neglected and ignored for by the state. The first institution of this kind was established in East on in 1815. Michigan is the 23rd state to provide one. There are twenty in our poor homes and asylums 1,000 who are eligible to this Home. As a result of a 10 year trial in Pontiac since a report of the inmates have been so improved as to go out and become self-supporting. He clearly proved the positive need of such an institution and the practical benefits sure to result. A unanimous vote of thanks was given the gentleman.

Hon. W. B. Baum of East Saginaw was then introduced. While a member of the legislature Mr. Baum framed the bill establishing the Home, introduced it and labored incessantly until he secured its passage. He spoke interestingly for a few moments of the great need of the school, its objects and the difficulties overcome in securing it. Though he had hoped it would be located at Saginaw, since the commission had decided otherwise and he has inspected the site he could congratulate the state on the location secured and could join in the general congratulations to Lapeer.

Gov. Rich spoke briefly of the growing custom of extending aid and charity to the unfortunate as well as protection to the property and other rights of the competent. Michigan has established many institutions and provided in many ways for the welfare of her citizens and though we are inclined to grumble that they increase our taxes they in reality save us money as well as trouble. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. The various commissions on insurance, banking, pure food, etc., all cost but save many times the expense they are to us. And her various homes, schools and reformatories all yield great returns in making

self-supporting citizens out of the dependent or saving the unprotected, incompetent and irresponsible from lives of crime and shame.

This closed the exercises and the people returned to the city. At 6 p.m. the Detroit Commandery gave a dress parade and departed for home and hearty cheers. The Fort Huron guards gave an exhibition drill, on Nipping street in the evening. Their maneuvers were excellent, showing good work with the drill master, and deserve high commendation.

The "don'ts" were throughout one grand and glorious success, without a flaw, and completely eclipsed anything ever before attempted in these parts. The management was excellent, even to the minutest detail. Arrangements for the care and entertainment of our guests were complete and no one went hungry or was neglected. Everyone did their part and the day passed off without a jangle. No serious accidents.

Lapeer can now well afford to rest and enjoy her well deserved laurels, without one regret or thought of "what might have been." It couldn't have been better.

Lapeer County Democrat  
Wednesday, May 3, 1893

"Lapeer would like one of the state institutions which the legislature is about to establish. We have all advantages, natural, unnatural and supernatural."

## Oakdale in the Newspapers

Lapeer County Democrat  
August 8, 1894

Genesee street, from Main street to the asylum, should be put into the hands of Street Commissioner Jerome Compton with directions to make a boulevard of it. The residents should then slick up and beautify their places and the name changed to Asylum Avenue, or Asylum Boulevard. It ought to be the handsomest street in the city, for the largest amount of travel will be on it. Get to the front, ye property holders on old Genesee.

Date Not Known thought to be around 1894

Hadden & Co. have also bought quite a pile. C. D. Croley has also bought quite a pile. The Commission for the Home for Feeble Minded and Epileptic, L. A. Sherman, John C. Sharpe and John Hevener, met in this city Saturday. Owing to the resignation of Ex-Gov. Luce from the board and appointment of John Hevener of this city as his successor, re-organization was necessary. Officers were elected as follows: Pres., L. A. Sherman; secy., John Hevener; treas., John C. Sharp. They then visited the site and inspected the progress in the work and report themselves much pleased with it.

Lapeer County Democrat  
January 2, 1895

Lapeer County Democrat  
September 12, 1894

### The New Asylum.

Work on the new asylum progresses favorably, to the satisfaction of the contractors, Messrs. Smith & Earl. The boiler house and the dining hall are about completed. One of the large cottages is nearly ready for the roof and the brick work of the second is half way up. The buildings will probably be entirely completed and ready for occupancy by Nov. 1st. The new superintendent has not been selected, yet a number of candidates are being considered, and the selection will be made in a few days.

Lapeer County Democrat  
October 31, 1894

Forty or more men at the new asylum are hustling things along rapidly. The slate roof on the south cottage is just completed and other details are going forward most satisfactorily. The buildings have been wired preparatory to electric lighting. It will require 250 incandescent burners.

It is hoped the new asylum will burn wood as fuel—the same as the water works, electric light works, the brick yard, tan yard, foundry, flour mills, etc., do. It makes the best kind of fuel, is cheap and would help the poor farmers in the northern part of the county, who derive a considerable means of livelihood from marketing this kind of wood in winter when they could be doing no other work. The use of this wood has kept the wolfe from many a poor farmers door who is only too willing to work and earn money when he has the opportunity. Besides this it helps clear up the farms. It also helps the merchants at whose places trading is done. By all means let us do everything possible to persuade the managers to decide on wood for fuel.

The commission for locating and establishing the Home for the Feeble-minded and Epileptic of this state met at Port Huron last week and have decided to visit similar institutions in the states of Illinois, Ohio, New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania during the month of January, and study the methods upon which they are conducted. The commission has five applications for appointment of medical superintendent of the home, but will not make any selection until after their inspection of the homes in the other states. The superintendent must have had previous experience in the care of feeble-minded and epileptic. The home, it is expected, will be ready for occupancy by April 1. It has accommodations for 200 inmates and the legislature will be asked for an appropriation to enlarge the capacity of the home to 600.

## Oakdale in the Newspapers

Lapeer County Democrat  
January 9, 1895

One thousand cords of pine wood, four feet long, are wanted by the commissioners of the new asylum. See or address John Hevener, Secretary, Lapeer.

Lapeer County Democrat  
January 30, 1895

### Home of the Feeble-minded

Last Wednesday was the day fixed for the legislative committees to visit the new state asylum at Lapeer. The committee of the House consists of five members; that of the Senate, three members. For some reason the Senate committee postponed their visit; the House was represented by Dr. Allen of Charlotte, Mr. Partridge of Detroit, and Mr. Place of Ionia. Mr. Hevener, the resident member of the commission, being confined to his house by a severe attack of rheumatism, Dr. McColl, Mayor Vincent, Col. Frank McElroy and Mr. G. H. Cary escorted the visitors to the asylum, where Mr. Brundage, the superintendent of construction, showed them around the buildings now in progress and explained the plans in detail. The visitors expressed themselves more than pleased with the location. It is as yet uncertain when the other members of the legislative committees will be here.

Lapeer County Democrat  
March 27, 1895

### Street Car Line Wanted

A line of street cars is needed from the depots to the Abram House, then west to the feeble-minded home. Perhaps it is not generally known that a bus line is running from the center of the city daily, except Sundays, making two trips out to the home and back. Yet such is the case. Starting from the Farmers Home hotel at 6:20 a. m. with from ten to fifteen passengers all bound for the state home. Again leaving the hotel at 5:20 p. m. making the round trip in about 45 minutes. Ben Palms and Phil Slattery take turns driving.

Lapeer County Democrat  
April 3, 1895

The new asylum is closed to the public for the present, in order to let the finishing touches dry. Supt. Brundage will be pleased to open the building as soon as all is in readiness.

Lapeer County Democrat  
July 17, 1895

The new home for the feeble-minded is progressing nicely and it is expected it will be open for patients the latter part of this month. It will accommodate about 100 inmates and we believe there are already 500 applications.

Lapeer County Democrat  
August 7, 1895

We can see no objection to the good old name of Genesee street. It is a fit compliment to our neighbors in the county west of us. Yet there are people here who talk of Asylum street, as though that were its name. If we must have a change, give us something new: Foolery avenue, for instance; or Boulevard Epileptic; or Rue de Feeblemind.



## Oakdale in the Newspapers

Lapeer County Democrat  
Wednesday, August 7, 1895

"Billy Harper has moved more stone within a year than any man in this section. He furnished a lot for the new asylum, 50 cords for the new Catholic church and has shipped several carloads to Detroit."

Lapeer County Democrat  
September 11, 1895

There are now about thirty inmates at the new Home in this city, and thirty more applications have been approved. Two new inmates arrived Monday and others are expected daily.

Lapeer County Democrat  
August 28, 1895

To visitors at the Home: The management of this school extend a cordial invitation to the public to visit the School and inspect its work. To assist in this an attendant is provided to explain the various details. But, until further notice, we request that the public confine their visits to Wednesdays, between the hours of 2 and 4 p. m. The great amount of work coincident with the opening and organizing will thus not be interfered with. No visiting on Saturdays, Sundays or the Holidays allowed except by special permission from the superintendent. State officials and professional people or those engaged in the work excepted. W. A. Polglase, M. D., Superintendent

Lapeer County Democrat  
September 11, 1895

ion may be looked for.  
The grounds in front of the new Home have been graded and a beautiful gravel driveway has been constructed from the old railroad up to and in front of the buildings.  
Miss Minon Polglase will accompany her papa, W. A. Polglase, on his trip this week. She will visit her grandmama, Mrs. A. A. Polglase, of Chicago, before she returns.  
Lightning struck a chimney of the south cottage of the new Home last Wednesday night, knocking off a few bricks and displacing some of the slate shingles. Damage slight.

Lapeer County Democrat  
December 4, 1895

Jas. Brackenbury, on his way home the other evening, was accosted by a little girl, who asked him for a penny to get something to eat. "Who are you?" asked Jim in his kindest manner. "I'm a little beggar," was the prompt response. "Where do you live?" "Don't live nowhere." "Where's your home?" "Ain't got no home." Jim was a little surprised at the answers, but gave her a nickel and passed on. As he walked his thoughts were on this wise: "Poor little waif! Clad in a thin dress, with only a shawl over her head, wandering about in the cold"—but just then his cogitations were interrupted by his meeting the very man he wanted to see—Sheriff Demorest. Together they went in search of the little stranger, and found her in Miss Walker's restaurant, buying candy. She proved to be an inmate of the Home, having escaped from a basement window, and was duly returned to custody.

## Oakdale in the Newspapers

Lapeer County Democrat  
December 18, 1895

The new hospital for the Home is in process of construction, and will be completed about Jan. 1st.

Lapeer County Democrat  
February 19, 1896

To disabuse the minds of some people of the impression that the state pays for the pleasant entertainments at the Michigan Home, we will state that all the expense involved is met by Supt. Polglase personally. The Home affords more ample room for entertaining than the Doctor's private residence, and besides, it is a universal custom in the state institutions of this class. Entertainments such as dancing, etc., are given every two weeks during the winter at Pontiac Asylum, and are participated in by the professors, leading attendants and many inmates, as well as the citizens.

Lapeer County Democrat  
February 26, 1896

The state live stock sanitary commission, together with the state veterinary and Gov. Rich, personally conducted an investigation into the condition of the herd of Holstein cattle at the Michigan Home, here last week. Stock breeders hereabouts thought the cows were not "up to snuff" when they arrived here last fall, and the animals have not appeared well since that time. The findings of the commission pointed toward tuberculosis, and one of the cows being killed, a post-mortem examination confirmed the suspicion. In consequence, the whole herd of 11 cows were ordered killed. The New York stock breeder of whom the cattle were purchased will be taken to task and made to square the deal.

Lapeer County Democrat  
May 13

### Sunday at The Home.

Having occasion to visit the Michigan Home last Sunday I chanced to arrive during the Sunday school hour and found the girls' classes, in charge of Teachers Eldredge and Gormer, assembled on the lawn in front of their cottage. A speaker's table was decorated with beautiful wild flowers from the grove, and in the hallway was placed the piano whose inspiring strains assisted the children to sing familiar gospel hymns.

After the lesson of the day had been carefully explained, Supt. Polglase addressed the children in a simple manner, taking for his text, "Hear ye Him," in which he impressed them with their duty to love God and one another. The children then repeated in concert a hymn, "Sun of My Soul," "Mizpah" and a prayer, which closed the exercises. At the same hour a similar service was being conducted in the boys' cottage. At 5 p. m. lunch was brought over from the dining-room by attendants and the children received a bountiful supply of physical as well as spiritual food. I shall not soon forget this interesting sight. A VISITOR.

Lapeer Democrat  
June 3, 1896

Although the exercises at the Michigan Home last Saturday were drowned out by rain, the flag pole was raised just the same and it is a handsome spar furnished with cross-trees and wire cable shrouds, all in the purity of white paint. The program (recitations, music and marching) was very beautiful and enjoyable for, Monday, bright and pleasant, seemed made for the occasion.

6-3-1896

## Oakdale in the Newspapers

Lapeer County Democrat  
November 25, 1896

**Fire at The Home.**

Friday morning fire broke out in the laundry room at the Michigan Home, and the loss is estimated at about \$400. Supt. Polglase has a well organized company, and Chief Murphy found but little to do when he reached the scene. The cause of the fire was the explosion of the gas generator. The valve failed to do its work and forced the blaze back into the gas machine, which exploded with terrific force, and three other gasoline stoves on the same floor were blown into atoms. A young lady who was operating one of the laundry machines, sitting just in front of the generator when it went to pieces, escaped injury with the exception that her hair was badly scorched. Foreman Webber jumped over the railing to the basement below, injuring his hip quite seriously. He lost clothing valued at \$21. It was employees' day for laundry work. Their loss is estimated at \$200. Supt. Polglase has urged the necessity of a change in the laundry building, as he has considered it inadequate and unsafe. The board of control has had the matter under advisement. The loss will be adjusted by one of the state boards of which Gov. Rich is chairman ex-officio.

Lapeer County Democrat  
January 20, 1897

Another cottage is to be built at the Michigan Home, at a cost of \$15,000. It will be of brick, in the form of a Greek cross, in marked contrast to the two plain cottages already in use, and will stand to the north of them, next to the road. Dr. Polglase is now at Lansing making arrangements with reference to this new building, and it is planned to get the material on the ground this winter. It will increase the institution's capacity, a great desideratum, as there are several hundred applications waiting. The new cottage will have all modern appointments, and be more convenient than the old ones. Here also is a source of employment for some of our laboring men. 'Twill be a good thing all around.

Lapeer County Democrat  
January 26, 1898

Lapeer will build a new school house this summer on the site of the second ward building on Calhoun street. It will contain four large rooms two stories high, and be of brick material. It will be calculated to relieve the high school building which is now overly crowded.

The new cottage at the Home is receiving its finishing touches. Painters Turner, Crouse, Maveety, Roberts and others are doing the work. The building is a model of beauty and convenience; is substantial and inexpensive, indicating that Dr. Polglase is thoroughly onto his job.

Flint Daily Journal, January 22, 1898

Free Press:—Muskegon wants to know. It has been partially supporting a deaf and dumb boy by the name of Hans Christian, who was sent to the state school for the deaf and dumb at Flint. The boy was returned with instructions that he be sent to the home for feeble minded at Lapeer. Now the authorities at that place have sent him back, saying that Flint is the proper place for him. And there you are.

Lapeer Democrat  
May 18, 1898

Plans for a new cottage at the Home for Feeble Minded in Lapeer were examined by the State Board of Health at a special meeting at Lansing May 18th. With a number of recommendations, the plans were approved.

# Oakdale in the Newspapers

Lapeer County Democrat

June 15, 1898

## Moral Training

### A Teacher at the Home Writes the Following on Training of the Feeble-Minded

If ever in the history of our country there has been a need of moral training, in every walk of life, and in all classes of society, it is at the present time. It is true that few of the children who are in our care today, are likely to go out in the world; consequently their influence for good or ill is in a great measure bounded by the institution limits. But we must consider that they themselves are the factors with which we have to deal, and develop as far as possible the good, repress the evil, for their own sakes. Physical and mental development without moral training but tend to make the child more capable of knavery. But the necessity of moral education is conceded how best to effect it is to be considered.

The feeble minded child is a human being, but an imperfect one; so the training that is necessary for other children is applicable here, making allowance for the warped, weak and stunted natures with which we have to deal. So our progress is necessarily slow, but with patience and perseverance, we shall achieve much. The moral faculties, like the physical, acquire strength by use; and when we have led the child to one independent decision between right and wrong; we have strengthened the moral perception and made it easier to gain another victory. Obedience is one of the cardinal points in moral training; indeed it may almost be considered the corner stone. No child can be fitted for the duties of life morally, mentally or physically until it has learned to obey, for the voice of conscience will have little power over one, no matter how brilliant or how dull the intellect may be, who has not been taught to yield to proper authority. Another necessary element to the moral growth of every child is a proper regard for the rights and privileges of others, their feelings, property and persons; sympathy for the afflicted reverence for age; and for all things pertaining to the maker of all.

Closely following obedience, and very

of all.

Closely following obedience, and very nearly allied to it, is the discipline of systematic, well organized effort, which is however the very antipodes of rigid repression that being much worse for the deficient intellect, than for the normal one. But without discipline assuredly very little can be done; for when the child is allowed to indulge in his own whims and irresponsible actions, the mind cannot be in a receptive condition for training of any description. It is absurd to believe that a teacher can reduce a room full of children to order by making a noise over-powering their own, and then when they are surprised into momentary silence, succeed in showing them the beauty of an abstract moral virtue. But when they are quietly and happily busy with pleasant work, even the little incident connected with it may be made to raise their thoughts to "the good, the beautiful, the true." Yet the teacher should never deliver sermon; these are but little heeded in the school room and she who can find no other mode of reaching the feeling and the conscience, may well despair of being successful in moral training. One of the best ways, perhaps the very best way to secure order is constant employment; and here again great care must be taken that the work does not become monotonous since such a condition always tends to mentally, morally and physically degenerate, but every environment of the child should be cheerful, bright and inspiring. Love is the great compelling power in moral training, the love which gently unfolds, tenderly cherishes and patiently directs every germ of good in the soul of the child.

Lastly, the teacher herself must be the living copy, which the little ones may follow. How often do we hear the child refer to what the teacher has said or done. All children are imitative, the feeble-minded child perhaps comparatively more so, than has the fortunate fellow. Then how careful should we be of every impression—yes, of every thought, "for out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaketh." The teacher, by her example, does teach whether she will or not. To teach morality one must live morally. If her example be pernicious, if she indulges in outbreaks of passion, or wanders in the mazes of deceit, if the coarse or unseemly word soils her tongue, how blighting is her influence, how unworthy is she of her high vocation.

A wise man has said, "It were easier to teach twenty what to do, than to be one of the twenty to follow my own teachings." But we shall not reach a mark higher than our aim. So, though the result of our work may seem small and unsatisfactory, yet we have the sweet assurance that no earnest effort to do right can ever be lost or unavailing.



## Oakdale in the Newspapers

Flint Daily Journal, July 9, 1898

At a meeting of the Board of Control of the Home for the Feeble Minded held at Lapeer on Wednesday Hon. George R. Gold was elected secretary. Certificates of admission have been sent out and epileptics will soon be occupying the new cottage built for their accommodation. The school department is taking vacation and the teachers are away.

Flint Daily Journal, July 30, 1898

Miss Maud Smith, of Davison, has accepted a position in Lapeer as night attendant at the home for the feeble minded. She left Wednesday to take up her new duties.

Lapeer Democrat, January 4, 1899

Dr. W. A. Polglase, superintendent of the Home, has recovered from threatened blood poisoning resulting from performing a surgical operation.

Lapeer County Democrat

July 12, 1899

### Fire at The Home

#### Lapeer Fire Department Saved The Building

At 10 o'clock Monday night an alarm of fire was sent in from the Michigan Home for the Feeble Minded. The Lapeer fire department responded promptly and together with the department at the institution soon had the flames under control. The fire started among the barrels and boxes in the store room underneath the dining hall and had gained great headway when discovered. The building was filled with dense smoke throughout and a hot fire was raging in the hatchways and joists of the cellar. Heavy rolls of smoke were issuing from every window. It was just ripe for a conflagration; but the prompt and efficient work of the firemen was soon felt, and in less than an hour the fire was extinguished and smoke cleared away. Supt. Polglase was in Detroit at the time. Commissioner John Havenor was early on the scene and praised the Lapeer firemen for their great work. The ladies of the Home served the firemen with a lunch of coffee and cake. This is the second occasion the Lapeer firemen have been called to the Home, and they speak in great praise of the kind treatment and splendid discipline on the part of the authorities and attaches of the

Lapeer County Democrat

August 30, 1899

Things are moving along nicely at the Michigan Home. Ground is being broken for a new and extensive boiler house southwest of the present one. It will be large and on an extensive scale, furnishing power, steam heat, its own electric light plant etc. Progress is the watch word and Dr. Polglase is always at the front.