

### PLUMB LIBRARY DEDICATED.

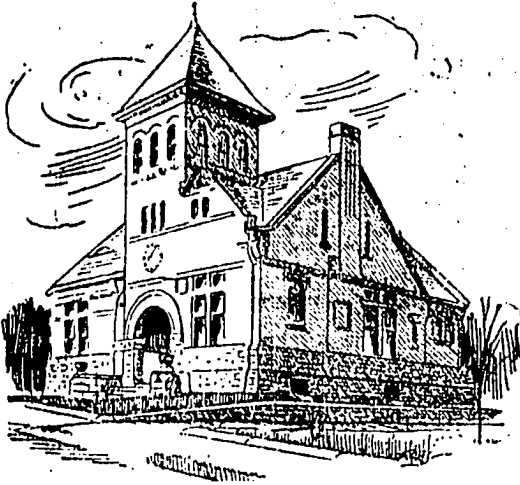
Governor Coffin Welcomed With Bells and Whistles.

(Special to The Courant.)  
Shelton, Dec. 4.

The ceremonies of the dedication of the Horace S. Plumb Library were begun on the arrival of the 10:10 train over the New Haven & Derby road today. By previous agreement the engineer of the train made an announcement by whistle of the fact that Governor Coffin was a part of his human freight and as the train rolled in to the station the fire bells, factory whistles and other instruments of that character acknowledged the chief executive's arrival. At the same time the flags in the numerous parts of the town were unfurled and the salute made general. The governor was the guest of Colonel Watson J. Miller of his staff. The services were held in the Methodist Church at 2 p. m. The Rev. B. F. Kilder offered prayer. D. S. Brinsmade, president of the board of directors, made an address, after which the library was formally presented by Dr.

has library facilities second to those of no place of its size in New England. Mr. Plumb gave the building in memory of his late brother, David Wells Plumb, who was for many years a prominent and influential citizen of this place, and who, during the later years of his life, was much interested in matters pertaining to public libraries, believing that through such institutions results could be accomplished that could be obtained in no other way. After a large amount of study and investigation he made a formal offer to erect and donate a suitable building provided the town would furnish a site, but before advantage could be taken of this generous offer his death occurred.

Some months afterwards Horace S. Plumb, having learned of the intention of his late brother, expressed a desire to see that intention carried out and for this purpose he selected three trustees, Mrs. L. W. Plumb, widow of the late D. W. Plumb; Dr. G. A. Shelton and C. E. Clark, in whose hands he placed the sum of \$25,000, with instructions to purchase a lot and erect the building. The site finally chosen was a part of the Plumb estate, and was generously donated for the purpose by Mrs. Plumb. The designing of the



The Plumb Library Building in Shelton Dedicated Yesterday.

Could A. Shelton, one of the trustees. Selectman Stephen T. Palmer accepted the building in behalf of the town of Huntington and Warden John H. Barlow received it for the borough of Shelton. Judge Joseph Tomlinson performed a similar duty in the interest of the directors of the library. "The Two Grenadiers" was rendered by Ericsson F. Bushnell.

Governor Coffin was then presented and was given a warm reception. He is deeply interested in educational work and his words were therefore greatly enjoyed. His speech was not a long one, but was to the point. The Rev. Luther M. Kemeston, pastor of the Congregational Church, discussed the citizen and the public library and he was followed by the Hon. Charles D. Hine, secretary of the state board of education, who referred to the relations of the public library and the public schools. The dedicatory address was delivered by President Julius D. Dreher of Roanoke College, Virginia. His discourse was a masterly effort and was delivered in a most acceptable manner.

There was a reception to Governor and Mrs. Coffin at the library this evening.

Huntington, of which the borough of Shelton constitutes the chief part, now

building was placed in the hands of C. T. Beardsley, jr., of Bridgeport, the architect, whom the late Mr. Plumb had consulted before his death.

The exterior of the building is of red Windsor Hill sandstone from the ground to the window sills, and of a warm, salmon-tinted brick above. The main roof is of red slate and that of the tower of Spanish tiles. The various cornices and other metal work are of copper, tinted green by the use of an acid bath. The main entrance is of stone, elaborately carved. The interior contains, besides the open vestibule, a central hall, reading room, book room, trustees' room and librarian's room. All interior woodwork is of quartered oak, and is richly paneled and carved. The ceilings in the reading room and book room are heavily timbered and are open to the roof. Those in the hall and vestibule are coffered. The floors of the hall and vestibule are of marble mosaic. The book room has accommodation for about 10,000 volumes. The building is Romanesque in design and has a frontage of sixty-seven feet and a depth of sixty-five feet. It is warmed throughout with steam and lighted by electricity. Attached to the brick wall in the vestibule is a handsome memorial tablet of bronze, containing a life-size bas relief of the late Mr. Plumb.