

erected in Vermont-

ville in 1838. This same schoolhouse was also used for church purposes from 1838 to 1844, and so its marking by the Grange at the present time is like a recognition of the mental and spiritual welfare of the forefathers, who established this fine Michigan village. The successful carrying out of the plan and the impressive program of dedication are due to the efforts of the Grange monument committee, composed of Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Hallenbeck, Miss Bessie B. Granger, F. E. Hay, H. H. Brown and James Wilson. Much credit for the project, however, belongs to the late Henry J. Martin, an ardent Patron for many years, who was especially eager to see this project carried through, but who, unfortunately, did not live to witness its realization.

At the dedication exercises the opening number was a song by pupils of the Vermontville school followed by the presentation speech, which was

than merely the building of the first home and the erection of the first school.

"They stand," he said, "for certain solid qualities of character, of culture and of constancy that went into the life of those early pioneers. Three institutions must be maintained if the fine qualities that have made possible our modern heritage are to endure. They are the home, the church, and the school. All these alike must be kept thriving in a community else it will surely go backward instead of making progress." Congressman Ketcham then congratulated the Grange of Vermontville on its fine community spirit and its desire to perpetuate the historic records of the past.

Following the address, all rose and heartily sang "America," which closed the exercises, the remainder of the day being given over to an inspection of the marker and a general social

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time, inasmuch as the people came from a wide radius and from a large number of different towns to participate in the day's exercises.

The boulder seen in the picture is a conglomerate, weighing about 13 tons and measuring 7½ feet by 5 feet. A government truck, traction engine and teams were used to move the stone from its bed in a gully and across country, fully five miles, where it was placed on a cement foundation on a corner of the chapel lawn in Vermontville, where it is shaded by beautiful old maple trees. On this same plot of ground, at the corner of the public square, stands the Methodist church of the village and on another corner the Congregational church, while diagonally across is the village park.

A second boulder of smaller size was placed on a farm nearby, which marks the first dwelling house in that community, built also of logs, as was the first schoolhouse. This was called the "State House" and was used to shelter the families when they came to the community until homes of their own could be built. This boulder bears a granite tablet. The wording on the tablet seen in the picture reads as follows:—

On this Plot of Ground
Was Erected
The First Schoolhouse
in Vermontville in 1838
It Was Used Until a Date
In the Early Fifties And
Was Also Occupied for Church
Purposes From 1838 — 1844

Boulder Placed in 1923
Under the Direction of
Vermontville Grange, No. 625

It is such community service work as this by a Grange that makes a permanent impression upon the locality and gives a direct answer to those people who frequently say that the Grange means nothing but "pomp and ceremony"—all of which is well worth thinking over by live, enterprising Granges everywhere.

ECHO TO GO ON EXHIBITION

The Vermontville Echo has been invited to send a copy of its publication to Tiflis, Republic of Georgia, Soviet Russia, to be placed on exhibition at a world-wide exhibit to be staged in 1932. The exhibition is planned to contain samples of publications from 241 countries printed in 181 different languages. In addition, the history and development of the printing press and the printing industry will be traced with appropriate displays. The first international press exhibition was held in Cologne in 1928.