

CHESTER TIMES – May 28, 1910

GOVERNOR STUART SPEAKS AT DEDICATION CARNEGIE LIBRARY –
State's Chief Executive Gives Good Advice to the Young Men and Young Women
Students of Institute for Colored Youth – Other Distinguished Guests Present

Hon. Edwin S. Stuart, the governor of Pennsylvania, was the piece de resistance on the oratorical menu presented yesterday, afternoon at the dedication of the Carnegie library building for the Institute for Colored Youth at Cheyney, over on the eastern border of Delaware County. While he declared that he was not aware he was expected to make an address until he arrived on the grounds, it was evident that he is a veteran hand at extemporaneous effort, for his remarks along the line of civic duty and statesmanship, pointed at the young men and women students, elicited sincere applause from the dignified assembly of the Quaker friends of the celebrated institution.

Governor Stuart praised the work of the institute and said now that he has seen it, his gratification at having signed the bill for the somewhat small appropriations from the state, is great. He declared that Pennsylvania has inexhaustible resources in its mines and in other spheres, but the greatest asset, it needs good men and women, for it is they who perpetuate the State and the nation. "What you need," said he, "is pluck energy, character; but above all, integrity. A man may fool a great many people, but he cannot fool himself, because there is a something within him that tells him when he is doing right and wrong."

OTHER DISTINGUISHED MEN PRESENT – The chief executive was accompanied to the institute by State Senator William C. Sproul, who takes a great interest in the corporation, and the two held an informal reception for the several hundred people who went to the place in a special train from Broad Street station, Philadelphia. They, with Joshua B. Bailey, Bishop Turner, of the African Church, who offered prayer, occupied seats on the platform with no less a distinguished educator than President Joseph Swain, of Swarthmore College, who spoke on the vision of the past, the present, and the future and how to apply this vision to the successes of life. He illustrated his remarks with apt examples of his thought. George Vaux, Jr., outlined the history of the institute, which is the first in the country to devote its energies to the education of colored men and women to be teachers of their race. Joshua L. Baily, who presided, also spoke, and George M. Warner, secretary of the corporation, read the Scriptures.

A pleasing part of the program was the singing of plantation melodies by the students whose vocal work without instrumental accompaniment, was inspiring in the extreme. A luncheon was served in Emleu hall basement after the exercises.

Though not on the program, Senator Sproul responded to the invitation to speak and after saying that it is refreshing to see men of means spending their money in a philanthropic way, when these same men are criticized so harshly in many avenues of life, he paid a compliment to the work of Prof. Hugh Browne, the principal of the Cheyney Institute.

The Carnegie library is built of stone, in keeping with the architecture of the other structures on the place of 117 acres of fine rolling land. It has a spacious auditorium, a recitation room, and the library proper, the latter being on the lower floor. It is constructed along simple lines with numerous shelves convenient for storing magazines that are not bound.

THE CHEYNEY INSTITUTE – The Institute for Colored Youth was organized in Philadelphia in 1827. In 1902 the management decided to reorganize the work as carried

on in the city of Philadelphia and to concentrate their efforts and funds in a first class normal school with this aim: To give a course of instruction, both academic and industrial, that will prepare the young people for teachers of the various industrial subjects and graded school work. The courses are so arranged as to permit a large portion of the time to be given to the actual work belonging to the different subjects. The Institute claims now to translate the advanced and approved educational methods of instruction into the language of the present condition of the Negro child.

The school has developed and published a leaflet "Daily Menus for the School Year and a Dietary Study for October," and a set of record sheets for the keeping of storeroom and dining room accounts. Mention of the leaflet has been made in the U.S. Experiment Station Record of 1910. The daily menus have received the commendation of experts, hotel managers, stewardesses of boarding schools, and many other prominent authorities. The menus are especially commended for their variety, wholesomeness, economy and scientific arrangement.

KEITH LOCKHART COLLECTION