

CHAPTER IV

THE CONTRACT

THE BRUMBACK MEMORIAL LIBRARY DULY OFFERED THE PEOPLE
OF VAN WERT COUNTY — COPY OF CONDITIONS UPON
WHICH THIS GREAT GIFT IS MADE

FOR several months those who have the welfare of Van Wert County at heart have been inquiring what was being done toward accepting the late J. S. Brumback's magnificent gift to the county of a fine library building. Owing to the absence of Hon. O. S. Brumback in the West, the matter has been delayed somewhat, and nothing could be done until his return. The heirs have now submitted to the proper authorities a contract, upon the signing of which, they will at once proceed to erect and furnish a public library building of which any county in the state could well feel proud. The heirs of the late J. S. Brumback, desiring that this liberal gift might prove a benefit to all the residents of the county, have wisely determined to offer it to the entire county. Let it be distinctly understood that the city of Van Wert has never had the offer of this magnificent gift, does not now, and we fear never will, have, except as it is a part of the county. The heirs have concluded to offer it to 30,000 people and not to limit its benefits to 8,000 people.

The Van Wert Library Association stands ready to donate its little library of nearly 2000 volumes, as well as other properties, as a starter for a good county library. We understand, if the offer is accepted and the building erected, that local librarians will be appointed in every district in the county and that the rules and regulations will be made such that the people living in the remotest parts of the county may borrow just as many books to read at their homes as those living nearest the building.

The progressive farmers of our county have already, at their meetings, expressed their willingness to accept so