

## PATTEN AIDS SOLD SANDWICH CHURCH

Former Wheat King Contributes \$7,000 Towards Presbyterian Edifice And Organ At Sandwich.

James A. Patten, multi-millionaire and former wheat king, returned to the scene of his boyhood days at Sandwich last week and took part in the dedication exercises of the new \$28,000 First Presbyterian church. He was the guest of Banker S. P. Sedgewick, whose wife is his cousin.

The presence of the wheat king at the morning service seemed to bring an air of liberality into the church. In five minutes \$10,000 had been subscribed to help pay the cost of the edifice. Of this amount Mr. Patten gave \$2,000, which, with a former donation of \$5,000, made \$7,000 in all he gave toward the cost of the new building.

Darwin Knight and his sisters, prominent members of the church, followed Mr. Patten with a donation of \$2,000. The Ladies' Aid society announced their donation as \$2,500. Harry Patten, brother of the wheat king, gave \$250.

The former wheat king arrived in Sandwich Saturday night. He remained until this morning, returning to Chicago over the Burlington railroad. Yesterday afternoon he spent most of his time calling on relatives and old acquaintances.

Besides the magnificent new church a new organ, built by the Burlington Organ company, of Burlington, Ia., has been installed at a cost of \$8,000. This is also to be paid for out of the fund subscribed by members of the church and its friends.

Mr. Patten is not a member of the Sandwich church. He made his donation of \$7,000 in remembrance of his mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Patten, who were among its founders. When he was a barefoot boy his parents sent him off to Sunday school to the little frame church at Freeland Corners that has since become the First Presbyterian church of Sandwich. His donation to the church close by follows one of \$40,000 for the founding of a cemetery near Sandwich where his father and mother and two brothers are buried in a private mausoleum.

Rev. Edgar P. Hill of the McCormick Theological seminary of Chicago, made the dedicatory address yesterday afternoon. Addresses were also delivered by Dr. J. M. Lewis of the Congregational church and Rev. John Acheson of the United Presbyterian church.

Special musical programs were rendered by the choir at the morning, afternoon and evening services.

The beginnings of the Presbyterian church of Sandwich date back for more than sixty-one years. A number of settlers had located near Somonauk creek some seven miles north of the present town of Somonauk. Included in the number were the Merrit family, ex-Governor Beveridge, Mr. Patten, the father of the Patten boys, and James Beveridge, an ex-state treasurer. The place was known as Freeland Corners, and later as Somonauk. When the Burlington railroad was put through the village of Somonauk Station was established but Somonauk remained at the name of Freeland Corners. Many persons who desired a station at the present site of Somonauk but it was not deemed necessary. Finally through the efforts of Congressman "Long John" Wentworth of Chicago, a station was provided for and was named "Sandwich" after Wentworth's old home in Massachusetts. The name "Somonauk Station" was finally changed to the one name "Somonauk" by which it is now known. It was known also for a long time as South Somonauk.