

News items from the *Kendall County Record*, 1890-1909.

1890

January

Jan. 1: The departure of 1889 and the appearance of 1890 was not only observed by staying up and watching by some of our citizens, but was accompanied by the firing of a number of guns of some sort and by the whooping of it up by the boys.

Fishing on New year's day and the balance of the week has been engaged in by a number of our men and boys.

Recent deaths reported included Mrs. John Condon and Mrs. Chris Burghart.

"The last decade of the nineteenth century commenced to-day," said the editor of one of the Chicago papers Wednesday. There are some other men who think that the next century commences with the beginning of the year 1900, but the editor ought to know better. There are 11 years yet of the nineteenth century.

There are two or three new cases of sickness, but merely of the ordinary and domestic kind--none of the new style and imported "La Grippe" in town, unless L.N. Hall has got it; he most always is the first to get any new thing that comes around.

It is said that parties are negotiating for the Parker waterpower, to be used for the manufacturing of pulp ware.

The knitting factory has got along as far as the raising of a committee consisting of five of the shrewdest of our business men, viz: Kilbourne, L.N. Hall, Haight, Boesnecker, and Jas. T. Pearce, which or at least three of them are to go to Chicago this week to investigate all about the concern and report at a meeting to be held next Saturday afternoon. Rank acted as chairman and McFarlane was secretary. Theodore Fettig, the propriety of the factory and Mr.

Herrmann of Chicago, were present and made a statement as to what the business was and what they proposed to do, which was to the effect that the plant was for the manufacture of knit woolen goods; that it employed about 100 hands, mostly girls; that the machinery on hand to carry on the business was worth \$15,000; that they proposed the formation of a stock company with a capital of \$30,000 and that the \$15,000 worth of machinery should constitute the half of it; that he wanted \$5,000 with which to straighten up his affairs in Chicago and the removal here, which would leave him the owner of one-third of the stock. The business is to be under the control of a board of directors, and the superintendent to work on a salary. After some remarks by Haight, Kilbourne, Hebert, Loucks, and questions asked by others, the above named committee was on a motion appointed, charged as already stated. The most of the people here are very enthusiastic for the enterprise and see in it a ten percent dividend, the stock running up to 125, an advance of the real estate, the forerunner of other establishments, Oswego a city with electric lights, street cars, and a hotel; even we socialists and anarchists who don't believe in competition between towns any more than that of between individuals, nor in the sharing in the profits of labor, nor in the good of the rise of real estate nor in any of these advantages which this project is to bring about, but who are looking forward to a business system in which no speculative or usurious features shall remain; even we are heartily in favor of having the knitting factory coming here; but here is one class of our people decidedly opposed to it and that is the girls; "The idea," they say, "of bringing an extra lot of girls here where there is already a scarcity of boys."

The most unique and likely most costly Christmas present received by anyone in the community was that of an armchair by L.N. Hall from his brother, Asher, in Texas, the frame of which is constructed entirely of horns from Texas cattle, which are nicely polished.

Jan. 8: Death, in this neighborhood, entered the new year at its very beginning. Mrs. John Condon, several miles southeast of town, was the first victim, dying Wednesday and having been sick for some time. The funeral and burial took place Saturday at Aurora under the auspices of the Catholic church.

Mrs. Chris. Burghart died at her home in town Thursday evening, the funeral taking place Sunday afternoon from the Congregational church, the Rev. Mr. Krebs, pastor of the German Lutheran church of Aurora, officiating the solemn rites. The maiden name of the deceased was Anna Kreutler, or Craitler as the name now is usually written, and was but 27 years old, leaving behind a husband and three small children.

L.L. Turney has come home from his travels in Southern Illinois.

H.J. Collins has gone to Streator in the butchering business.

Will Dusell has moved with his family to Streator.

The school resumed operation Monday; the teachers absent during the vacation having returned much invigorated in body and spirit. Miss Dixon, who was on the sick list at the time the school took the holiday recess, is all right again.

A man from Chicago was here Saturday examining the sand-banks of this neighborhood with a view of purchasing the deposits for Chicago use.

Yorkville: The first day of January 1890 was not a model day for New year's, and the young people who had planned for a good social time were thoroughly disgusted, as were some of the older ones who desired to go off on a visit. It was warm, very; it rained, it drizzled, it was damp, dark muddy, and cheerless. It took good temper and healthful digestive organs to be even partly jolly. But then it was all got through with--because there was no recourse.

Ice is forming on the river, and the ice cutters are expectant.

The Kendall County Horse Protection Society will hold its annual meeting on Saturday, Jan. 25, 1890, at the court house in Yorkville.

Jan. 15: George W. Cooney, one of the early settlers, died last week at his home over in NaAuSay.

There have been quite a number of new sick, and the most of them supposed to be afflicted with the "Grippe" but all that have not already recovered are on the way of it.

Dr. W.A. Hawley has come down from Iowa to spend a few days in his old home. He had not been here in 10 years, during which time he has undergone no change in appearance.

John B. Rousell, the Frenchman blacksmith, once of this place, was here from Aurora one day.

The Cornell's feedmill has been started up again by its former operator, R.E. Davis.

The ice company wants considerable more of the same sort of weather on tap Monday. They have had constructed a number of new ice-houses and are prepared for a large harvest.

The Oswego Library association held its annual meeting Monday evening in the Odd Fellows' hall. The library was shown to be in a very flourishing condition. A tax of 50 cents per share was recommended at the meeting.

In showing how space is annihilated by giving an account how quick (4 hours) an answer by cablegram was received from Glasgow, Scotland, the editor of the *Aurora Herald* tried to annihilate one year's time. Says he: "We, in the last decade of the 19th century." One year too previous.

F.O. Hawley is said to have bought a nice place and will move there in the spring.

The knitting factory project is yet under consideration, but there is little prospect now of its coming to a head...the business as it now stands would not warrant a success, owing to the fact that the goods produced were principally of the fancy sort, and therefore changeable and confined to a market for the time the craze for them is on and hence not a steady business; that it is much effected by such winters as the present, and that there is little, if any, of the "good will advantage" connected with it.

Yorkville: The sudden change in weather from Sunday afternoon to Monday morning was enough to disparage even the dwellers of this uncertain climate. Last Sunday was a rainy day; in the morning the mercury was at about 44 degrees; at five in the afternoon at 54, and during the following hour we had as heavy a fall of warm rain as is ever experienced here; the atmosphere then began to cool, and at seven o'clock Monday morning the thermometer indicated 12 degrees above zero, the ground sprinkled with snow and ice, and the wind blowing a 2-15 gait from the west. La grippe microbes were blown to the rolling seas and it is hoped that the unpleasant influenza that has been so troublesome is banished. But it was a terrible sudden change.

The river was quite high Monday morning.

Frank O. Hawley of Oswego has bought a residence in Aurora, west side for \$8,500 and will move up there in the spring. All our capitalists are investing in Aurora.

Jan. 22: La Grippe is the general rule and those that have not had, or are not having a tussle with it, are the exceptions. The most have it but lightly, and in but a few cases caused it the patients to be laid up, as for instance Wm. Dwyre, Lew Inman, Fred Smith, J.S. Seely, and others.

John Schark is again a married man in reality and consequently happy He had been a grass widower for a couple of years, his wife living in Aurora; last week they commenced again keeping house together.

Charles Hawley has come down from LaCrosse in a somewhat crippled condition caused by falling from a railroad freight car.

Aux Sable: The roads are bad--awful; got the grippel

Several eagles have been soaring above the beautiful Aux Sable lately.

Yorkville: There are many short-comings in *The Record* this and last week. But it is unavoidable--we have been afflicted with the grippe, and consequently short-handed.

Two below zero Tuesday morning. Mercury 7 degrees below zero this morning; proper winter weather.

This cold weather is agitating the ice harvesters and they are getting in shape to cut ice. The river above the dam is frozen over solidly.

Jan. 29: David W. Carpenter, enjoying the distinction of the oldest settler residing in this town, has been gathered to the beyond, dying last Wednesday. The deceased was 76 years of age; came from Ohio to these parts in 1832 with Elijah and John Pearce, a relative of whom subsequently became his wife, from which union four children are now living, viz: Noah, T. Jefferson, Mary--Mrs. Thomas Brace--and Amanda--Mrs. Peter E. Cooney--all residing in Plymouth county Iowa except the latter, who resides here, and all except Mary have come here. Amanda, being nearby, was much with the deceased during his sickness; Noah arrived a day or two before death took place, and Jeff reached here just in time to meet the funeral procession returning from the grave. The wife of the deceased having died, he enlisted in the Mexican war on the first call for volunteers [in Company E, 2nd Illinois Volunteer Infantry], was engaged in one of the principal battles [Battle of Buena Vista] of that war, and of which services he always was very proud. Subsequently he was married again, and the second wife is now being left a widow. He was a member of the Congregational church and a very peaceable citizen, and was right the opposite from being avaricious and consequently was not one of the opulent of the old settlers.

Wollenweber, Lou Inman, and Fred Smith, the ones most severely afflicted with la grippe and perhaps other complications, are all on deck again.

A "Calico Social" will be held at the residence of J.B. Hunt Jan. 29. Proceeds for the benefit of the Christian Endeavor Society. Come and bring 15 cents to pay for your supper.

James S. Hoyt of LeMars, Ia., is here on a visit.

Mrs. W.H. Winsor and boy of Aurora and Mrs. James McConihe of Plano were among those that were anxious for the 5:05 train to come along Saturday so as to get off on it. The former repaired to the residence of M.J. Pogue and waited it out, but the latter returned to her mother, Mrs. S. Minard, and stayed over to Monday. The train was over four hours late.

The annual business meeting of the Oswego Library Association was held in the Odd Fellows hall Monday evening, Jan. 13.

The association now has 77 members. The number of cards in use, 104. The number of volumes in the library, 473. The number of books issued during the year of 1889 is 2,642, of which 82 percent were fiction. The number of new books placed in the library during the year is 55. An assessment of 50 cents on each card is ordered for 1890, the same to be paid on or before June 1.

A vote of thanks was tendered to Mrs. F.J. Read for her efficient service as librarian. Under her supervision, the association has not lost a single book. She has been able assisted during the past year by Miss Mabel Hunt.

Yorkville: David Hall was down from Oswego Friday. He has had auction sales and grippe at the same time, and they don't work well together.

George Starr got his ice house filled Friday morning, doing it in a day and a half. Nice ice from the Blackberry pond, eight inches thick.

John Reiger and L.R. Lippold of Plattville are going to Nebraska in a couple of weeks, where they will engage in farming.

There has been a good deal of sickness in town and country the past week or two and the doctors have been kept busy. It is mostly attacks of the influenza.

There was a big procession of wagons to Yorkville Monday. Wall. McCloud of Plattville sold his hogs to Lon Halleck and his neighbors helped him bring them to town. It was a fine showing of prosperous

farmers from Seward way, and they did say something about rough roads.

February -- 1890

Feb. 5: What's the matter with the woodchuck? He is all right! No flies on him! Has left his winter quarters and boldly started out on the active duties of life. Farmers and gardeners be admonished, and get your seeds ready. Ice is gone up, and the milkshakes will have to be taken without it.

It seems that there is still a good deal of sickness around and some are experiencing a second trial with the grippe--Tom Pigott is one of them.

Mrs. Henry Helle was taken down sick Monday morning; her husband had just recovered from the grippe.

In reclining on one of the railroad bridges between here and Yorkville, George Stickler either dropped off or was pushed off by the 5:05 passenger one afternoon. The train stopped and brought him along; his hurts were not serious.

The ice company had a lot of men come out from Chicago the fore part of the week, but nothing could be done in the way of gathering, as what ice there was had become too thin and rotten to go onto.

It is said that negotiations are now pending for the purchase of about 600 acres of land adjoining this village for the locating of a locomotive works here. Let that be what it may, Oswego's boom will be reached in its own good time. It is known but little that secret experts have been over this section and by whose diagnosis an inexhaustible deposit of natural gas is located here. Just let us be patient a little longer; our gas will make us all opulent yet, and convert Oswego from a dull village into the smartest city on Fox river.

Yorkville: The rulings of Speaker Reed in the House of Representatives at Washington have made the Bourbons and old



rebels yell with anger. He has put a stop to filibustering whereby a minority can stop the work of a majority and the public business will go on. Sessions of Congress are held to transact public business, not to whip-saw for political advantage.

The ground hog did not see his shadow Sunday.

Ice is disappearing from the river and the ice men are feeling that they are left out; but there is time enough yet for a freeze.

The milk-haulers have not had a pleasant job this winter supplying the factories. It is an all-day job over these roads.

Will Healy has been appointed fish warden by Governor Fifer for Kendall county.

Setting fence posts the first week of February is a novelty here. it was done in Bristol Tuesday.

Feb. 12: A new girl at Rush Walker's is now making the gender equal--three of each.

E.A. Smith has put a part of his windmill up on the tower. It is a new pattern.

Crate Jarvis has relinquished the position and Henry Miller is now the under boss at the depot.

Frank Vanderlip, an Oswego boy, has been promoted to financial editor of the Chicago *Tribune*.

L.N. Hall, whose water supply by hydraulic ram gave out, has been digging a well and found plenty of water at 24 feet from the surface.

No harm in playing cards to pass away time, but you shouldn't get mad over it and call each other nincompoops and such like fancy appellations.

The sick of this community are still quite numerous and the most sick was that of young George Burghart, whose condition at one time last week was very precarious.

Anton Miller, the collector, wants to say to you tax-payers of this township that "the best way to prevent or get rid of the grippe is to step into the collector's office and get your tax receipts." He means the grip on your money.

Prof. Blake, the Kansas weather prognosticator, would make it appear that the Charleston earthquake was of incalculable profit and blessings to the country; preventing the most distressful drought and causing this mild and beautiful winter.

Gus Huth sold 11 hogs to Wollenweber & Knapp that weighed just 5,500 pounds and with the sale of which he was much pleased, being that they weighed more than he expected and were the finest lot, the buyers said, received this season.

The greatest effort of their life will be put forth by the Dramatic Club next Thursday and Friday evening in the presentation of "The Old Maid's Triumph."

Yorkville: There was a big string of hog wagons in Yorkville Monday and lots of people as well, making business lively in town. John McKanna got here from Seward with five loads of as fine hogs as can be raised. He had been trying to get here for two weeks but bad roads prevented.

Feb. 19: "She is such a nice girl" was the universal sentiment expressed about Emma Troll. Her ways and manners were always pleasant so that to know her was to love her. But death is now respecter of persons; after about five weeks of sickness with a rheumatic affection, she died towards evening Monday, within three days of being 20 years of age.

George Burghart is better but yet quite sick. Nellie Armstrong has been at home sick for several weeks. Some of the children of Rev. Mr. Ambrose are sick. James T. Pearce and Justices Jeneson and Murdock are around again but in an enfeebled condition.

Chris. Herren of the Grove shipped three car loads of oats last week.

John A. Rieger and Robert Lippold each loaded a car with their effects Monday. They are moving to Hamilton county, Nebraska, where they have been buying farms.

The funeral of Charles Burghart, who some years ago has been living in this place, will take place this (Tuesday) afternoon. A telegram was received by his father several days ago that the corpse had been forwarded from Tacoma, Wash., where he was a railroad man, but nothing was said as to the cause of his death, and of which is relatives here are still ignorant. He was 35 years of age, was married, and his widow is expected to arrive with the corpse.

That they should have been disgusted with Oswego is the mildest form it can be put, meaning the Haigh Bros. in coming here to exhibit their stereopticonal dissolving views of the Holy land, etc. Their apparatus is a very good one, and their productions as good as any of that kind.

Aurora is everlastingly boasting of her greatness, and when saying anything at all about Oswego, it is a sneering allusion to its insignificance; yet when it comes to the doing of anything extra interesting, they have to come down here to carry it out. By much advertising and blowing about it, they will once in a while get up a show where for reserved seats some of the tickets sell as high as 75 cents, but that is the maximum for any show there. Thursday night, their folks wanted to witness an exhibition of special interest; they were willing to pay for it, but Aurora was no place for it, and so they had to employ all the hacks and numerous buggies to come to Oswego for its accomplishment and Collins' hall was chosen as the place. The tickets were \$3--that was just for admission, nothing said about reserved seats or any seats at all. The mill came off after 12 o'clock, and but very few Oswegoans had any knowledge of it until next day.

Yorkville: PRIZE FIGHT IN OSWEGO  
Aurora's Toughs Slop  
Over Into Little Kendall

A fight to a finish between "Reddy" Brennan of LaSalle and Jack Eckhart of Streator took place at the rink in Oswego, about six miles south of Aurora, last night at midnight. There were about 100 spectators, most of them from Aurora and Chicago, and among them, it is said, two high officials of LaSalle county. Ike Weir, the "Belfast spider," acted as referee. Brennan weighted 135 pounds. He was seconded by Kelley and Millimore of Aurora. Eckert weighed 138 pounds, and his seconds were the "St. Joe kid" and Kane of Chicago. The fight was with two-ounce gloves, and was supposed to be under the Queensberry rules. In the fifth, Brennan drew first blood. Eckert threw and choked him and was warned by the referee. In the next round, Eckert threw his opponent again and hit him when he was down, whereupon the referee called it foul and gave the fight to Brennan. Considerable money was wagered on the result. Every hack from Aurora was pressed into service for the occasion.

We have no comments to make on this disgraceful affair--disgraceful to Oswego--disgraceful to Kendall County. Will the authorities permit it to go unpunished?

Mr. Beebe was in Chicago two days last week making arrangements for the engraving and printing of his new map of Kendall county. It will be ready for delivery in a few weeks and will be the most correct map of Kendall county ever issued.

As the spring rains approach, be prepared to have your premises washed off by first removing the offal, ashes, old cans, etc. Especially should the outhouse vaults be kept from an overburden of filth; they may be provocative of disease. We can all be cleanly though we may be poor.

Some school boys endeavored to roast some eggs on the lee side of a straw-stack on the old Stevenson farm in Specie grove last Wednesday afternoon; the result was that the straw took fire, was consumed, and nearly set the barn on fire. The boys were trespassers; their parents should insist upon these boys roasting their eggs at home hereafter.

Feb. 26: Spring is being ushered in, the boys have commenced playing marbles.

F.O. Hawley is having a new well dug at his residence. Larkin and Ackley are doing it.

Henry C. Cutter has shipped a carload of potatoes to Chicago.

Six carloads of ice from Wisconsin were received here by the Fox River Butter Co. Monday.

The family of Leonard Shoger has been increased by a new boy and that of Joseph D. Ebinger by a baby girl.

L.G. Bennett went through here on the 5:03 train Monday, looking as though he enjoyed this world and Missouri to the fullest extent.

The pupils of room No. 3 cordially invite their friends to attend the Longfellow memorial exercises on Feb. 27.

L.N. Hall has been laying the pipes for carrying the water from his new well to the house and barn, and soon will erect a wind-mill for the pumping.

Fay, three years old, the youngest of the Hinchman children, died Sunday. The funeral will take place Tuesday. Eugene, the oldest boy of that family, is also quite sick.

Frank Hawley bought of George Squires 800 fatted sheep of an extra fine quality and of which he shipped three carloads Monday night; also two carloads of hogs at the same time.

“Disgraceful to Oswego” said *The Record* meaning the prize fight. How could we help it? We are a well behaved community; by 10 o’clock nearly everybody is in bed and asleep. The Aurora crowd didn’t reach here till after 12; they brought their whisky along and had no occasion to arouse our dealers for a supply, as was shown by the empty flasks left behind. The few belated of our people that happened to be met, were intimidated by being admitted to the show as deadheads. Why should we be blamed any?

The remains of Charles F. Burghart were brought here from Plano where they had been left by the railroad in a hearse from there Tuesday, accompanied by the widow and a son. The funeral took place in the afternoon. A newspaper account of his death was read, which was to the effect that the deceased had lost his life at some place in Washington while engaged in switching, by falling and having the caboose run over him, cutting off one arm and the top of his head; that the remains were sent to this family at Tacoma; that he had been a sober and industrious railroad man and stood well with the company and his acquaintances.

The funeral of Emma Troll, though under the greatest of solemnities, was nevertheless a very nice one. It occurred Thursday, the same being her birthday when she would have been 20 years old. The Congregational church was entirely filled with the attendance. The Troll family has been subjected to much bereavement of late; this was the third funeral from that house within a year, they being those of two daughters and a son-in-law.

Mrs. A.B. Whipple died Wednesday. The deceased was 81 years of age, but did not look nor appear near as old; she was a member of the Congregational church, led a quiet Christian life, and was respected by all who knew her. The couple have been living in this village for 26 years.

It will behoove everybody now to be salting down a little money for the next two years, for of course everybody within 50 miles of Chicago will want to take in the world's fair.

Yorkville: "It is said that among those present at the Oswego prize fight were several Aurora policemen, the Sheriff of Kendall county, the marshal of Oswego, who wore false whiskers, the sheriff and state's attorney of LaSalle county, from which the sluggers hail."--*Joliet Republican*.

Probably correct in the main; but the sheriff of Kendall county informs us he was not present.

Naperville is now lighted by electricity, paying \$1,200 a year for 86 incandescent lamps. The electricity was first turned on Monday.

On Saturday last, Col. D.F. Hitt and B.F. Lincoln of this city visited LaSalle. At that place, they met several gentlemen from Chicago, who for months past have been negotiation for the purchase of Starved Rock. The gentlemen held a long consultation and finally an agreement was entered into and the sale was consummated. The Rock and 100 acres of land surrounding it, are included in the sale and the amount received for the land by Mr. Hitt was \$15,000. The company has a capital stock of \$150,000, and some of the most prominent men of Chicago hold stock.

It is the intention of the Company to make the Rock the finest resort in the west, and it is said that the resort will bring thousands of people from Chicago and all parts of the state to spend the hot months of the summer in the garden spot of the Valley of the Illinois.

Jim Cross says that the sale is knocked in the head for the reason that Beecher Fellows never deeded the property to the Government.

*--Ottawa Times*

The farm residents of Munger [sic., should be Mungo] Patterson in the town of Wheatland was burned Sunday with all its contents. The house was one of the oldest in that section--a fine old-time farmhouse.

March -- 1890

March 5: Mr. and Mrs. Hinchman wish to thank the many friends for the kindness shown in their affliction. The funeral of Fay, their little boy, took place from the house.

Leonard Burkhart Sr. has bought the Alexander Small farm for \$19,000. Leonard is getting to be the owner of quite a fraction of the earth.

A bee for drawing lumber by his neighbors was had by J.D. Ebinger last week; he is agoing to build a house and bard as soon as the season opens.

The new well of Frank Hawley's is 39 feet deep and containing 5-1/2 feet of water.

The Allord family has moved to Aurora.

The Longfellow memorial exercises of Miss Benthien's school [Walker School] were very efficiently performed and quite a number of the spectators were there to witness them.

The Fred Sierp family has moved to Aurora; their house here now is vacant.

Much relocating is now going on among the tenant farmers.

"The Little Brown Jug" is the next performance of the dramatics, which will take place next week Thursday and Friday evenings.

A nice and substantial family marble monument has lately been erected in the Oswego cemetery on the Lauriston Walker lot, where father and son are buried. Another, where Mrs. Jas. Williams was buried a short time ago, and also one at the grave of Mrs. Chris Friebele. There are others that were erected not a great while ago, for instance that of Fred Shoger of Aurora, and by the way, the Shoger family, which is quite a large one, is already well represented in the grave yard--having six nice monuments there. The emigration to the cemetery has of late been quite lively--deadly perhaps would be the better expression--there have already been seven burials there this year.

There will be a spelling match and entertainment in District No. 10, at the Harvey school house, March 14.

Yorkville: Did March come in like a lion or a lamb? More like a polar bear.

The last day of February was a corker, at the end of so mild a winter. There was a fall of sleet and snow the night before and last Friday morning the mercury was within ten degrees of zero. It blew coldly from the west and snow filled the air nearly all day long. it was a cold day for the ground-hog.



Aurora is filling up with ice from Wisconsin that is from 14 to 20 inches thick. Where will Yorkvillans get their ice cream this summer?

Geo. M. Hollenback is known as a very methodical man, and keeps his business affairs in such shape as to be able to refer to any matter at a moment's notice. he is also very careful with all letters received and last Thursday rather surprised the publisher of *The Record* by handing a letter dated "Chicago, March 7, 1864," and signed by John R. Marshall, in which he asks Mr. Hollenback what the prospects would be for the successful publication of a local paper at Yorkville, the new county seat of Kendall county. It was Mr. Hollenback's favorable reply that was one of the motives in establishing this paper here.

Justus Nading has got some nice ice, Wisconsin ice from the clear lakes up north. Eighty tons were received this week by railroad, and it is stored in one corner of the big ice house up the track. So we shall have ice cream and milk shakes through the season.

March 12: George White shipped a car load of corn, and Doc. Woolley one of rye.

Frank Gibson has returned and will resume his old position at the lumber yard.

Margaret Rabe has bought of Frank Hawley the house on the corner of Rosehill and the west branch of Madison Street and has moved into it.

No matter whether your are for or against the liquor question, you must go and see the "Little Brown Jug" performed.

Everett Walker of Remington, Ind., has engaged himself as clerk with H.B. Read. He is a cousin of Jesse Walker, is good looking, and will make a valuable addition to the society of the young folks here.

Georgie, another boy and again the youngest, being four years old, of the remaining children of Joseph Hinchman, died Friday and was buried Sunday forenoon.

Fire got pretty well underway in a room up stairs at Inman's Saturday afternoon, destroying a lounge, the carpet, and damaging other furniture.

Rheumatism is now keeping Lou Inman confined to the house, which left L.N. Hall alone to run the drug store and attend the bank, besides superintending the erection of a windmill tower and putting up of the mill near his barn. Dave Hall, Postmaster Hubbard, and Mabel Hunt occasionally came to his assistance.

The harvesting of ice was the important enterprise of the week, although the ice company has made no effort to gather any here. The creamery has secured pretty nice ice from off the Hopkins stone quarry. All who had ice-houses were busy to fill them with the kind of ice they were able to get. The work was prosecuted even night time and during Sunday.

Among the removals were Peter Christophel from the Switzer farm to Aurora; Charles Stiefbold to Copenhagen in DuPage county; John G. Bower on the Clint Gaylord farm; C.F. Gates into the Doud house on the south side of the road and is agoing to work the Lodems Morgan Phelps land; John Waldbillig on the so-called child farm; Evan Edwards on the Budlong farm; and George Schell on the farm vacated by Stiefbold.

The funeral of Mrs. William Brown (colored) down the river, whose death had taken place suddenly Thursday, occurred Sunday afternoon from the Cowdrey school house, where a large congregation of friends paid their last respects to the deceased. The obsequies were performed by a colored clergyman from Aurora. Shaver & Eastman had charge of the funeral. The deceased was about 50 years of age.

Yorkville: Sheriff Ackerman complains about there having been various small articles, such as stove handles, pokers, and other things stolen from the court house. It's a pretty cheeky thief who will steal from a sheriff, and whoever it is we fear will come to no good end.

J.D. Rice & Son, the well known painters, paper hangers, and decorators located in that magnificent store on the island, Aurora, have been doing a great amount of artistic work this season that attracts general attention and favorable comment. They carry a complete stock of the latest and best goods in their line, including artists' materials of every description.

--Joliet News: The farmers of Will and Kendall counties are just now realizing what public road economy means. Only those living on gravel roads have been in Joliet since before Christmas. Hay, butter, eggs, poultry, and onions have been commanding good prices in this market, and just a few farmers could avail themselves of this condition. The buyer and seller might as well be a thousand miles apart.

March 19: Mrs. Charles L. Roberts quite unexpectedly departed this life towards evening Wednesday, the funeral taking place Saturday afternoon from her late residence. It is said that the deceased had been having the "grippe" and that when nearly recovered from it her lungs became affected. She was 64 years of age and an old settler, having lived on the place where she died for 47 years. She was the mother of seven children, six of them, all grown, are now living and were present at the funeral--those not living here are Wm. B. of Kansas City, Samuel of Plano, and John B. of Aurora, the latter two being accompanied by their wives. John Roberts of Ogle county, a brother of the husband, Seldon Bunn of Peoria, and Cassius Durand of Chicago, nephews of the deceased, and a number of other relatives and friends from abroad attended the funeral.

The number of the sick is still above the mean.

Lou Inman has resumed his position at the drug store.

Wm. A. Foster has moved into the Sierp house.

The new resident of the Geo. Parker house and who will carry on that place is John Olson.

Nels Anfinson and Ed. Johnson are the new tenants of the Hawley farm two miles east of town.

The Kraft family has moved to Aurora, by which that city makes a material gain at the expense of Oswego as regards the census.

Miss Millie Larkin has caused herself to be transformed into Mrs. Ira Ackley Saturday. The bridal couple left on the 5 o'clock train for Aurora to establish a household there immediately.

Charlie Knapp said that the handsomest lot of hogs he ever bought came from Joe Brown down in NaAuSay. They were 55 in number, average 352 and were perfectly lovely. They were shipped at Catonville.

Frank Hawley is extensively in the sheep business, both as to the keeping and the buying and selling of them.

It is the starch factory that is now coming here.

St. Patrick's day was celebrated by a masquerade ball the night following at the Collins' hall.

The washing machine man here for a week or so and putting up at H.S. Jessup's departed without settling for his board and at the same time Mrs. J's gold framed spectacles disappeared.

Just on entering the town a little before 5 o'clock Monday afternoon, the extra freight train coming up met with a breakdown caused by the burning off of a journal of the trucks under a coal car. The 5 o'clock passenger came soon afterwards and had to hang up there, but its passengers were transferred to an extra sent from Aurora in the meantime. The wrecker next made its appearance and was set to work. The 6:05 passenger came down somewhat late and had to wait for the track to be cleared but by 8 o'clock all the trains were enabled to pursue their trips.

Yorkville: Get out your fishing tackle.

The CB&Q railroad company has bought a majority of the stock of the Burlington & Northern, and the management will hereafter be

exclusively the same as that of the Q. The price paid was \$40 pr share in cash.

The St. Charles sugar factory was burned to the ground Thursday morning. The concern manufactured a sugar from whey, which was used for medical and other purposes.

A special dispatch dated March 13 from Geneva in Friday's *Chicago Tribune* gave an account of the burning of the court house at that place.

Kane county court house is a historic building and a landmark in this part of the state. It was erected about 1856 and was quite a pretentious structure for those days, costing fully \$50,000. it was a stone building, three stories in height, and about 125 feet square. Mussey, the Geneva fire bug, came near getting a taste of his own medicine as he was one of the prisoners confined in the jail.

A good girls will get good wages in a small family at Dr. R.A. McClelland's, Yorkville.

3,500 pounds of printing paper were received at this office last week on which to print *The Record*. A pretty big stock for a one-horse paper.

The ice went out from above the dam Thursday night and Friday night the pond was frozen over again; Tuesday the ice again departed. All kinds of weather the past week.

A new boiler is being put in the butter factory at Oswego this week, and the milk from that section has been brought to the Yorkville factory. William Thomas was in town yesterday morning with a load of milk.

The Aurora Blade says: "the neighbors of Deacon Small of Oswego township, many of them members of the Waubonsie club, met at George Bristol's on Thursday night and presented him with a cane and easy chair. Mr. Small is about to take up his residence with a daughter, Mrs. Henry Hopkins, who lives below Yorkville. The daughter, Annie, will go to New York to live with her sister, Mrs. Coulter, who is in poor health.

March 26: The Grove Chris. Herren is getting ready for building a new house.

Holmes is the name of the Fox River Butter Co.'s new book-keeper.

There are rumors about this (Tuesday) morning of the embarrassment of one of our prominent farmers.

It is now said that the sale of Gregg's place over the river has fallen through and that there is agoing to be no change over there.

Doc Woolley awhile ago bought a carload of cattle of Wollenweber & Knapp and now has sold them back to them again on good profit, making the corn fed them come to 60 cents per bushel.

Nobody seems to be wanting office this year; nothing has been said about any caucus or the town meeting. Is patriotism playing out? Are there no longer men willing to sacrifice themselves for the good of the country?

Wollenweber & Knapp have a nice lot of steers of their own fattening, which they are about to ship.

S.H. Gregg is said to have sold his place over the river for about \$1,900 and that he has moved or will move into the house of his son-in-law, that of Charles Roberts, and that the latter will move. If not done so already, onto the homestead and keep the house there.

Ludwig Lippold, besides the farm upon which he will also work that adjoining and vacated by T. Belschner; into the house on it Will Dusel has moved, who is said to be agoing to work for Lippold.

Owing to the putting in of a new boiler and the reconstruction of the furnace the creamery was all tore up for the most part of the week and the milk had to be carried to the Yorkville factory for working it up.

Thomas Belschner sold out last week, quit farming and gone into the saloon business by buying out the Geo. J. Burghart place. He has

taken possession of it, moved his family into town and is using the upstairs part of the saloon for a residence. Tom has been having rather bad luck; as a railroad man he was all smashed up; as a farmer, especially of late, he had horses die and otherwise made slow progress; and now as a saloon-keeper it is predicted that he will succeed no better.

Yorkville: In the efforts of farmers to organize for personal benefit, they should remember that it is diversified industries that make prosperity. If farmers' alliances and granges attempt to establish stores, mills, and factories of their own and crush out the business of small cities and villages, the business men of those places will have to go to farming or truck gardening to sustain their families. We must all live and it is not wise to array one class against another.

It was a poor winter for the sale of tank heaters.

April -- 1890

April 2: The town election today will be a docile affair; the offices are going begging, and the probability is that the entire old set will have to keep on. But one caucus was held, that of the Republicans Saturday, where no opposition was apparent to the Republican incumbents except that of collector, but Anton Miller again got there. Daniel Hemm was nominated for road commissioner--John Russell, whose term expires is a Democrat. Tom Edwards was named to fill the vacancy of a constable, but somehow would he have it if elected, was his protest. Immediately following this caucus, the people's representatives present, with little formality, merely passed a resolution to the effect that they would endorse all of the Republican nominations except that of road commissioner, which they named again J.D. Russell.

Mrs. Morris Gray died early Monday morning. The deceased was 74 years of age, was one of the old settlers having followed her husband, who had come here in 1835, the next year, the family coming from Montgomery county, N.Y. Her maiden name had been Elizabeth Schultz. She was the mother of six children; five of them now living, and her husband is also surviving her, although he is

about five years her senior and has been in very poor health for several years.

*The Lodi Valley* (Wis.) *News* of March 22d has an account of the funeral and highly eulogistic biography of one H.C. Bradley, a businessman of that place; a widow and daughter of mentioned as being his survivors. The said surviving widow is Mrs. Lydia L. Gates, who over many years was an intimate of many of this community and who will be readily remembered by all Oswegoans that were here before the [1867] fire.

A.B. Hall, an Oswego merchant of the ante-bellum times but since the war a Texan, has been here for a few days visiting his relatives and friends. Ash was very popular in this community when here and now all of the old Oswegoans are always glad to see him. He keeps himself in excellent condition.

Charles Rieger, Alf Wormley Lars Nelson, John Peterson and Phillip Clauser returned Saturday from Wisconsin where they were employed in the housing of ice for Esch Bros. & Rabe. The firm is said to have gathered a full supply.

Crate Jarvis has gone to Janesville, Wis. to attend a telegraphy institute and his brother, Charles, to Chicago to engage in the street car service, it is said.

The infant child of a bout a week old of the Rev. and Mrs. D.E. Ambrose died and was buried the latter part of the week.

The sisters Kate Hopkins and Mrs. W.H. Winsor both have been making the old folks, E.A. Hopkins, a visit.

Mattie Richards is said to have gone to Aurora to engage in the millinery business.

Charles Lippold is now at work in the Aurora car shops.

Alexander Brown has moved to town and into the M.S. Richards house.



A show of the magical order Wednesday evening was not well attended.

The new firm of Johnston and Smith has been stocking up with a supply of implements.

Charles Weber has moved to the old Bartlett house now belonging to the G. S. Williams estate.

Yorkville: We are just starting, and the Alliance is new in this county, but we intend to thoroughly organize all the farmers of Kendall county as far as possible, and it is possible despite the fact that certain classes claim with great noise that it is now. We expect to call meetings for organization as soon as we can arrange them.

W.A. BEANE

*Fox, March 26*

April 9: Patrick Deveney has gone to Tolono to attend the funeral of his son, the Rev. Thomas Deveney, who had been stationed there over a church, and is said to have died from a relapse of the grippe. Tom was an Oswego boy, and one of the good kind. As a small boy he was well behaved and very studious and early went to college and began the study for the priesthood of the Catholic church.

The corpse of a Mr. Norris, a brother of Mrs. E.S.L. Richardson of Chicago, was brought here from that city Monday and then conveyed in a hearse by Shaver & Eastman to the NaAuSay cemetery for burial. Mr. Richardson and another gentleman were with the remains and attended the burial.

At the town meeting, the commissioners of highways were instructed to examine into the macadamizing of roads, and to see what arrangements could be made with the quarrymen about a stone crusher.

It is said that the Chapman store in the brick block has been sold to Frank Hawley, and will be converted into a meat market.

The joyful news has been received here by their friends that Dr. and Mrs. Putt of Hastings, Neb., were enjoying the presence of a baby, and it is a girl.

Mrs. A.L. Rice went to Elgin to spend Sunday with her husband, who is at work in Woodstock.

Yorkville: --Plainfield *Enterprise*: Rev. S.R. Beggs spent his 89th birthday with his son, J.W., at the Central last Sunday and gave a brief but interesting talk at the M.E. church in the evening. Mr. Beggs is one of Plainfield's most venerable citizens, and it has been thought for a number of past birthdays that he had passed his last milestone, but generous providence has each time spared the kind old soul and he is capable now of making a speech that would become a man half his years.

--Aurora *Herald*: Mr. L.B. Judson has left California for home. On his way back, he stopped at Norwich, Kan., the home of his son, Fred. On Wednesday last, Mr. Judson undertook to help Fred by raking up and burning some weeds to prepare a place for settling out fruit trees. After he had the weeds nicely burned, a gust of wind took the fire to an adjoining straw stack, which took fire, the fire from the stack set fire to the barn, which was burned with all of Fred's farming implements, harnesses, etc.

Fox river is booming.

Yesterday, Tuesday, noon the mercury was up to 84 in the shade. To-day it is down to 38. We have a variable climate.

It is announced that Rev. Thomas Devaney of the Catholic church at Tolono, Ill, is dead. He was a subscriber to *The Record*, and formerly lived in Oswego, we believe.

April 16: It is not merely the "Good Men" this time that are to run for corporation trustees, but men that are for or against license, men of decided principles, and on the side of anti-license, men that will enforce that suppression of liquor traffic if elected. The indications for the election of the anti-license ticket are quite fair.

Col. Clark got a new seeder and with his spirited horses before it went out in the field and filled it with oats for sowing. The horses started before the driver was ready and sowed the oats where none were to be sown and doing it in a very lively way. A lot of barb wire fence was taken down during the putting in of the work; the seeder was scattered over a large area of ground, and the horses, after having run in a circle for awhile stopped from mere exhaustion; neither received a scratch.

Two Holstein yearlings, bull and heifer, for Edmund Seely were received here Saturday from Tennessee, having been about four days in coming. They are said to be of extra good stock.

The Tolono *Herald* in its obituary of the Rev. Thomas Deveney spoke very highly of him. The remains were brought to Aurora for burial.

H.S. Jessup returned from Michigan where he bought a lot of pigs for being developed into fat hogs and which, 270 in number, were received in a double deck car.

Henry Helle and Anton Miller both had new picket fences for year yards constructed.

A.S. Reynolds of Chicago, who was a merchant of Oswego more than 40 years ago, was in town one day.

A musical company from Chicago gave a free concert Monday evening at the Congregational church and at the same time raised a class for a course of musical instruction. They are good musicians and hustlers in doing business.

W.J. Morse has bought the house he is living in.

Late update: Oswego was struck Tuesday by a tidal wave of temperance mixed with a good deal of something else. The no-license ticket was elected by 37 majority out of a vote of 141. G.H. [Gustavus H.] Voss as president and Sam Jessup, Will I. Kennedy, and Harley Richards as trustees were elected.

Yorkville: R.M. Wheeler was here from NaAuSay last Thursday looking mudstained and weary; he had assisted in piloting about 30 heard of hogs to town for shipping and as the hogs walked in and the mud was sloshing around, it was a slow and tedious job.

Many of the working Democrats of Kendall county want Mr. F.O. Hawley of Oswego to be the minority candidate for the Legislature this fall and will do their level best to get him there. Mr. Hawley has some experience in public affairs--he was from two years president of our county agricultural society and has been and is one of the Oswego highway commissioners and president of the village board of trustees. He has lots of friends in the Democratic party.

The Burlington Route, CB&Q R.R. will sell from principal stations on its lines on Tuesdays, April 22d and May 20th, Home Seekers' Excursion Tickets at half rates to points in the farming regions of the west, southwest, and northwest. For tickets and further information concerning these excursions call on your nearest CB&Q ticket agent.

April 23: Frank H. Gates, who awhile ago bought himself a farm over the river, has not taken unto himself a wife. He was married Wednesday to a Miss Anna Johnson of Wilmington.

The death of Mrs. Lorena Smith, the widow of the whilom Josiah Smith, occurred early Monday morning. The deceased was 66 years of age; was born in Montgomery county, N.Y. Her maiden name was Andrews, being a sister of Jonathan Andrews of this place. The family of which she was the wife and mother came to this neighborhood 30-odd years ago and she has been a widow now for about eight or 10 years. Six children--four daughters and two sons--are surviving her.

G. Michael Shoger died Monday at the residence of his son Michael out in Wheatland with whom for the present he had been living. He was 83 years of age, came from Württemberg, Germany to this country and this vicinity with the rest of his family in 1856; three of his sons had come several years previous. He was the father of 21 children, but only seven are surviving him. The remains were

removed to the residence of his son Gus here in town from which the funeral will take place Wednesday.

There hasn't such surprise been caused by any corporation election in Oswego as by that of last Tuesday since the time of the "Finnigins," and that is so long ago this generation doesn't know anything about it. The pulling through of the temperance ticket was thought possible, but only by the skinning of the teeth, and the question now is, "To what is this great victory due?" Some hold it resulted from the religious revival last fall; others that it was brought through the influence of the temperance organizations. Then there are those who argue that "all the good comes through evil," and that it is due to the much drunkenness lately exhibited. It is also said that internal dissention was the cause, that a vigorous knifing of each other of the license men had been going on. But no matter about the cause, let it be known that Oswego is now temperance 2-1.

Some parties here are buying up all of the spare potatoes for eastern market. A number of carloads have been shipped.

Watts Cutter has shipped a carload of pressed hay.

Dave Hall was elected without opposition to succeed himself as school director last Saturday, and Dr. Lester likewise as school trustee the Saturday previous.

R.L. Childs with his family, had moved to Aurora, having bought a place there.

Mary Boesenecker returned to her school near Newark after spending a short vacation at home.

The Rev. F.E. Lyons is now the pastor of the Congregational church and it is said that he will be moving his family here from Chicago this week and be occupying the Joe Wayne house.

G.C. Inman has commenced the building of an addition to his residence.

At the council meeting Monday evening the old board closed up its business as far as agreeable, which consisted mainly in the allowances of bills and then adjourned sine die. The new president and trustees being present then signed the necessary papers and took the oath of office and without any other inauguration ceremonies started out with the holdover members to begin the new administration. The president on motion of Alderman Kennedy, announced the several standing committees. An application from G.F. Funk for the obtaining of a license to sell liquor was read, which on motion to lay on the table till next meeting was agreed to, and the council adjourned to next Monday. The new members of the board are quite young; all are yet in the 20s, the president being but 23 years old. Some refer to them as "the kids of the board," but they are displaying as much dignity and statesmanship as the best ever on the board.

NaAuSay: Everyone around here is finishing up sowing oats.

Something ought to be done to disperse the gang of Sabbath-breakers that make Sunday afternoon hideous down on "the flats" with their base ball playing. They were allowed to carry on their disgraceful work last summer unmolested, but it is to be hoped that some lover of order and quiet will stop it this year, and send those Sabbath-breakers back to their own homes, for they belong to other communities.

Yorkville: Aurora is about to cut up another farm into city lots so as to give the Hercules Iron Works \$20,000 and some land as a bonus for locating there. No trouble about getting a lot in Aurora.

The Chicago Burlington & Quincy company has purchased 60 acres of land on the DuPage river near Naperville, which it is intended to convert into the handsomest picnic grounds in the vicinity of Chicago. It will be fitted up for boating, base ball, and all sorts of games and recreation and is to be called Burlington Park. Work on the improvements has begun.

Mrs. Mary Pooley was born in England Feb. 6, 1810. She was the daughter of John Miller, well known in Kendall county, who came to this country about 1841. She was married in England to John Pooley

Nov. 12, 1830 and came to this country in 1855 living for six years in Oswego, thence moving to Wilton, Will county, where they remained until a few months since, when they moved to Peotone. Mrs. Pooley was converted about 38 years ago before leaving England and ever maintained a Christian character. She reared a large family, 11 of whom are still living, 10 daughters and one son. She quietly fell asleep Feb. 6, 1890. She was the mother of Mrs. W.C. Beane of Fox and sister of Thomas Miller of Oswego.

Dr. Elias M. Smith, brother of William Smith of Yorkville and Henry G. Smith of Oswego, died April 12, 1890 at Independence, Ia., after a long illness from softening of the brain. Dr. Smith was born at Whiting, Vt., June 27, 1827. In 1854 he came to Kendall county and for some time taught the Lisbon village school. His wife and infant daughter died at Lisbon in 1855. He was again married in 1858, practiced medicine at Blackberry, Kane county, for a while and then moved to Iowa where, the Marion, Linn County, *Pilot* says, he practiced 30 years as a resident physician whose life is closely woven with the history of Linn county. The papers speak very highly of him as a physician and citizen.

April 30: U.R. Strooley is no more. What became of him is immaterial. For the time being, Oswego will be represented in *The Record* by the undersigned, whose intention it is to somewhat improve on the letters from this place--especially not to exhibit the bad taste of his predecessor in referring to himself with the egotistical "I," neither, however, will he spread himself with any plural pronoun.

The Rev. E. Von Freeden has moved to Elgin.

A number of Oswego Masons went to Yorkville Wednesday evening to attend a come-together there.

Daniel Hemm had one of his gray mares die yesterday, age 10 years.

John Schilling had two lady visitors over Sunday. They were his cousins' daughters, Misses Lizzie and Emma Newman of Brighton Park.

Otto O. Hettrich of the German settlement goes to Jennings Seminary at Aurora for the spring term.

It is said that Hypnotism is now coming into use for various purposes; in the medical profession it will supplant chloroform as an anesthetic agent, being so much better and safer and that it is also one of the best means of curing inebriety; that a good hypnotist can instantly hypnotize a man hankering after a drink of whiskey, so that the taking of a little water will fully satisfy the craving and that by several repetitions of the same, the desire for strong drink will be entirely banished. A good operator of that kind might be of much benefit here after Wednesday.

The funeral of Mrs. Lorena Smith Tuesday afternoon of last week took place from the Methodist church of which she was a member; and that of Michael Shoger Wednesday afternoon from the Congregational church where the obsequies performed jointly by the retiring and incoming pastors of the Evangelical church, of which the deceased was a member--the former, Von Freeden, preaching in German, and the latter, Schultz, in English. The singing was also rendered in both tongues.

And now the candidates of next fall's election are coming to the front. Frank Hawley was nominated for the minority representative of the 17th district, and of course one candidate of the legislature from Oswego would be all that with modesty could be asked for; but as he is now out of the question by his moving out of the district, one would ask: What is the matter with D.M. Haight? For such that is as one on the minority side. Considering his abominable tariff ideas, one would be opposed to him for Congress, but at Springfield they can do no hurt, and otherwise he is all right, and would make an active member. Haight is a hustler; when he sees a thing which he thinks is good, he goes for it with all his might; he worked hardest during the last presidential campaign than many what are now enjoying soft place.

All were present of the village board at their meeting Monday evening. L.N. Hall was chosen treasurer. Funk's petition for license was then taken from the table and on motion by ballot, three for



and three against, it was declared rejected, the president giving the casting vote against it. A similar petition from Belschner was rejected by 2 for and 4 against it. A motion from trustee Kennedy that no license be granted for any dramshop during the present municipal year was adopted and a motion by trustee Jessup was also adopted that no license be granted for the running of any billiard and pool tables, bowling alley, &c. An application for a license to sell liquor for medical, sacramental, and mechanical purposes only from L.N. Hall was granted and the rate fixed at \$5.

Applications for the marshalship by J.W. Morrison and George J. Burghart were laid on the table till next meeting. Trustee Helle's resignation was on motion laid on the table. P.G. Hawley was elected corporation attorney. A long discussion ensued in which outsiders took part, as to whether or not allow the railroad company to extend the water mains to the depot, and was decided in favor of, but the control of it to be with the village authorities.

New pastors for two churches of this place have moved here last week. The Rev. F.E. Lyon and wife arrived from Chicago Saturday and Sunday morning at the Congregational began his work.

The Rev. J.K. Schultz and family moved here from Plainfield and into the parsonage during the week and Sunday morning preached to his new charge in the church out at the German settlement and in the afternoon at the one in the village.

Like elsewhere of that denomination, which has become double headed, there had been made two appointments for this church and the other a Rev. Mr. Miller, also had come during the week to install himself as the pastor, but he was respectfully informed by the trustees that he could not be recognized, as this church would go with the regular organization of the Escher following, and by that the dispute was quietly dropped.

Mrs. Mary Young died at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. John A. Wheeler, in NaAuSay April 22, 1890. Deceased was born at Mayfield, Sussex, England Oct. 1, 1817; was married to William P. Young in the summer of 1835, and came to America the same summer, arriving in Chicago in September of that year. Came across the Atlantic in a sailing vessel, and was seven weeks on the voyage. At that time the post office in Chicago was kept in a shoemaker's shop and the shoemaker was postmaster.

She spent her 17th birthday in Chicago. They came to AuSable Grove, Major N.W. Davis's, in February 1836, when there was but one other white woman about the Grove at that time. Mr. Young was a wagon-maker by trade; his first job was to go into the grove, cut down a tree, split out a stick and make an axle for a double wagon for Mr. Davis. Soon after this they moved into a double log house built by John Hough on the farm now owned by Mr. Wayne, just east of Mr. Goudie's, where their two oldest children were born, Richard and Laretta (now Mrs. John A. Wheeler). When Richard was about two weeks old, Mr. Hough came to her house and said, "Mrs. Young, this is the first white child born about the Grove."

Yorkville: There were no politics in the village election at Oswego on the 15th; there were no third party fossils to arouse prejudice and ire--in fact, third partyism is an unknown quantity in Oswego politics; it was a harmonious understanding of voters who were heartily sick of the baleful influence of the saloons in turning the town into a drunken resort. The saloon keepers had not been wise in their generation--they run things wide open, and it ran away with them. Seems to be if the old chronics in other places would take a back seat things might be different.

The president of the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association for Illinois is C.J. Lindley, a lawyer and the county judge of Bond county. It is pretty hard to keep a lawyer out of anything that has politics to it. A leading figure in the Farmer's Alliance of this state is H.H. Haaff, a farmer who has a law office on Dearborn street, Chicago, and sells saws to cut horns off of cattle. Seems to me farmers could get along better with farmers.

May -- 1890

May 7: Oh, how dry Oswego has been since the first of May when the beer signs were taken down early in the morning. A few celebrated the old order of things out and the new in by being full and howling.

Don't grumble about it being cold. A dry March, wet April, and cool May promises much fruit, corn, grain, and hay.

Babylon, a booming town of old, was celebrated for her hanging gardens. Oswego may become likewise celebrated, not exactly for hanging gardens but for gardens on top of the houses. Mrs. Hunt has commenced the enterprise and is cultivating a flower bed on the roof. Gardening has been the leading occupation and garden talk the main topic of conversation in Oswego for the last two weeks, and one could meet a group of fellows any evening that liked to hear themselves talk gardening while standing around in a store. Hank Smith is good at that.

Bill Varner showed new potatoes the size of an egg Monday. They grew in the cellar.

Yorkville: May 7, 1864 was the date of the first number of the *Kendall County Record* ever issued; May 7, 1890 is the date of this week's issue. Twenty-six years have elapsed since John R. Marshall brought a second-hand printing office from Chicago set it up over Crooker & Hobbs' store in Yorkville and printed the first number of *The Record*. Twenty-six years is a long while to run a country paper.

May 14: Mr. and Mrs. A.S. [Augustus Spencer] Reynolds, who away back in the forties were of Oswego's prominent residents, and who were here for the last month renewing acquaintances while staying at Wm. Ladd's returned to their home in Chicago Monday.

Burghart & Miller is the new firm of the meat market. Charles Zorn sold out to G.J. Burghart.

May 21: A May ball by the Star Terpsichorean [of or related to dancing] club transpired Wednesday night.

Mabel Hunt and Martha Potter have qualified themselves for entering the field of teaching.

The Frank Schram meat market was moved last week to its new location in the brick block. It may be said to be a new institution, for all the furniture and appliances are new and of the most improved order; the ice box, especially is a most convenient and imposing part of the establishment, which is having a very citified appearance.

School terms are now expiring and teachers are coming home to stay. Hattie Hallock's was out last Friday and Mame Rice's a week or two ago.

It is said that a cider drunk is the best wearing drunk of any of the other kind.

May 28: Miss Carrie Wollenweber surprised her friends by unexpectedly getting married. Her husband is a Mr. W.T. Fryne, a telegraph operator at Ottawa.

Several old-time Oswegoans made their appearance in town last week, one being B.F. Fridley, who though living in the city which claims this place as a suburb, seldom is seen here. Another was a Mr. Supplee, who when a boy away back in the 50s, was living with his folks over the river. Albert Head, who went from here to Wisconsin a number of years ago, has returned on a visit. John Martin was an Oswego boy, got married here, went to Iowa and engaged in farming; after living there for a number of years he disappeared and was supposed to be dead, as the death by some accident of a John Martin out in the Rocky Mountains had been reported; but last week he turned up here alive and well, having come to make his mother, Mrs. Buell, a visit.

Two elderly ladies arrived here Monday inquiring if some parties from the country had been seen in town. Subsequently it was learned that they were the wife of Dr. Danforth of Milwaukee and sister. About 40 years ago they were the Misses Moor, daughters of an Oswego merchant and two of the young ladies of this place.

Oswego's municipal affairs have become quite noted. The leisure Moment Club, which has furnished the new members of the village board, is referred to as the "Tammany Hall of Oswego" by the Aurora and Chicago papers. The *Tribune* of Monday had a column and a half article of a humorous nature about the new administration.

June -- 1890

June 4: Patriotism was uppermost in the thoughts and doings of this community the past week.

The Yorkville GAR post was invited to come up Sunday and attend the Memorial services and to show them proper respect they should be given a bite to eat, a cigar to smoke and entertained for awhile. Oswego has little or no hotel accommodations so L.N. Hall's house was voted as the best place and Mr. and Mrs. Hall the most suitable host and hostess for the occasion.

The farmers complain of depression and for a remedy are clamoring for higher prices

June 11: With the exception of his horse leaving him and coming home on a double-quick with the empty road cart, while engaged inside of the house propounding questions to Charles Woolley, everything went lovely with Tom Piggott, our census enumerator, in the prosecution of his work.

Mrs. C.G. Doud, and her mother, Mrs. Eliza Devoe--who has for some years been an octogenarian, but yet quite vigorous--have arrived here on a visit from Winona, Minn.

Two of Oswego's most exemplary boys from childhood up were the two younger of the Deveney boys. They were very studious, and after leaving the common school went to the higher both studying for the priesthood. Thomas, when having completed the course, and for a short time, served a church, died less than a year ago. And now James, just when ready to assume the duties of the sacred office, for which in preparing himself he had been laboring or years, he, too, died last week at Ivesdale, Champaign County, when nearly 27 years of age. His health had been failing for some time, and to benefit it he had been spending the last winter at Santa Fe, N.M., from where he had lately returned. The remains were brought to Aurora where the funeral and burial took place Friday.

The closing exercises of the grammar, intermediate, and primary rooms, Oswego, will be held in the Methodist church Friday, June 13.

June 18: David and Bessie Jeneson are being visited by their brother-in-law, Prof. Wilkie of Austin, for several terms about 30 years ago the teacher of the school here, and who witnessed the graduating exercises Monday evening.

Dr. and Mrs. Will Lester are here from Wisconsin on a visit.

The fish story told by Wils Briggs was that while in Aurora the other day after a heavy rain, a portion of a certain street of that city was liberally strewn with small bullheads, that many bucketsful were picked up, he helping do it, which were taken to and put in the river for getting their growth, when then according to promise they will get on the hook of Aurora's anglers.

The school closed Friday with an excellent and well attended exhibition of at the Methodist church, the graduates being Clara Minkler, Nellie R. Wormley, Nellie M. Wormley, Mamie Smith, Dora Pearce, Celestia Andrews and Harvey Dickerson.

June 25: There were two Nellie Wormley graduates and being their names were written following one the other, that of Nellie M. the printers happened to skip. She didn't like it, thinking that because of having been the smallest of the lot it wasn't thought worthwhile of including her name in the printed account. Though Nellie M. was the smallest as to size, she really was the strongest in voice.

Mrs. Cook of Chicago, Lydia Arnold when an Oswego girl, was visiting at D. Jewell's.

S.B. Chase's barn burned down during Wednesday night, but only the immediate neighborhood had become aroused to see the fire.

A gypsy wagon for a few days occupied a site on the flats.

L.N. Hall one day secured a hack and gave the graduates a ride to Aurora where he had their photographs taken in a group.

July -- 1890

July 2: Wm. S. Dwyre and Nellie Rice were married last week.

All of the Oswego girls employed in Aurora and elsewhere were home over Sunday.

H. Wollenweber, while engaged in rounding up hogs one of these hot days, became prostrated and had to be carried home. He was out again the next morning in a stiffened up condition.

Many horses gave out and quite a number died from the effects of the heat during the last week. H.C. Cutter, Oliver Hem, John Wolf, Henry Burkhart, Charles Woolley, Anthusen, a tenant on the east of the Hawley farm, and several others who cannot be recollected just now, have lost a horse each and which are said to have been all good ones.

The speed of the train going to the Yorkville fire was admired by our people.

A drinking apparatus was fixed to the water-main near the barber shop.

Nate Loucks brought a sample stalk, 8-1/2 feet tall, of his corn with him to town Monday.

The new map of Kendall county seems to have been gotten up especially with a view of giving information; the creeks and runs are all traced to their sources, thus showing the topography of the county; the public roads are plainly marked; all the school houses and churches designated--delineation of the school districts is especially valuable. Gus Voss is the agent here for selling this map, and has one hanging up in the barber shop. People should go in and take a look at it and doubtless most that see it will want it.

July 9: The marriage of Thomas Edwards and Maggie R. Shepard took place Thursday at Aurora, the Rev. Thomas Galt performing the nuptials. It was a surprise to everybody as to the time, for they had kept that entirely to themselves. Being that both are very

popular, it was therefore the most pleasing event of the season and the congratulations were most hearty and extensive.

The firing of an anvil, the popping of firecrackers, the entertaining of visitors, the display of some pyrotechnics in the evening, all in a private way and by private parties, comprised the doings here of "the day we celebrate."

Kate Lester has come home to vacation.

Anna Brown has spent some days with friends.

The information of the death of Mrs. Mary Nelson in Michigan was received by her relatives here the latter part of the week. She was an Oswego girl, was married here, being a daughter from her first husband of Mrs. M.S. Richards, now of Aurora.

The Presbyterians are apparently enjoying great prosperity; a short time ago they papered the inside of their church and otherwise fixed it up, and last week the outside was all repainted. The lofty work on the steeple was performed by Will Richards and the other by the pastor and Prof. McFarlane.

No, no not the scientists; they would be the last to make themselves happy by mental power; but the Christian Scientists, a new religious sect; those that can make themselves believe that there is no matter, no sickness, no death, that we're meant to be able to enjoy hot weather.

The smoke house on the Frank Hawley place, with a lot of meat belonging to the Frank Schram meat market was destroyed by fire one afternoon. The loss is said to have been upwards of \$100.

The post office here is all torn up; a new floor was put down Monday and now the internal arrangements are to be reconstructed.

July 16: One more of the old settlers gone, Morris Gray died last Saturday morning, following his wife in a little more than three months from her death. The deceased is to be honored for having been one of the pioneers; one that helped laying the foundation of



this grand social fabric. He done his share towards bettering the world. Morris Gray was 79 years of age; he was a great sufferer for several years, having been afflicted with the dropsy. He came here from Montgomery county, N.Y. in 1835, and first owned a part of the land on which Oswego is situated. He settled on his farm one mile east of the village where he has been living ever since, with the exception of a few years when it was rented and he was residing in town. The children left are four sons and a daughter.

By the firing of a volley of pistol shots at a cat back of the saloons Monday noon the horses of John Eyre became scared at the lumber yard and ran away with a load of lumber. They turned in and ran up Washington Street but by the time they had got up the hill, it was easy for Charley Smith to catch and stop them.

The Presbyterian church has undergone a complete renovation, both in and outside so that everything about it looks now very neat. The inside of the Congregational church is now being subjected to the same process, on account of which no services were held there Sunday and the Presbyterian was therefore extra largely occupied.

Effie Parker has returned from Kansas in excellent health, and while she much admires that country, she thinks there is no place like this part of Illinois.

Coroner Hertz of Chicago with two other men, supposed to be interested in pisciculture, spent several hours in town one day examining the fish-ways at the dam.

Charles Leigh went with a new steam thresher through town towards his home Monday.

The post office improvements are yet in progress and those of painting are now being furnished by Wills Briggs.

The weeds were mowed on the streets during the week by the village authorities.

July 23: Ernst Troll is now the assistant book keeper at the creamery.

George Warner, formerly of here, but now of Lincoln, Neb. was here to see his friends and his boy, Harry.

24-15 was the outcome of a game of base ball Saturday between sets of single and married men of the town in favor of the singles.

An addition is being built to the millinery building to be occupied for the shop, so as to leave the house proper entirely for domiciliary purposes, made necessary by the marriage of the milliner.

Prof. DeClark of Lisbon is now in town, and presumably his visit is in connection with the vacant principalship of the school here, Professor McFarlane having decided to retire therefrom.

The funeral of the three months old boy of Mr. and Mrs. Alexander White took place Monday forenoon from the Presbyterian church.

The churches of this place apparently are enjoying now much prosperity. The Presbyterians started out with a complete renovation of their church and now are followed by the Congregationalists, who apparently will not only see to equal the others, but go it better. On resuming the services there Sunday morning, the church inside was found entirely repainted, repapered, and bordered in exquisite designs; a new diminutive pulpit, and the floor bedecked with a new carpet.

July 30: Will Minkler started for Sioux City Monday and if not stopping there will go further west.

C.L. Roberts is being visited by his only living sister, a Mrs. Arch. Dicon of St. James, Long Island, whom he had not seen for 25 years.

Owing to the Aurora races, which were liberally patronized by our people, horse talk was the principal conversation during the week.

Melchior Unsinn, the 17 year old brother of Mrs. Charles Rieger and Christina Unsinn, arrived here last week from Germany and will become an American citizen.

Otto Hettrich went to Iowa on a visit to his cousin, John Springer, and see the western country. He also thought of going to Greeley county, Neb., and see his old neighbors, John J. and Henry Schilling.

Although this is a temperance town, yet there are some men so indiscreet in eating cheese or what not as to become so inebriated that they will have to be assisted to the calaboose for a night's lodging and in the morning be made to pay a high price for the very poor accommodations enjoyed.

20,000 is one of the grading numbers of cities and Aurora is sorely distressed because the census enumerators left her in the class with that of Elgin. Some towns want to know why their population is not made known as well as that of the cities. Oswego is willing to wait.

The improvement of the Congregational church were steadily progressing during the week; the outside of it being repainted, the yard turned out to commons by taking away the fence, &c.

Yorkville: According to the census takers of 1890, there are 1,036 fewer people in Kendall County now than there was in 1880. Every town[ship] shows a loss with the exception of Little Rock and that only shows a gain of 16--including the city of Plano. Why is this? We believe that farms are larger, fewer men are employed on farms and we have a few big land monopolists.

Final official census figures showed Oswego Township's population dropped from 1,754 to 1,560 from 1880 to 1890. Kendall County's total population went from 13,006 to 12,080.

*Aurora Herald*, July 25: Four warrants have been issued for the arrest of the parties implicated in the sale of diseased beef in Aurora. Frank Lennon makes the complaint. Justice Weaver has issued the warrants, and the persons arrested or to be arrested are Charles Zorn, Henry Wollenweber, Charles Knapp and Wm. Dwyer, all of Oswego.

It appears that Henry Wollenweber and Charles Knapp are in partnership dealing in cattle. Wm. Dwyer is a buyer for them. On a hot day a few weeks ago Mr. Dwyer was driving some of their cattle to Aurora when near the farm of George Squires one of them became overheated, crazy, and finally lay down exhausted. Mr.

Dwyre stopped the cattle in the shade there, went or sent to Oswego village to notify the proprietors of the condition of affairs. They came out and butchered this steer and engaged Mr. Zorn to sell it to Aurora market men. It was in the night when he arrived here with it and he aroused Frank Lennon and sold him half of it and sold the other half to Mr. Stolle. The next morning, both halves had turned green and were spoiled. Mr. Stolle hunted up Mr. Zorn and got his money back, but Mr. Lennon was not so fortunate. His beef was buried and now all implicated are to be prosecuted.

According to the law, the men can be fined not to exceed \$1,000 or confined in the county jail not to exceed one year or both.

We cannot believe that Messrs. Wollenweber & Knapp would be guilty of any such transaction. All the men named in the above article are reputable business men in Oswego. There must be some mistake in the matter.

August -- 1890

Aug. 6: T.S. Hopkins, who has been suffering for some weeks with a felon on the right hand, had an operation performed Sunday by Drs. Lester and Windett.

The remodeled arrangements and the neatness of the post-office here now are much enjoyed by its patrons.

Kate Lester has gone on a visit to her sister, Mrs. H.S. Ladd in Nebraska. Gilbert Smith accompanied her.

Shaver & Eastman were over in NaAuSay Wednesday conducting the funeral of a two years old child of Harry Smith.

The new milliner shop is rapidly rising into being, getting now inclosed. Richards & Sons are the builders.

The house occupied by Dr. Hanna has received a new shingle roof.

The new residence that C.S. Kilbourne of this place is building in Aurora will be the nicest in that city, according to the papers there.

The younger brother of W. Lanz was quite seriously hurt in connection with teaming or threshing; it was not learned how it happened.

Threshing has been active during the week. The winter wheat at Roberts' went 35-1/2 bushels to the acre, machine measure, and the threshers said that they never saw any better; the rye there and at Seely's went 33 bushels, same measure. Oats are reported to be running all the way from 25 to 30 bushels to the acre.

By the tongue dropping down in coming down the hill on Washington St., the butcher team with a load of calves started to run away Monday. Both of the men with it jumped or fell off, the one having his wrist badly sprained and the other his heel somewhat hurt. The team was stopped by someone that had been coming across the bridge.

While the census is showing a loss of population of Oswego township of 234, the greatest number of either of the other towns in the county during the decade, the percent of loss, however is much less than that of Seward, which is nearly 18, while that of Oswego is a little over 13.

Almost a column of the Columbus (Ohio) Dispatch of July 24 was occupied by an account to the effect that Robinson B. Murphy of that city (none other than our Bob Murphy) got promoted to Lieutenant and that a medal was awarded him by Congress for distinguished and meritorious services at the two battles in front of Atlanta; it being described in the form of the general Grand Army badge though larger, with an allegorical representation of liberty banishing sedition on the one side and on the other the inscription "The Congress to Lieutenant Robinson B. Murphy, Co. A., 127th Ills. Vol. Atlanta, 22 and 28, 1864." The account shows that he was the youngest soldier that served three years, being 13 years and two months old when enlisted, and his timely act by taking three regiments to the front at a critical time are given.

Yorkville: The claim by the Southern press that negroes and white Republicans are allowed to vote in the South as they please is true to

a certain extent. They are pleased to escape with their lives by voting the Democratic ticket.

An Oswego boy honored

He receives a medal from Congress and promotion to lieutenant. For Heroic Services in the Atlanta Campaign--An Interesting Story (From the Columbus Dispatch)

Mr. R.B. Murphy of this city [Columbus, Ohio] received today from Washington, a medal awarded him by Congress for distinguished and meritorious service at the two battles in front of Atlanta in 1864. Lieutenant Murphy enlisted at Oswego, Ill. Aug. 6, 1862, being then 13 years, two months, and 24 days old. He claims to be the youngest soldier who served three active years during the war. He started out as a drummer boy and later served on the orderly staff of General J.A.S. Lightburn during the Atlanta campaign.

Marriage Record

County Clerk Hill issued marriage licenses to the following persons during the month of July:

July 2, Thomas C. Edwards and Maggie R. Shepard, Oswego.

Why is the morning passenger on the Fox river line from Aurora like a dog's tail? Because it's always behind.

If business is such that they cannot get out of Aurora till 10:30, let them change the time card along the line so we may know what to expect. The present arrangement is tiresome.

Further than this, they're holding the United States mail to accommodate express companies, and the people go to the post offices along the line for mail at the scheduled hours and wait half an hour or more longer than usual.

Our Mr. Kilbourne of the Yorkville, Oswego, and Plano butter factories will soon live in Aurora in princely style. The Beacon says: "Charles S. Kilbourne's new residence, which is now in process of construction, will be one of the finest residences in Aurora. It occupies a very pretty location on Downer Place and will be a very attractive addition to that fine residence street. The first story is being built of Naperville gray stone, cut in blocks of all shapes and sizes and pointed. The upper part will be finished in stained shingles with balcony and tower. In front will be a porch of ample and

artistic proportions. The house will be very handsomely finished inside.

Aug. 13: Lew Voss, Will Kennedy and C.I. Smith were in Joliet Friday to take in the sights, including the penitentiary.

G.C. Brown has opened an insurance office on Washington Street, next to the barber shop.

Wm. S. Hawley is here from Chicago where he is studying medicine. Also, Nat, son of Dr. Wm. A. Hawley of Menlo, Ia., who has grown from a child to a young man since the family moved away from here.

While helping thrashing at Constantine's Saturday, Nate Loucks had his fingers caught in an iron pulley and two of them severely lacerated.

Van Andrews, who is employed in the Young's blacksmith shop, became careless while doing some work with a band saw and the first thing he knew he was minus one thumb. Dr. Hanna performed the necessary surgical services.

The marriage of Miss Tina Elliott to a Mr. Taylor of Iowa took place Wednesday. Tina was one of the most scholarly and accomplished young ladies of this neighborhood.

#### Yorkville: Annual Gathering of Kendall's Early Settlers

The old settlers of Kendall County met 'under the most favorable auspices,' as President Willett said in his address of welcome at the picnic on the Fair Grounds last Thursday. The day was all that could be desired, being cool and clear in the morning, making it delightful for driving for those who came a distance. The numerous flags displayed throughout the village reminded our citizens that it was a holiday.

By the middle of the forenoon the crowd began to gather on the grounds, and at eleven o'clock, the hour for the exercises began. A fair audience was assembled at the seats around the speaker's stand and was called to order by the Honorable Reuben W. Willett, President of the society. A fervent prayer was offered by Reverend

A. Robbins, pastor of the Yorkville Baptist Church, and it was an affecting sight to see the venerable heads bowed in reverence as in eloquent language the good man thanked God for the sterling qualities of the pioneers who have made this country what it is. Some men are noted for one thing and some for another. Brother Robbins is noted for his excellent prayers.

The next thing on the program was to have been music by the Boy's Drum Corps, but by some hook or crook the boys were not there, and there was no music of any kind during the day.

The address of welcome to the old settlers, by Mr. Reuben Willett, was then delivered by that gentleman, in the following words:

'Members of the Old Settler's Society, Ladies and Gentlemen:

In welcoming you to the enjoyments and recreations of this occasion, I feel that we meet under the most favorable circumstances. While not realizing to the fullest extent the abundance that his fields indicated a few weeks ago, the husbandman's efforts for the season will be sufficiently crowned to carry him well through another year, and the enhanced price of his products will make good, to a considerable extent, the shortage of bushels.

The general health of our people is good. We are free from the fear of epidemics from without and dissensions within. Happily, we are free from the contentions and excitements incident to a Presidential campaign, being equally removed from that of the recent past and that of the future. We are greeted on all sides with the hum of industry from shop and field. Very few of our people are not employed or non-producing; the ringing blows of the smith, the buzzing of the saw and hammer strokes of the carpenter are heard in the shops, while from the field comes the ceaseless hum of the stream thresher, while from one end of the earth to the other, the tireless steam trains bring to the merchant and dealer the products of other climes.

Truly, 'Peace hath its victories, no less than war,' showing that each and all of us are trying as best we may to solve the problem of life. Under surroundings and circumstances so auspicious, I feel that it is good for us to meet on this pleasant occasion, laying, for the time being, our political differences, our religious opinions, and our personal feelings by, when they run counter to those of our fellows, and live over again the years that have passed, recounting again the vicissitudes and privations of pioneer life, 'of hair breath escapes by



flood and field,' to make our comparisons between then and now, to renew old friendships, and make new ones. To recall sadly those of 'blessed memory,' who, in the years that have passed, have met with us on these occasions, and who will meet with us no more, for the report of necrologist on this occasion will reveal to us that, in the short year that has intervened since the last meeting, many old settlers, have passed away from us. It will be well for us to emulate their sterling integrity, their generous hospitality, shunning, so far as we may, their many vices, ever remembering the brave men and their no less fearless companions, who braved the hardships and vicissitudes of a frontier life, that we, their successors might enjoy to the fullest extent, the fruition of their ambition and their enterprise.

And now finally for the purpose of obtaining all the possible enjoyment out of the few hours that we shall remain together, allow me to say to you, one and all, a hearty welcome to such enjoyment and recreation as time and place affords.'

In response to the above by old settlers, John Armstrong of Sheridan, who settled here in 1829, stepped upon the platform. He didn't come to the picnic to make a speech, but thought the much talked of hardships and privations of the pioneers of this county were more imaginary than real. To be sure, they lived in log cabins, but the latch strings always hung out. No traveler in those days was turned away tired or hungry. The people were more hospitable then than now. He said they had enough to eat, corn bread was plenty, fish were abundant, and an occasional deer supplied the tables. The gentleman was followed in his speech by John Litsey, Esquire, of Yorkville, and Honorable Lott Scofield of Big Grove Township. Each of whom had something appropriate and interesting to say.

Following their speeches the audience was dismissed for a couple of hours for dinner, for which the early breakfasts and long drives had prepared an excellent appetite. The crowd was soon separated into various family and neighborhood groups, the baskets brought from the carriages and wagons and the real business of the day commenced. Everyone knows there is nothing that is good to eat that the people of Kendall County don't have, so it is useless to attempt to describe the dinner, of which there was plenty and more to spare. Dinner was heartily enjoyed by the hungry throng while many an incident of early life was rehearsed by the old-timers.

At two o'clock the crowd again assembled at the speaker's stand and listened to a poem by Honorable Perry Armstrong of Grundy County, which the gentleman had written for the occasion, the character of which was such as to delight all who heard it. Long live neighbor Armstrong!

The necrological report was read by the secretary. After the reading of the report, an address was delivered by a former resident of Kendall County, A. J. Thurber, of Marseilles, which wound up the speech making for the day.

The business of the Society was then looked after. Milton E. Cornell was elected President for the ensuing year and John A. Newell Secretary. A resolution was passed changing the time of holding the annual picnic to the month of June, as follows: Resolved that the old settler's reunion and basket picnic of Kendall County, after this year, be held on the third Thursday of June, annually.

A game of baseball between the Plano and NaAuSay clubs was one of the attractions during the afternoon. The Plano boys looked very nice in their uniforms and played a fair game, while the general work of the NaAuSay club was very loose. The gentleman in the red shirt, however, pitched a good game; with proper support the result of the contest would have been quite different,

O. D. Sweetman had a refreshment stand on the grounds.

William Green Gaskill of Seward took a day off and was there with his family.

Mrs. John K. LeBaron [Pheobe (Ferriss) LeBaron] of Aurora came down to spend the day with old neighbors.

Mrs. Mary (Bristol) Ryall of Marseilles was on the grounds shaking hands with old friends.

Warren D. Stryker of NaAuSay Township was on the grounds, and acted as umpire during the fore part of the ball game.

Amer Brewer Cook, who came in 1838, quietly greeted old acquaintances. He is looking well, and age bears lightly on him.

Lewis G. Steward walked about very quietly for Lew, and did not even take a place on the platform. Few knew he was on the grounds. Father Serrine, the good old Christian, once more greeted kindly the many with whom he had been associated with for years as a pioneer. Lyell T. Aldrich was here, but he wandered about quite lonely for him. His wife did not come with him, as she was getting ready for a trip east.

Of course Smith G. Minkler was there. But he failed in his duty and didn't bring his drum. There was not a squeak of a fife or the rattle of a drum on the grounds. Too bad!

Charley Sabin, the Yorkville photographer, is a handy man. When Umpire Stryker was called away from the game, Charley took his place and rendered decisions satisfactory to both clubs.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Welch and daughter Bessie, of Aurora, came with a big basket and had a grand time. What would a Kendall County gathering amount to anyway, without 'Andy's' genial smile. Those good people who are always so kindly greeted by so many warm friends, Mrs. And Mrs. Thomas Jefferson Phillips of Newark are among the most constant attendants at these picnics and enjoy meeting the friends of their youth.

Lyman Lane, Esquire, of Bristol was undoubtedly, the oldest man on the grounds. There are older men in the county, but they were too feeble to be present. Mr. Lane is in his ninety-second year, and settled in Kendall County in 1837.

Byron A. Cotton was there. No picnic would be a success without Cotton's candy for the children and big folks too. We don't know how many barrels of sugar he used up, but he sold candy as fast as he could make it.

George Sleezer, Newark's laughing Justice of the Peace, was here early in the morning happy as a man who works well, eats well, sleeps well and laughs long and loud. Mr. Sleezer is approaching the eighties, but still works hard as a mason and stone layer.

Mrs. William Keck of Nevada, Missouri, met many old friends on the ground, who knew her better when she was Mrs. Lyman Hall. She had just returned from a visit to Cincinnati, Ohio where she was with her son Frank Hall, and daughter, Miss Carrie Hall.

Mrs. Harriet Hay, who years ago lived her in the house now occupied by Dr. Hoadley, was at the picnic with her son, Isaac Hay of near Somonauk, having traveled sixteen miles coming and riding back the same distance in the evening. Aunt Harriet is a wonderfully smart lady and is 86 years of age

The ladies of the W. C. T. U. did a flourishing business at their stand, and were kept hustling to supply the demand for lemonade, ice cream and refreshments. Patrons here always got their money's worth. Their lemonade was made of lemons, not acid.

With all the musical talent we have in Kendall County, it seems a piece of bad management that none of it materialized at the picnic.

Evidently someone neglected their duty in looking after this part of the program. It was quite disappointing to the crowd, and such a way of doing business should not be repeated. Think of a big picnic with no music of any kind.

The venerable John Armstrong was telling some incident, and a bystander asked, 'When was that Mr. Armstrong?' 'The winter of the big snow,' was his reply. As many of us had seen big snows, the date was indefinite. 'When was the winter of the big snow?' 'Oh!' said Mr. Armstrong, 'In 1830-1831' And he was here to see it. Few of us remember it.

They said last winter that I would never get out of the house again alive,' said Father Daniel Platt, 'I was so sick and so near death's door; but here I am, feeling first rate.' Father Platt founded Plattville in 1833, and has lived there ever since. His good wife was with him. She is one of those motherly souls you read of in the good books. Grand old people these pioneers.

That man over there shaking hands with so many, his face broken up with smiles and his eyes twinkling with fun is Sim [Simeon] Brown of Big Grove Township. His wife is here with him, and that makes Sim happy, as she has been quite an invalid for a year. Sim is seventy years old! Wouldn't think it, would you? He doesn't look sixty. His father, David Brown, couldn't come with him this year. His father is 96 years old and still in good health.

*Morris Post:* While at the old settler's picnic in Yorkville yesterday, Honorable Perry A. Armstrong met two 'boys' who went to school with him when he wielded the rod in the Hollenback log school in the town of Fox, Kendall County, in 1841. One was George M. Hollenback, Master in Chancery of Kendall County, and a Mr. Williams of Little Rock Township. James 'Lytle' Haymond of this city (Morris, IL) was also one of his pupils at the time.

Among others we noticed on the grounds, whose services entitled them to honor as pioneers of this valley, were C. Y. Godard, John A. Newell, James Smith Cornell, W. L. VanCleve and wife, Gilbert 'Denslow' Henning, John Litsey, James Shepard, George W. Harris, Joseph N. Harris, Thomas Atherton, J. N. Austin, Nathan Carr Mighell, Mrs. W. W. Marsh, John Parker, Isaac Hay, Lyman Lane, Edmund Seely, Jacob Pope, Robert McMurtrie, and Thomas Penman, all of whom came here between 1833 and 1840; Lewis Rickard, James Scofield, William Grimwood, Lott Scofield, John A. Wheeler, Rollin Wheeler, David P. Gillam, Matthew Budd, Mrs. Jacob Budd,

and others who came between 1840 and 1848. There were many who were native born who are between fifty and sixty years of age. Came to Oswego: George Parker in 1837; George W. Wormley in 1837; A.B. Smith in 1839; D.W. Carpenter in 1832 (with the Pearces); Morris Gray in 1835; Mrs. Morris Gray in 1836.

Aug. 20: Lew B. Inman and Miss Emma Haines quietly repaired to Aurora Thursday and got married--the nuptials being performed by the Rev. Thomas Gail. After their return, Lew immediately again resumed his position at the drug store and that evening all of his friends that happened around enjoyed a cigar or glass of soda water in honor of the event.

A marriage also took place Thursday, that of Mr. S.S. Smith of Plainfield to Miss May M. Pletcher of Joliet.

Gus Voss has gone on an inspection tour to Rapid City, S.D., and Oswego temporarily without a president.

Gene Hinchman got a foot hurt by some of the threshing machinery at Cherry's.

Joe Matthews was one of the colored population of this neighborhood, a single man and making his home with the Norcross family out at the grove. Last Wednesday while engaged with a team in moving some furniture, he fell from the wagon near Montgomery and was instantly killed. How the casualty happened seems to be unknown; the horses, not at all fractious, were intercepted on their way home.

They have a new and very handsome spittoon at the depot, a present from the White Metal Factory at Yorkville--of which they feel very proud, and a chew of fine cut there gives now a good deal more pleasure than it did formerly.

The new millinery building has reached the stage of plastering and ere long will be ready for occupancy.

Postmaster Hubbard has procured and set up two handsome showcases and filled them with a full assortment of fresh and the

latest style of stationery. This is for the first time in 34 years that any other business is being carried on here in connection with the post office. Jennie Hubbard is the chief clerk of the new department.

A lecture by a colored gentleman, "The necessity of having the Election bill become a law," was advertised to take place Saturday evening at the Leisure Moment Hall, admission ten cents. The lecturer was duly on hand; the hall was lighted and the seats arranged; the town was full of people from the surrounding country, yet none but a few small boys put in an appearance at the lecture and it went by default. Why was this thus? Oswego is strongly Republican, and all of that party claim the Negro a political ally, and want that bill passed so as to make him an effective ally. Instead of a complete failure, the lecture should have been a rousing demonstration.

Yorkville: The prosecution of Oswego parties for the alleged sale of diseased meat took a week in the Justice's court at Aurora. The *Beacon* says: If we are not badly mistaken the results of the preliminary examination of the Oswego parties for selling diseased meat in Aurora will be a very effective warning to meat vendors and will remind them that the selling of diseased meat is a grave offense against the state. Those charged with this offense are Henry Wollenweber, Charles Knapp, Wm. Dwyer, and Chas. Zorn....Frank J. Lennon, the Aurora butcher to whom the Oswego parties sold the meat, was an important witness for the state and told how the defendants woke him up at 12:30 in the morning of June 27th and sold him the meat at 5-1/2 cents per pound and how, on taking the meat out of the refrigerator he discovered that it was rotten and of course did not sell any of it. George Squires, a farmer living near Oswego, was also an important witness for the state. He was going to Aurora and passed the defendants on the road as they were driving the steers toward Oswego. He remarked to the men who were driving them that that it was a very hot day and that the steers appeared to be over-heated.. When he returned home later in the evening he found the men dressing one of the steers in front of his house in the road...

Aug. 27: While Professor and Mrs. W. McFarlane were at prayer meeting Thursday evening of last week, an entrance to their

residence through a rear window was effected by his scholars for a surprise visit to that couple before their departure from among us. The surprise was genuine and proved to be a complete success. The present made was a very handsome clock--Ernst Troll making the presentation speech.

The S.B. Hallock family has moved to Montgomery where Mr. H. will be the principal of the school.

John L. Gaylord and family have moved to town and into the house of his aunt, Mrs. Tirzah Minard.

The misses Edith and Dietta Beane of Fox were spending a few days here with Celstia Andrews and Gracie Miller last week.

Newt Hopkins has come home for recuperation, having got severely squeezed in coupling cars at railroading.

Charles Rieger has bought the McFarlane house and lot.

Watts Cutter is now building a new building for the storage of grain.

Owing to the high price of potatoes, restaurant keepers are putting up the price of dinners. Dinner with potatoes, 35 cents; dinners without potatoes, 25 cents.

Yorkville: The *Aurora Beacon* of Saturday says: The trial of the Oswego parties on the charge of selling diseased meat has been continued again until Friday of this week. The parties were all present yesterday morning except Attorneys Searls and Nichols, who were ill and unable to present their arguments. The state was ready to proceed but Justice Murphy concluded that he would give the attorneys for the defendants a week in which to recover.

September -- 1890

Sept. 3: The funeral of Mary Gates took place Sunday from the residence of her parents, the Doud house on the west side of the Specie Grove road and the burial in the Oswego cemetery. The

deceased was an estimable young lady of nearly 26 years. She is said to have been sick about a week, but had been ailing for some time.

J.J. Taylor of Clark county, Ia. and Miss Tina A. Elliott of Oswego, Ill. were united in marriage at the home of the bride on Tuesday of last week.

Levi Blaisdell Clark died Saturday in Aurora. The deceased was a native of Oswego and 37 years of age. By his first wife, nee Irene Russell, there are two children who are well taken care of by her folks, the Russells, and from the widow surviving him one child is living.

Engine 151 of the afternoon freight Monday became sick here and unable to work. When the 5 o'clock passenger came up it had to pull the freight on the sidetrack in order to pass.

Dr. Lester has taken yearly trip north to get away from the hay fever.

John S. Seely has been filling his silo with the ordinary corn, and the getting in of 44 loads in one day was the best day's work on the job.

Threshing has been a most active pursuit of late and many big days' work were related and many fellows mentioned that can handle the bundles or do fast feeding.

If there ever was a crowded passenger train, it was that pulling out of Oswego on the forenoon of the circus day. [The Barnum Bailey Circus was playing in Aurora.]

G. Schwarz is going to build an addition to his house.

The Fair got along before some people were aware of it and are now hardly ready for it, but ready or not, all who possibly can should go and do whatever they may be able to make it successful. The absorption of the country institutions by the cities is rapidly progressing and it will require a special effort to keep the Kendall county fair from being absorbed by Aurora.



A gentleman by the name of Ross from Champaign, a young man supposed to be single, has been engaged for the principal of our school.

The numerous flower gardens about town, and which this year were of great magnificence than ever before, are and have been for weeks past a most pleasing feature. Mrs. Helle as usual has one of the best, and which is so located as to be seen the most.

Yorkville: That long drawn out steer case has reached an end as far as the preliminary examination goes. The four defendants Henry Wollenweber, Charles Knapp, Charles Zorn, and William Dwyer, were held in bonds of \$500 each for their appearance before the grand jury.

Sept. 10: The remains of Mrs. W.A. Fehlman, nee Minnie Larkin, were conveyed here from Englewood Friday and the funeral took place Saturday afternoon from the Congregational church. Minnie grew up in this place from a little girl. She was married nearly two years ago and with her husband settled at Englewood where about seven weeks ago she was taken sick with intermittent fever, which developed into the typhoid. Her age was 22 years.

H.W. Farley is here from Urbana and for the time being with his friends of this place and vicinity.

Si Pogue of northwestern Kansas is for the present sojourning among this community. He gives a discouraging report of the outlook of that section for this season.

Henry C. and Watts Cutter have returned from their visit in Massachusetts and report of having had a splendid time in participating in clam-bakes and in taking in all of the notable sights of Boston.

Cyrus Baker had shipped to him a nice new boat from Chicago.

Prof. Thorp, who was principal of the school here 23 years ago was in town for a few days. He is now engaged in selling an educational apparatus.

Seldon Bunn, who now is stationed at Peoria, has been enjoying a vacation, which mostly he spent in Michigan with his father, and a day or two of it at Roberts' here.

School commenced Monday with Prof. Ross as principal and occupant of room 4; Martha Potter, Mabel Hunt, and Martha Jessup teachers in rooms 3, 2, and 1, in that order.

The burning of Mr. Kilbourne's new and uncompleted residence in Aurora Sunday evening is much regretted here by everybody.

One of the handsomest houses on Washington street will be that of the Thomas Edwards family. The old part has been entirely reconstructed and a large bay window added to the front. The very handsome job of painting was performed by Bradford.

Yorkville: The English custom of publishing births the same as marriages and deaths is coming into general adoption by our representative society people, as the daily newspaper files attest.

*Batavia News:* Monday night a singular sight was witnessed by a number of persons, that of a large number of dead and dying fish. The river above the bridge and below it was filled with carcasses in countless numbers of the finny tribe. What the cause was no one seemed to know, but some thought it was caused by the drainage of the glucose factory. Whether from that cause or not, over five wagon loads of dead fish were taken from the river between the cheese factory and the first street running to the river below the bridge consisting of pike, bass, suckers, red horse and bullheads.

Pretty cool this morning.

The too prevalent use of firearms in the village of Yorkville is contrary to the statutes and village ordinances.

The annual reunion of the 127th Illinois was held at Aurora last Saturday. The business meeting and reception was held at the GAR hall, and a superb banquet was spread by the ladies of the GAR in the basement of the People's church.

Sept. 17: A Mr. Culver, 83 years old, is here from St. Genevieve, Mo., on a visit to his daughters, Mrs. Emanuel Cooney and Mrs. Frank E. Green, and his only brother who resided at Plainfield.

David Hall has turned his cider mill into a wine press and doing quite a business in squeezing out the grape juice.

Dr. Hanna is said to have been the most sick of the ailing in this community, having had a touch of the typhoid.

There will be a game of ball 'on the flats' between the high school nine and a picked nine Saturday, Sept. 20.

Some householders, particularly widow women, are complaining that the boys are stealing their grapes. Two reforms are much needed: (1) a change of the sentiment that boys are excusable for stealing fruit, and (2) that parents should exercise greater control over their boys.

Yorkville: The fish of Fox and other small rivers must soon be exterminated if factories and cities continue to use the streams for sewers. The glue factories up the river are poisoning the fish by wholesale, and the fish in Vermillion river at Streator are killed by the water pumped from coal mines and refuse from paper mills.

It was cold Saturday morning and there was quite a frost. The mercury was down to 38 degrees.

The two prisoners in our country jail were quite sick last week, caused by the vitiated, stagnant air in the dayroom and cells. A physician was called to see them and he says the place is very unhealthy. The State visitors have said our jail was a disgrace to our county and we guess it is pretty near so. It is hoped the authorities will look into the matter and remedy any evil.

Prairie chicken shooting began Monday.

Sept. 24: Now that the Equinox is crossed, it will be in order for the prognosticators to come to the front and reveal what kind of winter the coming one is agoing to be.

Mr. and Mrs. L.N. Hall were on a visit to Prof. O.S. Wescott in Chicago for a few days and one evening while there took in the electric fountain in one of the parks.

T.J. Pigott has bought a \$1,700 house in Aurora for a residence in the near future.

Prof. L.S. Rose has resigned the principalship of the school here because he can do better elsewhere. He will furnish a substitute until another teacher can be had.

John Schilling and wife of Lowell, Ind., were making his brother George here a visit.

The Chapman residence is undergoing extensive repairs; Valera is doing the work. Mark Chapman has been quite lame of late.

A handsome little White Metal spittoon was received by the postmaster here; it is too diminutive for the purpose of that article, but might be utilized for an inkstand.

A game of base-ball was played Saturday by two clubs of young men of this town denominated the "High school nine" and the "Picked nine," and umpired by L.L. Turney, who happened to be here. The game was of the one-sided order, the score standing 49-19 in favor of the High schoolers. There is one of the results showing what education will do.

An agreement was entered into by the east side business men on Main Street to close evenings from September 23 to Nov. 1 at 8 o'clock, and from there on to March 1 at 7, except Saturdays and from Dec. 15 to Jan. 5, when the time is left optional. It is for a pretended benefit of the clerks, but more of an intended lockout against us, a respectable number of citizens, whom they denominate the "cracker barrel brigade." The plan is to deprive us of a place to met for exchanging sentiments, imparting to each other unwritten

anecdotes, and otherwise spend the evenings pleasantly and reputably.

Yorkville: Fine weather for fall work and the farmers are taking advantage of it.

The White Metal folks are running the factory nights, being unable to keep up with their orders for roofing by day work only. The outlook for the success of the concern is very good.

October -- 1890

Oct. 1: H.G. Smith has been under the weather all of last week; his disease is of the herpes species.

Dr. Lester, the hay fever patient, who is absent for relief, is expected to return now at most any time. Dr. Hanna has nearly recovered his health, but the condition of Dr. Jewell is no better, if not worse, it is said.

Minnie Case is here from Montana visiting her grand-parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Case.

Mrs. Maggie R. Edwards, accompanied by Lillie Collins, was in Chicago last week and bought a fresh stock of millinery goods for her new and elegant shop.

A news stand has been established by Fred Smith in the office of G.C. Brown.

All the scholars went to the depot Thursday afternoon to see Prof. Ross off—he was well liked by them. The new teacher, Prof. A.W. Merrill, is also making a most favorable impression.

Again, the high school nine came out victorious--35 to 16 in their favor--in a base ball game played Saturday with a club from Montgomery.

At the evangelical church on the prairie four miles east of here, a ministerial convention of the Naperville district of that church is now being held.

Alex. White has gone in the land monopolizing business; he bought a piece of land of Leonard Hettrich.

W.M. Forbes is in the eighties and has become considerably bent, but he reads without specs and occasionally does odd jobs in his trade, that of carpenter. With a few tools this morning he was going, at six miles per hour rate, over the river to build a small addition to the West Roberts' house.

Married on Tuesday, Sept. 23, at the Evangelical parsonage by the Rev. J.K. Shultz, Mr. Leonard Hettrich to Miss Luella Roth, both of the German settlement.

The marriage of Miss Mamie Rice to Charles A. Davis occurred Thursday evening at the residence of A.L. Rice, the bride's parents.

Postmaster [Charles E.] Hubbard Saturday morning was called by telegraph to Hinsdale on account of the death of his brother there. The funeral took place Monday and the corpse was brought here for burial in the Doud cemetery, by the side of his first wife. James H. Hubbard, the deceased, was 73 years of age; he had been partially paralyzed for a number of years. He was one of the merchants here when Oswego claimed of doing more business than Aurora; it being in the forties; the firm was Hubbard & Miller, and the store in what is the Geo. Burghart place. Since then he has been living in Wisconsin, Chicago, and of late years, Hinsdale. He leaves a widow and one child, a daughter living in California, she being of his first wife. The undertaker's services here were rendered by C.F. Shaver.

Yorkville: County politics are coming to the front—only a month till election.

The Record office did a big pile of job printing last week, and did it well. We are grateful to the good patrons who give us so much work.

Rainfall for September, 2.13 inches, as reported by Wm. Graham.

This is October 1, and material for the new iron bridge has not arrived yet.

There were about four thousand persons at the Wheatland plowing match and local fair last Thursday, notwithstanding the bad weather. And they all had a grand time.

The reunion of the 36th Illinois Infantry and 4th cavalry at Aurora last Thursday was a grand success and the veterans had a real social time. There were 93 of the 36th registered.

Oct. 8: John Deveney has returned from a business trip in horse dealing through a portion of the country south of here.

Daniel Platt of Plattville was in town one day getting a load of lumber, accompanied by one of his grandsons. He said his folks won't let him go off alone any more on such a trip.

Mrs. H.D. Hebert and children returned Thursday from a prolonged visit to her old home in Orange county, New York.

A chicken pie social will be given by the ladies of the Congregational Aid Society next Thursday at the home of Mrs. William W. Wormley.

Mattie Shoger is now an apprentice with Mrs. Sarah Young in the dressmaking business.

A company of Aurora young folks came down Thursday night and had a dance at the Leisure Moments hall. This may be regarded by some as a boom to the village. Aurorans coming to Oswego for their enjoyments may look auspicious, but there is an old man here who, if he had the money, would get out an injunction to stop all dancing, foreign or domestic, at the L.M. hall between the hours of 10 p.m. and 4 a.m. and carry the case up to the Supreme court before giving up the fight.

Rev. C.D. Wilson, the newly appointed pastor of the Methodist church here, failed to put in an appearance last Sunday morning. The people came and went away feeling disappointed. There were

none who knew the whys and wherefores. It now transpires that the gentleman had written to a member who happened to be out of the State, saying he could not possibly be present the first Sabbath, but next Sunday, Oct. 12, he would be on hand at the appointed time. So turn out next Sunday to hear the new pastor.

Yorkville: *Aurora Beacon*. A very disastrous runaway occurred on east Fox street on Wednesday afternoon about six o'clock, which resulted in the serious injury of the occupants of the wagon. Wm. Brown, a young farmer living near Tamarack, with his wife and two children, had been in the city doing some trading and were going toward home on Fox street when the horses became frightened and ran away, throwing Mr. and Mrs. Brown and the two children out. Mrs. Brown struck on her head and was knocked senseless, while the others escaped with only slight injuries. When Mrs. Brown was picked up, it was found that her skull was fractured and she was unconscious. The injured ones were taken into Mr. Kellogg's home near by and Dr. Murphy being in the neighborhood, was called to attend the suffers. Some of those who saw the accident claim that a barking frightened the horses and that Mr. Brown, being filled with Aurora whiskey, was unable to control them as they went tearing down Fox street until the wagon struck a tree near Hollering's grocery store and threw them all out. Others who saw it claim that one of the lines broke while the horses were running, which caused them to turn suddenly and upset the wagon, the latter falling upon Mrs. Brown. The horses disappeared into the darkness and in the morning it was found that they had been stopped at the tile factory southeast of town, and were badly crippled and bruised. Mrs. Brown lies in a very critical condition, and it is feared she cannot recover.

At the Wheatland plowing match the "Little Yankee" sulky plow took first premium for good work done and in test of draft was 90 pounds lighter than its lightest competitor and 205 pounds lighter than its hardest drawing competitor.

It is now October 8 and the material for the new iron bridge has not yet arrived.



The first duty of an American citizen to his country and the community in which he lives is to go to the polls on election days and vote.

The public water tank near the bank is a nice place to keep minnows for bait if they are kept alive in pails, but last Saturday the small fish were permitted to float dead on top of the water, to the disgust of all who use the tank. And Sunday morning some graceless scamp let all of the water out of the tank, and there was none to water horses. The village trustees will make it warm for the fellows who monkey with the water tank if they are caught.

Oct. 15: Mrs. Thomas S. Hopkins died of paralysis of the brain, it is said. The funeral took place at 10:30 Monday. Mrs. H. was 52 years old, a native of Ireland and brought to America when an infant. A husband and six children, five sons and one daughter, the youngest four years old, are mourning the loss of a wife and mother.

Another sudden death was that of Mrs. F. Hertfelder. She was 68 years of age and a native of Germany. An only daughter, Mrs. A.C. Leigh, is left of the family, Mr. H. having died several years ago.

John Seidelman, a boy 16 years old and a nephew of John Hoch, arrived here Wednesday from Bavaria, Germany, and being a shoemaker has commenced to work for Henry Helle.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. W. Sutherland of Clintonville, Wis., are here on a visit. George shows prosperity and good living, probably weighs over 300, is enthusiastic for Republican success and promiscuously distributing the "Little school house" on cards. He is as much of a partisan as is his brother Early of this place.

John Lockwood is going to move his shop up to near his residence. In doing so he is not going to give up any business he is engaged in, but for the purpose of greater convenience and economy.

George Kimball has returned from the tar roofing business over in the Kankakee section.

Dr. Lester has been having a tin roof put on his residence.

Mrs. Ezra Smith was taken by [Oswego Township] Supervisor Cutter to the Elgin Insane Asylum last week, where she was admitted a patient.

Col. Clark had a barn raising Saturday, which was attended by a number from the village.

Yorkville: Republicans of Kendall county can safely give their votes to David C. Jeneson for county treasurer. He is qualified and deserving. Mr. Jeneson is an old resident of Oswego, where members of his family are among the early settlers. He is a man of commanding ability as regards the handling of money—for years he was a cashier in one of the Chicago banks and also held a position in the adjutant-general's office of the Potomac army during the McClellan campaigns. He is a member of the Grand Army and a careful man in business. For some years he has been a justice of the peace at Oswego, is the Canada thistle commissioner, and has done good work among the farmers.

The new iron bridge at Yorkville is not done yet, but the iron is expected this month. It was shipped from Pittsburg Oct. 4, it is said.

The grand jury of Kane county in session at Geneva last week found indictments against Charles Knapp, William Wollenweber, William Dwyer, and Charles Zorn of Oswego for selling bad meat to an Aurora butcher. Indictments were also found against Charles and J.W. Pope, proprietors of the glucose works at Geneva for poisoning the fish in Fox river by the refuse of their works.

Oct. 22: The remains of Alfred Edson were brought here Monday from Aurora for burial within eight days those of his granddaughter, Mrs. Julia Churchill. Mr. Edson was one of the old settlers of this township, for many years following farming, subsequently becoming engaged in the hardware business of this village. He afterwards moved to Aurora.

There is a good deal of complaint just now about the small boy. He is charged with jumping on moving trains and otherwise raising Cain around the depot; with being saucy, using very profane

language and not going to school. The small boy seems to have the upper hand of many of the parents.

The funeral of Mrs. Hertfelder took place Wednesday from the Evangelical church and was largely attended, the church being too small to admit all. The obsequies were performed by the Rev. J.K. Shultz.

Esch Bros. & Rabe are getting all of their ice houses here thoroughly fixed up, notwithstanding the prognostications that there ain't a going to be any cold weather.

Oswego has the nicest and most eligible location for a town on Fox River; it has an excellent water power and other facilities for the pursuit of manufacture; it stands upon a solid foundation, the rock below it is held to be 500 feet thick and below which an inexhaustible amount of natural gas is waiting to be tapped. It is a temperance town and has no licensed saloons; its inhabitants are of the most moral and refined, all the rumors to the contrary notwithstanding. it has more buildings for divine worship than any other place in the world of no grater population. It has an excellent school house, employs the best of teachers and maintains a first rate school. It has self running, inexpensive and untaxed waterworks. Of its fire department not much can be said, but its police is all right so far as any police is necessary in a community where all are for law and order. Why not everybody acquainted with the situation wants to come here to live and do business is a mystery; it must be due to the natural perverseness of men. Will the McKinley bill have the effect of giving Oswego a boost?

NaAuSay: Clinton Carpenter will teach a school situated between Oswego and Aurora this winter.

Yorkville: Farmers are husking.

Plows run slick since the rain.

Big frost Tuesday morning and some ice.

*Aurora Blade*: Charles Lippold, who has for nearly half a century been a resident of Oswego, has purchased a house on Clark street and will remove to Aurora. He has given up the hope that Oswego will ever be ahead of Aurora and he is coming to town to live.

Esch Brothers & Rabe have men at work at the big ice houses in Yorkville making preparations for the winter's work. We hear that four new houses are to be built and a steam engine placed for elevating, storing, and shipping ice. This firm is full of business and knows how to get ice at the lowest expense. If we have a cold winter the ice industry will employ a large number of men about Yorkville.

Here is a bit of advice given by a harvesting machine expert in regard to the keeping of harvesters. He says: "Cover the knotting hook disc, needle, and knife of your harvester with a thick coating of equal parts of white lead and lard. There will be no trouble from rust when you want to use the machine again next season. Sickles, after being thoroughly oiled, should be wrapped in gunny sacks. A little care with your farm machinery will prolong its usefulness several years and save lots of trouble in getting it started each season."

Two carloads of bridge material arrived in Yorkville Tuesday. It is hoped the new bridge will be up now in a few days.

Mr. Almon P. Ashley, one of the prominent farmers of Kendall township and a settler of the early days, died at his residence Sunday south of the Kendall school house after a long illness. The funeral took place Tuesday at the house, Rev. Mr. Gilbert of Pavilion conducting the service; the remains were buried in the old Morgan (or Cowdrey) cemetery where Mr. Ashley's father, mother, and other relatives are buried. From Mr. J.A. Newell, we learn that deceased came to this place in 1835. He worked for a time with the late John K. LeBaron, bought a small farm, and married Mrs. LeBaron's sister. He leaves a large number of relatives in this vicinity to mourn the death of a good husband, father, and brother. He was about 68 years of age.

Oct. 29: It is said that the catching of victims by the Methodist ladies with their Spiderweb party was a great success.

The W. Lippold family have moved to Aurora and the Michael Kraft family have returned from Aurora here.

A petition is circulating praying the board of trustees to again grant license to sell liquor. It is not at all improbable that at the next village election the temperance folks will go for license and the saloon element will oppose it.

The protection of sheep in this neighborhood is getting to be a real problem. George Squires had a number of sheep killed for which he was allowed \$40. The dogs, perhaps, are less to blame than the owners of them.

Wednesday, precisely when the sun was at meridian height and shining most gloriously, Robert Pogue and Miss Maud Hunt were married at the residence of J.B. Hunt in Oswego and before a bank of flowers against the wall, took a standing position, facing the east. Approaching them from that direction was the Rev. D.E. Ambrose, who requested them to join their right hands, and in that attitude impressively placed upon them the high and holy obligation of husband and wife. . The happy couple started for their already furnished home at Waterman on the 6 o'clock train.

A very substantial smoke house is being built for the east side meat market and just back of it.

Yorkville: When you read the Democratic papers you would think the farmers of Illinois were all paupers. These city Dems think farmers are idiots—but they don't know them. The farmers are the sinew and strength of the Nation.

When the country was in peril and disunion threatened by a Southern foe, Morgan A. Skinner took his life in his hands and went to the front with the boys in blue. There for three years and more he faced bullet, shell, and bayonet that this Union might be preserved; and he was with a fighting regiment, too—the old 89th Illinois. Now reward him next Tuesday by giving him your vote for sheriff.

Let us try and keep religion and the school system separate and apart. Once in politics such strife will be engendered as to set neighbor against neighbor and make communities at war with each other. There is room enough in this country for Catholic and Protestant—for Lutheran and Methodist—for the church and the public schools. The most cruel wars of past ages were religious wars. Keep such things out of politics and let us all be American citizens, whether native or foreign born.

The Morris Herald thus mentions our Charley: Charlie Cherry of Oswego is a “horny-handed tiller of the soil,” who, while making no pretensions to oratory, is endowed with good horse sense and will make a competent and painstaking legislator, one who, like his predecessor, will always be found at the post of duty, and always right in matters of legislation which affect the people he is sent to represent.

NaAuSay: Everybody is very sorry to learn that our esteemed fellow citizen, C.A. Hopkins, and his estimable wife are going to leave us to reside in Aurora. They will be greatly missed in church and social circles, where they have always been leaders.

New barns are springing up all over the community and it looks very much as if times were prosperous in this region, for surely no one would build a barn if he has nothing to put in it. Moses Cherry must be expecting a cold winter, for he has just completed a fine ice house.

Feels like snow.

Big rain last night.

The casket furnished by Mr. Newton for Robert Lormor is one of the finest ever seen in Yorkville. It is metallic, nicely trimmed with oxidized silver and heavy broadcloth. The hands are heavy and rich looking.

By new arrangement with the postal authorities, Yorkville now has another daily mail to and from Chicago. A special pouch goes in on

the 9:40 a.m. train and comes back on the 6:18 p.m. Monday was the first day of the new arrangement. It will be a great convenience.

The bridge men have been busy the past week assembling their material. The street at both ends of the old structure is pretty occupied by iron beams, trusses, and wooden planking.

*Morris Herald:* There arrived in this city this morning, and the guest of I.W. Claypool, Esq., to-day, David Lone Wolf, a nephew of the old chief Shabbona. He is 66 years of age and left here 50 years ago, taking up his home in the Dakotas with his tribe, the Siouxs, one division of which the Ogle Valley, he is second chief. His father was a Sioux and his mother a Pottawattomie...Lone Wolf was one of 150 Indian Scouts in the Union service during the War of the Rebellion, and was twice wounded, once at the Wilderness and again at Gettysburg. On his breast he wears the badge of the Grand Army of the Republic. His father was killed in the Minnesota massacre in 1853. His grandfather, aged 112 years, resides with him.

He came here for the purpose of looking after the interest of his people in some 20 acres of land near the residence of C.W.

Burroughs near Seneca, which was deeded by the government to Shabbona and his descendants as a homestead, the deed running to the "Circuit Judge of LaSalle County" and never can be disposed of. He thoroughly understands the rights of his people, and is one whose advice would be given great weight in their councils...

He visited the old home and the grave of Shabbona and also called on CH. Goold, who was the friend of Shabbona. Mr. Goold has in his possession the old flintlock pistol carried by Shabbona and given to Mr. Goold just after the old chief's death in 1858.

He left here on the afternoon train for Chicago, where he has a large number of furs, after the disposing of which he will return to his home at the Rose Bud Agency, South Dakota.

November -- 1890

Nov. 5: Oswego has been shabbily treated; nary a speech nor other political stimulus has it received during this campaign. Even the Prohibs steered clear of it—thinking perhaps that since it got to be a

temperance town, no further issue can exist. Hadn't there ought to be some retaliation on the politicians for this slight?

Frank Strossman, the longest in stature of this place, and the longest in mercantile service here, has severed his connection with it. D.M. Haight and engaged himself with Geo. R. Wilcox of Aurora where he moved with his family the latter part of last week. Frank will be much missed.

Everitt Walker has resigned his position at H.B. Read's and gone to Tennessee where he will engage in the printing business. His cousin Louis H. Walker, who lately arrived here from Remington, Ind., and who by the way is the best looking Walker that has come from that place yet, has taken the place made vacant.

George W. Kimball has pulled up stakes here and moved with his family to Chicago.

Years ago the suggestion was thrown out through these letters to change the name of Oswego by reducing it to a two-syllable word, and Osgo, Ogo, and Swego were mentioned as suitable terms. If anything of the kind was done at present, the dropping of the first syllable, making it Wego, would be the most appropriate.

The "Public School" was the subject of the Rev. F.E. Lyon's Sunday evening sermon, and the value of education the main drift of it.

Mrs. Ellen Blair, the famous chalk-talker of Nebraska, will give one of her delightful talks Sunday afternoon, Nov. 9, 1890 at the Congregational church at 3 o'clock under the auspices of the YWCTU.

Some states have adopted the Australian system of voting, and others are talking of adopting it. To secure independent voting is all there is of that system, and there would be no necessity for it if all voters would assert their independence.

NaAuSay & Kendall: Corn husking is being rushed through in this region.



Henry Hopkins has a fine new wagon shed and Edmund Seely is engaged in constructing a new barn for his colts.

A prominent lady of this place was out hunting squirrels last Tuesday accompanied by her father. Together they succeeded in shooting four squirrels.

Yorkville: Rainfall here during the month of October, 4.32 inches, according to Wm. Graham's rain-gage.

It is discouraging to be a Republican on an off-year.

Thanksgiving Day next.

Nov. 12: George Schell's eldest daughter is very sick with diphtheria.

C.L. Roberts, who has been living across the river here nearly ever since Oswego had an existence, has now pulled up stakes and moved to Aurora.

Mrs. Blair of Nebraska addressed in chalk talk and otherwise a meeting of the Y's Sunday afternoon at the Congregational church, and likewise in the evening instructed a full house audience of the union meeting at the Presbyterian church.

William Dussell is moving with his family to town Tuesday and occupying the Sierp house.

Warren A. Wood, 70, was killed at the creamery when a wall fell on him. Wood was working with Harley and Will Richards to install a new refrigerator in the northwest corner of the building. After the flooring and joists had been removed, the wall became unstable and collapsed, narrowly missing the Richards brothers, but fatally injuring Wood.

Elijah Ferris died at 3 o'clock this (Tuesday) Morning.

Yorkville: We beat the prohibitionists, anyway.

L.B. Judson, formerly a prominent resident of Oswego, will be 84 years of age Thursday of this week. The *Aurora Blade* says: "One to see the gentleman as he walks firm and erect as a soldier on our streets would not imagine him over 60. He is by all means the best preserved man for his age in this section.

The Plainfield Enterprise of last week says: Uncle Geo. Bennett and his moving apparatus were over to Platteville Monday and Tuesday, changing the location of a cheese factory for Mr. Platt of that place.

Alva Weed is here from Alexis, Ill. The same wholesouled jolly Al who used to take photographs in Yorkville and sold goods later for Capt. Hobbs.

The new bridge is progressing—the heavy frame work is all up; workmen are fitting in the braces and bolts and will begin to lay the floor the latter part of the week.

C.C. Duffy's plurality for the appellate court clerkship is about 25,000--surely enough to elect him. Chris will now live in the ancient city of Ottawa and hobnob with Judges and lawyers. Truly little Kendall is honored--a representative in Congress and a big court clerkship representing both the great parties.

The Democrats have captured the State of Illinois completely. They elect the state treasurer and superintendent of public instruction.

Democrat Lewis Steward of Plano was elected to Congress in the 1890 election. In the election, Democrats polled 17,325 votes in the Eighth Congressional District against 16,866 Republican votes. The Republican vote of 1890 was 3,827 less than that of 1888.

The Republican party was overwhelmingly defeated at the elections Nov. 4, and has not one crumb of comfort in any state in the union. While it was a Bull Run, it is not a Waterloo. We are whipped--not by the enemy, but by our own people. We are cleaned out by our own apathy and indifference.

Nov. 19: Tillie Schell died of diphtheria during Friday night and was buried Saturday afternoon. The early disposition of the corpse was

for sanitary reasons deemed prudent if not actually necessary, the rest of the children being down with the disease at the time. Appropriate funeral services will be held hereafter, when the affairs of the family have assumed a more normal condition. The death of Tillie is a sad case. She was a very good and smart girl, and being just the age—14 years—of the most promising developments. The principal reason of her parents for leaving their farm over in NaAuSay and renting one near here is said to have been that their children might enjoy better school facilities.

The funeral of Elijah Ferris took place Wednesday afternoon from the house and the burial in the Cowdrey cemetery. The deceased was 41 years of age.

Mrs. and Lucy Teller moved to Chicago Monday.

The thinnest kind of an audience witnessed the exhibition by magic lantern of the heavenly bodies, a trip around, etc., Saturday evening.

The Methodist church is undergoing a general renovation, owing to which no services were held there Sunday.

That Etta McKinney—formerly an Oswego girl—was married to a Mr. Louis Thorp of Boulder, Colo., was learned from the Aurora papers of last week.

NaAuSay: The carpenters who have been working on the chapel were on hand Saturday morning, but as they saw the rain had set in for an all day's job, they retired from the field and departed for their homes in Oswego. An invitation was extended in Sunday school to all those who could assist to be on hand this week to help rush the work to a finish.

Yorkville: The Record office enjoyed a good-sized boom in job printing last week, which kept the whole force of printers and one cylinder and two platen presses humming to get away with.

The Bridge Company has nearly completed its work in Yorkville, and then the highway commissioners will have to tear things up again to

fill in the abutment and approaches and connect sidewalks with village assistance.

Nov. 26: For the better care and greater convenience, Mrs. C.H. Jarvis had been for a month or more at her daughter's Mrs. James Jarvis, and where she died. The deceased was a native of Kentucky, was nearly 61 years of age, was a hardworking and good-hearted woman.

Clara, aged nearly 13 years, daughter of Chris. Herren on the river, died last week. The disease which caused Clara's death has not been learned, but it is said she had the "grippe" during its prevalence and that since she never had been entirely well.

Chris Miller is sick with the typhoid fever.

William and August Esch with their families were here from Chicago attending the funeral of Clara Herren.

James B. Pogue is here from Hinckley and helping in the putting in of new coal scales of the firm at this place. The office also has been raised and otherwise improved.

The report was received Monday evening that Charles Leigh in crossing Blackberry bridge below Yorkville with his steam thresher broke through and got quite severely hurt. Since it has been learned that it was his brother, Fred.

Among the improvements in town is that of a windmill on the Shoger livery stable; its main use is to pump water into an upstairs tank for the washing of carriages.

Mr. and Mrs. Herren wish to express their heartfelt appreciation for the sympathy and neighborly kindness shown at the time of their daughter Clara's sickness and death.

Yorkville: The Big Ice-Houses

The ice-house district has been a busy place for the last three or four weeks, since the firm of Esch Brothers & Rabe of Chicago commenced making preparations for their winter's harvest. Finding

our home carpenters and laboring men all busy on improvements in and about Yorkville, they brought 25 or 30 men out from Chicago and as a result of their work, a complete transformation of that part of town has taken place, and it can be truthfully said that not a more substantial ice-plant can be found in the country than the one now nearing completion here. There may be larger ones, and we presume there are a great many, but there are none better.

The houses cover an area of 120x151 feet and are so high that it makes a reporter light-headed to go to the top of them. They are, when finished, to be sided and painted and covered with a gravel roof. On the east side of the ice-house is being built an engine house in which will be placed a fine engine to run the machinery. At the southeast corner of the large buildings and 60 feet up in the air, supported by a large post at each corner, is a building which from down town looks no larger than a flagman's house on Bridge street, but in reality it is so large that it would be considered a mansion out in the land of Dakota dug-outs. Some kind of machinery goes into this house.

The work is being pushed forward as rapidly as possible and it will not be many days until everything will be in readiness for putting up ice, and unless the weather clerk plays the same joke on the ice men that he did last winter, that part of the town will be a lively place during the cold weather. Besides filling the houses, the firm expects to ship 25 carloads daily to Chicago. To do this will require the labor of from 50 to 100 men.

The firm having heretofore found hotel and boarding house accommodations inadequate for the large number of men they must necessarily employ, will put up a boarding house to accommodate 100 persons. It will be located about a block south of the ice houses. They did not care to do this, but were driven to it as the season of the ice harvest usually finds our hotels crowded, being about the time of the January term of court when the town is full of lawyers, jurymen, and witnesses—and they must have a place to eat and sleep.

Putting up ice is a business which must be attended to—not exactly “when the iron is hot,” but when the ice is cold. It cannot be put off until court adjourns so the fitness of the company boarding its own men will be plainly seen. The men they employ are mostly sailors and must have good, substantial food and a warm place to sleep or they won't work.

Messrs Esche [Esch] Bros. & Rabe commenced the ice business in a small way 17 years ago this winter, putting up their first ice at Oswego where they still have houses. A few years later, they leased the houses here, which they afterwards bought. These were burned a couple of years ago. Their business has grown until they now run 20 wagons in Chicago, besides having a large wholesale trade. They thoroughly understand their business and are very agreeable gentlemen to know.

Judging from the numerous real estate reports up the river. Sen. Hank Evans must own the larger portion of Aurora.

The bridge builders have gone, and Commissioner Crimmin is now bossing the filling-in process.

The winter term of the Yorkville school begins next Monday.

Aurora Beacon: Thursday evening as Conductor G.W. Sickles' train was just pulling in on the Fox river road, some miscreant fired at him in the way-car near the west depot. The bullet passed through the cupola just behind Mr. Sickles, a lucky escape for him. The man must have been either drunk or murderously inclined.

November thus far has been a perfect autumn month and should be remembered as a November of exceptionally fine weather.

#### WENT THROUGH THE BRIDGE

##### A Thresher Engine in Blackberry Creek

The steam thresher outfit of the Leighs, of Oswego, has been for some days on the west side of Blackberry Creek doing clover hulling and threshing; Monday afternoon they left Fred young's place for home and attempted to cross the Blackberry creek at the mouth over the bridge near the mill. The thresher and the traction engine were coupled together. There were two men riding on the engine, Mr. Leigh and his engineer. The engine had passed about 12 feet on the bridge when a needle-beam pulled out of the bolts by which it was attached to the bridge chords, and the engine fell with a great crash through the bridge floor into the creek below, a distance of about 12 feet. The men on the engine jumped as the bridge gave way; one landed in the deep water just under the dam, the other lit

on the rock bottom of the creek on the lower side, breaking four ribs, a collar bone and being badly bruised in his fall. The injured man was Mr. Fred Leigh Jr. one of the owners of the machine. He was taken to a house and Dr. Kinnett repaired his injuries and from thence to his home near Oswego.

The outfit was new this season and is quite a loss. The separator did not follow; a timber in the front end caught a plank on the portion of the bridge which did not fall and it hung there on the brink.

December -- 1890

Dec. 3: Dr. Jewell and Chris. Miller both died early Friday morning. The latter, a stout and healthy young man 24 years old, had to succumb to typhoid fever. A short service was held at the residence of G.J. Burghart, where he boarded and died. The funeral of Dr. D.B. Jewell took place Sunday from the house. Dr. Jewell was one of the old landmarks of Oswego; he came from Ohio to Kendall County in 1839; to Oswego in 1843 and continuously has been living here since. He has been almost constantly confined to the house for about two years with a disease of a dropsical nature. A widow and a son and daughter of his first wife, respectively residing in Wisconsin and Iowa, the latter being present at the funeral, are the survivors.

Will Kennedy is now precariously sick with the typhoid fever.

From the Aurora papers were learned that Charles Woolley and Maggie Rees of this vicinity were married in that city.

The Oswego mills have been rented by A.M. Wormley and who will be running them hereafter.

The big wheel of the Smith windmill has been put in place.

The so called "tan bark" building, which stood as a reminder of the whilom Uncle Ezra Smith, was sold by Frank Schram to Charles Zorn, who took it down and is moving the material to his lots on the flats.

The financial embarrassment of J.B. Hunt is deplored by everybody, and at first it was hoped that it may be but temporary, but now

according to rumors the breaking up of him is inevitable. The store was taken possession of by Sheriff Ackerman on behalf of a Chicago grocery house Friday evening and an inventory taken Saturday.

Will Kennedy died at 4 o'clock Tuesday morning.

L.N. Hall will soon offer for sale a fine line of holiday goods. His 25th annual sale.

NaAuSay: Mrs. Norcross, a colored wash woman who lives in the Aux Sable grove, rejoices in a new barn, the gift of charitable neighbors.

Prof. Danforth of Montgomery was over in NaAuSay last Saturday seeing what the prospects were about starting a vocal music class.

Yorkville: The Sandwich Argus says: "The pupils of Miss Anna Brown gave her a very pleasant surprise on Tuesday evening. She was presented with a handsome bound volume of Whittier's poems, Miss Eva Ledoyt making the neat presentation speech." Miss Brown was formerly a teacher at Oswego and Plano.

Rainfall for November, 1.87 inches as reported by Wm. Graham.

Dec. 10: The funeral of Willard Irwin Kennedy took place Thursday afternoon at the Methodist church. Will, as he was called, was nearly 29 years of age, was born and always has lived in this town. He was one of the four young men that had been elected on the anti-license ticket to village trustees last spring, which at the time caused more or less newspaper comments. He had a robust look and apparently was in the best enjoyment of health up to about two weeks ago. For a number of years he has been the butter maker at the creamery. His demise is very deplorable, as he leaves behind a young wife and two small children, the youngest less than a month old. Except Lewis Kennedy, all of the half brothers and sisters of the deceased, viz.: George, Mary Jane, Ruth and Margaret on the side of the father and Mrs. Bessie Ellis and Mrs. Esther Brooks on the side of the mother, together with the husbands or other members of their families were present for the funeral.

L.N. Hall's 25th annual sale of holiday goods will be the best.



Willie, 10 years old, son of Jacob Friebele out at the grove, died last week of a lung complaint.

Two of the tellers of the National Bank of America, with which the Oswego bank is connected, were here from Chicago over Sunday and the guests of L.N. Hall. One of them was James, the son of Edgar A. Lyon, formerly of this place.

The agricultural implement warehouse building of J.A. Shoger, corner of Main and Jackson streets, has been torn down and the construction of a large and more imposing one commenced.

Aux Sable: William B. Goostrey has been made agent for Walter Thomas Mills & Co, for the sale of real estate at the new town of Harvey, two miles south of the city limits of Chicago. It is an absolutely temperance town and is growing very rapidly.

This beautiful December weather is a result of the McKinley bill.

A.D. Newton has been sworn in as deputy sheriff under Sheriff Skinner.

The bridge approaches are slowly approaching completion; will be nice when all done.

The Record folks have been so badly worried the past week that it is a wonder we get out a paper at all. Last Friday morning, experts from Aurora examined our steam boiler and said it would not do any more work until repaired; as the repairs would cost a goodly sum, the publisher went to Chicago Friday night and bought a new boiler, but as it could not be set this week, we ran the engine with the old one, expecting every minute that the boiler would open up and blow us all to kingdom come, but we have got through it in rather ragged shape. Then, the paper sent us from Chicago was not satisfactory and the business has been pretty tough on all hands.

Dec. 17: The funeral of the wife of Ezekiel Davis Jr. took place Sunday at Aurora. The deceased became afflicted with paralysis awhile ago and for better care was moved to her parents, Patrick

Pierce, residing in the Tigue house, where she died. She was a native of Ireland about 36 years old; her former name had been Mary Cody; she was married to Davis about three years ago. One child, the fruit of this union is left motherless.

Gus Voss, our absent mayor has written a letter from Rapid City near where the Indian troubles exist, to the Aurora *Herald*, in which he gives a brief account of the situation, the spirit of the people, and that of the enemy (Redskins) and in which he shows himself to be evolving into a Westerner quite readily.

A very odd looking animal was seen running along the road near the ridge Sunday. Upon being captured it was found to be a cow belonging to James Collins with his head caught in a salt barrel. She got her head into the barrel and couldn't get it out.

Charles Zorn has had built an extensive shed out of the tan bark hall material, adjoining his slaughter house.

The frame of Gus Shoger's new warehouse is up and the building now is being enclosed.

The main feature of the doings just now is the sale at auction of the goods at Hunt's store, which commenced with Saturday afternoon, and which is to be in progress every afternoon and evening until disposed of.

Yorkville: The new post office building which the government is to put up at Aurora will be on the island, just west of the city hall and next to the store of J.D. Rice & Son. The building is to cost \$75,000. Congressman Hopkins did well for Aurora.

The mortality among the rabbits has been very great this winter, but the mortality among the hunters from the festive shot gun has been great also.

Mr. Thomas F. Fletcher was here from Lisbon Saturday. Coal mines and railways still agitate the people out there.

Careless hunters do much mischief sometimes, and it is no wonder farmers are annoyed. A few days ago Frank Kendall, just down the river, had a valuable colt shot by some hunter.

The shortest days Sunday and Monday.

#### The SITTING BULL SHOT

The Old Indian Chieftain at Last Bites the Dust

He is Killed by Indian Policemen While Resisting Arrest. Eight of the Hostiles and Five Policemen Slain. Soldiers Take Part.

Standing Rock Agency, N.D., Dec. 16: Sitting Bull, the Sioux chief, was shot and killed at his camp 40 miles northwest of here early Monday morning by the Indian police while resisting arrest.

Dec. 24: Miss Charistina Unsinn of this place, and for a long while in employ at Seely's, was married to John Suhler of Kendall Wednesday.

Nettie Hawley was married to Daniel Flynn of Yorkville.

Grinding is done regularly at the Oswego mills and customers can be accommodated at all times.

Etta Sierp was in town during last week.

With the exception of some of the wall paper the sale of the Hunt stock as completed Monday evening. The sale was ably managed and George Ackerman with his force probably got as much out of it as could be under the circumstances. Dave Hall and G.D. Conklin of Plano were the auctioneers.

The imitation brick metal siding, the first of that quality introduced here, is being put on the Shoger warehouse.

Dec. 31: A piano was one of the presents Mabel Cherry received from her father, John W.

Information on the death of Mrs. Henry C. Kerr, nee Miss Della Shumway, at her home at Hastings, Neb. was received last week.

Minnie, the seven year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Obman died last week Sunday of Membranous croup.

Christmas came and went without causing any special sensation," *The Record* reported. "The day before, the sporting fraternity had a turkey shoot to determine which of them should eat cheap turkey the next day and which should help pay for it and go without any themselves."

Mr. and Mrs. John A. Young were called to Chicago Monday by the serious sickness of Amanda Wagner, a relative of theirs, and who was formerly well known in this town.

1890 is nearly completed and the stepping into the last decade of the 19th Century at hand.

Yorkville: One of the astonishing bank failures of the month was that of S.A. Kean & Co., bankers, Chicago. It was one of the oldest banks in the city. Mr. Kean was one of the leading Methodists of the vicinity and had the unlimited confidence of many church people and prominent workers in the WCTU. The failure is a bad one, and criminal proceedings are talked of. It is pretty hard to tell who is honest in these days of money worship.

1891

January

Jan. 1: The New Year caused no material doings in this community," *The Record's* Oswego correspondent reported. "There were a number of us who resolved 'to quit our meanness,' but one thing or 'nother has put us out and we are all back again in the old ruts."

A farmer's alliance has been formed by the farmers of this neighborhood and several meetings have been held. A.J. Wormley is said to be the president of it and G.M. Croushorn the secretary. The upper part of the council house is to be engaged for a hall.

Young Zeke Davis is again running the Cornills mill.

George Squires had again about a dozen of his sheep on the Hawley place killed by dogs. James Morrison, lying near by and hearing the racket, got up and went out with his gun and shot at the dogs, hitting one. The wounded dog was found the next morning at his home and was killed on the spot.

The nice weather of the fore part of last week was being taken advantage of by the road authorities of several districts in hauling gravel. The pit near the creamery showed great activity; from 25 to 30 teams were hauling gravel from there Monday and Tuesday. The hill above the creamery is now nearly removed, and when completed and the land leveled up, it will much improve that institution. A number of improvements in the building of the creamery have also been made of late.

Yorkville: Mr. John S. Seely of Oswego is the official weather reporter in Kendall for the state and government and he does his work accurately and promptly. He has favored the record with a recapitulation of statistics covering the water all of the past ten years s follows:

Precipitation:		Precipitation:	
Rain and melted snow		Rain and melted snow:	
Year	Inches	Dec.	Inches
1880	43.28	1880	
1881	39.23	1881	2.93
1882	41.36	1882	2.10
1883	38.71	1883	1.25
1884	36.16	1884	3.95
1885	35.43	1885	2.51
1886	30.05	1886	1.01
1887	26.51	1887	3.38
1888	27.37	1888	2.22
1889	28.58	1888	1.91
1890	34.71	1890	.75

Jan. 14: A number of the GAR's went to Aurora Tuesday evening and attended a meeting of the post there.

In order to fully comply with the declaration "let there be light," the depot waiting room has been supplied with a new set of lamps which make the evenings there much more cheerful.

Farmer Haaff, once the principal of the Oswego school, was here Thursday evening and made a public address at the Alliance hall to a full house, of which the farmers predominated. The speech was a very mild one for Haaff and contained but little of Haaffism. It presented the situation, and foremost of which was the unequal distribution of the accumulating wealth; the farmers not getting their just share, and hence the necessity of organizing for self-preservation. The building up of a new political party, or the favoring of any one already in existence, was not intended, but candidates for office of all the parties were to be investigated as to how they stood in regard to the main questions that are now causing the farmers' movement; there shall be no interference with anyone's politics. At the close he took a number of subscriptions to an agricultural paper in which he has a department, each subscriber getting as a premium a 50-cent bottle of his horn-killer--it must be remembered that Haaff is the original dehorner. The hall was then cleared and Haaff, together with about 20 farmers, went into secret session for the purpose of organizing a F.M.B.A. [Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association]--an open Farmers' Alliance was already in existence here.

NaAuSay: James Ort, son of William Ort of Seward who joined the regular army a year or more ago, writes home to his mother from the Bad Lands and reports his exploits with the Indians in that country. Jim says he has made two bold warriors bite the dust.

Not many years ago it was a rare sight to see a steam engine running a threshing machine, but nowadays many are running clover hullers, straw pressers, and corn shellers.

Jan. 21: Anton Miller would like you to hustle around and pay your taxes as soon as possible.

Charles Knapp says that of the many nice hogs shipped by them during the last year, the 120 of Charles Raymond of Bristol last week were the boss lot of all.

S.G. Minkler attended the meeting of the Northern Illinois Horticultural Society in Rockford last week.

Negotiations are under way with certain parties for the purchase of the Oswego mills and water power. The project is the establishment of a number of factories of different kinds, connected with the water-power by wire rope, the first of which is to be a white lead factory.

The Aurora papers want the Alliance party at Springfield to take up Farmer C.T. Cherry as the candidate for U.S. Senator. They say that he could fill the chair once occupied by David Davis better than any man they know of.

Doc Woolley and George Collins, together with two friends from elsewhere, have returned from their western trip, lasting six weeks and extending over upwards of 6,000 miles of country, being by way of St. Paul to Manitoba and over the Canadian Pacific to Vancouver; then through Washington, Oregon, and California as far as San Francisco; then through Nevada Utah, parts of Colorado, Wyoming, South Dakota, and Kansas. The longest stop made at one place was at Tacoma.

Yorkville: The greater the greatness of some men, the greater will be their inconsistencies. For instance, Senator Ingalls, the great Kansas orator, has made a great speech on the Silver Bill in which, according so the synopsis of it published, he pictured the country on the brink of rule because of the many rich men that rapidly have come into existence. The next vote he cast was to make more rich men, to add 20 percent to the value of the stock on hand by the Silver Kings and what they produce hereafter; to secure them a permanent market and a never falling price.

It seems strange that our good farmers will be led by such men as Haaff the dehorner--whose farm is on one of the main streets of Chicago. He is glib of tongue--so is the lightning rod man--but that qualification should not make him a leader. Haaff is looking out for Haaff.

Our representative at Springfield, Hon. Charles Cherry, has introduced a bill to regulate charges at the Chicago stockyards. This is one of those perennial bills that is always being introduced but never gets any farther than an introduction; it is a great card for the lobby and the wealthy stockyards corporation can maintain a strong force of friends at the state capitol. It is hoped Mr. Cherry will be able to have his bill passed and not hid away by an unfavorable committee or jostled out of place by the sharp work of a minority. The state assembly this year is strong in farmers and if they flail in getting favorable legislation there must be a reason.

Jan. 28: If there is a village ordinance that makes shooting within the corporation limits unlawful, it is most egregiously violated.

The young man with the phonograph was in town one day and in Shaver's office would speak, sing, and play--the phonograph would, not the young man--to all who had a few nickels to spend.

George R. Schamp has returned from a visit to New Jersey and New York city. He says the people down there don't take so kindly to the World's Fair being held at Chicago as we suppose they do.

The demand for the right of trial by a jury of peers was principally based on the argument that the nobles could not put themselves in the position of the plebeians, the essential qualification of giving righteous judgment between man and man where the latter are concerned. That a Senate of millionaires cannot comprehend the wants of the people, but that its vision is restricted to the ambition of its own class, viz: the piling up of greater riches, may be just as true as that of the former case.

Oswego has had a scare. A lady who had been making a trip to Chicago and had been suffering from a cold had some kind of a rash breaking out on her. A doctor saw her Saturday and said that whatever it was had sufficiently developed to be sure about and a little precaution might be in order as it might turn out to be a light case of the varioloid. That was enough. In a very short time "We have the small pox" was spread all over town and then everybody advised what should be done: The school must be closed; everyone who had been in hailing distance of the patient should be



quarantined; the writing and sending of letters should be stopped; some of the invitations to social doings were cancelled; money was received with apprehension; some were afraid to go to church on Sunday; all living things in town should be vaccinated, etc. By Monday, however, it was found that it was only a simple case of eruption and the scare ceased almost as fast as it began.

Fox Station: That Haaff must be a Democrat, but he claims personally to be a prohibitionist. By the way, according to Republican authority there must be lots of Democrats nowadays. Everything is an annex to the Democratic Party except the old Republican Party partisan machine wheel-horses, and those who follow them like cattle. (This is a Democrat's opinion. -- Editor.)

*Naperville Clarion*: One by one, the pioneers of DuPage County are passing away. Mrs. Betsey Naper, wife of Capt. John [sic; should be Joseph] Naper, deceased, died at her home near Naperville on Thursday, Jan. 15, 1891 at the age of 83 years. She was born near the village of Rome, N.Y., April 22, 1808. At the age of eight years moved to Ashtabula, Ohio, where she married Capt. John Naper, Aug. 14, 1826.

February -- 1891

Feb. 4: An early spring is now assured. The woodchuck came out of his hole Monday to stay, but was sorry for it Tuesday. Farmers now may dismiss politics and begin to think about their spring work--the putting in of the small grain [wheat, oats, barley] may be begun in about three weeks.

Part of last week's letter was missing containing the most important items: The celebration of the 82d birthday of William Ladd by a gathering of his friends at his residence the Friday before; the return of S.H. Greg from Kentucky, where he had been called by the sickness of his mother; the selling out by Burghart & Wollenweber of the west side meat market to Frank Schram of the east side one; and the movements of a number of visitors and other persons.

The death of the Rev. Seymour Stover, who at one time was the pastor of the Methodist church here, was reported in the papers last week.

The raising of the Stars and Stripes on school houses as an instrument for the inculcation of patriotism in the hearts of the young has been frequently mentioned. The Walker school of this township has taken the lead in the project and Friday raised a large U.S. flag on the school house, which is to be kept waving from the commencement of school in the morning to its close in the afternoon.

Much straw is being baled in this vicinity and shipped to eastern markets by A.E. Courtright.

NaAuSay: Two NaAuSay bachelors played checkers last Saturday night and did not stop playing until four o'clock Sunday morning.

Bristol Township: The farmers of this vicinity met at Youngs' Hall last Wednesday evening and formed a Farmers' Alliance with James Scofield as president and Geo. Mewhirter as secretary. They adjourned to meet Feb. 14 at 2 p.m. All wishing to join are requested to attend the meeting.

Yorkville: At a dinner given in New York the other night to 33 persons, the bill was \$6,500 or just about \$200 a plate, and New York and other large cities are just full of such snobbery. Extravagance in living is a curse to the land, and it is no wonder that farmers with their hard toil and slender incomes, mechanics with their wages at the mercy of monopolists, and laboring men who can see only from three to four hundred dollars a year grow restive and from combinations against capital. There is a heap of human nature in this world, and when wealthy people make consummate fools of themselves it riles the bone and sinew of the land.

Feb. 11: The meadow lark is here; the boys are playing marbles; the caterpillar is on the move; the sparrows are fighting for mates; at least that was the case a few days ago.

C.L. Murdock, our police magistrate, has been sick now for several weeks.

The death of Chris. Burghart took place last week down in the vicinity of Plano where of late he has been living.

The new agricultural implement building was dedicated Thursday evening by a dance, which was said to have been a very pleasant affair. The place being neat, the company choice, the music--Put Howard's of Aurora--tip top.

Marshall [George C.] Inman with a posse went up to Troy Thursday evening and arrested Henry Johnson. According to reports, Johnson had come down from Aurora, went to the residence of Lars Nelson, and proposed marriage to Jennie, the oldest daughter, doing it after the fashion of the highwayman, 'Your heart or your life.' Mr. Nelson, not being home, the family were scared nearly to death. Johnson was placed in the calaboose and being that our Justices were sick or away, Justice Hagerman was prevailed upon to come up and make out the necessary papers and Saturday gave the case a hearing at his office in Yorkville. 'Drunk' doubtless was most to blame. And by the way, has there not a great change taken place in the love between the sexes? The killing by the lover of his loved one is now done so frequently that it has become almost an ordinary occurrence.

Yorkville: The 11th annual report of the Commissioners of Public Charities has been received. It treats a good many things, among them the condition of the jails and almshouses in the State of Illinois. A representative of the Board inspected the jail in Kendall county Aug. 14, 1890, and here is the report as printed in the book: This jail and that in Douglas county are much alike in construction, and might be called twins. Both may be classed with the meanest jails in the state. This jail has not been improved in any way. It was found to be clean. Nothing can be seen in the cells without the aid of artificial light. They are dungeons, with neither light nor air. There were two prisoners present, awaiting trial. One prisoner was present April 1, 1889; eight were committed, and nine discharged during the year. This old hole in the ground should be abandoned and a jail erected above the surface. A cellar may be desirable for

some purposes, but it is not fit to lock human beings in. [The jail at that time was located in the basement of the courthouse]

It is interesting to notice that Kendall county is abreast with the times in the new movement to place the American flag on our public schools.

On Friday, Jan. 30, the Walker school, district No. 8, Oswego township, raised a large flag, which was purchased by the school with the proceeds of an entertainment given by the pupils.

In the newspapers there has been no little controversy as to which regiment in the Civil War was the first to plant the flag on Lookout Mountain. But there is no doubt that the Walker is the first country school to place the national emblem over its building. All honor to the patriotic teacher, pupils, directors, and all others for their interest in the cause of liberty and patriotism.

Feb. 18: Some very nice ice was secured during the winter from the stone quarries by the creamery, the butcher shop and private parties.

The storing of ice by Esch Bros. & Rabe was commenced here during the forepart of the last week, but the mild weather soon put a stop to it, and only about a hundred carloads of it were secured.

Farmer Haaff was in town for a day or two and the guest of L.N. Hall. He is quite a friend of Mrs. Josie H., and may have succeeded during his visit in converting her from Republicanism to the doctrines of the alliance.

Mrs. George Germaine died at Bloomington from her injuries, which were self inflicted with a revolver in a state of undue despondency. Everybody here deploras the sad event, for Ida was a nice girl. Her mother, Mrs. Varner, has not yet returned from there.

On Tuesday the 10th inst. at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. G.H. Boesenecker, two miles east of town, Mr. John L. Haag of East Wheatland and Miss Mary A. Boesenecker were united in holy wedlock. The groom is a successful farmer over in Wheatland and the pride was one of our accomplished school ma'ams.

John Hoch and Miss Fredricka Fees have united their fortunes and become a family of this community.

Aurora lost its finest business block last Thursday morning by fire. The new Mercantile block, on the corner of Broadway and Fox street, took fire, it is supposed from the boiler or heater room, and in a few hours the entire building was destroyed. There is a loss of about \$100,000 with only nominal insurance.

While Aurora now can brag of a great fire, she will have to hold up a little on her water works and fire department, which when needed the most were out of order and inefficient. "A stitch in time saves nine" is never more applicable than in the case of fire; what might have been easily extinguished in time may be uncontrollable half an hour afterwards. Quite a portion of Oswego is now dependent on its water works for water in the case of fire as well as otherwise, as the wells therein have been allowed to go to wreck; but who or how many would know where to find a key wherewith to open a hydrant? It is quite likely that we would be drawing water from faucets to fight a fire with.

The remains of J.A. Durand were brought here from Chicago Friday for burial. James A. Durand and family became identified with this community by his appointment to the position of the first Oswego station agent at the depot on the main line, which was presumably in 1854. After quitting the depot he moved to town and for years was engaged in business of one kind or another, that of lumber the chief. Both he and Mrs. D. were of the most exemplary people. When their son had grown to manhood the family moved to Belle Plaine, Iowa and the father and son together engaged there in the mercantile business. Later they moved to Chicago where they have been since, in the commission business. Though Oswego had proven too dull a place for business to him, he was longing to return here to live and in company with his wife was here twice during the last year trying to secure a suitable abode. That abode is now changed to the cemetery, where one of the best lots was procured for his reception. Pneumonia is said to have been the cause of death, and from which disease all of both families have been suffering. Cassius, the son, alone being able to attend the burial.

Yorkville: General Sherman is dead! The hero of Atlanta, of "Marching Through Georgia," of "From Atlanta to the Sea," is no more with us in the flesh but his name and fame will live with American history and have a place on the role of the world's heroes. General Sherman died Saturday afternoon, Feb. 14, 1891 at his home in New York.

#### ATTENTION FARMERS

There will be a farmers alliance meeting at the court house, Yorkville, Saturday, Feb. 21, 1891 at 10 a.m. A.E. Brunson, president of the state alliance and A.C. Baldwin, vice-president S.A., will address the meeting. Farmers' alliances, Granges, F.M.B.A., and farmers generally are cordially invited.

J.N. Harris, President  
Geo. Mewhirter, Sec'y.

Newark: The funeral of President Charles Edgerton of the Iowa State Savings Bank at Creston, Iowa, whose sudden death was such a surprise to his family and friends, was largely attended at the Cemetery chapel Saturday, Feb. 14 Deceased was about 41 years old and unmarried. Charley was brought up in this community where he played as a child and attended school at the old Fowler Institute as a young man. [Edgerton committed suicide. His suicide note blamed a "false friend," however the Newark correspondent noted that "it seems that from facts brought to light that, brooding over some trouble connected with the bank...had turned his brain and led to the rash act of suicide." According to the coroner's report Edgerton cut his throat with a razor. *The Record* published the suicide notes--he wrote three of them--on March 11, although they sounded more like explanations of why he was suddenly leaving town for Des Moines, which, he said, was to bring the state auditor back to close the bank. In the letters he said he was frightened that the bank's cashier would murder him.]

Feb. 25: The Hon. C.T. Cherry has been home over Sunday. He is in excellent health and spirit, but has become very hoarse from the much voting.

Otto Hetterich, who some months ago went and established himself in Iowa, has recently returned and married Miss Lizzie Neuman of Chicago, a relative of George Schilling here.

The corpse of George B. Lyon was received from Springfield, Mo. on the 10:30 train Monday and immediately thereafter laid to rest by the side of his wife in the cemetery. Two brothers, William of Huron, Dakota, and Edgar A., together with his wife of Chicago, accompanied the remains. The deceased was 66 years of age and formerly an inhabitant of Oswego. Subsequently and for quite a number of years he resided at Streator. After the death of his wife some four or five years ago, he also being in poor health, afflicted with consumption, he closed out his business there and since has been living most of the time with his brother-in-law, L.G. Bennett, near Springfield Mo.

Charles Rosenbury, a broom maker who was boarding at the National when Beaupre kept that hotel, while happening to be in this neighborhood came to town Monday.

March -- 1891

March 4: A meeting will be held Saturday afternoon, March 7, at the Ament school house, the object being the forming of an organization to take charge of the Cowdrey cemetery.

Parents having children ready to begin school this spring are hereby notified that the spring term will begin Monday, March 16, and are requested to send them on that date. By order of the Board. A.W. Merrill, Principal.

Senator Evans has introduced a bill in the legislature in regard to the government of such portions of a city that may extend into another county from where the city proper is located. This of course is in anticipation of Aurora extending into Kendall county. That that city contemplates annexation is a natural consequence, and the liability of Oswego losing Troy, or what used to be called 'The Patch,' is not at all improbable.

The Hunt store has been leased by a Mr. John E. Barrett of Elkhorn, Wis., who on the first of April will open it with a stock of general merchandise, the goods being entirely new and have been bought for cash from the leading jobbers of Chicago and New York. He promises to treat us all with courtesy and wait upon patrons promptly. He has also secured the services of J.B. Hunt, who, of course, will be happy to have his friends come around and to wait on his old customers again.

March 11: Clara Minkler has gone to Chicago where she is employed in a telephone office.

It appeared here Sunday evening as if Yorkville was experiencing a smart blaze.

The village election will roll around ere long. How shall we be on the license question after a year's temperance experience?

The livestock trade shows pretty fair activity. Wollenweber & Knapp shipped 13 carloads of hogs and two steers last week. Three carloads of hogs was their shipment this week.

Remember the spring term of school begins next Monday and see to it that all your children of proper age are being sent from the beginning.

Tuesday the rest of the sullen and kicking Republicans of the Springfield assembly are expected to come in, give up their arms, and surrender to the F.M.B.A.. That will then take Illinois out of the doubtful states and make it surely Democratic.

Watne & Mighell is the new firm of the east side meat market, the proprietorship of which was changed Monday morning. The parties came from Plano, and though young, yet are men of families. Oswego just now is undergoing quite a change in her business men; the retiring ones are succeeded by strangers, who doubtless will infuse a new spirit into the business life of the two be raised materially adding to her wealth and population.

Yorkville: DESTRUCTIVE FIRE!



The Works at Millington Sandbank Destroyed.

Last Sunday night persons out of doors for some miles along Fox rive saw a bright reflection of fire in the sky hovering over the vicinity of Newark or Millington and much interest was felt in the matter.

Monday morning it was learned that the fine plant at the white sand bank at Millington had been wiped out, the destruction being nearly total and the money loss up in the thousands.

NaAuSay: We understand there has been a society of the Farmers' Alliance started at the town house. Societies for the benefit or protection of the farmers against the monopolies have been organized at different times without accomplishing any permanent results. If the farmers of the different states would combine in one grand organization and limit the amount of their different products, more substantial good would accrue to them in 10 years than an eternity of revising and changing the tariff. The Democrats say free trade or the admittance free of duty of those articles most calculated to benefit the farmer will relieve him from this present bondage and place him on an equality in the fight with the monopolists. Of course the Republicans claim that their policy is the one best calculated to advance the farmers' interests. But the manner of conducting the affairs of this nation by either party will not effect a course. Supply and demand sets the price of farm products.

Bristol Township: The farmers' alliance announces a meting in Young's hall Thursday evening March 12. All farmers interested in shipping milk to Chicago are requested to attend, as it is necessary to know how many cans will be shipped before rates are made with the railroad company.

March 18: Joe Sierp was down from Aurora Thursday evening, presumably to attend the chicken pie social.

The "Court of Babylon" has been on rehearsal at the rink hall evenings for about a week under the management of Will Danforth of Montgomery.

The genial Dr. Putt of Hastings, Neb., arrived here Saturday.

Harrison Young died Friday morning. The deceased was about 50 years of age, was one of the sons of Phillip Young up the river, and probably was born there. A widow and little daughter are left behind.

Mr. Barrett, our new merchant with the household goods arrived here Saturday and spent Sunday at George Cowdrey's. The family arrived Monday evening, and by it an addition of four has been made to the girl population of Oswego.

There is still a great deal of sickness of the grippe nature prevailing in this community. The most sick otherwise are William M. Wormley, who is 86 years old and Thomas Miller who is suffering from a sore leg.

Early Friday morning, March 13, the death of Miss Eliza Kennedy took place and Monday the funeral took place. The deceased had reached the age of 76 years; was born in Belchertown, Mass.; came to Oswego in 1845; was an active member of the Congregational church from its start to the present time. Mrs. Lydia Walker, who was living with the deceased; Mrs. Hannah Hanks of Minnesota, and J.D. Kennedy of Manchester, Iowa are the living sisters and brother, and except Mrs. Hanks, attended the funeral.

Yorkville: That the political millennium has struck America especially in Illinois there can be no question. At last fall's election the Democrats were made mighty joyful because of the victory gained, and the Republicans were well pleased because the result--that of the off year for which they cared little anyhow--would put them in a trim so as to assure a glorious triumph in '92 when the big stakes are up. By the election of Palmer to the United States Senate last week the Democrats again have become supremely happy, and the Republicans well pleased because the Farmers' movement, the only thing that was annoying, as the Republicans always are the most effected by third parties--was knocked into smithereens by the way that election was accomplished, and all of the F.M.B.A. folks will be drawn into the Republican party by the generosity shown by the vote for Lindley and Streeter, making the victory in '92 double sure.

## FELT THEIR WRATH

Awful Work of the Infuriated Populace of New Orleans.

Chief Hennessy's Murder Avenged--a Mob, Headed by Leading Citizens, Storms the Jail and Lynches 11 of His Slayers.

New Orleans, March 16: In response to a published call signed by 100 of the leading citizens, a mob of infuriated men broke into the parish prison Saturday morning and lynched 11 of the Italians who were acquitted on Friday of the assassination of Chief of Police Hennessey.

The call ended with the sentence, "Come prepared for action," and at 10 o'clock in the morning several thousand excited men assembled at Clay square. The great crowd, excited to frenzy, rushed along to the arsenal where arms were supplied and from there to Congo square.

The governor had no time to act and the police were powerless. The great crowd battered down the doors, overpowered the turnkey, and securing the keys, dragged out the terrified Italians and either shot or hanged them to convenient posts.

Resolutions of support for the action were adopted by the board of trade, the sugar exchange, and the stock exchange.

Washington, March 16--The New Orleans mob has got the United States into a grave international scrape. Such of the victims of the mob as were not naturalized citizens were entitled to the protection due to all subjects of foreign governments. The failure of the state authorities of Louisiana to give them protection falls upon the federal government because no foreign nation can deal with a single state.

The fact that six of the accused Sicilians had been acquitted and the other three given a verdict of mistrial emphasized in international law the outrageous nature of the mob's work.

Millington: The Millington White Sand Company have decided to rebuild their works. The workmen commenced on Monday to clear away the ruins to make ready for the buildings.

March 25: Leonard and Henry Burkhart sold Robert Sheldon of Naperville 18 steers of the average weight of 1,657.

For once at least Aurora did not belittle us. The account she sent to the Inter-Ocean of our fire was a booming one. Thanks.

Our new butchers are prospering nicely. Already the family of Ole Watne is one member larger than on their arrival here a few weeks ago.

Someone thought that the burning of the 14 ice houses will cause a rise in the price of ice. It hadn't ought to, as there wasn't a bit of ice in them.

Mrs. Andrew Brown, of Swan Lake, Iowa, while on a visit to her parents, Alexander Harvey out in the Scotch settlement, her 14-months old boy became afflicted with pneumonia and died the forepart of last week, causing great grief in that household.

The corner meat market has again been opened. The new proprietors are Charles T. and William Bennett of Yorkville. They occupy the Chapman upper tenement house for a residence. R.T. Smith and family have moved here and into the Wayne house on Van Buren Street. Oswego is experiencing a boom, the many newcomers causing a scarcity of dwellings.

Another of the oldest settlers gone. Wm. M. Wormley was born at Harrisburg, Pa. On March 2d 1805. When a year old, his parents moved to Big Flats, N.Y. where he grew to manhood. In 1833 he came with Levi C. and Darwin Gorton to Illinois and staked out a claim on Fox River five years before the land came into the market. In 1835, on April 16, he was married to Elizabeth Van Fleet and the two have journeyed together for nearly 56 years. The children born to them numbered eight, of whom four are now living, viz.: Abram V. of Shell City, Mos.; Alfred M. and George D. of Oswego; and Mrs. Susan Hopkins of Chicago. The deceased had been living on his farm over the river up to about eight years ago when the aged couple came to live in town. The deceased was a good citizen and peaceable neighbor.

About nine o'clock last Wednesday evening [March 16] the report was brought to town that the ice houses were on fire. A number of men that were still about went up and got there before the fire had made much headway, but they could do little in fighting it, having nothing to do it with. Aurora was called by telegraph for help, and

she responded with alacrity, but before the engine arrived the northern bunch of houses, 14 in number, were all in a blaze. The most of the people had retired for the night and no general alarm was given until the arrival of the freight train, which had a powerful whistle and the tune that it played was enough to arouse the soundest of sleepers all over town and to make them hustle. Yet, there were a few who slept on undisturbed and only learned of the fire the next morning.

The scene was grand, yet of a weird appearance, the whole region around being lit up with a red glare; a volume of burning brands were sailing high in the air diagonally across the river, there being a strong wind from the east. James Murphy's residence, which was the cause of the house houses having been built in two sections, it occupying the upper end part of the space between, was of course in imminent danger. All the effects of the of the family had been moved out and men with pails of water were stationed on the roof. At the lower end, the sections were connected by trestle work runways from the half way between elevating tower, and adjoining it was the engine house, which was much endangered by piles of old boards, the debris of extensive repairs last fall, loosely piled up nearby, and which were fiercely burning. The engine, however, when commencing to work made it manifest pretty quick that thus far should the fire go and no further; she worked splendidly and just humped herself throwing three streams with tell effort. It was the "Q" fire engine and the men with it worked most nobly. It was too bad that after working all night they had to go home hungry in the morning, but the fire concerned the Ice Company, none of which were present, and the Railroad Company, who presumably had caused it by a spark from a passing train. The village was not endangered in the least.

The houses had been in good condition, the older ones undergone recent repairs and the loss is estimated from \$10,000 to \$13,000. The insurance is said to be small.

[Appellate Court] Clerk C.C. Duffy stepped off the train one day and shook hands with us who usually be loafing around the depot train times.

April -- 1891

April 1: "La Grippe" has been in constant use the last two years, and was thought to be something new--a new disease. Chamber's Encyclopedia, the edition for 1873, has this: "Grippe, a French name for influenza." That's all the disease is, but we suppose it is easier to say "grip" than influenza.

Mr. Cherry has introduced a bill in the House changing the time for holding court in Kendall county. It is proposed that the terms of our circuit court shall begin on the second Monday in March and October. This is much better for the farmers than holding court in May. The bill should pass--and it is hoped Mr. Cherry will make a strong effort for its success.

John E. Barrett has come here to stay. Having bought up a new stock of goods for spot cash he will meet any and all competition. The farmers are invited to bring their produce, get prices, and see for themselves what they can do--too busy this week to quote prices.

For the observing of Easter the Congregational church Sunday was extra nicely decorated.

Both the Revs. D.E. Ambrose and F.E. Lyon preached their farewell sermons Sunday. The congregation at the Congregational church was quite large. At the Presbyterian church, there will be no interruption of service, as already a new pastor is engaged.

The grippe has quite a grip on this community yet.

Mrs. Emma Cherry accompanied her husband to Springfield Monday and will keep the Honorable Charlie straight during this week.

Mrs. D.B. Jewell has returned from an all winter's visit at Trempleau, Wis., where she says snow has been plenty.

At the new store great activity is now being displayed in putting up the goods.

Michael Sorg has bought the E.C. Strossman house and will soon move to town.

Yorkville: THE FATAL GRIP

Fearful Ravages of the Disease in Chicago.

Last Week Over 900 persons Died--the Epidemic Paralyzes Business in Pittsburgh--10,000 Cases Reported.

GROWING RIOTOUS.

Idle Workmen in Pennsylvania Getting Desperate.

They Attack and Destroy Several Coke Ovens and Prevent New Men from Working--Several of the Raiders Under Arrest--Angry Threats.

NO SYMPATHY FOR THE MAFIA.

Many Italians Think the Assassins Were Rightly Punished.

London, March 31--The Times correspondent at Rome says: The excitement caused by the lynching at New Orleans has completely subsided. The government fully appreciates the difficulties under which the American government labors. Public opinion goes to show that no sympathy for the lynched Mafia members is manifested.

April 8: Mrs. Isaac F. Reed died Friday morning. The deceased was within a few days of being 67 years of age; was born in Chautauqua county, N.Y.; her maiden name was Harriet N. Amaden; she followed school teaching for many years, both in New York state and in Illinois; was married to I.F. Reed in 1878, who survives here.

The office of the Fox River Butter Company has moved to Aurora.

Rev. James A. Dodds, the new pastor of the Presbyterian church, began the ministration of the same Sunday with quite favorable impressions.

The Barrett store is now and has been since the first of the business institutions of the town.

The installation of the officers of the Odd Fellows lodge Friday evening was made public so far as to have their families present.

The Republican caucus Saturday at the Rink hall was presided over by Squire Bristol, and all nominations were made by acclamation, except for assessor and collector.

A town meeting discussion Monday towards evening on the post office stoop became so hot that a very little more would have made it boil over.

George Roth recently went to Iowa and married a farmer's girl living near Sumner of that state, named Kate Lauterbach. Her parents used to live once in this town.

Chicago, March 30: The deaths reported from pneumonia and kindred ailments for last week number 920, the largest number ever recorded in this city. A careful estimate justifies the statement that nearly 250,000 people in this city are under medical treatment. Every branch of business is crippled by the prevailing sickness. The officials in the department of health say that the number of deaths reported last week is without precedent.

In elections on April 7, the following were elected to Oswego Township offices: H.C. Cutter, supervisor; C.L. Murdock, town clerk; Thomas Cliggitt, assessor; J.G. Andrews, collector; C.F. Shoger and Charles Roberts, highway commissioners; and H.J. Collins and J.A. Shoger, constables.

April 15: Rev. Mr. Barrett, a Presbyterian minister, has come to reside with his son, our new merchant, and will be an assistant in the store.

The school trustee election took place Tuesday afternoon at Shaver's office and W.W. Wormley was reelected. No opposition.

Gardening has commenced. Mrs. Helle was one of the first to have her garden made. August Keihl did it, who is an expert in the business.

J.A. Shoger is now stocking up his new warehouse with a large assortment of agricultural implements.

Next week, Tuesday, the village election will take place and probably the loving disposition between heretofore antagonistic elements will again be manifested. The saloon habituants voting against license



and the temperance folks for it. It is generally taken for granted that as a temperance town, the past year Oswego was little or no better than when under full sway of licensed saloons.

An Assyrian, a gentleman supposed to have been raised right on the ground embraced by the Garden of Eden when in existence, in place of the usual sermon Sunday evening at the Presbyterian church, made an address in behalf of the mission cause for that province of the Turkish empire.

The women want to vote, and why not? If any good can be done by voting, they then should not only be allowed, but urgently requested to do so. They are fast getting ahead of us men in education, and in deportment always have been.

NaAuSay: The servant girl problem is being considered out here in the country. There is some talk of bringing a ship load of Scotch lassies here to fill positions in the kitchen. Others, however, think it would be better to bring a carload of colored ladies from the South. There are many at present who are looking for good help in the performance of household duties. We cannot see for our part why girls will work for starvation wages, often times in towns, in stores and factories, when they can obtain good pay and the best of homes by going into the kitchen. Every lady ought to know how to cook and do other housework in order to fall back upon such work if a change in circumstances should require it.

#### April 22: CORPORATION ELECTIONS

Oswego elects a license board by a big majority with Levi N. Hall as President; James Pearce, T.C. Richards, E.T Sutherland, and J.C. Conway trustees; clerk, Lewis Voss. 135 votes cast.

The opening of the library hereafter will be at 7 o'clock.

John Squires of Grand Island, Neb., together with his wife and baby, are spending a few weeks with his folks and friends of this region.

George R. Schamp was elected school director for the long term and James Pearce to fill the vacancy caused by the change of residence of Frank Hawley.

The construction of a new building adjoining the agricultural warehouse has been commenced by Watne & Mighell for a meat market.

The remains of Miss Josephine, daughter of Edward Richards of St. Charles, formerly of this place, were brought here Monday for burial.

A child of about three years old of Mr. and Mrs. John Watkins at Specie Grove was buried Monday in the Cowdrey cemetery.

There was a meeting of the board of village trustees Saturday evening, it being the second of the year when a quorum was had and business could be done.

The greatest difficulty about government is not how to manage the people or the affairs of the country, but it is how the officials shall manage themselves. At the commencement of the new village administration last year, the "kids," or new members, and being in the majority, started out somewhat brash, carelessly brushing away the suggestions the old members were making, as much as to say, "We are going to run this here machine." The old members then refused to attend any more of the meetings, thus breaking the quorum and the village was left to run itself and perhaps as one full as well as with the help of the board.

As to the tickets for this year's election, the assortment seemingly will be quite ample. There is a license ticket, a citizen's ticket, and a law and order ticket. A radical reform ticket, a business men's ticket and a liberty ticket are being talked of.

April 29: The swallows have come.

Hattie Cooney is agoing to teach the school in the Woolley district.

The Jingers' concert Saturday evening at the Baptist church was but fairly attended.

The new meat market will soon be reach for occupancy.

Dr. Hanna moved his domicile from the rather contracted quarters where it was to his spacious residence, the Kilbourne house, last week. The office has not been moved and will remain where it always has been.

C.C. Duffy jumped off the train Saturday to shake hands with us fellows who have made it a business to see the trains come in.

At the trustees' meeting Monday night, all of the newly elected members qualified. J.W Morrison was elected village constable and street commissioner; L.R. Inman, treasurer; and P.G. Hawley, attorney. The rate of license was fixed at \$750 and two applications for it have been made.

May -- 1891

May 6: Postmaster Hubbard made a trip to Ottawa one day.

Dr. Hanna received Tuesday morning by freight a new Estey piano for his wife.

A brother with his family, and the mother of Herman and Ernst Bohn, arrived here from Germany last week.

A very substantial granite monument was shipped here from Chicago and erected under the superintendency of a man from the works on the Getty lot in the cemetery. Mrs. G.T. Getty and her daughter, Mrs. Nettie Shannon, were also here from that city seeing to the putting up of it, to the improving of the lot otherwise, and were making their friends of this place and vicinity a visit.

The remains of Mrs. Harvey Stahl were brought here from Aurora Sunday afternoon for burial. The maiden name of the deceased was Rebecca Stafford; she was married in this town and for many years the family were residing here.

Two saloons here are again running under license to sell liquor and a certain element is happy, believing that the town is again on the road to prosperity, which perhaps in one sense is so, as there are

\$1,500 in sight. Whatever brings in money will have its supporters. An Aurora paper, in speaking of the amount of Oswego's license and the averages of high license in general, says: "The saloon keepers pay it (the revenue) and add enough water to thin whiskey to make up, so nobody is the loser as the watered whiskey is better for the drinker than the straight article."

Some unknown person entered through the cellar way and made his way to the bed room of Mr. George Woolley last Sunday night. Mrs. Woolley being awake, heard him walking on the carpet and when she called to find out who it was, he left for parts unknown. He left his footprints on the ground and cleaned his feet on the grass outside. He wore about a number eight boot and was tracked about a mile and a half west. If it had not been in corn planting time and time was precious he would have been tracked to his door. He came from the west and went toward the west.

May 13: The strawberries have reappeared.

The painting of the bridge has been completed.

Laura Walker accompanied her teacher Elisabeth Benthien to her home at Millbrook and together spent Saturday and Sunday there.

The platform sidewalk has been extended the rest of the block on Main street, or in front of the new Shoger building, and up Jackson street, the length of the implement warehouse.

An unusual amount of traveling amusement struck this place Monday afternoon. Scarcely had a band with a bagpipe and some other instrument concluded a season of street music when the bugle sounded for a bear exhibition and two able bodied men, a big boy, and two bears appeared on the scene. The bears were quite clever, and the wrestling match between the bear and man was worth the 50 cents it cost.

May 20: Since the village has become again flush from the high tariff on licenses, a sidewalk to the cemetery is projected.

Daniel Hemm is getting a well bored at his place, the old Wagner farm. Ev Edwards and Ike Bartlett are doing it; they are now down 140 feet.

May 27: There was a slight frost this morning, May 26.

Ole Watne and E.W. Mighell have dissolved partnership, and the east side meat market will be discontinued for the present.

The well completed on Daniel Hemm's farm is 147 feet deep, of which 99 are through solid rock. The water comes within 10 feet of the surface, from which it could not be lowered by a half day of steady pumping.

The sidewalk to the cemetery is well under way and will be completed by the time of decoration. A row of hard maple shade trees alongside of it would be nice to future generations, at least. Oswego ought to make a start towards the development of pleasant ways for driving and walking, boulevards, parks, etc. as it will be in the near future one of the residence places of business men of the cities of Aurora and Chicago.

On Thursday afternoon Henry Burkhart, one of our young men of the German settlement was married to Miss Mary Peter of Niles Center.

June -- 1891

June 3: A new piano was received at Barrett's.

Marry Minkler is now engaged in a Plainfield shot.

The school was visited one day by Superintendent Curran.

Kath Hopkins has returned from a six months' visit at Austin, Tex., in the best of health and spirit.

Alf Wormley is now the clerk at Reed's store. Ernst Troll has quit there and gone back to clerk for the Butter company again.

There was to be a panorama exhibition at the Baptist church last Tuesday evening, but the Kidney and Liver Cure free concert downtown spoiled it by drawing all of the crowd.

John W. Van Deventer of Michigan was here and together with Esquire Dolph of Yorkville with his surveying instruments, was looking up the boundaries of his landed possessions across the Waubonsie.

Burghart & Stetter and the successors of the Bennett Bros. in the proprietorship of the corner meat market. The changes in this business are quite frequent. H.J. Collins is also keeping a meat market in connection with his other business.

Coming down the road by Squires to this place and returning on the west side of the river is a much-frequented route of the Aurorians for a pleasure drive on Sundays. On the last, a party of four each of ladies and gentlemen on bicycles came also over that route. Ladies will have to get a new costume for that purpose in order to look graceful on bicycles.

June 10: The celebration of the 25th anniversary of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Chris Herren will take place the 16th inst., at their residence down the river.

The annual meeting of the Waubonsie Farmers' Alliance took place at John S. Seely's Thursday.

The program for the commencement exercises next week Monday evening of the graduating class, and that of the scholars of Room 3 of their closing exercises of this term of school next Friday forenoon have just come out and are very nice; that of the latter is self-made and quite artistically executed.

The west side of the business portion of Oswego is considerably slicking up. A new handsome sign of "Restaurant" over the door of Geo. Burghart's place. Funk's saloon is ornamented with a new "Sample room" sign. Sutherland's sign has been renewed. Besschner got new signs up of the Schlitz lager beer.

William E. Smith had his mill building, on the old National block, moved up to his lot on Washington street, or Plainfield avenue as that locality is usually called. Mr. Nichols of Newark performed the job and who, by the way, knows all the time what wants to be done at such work, keeps in a jovial mood, has at all times something humorous to say, but is losing no time in getting it off.

The Chicago papers of a few days ago contained the death of Dr. Willis Danforth of Milwaukee, doubtless being the same who, about 40 years ago, was one of the doctors of Oswego. He was married here, his wife being Miss Nancy Moore, the daughter of one of our merchants. The doctor's office and One's shop were in adjoining rooms of the same building, and the two were very intimate.

From the German settlement it is reported that George Bower Jr. is building a new house near the old homestead; Schwartz doing the carpenter work. That Leonard Hettrich got a windmill attached to his well, which lately was deepened by Ev Edwards & company. That the sister of Joe Ebinger and other visitors are visiting that family.

Do we want temperance? Would it pay to have it? Has there not a good sidewalk been built clear down to the cemetery, and didn't license do it? Oswego just now is too much booming for temperance agitation.

June 17: The fixing up of the streets by graveling and the making of additional crosswalks has been progressing.

John Lockwood's shop building has been bought by Frank Schram and moved up on Main street and on the lot formerly containing the old tan bark building. Lockwood continues to occupy it for his harness shop at the new location.

There is to be no more fishing or shooting from off the bridge. An order to the effect was made by the commissioners some weeks ago and the signs of warning put up the other day. Good. The thing was much needed. Another thing that was much needed, and that is the adoption of a village ordinance making it unlawful to let a team be

hitched to one and the same post in the street for upward of ten hours continuously.

He started as a physician at Oswego, Ill., in 1850 and two years later was married to the daughter of the Rev. James H. Moore of this place." The foregoing is an excerpt from a biographical sketch in the Milwaukee Sentinel of Dr. Willis Danforth, of whom mention was made last week, and his death is confirmed--Jim Ferris of the Joliet News sent One the clipping of obituary, etc. The sketch goes on to say that the doctor moved from Oswego to Joliet in '54, became there converted to homeopathy, that he entered the army as Captain of the 13th Cavalry, was appointed surgeon of the 134th Infantry and next promoted to Medical director of a district, in which capacity he served the rest of the war. Afterwards he was elected professor of surgery of the Hahnemann college in Chicago, to which city he also moved to reside. Subsequently he was elected president of the Chicago Academy of Medicine, became associate editor of a surgical journal and the surgeon-in-chief of the Scammon hospital. He next moved to Milwaukee where he held numerous high positions in medical organizations, and where he established a beautiful home. A widow, three sons, and an adopted daughter are given as the family left.

As usually, the greatest interest was attached to the exercises of the graduating class, which came to pass Monday evening at the Presbyterian church and which brought together a crowd much too large for the house, the packing of it becoming the only disagreeable feature of the affair. The graduates were in entire new garments, the girls in spotless white ornamented with flowers; the boys never before had been so richly arrayed. Graduates were Scott Clay Cutter, Grace E. Miller, James Newton Pearce, Hattie Mae Pogue, Nettie May Pogue, Lizzie Dell Rose Van Evra, and William Pearce Wormley.

June 24: The seven graduates went to Aurora for being photographed in a group. L.N. Hall conveyed a load and took general charge of them.

Main street is now being repaired. All depressions are being filled in with gravel.



Deaths reported at the Old Settlers' Picnic: Dr. D.B. Jewell died Nov. 28, 1890, came to Oswego in 1839, 82 years old; William H. Wormley, died March 19, 1891, came to Oswego in 1833, 86 years old.

July -- 1891

July 1: The excursion to the Burlington park received much attention and quite a number from here enjoyed it.

Quite a number of the Yorkville Masons came up to help the Oswego brethren celebrate St. John's Day, which took place Sunday forenoon at the Congregational church, and where the pastor of the Methodist performed the devotional.

Mamie Smith graduated last week from an Aurora school.

John Lockwood has moved his harness shop to near where it had been, namely into the old office building of Dr. Jewell.

Charles Sorg of the German settlement and Miss Hannah Schimmelpfenig of Wheaton were married last week.

C.F. shaver rendered the undertaker's services at the funeral of T. Burnett, an old man of about 80 years, over at Tamarack.

The list of deaths reported at the old settlers' picnic was referred to as quite large and yet it did not contain all of them, at least some from Oswego were skipped. Eliza Kennedy, 76 years old, had come here in 1845 and Harrison Young, 50 years old, if not born here, came when very young.

Quite a little stir was caused Monday towards evening by the arrest of some young men from Aurora for fishing from of the bridge.

July 8: The last day of June, was almost too cool for comfort. A fire in the evening would have made it enjoyable.

The celebration of the day we celebrate was begun the evening previous to it, and so far as the consumption of fire crackers is concerned, the day was hugely celebrated. The fire works in the evening were all of a private nature, but they were quite extensive and some very beautiful, Dr. Hanna having the best display, and the locality and surroundings of his residence were most eligible for it. Besides the numerous rockets and other pyrotechnics, he sent up three balloons which majestically rose and floated westward until reaching a certain altitude when their course was changed to the southeast or nearly to a return of them.

The Oswego Mills are run by a new miller, who is said to have come from the Yorkville neighborhood.

Oswego has a freak of nature. Among a litter of pups, the black and tan variety, that came into existence at J.C. Hawley's is one that has no tail, nor the least sign of one--the part of the pup where the tail ought to be is just as smooth as smooth can be. That pup, when grown to doghood, will not be able to express the emotion of joy that other dogs can, but then it will not be the subject of the cruel sport of boys, tying cans to dog' tails.

Tommy Risble, who is working on a farm for John Hafenrichter out northeast of here, is said to have got lost recently in his calculations of the days of the week and worked through all of a Sunday, thinking it to be Friday .Monday evening, having finished the cultivation of his corn, he took a retrospect view of the week's work accomplished and felt proud of it. The next day, to show proper respect for success, he made preparation to attend church, but seeing neighbors out at work, and upon inquiry found himself two days out of time.

July 15: The remains of Cordelia Hawley were brought here Wednesday from Michigan for burial, accompanied by Will Hawley, her son, and others.

The brothers Lester J. and Louis C. Young have returned from Ithaca, N.Y., where the former is engaged in business and the latter has been attending an architect school.

The fronts in the brick block of Haight, Edwards, and Shaver have been nicely repainted and Thorn, the new proprietor of the Hawley building, expressed his determination of having his correspondingly treated.

H.H. Moore, the Batavia well digger, has put down a well 158 feet deep out on the Filkins farm.

The new Australian ballot law is to be tested in one of the towns in Sangamon county Aug. 3 at a special election for town officers.

July 22: A string of about 20 of the Aurora bicyclists had an excursion to his town in the evening on their wheels Tuesday.

The funeral of David C. Jeneson occurring in the forenoon was one of which he should have felt proud. His comrades of the Yorkville Post of the GAR attended to moving of the remains, which were taken from the house to the Presbyterian church. But it was at the grave where the solemnities of the funeral were most conspicuous. The beautify ceremonies of the GAR were most efficiently and impressively rendered, and every part of them, from the bugle call to the Chaplain's prayer was full of reverential inspiration. The funeral was attended by all of the courthouse officials.

The deceased was born in Scotland about 1824; the family came to America and to Will county, this state, in 1846 and to Oswego about 1854, but David was little here prior to the war. The first position he held is said to have been that of paymaster on the Illinois and Michigan canal. Subsequently he was engaged in the Tinkham Bank of Chicago and also in a bank in Peru.

On the breaking out of the war he joined the Sturgis Rifles of Chicago and subsequently to their discharge his services were in the Provost department.

Since he came to live here steady he has been holding several town offices, was holding that of justice of the peace when he died, and that of country treasurer to which he had been elected last fall.

Thomas Coughland a former Oswego harness maker, known then as the "Wild Irishman," was in town Thursday.

Charles Knapp has built an almost entire new residence house on his farm on the Little Rock Road. Richards & Son done the job.

July 29: Eight orphans, four each of boys and girls, were sent out here from Chicago for an outing. They were taken charge of by Mrs. Raleigh and the Williams's down the river.

Martha Potter has resigned the assistant librarianship, and for her pleasing services was rewarded with a vote of thanks by the authorities. Della Van Evra has been appointed the successor.

T.C. Richards & Son, together with Charles Reiger and George Inman, are building the new church at Bristol Station. Their daily conveyance to and fro is effected through Inman's ponies.

There was once a surreptitious prize fight here, and Saturday evening the rumor got afloat that there would be another during that night. Our village authorities, not to be outdone by the governor of Minnesota in the prevention of such disgraceful acts, were vigilant during that night, watching the places in and about the town, such as the vacant ice houses, where it would be most likely to take place. The thing probably was a hoax.

The threshers have commenced operation. Rye hereabout is running 40 bushels to the acre. The prospects of all the farming interests are now very bright.

August -- 1891

Aug. 5: The katydids are due but have not yet opened their musical entertainment.

The Cowdry [Cowdrey] woods this season are more popular for camping grounds than ever before.

The famous medicine "Indian Blood Syrup," sold by Mrs. Dodge when living here, may now be obtained of Mrs. Carrie E. Young.

Beautiful flowerbeds and gardens are now to be seen, and have been for some time, all around town.

A general surprise was occasioned Monday by the sudden death of Bessie Jeneson. Just three weeks ago her brother David died at the same place.

William Strossman reached the end of life Thursday morning, the funeral taking place the next day.

Mr. Strossman was a native of Germany and the early part of his residence in America was spent in the state of New York where he was married over 50 years ago. From there, he came with his family to Oswego in, or about, the year 1852 and has resided here ever since. For many years he carried on the coopering business, was chosen one of the board of village trustees occasionally, and was engaged in other pursuits, about the last being as helper in Haight's store. But for several years past, disability had rendered him useless for any business.

He was in his 76th year and of his family that survive him are the widow and four grown sons.

NaAuSay: H. Bethel has been roaming over NaAuSay recently bent on his work of exterminating the dread Canada thistle. Any farmer who finds any on his place had better cut them down immediately and apply a plentiful application of salt.

Aug. 12: Very quietly Sherman T. Young and Miss Daisy Morris took themselves to Aurora and there got married.

At a special session of the village trustees an ordinance was passed regulating the sale of liquor when taken elsewhere for use than the place where bought, and a two-plank sidewalk ordered to be built in the upper end of Washington Street.

Charles Knapp is now the owner of the brick block meat market building, and John Roth of the M.S. Richards house.

Yorkville: Uncle John Wormley was in Yorkville Tuesday morning. He now lives at Bristol Station; didn't like Aurora, and is well contented to be in Kendall county again. Uncle John is in his 85th

year, came to Fox rive in October 1833, and settled in the now well-known Wormley neighborhood near Oswego. He is one of the pioneers to be proud of. As he reviews the past he recalls many stirring incidents and can tell a good story. He has an old horse, "Charley," which he raised and who is his companion in his drives and he thinks a heap of Charley. He and his good wife are taking life easily and comfortable.

Aug. 19: Wilson Briggs went to Dwight last week to get weaned of his boozy appetite. He was accompanied there by John S. Seely.

Ezekiel Dais Jr. and Mrs. Hannah Alexander joined their fortunes by getting married.

Dr. Lester is said to be quite sorely afflicted with an affection of the eyes so that for the present he is rendered almost blind, especially in the light. The day time he has to spend in a darkened room.

L.N Hall is causing extensive repairs and remodeling of his establishment. The drug store department has been repainted and papered and that of the bank much enlarged, the former counters having been displaced by those of the First National Bank of Aurora, and so that when the whole job is completed Oswego will have quite of an imposing bank.

Mrs. James G. Andrews received the report of the death of her father, Thomas Edwards, in Kansas last week, it having taken place on the 12th inst. The deceased was an old settler of this township, having come here about 1840, settle down on a farm several miles southeast of the village, married a daughter of the late John Miller, and raised a large family of children. He had been born in the north of Wales in 1812, and before coming to America had been living in Liverpool for several years. A few years ago, then been a widower, he moved to Allen county, Kansas to reside with his son Wesley there.

A colored gentleman who having quit his employ out at the grove, came to town Monday and by too much boozing became so sick as to muss up a public place. For the want of a hospital he was taken to

the calaboose for recuperation and Tuesday morning the marshal looked to his departure on the train.

Aug. 26: George C. Inman has a cherry tree that has now the second crop of fully developed cherries on it.

Robert H. Johnson is now riding with his family in a very handsome new carriage of the Surrey pattern.

Charles Knapp has changed by paint the front of his newly acquired building in the brick block from the original color to that of cream.

Threshing has been active during the week; the winter wheat at Roberts' went 35.5 bushels to the acre, machine measure, and the threshers said they never saw any better. Oats are reported to be running all the way from 25 to 30 bushels to the acre.

While the census is showing a loss of population of Oswego township of 334, the greatest number of either of the other towns in the county during the decade, the per cent of loss, however is much less than that of Seward, which is nearly 18, while that of Oswego is a little over 13.

September -- 1891

Sept. 2: Capt. F.B. Huyck came from off the lakes one day to make his wife and baby, who are summering here, a visit.

Aurora artists performed the work of painting and otherwise embellishing the new fixtures of the bank, and the inside of the drug store.

Dr. Lester started Tuesday morning for Manistee, Mich., for the recuperation of his health.

School will commence Monday of next week. The only change in the teachers is that of the principal, who will be Prof. Ross. Martha Potter, Mabel Hunt, and Martha Jessup will resume their former positions.

Ed Johnsen, one of the Swedes that is working the out east Hawley farm, was considerably hurt Saturday. They were threshing when the blowing of the engine whistle scared a team of horses, which in starting to run away caused him to be caught by the rack of the wagon and severely squeezed.

Roy Pogue returned home Saturday from about a two years' sojourn out in northwestern Kansas. He has grown much while there, notwithstanding the prevailing drought of that section. He reports the rain sufficient there this year for the starting of good crops, but not lasting enough to carry them through, especially the corn crop.

Mrs. John Collins joined the silent majority last week, death separating her from her husband after having lived with him for upwards of 60 years.

The remains were enclosed in a handsome cloth-covered casket; they were followed by a long procession of carriages to the Oswego cemetery.

The deceased was a native of England, her maiden name had been Bond. She came with her husband to this section in 1842 and settled on the place where she has been living ever since, spending away from it a very little time. An aged husband and four children are the survivors of her family.

The annual Wheatland plowing match will be held on Saturday, September 19, on the farm belonging to Asa Matter."

Sept. 9: School commenced Monday, Prof. L.S. Ross, the principal, arrived the Thursday previous.

Mrs. Schram will retire from business, having rented her house to John P. Bartlett, who will continue the hotel business there.

Gus Voss and Charles Hebert sold out their interests at Rapid City, S.D., and returned here in the best of health and spirits.

A California bear, accompanied by two men was in town Monday. George Burghart gave him a square meal of meat after having climbed the Garfield pole.



The most recent known real estate changes are Harley Richards has bought the place where he is living. Frank Schram has bought the house and lots on Plainfield Avenue owned by McOwen of Bristol Station. Henry Case, who sold his farm to Amos Parkhurst, has bought the George W. Wormley premises and Mrs. Wormley has bought the Esther Ferris place. Daniel Engle of the Plattville neighborhood has bought the Chris Jarvis house. Jarvis has gone to Indianapolis to reside with his daughters.

Sept. 2, 1891, Eleanor, wife of A.J. Wormley, died at her home of dysentery after an illness of one week, aged 63 years, 10 months and 17 days. Her maiden name was Young, being the daughter of Phillip and Cordelia Young. She came to Illinois in 1842, was married to A.J. Wormley in 1849, having enjoyed a married life of over 42 years. She leaves a husband and two children, Mrs. W.H. Teboy of Montana and Fred Wormley of Jericho. She was buried in Keck cemetery.

Sept. 16: Louis C. Young, who lately engaged himself in business at Elgin, has also moved his wife and baby there.

The Wheatland Plowing match was attended by Mr. and Mrs. Seely and very likely by others from here.

The front part of Knapp's store in the brick block has been fixed up for Lew Voss's barber shop to be moved into.

Scott Cutter departed Monday for Champaign where he will attend the college, and Newton Pearce for Evanston, where he will enter upon a course of seminary studies.

M.J. Pogue has received a carload of whiskey barrels. The making of so much cider here has created a demand for them.

John Boyle was one of the journeymen coopers employed in the Danforth shop here 30 years ago. In the summer of 1862 he and all the rest of the boys of the shop enlisted in the 127th Illinois. During the war he was promoted to first lieutenant of his company and was the general favorite of the boys. At the close of the war he returned

to Michigan from where he had come and little had been heard of him until the recent reunion of the regiment at Aurora, which he attended and the following Sunday which he spent with the boys here. John has become a prominent man of his section in Michigan being now the sheriff of Jackson county and before had been holding for a long while the position of Chief of Police of the city of Jackson.

Wils Briggs has returned home from Dwight and instead of appearing in a weakened condition, low frame of spirits, and ghastly look as a critical patient from the hospital might be supposed to appear, he was more robust looking and more animated than ever known before. Wils was one of those whose stomach had to be kept continually soaked in order to make life endurable, but now he says he wouldn't give a cent for all the whiskey in the world.

The amount of cider made this year is simply immense. Oswego has two cider mills in the village and another in the neighborhood, all being crowded with business. This year will not be promotive to the development of the temperance tastes; as the amount of cider made cannot be used when new, nor wanted for vinegar, and must, if used at all, be drank after having become hard."

Oswego, Saturday night, or rather Sunday morning, was again made the innocent victim of the outrage of a prize fight. It was about one o'clock when of course everybody was asleep and the police had turned in, that a crowd of about 300 men from Aurora, Elgin, Streator, and perhaps other places, invaded the town and took possession of the [Star Roller] Rink hall.

The names of the principals were Turner and Trahy; they had none of the pugilistic appearance about them, especially the latter, who has quite an effeminate look and is very pretty. Both were stripped to the waist, wearing nothing but light-colored tights and shoes.

Neither of them showed anything extra as to muscle or build.

The sympathy of the crowd seemed to be in favor of Trahy, the winner. The fight was with mittens on, and the men could not hurt each other very much materially, and Trahy came out of the mill with his handsome face not marred in the least. One reason, perhaps, why our police was lax and the affair was not prevented: The president of the board was away on a visit.

Sept. 23: A cold wave is coming.

John Russell is hauling lumber for a large new barn.

Hot, hot, hot for this season of year. Friday was a sizzler.

One Democrat here swears that Oswego's outrage, the recent prize fight, is chargeable to the McKinley bill.

The school, the institution that will shape the coming future of our country, its first two weeks here has been running very smoothly.

J.S. Seely with a gang of men, a number of teams, and his corn-cutter machinery, was engaged for several days garnering his ensilage fodder by the filling of his silo. Mr. S. thinks very much of this kind of feed for cattle, having used it for some years.

In neatness and beauty our new barbershop can hardly be surpassed by anything of the kind on earth. It is a daisy. Both old men with harsh beards and boys just beginning to raise a downy mustache will enjoy much pleasure now by getting tonsorialled there.

If that prize fight had taken place in Aurora, the papers there wouldn't have given a quarter of the space they did, and it wouldn't have been much of a bad thing anyway.

Frank Schram and the board of trustees are at loggerheads about the proper sidewalks to be built on Plainfield avenue, where he owns property.

"Oswego is disgraced," said the *Aurora Beacon*. According to that, if a burglar breaks into a private house, that family would be disgraced. Such may be *Beacon* philosophy, but his community will prefer the light of more brighter beacons.

We all will be taken over the equinoxial line this Tuesday, whether we like it or not.

Oswego has already given a good patronage to the monumental works of T. Otto Fisk, 65 River street, Aurora. He has many new designs at his years to which your attention is called.

Oswego trade Saturday was greatly excited. Kerosene oil had its day, and the fluctuation of the price of that article caused all the spare cans, jugs, and bottles to be brought out and filled. One house opened in the morning with the price of oil reduced to 10 cents. The other houses dealing in the article said, we will see you and go you two better, making the price 8 cents. The first house came back on them with two cents better still, bringing the price down to 6 cents. The other houses regarded this as a bluff and dropped to 5 cents. Down she goes to 4 cents said the first house. All but one of the other houses dropped out; they didn't care about selling then any kerosene anyway, but the house that kept sticking in the competition brought the price down to 3 cents, causing the other house, which was bound to sell the lowest to come down to 2 cents, where the price remained the balance of the day. I was foolish enough to take the advice of those that said "Wait, don't buy yet; the price is surely to come down to nothing with a plug of tobacco or two nickel cigars thrown in with every gallon." The result is, an empty can with the price up again to 7 and 8 cents.

Monday evening, Sept. 16, about 9:05 o'clock Montgomery was the scene of the most disastrous railroad wreck that ever occurred in his vicinity. Three merchandise trains were in the collision and one man, James Roddy, the engineer of train 75, lost his life while at his post of duty.

According to the accounts of the persons who saw the "smash-up," train No. 92, better known as the Mendota way-freight, had stopped at Montgomery and freight No. 123, which was behind it, ran into the rear end, smashing the caboose and throwing three heavily laden cars over on the westbound track, besides derailing four others. These were struck by train No. 75, commonly called the Cannonball Through Freight, which was going at a speed of 25 miles an hour.

The scene of the wreck was visited and found that 21 cars had been derailed, eight of which were smashed into kindling wood and piled one on top of the other so as to completely blockade the tracks.

Engine No. 40 of the "Cannonball" freight, was thrown off the track and damaged nearly beyond repair, while engine 123 lost its pilot, headlight, smokestack, its front wheels, cab, and was otherwise disabled.

All the trainmen, with the exception of John Ruddy, the deceased engineer, and brakeman Woods of the through freight escaped without injury as did also a number of passengers on the way-freight.

John Ruddy, the deceased engineer, was 45 years of age and resided at Galesburg. He leaves a wife and six small children. Brakeman I.N. Woods of Aurora was only slightly injured. He was thrown off the train and received a bad cut on the head, and was badly shaken up.

Following is the rather peculiar verdict of the coroner's jury after considering the details of his hocking collision: "We, the jury, find that John Roddy, deceased, came to his death by a collision on the CB&Q railway at Montgomery on Sept. 16, and a misunderstanding between the officials and employees, as in the rules of running trains, appears to exist, and was in a great extent cause of the accident, and we further find that we are embarrassed by the failure of the superintendent to appear and give us aid."

Despite the oppressive temperature, the attendance at the annual Wheatland plowing match Saturday was even larger than had been anticipated. Over 5,000 attended the plowing match. Several persons drove 30 miles or more. Fred Bloss, who had a plow in the field, says he never before saw so many teams assembled. Some 15 or more acres of land was plowed and the results were highly satisfactory.

Sept. 30: The torrid spell is broken.

Oswego stands on a solid foundation and nobody noticed her anyways earthquaked during Saturday night. [An article in *The Record* the same week reported the quake was felt all over the Midwest in towns including St. Louis, Chicago, Keokuk, Ia.; Louisville, Ky.; Columbus and Vincennes, Ind.]

Prof. Lester J. Young has returned to Ithaca, N.Y. to resume his engagement in a mechanical institute of that city.

The remains of John Todd, formerly of this county, were brought through here from Chicago for burial in the NaAuSay cemetery.

The new house of William E. Smith is well underway. The carpenter work is being done by Schamp and his men.

Charles Hebert is now the proprietor of the barber shop, having bought out Lew Voss, who intends to go to Chicago to acquire the dentistry profession.

Mrs. R.R. Kenyon met with a fall, caused by a defective sidewalk near her residence, which made her quite sore for a few days, not alone in body, but also towards the sidewalk committee of the corporation authorities. And by the way, the sidewalk question has been the cause of much bickering in which Frank Schram and the president of the board were mostly involved.

Dr. Lester has returned from his trip north as far as Chicago, where he is undergoing treatment for his eyes, which are said to be in a bad condition, so much so that the life of them is endangered.

A horse and buggy belonging to a Mr. Manley of Yorkville, hitched in the street here Saturday evening, was driven off--stolen.

Yorkville: They say there was an earthquake in Kendall county and the rest of Illinois last Saturday night about 10:50 by the clock. The writer was up reading till nearly 12, and noticed no unusual disturbance, but many of our people were aroused from their sleep by the seismic disturbance--rattling crockery and tinware and scaring the dogs. The shock was quite heavy in St. Louis.

October -- 1891

Oct. 7: I am requested to say that the threshers should discontinue going over the upper Waubonsie bridge with their steamers, as that structure is not sufficiently substantial for such use.

Fred Tarbox, who looks younger and is handsomer than he was in 1876 when living here, passed through here from Wisconsin to Yorkville.

John Herren, out at the grove, shot four wild geese one morning in a pond in that neighborhood.

To correct a mistake made last week, Charles Hebert has not bought out the barbershop, but is merely running it while Lew Voss is attending an institute in Chicago.

A dog found himself locked into the Collins meat market while the folks had gone to dinner and wishing to get out, and perhaps not being aware that the glass trust had advanced the price of that commodity, he made his exit through one of the larger window lights.

The Rev. Mr. Stranahan, the new pastor of the Methodist church, commenced his labors here Sunday.

In a few weeks we shall be called upon to vote by a new system imported from Australia. No tariff was paid on it; perhaps having been admitted under reciprocity.

Wrote politician J.A. Gale in a letter to the editor of *The Record*: "I deem the election of this fall of importance if for no other reason than that of becoming acquainted with our new plan of voting. This state has adopted the Australian system of voting, and as we have no experience it seems to me that we all ought to turn out and go to the polls and become acquainted with this new plan. Gentlemen, go to the polls on Nov. 3."

#### HOW TO VOTE UNDER NEW LAW

##### Plain Instructions to Illinois Voters.

Give your name, and if required, your residence, to the judges of the election.

If your name is on the register, you will be permitted to enter the enclosed space inside the guard rail.

If your vote is not challenged, one of the judges, after endorsing his initials on the back thereof, will hand you a ballot.

If your name is not on the register, or your vote is challenged, you will not receive a ballot until you have established your right to vote by affidavit or otherwise.

When you have received the ballot retire at once, alone, into one of the voting booths, unfold your ballot and prepare it for the ballot box by marking it thus: X

You will find printed on the ballot, in columns, side by side, all the candidates of all the parties to be voted for at that election.

Oct. 14: Dr. Lester has again returned home. His eyes are said to be much better.

Edmund Lucas has gone to Metropolis City to attend the Grand Lodge of the Illinois Colored Masons.

A handsome monument was shipped here from Wisconsin and was erected on the lot in the cemetery of J.R. Gibbs, a former merchant of Oswego, whose wife and other members of the family are buried here.

Frank Strossman has changed his engagement in Aurora and is now with McMillan & Co., corner of River street and Downer place, where he will be pleased to have all of his Oswego friends call in and see him.

At Barrett's special Saturday, we will give a lamp for every \$3 worth of goods purchased of us.

Three retired farmers, Michael Sorg, John Roth, and Henry Case, have moved into town and into the houses lately purchased by them, Sorg into the Ed Strossman house, Case into the G.W. Wormley house, and Roth into M.S. Richards' house. J.M. Tyler, who vacated the latter, has moved into the Lippold house, and John Hoch, who has been living there moved into the John Andrews tenant house.

The newspaper business is booming here, and the carrier feature has been introduced. The younger Bradford boy is the carrier of the *Aurora News*.

Oct. 21: All quiet on the Waubonsie.



The cider making business is still booming.

The play of tennis has been introduced by some of the teachers for physical exercise.

Mrs. A.L. Rice and her mother, Mrs. Clara R. Smith, went on a visit to Wilmington Tuesday.

Edmund Lucas returned from his attendance of the Grand Lodge of the colored Masons and declared that never in his life had he enjoyed such a good time.

Mr. Albert Goodrich, a young man from Vermont, and for the first time being west, is visiting with his cousin, H.G. Smith. They were born on the same spot and consequently the visit is highly enjoyable to Hank.

The Australian system, adopted by Illinois and several other states, prevents the buyer of votes to see the delivery of them, hence that kind of practice will be much reduced where the system is in vogue, and recourse will be had to something else; colonization probably will get a stimulus.

The German Evangelical Church on Main Street in Aurora was completely thronged Friday night with many friends who desired to extend congratulations and participate in celebrating the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. John Hem.

Mr. and Mrs. Hem were married at Little Falls, N.Y. Oct. 16, 1841, coming west at once and settling in Kendall County. They continued to live in Oswego and vicinity until eight years ago, since which time they have been highly respected citizens of Aurora.

Oct. 28: The river is at low water mark.

F.J. Wallace is the name of the new butter maker at the creamery.

Gus and Andrew Shoger with their wives were on a visit in Livingston county for a few days. They made the trip overland.

Not only did the McKinley bill stimulate nature so as to make the regular harvest the most beautiful, but also caused it to bring forth second crops of strawberries and cherries in several instances here.

Ferdinand Shoger is said to have now the best arranged waterworks, windmill, and feed grinder combination in the country.

Charles Bower went to Indiana and there was married to a Miss Hansing, or of some other name. She is a sister of Mrs. William Haag over in Bristol township.

Link Vorhees of Montgomery is the new clerk of the corner meat market.

H.J. Collins has caused his meat market to be painted red.

Will Crimmin was in town Monday looking after his fences.

Some of our cider mills were so crowded they had to run day and night.

As every cause will lead to an organization, so the Keeley cure of drunkenness has led to the formation of the Bi-Chloride of Gold Club, and to which Wilson Briggs, Oswego's graduate from the Keeley's institute belongs. The Bi-Chlorides are very enthusiastic and think that by curing the existing drunkards, and by showing to the world the injurious effects of the "smiling habit" by men who have been there and who know from experience, the settlement of the prohibition question is in the near future.

November -- 1891

Nov. 4: Today we do as the Australians do. [The 1891 election was the first time the Australian ballot was used in U.S. elections.]

Everything is plentiful except rain water.

Over five barrels of kerosene were sold in one day last week at the Oswego Drug Store. L.N. Hall is still selling the best kerosene oil at 8 cents per gallon.

Oswego has another street lamp streak on; the lamps have been cleaned up and regularly are made to illuminate nightly. How long will this streak last?

If Ohio, Iowa, and New York go Republican today Harrison's renomination for the Presidency will be assured. If New York goes the other way, he still will stand the best chance, but if Iowa should go the other way too, then he would be out and if all three should go Democratic, the Lord only knows what would result.

In going across the river, Ed Essington had his horses start to run away. They struck the first post of the approaches to the bridge and the one of which the railing, a one inch iron rod, protrudes through and sticks out about nine inches, which one of the horses struck and ran into his shoulder almost the entire length. The horse was left at Olson's but if getting over the injury at all, it will be a long time.

If it wasn't for the new style of voting today the vote polls here probably would be very small, as Oswego doesn't seem to feel just right about the turn things have taken, thinking that when for once she had secured a county office, and then the incumbent dying, she should have been allowed to fill the vacancy. Don't know but for the new system, which cuts off the getting up of late tickets, she would have come into the field with an independent candidate. But as everyone will want to try the new style of voting a good turnout may be expected.

Nov. 11: The sidewalk on Main street from Barnard's to Read's is being renewed and widened.

The end of cider making has not yet been reached. David Hall has made over 1,500 barrels.

Etta Sierp of Aurora, so well known to this community, has become a Mrs. Reising, according to report.

The Messrs. Childs and Black, both of the Elgin watch factory and lovers of good horses, were here and made Capt. Mann and the Hon. C.T. Cherry a visit.

In being taken down cellar, a barrel of cider got the advantage of Henry Case and rolled over him, leaving him a little flattened out for a day or two; but now he has again resumed his normal rotundity.

Arthur Wormley was one of the most robust boys in the country, the very picture of health, but about three months ago he became afflicted with a disease of a rheumatic nature, which reduced him to complete helplessness. He is said to be now gaining and able to walk a little.

The F.M.B.A. [Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association] of Oswego, having bought the Danforth property intends to fit it for a creamery. An open meeting will be held at our hall, Saturday evening, Nov. 14; all persons interested are invited to come. If you are not a member or producer of milk if you are interested in improving the condition of the town, come, you will be welcome. This is a business enterprise and we want your assistance.

S.H. Gregg, President

The death of Mrs. Nathan Loucks occurred Friday at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Frank Pearce, with whom she had been staying of late.

The maiden name of the deceased was Van Evra, being a sister of R.R. Van Evra the family came here from New York state about 1854, and she may be classed with the old settlers. Her age was within a few days of being 57 years. She had been sick for quite awhile. A husband and two daughters, Mrs. Frank, D. Pearce of this town and Mrs. Clinton Gaylord in California, are left behind of the family.

In a partisan sense, the working of the Australian system here commenced abominably when for the first time in 35 years or more when the Democrats came out ahead in an election. John Pitt had the honor of casting the first vote under the new system; he is a very enthusiastic, quick and nimble man; when starting for the booths, someone said, "Do you know how to fix the ticket, John?" "Yis," said he; on entering, instead of lifting up the curtain or

drawing it to one side, he dove right down under it, coming up on the inside under the shelf with which his head came in collision, making the sheet-iron concern tremble and tingle from stem to stern, but no damage resulted to either it or John's head. There was but one man that balked when told that he must go into a booth to prepare his ballot and who declared that "if it has become to such a point where an American citizen cannot mark his ticket wherever he pleased, he proposed not to vote at all;" upon second thought, however, he concluded to go through the imported form. While the system was met with general favor; it will be apt to be too cumbersome when it comes to a general election with a full ticket.

In a lengthy letter to the editor, C.S. Kilbourne, president of the Fox River Butter Company, questioned the F.M.B.A. [Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association] of Oswego's plans to open another creamery in Oswego in competition with his company. "Why should there be another creamery in Oswego?" he asked, "That is a question which we give up. If we have done anything that merits the condemnation of the patrons--if we have failed to pay a fair price for milk, if we have sought to taken an undue advantage, or in ay shown ourselves unworthy the respect and confidence of those sending us milk, or of this community, where we have done business as fairly as we know how for eight years--there would be some reason for starting another creamery in Oswego...Financially considered it would be a bad move to open a second creamery."

Public Sale Friday, Nov. 20: Christian Herren announced he was selling all of his livestock and farm equipment.

Nov. 18: Mr. and Mrs. L.N. Hall started Tuesday morning for Springfield to attend the grand lodge of the Odd Fellows.

Dr. Lester is again so as to be about but his eyes still have to be protected from the light, and all of the other ailings are getting better.

The man who left a horse tied in the street without any kind of blanket until a late hour Monday night ought to undergo transmigration when he dies, to be turned into a horse and similarly served in such a windy cold night. Transmigration and reciprocity,

the idea of becoming the animals and receiving the treatment given them, would be just the creed that is very much needed.

The "open for all" meeting of the F.M.B.A. Saturday evening, owing to the inclemency of the weather, was not largely attended. J.R. Walker was chosen to reside over it and Charles Roberts made the secretary. After the president had stated the object of the meeting, to wit: The taking of the preliminary steps for the establishment of a cooperative creamery, and for which the Danforth old cooper shop, at \$480, was already bargained for, remarks were then in order, and anyone posted on how to properly to proceed in the matter was invited to speak. As the farmers were rather bashful to speechify, merchant Haight, with the expectation offsetting the ball triumphantly in motion by his usual emphatic style of speaking, was called upon to address the meeting. Haight is usually very positive, knows at once what should or should not be done, but in this instance was wholly at sea; the thing was merely an experiment, the chances of failure as great as those of success--he had a pessimistic streak on. Next, some time was occupied in getting a sufficient amount of stock subscribed for the payment of the building, during which your correspondent got sleepy and retired.

Nov. 25: Con Cook has moved here and taken possession of the Hawley farm near town.

The Alliance creamery, according to last reports, was progressing favorably; the grounds and building were taken possession of by the association, but the conveyances had not been fully completed.

Among the social events of the week, one occurred just over the line in Wheatland, of which the following is the report: Wednesday night, Nov. 18, a very pleasant 25th wedding anniversary surprise took place at the residence of Mr. John Hafenrichter.

John Wormley, with his celebrated cider press, has managed to make about 1,700 barrels this season. The largest amount of cider to the bushel was made for S.B. English--from 50 bushels of Minkler apples, 252 gallons of cider was extracted.

December -- 1891

Dec. 2: Will Shoger, who for about a year has been down in Livingston county, has returned home.

About 40 of the friends of the Misses Rees were entertained by them on Friday evening last. The unique feature of the evening's entertainment was a peanut hunt. The first guest finding 20 of the peanuts hidden in the various rooms winning a prize. Scott Cutter was the lucky one and was given a handsome book as a reward.

Lillian Troll, another of our best girls, has left us by getting married to one outside of this community, that is to Harvey Keck of Montgomery who, however, is a nice young gentleman, well known here.

During Friday night, Mrs. Sarah A., the widow of the late D.W. Carpenter, died. The deceased was born in Dublin, Ireland in 1823, came to this country when grown up to womanhood and was living in Philadelphia up to about 1857 when she came to Oswego and was married to Mr. Carpenter.

Although there were no public religious services on Thanksgiving Day, Oswego was thankful all the same. She was thankful that she is the village of churches, having no less than six houses that were built for and dedicated to the service of God, and at one time had as many active church organizations. That she is as old as Aurora, and much older than Plano. That she has been freed from being the county seat and thereby her political atmosphere rendered pure. That her business men are of the straight kind--no bulls or bears among them That her doctors are keeping the deaths down to the lowest rate, and her teachers are sticking to orthodoxy. That she has such competent teachers to give her the good school she has. That she has such good municipal government, the police wearing a star. That her girls are the handsomest and smartest extant. That her sidewalks extend all over town and for some distance into the country on some roads. That she has street lamps in operation when the moon doesn't shine and moreover that she has a class of men so devoted to the welfare of the village that they not only consent, but actually insist of being taxed to pay all the expenses. That her

anarchists are few and very cowardly and not at all to be feared. That the bad things with her are not worse than they are, etc.

Dec. 9: Politics will now have an upward tendency.

Dan Engle has had a barn built on his premises lately purchased in town.

The second installment of sleighing for the winter was given to Oswego Sunday, as well as other places.

The Hon. and Mrs. C.T. Cherry returned Monday from a several days' visit to a brother legislator at Danville.

Who would be a millionaire? They are subject to unpleasant things as well as us poor devils, and the more so when called upon for a large amount of money by a fellow with a dynamite bomb in his hand.

Chris Herren is making preparations for changing his residence from his farm on the river to a place in town. He is negotiating for the purchase of Mrs. Teller's house.

New York, Dec. 5: Russell Sage, the millionaire broker, escaped death as by a miracle Friday. The entire Empire building, in which was his office, was shaken to its very foundation by the explosion of a dynamite bomb hurled by a crank, who made a demand upon Mr. Sage for the immediate payment of \$1,250,000, the ultimatum being, in case of refusal, the death of the millionaire, the crank himself, and those employed in the office.

Dec. 16: Saturday evening everything in town was in most commendable order; the Masonic and Alliance organizations held forth in their respective halls; the church choirs had met in some of the private houses and rehearsed for the next day's sacred music; many farmers with their good wives were in town doing their trading and thus keeping the merchants agreeably busy; the loungers sat round talking about the splendid weather. During the night the sweet slumber of some was broken by the noise of many footsteps on the sidewalk; they got up to investigate and



found a crowd of men around the rink building talking among themselves in a subdued manner. Presently a train of three coaches and a baggage car rolled into town and stopped and from which a stream of sporting humanity wound its way to the goal. L.N. Hall had made his way in upon getting the floor told the crowd that he was head of the village government and by the authority vested in him, he forbade them to go on with any prize fight, but he was told that that was all right, just secure a good seat and see the show. To entertain the crowd for awhile the throwing of Indian clubs and some other things was very creditably performed by a man. Then for a short time more or less betting was done.

Then somebody made a short speech that the fight was between Tom Ryan and Frank Howson, the latter of England, that each was seconded by two men, that it was for a certain amount and championship and to a finish, and that it would be with gloves on and under the Queensbury rule--whatever that meant--no berries of any kind were seen, but there was whiskey.

The 14th round settled Frank's hash. The crowd was estimated all the way from 500 to 1,000. The crowd was much larger and tougher than the one of the previous fight, yet it behaved well and outdoors made but very little noise.

This has been the third prize fight here and must be the last. Our ladies are going to take it in hand; they say that if the mean cannot stop these disgraceful affairs we will show them we can. Some are for pulling down the building. Prize fights and how to rid ourselves of them is now the universal topic.

H. Pigney is our new blacksmith of the Shoger shop and who has moved with his family into the vacant part of the house where James Harris lives.

John has been subjected to a stroke of paralysis, but has so far recovered from it to be around the house again.

John Gaylord Friday morning received the sad intelligence of the death of his mother in California the day previous, which had resulted from injuries received in a runaway when out driving with her husband some days before.

Yorkville: The results of the 1890 census of Kendall County were published by the U.S. Bureau of the Census and "the report is not very pleasing to those who look for an increase in the population of Kendall County," Record editor J.R. Marshall wrote. Kendall County was one of the 30 Illinois counties whose population decreased from 1880 to 1890. The county's overall population dropped from 13,063 in 1880 to 12,100 in 1890.

The figures showed Oswego's population at 641 compared to 663 in the 1880 census. The township population was 1,538 in 1890 compared to 1,718 in 1880.

From the Chicago News: Another Prize Fight--Is There No One to Enforce the Law? Early Sunday morning, Thomas Ryan and "Bull" Howson fought 14 rounds with bare fists at Oswego, Kendall County, Illinois for \$1,000 a side. Ryan pounded Howson into jelly and won over \$8,000 for his side. It was just daylight when the special train, from Chicago, with the pugilists and the crowd on board, reached Oswego.

Howson is an Englishman and was backed by an English syndicate. The members of the syndicate belong to the English sporting colony and are known as the "Game 'Uns."

[The illegal prize fight was held in the Star Roller Rink on Main Street in downtown Oswego on Sunday, Dec. 13. Thomas Ryan and "Bull" Howson duked it out in front of an overflow crowd that had been told before the event by Oswego Village President Levi Hall that the event was illegal. The crowd was estimated at 500-1,000 fight enthusiasts from Chicago, Aurora, and other cities.]

Wrote Record editor J.R. Marshall: The CB&Q Railroad Company is just as guilty as the principals in the fight; it is an accessory before the fact; the officials of the company knew for what purposes the train went out, and is guilty of unloading hundreds of outlaws upon a quiet and peaceable village. When are the authorities of Kendall County going to do something about these outrageous proceedings? What will Oswego do about it? Some night a gang of toughs will be landed there by the railroad company and under the influence of liquor, they may become uncontrollable and loot the village. Are our county officials helpless, or are they "put to sleep?" The owner of the rink should be punished by the law.

Dec. 23: Merry Xmas!

The days have got too short for much to happen.

It is said that G. Schwartz has sold his residence to Chris Herren and that the Schwartz family are going to move to Aurora.

The sidewalk on Main street in front of block 20 is being renewed. A new one is being constructed on Madison street opposite block 1 and repairs made in other parts of the village.

The Simplex Cash Register, an automatic contrivance for helping to keep things straight, has been established in Haight's store. The amount of your bill will pop right up before your eyes when paying it, and so there is no chance that you can get swindled.

It is said that St. Louis is now contemplating coming up and having a prize fight here. But let her come, or any other town; they hereafter will find themselves running against a snag: Our ladies have taken hold of the matter, they are not afraid of a prize fight. It is not like having a mouse in the room, they say.

S.G. Minkler returned from Olney, Ill. Friday evening, where he had attended the meeting of the State Horticultural Society. Mr. Minkler took premiums on his apples which amounted to \$53.

Rabbit hunting is the order of the day and local sportsmen of all ages are bringing them in by the dozens. It is fun for the boys, but hard on the rabbits.

George D. Wormley was in town the forepart of Monday evening when word came to him that his wife and one of his sons had been shot and seriously wounded at home, when of course he hurried home as quick as possible taking Dr. Hanna with him. It appears that a man and wife by the name of Mears, from Aurora, had parted and the woman was making her abode at Wormley's; that the man called there just about dark and asked the wife to live again with him, and that upon her refusal he began an indiscriminate warfare on all present, shooting Mrs. Wormley in the neck and Harry, about 14 years old, in the side. Mears, the assailant, is under arrest.

### A Scoundrel Husband Shoots an Unoffensive Lady and Her Son.

There was quite a sensation when word came that Mrs. George D. Wormley and her son had been shot by a drummer man. The family lives in the square stone house on the River Road north of Oswego. The story was told that the woman from Aurora, who had left her husband because of his worthlessness was employed at Wormleys. The woman's husband came at about 5 o'clock and tried to persuade her to live with him again; she refused and he became abusive. Mrs. Wormley tried to act as a peacemaker, when the brutish man drew a gun and began to shoot; one ball struck Mrs. Wormley in the neck, and another hit her 14 year-old son in the body. In the excitement that followed, the man ran away. The man, Mears, was arrested in Aurora and taken to the county jail in Yorkville. The boy is gradually failing and there is hardly any hope for him. The ball went in his side, ranging downwards and lacerated the intestines. Mrs. Wormley received a flesh wound under the chin and one side of her face is badly powder-burned. [Note: Young Harry Wormley died several days later. Mears was sentenced to life imprisonment at Joliet in November 1892.]

Dec. 30: Good bye old year and hello! to the young and leap.

One of the joyous events of the holiday season was the marriage of Slade Cutter and Miss Mattie Dwyre. It took place in Chicago where the bride of late years has been living.

The annual meeting of the Oswego Library Association will take place next week Monday evening, Jan. 4.

The information of the death of Mrs. E.W. Shumway up in Wisconsin was received by telegram by her friends here Saturday.

The prize fight proved a damaging event for Tom Beschner. It appeared that his saloon was opened and a few of the thirsty ones a drink given for which he was made to pay \$20 and the costs of the lawsuit Monday.

The funeral of Harry Wormley, the murdered boy, took place Saturday. The occasion was one of solemnity in the fullest sense. Mrs. Wormley, though yet greatly suffering from the wound she received, was present. Harry would have been 15 years old next February. He was the youngest, but a little the largest of the two sons of the family.

#### MEARS IS A MURDERER

There is sorrow and affliction in the family of George D. Wormley caused by the hand of a worthless vagabond whose lie should be shut out for the benefit of the community.

Harry Wormley died last Wednesday evening and his murderer is in the Yorkville jail.

1892

January

Jan. 6: 1892 came in damp and gloomy but soon began showing an assortment of weather.

A shooting match was had on Thursday. Elmer Avery came out of it the champion.

Oswego's necrology for the year 1891 may be given as 13 deaths; five males of the average of about 59 years, the oldest being 86 and the youngest 14; three of them were married and two single. Seven females averaging in age about 66 years; the oldest 83 and the youngest about 40; four of whom were married, two single and one widowed. One infant. And there were brought here from abroad for burial nine corpses. The last death was that of a murder.

The funeral of Mrs. E.W. [Elvirah Walker] Shumway, whose death in Wisconsin was mentioned last week, and whose remains on their arrival were placed in the house of Mrs. L. Walker, took place Monday afternoon from the Congregational church. The sermon was led by a brief biography of the deceased; it being to the effect that she was born in Belchertown, Mass.; that she was married to James

B. Shumway in 1847; and that shortly afterwards they moved west and to this township. That three daughters and one son were the fruit of the marriage; that two of the daughters and also the husband have preceded her to the spirit world. Mrs. Julia Lynd of Wisconsin was the only one of the family present; Clarence, out at Hastings, Neb., was prevented from attending by sickness.

Yorkville: Aurora has unloaded a good deal of lawlessness, crime, and suffering on Kendall county the past year, and it is about time our people resented it. We have only the kindest neighborly feelings for Aurora, but don't want that city to make an escape pipe of Kendall county for foulness. Keep your prize-fighting thugs and murderous cranks at home. Kendall is small, but we can protect ourselves when we sent out to do it.

The Plainfield *Enterprise* issued an eighth sheet for Dec. 31, having it printed at Joliet. The loss of Plainfield by the recent fire is figured up at \$38,000 and only \$17,000 insurance. The burnt district will be rebuilt at once and Plainfield will be almost a new town. Mr. Blakely of the *Enterprise* has met with serious loss; his entire printing outfit is destroyed, with only \$1,000 insurance. He will buy new material at once but should have prompt assistance from subscribers, advertisers, and others who owe him. Pay him quick, and encourage him.

The veteran auctioneer David Hall was down from Oswego Monday on business at the court-house.

Mr. L. Lippold of Oswego was in Yorkville Tuesday and paid his 28th annual subscription for *The Record*. He has been a subscriber ever since the paper was started in 1864. He says when he first took it, he could not read a word of English.

Jan. 13: Scott Cutter and Newt Pearce have returned to their schools of higher education.

"Harrison or Blaine--which?" Nayther; McKinley will be the mon, as the Irishman would say.

The suit against Fred Funk for opening his saloon on the morning of the prize-fight did not come to trial. He paid \$20 in the village treasury and the costs there had been made.

Up to within a few weeks Mrs. Thomas Belschner had been one of the most healthy and robust looking women of this community, but she was taken sick and during Wednesday night become numbered with the dead. Her death is one of the kind most deplorable, being that she had hardly reached the prime of life, only 31 years of age and that she has left behind four small children. Her maiden name was Matilda Kesslinger, and doubtless she was born here.

“Mears, the Oswego murderer” was how the Plano News commenced a paragraph last week. That is all wrong; Oswego has no murderer; Mears never belonged here.

The tax collector has established his office in Haight’s store, and now you that were grasping for riches go there and pay up promptly and cheerfully. It is us poor devils that now may feel good.

Up to within a few weeks Mrs. Thomas Belschner had been one of the most healthy and robust looking women of this community, but she was taken sick and during Wednesday night became numbered with the dead. Her death is one of the kind most deplorable, being that she had hardly reached the prime of life, only 31 years of age, and that she has left behind four small children. Her maiden name was Matilda Kesslinger, and doubtless she was born here. The funeral took place Sunday afternoon from the Congregational church.

Yorkville: The ice men were happy over the cold wave that struck this vicinity last week and the young people were also in a good mood because the skating was good.

There is a new bell on the Yorkville hose house, and it is a fine one for the purpose--sounds something like the Methodist church bell. Our village is pretty well fixed for fire protection--the water system, the hose and ladder apparatus, the alarm bell, and a good company of citizens make us equal to the big cities.

Esch Brothers & Rabe began operations on the river pond Monday and will begin putting ice in the big houses today. The ice is nearly ten inches thick and of good quality.

Frank O. Hawley was down from Aurora Monday. He will have a big sale on his Oswego farm about the middle of February consisting of farm machinery, and tools, stock, Etc.

Jan. 20: Halley Haight was here from Naperville visiting his uncle, D.M.

Wm. Cliggitt will be occupying the Chris. Herren farm after awhile.

The cooperative creamery people were much astir during the week.

By the tax lists, Oswego shows herself a little the best on dogs over the other townships.

Henry Wollenweber Jr., who for a long while has been a sojourner in Wisconsin, has returned here.

Mr. and Mrs. Slade F. Cutter constitute now a family. They are running the farm--H.C. Cutter retiring.

A.B. Whipple, who is now sick, had Ezekiel Davis and family move into his house and by whom he will be cared for.

A milk carrier (Scandinavian) for Bristol parties became a crook by embezzling some milk checks and clearing out with the proceeds. He was all business before leaving, buying an overcoat, a watch, a trunk, and a ring at four different places.

Although the coldest weather of the winter, more than the usual outdoor activity was exhibited the past week. Esch Brothers & Rabe commenced the filling of their ice houses from off the mill pond. The creamery ice house was filled partly from there and partly from the stone quarry. Charles Roberts and some other private parties filled their ice houses from the Hopkins' quarry--the ice from the quarries is very clean and nice. Ad Armstrong secured quite a lot from the river right below his place for cold storage purposes.



Another part of the people, principally those of the German settlement, were active in the hauling of gravel for the roads in their district. The hauling of stone for building purposes in the spring was extensively engaged in by some farmers out in the country.

The grippe is getting hold of a good many about here; out at the grove, it is said that those free from it are the exception.

Yorkville: Mr. C.F. Shaver, the Oswego furniture dealer, was in Yorkville Monday; he has a good deal of business in his line, as well as doing the undertaking business for that vicinity.

The snowfall of Monday has made the sleighing good and the people are enjoying it. But the weather has been very cold.

Jan. 27: David Iliff of Aurora, whose death was reported last week, was for a number of years a resident of this place.

Hank Smith is now wearing the regulation cap when on duty, and which makes him look like Fritz Schmeichelbeimer just come over from Bavaria.

Charles Knapp went to Chicago Friday to attend the funeral of the wife of his brother, John. The family formerly have been living here. The bereaved husband came out here Monday evening.

The library is now governed by Capt. Mann as president; Mrs. Josie Edwards, vice; Mrs. Josie Hall, secretary; L.N. Hall, treasurer; and Mrs. Emma Inman and Jennie Hubbard, librarians.

The sufferers from colds or from the grippe are as numerous yet.

The first day of D.M. Haight's clearing sale was a pretty fair success. Conklin, the windy auctioneer from Plano, is doing it. He was engaged here for several days a year or so ago, and then became very popular among our people.

"Oh! how very sad," was the expression of most everybody when hearing of the death of Mrs. Henry D. Hebert that took place early Saturday morning. In the prime of life, the central factor of a family,

the mother of two lovely little girls that need her care, the one that was apt to be called upon for her services at funerals and at social events when good music was wanted, and the one whose existence was continually contributing towards the upbuilding of humanity, she is taken away. The funeral took place Tuesday afternoon.

Casualty deaths nowadays are so numerous that the reading of them in the newspapers attract little attention. The occurrence of one in this evenly going community, however, caused quite a shock. The unfortunate man was Frank. H. Quintal of Chicago and formerly from Canada. He was 36 years old, single, well dressed for a laboring man and was one of the men that came here with the force from Chicago engaged by Esch Bros. & Rabe for the filling of their ice houses. His place of work was on the elevated runway tending the [ice block] planer, which work he had been efficiently performing for several days. It was about half past eight Wednesday when the machinery had been stopped for the adjustment of something, that when starting it again he was found in front of a cake of ice pushed into the planer, several of the prongs entering the body about the pelvis, severing an artery and causing death in a few minutes. How he came to get in the runway is unknown as nobody witnessed the catastrophe. An inquest was held which probably will be published and the body was brought to town and placed in Shaver's hearse house where it remained till Saturday and then taken to Chicago by a brother.

Yorkville: The prosecution of Mears, the slayer of Harry Wormley, will be an event in the Kendall circuit court at the March term, and the Board of Supervisors should make some provisions for attorneys to assist Mr. Sweetland. Mears will be defended by shrewd lawyers and every technicality will be taken advantage of. Our State's attorney is physically disabled for much hard work and assistance is preemptory. This is no idle matter. A vagrant from another county goes into one of our farmer's homes, shoots down his wife and kills his boy; a few hundred dollars spent by the county to prosecute the slayer will not be money wasted.

The January thaw took all our snow away.

NaAuSay: R.M. Wheeler has been purchasing blooded stock consisting of ducks, geese, and turkeys.

John Murley delivered three loads of hogs to Wollenweber & Knapp at Oswego Thursday.

A good many of the farmers who subscribed toward the fund raised to gravel the road from John Cherry's to Christ. Herren's are working their subscriptions out by drawing [hauling] gravel.

February -- 1892

Feb. 3: Nothing so far to scare the woodchuck.

The marble play season was ushered in early last week.

The second day of Haight's clearing sale transpired Saturday afternoon and evening under that voluble talker, Conklin of Plano.

Sanford Chase got his hand hurt so as to be laid up for a few days while at work on a new barn for Michael Shoger Jr. out east from town.

The information was received by her friends that Effie Parker has changed her residence from Kansas to California; the same had become expedient on account of her health.

Mrs. D. DeWitt and Mrs. C.J. Van Inwegen of New York State were in attendance at the funeral of their sister, Mrs. Hebert. Prof. and Mrs. McFarlane of Plano, Wilmot VanEtten of Dayton, Mrs. Galt and a number of other relatives from Aurora and elsewhere also attended.

The sick are still numerous but none dangerous.

The Modern Woodmen seemingly are the most happy people here now. Friday night they had a dance at brother Gus Shoger's warehouse room, which had been cleared of all its contents and the event is said to have been the most pleasant of the kind for a long while. The music was that of Put Howard's orchestra of Aurora.

Fox River Butter Company  
Milk Notice

After consulting with many of the patrons of our factories at Oswego and Yorkville we are satisfied that the majority of them prefer that we buy their milk on the test plan; accordingly on and after Feb. 1, all milk sold to us will be paid for according to the amount of butter it will make. At Oswego, 5 cents per 100 pounds will be added to the price for the skim-milk.

Feb. 10: Chicago is overrun with highway robbers, footpads, thugs with revolvers and sandbags, and the police seem dazed. This is only a forecast of the troubles the World's Fair will bring.

Mrs. George Burghart, after a long spell of sickness, died Sunday evening.

By the morning down express Saturday arrived from Urbana the remains of Henry W. Farley to be joined with those of his wife and two children in the NaAuSay cemetery. On the same train, also arrived the mourners, chiefly among whom were the daughter of the deceased, Mrs. C.W. Rolfe, together with her husband, Prof. Rolfe and their children; J.C. Shepard and Mr. and Mrs. J.B. Pogue of Hinckley, and James Shepard of Aurora. The age of the deceased was 73 years. Mr. Farley had been a resident here for about 20 years during which his two children and wife died.

The Misses Lizzie and Maggie Mullenix and little daughter of Cassius Mullenix arrived here Monday from Iowa.

The Grove Road has been the worst one, and about the only remaining bad road leading out of Oswego. But that has now been made good all the way to John Cherry's house--the job being a layer of two yards of broken stone and a covering of three yards of gravel to the road. The road now is one of which to be proud.

Feb. 17: In the way of business changes, Burghart & Stetter have closed their meat market. H.J. Collins is now monopolizing the meat business here.

Fred Burkhart came to town Tuesday morning in one of this hairy overcoats. He had come down from Iowa to Chicago with a lot of stock.

Whiskey and beer was the cause of two brothers getting hauled up in the police court Saturday evening. And assessed with fines of from \$3 to \$5 and the costs.

If the bloody looking borealis Saturday evening had shown up some time ago, it would have been an omen of war sure; but happening as it did, it was merely a sign of the Sunday storm.

The funeral of Mrs. George Burghart Wednesday of last week was one of the largest attended and the Congregational church was crowded. The deceased was born in Württemberg, Germany in 1836 and her maiden name was Katharina Harscher. She came to America and to this part of it in 1861 and was married to George Burghart. Of the children born to them, here are eight living, six daughters and two sons, of whom two daughters, Mrs. Mary Young of Montgomery and Mrs. Emma Rieger of Sumner, Iowa and George J. of this place the oldest son, are married. Bertha the youngest child is 13 years old.

Feb. 24: It was foggy, got foggier and now is foggiest.

L.C. Young and family are here from Elgin on a visit.

Measles have been prevailing out in the Walker and Wilcox districts.

Joe Miller, one of Oswego's telegraphers, and who has for several years been engaged in that and other business in Wisconsin and Minnesota, was here on a brief visit to his folks.

On Wednesday the marriage of Will Leigh to Miss Lizzie Hallock took place at the home of the bride's parents in Montgomery.

Mrs. Barbara Haag is now lying dead at her son's, Otto, out in the German settlement.

Mrs. John W. Chapman died Saturday evening, she having been in feeble health for a long time and down sick for about two months. The deceased was born near Seneca Lake, N.Y. in 1815. Her maiden name was Catharine Townsend, belonging to a family of the earliest settlers in the Wormley neighborhood. There were a number of sisters of them, but only two of them now remain living, Mrs. Levi C. Gorton of Bristol and Mrs. Samuel Devoe, who lives with her daughter, Mrs. C.Y. Doud in Winona, Minn. Marcus, a son, is the only survivor of the family.

March -- 1892

March 2: H.S. Jessup and family have moved to Aurora.

Geo. J. Burghart has moved to Montgomery and engaged in the meat business there.

John S. Seely in company with his brother Edmund has been attending the Kewanee Dairy convention.

Except the bad roads in getting there and back again, the party at Cob Pearce's Thursday evening is said to have been hugely enjoyed.

Whether there should be or not be a cooperative creamery established at Oswego is a prominent question.

Mrs. Fred W. Lester, nee Libbie Budlong, with her two children is here from David City, Neb. to visit her relatives of this section including Dr. Lester, her father-in-law and Mrs. C.A. Doud, her sister.

The *Elgin News* is advocating the nomination of Arthur M. Beaupre, the present clerk of Kane county, for state auditor. Arthur of course would be the best man that could be selected because he was brought up in Oswego.

A few more data of the late Catherine Townsend Chapman. She was born in Tioga county, N.Y. April 15, 1815; came to Oswego with her parents, who entered what is now the Geo. D. Wormley farm, in the

spring of 1833; she was married to John W. Chapman July 17, 1836 and moved to Sterling, Ill. returning to Oswego in 1841; since which time she resided in this town and with the exception of a few months on a farm, has lived in the same house for 40 years less two days, she being removed from the house to her grave on the 40th anniversary of her entrance into the same. She was the mother of three sons, but only one growing up and who survives her.

The office of the Geneva, *Kane County Republican* was destroyed by fire one night last week, along with other property. The loss is quite heavy, with only \$1,500 insurance. The fire is said to have been incendiary, a species of crime which seems to be prevalent in that town.

March 9: A number of the spring birds have arrived.

A new meat market, it is said, will be opened in the Zorn building.

If our farmers and village business men would devote one half the expense and energy towards building good hard wagon roads that they do in scheming for railroad improvement, it would be more useful to the people generally, and just as effective for business.

R.H. Johnston took his steers to Chicago and struck a satisfactory market.

Henry Hebert has engaged himself in Chicago as a foreman in a machine shop. A number of the spring birds have arrived.

Thomas Miller has taken the place of Mr. Jessup and is running the milk wagon.

Cyrus Cooney has rented the farm that lately was sold by his father, Peter Cooney, to Leonard Burkhart.

Carrie Burghart has been spending about two weeks with her sister, Mrs. Dick Young in Montgomery.

The spring school term commences with March 14. All new beginners should begin with the beginning of it.

Elias Darby is making his folks here a visit. He came up from Mississippi with a lot of stock for the Chicago market.

G. Schartz and family have moved into the Shepard house and the vacated place was occupied by its new owner Chris Herren, who moved his family to town. O.S. Pearce has also moved to town and into the Daly house.

Politics have degenerated down to where nothing is left but the dollars. The Republicans have dropped the 'free ballot and fair count,' the Democrats are dumb on the 'reserved rights under the constitution,' and the People's Party would have none of the 'universal suffrage.'

Oswego exhibited rather more than the usual animation Wednesday. The Frank Hawley sale had brought together a large crowd, which made the town lively during the greater part of the day time. In the evening, some of the pro and anti co-operationists consumed a good deal of wind in blowing about Kilbourne's circular and other creamery matters.

Yorkville: "Farm hands come high, and get \$25 a month," says our Lisbon correspondent, and yet it is said there are 20,000 idle men in Chicago living on free lunches, county aid, and many, alas! by crime. A charitable public is constantly besieged for money to carry out charitable schemes to sustain these men in idleness. It is not work they want; it is city life--excitement, indolence.

*Plainfield Enterprise*: James McCauley, one of Kendall county's prosperous farmers, added 160 acres to his farm Wednesday, making it now measure 337 acres.

*The Aurora Post* says: George Wormley is anxious to sell his Oswego farm and move to Aurora. George is a hustler and just a man as the city needs a few more of. Whatever he does is well done and with energy.

Mr. A. Armstrong of Oswego was in Yorkville Thursday, returning from Newark and Millington, where he had been on business. He is



an active buyer of produce and does a good trade. Mr. Armstrong is a man well-informed on general subjects and an instructive conversationalist.

Alshuler and Murphy of Aurora are attorneys for George Mears, the murderer of young Wormley. It is said they will set up the plea of insanity (of course) caused by the bi-chloride of gold cure to wean him from his drunken habits. They would doubtless make Mears out a persecuted angel, who should receive damages from Kendall county.

The *Aurora Herald* says: Mrs. H. Gaylord died in California about a week ago. While out riding her horse ran away and she was thrown from the carriage. Four ribs, her wrist, and collarbone were broken, and being well along in years, she did not survive the injuries. Mrs. Gaylord was one of Oswego's old residents. She lived in Aurora about four years ago. Considerable property in this city belongs to her estate.

NaAuSay: Robt. Garner has bought 20 acres of Wm. Brown, and will move there as soon as he has made some repairs on the house, which are needed. The farm is only a short distance from the Ament school, in the township of Oswego.

The depth of the mud at this season of the year makes one wish for gravel roads. If there could be more done in regard to good roads in the halls of Congress, and less in regard to the tariff, this country would be greatly benefited.

O.P. Austin now owns the Geo. Schell place. Nowadays, in about nine times out of ten, when a farm changes hands it is a foreigner who is the purchaser. It is a relief to know that there are some Americans who can make money as well as foreigners. But it is not in making money that the American shows to such disadvantage as it is in the saving of it.

Albert Potts expects to move into the tenant house of E.S. Ketchum this week, as he has rented the plow land, which he will work on shares this season.

March 16: The blackbird is here.

The annual meeting of the Cowdry [Cowdrey] Cemetery association will be held in the afternoon of March 26 in the Ament school house.

When a century commences or ends was much discussed around the stove in some of the stores during a part of the week and by it another proof was added that the majority is never the nearest right.

Will Cliggitt and Miss Alice Rees were quietly married last week Thursday. They went to Aurora and there had the Rev. Thomas Galt perform the consolidation. They commenced housekeeping at once at their new home, the Chris Herren farm on the river.

There was a lawsuit Monday afternoon before Justice Murdock--jury trial--between Joe Foss as plaintiff and Dr. Hanna defendant, about the settlement of their accounts. P.G Hawley was the counsel for the former and J. Fitzgerald of Yorkville the latter. A verdict of \$1.75 was found in favor of the defendant.

The death of Mrs. Sarah A. Beaupre of Aurora took place at week. She wants to be classed among the departed of the old settlers of Kendall County, having lived in Newark over 40 years ago and subsequently in Oswego, where Mr. B. was engaged in the hotel business, also held the position of Sheriff.

Wednesday, the remains of Mrs. Caroline Dodge were brought here from Aurora for burial. The funeral services were held at the Presbyterian church, where she had been worshiping for many years, and from which she wished to journey to the grave. Her age was 79. She had been living in Oswego for many years but the last two or three was residing with her granddaughter, Mrs. Elma Beebe in Aurora.

Charles Avery was a man that would occasionally become dissatisfied with his situation. He came to Oswego about 50 years ago. In 1849 or 50 he sold out and went to California, where he spent a few years but returned here without having made his pile. In

1859 he was one of the number that started for Pike's Peak but returned before the trip had been completed. About three years ago his wife died after which he sold his residence and went to Washington Territory, but no sooner had he arrived there than he was dissatisfied with the country and had returned to Oswego. Of late his physical condition had become much broken down and his financial was collapsed. He had been for a few weeks a boarder at Troll's. Dr. Hannah was sent for. On investigation an empty bottle labeled 'laudanum' was found on the chair which explained what was the matter. He was beyond recovery as the drug had done his work. Coroner McClelland arrived Saturday morning and held an inquest resulting in a verdict that the death had been caused by laudanum voluntarily taken by himself. The funeral took place Sunday afternoon. The sermon preached was a good one as anybody would wish to have. Altogether, Charley Avery's last move, and to where he will presumably rest in contentment, was accomplished quite generously.

The United States government finds it practicable to do many things and for everybody, some of them very small, as for instance the delivery around a city of invitations to some party, the distribution of comic Valentines for the children, the seeing to it that people do not eat butterine for butter, assisting those who want to go into the business of producing sugar, raise the prices on certain things that some people wish to have high, and to regulate many other affairs for the people. But whenever it was proposed that the government should establish a system for the safe-keeping of money, more especially for the laboring classes, it was met with the cry of impracticability. It can be easily guessed why a safe and general deposit system is declared impracticable. The world and especially America, is governed by the business element of the people, which, of course, will find impracticable anything that would detract from its benefits. The saving of money by the producing classes would not be conducive to business prosperity. It is the spending of money freely what business wants, and of course money is spent more freely when carried around in the pockets than it would be when safely deposited--the quicker it changes hands and the oftener it is turned over, the better for business, and it is immaterial, as far as the creation of capital is concerned, through what kind of business money is spent. Business is carried to an enormous extent, and

much of it is not only unnecessary, but is hurtful and demoralizing, as the liquor business and others much worse. The sporting and amusement business has reached immense proportions.

NaAuSay: There is a petition being circulated for signers to be voted on at the spring election to raise the sum of \$2,600 by taxation; said amount to be raised yearly for the term of five years; the money thus raised to be expended in graveling the road from John Cherry's to Union church, east to townhouse, south two miles, thence east to county line; north from town house one mile, thence east to county line. it will be a necessary for the petition to receive a majority of the votes polled to insure its success. it will make taxes higher, but the benefit derived from the graveling of those roads can hardly be estimated.

Yorkville: The sheriff of LaSalle county and his five deputies weigh 1,290 pounds--and average of 215 pounds each.

*Aurora News:* Mrs. J. Beaupre, aged 71 years, died at the home of her son, A.M. Beaupre, 250 North Lake street, Thursday morning of bronchial consumption. Mrs. Beaupre came to Illinois in 1836. The funeral was held from the house Saturday.

Squire Murdock was down from Oswego Friday morning; he is also town clerk, and like a good many others of us, he gets muddled on the new election law and wants it remodeled by the next legislature. That's right; there is too much red tape about it, and it can be remedied.

The Aurora opera house held a fine company of people from Kendall county last Thursday night on the occasion of the concert by the Thomas Orchestra; 84 tickets were sold in Yorkville, and 40 or 50 in Oswego.

The past week has been very wintry, and those who thought spring came with March have been very much surprised.

*Aurora News:* The old William Pearce farm of 200 acres, about four miles southeast of the city was recently sold by Youngen and Fortman to a gentleman named Prescott of Peoria for \$12,000, or

\$60 per acre. Mr. Prescott has already taken possession and moved his family there. The James Small place south of the city has also been sold to a Peoria man.

March 23: Dr. Van Deventer is causing his office to be enlarged.

After a week's sickness Jay Richards has resumed his position at the depot again.

The school had a week's recess and the spring term commenced with Monday of this week.

Mr. Graves has quit the employment of the creamery and gone away, but his family are still remaining.

One of our saloons, that of Tom Belschner's, was embarrassed temporarily. The sheriff had closed it for a day or so on account of indebtedness.

The Chicago papers last week contained the death of Dr. Charles Earll of that city. He was once an inhabitant of this neighborhood and afterwards in Chicago became quite notorious.

Our prize-fight goers had to go to Yorkville and show themselves to the grand jury last week. To have served them right they should have been locked up and kept on bread and water for awhile.

Mrs. Maggie Edwards has been ailing ever since Christmas and Thomas, her husband, while carelessly splitting some kindling wood at the hardware store, cut his leg a little, which though a very slight wound, apparently had the effect of throwing him into a fever and for a few days he was dangerously sick. He is now reported as much better.

H.C. Cutter was chairman and D.M. Haight secretary of the Republican caucus Saturday, which adjourned from the village hall to the rink hall in order to have more room, there being a large turnout. The candidate for town clerk was nominated by acclamation, he being the only one in the field; the rest of the candidates were nominated by ballot, and as there were but two

candidates for each office, one ballot was decisive, except in the case of collector, where there being three candidates, it took several ballots, and when narrowed down to two candidates, was carried by one majority. At the People's caucus at the village hall on the same day, John D. Russell presided and Frank Herren was the secretary. All of the nominations were made by acclamation and but little time was consumed in transacting the business. Following is the result of both caucuses--the Republican candidates are place first: For town clerk, C.L. Murdock on both tickets; Assessor, J. Rush Walker and John C. Turpin; Collector, J.G. Andrews and Joseph D. Ebinger; Commissioner of highways, Ed. A. Smith and Charles Roberts; Justice of the peace, D.M. Haight and Alexander Harvey.

Yorkville: The prairie grass about Berwyn and LaVergne, two suburban stations on the Q near Chicago, took fire Thursday and threatened the residences. There are no men in these suburban villages during the weekdays,, and the women turned out and fought the flames with pails of water, wet brooms, wet blankets, and the ditch water. About ten acres of dead grass was burned over before the women won the battle, but they won it and then had a glorious time talking it over.

Mr. H.G. Burkhart was here from Oswego to buy some farm machinery Thursday last.

Bill Howson and Patsey Trahey are indicted for prize-fighting in Oswego, but where are they? Where was Moses when the light went out?

The celebrated Studebaker wagon is sold by Witwer Bros., Joliet. Call and get acquainted with this firm; they will treat you right.

#### CIRCUIT COURT

The People vs. George Mears, murder; prisoner arraigned and plead "not guilty." Case continued. The judge appointed Col. J.S. Wilson and John Fitzgerald of Yorkville to defend the prisoner.

March 30: The [Farmers'] Alliance people had a meeting Monday evening.

The Robert T. Smith family have moved into the Whitman house.

Mr. and Mrs. S.L. Bartlett have returned here from Aurora.

John V. Jessup has gone west and was heard from the Indian Territory.

Eaton Smith has moved into the Fred Sierp house, and Will Dusell, its former occupant, onto a farm.

George J. Hettrich has moved on the Nick Congdon farm. George Schell, who heretofore had occupied the house, has moved out east where he has bought an Albee farm.

Elizabeth Benthien, with four of her scholars, viz: Nellie Boessenecker, Clara Smith, Fred Walker, and Roy Smith, took a trip down the road Saturday morning and returned in the afternoon.

Hubert Ladd, who was an Oswego boy and is now a prosperous merchant of Rising City, Neb. spent Sunday here. He says that his mother and brothers and all of the Oswegoans there are enjoying health and happiness and that Nebraska is now all hunkey-dory.

Michael Fees was married one day of last week to a young lady who is said to have but recently come from Germany--probably the sweetheart he had left behind when he came over. The particulars of the marriage were not learned. They live on the Charles Leigh farm.

Miss Mattie Lippold was married Thursday to a Mr. William Kelch of Dwight. The wedding is reported as having been a very nice one, and took place over the river at the residence of the bride's parents, Ludwig Lippold, a clergyman from Ottawa performing the ceremony. The bridal couple spent a day or two with relatives here and then departed for their home in Livingston county.

Mrs. Charles Gaylord, although sorely afflicted with disease for some time, died suddenly last week at her home five miles south of here. Mrs. G. was 47 years of age and was one of the daughters of the whilom Alfred Tremain, one of the old settlers of this township.

NaAuSay: The Goudie Bros. delivered a fine lot of hogs at Oswego last Friday.

S.S. Jessup had his cows dehorned last Saturday. The Herren boys of Oswego performed the operation.

I am pleased to see the interest that has been awakened in the minds of the people upon the question of good roads. It is time the farmers of this section of the country awoke to a realizing sense of the loss which accrues to them yearly in their inability to meet the advance in the price of their farm products just because the roads are not in a condition to make it possible to deliver their grain at the place of marketing.

Yorkville: Thomas King, collector for the town of Wheatland, Will Co., collected every cent of the taxes for that town on his book. They are forehanded farmers over there.

*The Enterprise* says the Plainfield Masonic Block company has been incorporated with a capital stock of \$10,000. A.E. Mottinger, John Gaylord, and others are the incorporators. The boys had a meeting last Saturday at which most of the stock was taken and it was definitely settled to proceed with the building as soon as a site can be purchased satisfactorily. This will give Plainfield two \$10,000 buildings.

April -- 1892

April 6: For to be on time the election board had to hustle themselves this morning.

The voters of Kendall county attended to business Tuesday and under the new ballot law voted for whom they pleased without fear or favor.

He will quit his eccentricity and his monkey shines and become the sedate and dignified Esquire Haight.



The Waubonsie farmers' club had their annual come together at John S. Seely's Thursday where they ate a big dinner of turkey and other good things and talked over matters and things. No politics in theirs. [This was the Waubonsie Farmers' Alliance, established in 1888. Apparently they avoided politics, unlike the Oswego Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association.]

The depot agent was heard to remark that the March just passed was one of the best months he has ever been having. The number of tickets sold reached nearly a thousand, although the 25 ride tickets are much in use here.

Owing to the scarcity of hired girls and the not robust physical condition of his wife, John Bartlett will quit the hotel business. The Schram house is therefore to rent for that purpose, which ought to be a good opening for somebody.

In the way of business changes, John E. Bailey has gone in partnership with H.J. Collins in the meat market. Nearly every morning a large lot of freight is left for this place, of which a good deal consists of farming implements for J.A. Shoger.

A young couple named Cuenoud, but recently from Switzerland, arrived here, the lady wanting to find an aunt, but only remembered "Mike" as her husband's first name, who was a well to do farmer. Mike Falkenberg was at once suggested to her and she was quite sure that was the right name. A.P. Walsh, a neighbor, was in town, with whom they took passage and thus brought together the relatives that had never seen each other.

NaAuSay: A.K. and Frank Wheeler were visiting in Chicago the fore part of last week.

Yorkville: Charles Roberts and John D. Russell of Oswego, E.L. Henning of Plano and Elmer Rickard of Bristol were in Yorkville to meet with the Democratic county committee on business.

An Oswego correspondent writes: "The band had a practice meeting last Tuesday and they do grind out some good music. Oswego's

musical talent is not all dead and with the reinforcements from Yorkville, we have a band of no small size and of good talent.”

Tom Ryan, indicted in Kane county for prize-fighting, was before Judge Willis last week and fined \$250 and costs, which was paid. Now if the Kendall county sheriff will pick him up we might get the same amount for our school fund; he was one of the Oswego fighters.

April 13: Winter has been held in the lap of spring long enough.

H.G. Smith has a nice Jersey cow that will soon come in for sale.

John B. Pierce's new house is nearly completed. Richards & Sons are doing the job.

A very handsome marble family monument was erected on the Nathan Loucks lot in the cemetery.

The corner meat market was opened again Monday. Bartlett & Brown constitute now the new firm of it.

A chicken pie social will take place at Barrett's Thursday, the proceeds of which are to go towards the procurement of a new organ for the Presbyterian church. The organ, a \$250 one, was purchased Monday.

The upper story, or wooden part, of the old cooper shop collapsed. It stood up all right during the big blow, but afterwards in a dead calm tumbled down. Some of the people from abroad passing by on the trains doubtless will think that Oswego was struck by a cyclone.

New goods at Barrett's. Dry goods, hats, caps, boots, overalls, pants, big sizes in overalls.

Oswego has scattered along through April four elections, and as in all else, 'too much of a good thing spoils the worth of it,' So some of these elections have become devoid of interest and that for [township] school trustees the most so; the last, however, which took place Saturday afternoon, may become of great importance in

history, as from it will date the commencement of the exercise of woman's suffrage in this town...At Saturday's election women were considered as legal voters and made liable to be called upon to help in making up a respectable vote; but it was windy and cold and a bad day for them to be out. Some foreign born passed by but of course they were not naturalized and the inquiry how old they were at the time their father was naturalized and about other matters, so as to ascertain their rights to vote would have been too much trouble to go into...After a while Mrs. [Mary Frances (Porter)] Hunt came along;...she concluded to give her uncle Henry [C. Cutter] a vote, by which she became the first woman that voted in Oswego at a regular election...It is said that the coming election of a school [district] director will be vigorously contested by the women in behalf of Mrs. Florence Read for the position...All voters must be 21 years of age; as such a thing as naturalizing women has theretofore not been thought of, consequently all the foreign born cannot vote unless their fathers became naturalized before they were married and before they were 21 years old. Women in voting should use their own given names, and not call themselves Mrs. Charles Roe and Mrs. George Doe, but Margaret Roe and Elizabeth Doe.

NaAuSay: Farmers are busy getting in their oats.

The Falkenbergs have relatives visiting them from Germany.

Yorkville: Next Sunday is Easter.

School directors are to be elected in the various districts of the county next Saturday. It will be a great day for women voters. There is a good deal of interest manifested in the election by women of other counties.

Circuit Clerk Beebe has put a new typewriter in his office, which will greatly facilitate his business and make his papers neater, if that were possible, than ever before. Mr. Beebe is a model county officer; he takes great pride in doing perfect work, and he is often commended by Judges and attorneys for his promptness and carefulness.

April 20: Wm. Doran, a young man, is now the new cheese maker at the creamery.

Henry Pigney and family are about to leave this place again and move to Maple park.

Charles Rieger is now the foreman, Hindman, and all around man at the lumber yard.

At James H. Foran's, the first born, a son, has put in an appearance and caused general joyfulness.

The Schram house is doubtless the best place we have for a hotel. Who will open it again for that purpose.

We loungers around the depot are frequently asked by strangers where the hotel is. Where shall we now tell them?

George Barnard is evolving an ornamental hedge around his premises, and Capt. Mann has constructed a wire fence without the barbs on the Tyler street side of his.

At the Democratic caucus Saturday evening, John D. Russell handled the gavel, and the delegation for the county convention consists of C.R. Cook, G.C. Inman, G.D. Wormley, W.S. Weyre, G.M. Cowdrey, and Oliver Hebert. A resolution in favor of Henning was passed.

The Republican caucus Saturday was presided over by supervisor Cutter, and the delegates chosen for the county convention Thursday were instructed to do their level best, without resorting to any meanness, for the promotion of the political interests of Joe Fifer, Charley Cherry, and Arthur Beaupre.

At the election for school [District 4] director Saturday 170 votes were cast, of which Mrs. Florence K. Read received 90 or a majority of 10. The number of women that voted was 49, and it is claimed that about half a dozen of them voted against Mrs. R., so that her supporters must have been about half and half as to sex, and therefore the honors are easy. Some of the males felt quite disgruntled and looked upon the innovation as a very foolish move.

A number of the ladies took great interest in the election and at an early time had made all the preparations for it; stamped tickets and been gotten up and distributed several days beforehand, but sure enough, the first break they made was in what we cautioned them last week. "Mrs. H.B.," the initials of the candidate's husband, had been put on the ticket; when learning on the commencement of voting that such may invalidate her election, it caused them to hustle around to write new tickets and see to it that none but proper ones be voted; several therefore stayed about the polls all the afternoon and one did a good deal of driving. The election passed off decorously. [Mrs. Read was the first woman to hold public office in Oswego.]

John H. Wormley was born at Harrisburg, Pa. in the year 1807, moved with his parents to New York state when a boy. When of proper age he married Miss Sally Townsend of Seneca Lake, that state. In 1833 he moved to Illinois the country then being open and one could locate most anywhere he had a mind to; Mr. W. chose the west side of Fox river, and established his home about two miles up the river from this village, which then had no existence, and where he has been living up to within a few years as a prosperous farmer. On Jan. 1, 1878 his wife died; the fruits of their marriage were two sons and two daughters; two of the children had been born before the family came west, and all are now living. Sometime after his wife died he got severely injured by the upsetting of a loaded wagon on which he was and by which he was crippled for life and his practice of industry and hard work arrested. Subsequently he was married again to Mrs. Malinda Pinney of Aurora, to where he then moved. But of late he had been living at Bristol Station, where he died Saturday night. The funeral took place here Tuesday at 11 o'clock, from the Congregational church. The deceased was one of the best citizens of this neighborhood, always on good terms with everybody and religiously has been associating with the Methodists.

Yorkville: Andrew Welch is a hustler in his business; he has already sold a J.I. Case separator and engine to the Clows of Will county for the coming season's work.

The American Silica Sand Works are now in it. Miss Maud M. Kessler of Millington lighted the fires last Monday, April 18, and the process

of mining, washing, drying and shipping will be in full force by the last of his week. Mr. Quigley, a member of the company, was in Yorkville Tuesday and he is much delighted with the outlook--the best sand beds in the west; the best system of works, the best facilities, all go to show that the "American" is to lead.

Some one found a petrified ham in Indiana and the *Streator Free Press* says it must have come from the Aurora depot lunch counter.

The Yorkville grist mill will be shut down for repairs from May 8th to 22d.

Andrew Welch is a hustler in his business; he has already sold a J.I. Case separator and engine to the Clows of Will county for the coming season's work.

Uncle John Wormley died at his residence, Bristol Station, on the night of April 16, 1892, after a week's illness--from Paralysis. He was one of our earliest settlers and the family is one of the best known in the county.

When uncle John came here nearly 60 years ago, there was no one living in the vicinity where he settled; there was an Indian camp about where Oswego now stands. There was a settlement at Aurora and there he had his grists ground and logs sawed into timber and plank. He was an energetic farmer all his busy life, till age took him from his favorite pursuit. A few years ago, he gave up farming and moved to Aurora, but the bustle of city life was not congenial to his quiet ways; he never got used to it. About a year or more ago, he moved to Bristol Station, rented a place for awhile, and the past winter bought a house for a home. He had jut got into this new place when death took him to his last long home. Mr. Wormley was a good man, and while death is expected at 85, his loss is deeply mourned.

NaAuSay: There were seven ladies who voted at the election held to elect a school trustee.

The milk route on Wool street has been changed; instead of going to Oswego, the milk now goes to Plattville.

Robert Garner and family have moved to their new home near John Gates. We are sorry to have them leave the neighborhood.

April 27: Miss Anna Brown has been here for several days visiting her friends.

John Edwards and Bob Johnston went out jack snipe shooting one day and in a little over two hours bagged 360. They bragged on it as being pretty good shooting.

The aldermanic election here was a very tame affair. But one set of candidates, that for license, had been got on the ticket, and as there was a prevalent idea that no other could then be elected, it was looked upon as a mere farcical formality, and but 40 votes were cast. The B & B firm of the corner meat market is already a thing of the pass.

Gus Shoger is curbing the sidewalk in front of his storehouse with flagstones.

Mrs. Nahum A. Parkhurst, after several months of gradual failing health, joined last week the silent majority. The deceased was 81 years of age; was a native of the State of New York; her maiden name had been Roxana Ashley and she was one of the several daughters of the whilom Stephen Ashley. Three of the sisters are surviving, Mrs. Winn, Mrs. Shaver, and Mrs. S.P. Ives of Montana. She came with her family to Illinois and settled where her death has now taken place, in 1845; her husband, a hardworking farmer, died many years ago; she was the mother of five children, of whom but two, Amos J., who occupies the homestead, and Mrs. Sophia Allison of Iowa, are surviving her.

At the funeral of John H. Wormley, which took place Tuesday of last week, the Rev. D.M. Tompkins, pastor of the Galena street Methodist church of Aurora, assisted by a younger divine of that city, performed the spiritual services. The sermon was very eulogistic of the deceased. The services included the singing of a solo by a gentleman from Aurora; the song was one that had been greatly admired by the deceased in his lifetime. The handsome casket containing the remains was bedecked with emblems of choice

flowers and sprigs of wheat. The undertaker's services were performed by Mr. Healy of Aurora. An extra feature of the funeral was that old Charley, the faithful horse that had been doing the carrying around of the deceased for many years, attended the same by wearing appropriate tokens of mourning and following the hearse from the home of his master in Bristol to the grave in the Oswego cemetery.

NaAuSay: The gravel [road] fever is spreading again.

Yorkville: Chris. Duffy looked on the county convention here last Thursday. He still maintains an interest in Kendall affairs.

Mr. Rank, the well known Oswego correspondent of *The Record*, attended the Republican convention here last week and met many old friends.

Frank O. Hawley of Aurora came down to visit the Democratic brethren in convention Saturday. He was accompanied by Mr. Clapper, who represented the *Aurora Times*.

Of the recent school election in Aurora, the *Herald* says: "A number of colored women voted. One big "Auntie" weighing some 300 pounds, approached the polls with a ballot tightly clutched in one hand. An Irishman tried to get her to vote another ticket. "Go 'way, chile," she said. "Does you take me for a Democrat?"

A Grand Army Post has been organized in Plainfield and named "Boriel Post." The officers are W.H. Cain, commander; P.W. Spangler, senior vice commander; E.F. Brown, junior vice commander; H.S. Price, adjutant; Elisha Brown, quartermaster.



Twenty-eight years ago this week, the first copy of the *Kendall County Record* was issued, and by the present publisher.

A troupe representing the Kickapoo Indian Medicine Company is giving exhibitions at Union Hall every night. The talent comprises Dr. G.P. Wood, manager; Harry R. Austin, comedian and musical artist; Frank Ranie, juggler; Prof. H. Dunbar, magician; and six Sioux Indians.

Mrs. Charles Roberts of Oswego, who was so badly injured at the Montgomery railroad crossing some months ago by a train running into her carriage, sued the CB&Q Co. for damages. The case was tried at Geneva and Monday the jury gave her a verdict with \$1 damages--this putting the costs on the company.


May -- 1892

May 4: John. P. Randall, who, when living here was working as a printer on the *Free Press*, which of course is quite a while ago, is now here on a visit.

The baby, a six-month's-old boy of Mr. and Mrs. Alex White, was buried Friday.

Benjamin Franklin's team started to run away Friday, but was stopped by a wheel locking onto the lamp post at Haight's, by which the lamp was somewhat shattered.

Now at Union Hall,  
**YORKVILLE,**  
for a few days' longer.



**CHIEF MEDICINE MAN.**

The Kickapoo Indian Medicine Company now at Union Hall, Yorkville, are introducing their five different vegetable medicines.

Hundreds of testimonials may be seen at the Indian Medicine Man's office of positive cures not helped over a bad spot as many of you have been victims of. It is not the length of time you have doctored, but the kind of medicines you use. Some of these testimonials we have to show you are from people who have been doctoring blindly for years. Rheumatism, dyspepsia, impure blood, dropsy and all nervous troubles are mastered by our vegetable medicines, and sufferers of the above who have an honest desire to get well, call at the Medicine Man's office and get free advice and consultation.

No daily papers Tuesday morning. Too many failures to connect makes the now prevailing mail service not liked; especially by Fred Smith, our news agent.

John E. Bailey is the new [Oswego village] marshal; L.N. Hall the village treasurer; \$750 is again the amount of [an annual] license for selling liquor; \$25 for running billiard and pool tables.

The new pastor of the Evangelical church, the Rev. W.J. Vetter, commenced his labors Sunday by preaching at the church out in the German settlement in the forenoon and in the afternoon in the church in town--the church, it may be said, is divided into two congregations, the eastern and western.

This community the past week has been overwhelmed with entertainments. The Comedy Company stuck to us like the bur to the shaggy dog's tale. Then a Mrs. Andrews had come and engaged the Congregational church for a course on phrenology.

Yorkville: E.P. Carpenter is said to have been the first white child born in Kane county--in Montgomery, May 26, 1834.

*Morris Herald:* C.T. Cherry, the nominee from Kendall County, has served one term. He took a prominent part on behalf of the farmers in the stock yards fight, and has a good record.

*Sandwich Free Press:* The hunting and killing of any of the following birds is strictly prohibited in this state at all times: Robin, blue bird, swallow, martin, mosquitohawk, whippoorwill, cuckoo, woodpecker, cat bird, brown thrush, red bird, yellow bird, oriole, bobolink. The penalty for each offense is \$5. Robbing the nests of these birds is also prohibited.

Farmers are busy folks just now.

John Russell of Oswego is one of the alternate delegates to the Democratic national convention, chosen by the state convention at Springfield last week. Mr. Russell is a rising young man in his party.

Nate Loucks was down from Oswego Monday.

How about opening that new road [now Van Emmon Road] up the river from Yorkville to Cowdry's [Cowdrey's]? It would make a pretty drive and attract summer visitors.

There was a day meeting of Yorkville Post Monday when James G. Andrews and George Wormley of Oswego were mustered in as comrades of the Grand Army.

#### Marriage Record

April 23. Joe Darfler, Oswego, and Amy Whitlock, NaAuSay.

May 11: During the past week a great deal of water has fallen and the earth in this part of the Lord's vineyard is thoroughly saturated, and the sky is still clouded and cold.

The Kickapoos arrived this (Tuesday) morning.

Lizzie Moore has gone to teach a school down in Kendall township.

C.H. Jarvis has bought the Whipple place and become a resident of Oswego again.

Hank Smith had a wrestle with his colt Friday and ever since is limping around.

The village council had a session Monday evening, at which the appointment of the standing committees were made.

Painter Schmidt, while engaged in papering a room at Geo. Inman's, fell from a bench only a few feet high and so hurt one shoulder as to be disabled from work ever since.

John T. Hopkins of Omaha, but mostly on the road as an insurance agent, came home on a visit. His sister, Mrs. Lizzie Winsor, together with her husband and boy, also came down from Aurora and a sort of family reunion was enjoyed over Sunday at E.A. Hopkins'.

In spending Wednesday evening with his girl to a later hour, it is said, Bernie Richards had to go home during the storm. He was

passing along Madison street by Roth's when the sharp crash of thunder occurred, which had the effect of throwing him to the ground and so stunning him as to be unable to rise for several minutes.

NaAuSay: The measles are predominating at the Goudies'.

The Bethel school began Monday with Clara Jessup as teacher.

Yorkville: It is Burrell Post--not Beriel--the GAR's have over at Plainfield. The *Enterprise* has made a suitable apology for the compositor, and no lives are lost.

The press room of the Joliet Republican was submerged during the freshet of last week, and the machinery damaged to some extent.

The troupe representing the Kickapoo Indian Medicine Co., who interested large audiences of our people at Union hall the past 15 days by their excellent entertainments and lectures, left yesterday morning for Oswego.

There was a prohibition county convention at the court-house in Yorkville Monday afternoon, May 9, to elect delegates to the prohibition state congressional and senatorial conventions. W.F. Thompson moved that the delegates to the State convention be elected in open convention; the motion carried, and the following persons were elected to go to Springfield:

Geo. Mewhirter of Bristol.

John Fitzgerald of Kendall.

H.S. Bethel of NaAuSay.

J.C. Shaw of Lisbon.

J.N. Misner of Big Grove.

Geo. Barron of Fox.

Rev. H. Lea of Little Rock.

[No representatives from Oswego and Seward attended]

May 18: Dave Hall has had a tin roof put on his house.

A new portico has been built on the residence of J.B. Hunt.

Mrs. Maggie Edwards was in Chicago Monday for replenishing her stock of millinery.

The wife and children of Elias Darby arrived here Saturday from Mississippi to join Mr. D., who preceded them a month ago.

The demolition of the Danforth old cooper shop has been commenced, preparatory to the erection in the place of it the cooperative creamery.

Since Hank Smith became so lamed, Jennie Miller is doing the milk stand and express work and slings the butter packages in good shape. Jennie is a hustler.

The G.W. Kimball family have returned here after several years of residence in Chicago--there is no place like Oswego. It seems good to see Eliie around again.

Milton B. Pogue brought from their ranch in northwestern Kansas six carloads of sheep to Chicago and struck a satisfactory market; after which he made Oswego, his old home, a visit.

Worms inside of the people here are now in danger. Dr. Wood of the Kickapoo Medicine Company is after them. Lots of ordinary have been driven out of children, and a tape worm 28 feet long out of John Varner. Who would have thought we were so wormy?

As to temperance, or rather the spirit for reform in temperance, it didn't appear well for Oswego be entitled to the lowest number of delegates of any town in the county in the late Prohibition convention, and still worse was it when Oswego appeared unrepresented altogether in said convention. What's the matter with us anyhow?

The Kickapoo Medicine Company has attracted nearly all the attention since their arrival here last week Tuesday. Aside from the medicine they are selling, there is nothing Kickapoo about them; the manager is a long bearded Texas Spaniard with an English name and says he can speak and write the German language as well as any other. The Indians in the company all belong to the Sioux nation.

The audiences were all large, and on the special evenings for performance the Rink hall was packed to the utmost. What the Indians lack in being amusing is fully made up by the white performers; they act very cleverly and all are much admired--Rance especially so; he looks so pretty in his bespangled performing costume, the girls say. They are taking better than anything that has been here for years. "This 10-cent show is worth double the 75-cent show I've been to in Aurora awhile ago," said one fellow in leaving the hall.

Yorkville: *The Record* did not reach Oswego last Wednesday night through the fault of the mail clerk on the train; no delay in our post office.

Clinton Carpenter was here from NaAuSay Saturday. He says there is more water in the big slough than they have ever seen before.

Our Yorkville lawyer, Mr. Fitzgerald, paralyzed the ladies at the WCTU convention in Oswego a few days ago by his opposition to universal suffrage. The correspondent of the Beacon says: "John Fitzgerald of Yorkville prohibition Democrat, made a speech opposed to woman and negro suffrage and in favor of a more restricted ballot. He would have n force the educational test. John ought to know that this would be death to the Democratic party. ' And John is not far from right in his views on that question.

Elmwood cemetery is a beautiful city of the dead.

A new house just completed by Doc. Wooley at Aurora was destroyed by fire Friday night. Incendiary.

Mr. Patsey Trahey, an Aurora gentleman who was engaged in a prize-fight at Oswego some months ago and was indicted by the Kendall county grand jury in March, is now locked up in the Yorkville jail awaiting bondsmen. He was arrested in Aurora Monday upon his return from a tour in the west by Marshal Dummer and Tuesday Sheriff Skinner went up and brought him down on the 2 o'clock freight train. Our sheriff had quietly given the papers to Marshal Dummer some time ago, which Mr. Trahey did not know, probably. The bail is \$1,000, and Trahey says some one must

furnish it or he will tell a tale that will put others in jeopardy. Trahey is a very mild young man--not much like a sport.

May 25: Would the rivers have raised as high and the damage along them been as great if not so much tiling had been done.

Dave Hall has had a tin roof put on his house.

A new portico has been built on the residence of J.B. Hunt.

L.N. Hall is having his residence repainted. Frank Barry of Aurora is doing it.

Would the rivers have raised as high and the damage along them been as great if not so much tiling been done?

S.H. Gregg says that the low temperature of last week Thursday has hurt fruit a great deal, especially strawberries and currants; also more or less the tree fruits.

Evan Edwards and Miss Bertha Maxam have entered the state of matrimony. The time and the particulars of the happy event were not learned; it was kept quite quiet.

It has now the appearance of some more rain. The evolution of a new kind of professors (rain stoppers) asking for public aid in experimenting will become to be in order.

In the display of energy, Joe Darfler seemingly is taking the lead this year. A few weeks ago he got married and started out farming on his own hook by renting the Nate Loucks farm. He finished planting last week Wednesday, which being in advance of anyone I have heard of.

Memorial services will be held at the Presbyterian church Sunday next, the 29th, at 10:30 a.m., by the Rev. W.G. Connell. GAR men and all soldiers and sailors will meet at 10 o'clock sharp at headquarters, comrade Lester's office, and march to the church; after the services, again form in line and return to headquarters for dismissal.

The women of Oswego and the vicinity who are interested in forming a Columbian Exposition club are invited to meet at the residence of Mrs. L.N. Hall Friday afternoon.

Gottlieb Kindsvater of Aurora is the new manager of the Oswego mills, which are going to be repaired, reconstructed and supplied with the modern improvements for doing the best of work, and will be operated to their full capacity by doing commercial as well as custom work. The east side water power and premises are said to be under negotiation of being sold for the conversion into a file factory. A short time ago Oswego had a boom on for the biggest part of a day about the same east side property. The rumor had spread that it had been bought by a syndicate for electric motor purposes. The idea of getting a syndicate established among us was enough to become jubilant.

The Kickapoos have been here for two weeks and the interest in their entertainments never flagged, they being largely attended in fair and foul weather. They are now getting ready to pull up stakes, and this Tuesday evening they are to hold forth here for the last time. They are a well-behaved company, both the red and white men of it. The raccoon with them is also very clever. At the prize contests--special features of some of the entertainments--Harry Obman distinguished himself as the fastest pie eater and in the election by the gentlemen in the audience of the handsomest lady present, Carrie Burghart carried off the prize; while vice versa, the homeliest man, in which Gus Shoger and L. Rank were the main competitors was won by the former by 10 majority.

The corner meat market has been opened Tuesday morning. Fred Stetter is this time the proprietor of it.

During his residence here, the Rev. J.K. Schultz became the favorite functionary for the performance of marriages which esteem has not yet abated. He was here from Lamoille Wednesday and joined Crate Jarvis and Miss Lena Pearce in the holy bonds of wedlock. The wedding took place at the residence of Mrs. Frances A. Pearce, the bride's mother.



NaAuSay: Mr. and Mrs. O.C. Johnson have been having their parlor decorated lately by one of Rice's paper-hangers of Aurora.

Charles Hemm is having erected one of the finest corncribs and granary in the town. In fact, it will be a small elevator when completed. It is 20x36 feet and 16 feet high, with a dump in the center of the drive-way; here the grain is caught by a hopper, which is connected to the foot of the elevator. This elevator carries the grain some 40-odd feet to a dormer, where it is deposited by the elevators into conveyors which carries it to different parts of the crib. Charley is one of the progressive farmers of these parts. The work is being done by J.M. Austin.

Yorkville; Aurora *Herald*: "Mr. Miller of Montgomery, in whose barn on the Gillette farm the recent cock fight was held, will be prosecuted under the state law." Why not prosecute the owner of the hall at Oswego where the prize fights were held.

Aurora Beacon: The friends of pugilistic "Patsy" Trahey, who now languishes in the Kendall county jail, have at last put there heads together and decided upon a scheme to raise bail money. They have rented the opera house for May 25, and will give an athletic exhibition to raise the funds. Jim Kelley is at the head of the project.

Is your cistern full?

Big rain Tuesday night.

John Bailey of Oswego was in town Monday.

The corn-planter started in briskly Monday morning; some Bristol farmers started Sunday morning.

#### MARRIED

At the home of the bride's mother, Mrs. F.A. Pearce, Oswego, on Wednesday, May 18, 1892, at high noon, Mr. W. Craton Jarvis and Miss Lena Pearce were united in the bonds of holy matrimony by the Rev. J.K. Shultz.

June -- 1892

June 1: Work on the streets has been begun.

"Why do we believe in God?" will be the subject of the evening sermon at the Presbyterian church next Sunday.

Though a very rainy night, that of Tuesday, the organ committee's entertainment at the Presbyterian church was a marked success.

Dunbar, the ventriloquist of the Kickapoos, stayed over here and was joined by his wife from Massachusetts Friday and together departed the next day.

Judge Altgeld, the Democratic candidate for governor, was in town Saturday to show himself. He is, however, not of special imposing figure; just of ordinary size and looks. Frank Hawley was in company and showed him around a bit.

An inscription in memory of Harry Wormley, from the soldiers' daughters and the Christian Endeavors, was attached to a beautiful bouquet and the same deposited on his grave on Decoration day, for which kind act Mr. and Mrs. Wormley wish to express their most heartfelt thanks to the performers of the same.

Howard, the 12 years old boy of Mr. and Mrs. Alexander White, died last week, being the second child taken by death from the family within a month. The funeral took place from the Presbyterian church Friday afternoon, where a pretty fair congregation attended the obsequies. Though a colored boy, his funeral was made as solemnly attractive as anybody could wish, the flowery tokens especially were most beautiful--the lilies, so rich of pure whiteness, were contributed by his teacher and schoolmates, Mabel Hunt and her scholars.

A number of ladies met Friday afternoon at the residence of L.N. Hall and organized a Women's Columbian Exposition Club, 14 signing the constitution. The officers elected were President, Mrs. John Young; vice-president, Mrs. Charles Cherry; secretary, Mrs. L.N. Hall.

NaAuSay: A fine granite monument to the memory of Wallace Whitlock has been put up in our cemetery.

Yorkville: John Reddock caught nine black bass Friday afternoon that weighed about 25 pounds; it was the finest string of the season.

James Jameson, an employee of the Montgomery flouring mills, was killed Wednesday morning last in a frightful manner. He was oiling the shafting, got caught in the cog gearing, and his neck and shoulder crushed. He was dead when extricated.

The Aurora News says: M.J. Pogue & Son, a firm that has been engaged in the lumber business at Oswego for years, have come to Aurora and are building coal sheds in the rear of the EJ&E company's yards on the West side. They will handle coal, lime, cement, stone, etc.

June 8: Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hoard of Earlville and Mr. and Mrs. C.A. Breese of Pullman spent Sunday where with their parents and parents in law, Mr. and Mrs. F.E. Hoard.

The Carlton Comedy Company was here for three evenings, one proving an entire failure and the other two meeting with poor success. Now let us have a rest from shows for a while; for a month or so we were overwhelmed with them.

The Methodist ladies felt themselves slighted last week because of their ice cream dispensation on Decoration Day in which they were quite successful, clearing upwards of \$25, not having been mentioned in the Oswego report.

Three couples, J.C. Conway and Belle VanDoozer, Mr. and Mrs. Lew Voss, and Mr. and Mrs. J.L. Gaylord took a voyage in a boat down Fox river to Wedron where they spent Sunday and Monday morning, returned by train, reaching home in the best of spirits.

The large barn on Chris Herren's farm on the river burned down during Thursday night. The origin of the fire is unknown. An almost new threshing machine belonging to the tenant, Will Cliggitt, and

C.A. Doud, jointly, was burned. Bob Johnston also lost a lot of hay, which he had bought there at the sale a while ago.

One of the planks for the construction of the Republican platform--and the Democratic, too, for that matter--should be something like this: Resolved. That we favor the one term presidency under all circumstances, and that the candidate now nominated must not expect to succeed himself, if elected.

John M. Tyler has quit the creamery in the employ of which he was steadily for the last seven years. He is now taking a rest and at the same time accustoming himself to outdoor life by going fishing and in the course of two or three months expects to move to Iowa where he has a farm. The removal of his family from here will be much regretted; they so well assimilated with our society--Mrs. T. training with the church people, their children the best behaved, and John always ready to raise an interesting account, especially when the conversation is about fishing or hunting.

Yorkville: We print 1,895 copies of *The Record* this week.

Will county will build a new "county house" in Troy township this summer to cost \$15,850. As that town adjoins our town of Seward on the east, maybe Kendall county could rent apartments in the building for its poor folks who find it hard to get a boarding place.

Try a milk shake at Cottons.

Bates sells the Rumley engine.

Fishing in the Fox river is about as good as it ever gets. Kelly Skinner caught a 5-1/2 pound pickerel and Leon Chappell a 6-pound pike last Saturday.

While the almost unprecedented wet spell has been a source of much discouragement to the farmers of this section of the country, they, with all the others, should be truly thankful that they have escaped such terrible disaster as that of the oil region of the east and the cyclones of the west where the loss of life has been appalling.

John E. Barrett, the Oswego merchant, had business in Yorkville Tuesday.

Kendall county has again been outraged by a party of some 300 Chicago sports and toughs who came by special train Sabbath morning into her borders with two bruisers for a mill. We don't say disgraced, because it is no disgrace to our peaceful and law-abiding citizens that a party of these lawless ruffians, assisted by the powerful CB&Q railroad company, slip into the county quietly and unannounced in the night for such a purpose. Of course, all knowledge of such an affair is kept strictly secret from those in authority. So how are you going to help it?

The mill took place on Jacob Budd's race track in Fox township near the Millington sandbank, and was between Dick Moore of St. Paul and Henry Baker, the Michigan middle-weight. It was for \$350 a side, 75 percent going to the winner and 25 percent to the loser. Seven rounds were fought and Baker defeated.

From what information we can get of the fight, it was a most brutal affair.

Now, how long must our good people submit to these outrages? If the principals cannot be caught and punished, we respectfully ask our prosecuting attorney if there is no law to prosecute the railroad company for bringing these lawless ruffians here by special train? If no, the next legislature should enact one.

The appearance of Mr. Altgeld, the Democratic candidate for governor, is not prepossessing. His appearance is more that of the sharp financier--the cent per cent, and a good deal of it--rather than that of a whole-souled man of the people. His eye has not that frank, inspiring look that Joe Fifer's has. Altgeld is a cold, calculating Chicago money-lender; Fifer is an open-hearted country boy.

June 15: Mrs. J.A. Durand is here from Chicago visiting at J.S. Seeley's.

The graduating exercises of the Class of '92 will take place at the Presbyterian Church next Friday evening." Class members were Edith Troll, Bernice Pearce, Grace Pearce, and Charles Read.

John A. Knapp has returned here and gone into company with Fred Stetter and together they now are running the corner meat market.

There will be a band festival and promenade concert in the school house yard Wednesday evening of next week, which is promised to be one of the most enjoyable occasions of the season.

The insurance on Chris Herren's barn was settled satisfactorily by the McWethy Bros. within one week of the burning of the same.

The demand for building mechanics is now much greater here than the supply. VanEvra with a gang of helpers is at building of the new creamery and which now is nearly inclosed. Schamp with his force is rebuilding the residence of Frank Pearce. The Richardses are building a new barn for John. H. Hafenrichter. Another new barn is being built and the raising of which took place Friday by Schwartz and his men.

Partly due to ignorance, but more to rattleheadedness, that a number of items were omitted last week that should have been reported, among which were the marriage of John Perkins and Miss Minnie Pigney at Maple Park, to where the bride with her parents have moved from here a short time ago. The catastrophe that happened to Tom Cliggitt; he fell from the loft of the barn and fractured his hipbone, which will cause him to be laid up for an indefinite; Dr. Lester is attending the case. The buying by S.S. Collins of the premises usually known as the Edson house. The recovery and being around again of F.B. Schram. The progress made in the building of the new creamery. Doings at the village board meeting, etc.

NaAuSay: T.G. Johnson is having some tiling done.

June 22: Prof. Merrill, last year's principal of the school, was on a brief visit here.

Mrs. Schram wants to rent her house. Won't some one continue the hotel business here?

Wm. A Jessup was again seen in town, having returned from the Pacific coast where he has been attending the Presbyterian general assembly.

The Columbian club will meet with Mrs. Hanna Thursday, June 23, at 3 p.m. All ladies are cordially invited to be present.

The Alumni had a convention Monday evening at the residence of Colvin Pearce. Prof. and Mrs. W. McFarlane came up from Plano and attended it.

Hattie Rees has come home on vacation. She will take a new departure in her pursuit of educating and next go to Jacksonville to teach the blind.

That greatest and happiest of all events, the one looked forward to by the young and backward to by the aged, and its anniversary celebrated with more pride than that of any other even, the wedding; This occurred to Miss Carrie Burghart Wednesday afternoon, when she was married to William Beher of Montgomery. It took place at the residence of her father, George Burghart.

A meeting was had Monday evening at the village hall to consider what to do on the 4th of July and at which the resolutions were passed that there shall be a celebration here, which shall embrace a basket picnic in the school-house yard, the reading of the glorious old Declaration of Independence and the making of an address or some other declamation by experts to be engaged, band music, base ball game between the married and single men, lawn tennis, shooting match, a Calathumpian [religious or philosophical discussion] company; foot sack, egg, and other novel races; an immense display of fireworks in the evening, and a dance at the Alliance hall during the night.

Yorkville: Last Thursday was as nice a day as could be wished for by the old settlers of Kendall county for their annual picnic. In fact, it was too good a day to secure a very large attendance of the farmer citizens, a great many of whom were far behind in their labors. The continued wet weather had delayed corn-planting and other

seasonable work to such an extent that a great many felt it necessary to stay at home and improve the day.

At half-past one o'clock the crowd was called to order by President A.M. Boomer, and the exercises of the day were held in the agricultural hall [at the Kendall County fairgrounds.]

Here are the names of those who have gone to a better land:

Oswego, David C. Jeneson, died July 13, 1891, aged 67 years; came to this country in 1846.

Oswego, William Strossman, died July 30, 1891, aged 76 years; he came here in 1842.

Oswego, Bessie Jeneson, died Aug. 3, 1891; she came here in 1846.

Oswego, Mrs. Eleanor Wormley, died Sept. 2, 1891 in the 64th year of her age; she came to this county in 1842.

Oswego, Mrs. Nathan Loucks died Nov. 6, 1891 in the 57th year of her age; she came to this county in 1854.

Kendall, Alexander Small, died Feb. 12, 1892, aged 72 years; he came to the town of Oswego in 1847.

Oswego, Mrs. Catherine Chapman, died Feb. 20, 1892, aged 77 years; she came with her parents to the town of Oswego in 1834.

Aurora, Mrs. Sarah I. Beaupre, died March 10, 1892, aged 71 years; she came into this county in 1835 and it was her request to be numbered among the early settlers of Kendall county.

Oswego, Charles Avery, died March 18, 1892, aged 75 years; he had lived in Oswego over 50 years.

Oswego, Mrs. Roxanna Parkhurst, died April 21, 1892, in the 81st year of her age; she came to Kendall county in 1836.

Oswego, Mrs. John Collins, died in August 1891, age and date of death not given; she came in 1843.

To look over the marriage licenses in some of the papers would think we were living in Bohemia or Italy. The Joliet News records the following licenses issued to wed: J. Jadrick to Katarina Poconsonka; Battista Vacca to Biadco Paolina; Mathijis Stukel to Marija Spraitzer. In a few years, the good old names of Smith and Jones will be among the "has beens."

The 10:38 train was half an hour late at Yorkville Monday.

Mr. Gregg, the industrious fruit-grower near Oswego was in Yorkville Monday with extra nice strawberries.



NaAuSay: These frequent showers are rather bad on strawberry sociables.

Miss Grace Cooney and her cousin, Miss Mary Cooney of Oswego are visiting relatives in Will county.

June 29: S.M. Love, once an Oswego business man and now residing in Pennsylvania, was in town and calling on friends.

Wednesday, the sad intelligence of the death of Mrs. Bloss, nee Belle Elliott, at her home in Aurora was received. She leaves a baby of but a few days old.

The storm about 3 o'clock in the afternoon Thursday came nearer to develop itself into a cyclone than any blow Oswego ever had. Several shade and fruit trees were entirely broken down; a chimney on H.B. Read's residence was blown off and several out-houses turned over.

A 4th of July celebration was had in the evening at which a general booming progress was reported.

There were times when the river rose higher here than it did Friday, but that was when there were ice gorges below, which to some extent formed a dam and throwing the water back, but probably there was more water running in Fox river this morning than ever before at one time, since the valley became settled.

Mrs. C.G. Doud and her mother, Mrs. Eliza A. Devoe of Winona, Minn., arrived here on a visit. They have been of the earliest settlers of this section and Mrs. Devoe, who is now 85 years of age, with the exception of some rheumatism, is said to be vigorous and bright and feels as well as of yore.

The doctors Will A. and Fred W. Lester from Wisconsin and Nebraska, respectively, are here making their father and other relatives a visit, but what brought them more particularly to these parts now is the serious sickness of their sister, Mrs. Fannie Bristol in Chicago.

If a village is to be kept up here, some kind of a hotel will be indispensable. What can be done to have a hotel.

More light is being brought into the livery stable office by the making of a window in the stone wall on Jackson street.

Fox river Friday morning was a raging torrent of muddy water, higher than ever before known, unless in the early spring when the ice going out created a jam somewhere. Early Friday morning you could scarcely see where the dam was--the water below the dam was nearly flush with the water on the pond. The island between the bridges was completely covered and the river looked magnificent as it rushed madly along.

NaAuSay: Henry Dwyre has returned from his western trip and while out there he bought a farm in Minnesota, where he and his family expect to make their future home.

Last Saturday sad news came announcing the death of Mrs. Sarah Lewis, who died very suddenly at her new home in Florida She is the mother of Mrs. O.C. Johnson Jr. and the only sister of Mr. William A. Jessup. Mrs. Lewis, who is better known as Mrs. John French, was an old resident of NaAuSay. In the fall of '69, she, with her husband and children, moved to Knoxville, Tenn. where she has made it her home until within a few months.

July -- 1892

July 6: Eaton Smith had his father from Iowa visit him for a week or so.

Mrs. Tirzah Minard, who for several years has been a sojourner in California, has returned and again become one of the community.

New potatoes the size of goose eggs were shown by W.A. Foster the fore part of last week, and that family was then feasting upon them. They are a peculiar kind of red color.

The Republicans feel it in their bone that they have but a “walkaway” this fall. Everything is harmonizing itself harmoniously. To be protected and reciprocated is just what everybody wants. The Democrats might as well commence right away making preparation for their Salt river voyage.

G.H. Voss, D.M. Haight, G.J. Hettrich, David Hall, J.L. Gaylord, J.R. Walker, G.P. Boessenecker, Frank Woolley, Robert Herren, E.T. Sutherland, Thomas Edwards, J.A. Shoger, and S.F. Cutter were chosen at the caucus Saturday evening to represent Oswego at the Republican county convention next Thursday.

The day we celebrate was celebrated here exuberantly and magnificently. The weather management seemed to be in full sympathy with a grand manifestation of patriotism. The burning of powder had commenced several hours before the day was due. The dressing up of the town was done early in the morning so that at the ordinary time of rising the west side of the business portion of Main street looked like a park, among the trees of which innumerable small flags were fluttering. The most of the business houses elsewhere displayed bunting and a large flag was suspended across the street. While the fire cracker racket had been on all the morning the regular doings were commenced at the set time, and with the Calathumpian parade preceded by the band. In the tennis contests that followed, the doubles ere Mr. Connell and Ernst Troll, with a score of 2.5 against Gus Voss and Slade Cutter of 6.6, the prize for the winners being a tennis net and two balls. The singles were Ernst Troll with 3.1 and Scott Cutter, 6.6. Prize a Windemere racquet. The educational and sentimental doings in the school house yard elicited universal praise; they were preceded by several inspiring selections by the band. The singing of the Aurora quartet was much admired and they were twice encored. In the shooting match, the first prize was won by Charley Hawley and the second by Emer Avery. In the foot race for everybody, Scott Cutter and Carlos Hawley came out ahead on a time and divided the prize. The fat man’s race created the most merriment; Barrett and Gus Shoger were the only ones willing to run, but they wanted somebody else to take part and pitched on Rush Walker. Rush is not a rusher; indeed the fun was to see him bring up the rear. He proved a surprise; no

one ever before saw Rush move with such celerity and he came out several feet ahead.

A special ice cream saloon was opened in the vacant room of the Shoger building by Harley Richards and Joe Sierp. There were also a little celebration of knock-downs and two or three went to the calaboose for a rest.

July 13: Anna Brown is up from Sandwich visiting at Dr. Lester's.

A photograph tent was in town for a few days but as to business, it was no success.

Prof. Ross has returned here and is prosecuting a topographical survey of this region.

Charles Rieger had a pile of lumber in the yard fall on him and for a few days felt the effects of it.

The new barn on the farm of Chris Herren--occupied by Will Cliggitt--was raised Saturday afternoon.

Charles Knapp has bought the Zorn property and the building is now being fixed up for the meat market again.

The village authorities have received two carloads of lumber for sidewalks, which as to quality turned out unsatisfactory.

The boss builders seem to have been most subject to sickness lately. George Schamp was quite sick during all of last week. Schwartz was laid up for a day or two.

The funeral of Mrs. R.C. Bristol of Chicago took place in that city last week Tuesday. Deceased was an Oswego girl; her maiden name had been Fanny Lester, she being the oldest of the Dr. Lester daughters, having died in the prime of life at the age of 41 years.

A couple of young men, probably from Aurora, had come into town one day on bicycles, turned up to the sidewalk, leaned the wheels against the curb and were fixing something about one of them. They were right away surrounded by a lot of the small boys, one of whom

soon ripped out a strong oath. "Why, bub,' you hadn't ought to swear so," said one of the strangers. "Don't you swear?" asked the boy. "No, of course not." "Are you a preacher?" "No, I ain't a preacher." "Why don't you swear then?" No reply was made to the last query; it seemed to be a poser to the stranger.

Mrs. Mary Mullen was called to Chicago owing to her son, George, having been taken sick--he had undergone a severe spell of sickness awhile ago--and this community was shocked when on Wednesday she returned with the corpse of the son on the same train. The funeral took place the next day from the Congregational church. The remains were inclosed in a very handsome casket. George was brought up in this town and always has been devoted to his mother, to whom his death is a most severe blow. His age was 30 years.

Mrs. Wm. Sadler, sister of Mrs. Fred Pearce, died at her home in Aurora of spinal meningitis; she leaves a husband and small child to mourn the loss of a good life and kindly mother.

The Woman's Columbian club met with Mrs. Read on Thursday with an attendance of 21.

Yorkville: The case against Charles Knapp of Oswego in the Kane county circuit our for selling diseased meat in Aurora has been "*nolle prossed*" [a Latin legal phrase meaning "be unwilling to pursue;" a phrase amounting to "do not prosecute"].

NaAuSay: The Caton elevator that was burned a short time ago was fully insured, so those having had grain stowed there will get their share of the insurance.

July 20: The Aurora Borealis was on Saturday evening.

A new coat of tar and gravel was put on the store building of Barrett's.

The Schamp gang of carpenters built a new hay barn for S.G. Minkler.

Tile culverts have been put in on Jackson street, across Madison and Main streets.

The new creamery received its machinery last week and will soon be ready for operation.

In a runaway by Chris Jarvis' team the lamp post on the corner of Main and Rosehill streets was demolished.

Mrs. H.G. Smith was visited by her friend, Mrs. Sicer of Gloversville, N.Y., who used to be Mary Coryell of Montgomery.

Katie Lester, who was at Ann Arbor in scholastic pursuit, but for the last few weeks in Chicago, has now returned to her home here.

Knapp & Stetter are now occupying their new, the "Oswego Meat Market." The sign and most everything else about it has been renewed.

At a meeting Monday evening the village hall by the young men disposed towards athletic amusement and sport, a base ball club was organized. Newt Pearce was elected president of it. Lew Inman secretary. Committees were appointed for securing playing grounds, the material for uniforms (knickerbockers breeches) and other requisite outfit.

Yorkville: Lewis Steward is the strongest man the Democrats can nominate for Congress. His vote on the silver bill Wednesday last shows him to be a safe man financially, and his whole career while he has been at Washington has made his record one that is above the average, for the reason that he always wants to hasten the work and get home. Then again, Mr. Steward received some Republican votes in Kendall county when he was elected; so it can be no wrong doing for a Republican to vote for a Democrat, if he wants to. We used to think differently, thought it was party disloyalty, but we know better now.

Charley Phillips, accompanied by about dozen of the Aurora wheelmen, came down to Yorkville Friday evening on their "pneumatics."

The CB&Q RR Co. is about to utilize the used up gravel beds at Montgomery by enclosing them for stock-yards and for storing sheep for the Chicago market. It is said stock will be fed and watered at Montgomery so that they may reach Chicago in better shape.

The venerable Levi C. Gorton of Bristol Station was in Yorkville Friday, quite feeble from last winter's attack of grippe, but his mind is as strong as when, in 1833, he located the present Aurora water-power for the McCarty brothers. Mr. Gorton saw Aurora and Oswego when they were in the hands of the native Indians--Waubonsie and his braves--they lived then in their wigwams on the banks of the beautiful Fox and from the fish of its water and the game on the prairies gained their subsistence. Mr. Gorton is 83 years of age and what wonders he has seen.

Save money by buying fly nets of Lew Mason.

Frank O. Hawley was own from Aurora Tuesday. Since he has become an editor, Frank is more genial and suave than ever.

Mr. Rollin Wheeler and son were here from NaAuSay Tuesday with a big bale of wool, which was sold to an Ottawa buyer.

July 27: A new and wider sidewalk has been constructed on Jackson street from the depot up to town.

G.P. Boesenecker, the proprietor now of the Oswego mills, is causing extensive improvements and repairs to be made on them.

W.H. Black and Joe Childs of the Elgin watch factory spent Sunday with their friend, Capt. Mann, here. They attended church together, but it is hardly probable that they refrained from horse talk entirely on that day.

"Oswego wasn't in it" is the expression used by our base-ballers when asked about the game they played with NaAuSay Saturday, and the least there is said about it the better they will like it. Score, 40 to 2 in favor of Na-au-say.

Yorkville: SHEEP YARDS AT MONTGOMERY.

*Aurora Express*

Montgomery is about to become a great sheep shipping point. It has become customary for all railroad companies whose lines extend from the western plains to Chicago to provide at some intermediate point not far from Chicago sheep yards where the sheep shipped to the Chicago market can rest and recuperate before completing their journey. The Chicago Burlington & Quincy company has several yards of this character and now intends to consolidate them all into one immense yard at Montgomery. The pens and yards will cover 15 or 20 acres and will be built in the old gravel pit just north of the village.

These extensive gravel beds have been nearly exhausted and will not be worked any longer than another year at most. The big excavation made there will be leveled off, properly drained and converted into sheep yards. The engineering work has already been completed and work of building will commence at once.

Sheep that are shipped over the Chicago Burlington & Quincy and the Chicago Burlington & Northern lines will be unloaded at Montgomery and there prepared for the market. They will then be shipped to Chicago in car load lots or several cars at a time as wanted.

The sheep shipping season lasts and year around and there will be hardly a time when some sheep will not be at Montgomery. In the busy season the number will run into the thousands. It will require men to care for these animals and a great deal of food to feed them.

Farmers have commenced threshing.

Swimming seems to be the principal occupation with most of the boys nowadays.

The members of the class of '91 and their friends went to Silver springs for a picnic Monday.

The railroad company will lay a passing-track on the south side of the Yorkville depot. The section men are moving the old switch several feet farther south to make room for it.



August -- 1892

Aug. 3: The new creamery is about ready to begin operation.

Your name must always accompany an item sent in for publication. That is the law. The name will not be printed.

Mr. and Mrs. L.C. Young came down from Elgin Saturday. Likewise, their sister, Nellie Smith, came home at the same time.

Two hayrack loads of young folks from Aurora drove down to Robert Johnston's Tuesday eve. There were 45 of them and they were jolly in enjoying the country air.

The camp meeting is now on; next comes Barnum's circus and then the Fair.

John Waldbillig discovered a large white bird swimming in the river one day, which at a distance he took for a swan. He went and got Will Leigh, who with a gun, accompanied John to the place and shot the bird, disabling it from flying but not killing it. It proved to be a pelican and a large fine specimen of that species of fowl. They took it to Aurora and sold it for \$7.

The practice of the boys--both old and young--of engaging in the exercise of throwing and catching ball on the main business part of the street is to be stopped now. It occurs generally towards evening, and Monday one of those swift flying and curving balls hit Esquire Haight on the nose, causing it to bleed profusely, and this morning the Esquire looks as if he had been through a prize fight mill and got the worst of it.

A German boy looking for work was hired by Ferd Shoger Saturday. Sunday all of the family went to church and the new hired boy was left behind. In the absence of the folks, however, he gathered up their precious valuables consisting of three watches and chains, the wife's jewelry, about \$11 in money, also smashing the gun to pieces and then skipped. The police of the near cities, Aurora and Joliet, were notified of the occurrence, but Monday afternoon the boy was found only about five miles away and he had commenced trying to

sell the plunder. He was brought to town by Shoger Monday evening, all of the plunder found on him except about \$20 of the money, a pair of earrings, and a necklace cross--he denies taking the missing matter. His story is that he was trying to see how the gun worked and broke it, and then wanted to get away and looked through the house for some money to pay his way. He was lodged in the calaboose and is now undergoing examination before Esquire Murdock, and probably will go to Yorkville and put up with Sheriff Skinner.

Yorkville: Mrs. Walter Beane and daughter Edith of Fox are visiting relatives in Chicago this week.

That good Democrat, John Russell of Oswego, had business in Yorkville Friday.

Gerald Godard and Hugh Marshall went to Chicago Friday and took passage with Capt. Raleigh on the steamer Ludington for Manistique, Mich. They will be home Friday of this week. It is a splendid trip to make.

The DeKalb Chronicle says: The remains of Mathias Beaupre, father of the Beaupre boys of DeKalb and Aurora, which have lain in Oakwood cemetery for 20 years, were taken up Thursday and removed to Aurora, where they will be placed by the side of his wife, who died recently in that city.

#### DEATH OF A MAD HORSE

##### *Aurora Blade*

About three weeks ago, a strange dog appeared in Wheatland township, about six miles east of Aurora. The animal appeared quite active and quarrelsome, and while it attacked other dogs and animals it did not offer to bite human individuals. In one instance, it ran right through the school yard where children were at play and did not offer to molest them, although it immediately afterward attacked a dog passing along the road. The animal bit dogs and cattle belonging to Robert Harvey, Leonard Wolf, and George Smith. Charles Sorg was in the barn unharnessing his team when the strange cur entered and bit one of the horses in the nose. Mr. Sorg

attacked the dog and killed it right there. This was about three weeks ago.

The thoughts regarding the dog had almost escaped people's minds in the vicinity, as it was not certain that the animal was rabid or anything more than simply a vicious cur. Last Friday night, Mr. Sorg heard a tremendous noise in the barn, as if some animal was trying to kick everything down, and ever and anon a wild neigh would issue from the building. He hastened out and found one of his horses in a frenzy of excitement. It kicked and plunged, it bit at all objects within its reach, and tore the flesh from its breast and legs. Its eyes were of a greenish hue and the flakes of foam were shaken from its mouth. Mr. Sorg immediately remembered that this was the animal bitten by the dog three weeks before, and he knew in an instant that the horse was mad.

Neighbors gathered to assist if possible and to watch the terrible struggles of the frantic beast. Any article held within reach of it would be seized in its mouth and torn to pieces, or trampled under its feet. After a night of terrible struggle and mighty suffering, the horse died. Other animals bitten by his dog are now watched with much interest and anxiety.

Aug. 10: Henry Burkhart bought 40 head of cattle of Wollenweber & Knapp, and his father and H. Bower bought 35 head of the same firm.

There were 25 ladies present at the last meeting of the Woman's Columbian club, and a very pleasant afternoon was spent with Mrs. Seely. The club is anticipating a delightful time Aug. 24 when they expect to take an excursion to the World's Fair grounds. The next meeting of the club will be with Mrs. J.B. Hunt Thursday, Aug. 18.

The new creamery will be a model institution of its kind; all of its arrangements are for the best facility and greatest convenience; besides, everything about it is very substantial. The machinery and other outfit are all of the most improved style. Sept. 1 it will be opened to the patrons, but the operation of it will be commenced some days previously with merely the milk supplied by the company so that if the newness of the apparatus should anyways affect the butter, it would not be to the damage of any outsider.

John Collins died Tuesday Aug. 2 at the age of 84 years. The remains were enclosed in a handsome casket; Shaver being the undertaker and the hearse was followed by about 25 carriages to the grove in the Oswego cemetery where he was buried by the side of his wife. John Collins came here about 50 years ago, and was the last of a number from the British Isles--as Beane, Woolley, Lumbard, Yard, Miller, Simons, the Joneses, the Edwardses and the Stones--who about that time settled down and made farms to the southeast of the village.

Aug. 17: Mabel Hunt is at present cashiering in the bank.

M.J. Pogue is about commencing with a reconstruction of his residence.

Frank R. Nichols has returned here and resumed the straw pressing business.

Andrew Shoger had a horse drop stone dead in the harness from heart failure.

Frank VanDoozer was in town one day. He has changed his business from Aurora to Plano.

The stone business has been very brisk this season both the Hopkins and Wormley quarries have been very active in supplying the demand.

A drive down here evenings from Aurora has become very common, and frequently by a dozen more or less of carriages together.

Dr. Lester started this morning on his annual trip north to get out of the reach of the hay fever. He was accompanied by his daughter, Mrs. H.S. Ladd, who will enjoy the round trip on the lakes and then proceed to her home in Nebraska. Marquette on Lake Superior is to be the Doc's destination.

Though Lew Steward has not made himself famous in Congress; has not carried through or even introduced in it any measure that bears his name; has not secured an appropriation for a government

building in Kendall county, or for the improvement of any river in the district, yet he has been quite steady in attendance and his votes generally were acceptable to the people of the district.

Aug. 24: Threshing is now the predominant agricultural industry. Oats are generally found to be light.

Schamp with his force has the Crossman [Crosman] residence well under way. It will be a very nice building.

Schwartz and his men have just completed a new residence for George Haag out in East Wheatland.

A one horse hotel would be better than no hotel at all. Why don't somebody open again the Schram house?

Burt Durand and Walter Kilbourne came out from Chicago on bicycles and, together with Ray Moore of Yorkville, were spending a day or two here with Gerry Seely.

The school will commence Sept. 5. The teachers engaged are Prof. Charles H. Bucks, principal; Kate Cliggitt, Mabel Hunt, and Miss Luella Breed for Rooms Nos. 3, 2, and 1, respectively.

Mr. Nichols, the Newark building mover, was engaged here for a few days in raising on a higher grade the residence of M.J. Pogue and doing a job of moving for Henry Bower. They all being church people and as Nichols is in the habit of letting slip a cuss phrase occasional, it was hinted to him that such would be very lacerating to their feelings. The result was, it is said, that but once did an insignificant oath escape him.

Aug. 31: A new addition for a kitchen is being built to Thomas Edwards' residence.

Edward Constantine, a young man from Dwight, is one of the threshers with Hem & Wolf's machine.

Henry Funk, a new comer from Aurora, has engaged in business and resides with Fred Funk, his brother.

Zeke Dais Jr., who is one of the men with Leigh's thresher, had one hand severely cut in the cutting of bands.

There is always something up in the country to be suppressed--anarchy, strikes, and now it is to be the cholera.

Knight Phthises L.N. Hall and Charles Roberts have attended the conclave of the order at Kansas City.

Mrs. Lottie Hafenrichter, Mrs. E.A. Hawley, Mr. and Mrs. John Fitzgerald, Judge Hudson, Dan Johnson, C.E. Moore and Lane the printer were some of the Yorkvillians in town.

Fred Leigh has bought the lots constituting the northwest corner of Jackson and Madison streets, the most eligible site for a residence in the village, and it is believed that Mr. L. will have built a nice one on the same.

Charles H. Bucks, the new principal of the school arrived Monday. He is from Morris, the son of a Methodist clergyman, a graduate of the Evanston college, and appears to be a wide-awake and very affable young man, and of the kind to make himself popular. And by the way, he is a grandson of the Rev. Mr. Bucks, who used to be preaching for the Germans of the Evangelical church here.

Under Christian civilization everybody should act towards everybody else as agreeable as may be without any material inconvenience to themselves, and that should include the railroad employees. They should, when sidetracking empty cars, especially when cattle cars with much dung in them, not put them the nearest to private houses they can, when there is plenty of room further on, as is frequently done here. There is also room for complaint that cars are left standing half their length in the street.

Much more than usual was going on in town Monday. In the forenoon a couple of photographers were photographing the town at which the street gamins had their pictures taken as often as possible, and the photographs will show a plenteous crop of the small boy for Oswego. In the afternoon [of Aug. 29] Prof. Davidson,

for about an hour, performed on a rope stretched across [Main] street from over the [roller] rink and the three-story building of Funk. The Professor is a very clever actor, and performs his work with consummate skill.

Mrs. Helen Kimball, wife of Charles Kimball, was brought here from Aurora Wednesday, Aug. 24, for burial. Oswego was Mrs. Kimball's former home, having lived here since her childhood, but for the past five years lived in Aurora. She suffered much during her sickness. Mrs. Kimball was 39 years, 9 months, 14 days old.

September -- 1892

Sept. 7: A slight frost was claimed by some for Tuesday morning.

Addie Wormley went to North Aurora Monday to engage in teaching.

Dan Figge was down from Montgomery and spent Sunday here.

The Merklein family were visited over Sunday by her sister and husband of Aurora.

Dr. Van Deventer has laid in a fresh stock of vaccine matter preparatory for the season.

Lou C. Young and family returned to their home in Elgin Monday from a few day's visit here.

The boys here of the 127th with their families will quite generally attend the regiment's reunion at Aurora Tuesday.

The cooperative creamery has been in operation for about a week now, and so far has given the most satisfactory results, both as to its workings and patronage.

As one evening a party from Aurora on their return from a camp-out down the river were halting a little while in town, one of their

number became violently crazed and caused by having got hurt, so his companions said.

John M. Tyler is on loading a car with his household goods preparatory for departure. The family will be missed. John was a very entertaining man, especially when on the subject of eel fishing.

The Kendall County Fair was "in full swing," according to *The Record*. On Sept. 1, "the great bicycle race" was to take place. "There are some rapid wheelmen from Chicago and Aurora entered. Remember, Kendall County has held a fair every year for forty years, and the public should take an interest in the longevity of the [fair] society." Austin Webb of Aurora won the two-mile bicycle race, earning first prize, a \$40 stop watch. A total of 14 wheelmen entered. "Patterson, Hobbs, and Everett dropped out on the third and second heats, respectively, not being able to stand the dust, which lay on the track several inches thick."

The Oswego chapter of the Women's Christian Temperance Union held their annual election of officers Sept. 5 at the home of Mrs. C.F. Shaver.

As one evening a party from Aurora, on their return from a camp-out down the river, were halting a little while in town, one of their number became violently crazed, caused by having got hurt, so his companions said.

The children looked clean and bright as with their slates and books they were wending their way to the school house Monday forenoon, the commencement of the new term of school. The one thing of which Oswego is especially proud is her school. This generation of the people here is ignorant of any school imbroglio, as for many years no friction was experienced in the running of it; good teachers of course being the cause of it, and those now engaged seem well qualified to maintain the continuance of its prosperity.

The annual Wheatland Plowing Match, set to be held on the Paterson farm in Wheatland Township, was scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 17. Competition was open to both walking and riding plows. In addition, a hog show was held, as was a ladies' fair.



Sept. 14: Dr. Lester returned Monday in tip top shape from his several week' sojourn on the shores of Lake Superior.

Wils Briggs has built a barn on his lately acquired lot, and now is on excavating the cellar for the new residence.

L.N. Hall is always the first here in adopting the most modern improvements. He is now having a gas machine, carburetor, etc., put in for the lighting of his store.

According to report, a Republican marching club was to have been organized last Saturday evening, Probably the rain prevented it. It would be a great blessing if the organizations of all political clubs would fall through. They are a demoralizing feature in campaigns.

Della Van Evra has become a school ma'am and is teaching the Rickard school Also Nellie R. Wormley, by teaching the home, or Wormley, school. The Wilcox school is again being taught by Grace Miller. The Squires school is being taught by Gussie Alford of Plattville.

Mr. and Mrs. H.G. Smith have taken a vacation and left here Saturday for Vermont on a visit to the place of Hank's nativity. Jennie Miller is now the head boss at the depot.

Complaints have lately been made that things left in carriages on the street evenings are extracted; such as packages of merchandise, sacks of flour, wraps, and whips. Such is very annoying and unprofitable on whom practiced, and disreputable to those doing it. Please quit it.

A Democratic caucus Saturday evening at the village hall was presided over by John D. Russell and secretaried by E.C. Troll. The delegates elected to the county convention were William Cliggitt, chairman; James Foran, Carl Hawley, John Wormley, Charles Gates, and Peter Peterson. A set of alternates was also chosen. John D. Russell, Charles Roberts, and John Bailey were elected town committee.

## Yorkville: A NEW JAIL

That's What the Supervisors Have Decided Kendall County Shall Have

At the meeting of the board of supervisors yesterday the proposition of building a new jail and residence for the sheriff came up and Supervisor Barnes started the log to rolling by making a motion that a tax of \$20,000 be levied for county purposes for the ensuring year, out of which amount said building should be erected. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Nichols and the members of the board then expressed their feelings on the matter...the matter was finally compromised by making a levy of \$15,000 for the coming year, \$5,000 of which will be used toward the new building, and the balance of the cost will be provided for later...Just how much this is going to cost the county is not known at present, but the judgment of the supervisors can be relied upon to fill the requirements of the case at about the right price.

This has been a long-felt want, if ever there was such a thing, and the people of the county will be glad that it is at last to be supplied.

Sept. 21: Quite a portion of the worn out sidewalks have been and are being renewed around town.

John S. Seely was engaged with a force of men and teams for several days of last week in filling his silo.

Scott Cutter and Newton Pearce have returned to their schools respectively at Champaign and Evanston.

Frank McEachron is the new cheese maker at the Fox River creamery and the family have moved into the domiciliary department of it.

We are no longer dependent on the surrounding towns for the domestic news, having now a newspaper of our own. Vol. 1, No. 1 of "The Oswego Reporter" is out; a neat five column eight page sheet. W.B. Harris, publisher.

Mrs. Margaret Barbara Hemm quite unexpectedly died last Thursday it being from blood poisoning from a sore foot. There were two sermons preached; the first in German by the Rev. Mr. Foerkel. The other sermon in English by the Rev. Mr. Haefele. The deceased was

67 years old; her native country was Bavaria in Germany; she came to this country and this part of it in 1848, being one of the Wolf family and two years later subsequently was married to Christian Hemm.

Sorghum: H.C. Cutter's sorghum works at Oswego are now ready for operation. Bring along your cane.

Sept. 28: Henry Bower is going to build a new residence and is about ready to commence it.

From the *Oswego Reporter*: S.S. Collins and wife have gone to Chicago on a week's visit.

The improvements of the Oswego mills are now nearly completed and ready for the manufacture of all kinds of flour.

The replacing of old sidewalks with new has considerably progressed during the week and mostly in the southwest part of town.

Wils Briggs, in digging the cellar for the house he is building, has struck a well of water. The walling up of the cellar is nearly completed.

The house of John H. Edwards has been quarantined for a week or so, not because of cholera, however, but scarlet fever, which their son, Hardy, became affected.

It was W.M. Hollis that moved into the Fox River creamery domicile and that is the new cheesemaker there, instead of Frank McEachron as was said last week. The latter is the engineer at the Oswego creamery.

Frank, aged 14 months, the youngest of the E.T. Sutherland children, became afflicted with cholera infantum, dying Saturday evening.

The aspect of Oswego to travelers on the cars is very unfavorable, as it is showing the back ends of buildings and stables nearly all of the

way through it, and to his detrimental sight are now added the tottering stone walls of the two burned buildings. As some of the old cities of the world became famous because of their ruins, why not now Oswego become attractive on that account? She is an old town, too.

Dr. Will H. Parker has been battling with that stubborn disease, consumption, for several years and because of his health he had selected El Paso, Tex. for his business location, but would spend the hot seasons up here, which was the case this year. That he had but a slender hold on life was plainly discernable when he arrived here about three months ago, and he was well aware of it, but was of a cheerful mood. About two weeks ago he began to fail and then went out to NaAuSay to his brother John's where he died Friday. The burial took place in the Pearce cemetery by the side of his parents. The deceased was 29 years old and a native of Oswego. The survivors of the family are two brothers, John G. of NaAuSay and Dr. Orson S. of El Paso, Tex. and two sisters, Mrs. Clara Holt residing in Kansas and Effie, in California; only the former was present.

October -- 1892

Oct. 5: Alice Collins is now the apprentice at Mrs. Maggie Edwards' millinery shop.

John Blacksmith of Batavia came one down on his bicycle and made his friend, Johnny Schilling, a visit.

The *Oswego Reporter*, our new paper, is apparently neutral in politics and prospering nicely. Lockwood is the manager of the subscription department.

Mark Chapman will soon begin to tear down the walls left standing from his recent burn-out, preparatory to putting up new buildings. He will sell the stone for almost any price, and as much of the debris would be just the thing for road foundations, the commissioners of highways should make note of it.

Mr. and Mrs. H.G. Smith have returned from their visit east somewhat reduced in flesh but otherwise in the happiest of mood.

John G. Schilling received the information that his cousin, Albert C. Schilling, a preacher in Marshalltown, Ia., died there Sept. 16 after but a few days sickness at the age of 30 years. He was born in this township, being the son of John Schilling, who was living about three miles east of her, and now on a farm at Lowell, Ind.

Wm. W. Wormley, whose condition because of heart trouble had been precarious for a week or two, died suddenly Saturday at noon. He had sat down to dinner with the rest of the family and was being waited on, during which he threw his head back and was dead. The funeral will take place this afternoon from the Congregational church.

Frank Kellogg who lately has moved to Aurora from somewhere, came down here Saturday to see if he could not find the house he was born in 43 years ago, but couldn't find anybody to give him the information. "I" remembers very well the store of his father, Miles Kellogg, being on the corner and a part of the ground now covered by Haight's and the hardware store, but he forgot where the family was living.

A meeting under the auspices of the soldiers and citizens will be held at the village hall of Oswego Friday evening, Oct. 7, at 8 o'clock sharp, for the purpose of making preparations for the dedicatory Columbian exercises at the school house and for getting a flag-staff for the same. By order of the president of the Veteran Association.

Oct. 12: The Republican marching club was called out for its first engagement to take part in the rally at Aurora Monday evening.

Mugwumpery is right the opposite from Partisanship. The former is denounced and the latter cultivated with all the assiduity possible. Partisanship is said to have all tore up a heretofore very prosperous church in this neighborhood; but hurrah for out party!

Patrick Pierce was a hale and hardy nice old Irish gentleman about half ways up in the 80s, but Sunday evening he was kicked by a

horse in the bowels from the effects of which he died Monday afternoon.

The funeral of W.W. Wormley, which took place Tuesday last was one of the largest as to the procession that followed the remains from the residence and the attendance otherwise, the church being filled to its full capacity. Mr. Connell, the Presbyterian pastor, officiated. The handsome casket was bedecked with beautiful flowery tokens and all of the funeral appointments were of the best. There is due to the deceased at least a brief sketch of his life but none of the family or relatives were met to get my data. His age must have been in the neighborhood of 60, and if not born here, must have come when quite young as his father has been one of the earliest settlers. He was very social but quiet; always strictly attending his own business and never meddling with that of others. A widow, two daughters, both married, and a son, Fred C., who is at home, are the immediate bereaved.

Columbus Day will be appropriately observed in the Oswego public schools.

Alexander Brown, who has been sick during the biggest part of the summer, and awhile ago was moved to his son's in Aurora, died last week, the funeral taking place there Thursday and the burial here, the remains being accompanied by the GAR of that city. The deceased was 57 years of age; was born in Steuben county, N.Y.; came to this place and was married here sometime before the war, in which he was a soldier, belonging to the 88th Illinois Regiment. He was a kindly disposed man, not calculated for amazing riches, and has left behind a widow and three sons.

Yorkville: No Republican in Kendall county should vote for Lewis Steward for Congress. It was Republican votes that elected him to years ago. There are Republicans in this county who voted for Mr. Steward in 1890 who now occupy high places in the party on committees and other honorable positions, and these men are now very fast to discipline those who, they think, are not heartily partisan. These facts rather annoy the men who stuck by Captain Hill.

In a Record article datelined Oct. 6, Coffeyville, Kansas: The Dalton band of outlaws, the most notorious in the west, was wiped off the face of the earth here yesterday, but in the battle which resulted in their extermination, three good citizens were killed and two fatally wounded." Five of the six gang members were killed in the gunfight that began when they tried to stage two simultaneous bank robberies in Coffeyville.

Oct. 19: Edna Westover is now engaged in the Yorkville creamery testing milk.

M.M. James has engaged the Kenyon house for a residence and is about to move his family here from Aurora.

If not mistaken, I think there is to be a school officer voted for, for which the women duly qualified will have a right to vote. One of the qualifications is to be registered. Women should make note of this and govern themselves accordingly.

An ordinance to prohibit horses being left standing for more than eight hours in the street at a time is very much needed in this village.

In real estate transactions, C.F. Shoger has bought 120 acres of the John Collins estate, of which Frank Woolley will take half of it. Peter Cooney has bought the building and ground adjoining the Jewell premises, which was owned by Mrs. Schram and it is said that John Gaylord and A.L. Rice together have bought of Mrs. Seely the two lots forming the northwest corner of Madison and Jackson streets.

Mugwumps have come into prominence by their decided support of civil service reform.

That crowd that came down from Aurora to have the prize-fight take place here, in which Trahey was one of the principals, was generally a well behaved and respectable looking body of men and those of here who witnessed the affair became much weakened in their prejudice against prize fights; but now that Trahey has been left lying in jail all this long time, the disgust towards such sports, especially the abettors of them, and more so that particular Aurora

crowd, is stronger than such has ever been before. If now Trahey could be liberated and the whole of that crowd sent to the penitentiary for a year, such action would find general endorsement.

Now Oswego also has a society of Knights of Pythias.

Oct. 26: The 400th anniversary [of the arrival of Columbus in the New World] was celebrated properly enough in Oswego upon the public school grounds. The school building was dressed in holiday attire; portico, hallways and the room where the exercises were to be held all fairly blazed with the national red, white and blue. At the entrance two immense flags were draped, which brushed the heads of the visitors as they passed to the high school room. Here the flags of the nation had been used with good results. The windows were festooned with American flags...stencil drawings of Columbus, Isabella, the ships, and the presidents occupied the blackboard space. The place of honor over the platform was reserved for this sentence, credited to Columbus's pen: "God made me the messenger of the new heaven and the new earth and showed me where to find them." [Both indoor and outdoor programs were given; see this issue for a complete report.]

The shipping of pressed straw from here is quite extensive. C.R. Cook furnished quite a part of it.

The Prohibition meeting last week was somewhat better attended than the previous one and as much of a success as could be expected for such here.

The program of the Columbus Day exercises at the Institute for the blind at Jacksonville, printed, or rather got up so that it can be read with the fingers by those who know how, was received from Hattie Rees, who now is a teacher in it.

Dr. W.T. Putt of Hastings, Neb., with one of his little girls, is now making his relatives and friends here a visit.

A teacher is wanted for the school in the Walker district.



A pension examiner was in town making inquiries about the condition of the health of Orin Dickey, a soldier of the 36th who went from here.

Henry Burkhart, with the assistance of his neighbors, has been hauling to his place the lumber for a new barn. Schwartz is building it.

The quarrymen have been doing a large business this fall, having a demand for all the stone they could get out.

Hank Smith is running the depot again and Jennie Miller has returned to the Fifth avenue station.

465 is the number of the Oswego voters registered thus far.

November -- 1892

Nov. 2: John S. Seely is having a sheep stable built and is putting a steel roof on it.

John E. Bailey has resigned the marshalship and moved to Aurora. George Inman has been appointed to fill the vacancy.

Peter Cooney has bought and moved onto his place a part of the old cooper shop displaced by the new creamery, to be fitted up for a barn.

D.M. Haight has been at Warrentville and other parts of DuPage County engaged in saving the country, i.e. making speeches in favor of protection and the Republican Party.

When you come to vote the big ticket next week, and you should not be familiar with the working of it, the surest way not to make a mistake is to fold it right up without making any mark on it at all and so vote it; it won't then count either way, and you'll never be liable to curse yourself and pray for forgiveness for having voted wrong no matter what the result may be.

The trouble and expenses of the election here could be saved just as well as not. There are men who know just how everyone will vote, and their statement would answer all practical purposes.

Yorkville: It is the plain duty of the next General Assembly of Illinois to make a law that will more clearly define the school officers for which women may vote. It ought to have been done two years ago, but it seems to be a plain duty of the legislature to make its laws as obscure as possible. Women should see that the act is made more plain. It should be set forth by detailing the offices, and provide that ballots for such elections, both for men and women, should be distinct and separate from other ballots, and the whole management of the election separate and apart from all entanglements. There is no other way.

Nov. 9: The voting here commenced on time and quite spiritedly; 20 men were on hand to vote immediately. It cleared off so nicely, making it a splendid day for husking corn, which it is feared will prevent Cleveland from being kept behind in the race.

A number of our ladies presented themselves for registration before that board last week Tuesday but met with a refusal of it on the ground of no authority for the same. Perhaps the registration of them would have been proper enough, even if not entitled to vote for the University trustees at this election, for as they are to have the same qualifications as those of the men, one of them is to be registered they are liable to challenge for not being so when they come to vote for a school trustee or director next spring.

Yorkville: FREE TRADE WINS!

Everything has gone to the devil!

Everybody is elected but Bidwell.

Cleveland will be the next President and Altgeld will be Governor of Illinois.

Free Trade wins. Now let us have it and see how it fits.

The total vote of Kendall county for president is Republican, 1,692; Democratic, 848; Prohibition, 275.

Mr. Childs of DuPage county is undoubtedly elected to represent this district in the next Congress. Kendall county gives him about 600 plurality over Steward; DuPage will doubtless give Childs 700

plurality; it is estimated that Will county goes Republican by 300 or 400 plurality and Grundy by 300 or more.

Later returns give Will county to the Democrats. Mr. Steward may give Childs a close rub for Congress.

For the Legislature:

Charles T. Cherry of Kendall, Charles F. Meyer of DeKalb, Republicans; and Edgar L. Henning of Kendall, Democrat, are elected beyond question.

#### THE AUSTRALIAN BALLOT

No Trouble in Voting the Big Sheet

The big blanket ballot used for the election of Tuesday was not half so much trouble as was anticipated. The voters, with few exceptions, caught on at once and were not puzzled about voting.

There is one thing might be done by the next Assembly, the size of type used might be made about four points smaller. But then, paper is cheap and even a blind man could almost read Tuesday's ballot.

#### THE MURDER TRIAL.

George Mears's Life in Jeopardy!

The Slayer of Little Harry Wormley in Danger.

The jury went out about 8:30 p.m. or later and were in their room all night. When court convened at 9 o'clock on Saturday morning, no verdict was ready...About two o'clock in the afternoon the jury was ready with the verdict. They filed into court, a tired lot of men, and ten of them much disgusted. They returned the verdict: Guilty of murder, with imprisonment in the state penitentiary at Joliet for the term of his natural life.

It was a great surprise. It was thought the dreadful crime, without palliation, deserved death; but two men on the jury with more sympathy for the murderer than for the protection of society, wanted to give Mears another chance, so they hung on for a prison sentence.

Nov. 16: The election is over; next is Thanksgiving.

There was little to spare in the 8th District, whoever wins.

The youngest child of the Edmund Lucas family out in NaAuSay died last week of scarlet fever. The house is quarantined. [The Lucases were a black family]

The prohibition candidates for University trustees carried the woman's vote here by 1 plurality. Who dare say now that the Prohib's cause is weak here?

A letter was received from a lady who wants to know what constitutes "intimidation of voters;" saying that some ladies, believing they had the lawful right to, went to the polls last Tuesday and voted for trustees of the university; that others of their sex intended to do likewise, but when told by their sons and brothers what remarks had been made about those who did vote, they (the others) gave it up, not having the moral courage to run the gauntlet of the men congregated at the place of voting, etc. Well, if any remarks had been made for the purpose of keeping ladies away from the polls, of course that would be intimidation. But if any stayed away simply because some jokes were cracked at the expense of women's voting by the loungers about the place, it merely showed their non-gentility and was no crime. I happened to be there when three ladies voted, and the smoke from cigars and tobacco in the place was then thick enough to stifle a rhinoceros, but such, of course, will not be the case when women become to vote in earnest; a great change will take place; they will be represented on the board, and we men will have to go there with our best clothes on and behave like at a church festival.

The women suffragists will not get much comfort out of the new Illinois legislature. It is Democratic.

Mr. Childs is elected to Congress over Lew Steward by 27 plurality. His nomination was a most unfortunate one of the Eighth District for every working Republican and every paper in the district was handicapped by the fact that Mr. Childs was a Chicago lawyer--while he slept in DuPage at night, his office was in Chicago and his days spent there.

In a bylined article, Dick McLaren suggested that rural roads be officially named and further that each farm receive a formal numbered address.

Nov. 23: L. Rank's safe was robbed Tuesday night.

Mrs. Tirzah Minard is having an additional wing built to her house. The Schamp Company did the job.

The carpenters are all yet busily engaged and mostly in the country. The Schamp Company have been framing a barn for Mrs. Campbell down in Kendall; the Schwartz Company are busy on the Henry Bower residence, and the Richards' have been doing odd jobs here and there and are now about putting up the Wils Briggs building--haven't learned at what VanEvra is engaged.

Nov. 30: John M. Hemm had a windmill tower raised Monday.

Wils Briggs' new house is inclosed and rapidly progressing.

Some scarlet fever around.

Mrs. Crossman [Crosman] has moved into and is now enjoying her new residence.

The Oswego Mills are now in tiptop running order and are doing a good deal of business.

There has been a good deal of ditching done to the east and south of this neighborhood.

Dr. W.T. Putt was again here from Hastings, Neb.; he had come down with the corpse of a cousin that died at his house and that was taken to Lisbon for burial.

Thanksgiving here was fully observed as far as feasting, the coming together of relatives, and the enjoying of a good time is concerned; but as to the religious part, the recommendations of the President and Governor, to assemble for divine worship.

Oswego advanced a step last week by having her first safe explosion. The door was blown from the safe and all its contents gone except a number of old letters, a book, two Mexican dollars, and a trade dollar with a hole in it. The victim of the affair was Lorenzo Rank, for many years postmaster of Oswego. His safe was in the post office and used jointly by him and Mr. Hubbard, the present postmaster. Mr. Rank, who is an unmarried man, sleeps in a room over the postoffice. At a little before 3 o'clock Wednesday morning, he was awakened from a sound sleep by the sound of an explosion in the room underneath and heard the sound of the burglar or burglars. He arose, and partly dressed, took a light and started downstairs. Arriving at the bottom he found the door leading into the postoffice from the hall was locked and it was sometime before he could gain entrance and by that time the burglar had gone. He found that the entrance to the building had been forced through the back door and numerous tools that had been stolen from the blacksmith shop had been strewn around. The booty consisted of \$1,500 in registered government bonds which were not negotiable; a number of notes, and \$47.40 in cash. There is no clue to the perpetrators of the deed but there are a good many who would not be astonished to find out that local talent assisted in the matter.

December -- 1892

Dec. 7: The death of Mrs. Sierp in Aurora was reported last week. She was an inhabitant of this place for many years and held in high esteem for industry and kindness.

How very essential it is that printers should somewhat be acquainted with those of whose names they put in print. Gosh! How the names of this community are murdered by the printers of the Oswego Reporter. The Aurora papers are bad enough in doing so, but the Reporter beats them all out of sight.

Dec. 14: A rainy day for Bob Johnston's sale Tuesday. Owing to the rain the sale was postponed until Saturday, Dec. 27.

Another herd of fresh milk cows were sold by George Kimball of Aurora at the livery stable yard here Saturday.

The new barn 36x48 of Henry Burkhart and of which G. Schwartz was the builder, is now completed. An Eclipse windmill, through the agency of Thompson, was also put up there.

Dick Young, with his family, has moved here from Montgomery and into the residence of his parents, John A. Young, who are about to start on a prolonged visit east. Dick will take the place of his father at the blacksmith shop.

Charley Mann, the right hand man in Haight's store, was sick for several days last week. Bis Hunt at Barrett's has not yet fully recovered from his late complaint.

Dec. 21: 2 below zero Tuesday morning.

A greater display of holiday goods in Oswego than ever before.

Mrs. Dwight E. Smith with her little girl arrived here Monday from Iowa to see her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John A. Young prior to their leaving on a six months sojourn in the State of New York.

A cantata entitled "Waiting for Santa Claus" will be the principal feature of the Christmas doings by the Presbyterian Sunday school Saturday evening.

Florence Bassett Collins, the adopted daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wilcox, died at the residence about four miles east of here Friday night. Her infant was born dead, and together they were buried in the Oswego Cemetery Sunday. The funeral services took place at the house and the Rev. Mr. Wilson of the Tamarack church was the officiating clergyman.

Oswego's persecution of "Kid" Trahey did not stop prize-fights, says the *Aurora News*, but it appears to have had one salutary effect. It will have a tendency to keep young boys from being roped into these inhuman exhibitions, and so long as hardened toughs, knowing they are exempt from prosecution, pummel each other up, nobody cares very much. Wednesday night, or rather, very early Thursday morning, there was a prize-fight in a barn near Oswego

between one J.J. Kenney of Chicago and G. Smith of Aurora. It was a Streator affair, being managed by Alf Kennedy, Billy Meyer's backer, but about 15 Aurora sports witnessed the mill. Forth were there from Streator and a considerable party from Chicago. Fourteen rounds were fought for \$200 a side, resulting in a victory for the Aurora man. The fight was a good one from a fighting view, that is both men displayed considerable science and lots of grit. It was near daybreak when the crowd boarded their special trains for home in high spirits.

Dec. 28: Old nature has just humped herself since Sunday in working for the ice interests.

Mrs. Kellogg, the bother of Mrs. H.B. Read, is reported of having been quite sick.

Mrs. Walter S. Hunt, nee Sally Wagner, is here from Livingston County on a visit.

Fred Smith, our energetic news dealer, though a thorough Republican and who marched in the torchlight procession of the GOP, yet he would endorse the Cleveland administration, more so than the present if the Chicago daily papers were changed back to the old and natural route via Aurora. The frequent breaks under the present arrangement are very annoying to him, and also to many others.

1893

January

Jan. 4: 1893! Here we are!

T.J. Pigott was down from Aurora during last week and engaged in work of his line for C.F. Shaver.

Mr. and Mrs. John A. Young departed last week for Ithaca, N.Y. where they will reside for at least six months, if not permanently.



The leave taken of the old year and the reception extended to the new at the Methodist church was by prayer; that is, a watch meeting was held. The boys down town fired two anvil shots.

Alfred Wormley and family have moved to Aurora. Their residence here is said to have been traded for one up there. The position in Read's store he occupied here has been taken by Charles Jarvis.

Besides five children under one year of age, the deaths of Oswego and vicinity during the past year were 22, of which 9 were males and 13 females. Two of the deaths were from violence and 1 suicide, all males. Besides there were 5 burials of corpses brought here from abroad, 3 males and 2 females.

An article by one of us written for this letter, on the 40,000 unemployed and destitute of Chicago, according to Saturday's *News-Record*, is, for want of space, crowded out.

Jan. 11: The business houses on the east side of the street close now at seven in the evening. After that, no public place is open except the saloons and restaurants.

The ice interest has been very active during the week. The houses here of Esch Brothers & Rabe are nearly filled. The creameries have also laid in their supply; the co-operation used the ice in the Hopkins stone quarry. Everybody else that has a place to keep it is laying in a supply.

One of our butchers and a farmer, both stimulated by the ardent, became involved in a quarrel Saturday afternoon, which ended in a fisticuff.

The Leisure Moment Club have developed a lyceum. Once a week they discuss a question among themselves. The last one wrestled with was that "Foreign immigration should be prohibited." Hank Smith and Slade Cutter managed the affirmative and Gus Voss and George Dwyre, the negative. The decision was given in favor of the latter.

We either ought to secure a stopping place for travelers or else abolish the railroad station and shut up the village. That it would not pay, or at least not at first, is doubtless the reason why no one wants to establish a hotel here. The few boarders are scattered around among the private families at present, but they after awhile would become more or less concentrated at the hotel if one was procured and then it would begin to pay. The traveling public is now very large and growing every day Oswego ought to do its share of entertaining the same. Many of the World's Fair visitors next summer will want to see the country and be traveling up and down Fox River Valley. We local scribblers are expected to brag about and to boom our respective towns, but how can it be done for one that hasn't the facility of keeping a stranger over night? That Oswego needs some kind of a hotel all will admit; now what you say about a "subsidy" hotel. All those in favor of it say I.

Yorkville: The Morris Paper Mill will not run nights hereafter till business improves. The night hands are now out of a job.

The name Eola, a station just east of Aurora, is to be known as "Belt City," a cognomen given by the syndicate that proposes to make a big manufacturing place of it.

Jan. 18: A gang of the ice harvesters left for home (Chicago) Tuesday morning.

After a two weeks vacation Nellie R. Wormley has again resumed her duties as teacher in the Wormley district.

How does it happen that the snow on the sidewalks in front of the houses of widows is more generally cleaned of than is done elsewhere? Are there some good men that go around and be doing it, or what?

The Columbian Club will meet with Mrs. Rice Thursday, Jan. 19, and it is hoped there will be the usual good attendance so that no one will miss any of those excellent papers that the members are reading each meeting.

Water in Fox River is too low to furnish power for the various mills and factories along its shores, and many shut down last week for a few days. Ice is about as thick as it can be and not touch bottom, and the ice men will have a large part of Fox River in Chicago if cold weather holds.

A “pie sociable” will be held in the Minkler School House Friday evening, Jan. 20.

Yorkville: There wasn’t much room for cars at the Yorkville station Tuesday. The ice company was shipping 40 cars of ice to Chicago and had a switching engine here to move cars; the freight train from Aurora was here and three coal trains from Streator were on the tracks all at one time. When the down train pulled out it made room for the others and things were moving again.

Jan. 25: And weren’t the trees beautifully embellished Monday morning?

Frank Schram hasn’t now as much and as great a variety of livestock as he has been having. Within two days he has lost by death his burro, a horse, and a hog.

What is urgently needed here is a village ordinance and an officer to enforce it that whenever any horses have been standing six hours in the street it shall be the duty of the village constable to have them stabled and taken care of at the expense of the owner.

Mr. and Mrs. S.E. Walker attended the funeral of Mrs. Julia Lynd, nee Shumway, in Wisconsin, who died at her home there after but a few days of sickness. The deceased was brought up in this vicinity where a large circle of friends mourn her demise.

Miss Bertha Fowler, the evangelist, will preach at the Methodist Church next Sunday morning and evening.

Two men, said to have been Scandinavians, and are living below Yorkville, were in town Saturday and got full. Towards evening they started for home, but opposite the cemetery one of them was lost out of the sleigh, and near Watts Cutter’s the other also. Both kept

lying where they had fallen out. The team, a nice span of black mares, was stopped and put up a distance further down the road by Joe Graham. The men were picked up and returned to town and kept at the council house until about 11 o'clock when they had become sufficiently sobered to go with someone to where their team was and proceed to their home.

The Waubonsie Farmer's Club met with Mr. and Mrs. Myron Wormley last Saturday. The good sleighing brought out a good crowd with about 80 people being present.

In Yorkville Monday, there was not enough water in the river to float the ice to the ice elevator.

While the press and the people are going on in the harshest terms denouncing socialism, they at the same time eulogize parts of it already adopted and rigorously advocate other parts for adoption. The post office department is calculated to be run for the benefit to all the people. The public school is socialism pure and simple. Such cities as own their waterworks have that much adopted socialism, and generally they are proud of it. Water is a necessity of life; bread is another. If socialism in the procurement of water is a good thing, why not in that of bread, also?

Stealing is very active in town. Last Thursday night someone broke into the barn of Doc Hanna and stole most everything that was in it. Saturday night someone broke into Dave Hall's barn and stole a nice wolf robe, blankets, overshoes, and a number of other things; and during the same night, H.B. Reid's bob sleighs were appropriated.

Yorkville: Saturday night about 8 o'clock, Ed Berry and Rudolf Kasner got out of the county jail at Yorkville and walked off. Two bars in the window to the room where they were confined were sawed off and wrenched out, leaving a small place to get out. Berry, a young man of 20 years, who is in jail charged with robbing CB&Q freight cars at Bristol Station, was the first to leave. He went down the river and in looking for a road, got into the water, making his future traveling very arduous, as he had neither overshoes nor overcoat. He went on down to Millington where he gave himself up as clean beat out, and is again in jail.

Kasner is the boy who stole from Mr. Shoger's house at Oswego and was sentenced in the October term of the court to six months in the jail. He has not been arrested at this writing.

The sawing was done, it is supposed, by a piece of steel taken from a cot in the jail. When the new prison is done, prisoners may be kept better and safer--they won't want to get out of so nice a jail.

February -- 1893

Feb. 1: And the January thaw didn't fail us.

The walking on the sidewalks from which the snow hadn't been cleaned is worse since the thaw than it was before.

Since the sleighing season began, loads of the indulgers in that sport from Aurora and other places appeared in town nearly every night, and frequently would stop for refreshments.

The wedding of Miss Minnie Bower and Aaron F. Hafenrichter of the German settlement and DuPage respectively, is reported to have taken place Thursday.

Alexander White is making preparations for building a house on his land out on the Wheatland road.

Feb. 8: Mrs. Tirzah Minard is said to be sick.

Everything is overdone in this country, and this has been the case with sleighing and coasting of late.

The wind has blown down Gus Shoger's windmill and the water was running into Haight's basement.

The Fox River Creamery has resumed operation. It had been shut down for a week or more for repairs.

Mrs. Charles Knapp and Leonard Shoger have gone to Randalls, Iowa to see their brother, Henry, who is dangerously ill.

Should the Hawaiian Islands be annexed? Certainly, if the majority of their inhabitants want them annexed. But not only the Americans there, but the natives also should have something say about it. What caused the dethronement of Queen Lilluckalani anyhow, and by whom was it done?

Feb. 15: Hugh Goudie is hauling lumber, said to be for a new house and barn to be built in the spring.

607 horseshoes were put on horses at Young's blacksmith shop during the week before last, a pretty good week's work.

Will Falkenberg and Miss Maggie Modaff, the young lady that has been at John Russell's for quite awhile have joined their fortunes.

Too much water--the poor roofs are leaking--the basements are filling up with water--the street culverts are frozen closed and must be opened with dynamite.

The engine of the afternoon passenger train going north became exhausted last week Tuesday a mile and a half below town and the train didn't reach here till after seven. Most of the passengers for this pace, and being mostly Masons that attended Brother Evarts' funeral, left the train and came the balance of the way on foot.

Yorkville: Last Wednesday morning Mr. Sherry Black said to a Record reporter that the Yorkville paper mill had not been sold, but negotiations were in progress; but the sale was made in Chicago on that same day and now the Columbia Paper Company owns all the water power and the old mill in Yorkville.

The trade has been on hand since October last when the paper combine asked Mr. G.M. Hollenback, administrator for the J.P. Black estate, for an option on the property. Mr. Hollenback asked \$12,000 for the plant; the day the option expired, paper combine said they would take it. Feb. 8 the bargain was closed, the money paid, and the Blacks ceased to own the mill. We are sorry it has been sold, for it is probable the combination will shut down the mill and throw about 30 people out of employment.

The Yorkville mill has a history. It was in the 40s, we think, when J.P. and E.A. Black came to the Fox river and went into the milling

business, first at Milford, we believe--now called Millington. They remained there but a short time, buying the water power at Yorkville and moving here. For some years they ran a grist and saw mill only; about 1856 they put up the paper mill, which has just been sold, and for a number of years made printing paper. They were making "print" paper when *The Record* was started in 1864, and we have paid them as high as 26 cents a pound for paper--those were war prices. Now we pay 4-3/4 cents. When the mill began to get old and Mr. Jacob Black having died and E.A. withdrew from the business, the mill had various lessees or owners. Then began the manufacture of straw wrapping paper; the old machinery could not compete with new plants in the print paper line. The old mill made good wrapping paper, and a good deal of money was expended about here for straw and to men for hauling. Of late years, the plant has grown dilapidated--the building is in poor condition and the machinery in constant need of repairs.

It seems sad to see the old landmark in strange hands and, we fear, unfriendly hands, but it is part of the world's economy.

Feb. 22: Edward M. Pierce of his place was married to Miss Elizabeth McVicker out at the Grove. The ceremony was performed in Aurora.

Herman Bohn, while at work chopping wood for John Bowman, cut his foot, causing him to be disabled for a few days from his usual work.

An Oswego carpenter of about the time when Fillmore was President, by the name of George Whitman, was in town one day to look up old acquaintances, who have become somewhat scarce.

The Euchre Club met last week at the home of L.I. Rickard. Slade Cutter and Ollie Voss won first prize.

The marriage of Fred C. Wormley to Miss Emma VanSickle of Aurora took place last Wednesday at the residence of the bride's father in that city. The bride last year was the teacher in the Wormley district.

L.B. Judson is about to put in an elegant plate glass front for Scott & Pease, the popular Aurora dry goods men. The glass plates will be

much larger than the present ones. The entrance will be vestibuled and large single doors put in. The improvement will be a great one, in keeping with the times and with the importance of the firm.

March -- 1893

March 1: Anton Miller will be a candidate for collector.

The coal famine here has only in part been overcome.

Ham Cowdry [Cowdrey] has engaged himself as a fireman on the Q.

Someone is said to have been stealing corn and oats from George Wormley.

The funeral of Mrs. David Hall was one of the most largely attended, filling the church to the utmost capacity, including the gallery and aisles. The funeral was under the direction of an Aurora undertaker and the remains were interred on one of the most eligible lots in the Oswego cemetery. The maiden name of the deceased was Pauline Wagner, one of the daughters of whilom William Wagner. She was within two months of being 54 years of age. Her immediate surviving relatives are a husband and daughter, Mrs. John A. Bell of Seward, and two brothers and two sisters, of which Mrs. W.S. Hunt of Livingston county only was present at the death and funeral.

Which is the general center of Oswego? Well, it is where Main and Washington Streets cross. Making the usual beginning with the northeast corner, that of Haight's, which is found all right. The southeast corner contains a somewhat rickety two-story frame building, unoccupied. The southwest corner is vacant altogether, and the northwest corner has on it a dilapidated one-story frame building occupied by George Stickler for a residence. Our center should be better improved. Mrs. Thomas Smith would sell her corner there at a reasonable price for a hotel site and likewise the other two corners could probably be secured for that purpose.

Explosion, above all else, is what charms Americans most. Our highway authorities conceived the notion that the ice around the



piers of the bridge must be severed, so that frozen fast to the piers need not be raised with the rest when the river rises, and thereby the piers might be ruined, a thing altogether improbably. Here now, an enticing work offered itself; we do it with dynamite, and for several days the explosions have been in progress. If with a sledgehammer, a boulder is struck on the side, at first no impression is perceptible, but if the blows are continued, and they need be but light, merely to cause the faintest jar, the stone will drop to pieces. The very first stroke began to weaken its cohesion. So in regard to the piers, every jar they receive from the dynamite explosions has a weakening effect on them, is reducing the hold the mortar has on the stone, and so the piers are made the more liable to be knocked apart by large cakes of ice that have received much momentum by the swift current of the high water, the only thing from which any danger to the piers may be apprehended. But this is the age of destruction and building up again. In which manner capital is created, you know.

The women of Kendall County will be represented at the Chicago World's Fair by a very beautiful exhibit got up under the direction of the Columbian Clubs.

Oswego exhibits are point-lace handkerchief and tie by Mrs. Lottie Saunders; drawn work dresser scarf, Miss Lizzie Parker; "Wealth by the Wayside," a beautiful book by Mrs. Charlotte Haight; "Slumber," hammered copper and "Madonna," pen work by Miss Sadie Barker.

I have a few more of the new Kendall county maps for sale and will make a liberal reduction in price to cash purchasers, as I wish to close them out. Call at *The Recorder's* office when in Yorkville. Avery N. Beebe, Yorkville.

March 8: Charles Miller of Yorkville has moved on a farm in this neighborhood.

Lizzie Moore commenced to teach the school in Squires' district Monday.

Henry Funk has changed his residence and moved into the heretofore Alf. Wormley house.

The 12th birthday of Pearl Bartlett was celebrated by a party being given to her companions.

Fred Leigh is importing Joliet stone for his new house and has received several carloads of it.

Gus Shoger has had some oranges ripening, which are said to look as nice and taste as good as the best of the imported.

The wren and some other birds are proclaiming it this morning that they have moved back here for a summer residence.

Belle Andrews is an attaché to the telegraph department of the depot, and Martin Miller is acting there as assistant station agent while the regular one is sick.

A new child was added recently to the family of Rush Walker; a small brother to it, it is said, expressed himself as not being pleased with its being a sister.

At the masquerade ball Friday evening, the ladies' prize was won by Will Cliggitt, who represented a flower girl, and the gentlemen's prize by Lew Inman, as Uncle Sam.

S.E. Walker has received the information that his brother-in-law, Dexter Shaw, had died at Odebolt, Iowa, where he was residing. He used to be a farmer in this neighborhood and will be remembered by all the old settlers.

In one respect the new administration was begun more conservatively than any other heretofore. By the going up and in of Cleveland, the number of the Presidents of the United States was thereby not changes; a thing unprecedented in the history of the government.

#### Death of Frank Wooley

Such feeble old men are found in most communities, and of such strong young men may be said to have been Frank Wooley, whose sudden death astonished everybody that knew him--it is said, however, that himself and those nearest to him were well aware of

his precarious hold on life, because of heart trouble, of which he had abundant premonition. Frank was one of the Masonic fraternity and the senior deacon of the lodge here; he was in attendance at its regular meeting Saturday evening and, according to report, was occupying the junior deacon's station in the lodge and had been sitting there for half an hour or so without saying or doing anything, as the business transacted did not require his taking and active part. About 20 minutes to 9, when the lodge was about to take up another part of work, Frank, as sitting in the chair, threw back his head, gasped and died. All efforts were made to revive him and a doctor was got there in two or three minutes, but his life was beyond restoration. His brothers were then sent for, and next the corpse was taken to his own home where his wife, whom he had married only three months ago, became so affected when informed of what had happened, that a doctor had to be called to her aid. The funeral will take place this (Tuesday) afternoon from the Presbyterian church.

The funeral was in charge of the Masonic lodge of Oswego, and a large number of the Yorkville brethren were present. The church was crowded to overflowing. Rev. Thomas Galt of Aurora preached the sermon, and a fine choir rendered appropriate music. About 70 of the Masonic fraternity marched to the cemetery with the remains of their brother Wooley, where the solemn exercises of the order were observed. Worshipful Master George Schamp of the Oswego led in the rites assisted by Rev. J.H. Reed as chaplain and Dr. G.F. Hoadley, Master of Yorkville lodge. It was truly a solemn occasion.

Yorkville: A new job printing press was put in *The Record* office last week. One of Shneidewende & Lee's eighth medium old style Gordons, as good a press for commercial work as there is made. It was bought of Barnhart Brothers & Spindler, Chicago, the anti-trust dealers in printer's supplies.

March 15: Anna Brown of Chicago was a visitor at Dr. Lester's for several days.

The wedding of Miss Minnie Keihl to George H. Switzer of Peoria county took place Wednesday.

The ice went out Thursday and the only damage done here was the tearing off of the iron facing from one of the piers of the bridge. The river had overflowed the low lands, and the fish improved the opportunity by taking a swim into new regions, but paid dearly for it as loads of them got left by the quick recession of the waters. Even the slippery eels missed the chance to get back and a number of very fine specimens were picked up.

March 22: The boys are playing marbles and the birds have commenced mating.

A.S. Reynolds of Chicago, an Oswego merchant of the forties, was in town one day.

Harper Hopkins has moved his family to Chicago where he is engaged in the meat business.

Two cents only is what Fred Smith charges for any of the largest daily papers. He also attends to the baggage delivery business as usual.

March 29: The Wils Brigs new building is now under construction.

Kohlhammer is the name of a family of newcomers who have moved into the Mullen house.

John Andrews had to stop business for a day or two because Doll was somewhat out of trim for the first time in her life. Doll is a horse that deserves a write-up; she will be 33 years old this spring, and since five years old has been working nearly every day.

There was a great slaughter of mustaches during last week, and most all of our handsomest men are now disfigured.

Frank Nichols has returned here and among other engagements will engage again in the straw pressing pursuit.

As to a county poor farm, Oswego probably will largely vote against it. Her people are generally of the confident character; all expect to become taxpayers, if not already so. None are dreaming of any such

thing as ever coming to want. The smallness of Kendall county is the worst thing against the feasibility of the poor farm project and perhaps the postponing of the matter and waiting for something better to turn up may be the best thing to do now. Vote on it as you think best.

Pure maple syrup from the old Long Gove sugar camp is not bad eating with good warm biscuit or cakes.

April -- 1893

April 5: School vacation this week.

Funk is having a tin roof put on his three story building.

Oscar Briggs who had to leave his residence because of the house being reconstructed, moved into the lower Bartlett house.

Mrs. Sierp's funeral takes place Tuesday at an Aurora church.

Arrangements have been made by which you will always find a fresh supply of Nading's celebrated Yorkville break at Mr. Read's store in Oswego. Mr. Read will also furnish Nading's ice cream for parties or gatherings, where a first class, pure article is wanted.

The Hopsons, a colored family who had been residing out at the Grove for several years, has moved away. He had some difficulty in getting his effects started owing to unsettled claims and his horses and cattle, chickens, geese and ducks, confined in a car and kept on the sidetrack for a couple of days probably did not correspond with the principles of Henry Bergh [founder of the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals].

That Cyrus Ervin is now clerking at Barrett's should have been mentioned weeks ago.

April 12: Alex White has sold his farm to J.D. Ebinger for \$375.

George Cowdrey is negotiating with Chicago parties for selling them a part of his gravel deposit.

House-mover Nichols of Newark is in town, probably engaged to move the building on the Fred Leigh lot.

Lou C. Young went to Ithaca, N.Y. with three horses. He is contemplating of moving his family and going into business there.

At the school trustees' election Saturday afternoon, Dr. Lester was elected to succeed himself and Myron L. Wormley for the unexpired term of W.W. Wormley, deceased.

The question of protection against fire is somewhat agitated in connection with the election of village trustees.

April 19: Mrs. L.N. Hall is reported as failing.

At the election for school director Saturday no opposition to Dave Hall to succeed himself materialized; of the 100 votes cast, about half of them by women, he received all but three.

Every once in a while some one of the almost forgotten old inhabitants comes around, some to show the progress they have made in the world, others the vicissitudes they have met with in life. Saturday evening, a Mr. Atkin arrived here. He was the man that got up the first brass band in Oswego and which also was the first in Kendall County. He had come all the way from Chicago on foot, but for a man of 73, and one that has been wrestling with the grip all winter, he felt not very tired. He was given such entertainment the town afforded without having a hotel. The next morning he proceeded the way he came, on his journey down the river.

Mrs. Wm. Pearce died Saturday and her funeral occurred Monday afternoon. The remains were interred in the Pearce cemetery, where her parents and a number of her brothers and sisters lay buried. The deceased, whose maiden name was Lois Warner, was one of the large family of the whilom Joel Warner, who are now all dead but Foster Warner of Dayton. She was a native of the State of New York,

came to this section while young, thus being one of the oldest settlers. Her age was 68 years.

The remains of Mrs. Henry Shoger arrived here Saturday from her late home at Randalls, Iowa, and were taken to the residence of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. Sorg. The deceased's maiden name was Maggie Sorg. She was born in the German settlement near here 35 years ago.

Nursery Stock: If you want good Richmond cherry trees on their own root, large evergreen trees, fine Concord grape vines, Turner raspberries, blackberries, etc., call on S.G. Minkler, P.O. Address, Oswego, Ill. (adv.)

April 26: Mrs. William Foster is now the Oswego carpet weaver.

Jay Richards has gone to do supply work at the Stone Avenue Station.

J.B. Hunt and Sam Jessup have engaged themselves to help run the World's Fair.

Cy Pogue has gone to Waterman to help run the business of M.J. Pogue & Sons at that place.

For sale: By Ludwig Lippold, nice seed potatoes of the early Ohio and Snowflake variety.

Building operations are now fully under way and all the mechanics in that line busy. The Schamp company are out at Goudie's; the Richards are down in Kendall; the Schwartz men are finishing the Henry Bower residence, built last fall; VanEvra is building a two-story bay window to Mrs. Tirzah Minard's residence; Wils Briggs has had his new home plastered and chimney built by men from Montgomery; D.M. Haight has had some repairs made to the storage part of his building; Mrs. Voss had her residence repainted and reshingled; the Samse residence is undergoing repairs.

At last week's village election two tickets were run. Both were for license, and of like amount; both favored water works for protection against fire, and both were for keeping things straight and in order.

In going to the World's Fair, for the nabobs, special trains will be provided. There are getting to be altogether too many privileged people for the Declaration of Independence that "All men are born free and equal," in this country.

The death of A.J. Wormley occurred early Saturday after but a few days sickness. His age was 66 years and he was one of the oldest settlers, coming here when a boy.

John Patrick, a resident of Wheatland, was killed Saturday, the 15th, by a runaway horses. Mr. Patrick was out selling patent gates and driving a bronco hitched to a sulky. In some manner, he slid from the sulky and was caught and dragged quite a distance. He met two teams and the bronco was stopped and Mr. Patrick extricated when it was found his skull was fractured. He breathed but a few times after being released.

Oswego is now left in a queer situation in regard to her government. Monday evening the old board met to close up its business, which was the allowance to itself of the election expenses, etc., and the members of the new board were present to commence their official duties, but a sudden change in the affairs took place. One of the holdovers made a statement that there was such a thing as the election of the new members to the board having been illegal, and he called on the corporation attorney for advice. The attorney said that such, no doubt, was the case, because the registry had been omitted, which was imperative in that election, and he read the law to substantiate his claim. The fact that the holdover members were likewise elected without a previous registry of the voters, a year ago, and that therefore they also must be holding their positions illegally, was mentioned but with to do about that was not determined. A motion was then made that the last election was illegal, and was carried. Next, provisions were made to form a registry board, to appoint a day for registering, and a day for new election--whether it should be for three or six trustees was not decided. The authority for doing all this was taken as a matter of



course; that the old board was as illegal as the new would be was admitted by all, but since nobody knew any better, their doings were all right. Now the question will be, can an illegal board upset an illegal election and order a new legal election?

*Sandwich Free Press:* Sigmund Benensohn, who has done some fine work at the Williams' art gallery in this city during his five months' stay has purchased the Sabin gallery at Yorkville and will remove to that city on Monday of next week and begin work at once. Mr. B. is an educated gentleman of extensive travel and wide experience, speaking six languages fluently, and has successfully practiced photography in this county and Europe. He is well versed in the latest and most approved methods for producing the best results in the practice of his art, and will give the Yorkville people as good work as can be produced in the largest cities.

Yorkville: Sheriff Skinner went up to Oswego Monday morning in a 'bus and brought down the indicted saloon-keepers from that burg to make their plea before the court.

Story of George M. Johnson who returned from a trip through the West with Frank Hawley and John Hopkins of Oswego.

David Hall, one of Oswego's best known citizens, was in Yorkville Monday. Mr. Hall was reelected on the school board, and he says his district has about \$1,800 more to pay on the school house and their debt will be wiped out. David has been a good friend to the district.

Yorkville: Workmen began laying brick on the new jail Monday. The brick is of fine quality, a handsome red, and the outside tiers are laid in red mortar. Supervisor Nichols looks after the interests of the county in the work.

May -- 1893

May 3: The saloons are shut up. The town is dry.

You must put your name to all notices and items if you want to get them published.

D.M. Haight is the superintendent of the reorganized Congregational Sunday school, and Lettie Seely the assistant.

Only L.N. Hall, Charles Roberts, and D.M. Haight from here helped start the Columbian Exposition in Chicago Monday.

J.B. Hunt took advantage of the Monday holiday and came home from the World's Fair construction department to make his family a visit.

James Malcom, late of the Scotch settlement, is the new proprietor of the Collins meat market. He is assisted by his daughters. The family has moved into the Failing house.

Should not believe all we see in the papers. Sam Jessup, whom I saw reported in the papers as a world's fair employee, and accordingly so reported him in my last week's letter, is on the contrary out in the western states selling agricultural implements.

R.L. Manley of Kansas and formerly of this vicinity, arrived here on a visit to his relatives. He had in possession a singing and talking machine, which he operated some while staying in town. Another man had been running here a similar machine the day previous.

According to the versed in jurisprudence here, Oswego has had but a government de facto the past year, which however is just as good as any so long as there is no kicking against it; but it could not enforce its mandates if its authority was disputed. The alleged reason for this defect is that no special registry of the voters had been made for the corporation election. As again no such registry was made this year, the de facto would have to be continued, a situation held to be too dangerous to be placed in any longer, and so it was decided to set aside the last election and to have a new deal all around.

Next Friday is selected for the day of corporation registration. Where we will fetch up by this new move is hard to tell; the de jure board of trustees, which are to come from it, may turn out to be worse than a de facto would be. Can an illegal board nominate some of its members for a registration board; authorize an illegal clerk to

call a registration of the voters, a new election, and make all this to be legal? Won't there be some kicking against the doings of these self-declared illegal officials. And by the way, who, besides Chicago, has been having registration for municipal elections in this part of the state. Can anybody tell?

Monday evening was the time for the regular meeting of the board of village trustees, and the newly elected members, the president and clerk, repaired to the village hall, the usual place of meeting, for that purpose--the old president and an outgoing member were also present. A letter from the Attorney-General to the effect that the election had been regular and that no registration was necessary, is said to have been in possession of some one, so no further breakers in the way of sailing out with the Oswego ship of government were apprehended. The saloon keepers were there with their petitions for a renewal of license; others for securing the appointment of street commissioner or the marshalship, and quite a number as merely spectators. While those waiting for the appearance of the hold-over members, word was received that the old board, with five members present, had just been having a meeting at Helle's shop, transacted the necessary business, and had adjourned. The for a while the situation was informally discussed, everybody present taking a part, and there was much legal wisdom displayed. The situation now appears very much like that of several years ago, when the so-called "Kids" had been elected--the old members refusing to meet with the new--and the probability is that Oswego will have to be in a state of anarchy the coming year.

A.J. Wormley was born at East Painted Post, Stuben County, N.Y. With his parents he arrived in Oswego on the morning of July 4, 1838, taking possession of the farm the following spring where he has continuously resided, excepting four years, until his death this week.

He was married to Eleanor Young June 7, 1849, who departed this life Sept. 3, 1891. They left two children, Fred of Aurora and Mary Tebay of Montana.

A.J. Wormley grew up and was identified with nearly all of the questions of interest arising in this vicinity; was widely known and highly respected by all who knew him.

Yorkville: Mr. Rank was down from Oswego Monday morning and is looking well.

Dr. R.J. Patterson, proprietor of a private hospital for the insane at Batavia, for the past 25 years, died last Thursday aged 76 years. He was one of the best posted men on insanity in the country.

It was 29 years ago this week that the first number of *The Record* was issued by J.R. Marshall, who has been its publisher all these years. Twenty-nine years ago, Marshall owed \$350; now he only owes \$800, which is a pretty good showing for a country editor.

The first *Kendall County Record* ever issued was dated Thursday, May 4, 1864--29 years ago tomorrow--and the present publisher "pulled off" 300 copies, both sides, on an old Washington hand-press, and he was as proud of that first issue as Chicago is of the world's fair. We now print 1,870 copies every week on a power-press run by a steam engine, and don't feel half so big. When we have run *The Record* about four more years, Marshall wants to quit.

*The Record* engine was in the hands of Mr. George Schmidt for three or four days the past week for repairs, and he has made a new thing of it. It has got pretty noisy and George has so worked the boxes, crank-shaft, piston-rod, and other unruly parts that it now runs better than when new--as quietly as a new bicycle. Mr. Schmidt is a natural-born machinist; has picked up the business by observation, and does most any kind of iron-work that is called for. He has a good lathe and other tools and can build a steam engine as well as repair them.

May 10: No great rush from here to the world's fair so far.

John L. Gaylord has begun work on the cellar of his new residence.

George R. Minkler has started out again on the business of tar-roofing.

Mr. and Mrs. F.E. Hoard have left the village and moved over on the main line of the "Q."

The orioles and the martins made their appearance here for the first time this season Sunday.

Several genteel bears and dogs together with a number of ugly humans were in town at different times. These bear exhibitions ought to be suppressed for many good reasons.

The remains of John Failing, formerly a resident of Oswego and who had died in the Aurora hospital, were brought here Thursday for burial. His age was 73. He was one of the old settlers of this town.

The Rev. Mr. Butler and wife will for the present move in with David Hall as no suitable residence can now be secured. Dwellings here are getting scarce and the needs of a hotel are continually increasing.

Sam Kerr went from here west 20 years ago, and settled in Lyon County, Kansas out of which he has not been since, so he says, except now when having come back on a visit. He is in well preserved condition and looks.

Healy & Pierce of Aurora have made arrangements with John L. Gaylord to look after the undertaking branch of their business in Oswego. All orders given to Mr. Gaylord will be immediately forwarded to Aurora and receive the prompt and personal attention of this firm. Embalming a specialty.

A number of ladies interested in organizing a club for literary work met at Mrs. Joseph Wayne's Thursday. Mrs. Pogue, Mrs. Read and Mrs. Van Deventer, who were appointed to prepare a constitution, so ably performed their work that it was adopted substantially as reported, and was signed by 21 ladies. Mrs. Josie Hall was elected president; Mrs. Mattie Goudie, vice president; Miss Sadie Baker, secretary; and Mrs. Anna Rickard treasurer. [This was the first meeting of what was soon renamed the 19th Century Club]

The progress made during the week in getting a truly genuine bona fide village government was the session of a registry board, consisting of the defeated trustees for reelection, one day from eight in the morning to nine in the evening.

The defects of the regular election are said to be two: 1) In the violation of the state law in not having had a registry of the voters a certain number of days before the election and 2) in not carrying out the provisions of the village ordinance which requires that the trustees must meet within two days after the election to constitute a returning board, open the sealed returns and declare the result; which provision has not been observed.

The old board, which is still the acting board, is entirely to blame for either of these. If a registration is necessary, they should have provided one; they could have been instructed in regard to it before the election as well as afterwards. For not meeting to declare the result, they are only the more blamable, especially when considering that the most of them have been on the board for years, and who by this time should have learned what the ordinances require them to do. It would seem that under the circumstances the board should have made some apologies for their blunders instead of putting on airs of authority and importance.

One of the most curious things about the matter is the defeated candidates in the late election constitute the two-fifths part of the returning board and have helped officially declaring that their rivals should be kept from taking their seats on the board. It is just as if the plaintiff in a law suit was also the judge and jury in the case. They have undertaken to run a regular Czar government here, call null and void the election of any one they don't want.

Yorkville: The *Plainfield Advertiser* says notification comes from Chicago that the post office at NaAuSay has been abandoned and the people in that vicinity will hereafter be supplied by Plainfield. [The NaAuSay Post Office was opened May 30, 1850 and was officially closed by the U.S. Postal Service on July 20, 1893.]

The *Joliet News* says the north end of Will county is to have three new post offices, or rather, there is to be one new one and the names of two others changed. Tamarack and East Wheatland will be no more. "Hoddam" is the name given to the one in the immediate neighborhood of Jim Patterson.

Yorkville was thrown into a fever of excitement Saturday about 3:45 p.m. by the spectacle of two small boys standing knee-deep in the water in Fox river, half way between each shore on top of the dam

and holding tightly on to an oar while a boat turned bottom side up was floating down the river. Clarence and John Beecher, two sons of Merritt Beecher, living on the north side, aged about 8 and 12 years, had secured a boat and going out on the river above the dam for a ride. The boat became unmanageable and the boys could not keep it headed towards shore...it had almost reached the brink of the dam when the now thoroughly frightened boys had presence of mind enough to jump from the boat, luckily carrying one oar with them. A boat was started out below the dam and an effort made to reach them that way, but it was found impossible. In the meantime, a large crowd of men, women and children and gathered.

A German who works for the ice company and who was once a sailor secured a boat and set out above the dam to reach them. He thought he could drift down until he reached the dam, jump out, hold the boat with one hand and put the boys in with the other. But he found out, much to his regret, that such an attempt was useless. He reached the dam all right, but got too near the edge. Over the boat went with the man under it. It required a great effort on his part to get out, he going under the rushing water five times, and was nearly used up when pulled in.

After a lot of hard work a boat sent out from above reached them all right and the work of rescue was over.

The boys had been standing in the water just one hour when reached. They were blue with cold and the smallest one was crying. When gotten to shore they were immediately placed in a buggy by Sheriff Skinner and taken home where they were at once warmed and taken care of.

J.D. Rice & Son the popular Aurora wall paper firm have the contract for the papering and decorating of Mr. A.H. Sears' fine new residence in Plano.

A few years ago Mr. Jacob O. Curry was a farmer in the town of Bristol; later he was engaged as a grain buyer and speculator at Hinckley, we believe, and there he met with some financial mishap. Having pulled himself together, he went into business at Aurora as a capitalist and financier and was instrumental in starting a national bank in that city. Aurora got too small for him; a year or two ago he went to Chicago to become president of the Chemical National Bank with a capital stock of one million dollars. Tuesday's Chicago papers

contained the news that the doors of Mr. Curry's National bank had closed for want of funds. Brother Curry had better come back to the Fox River valley. People out here may not be so sharp, but they are a heap sight more comfortable.

May 17: Each year for years past the supervisors report has shown to the credit of the Town of Aurora \$60,000 in stock of the Ottawa, Oswego and Fox River Valley Railroad, now known as the Fox River Branch of the CB&Q. The validity of this stock has been the subject of legal contention for years, but it has finally been settled forever and within the last few days by the federal courts that the stock is valid. (A rundown of the relevant court cases followed)

Mrs. Isaac S. Bartlett with the smaller children was up from Fox visiting with her folks, George Minkler, for a few days.

Charles Roberts has sold his place to his hired man, Anton Grimm, and the latter has rented it to Wilhelm Neber, a family of six that have just arrived from Germany, and of which Mrs. Louis Schilling formerly was one.

The graduating exercises of the Oswego public school will be held in the Presbyterian Church June 16. The class consisted of Charles Cherry, Minnie Willis, Garrett Seely and Lettie Hebert. Owing to illness, the latter has been obliged to discontinue the course.

Frank Wallace, the butter maker of the cooperation creamery, has returned from a few weeks' sojourn in New York State and he brought a bride back with him. They will occupy the Lippold house, it is said.

In a recent communication to an Aurora paper something was said to the effect that outsiders of this district sending children to school here do not pay for it promptly if at all. The school authorities emphatically deny such charge, saying the paying of such tuition has been quite satisfactory.

There is much tiling being done this spring. For the Major Davis farm, a number of carloads of tile have been received, and the hauling of them there has been going on for some time. Frank



Hawley is also extensively tiling his farm, the old Judson place. Moses is doing the job, and Andrew Gray is one of the hands who says that all the different kinds of earthly material are found on the ground. He expects to strike something very valuable before getting through digging.

Last week Wednesday Mrs. Amos Holt came back, or rather her remains were brought back for burial. The same were accompanied by her daughter, Mrs. Emma Charles, and her children of Lake View, her sister, Mrs. L.B. Judson and nephew, Willard Stabil of Aurora. Other relatives attended the burial, among them some ladies from Ottawa, one of them being Mrs. Washington Bushnell. The deceased was about 75 years of age, was one of the Stafford daughters of this place and one of the inhabitants of it during the 40s and 50s. Emma, the only daughter, is now the sole survivor of the family.

Yorkville: The greed for making money is the curse of the age.

The Joliet rolling mills are closed entirely; the last fires having been drawn in the furnaces. The officials state that they cannot tell when business will be resumed as the iron market is in the worst condition in 20 years.

The Chicago *Tribune* of Thursday publishes a list of the stockholders of the Chemical National Bank, which recently failed with the number of shares each hold. Among the names are a number of well known Kendall, Kane, and DeKalb county people.

The new county building is assuming imposing proportions and Sheriff Skinner's family will have a nice residence when the place is completed. The rear wing, in which is the jail, looks solid and weird; a safe place for evildoers.

Our new Yorkville photographer, Mr. Benensohn, is doing very fine work. He is an expert in his line, having learned the best points of artistic photography in Europe. Parties wanting perfect pictures, handsomely finished, should see him, over Hobbs' store.

May 24: Watts Cutter is shipping baled hay.

Isaac F. Reed and Mrs. Esther Gray have formed a trust--got married.

The Fred Sierp house has been bought by Milt Beck, and Dan Engle sold his to Obman.

The lower coal houses of M.J. Pogue & Sons are being reconstructed. The foundation work is being done by masons from Juliet.

Mabel Hunt went to Newark to take part in a [WCTU] prize elocutionary contest there and came out of it with the trophy, the gold medal.

Building operations are not being pushed as fast as possible. John Gaylord has the cellar and foundation to his new residence nearly completed, and the carpenters--the Richards--are at preparing the frame. Fred Leigh also has well under way his cellar and foundation.

Tuesday, the special village election was on. It would seem a compromise has been effected: half of the former (regular) election constitute the but one ticket out now; The ticket is for president L.N. Hall; trustees, James Pearce John Conway, and John Gaylord; clerk, G.H. Voss; police magistrate, C.L. Murdock.

May 31: The Masonic hall is being repapered, recarpeted and otherwise renovated.

George Hettrich has commenced working at carpentering with Schwartz.

George Barnard has moved into his new blacksmith shop, the old Whitman house, which when all the remodelings are completed and an engine is put in, he intends shall be one of the most convenient blacksmith and repair shops extant.

Dr. and Mrs. W.T. Putt of Hastings, Neb., arrived here bringing with them besides their little girl, the remains of their dead baby, which died a short time ago and had in the meantime been kept there in a vault. Its burial took place Wednesday. They will remain here awhile.

In wandering through the cemetery, the lately erected monument to Wm. W. Wormley was seen; it is one of those solid looking ones left in the rough finish for the most part, and thereby very attractive. Also the very handsome monument for Mrs. Minnie Larken Fehlman, that was put up a while ago, was seen for the first time.

Justus Nading of Yorkville would like to have Oswego people use his ice cream at sociables and gatherings where such an article is wanted. Orders may be sent to him at Yorkville or left at Read's store in Oswego

The dry spell in Oswego came to an end Friday when the truly legal village board met just long enough to grant licenses to two saloons. The old board had met the evening previous, when they allowed their bills for holding a registration and the special election; the returns of that election were also examined and a motion carried that L.N. Hall for president and James Pearce, John Gaylord, and John Conway were surely elected. At that election which took place Tuesday but 50 votes were cast.

At a meeting of the council Monday evening, licenses at \$25 per pool table were granted to Funk for running two and Foran one. L.R. Inman was elected treasurer; E.T. Sutherland, constable and street commissioner; P.G. Hawley, corporation attorney. The fees fixed for marshal are \$15 per month without the lighting of lamps, and \$50 for attorney and \$35 for clerk for the term. The president was authorized to compel saloon keepers to remove all screens and curtains from their windows during the time their places are closed. The upper Wabonsie Bridge, which is in an unsafe condition, is to be immediately repaired. The condition of the streets was talked over. New and better street lamps are to be secured by next fall. The board started out on a more vigorous municipal government than Oswego ever had before.

The soldiers in full dress at 10 Sunday morning rendezvoused at Dr. Lester's office and, in a body marched to the Congregational church, which for a memorial service was most elaborately and profusely decorated with flags, buntings and flowers.

Yorkville: *Aurora Post*: Frank Hawley is now sole owner of the daily *Times*, having bought out the other stockholders.

A strong effort is being made by the people of Wheatland township for better post office service. At present there are but two offices in the town, one at East Wheatland and the other at Wolf's Crossing. The effort now is to get three more, one at Normantown, one near John Clow's, and one at William Patterson's.

June -- 1893

June 7: As to the Decoration Day procession, it doubtless was the best of any ever had here on Decoration Day and while the soldiers were in the lead of it, they themselves made little show, but it was the K.P.'s [Knights of Pythias] that set it out.

Enos Darby is bartender in the Foran saloon.

D.M. Haight is causing the cornice of his store building to be repaired.

The sofa behind the pulpit at the Congregational church has been removed and three new chairs taken the place of it.

The new street commissioner of the village has commenced operation by digging a ditch on Washington Street.

Married June 4, 1893, Mr. J. Harry Burkett and Miss Elizabeth Norton, both of Oswego.

Nelson F. and Frank Gaylord, father and son, of Kansas are here visiting their brother and uncle, C.W. Gaylord, together with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Eleazer Gaylord of Aurora.

Yorkville: Chicago, June 6: The "lack of confidence" which has been cavorting around the country for some time and has already bowled over a couple of Chicago banks with numerous concerns in other lines of business seems to have settled down over the city to test the endurance of the banking institutions in earnest. Depositors began

to be uneasy, rumors were sent flying about. The rumors grew thicker and wilder as they passed about and the result was runs on several institutions.

The banks, which had the storm to stand, were the Prairie State National bank, the State Bank of Commerce, Hibernian Savings bank, the Dime Savings bank, the Union Trust Company's bank, and the Illinois Trust and Savings bank.

Lemont, June 5: Trouble began in the Illinois Stone company's quarries where wages had been reduced from \$1.75 to \$1.50 a day and 50 foreigners were hired at the lower figure. Two hundred men refused to go to work. Instead they armed themselves with clubs and visited in turn the six quarries operated by the Western Stone company. The mob grew to 1,000 men...Until late at night carousals were frequent in the 38 saloons and the citizens rested on their arms expecting a looting of the town. Local authorities and five deputy sheriffs from Chicago, all the riotous territory being in Cook county, could do no more than disperse crowds that gathered at intervals.

June 14: All of our wide awakes had a look at the world's fair.

John Deveney has returned, the same individual he has been, from a two year's residence down in Alabama.

Pete Dano is said to have bought one of the moved-off Fred Leigh buildings.

John Carney has returned from Kentucky, where he has been sojourning for some time.

An Aurora paper said that Oswego has two fine new churches, which are being furnished by an Aurora firm.

Mrs. Robert Stevenson of Kendall was buried here Monday afternoon; the grave obsequies were performed by Rev. J.H. Reed.

Orders for undertaking and embalming for Healy & Pierce, Aurora, may be left with John L. Gaylord and will receive prompt attention.

Next Sunday forenoon the baccalaureate sermon will be preached at the Congregational church, and the alumni of the Oswego high school will be present.

The new residence of John Gaylord is up and enclosed by sheathing. It will be a nice, commodious one. The Richards are the architects. The foundation is ready for Fred Leigh's house.

John Hettrich out in the German settlement is building a new and large barn, which was raised over a week ago. Schwartz is the builder of it. Schamp and his men are busy with the buildings of Hugh Goudie, out at the grove.

An assessment of fifty cents is now due on each library card, and it is hoped subscribers will pay up promptly. New catalogues have been printed and can be had of the librarian by paying ten cents and each subscriber should have one, as they are of help in making out the list of books to read.

Josie Hall, Sec'y.

Commencement time is at hand, and together with our neighbors we are proud to say that Oswego's public school will graduate a class which is in every way a credit to the institution. The graduation exercises will occur Friday evening in the Presbyterian church. The program will begin at 8 o'clock. Excellent music will be furnished, the ladies' quartet of Aurora having been secured. It is composed of Misses Hattie Minkler and Addie Pearce and Mesdames Burwell and Fannie Sqereau-Allen.

Sunday morning the baccalaureate sermon will be preached to the alumni association by Rev. J.H. Reed in the Congregational church. Monday evening the regular Alumni reception will be held in the home of Mrs. L.N. Hall.

Yorkville: The attendance at the Chicago fair is growing. Things are in good shape there now for visitors, and there is more people from abroad arriving in Chicago. Railroad traffic is growing and an effort is being made to have excursion trains run two or three times a week at one fare rates. It may now be said that the world's fair is the biggest thing on earth.

Mrs. Robert Stevenson, who has been a member of our church and congregation for years, was called away from this life to the life beyond Friday, June 9, at her home in Kendall after a long period of illness. The funeral services took place at the home on Monday. Rev. J.H. Reed of Oswego conducted the services. The remains were laid away at rest in the Oswego cemetery. She leaves a husband and seven children to mourn her loss and they have the sympathy of the many friends of this community. Mrs. Stevenson was born in Allegheny county, Pa., Dec. 27, 1835, and had long been a resident of Kendall county.

The Sheridan White Sand Company has decided not to rebuild their works. The machinery that was saved will be shipped to other sand companies at other points.

Would be glad to hear of comfortable lodgings with private family. Apply at the studio of S. Benensohn.

Corn is growing. The weather is just right.

In every community there is a parcel of irresponsible loafers whose only pleasure is to do mischief. Such fellows are beyond the bounds of decency or self-respect, and should be treated as outlaws.

Plainfield *Enterprise*: The new post office at Normantown is now a reality and Mrs. Frank Beebe is the official mistress. The East Wheatland and Tamarack post offices are both retained as before as also one at Wolf's Crossing. The Normantown office gets one mail a day from each direction.

#### The Case Against Lizzie Borden

Fall River, Mass., June 12.--There can be no denial that it is a general opinion about town that the prosecution in the Lizzie Borden case thus far has a very weak case. The prosecution seems to think so itself, for the latest theory credited to the state is that Lizzie Borden stripped herself naked twice in one morning and in that condition committed the murders in order to keep blood from getting on her dress.

June 21: Scott Cutter and Newt Pearce are now at home on vacation from college engagements.

Thomas Kelly of Hastings, Neb., took in the fair, and is now here visiting with his friends.

The death of Mrs. Edward Edwards, formerly of this vicinity, took place last week at her home in Verona.

The J.B. Hunt family have moved to Aurora. Bis [Bissell] had a few days' furlough from the Exposition, to help in the removal.

Miss Katie Butler, who was a teacher in the Blairsville, Pa., seminary has arrived and joined her parents, the Rev. and Mrs. Butler.

David Shepard was brought up from Kendall to stay awhile with his daughter, Mrs. Maggie Edwards here. He has been very feeble for a long while.

H.B. Read was called to Malden by the death of his mother. Mrs. Read and Charles followed Saturday to attend the funeral and returned Monday.

Henry Funk, but a short time ago was as stout and healthy a looking man as there was in town. He became afflicted with dropsy, and Wednesday morning died. The remains were taken to Aurora, his former home, for burial. His age was 31 years, and he leaves a young widow and three small children.

"Mr. A.W. Merrill of Des Moines, has been offered and has accepted the superintendency of the Stuart schools at a salary of \$1,100. Mr. Merrill comes with a first-class endorsement. He is a young man, a graduate of Iowa college, and has taught in the schools of Des Moines and Fort Dodge. He was the choice of the board after deliberate consideration." This, and a number more of complimentary things, were said by the "Stuart Locomotive" about said Merrill, which means our Merrill, the principal of the Oswego school a year ago, and he has still an interest here that is of far greater importance than the school was.



A very pretty wedding was that of Lillie B. Collins and Mr. Bernard W. Richards at the home of the bride's parents June 15.

The pretty little village of Oswego wears her most becoming dress during commence week. The foliage is heavy at other times during the summer; cottages are modestly half-hidden from view in shrubbery and flowers; the river moves languidly in graceful curves below the town. About the fourteenth of June the admirer of the beautiful in nature should mount to the most commanding point of view in the vicinity--the school house tower--and he can then enjoy a view of this attractive little village in her most picturesque costume.

Graduating exercises were held on Friday evening in the Presbyterian church. There were but three graduates: Garrett T. Seely, Minnie E. Willis, and Charles T. Cherry.

Yorkville: Such frequent use of shot-guns and revolvers should in some way be stopped. Read in the Millington letter about the dreadful accident Monday night. Men and boys shoot guns and pistols from our bridges, along the river banks right here in the villages. Of course they don't mean to hurt any one, but they are in a dangerous business.

Aurora Herald: Many of Plano's citizens believe still that there is no truth in the statement that the Harvester Works will move from that place to West Pullman. They state that in the will of the late Mr. Gammon, who is said to have held the controlling stock, it was stipulated that the works could not be moved until ten years after the death of Mrs. Gammon, and that lady has not yet been dead a year.

Millington: A very sad accident occurred here Monday evening about six o'clock. Ira and Freddie Shouts were out in the back yard shooting at a mark. Ira has just raised the gun and was about to shoot when Freddie suddenly jumped in front of him. It was done so quickly there was no time to lower the gun and the bullet struck Freddie in the head. He fell and was immediately taken to the house and Dr. Freeman sent for. At first the wound was not thought fatal, but in a few minutes he died. He was such a bright little fellow of about ten years.

June 28: A merry-go-round is in operation here.

Dr. Lester is being visited by a sister, Mrs. Spencer of Ottawa, Canada.

The visitors now are so numerous that but a small per cent of them can be mentioned.

Effie Parker has returned with restored health and in excellent spirits, after several years sojourn in Kansas.

Wallace Bartlett was raised to the dignity of daddyship, and done too by a boy. There is also a new boy at Harley Richards'.

James, Will and George, three of the Lockwood sons, together with their families, have come here from Montana, Wisconsin, and elsewhere to make the old folks a visit.

Mamie Smith was a general favorite in this community and hence the interest in her wedding last Wednesday was shared generally by it. C. Atlee Curran, an accomplished young gentleman of Bristol was the happy groom. The front yard of the residence of Dr. Lester, the grandfather of the bride, where the wedding took place, presented an animated appearance. Later on, under a heavy shower of rice, the new husband and wife boarded the 4:39 train on their bridal trip, with Wisconsin as the first objective point. Their home will be at Decatur after July 20.

The health of Mrs. C.F. Shaver has been poor for a long while, and while rather more so of late, she at no time was confined to her bed. Won Wednesday morning she collapsed and early the next morning she died. The funeral took place Friday. The remains were taken to the Cowdrey cemetery for interment. The deceased was nearly 65 years of age; her maiden name was Almira H. Ashley, being one of the daughters of the whilom Stephen Ashley, one of the early settlers in this vicinity. Of the family left behind to mourn her death are a husband and an only daughter, Mrs. Nora Fitzgerald of Yorkville.

A Knight of Pythias social, the first of the kind, and one in which the sole object was the entertainment of families and friends, was given by that order Wednesday evening. It took place at their castle (hall), which was well filled.

Yorkville: It should be generally known that the people in the country towns are not in favor of a "wide-open Sunday," and the country papers generally favor the observance of the American Sabbath. The Chicago dailies have a big circulation and make a big noise--but it's all noise.

After July 1 it will be unlawful to shoot quail between the first of December and the first of November, thus reducing the open season to the month of November.

*Joliet Record:* Last Friday there was a monster barn-raising at the farm home of Thomas Clow in Wheatland. Over seventy participated in the event. A splendid supper was served and a royal good old-fashioned neighborly time the result. The barn is 42x116, 24 feet high, with a half basement. It is one of the best arranged barns in the county.

*Joliet News:* The Sebring Brewing company has made a new departure and hereafter will not sell any beer, retail or wholesale, on Sunday.

Mrs. T.A. Packer, who in former days was Miss Mary Sutherland of Oswego, now living at Urichsville, Ohio, in renewing for *The Record*, writes that herself and Mr. packer expect to be in Oswego about the first of July and make a visit to the Chicago fair. Mr. Packer has recently built a new residence from designs selected from the architectural designs published in *The Record* some time ago. The local paper of that city says of this fine home: "One among the number of handsome residences in West Uhrichsville is that of T.A. Packer. It is built on an elevated point on Trenton avenue and commands a view of the surrounding valley. The building contains ten rooms all finished in hard wood. A balcony circles the front, which is of that class of English architecture so popular nowadays. It is surmounted by a conical dome that makes it quite attractive. The interior is delightfully convenient and supplied with modern

contrivances for comfort. Mr. Packer, who is a skilled architect, drew the plans and superintended its construction.”

We need a little rain to lay the dust.

Some of the farmers have begun haying.

A steam merry-go-round occupied the vacant lot opposite the coal sheds the past week. It made a great deal of noise and less money.

Cotton has a new soda water fountain, which he will have in running order by Friday. Call and get an ice cold drink of soda or a glass of ice cream.

Names of the old settlers who died during the past year announced at the Old Settlers picnic for Oswego Township:

John Collins died Aug. 2, 1892, aged 84 years; came to the county in 1843.

Rebecca Williams died Aug. 8, 1892 in the 88th year of her age; came here in 1847.

William W. Wormley died Oct. 1, 1892 in the 63rd year of his age; came to the town of Oswego in 1834.

A.J. Wormley died April 11, 1893, in the 66th year of his age; came to the county in 1838.

Mrs. Lois Pearce died April 15, 1893, aged 68 years; came to the county in 1835.

Mrs. Paulinia Hall died Feb. 18, 1893 in the 54th year of her age; came to Oswego in 1851.

Mrs. Almira Shaver died June 21, 1893, aged 65 years; came to the county in 1835.

July - 1893

July 5: The new Fred Leigh house is up and enclosed.

The 4th was ushered in with guns as early as Sunday night.

William F. Elliott is enjoying a new carriage and Ferdinand Shoger also.

Asher B. Hall with two of his Texas friends are here from Houston.

Orders for undertaking and embalming for Healy & Pierce, Aurora, may be left with John L. Gaylord and will receive prompt attention.

The wedding of Louise J. Jessup to Prof. A.W. Merrill occurred Thursday afternoon at the residence of the bride's parents. Stuart, Iowa will be their home after a season of visiting.

The health of Mrs. H.S. Jessup has been poor for some time; within a few days it became worse and on the 4h she died. Her age was 56 years. She leaves her husband, one son, Samuel T. Jessup, and two daughters, Martha S. Jessup and Mrs. A.W. Merrill. Her maiden name was Elizabeth T. Seely.

NaAuSay: A few from this vicinity attended the Merrill-Jessup wedding at Oswego last Thursday.

This section of the country was visited by the rain, wind, and hail storm of last Sunday afternoon, which did much damage to the crops and gardens--in fact, they are almost ruined in most places that were in the path of the storm.

Yorkville: Joliet Republican: The Illinois Steel Company officials held a meeting in Chicago Friday at which Superintendent Charles Pettigrew of the Joliet mills was in attendance. The ultimatum was that when Mr. Pettigrew returned to Joliet in the afternoon he had the unpleasant duty to perform to close the entire gigantic plant. Since the 2,000 men were discharged the first of the year, a force of men averaging from 500 to 200 have been at work placing new machinery in order so that when business would warrant it, the mills would be ready to start. The new machinery has been put in at a cost of a quarter million dollars, and the result is that the keys are turned in every door, the gates are locked, and outside the office force, only nine men are kept on the pay roll.

July 12: The world's fair is now the absorbing topic.

Mr. and Mrs. Atlee Curran have returned from their bridal trip.

Dr. Putt and family have returned from a visit at Amboy and elsewhere.

In scuffling with the hired man, M.J. Wormley stepped into a hole and broke one of the bones in the lower leg.

Graveling the streets of the village has been the doings of the authorities, and at Monday's meeting the cutting down of the weeds was ordered.

Homesickness compelled Mrs. John A. Young to return here from Ithaca, N.Y. Louis her son came with her; while her husband remains there and is prospering.

According to report, a quiet wedding took place last week; one of our prominent widowers with a former teacher in our school, to wit: Dr. Lester and Miss Anna Brown.

At the Presbyterian Church Sunday evening the Rev. J.G. Butler preached a good advisory sermon on "Faith."

Word was received Monday by her relatives that Mrs. S.P. Ives out in Montana had died. She was a sister of Mrs. Winn, and which leaves that lady the only one left of the seven daughters and two brothers in the Stephen Ashley family.

Harley Richards showed much celerity the other evening by overtaking and stopping Mr. Tuttle's runaway horse in a roadcart that had broken loose from where it was hitched.

The funeral of Mrs. H.S. Jessup took place Wednesday from the Presbyterian Church. The remains were conveyed to the NaAuSay Cemetery for interment. Her maiden name was Elizabeth Seely, and her age 56 years. A husband, two daughters, and a son are mourning the loss of the best member of the family. For what is home without a mother.

A farmer out east of here gave me a snake story which he thought ought to go into print. He said he had employed a Dutchman and an

Irishman to help him in haying. On quitting work some hay was left on the barn floor on which they slept, after being provided with blankets. In the morning, when they had arisen and were kicking the hay together into a heap, they were astonished to see a large-sized snake come out from it, making his way for some other place. When they had recovered their breath, the Dutchman said, "I yust would no slept have one wink if I was know dot shnake be here; whatfor he no bite us?" To which the Irishman replied, "And sure he shmelt you, which made him too sick to bite!"

Yorkville: The paid attendance at the Chicago [World's] fair Sunday last was 43,500--growing less each Sunday.

Crops were never more promising than now in Kendall county. The perfect growth of corn and its splendid appearance is phenomenal. We shall have plenty to eat but money seems to be the most difficult thing to get; it goes to the Chicago fair.

The photographic artist of Yorkville, Mr. Benensohn, has gained a reputation during his short stay here as a competent and obliging picturemaker. His work is excelled by none--not even in large cities. If you want a picture or any of your family, call at the rooms over Hobbs' store, Yorkville.

Asher B. Hall, once a well-known citizen of Oswego and a gallant Union soldier during the late war, was in Yorkville Saturday to look over scenes he was once familiar with. Since the war, he has been a resident of Texas and is a prominent man of business in the big lumber region on the southeast coast. Mr. Hall says the people of Texas are glad to have Northern men and capital become factors in the makeup of the states and there is no ostracizing of a man for his opinions.

July 19: Prof. C.W. Rolfe of Urbana was in town one day.

Mr. and Mrs. Rogers have moved to Lisbon where he will be the foreman of the Fox River Butter Company's creamery there.

The Rev. S.W. Stryker resigned his ministerial charge of the Methodist Church, preaching his farewell sermon Sunday and

Monday started for Portland, Ore. where hereafter he will pursue his clerical labors.

Michael Carney, who has been sick for the last two or three months, alternating between being better one week and worse the next died Sunday morning. The deceased was a soldier of the late war; one of the 127th boys; had a thumb shot away from one of his hands during the service and therefore was a pensioner. His bereaved family consist of a wife, three daughters and two sons.

Yorkville: Have you seen the comet?

The clangor of hammers on the hill is that of workmen putting the new jail work together.

It took \$78,000 to run the East Side schools of Aurora the past year--of this, \$20,000 is put down for improvements.

The rye harvest is about over; yield fairly good.

John Greenacre drove a fine bunch of stock steers through Yorkville Tuesday.

Artist Benensohn is making some extra fine pictures of Fox river scenery with his new view camera--an instrument that cost nearly \$150. His river and street views are wonderfully fine and make us more proud than ever of our picturesque village. Take a look at his show-case in front of the Hobbs block. His portraits of Comrade and Mrs. Nathan Hughes are true to the life, and shows how excellent is Benensohn's work in every line of photography.

July 26: Oswego is short just now of about half a dozen dwelling houses.

Our telegraphers, Belle Andrews, Jennie Miller and Jay Richards, have been home on a flying visit.

Mabel Hunt was for a few days the cashier of the bank while Lew Inman was spending a short vacation.



The new buildings are progressing nicely. The lathing of John Gaylord's was finished Monday, which was done by Aurora experts, and watching them using the hatchet was almost as interesting as seeing the fair. Expert lathers, you know, use their mouths for nailholders, and there was one of them whose mouth would hold enough nails for nailing on a whole bunch of laths.

How queer sometimes the workings of psychological sympathy upon the human mind appear. An invention, never thought of before, is frequently started by several persons, unknown to each other, at the same time. Last week I mentioned the arrival here of the Rev. and Mrs. Holt, and through mistake said they were from Topeka, Kan., instead of Emporia. Strange as it may seem, the correspondents of the Aurora Herald and Beacon both made the same mistake.

James C. Shephard, our total blind man, gets around town where there are sidewalks with no help, nearly as fast as anybody, and straighter than most of us. The other day, however, he stopped to talk with someone at Haight's and lost his bearings. He stepped right into the stairway to the basement and fell down eight stone steps. Besides a cut on the head, he had a number of bruises, and was stunned for a while. He is alright now, although a little sore.

L.E. Simes is the name of the new pastor of the Methodist Church. He is a stout and good looking man, a forcible speaker and has a good voice.

Yorkville: The river is getting very low.

The Joliet [horse] races are on this week--closing Friday.

The water in the reservoir was so low last Thursday as to necessitate the stopping of the street sprinkling.

Willett's thermometer registered 118 degrees in the sun Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock; Seely's 102 in the shade.

It ought to be a duty of the highway commissioners to keep the roads mowed. The weeds are very large and obnoxious.

It is to be hoped that by the placing of a policeman on the north side Sunday nights the continual disturbances in the park and around the churches by home talent, as well as those from other places, will cease.

S.G. Minkler, the veteran farmer of Specie Grove--been here since 1833--says in all these years he has never seen such clean cornfields nor such a promising stand as now covers the farms of the Fox river valley. Brother Minkler has a heap of experience in his head, and what he doesn't know about farming and fruit growing will not fill a very large book.

Our once slightly mill-pond is nothing now but a mud flat. Why don't the 'trust' repair that race wall? They are breeding diseases by exposing the river bottom in this dogday weather.

August -- 1893

Aug. 2: Threshing has been commenced.

The Katy-did season is now fully on.

Our merchants report their business as quite air.

The co partnership of Knapp & Stetter has been dissolved. The business is being continued by Stetter.

The new buildings are progressing nicely. Gaylord's is now being plastered and Leigh's will soon be ready for it.

Mrs. George Schilling was visited for a few days by her niece Miss Lizzie Troeger, who after making a visit to LaGrange and taking in the fair will return to Delaware, Ohio where she is engaged in teaching school.

The depot platform is on a level, or nearly so, with the track, so that from the car-step down to it is quite a distance making it difficult in

getting off and on the trains of infirm persons. A stepping stool should be provided, is what some of our people claim.

Having been in Yorkville the other day, I went to take a look at the new jail, and a gentleman there showed me all through it and pointed out all the modern improvements about it. It is such a nice place and all of its arrangements so secure and convenient the idea struck me at once that it would make a good place to live in. A border there is made perfectly secure against any harm, except from that of a mob.

Yorkville: It is becoming a time of extremes; one year too wet, the next too dry; the winters too cold and the summers too hot.

The unsettled condition of financial matters has prompted the Engin National Watch company to reduce its force of employees one-half.

Two wheelmen from Plymouth, Ill. Stopped in Yorkville Friday for a rest; they were on their way to the fair. This means of locomotion to the fair is getting very popular.

The Aurora Cotton Mills have shut down for August, throwing 500 men out of employment.

Says Shel. Wheeler: "The army worm, the drought, and the Democrats are ruining this country."

Aurora Post: The fast mail train killed 37 sheep from the Montgomery pens, Thursday morning. The animals had been let out for exercise and wandered upon the main line tracks, with the above result.

The new jail is completed, paid for, and is now ready for its first occupant. We hope it will never be occupied by anyone. The Sheriff and his family will move in soon as some interior fittings are put in the residence part of the building. It is a good piece of work all through and Kendall county will no longer be held up to public scorn for maintaining a deathly dungeon for prisoners.

This dry time makes low water in the Yorkville reservoir. Parties using the water are requested to do so sparingly so that it will hold out till rain comes.

Aug. 9: Pat Tigue has been slicking up.

H.J. Baker and family are here from Chicago rustivating.

Wilmot Van Etten, the Dayton station agent, was in town one day.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Funk are now sojourning at the Hot Springs, Ark., for the benefit of Fred's health.

Removals: L.C. Young into the Teller house; Mike Fees across the river, and Mrs. Henry Funk into the Shaver house.

Mrs. Fannie Holyoke, nee Murphy, an Oswego native, and now a resident of Topeka, Kan., accompanied by her little girl, was here one day and calling on her old friends.

A more energetic movement for temperance is to be inaugurated. A Sunday evening union temperance meeting, including all the churches, to be held during each month, is proposed by the WCTU, and doubtless the churches will accept of the proposition. There is plenty of material here to work upon and the salvation of the drunkards ought to be as important as that of other sinners.

Will Samse has returned from Colorado where he went several years ago to improve his health, but did not succeed very well.

What is wanted most now is confidence and rain. Congress met Monday to do what it can towards restoring the supply of confidence, but will do nothing about rain. Confidence and rain are good things, but too much of either of them is almost as bad as not enough. One spell we been having too much rain, which was bad, and now we have not enough, which is worse. And so we have been having too much confidence, have been too much booming. In short, we have been drunk with prosperity with getting rich and now commenced to sober up.

Yorkville: J.E. Tallmadge of Platteville was in town last Wednesday. He says grain would thresh better for a little rain.

2,060 copies of The Record were printed and distributed last week.

The weed burner made a trip down the Fox River line last Saturday, burning off the rank growth of weeds between the rails.

There was to have been a ball game Friday between Yorkvilles and Oswegos but the Oswegos failed to appear and the game was declared off.

Plainfield Enterprise: George Leppert, living on the old Joe Fouser place, had a fine hog shot a few days ago by prairie chicken hunters. This class of trespassers is becoming quite obnoxious and some of the farmers threaten to give them a taste of law if the practice is not discontinued.

George Wormley was down from Oswego Monday with Mr. Graves, the administrator of the A.J. Wormley estate.

The trusses for the new iron bridge over the Blackberry have arrived and the work of putting them in place will soon begin. The Chicago Bridge and Iron Company are the builders.

From Plano: BANK CLOSED

Much surprise was created Monday by the closing of Edgar Henning's bank at noon. This is the oldest bank in Plano, and has always merited and received the highest confidence of the business men and the large farming community. E.L. Henning is considered a very conservative, careful financier and will have the sympathy of all. The great stringency of the money market everywhere is the cause of his failure to obtain funds.

The assignment is a voluntary one, James Sears being named as assignee. There is no doubt but all depositors will be paid in full.

The Harvester shops are still running with a fair crew of men. Business of all kinds is light at present, but most all feel inclined to be hopeful and happy.

## E.L. HENNING ASSIGNS

It was one of the surprises of this season of surprises when it was learned Monday that Edgar L. Henning had made an assignment. Mr. Henning came to Yorkville very early on that morning and filed the papers with the county clerk assigning all his property to his brother-in-law, Mr. James Sears for the benefit of his creditors. If there was any man in Kendall county in whom his acquaintances had confidence, that man was Edgar Henning, deeming him conservative in his dealing and knowing him to be closely related to wealthy people. But the demand for money was too much for him, and a schedule of his assets shows that his currency was placed where it was not readily available.

The cause of his failure is a mystery as there was no run on the bank and no judgment had been entered up. An Aurora dispatch in the *Chicago Record* says Mr. Henning was caught short on wheat on the Chicago board of trade, but we don't think he was a speculator in that line.

E.L. Henning is the leading banker of Plano, also head of the firm of Henning & Ross, warehousemen and dealers in farm implements. He was a member of the late state legislature, being the Democratic minority member from his district. He has been for years a leading business man and politician in Plano and Kendall county. He is a nephew of the Hon. Lewis Steward and connected by marriage to the wealthy Sears family.

One cause given for the assignment is this: Mr. Henning had \$10,000 of a wealthy farmer's money, living near Plano, and the farmer wanted it secured. He asked for a mortgage on a farm. This Mr. Henning declined to give and doubtless fearing a suit for the money, made an assignment. Mr. Henning was caught in the Chemical National Bank failure, had ten shares of stock and about \$1,000 on deposit there. He has also about \$3,200 invested in the Moorish Palace at the fair.

There is no need of anyone becoming uneasy because Mr. Henning has made an assignment. True, he is more heavily involved than anyone supposed, but there is a reason for it: He necessarily neglected his business during his legislative career at Springfield last winter and this is the result. We still believe that our Kendall County business houses are sound to the core.

Aug. 16: Evan Edwards has bought the premises on which he lives, the Larkin place.

Francis Rees of Kansas, with his wife and three children, is visiting here his folks, Wm. Rees.

The Barrett family have moved to their new residence on Madison street, opposite the school house.

The sisters, Mrs. E.T. Sutherland with the two smallest children, and Mrs. Charles Payne have gone to Wheeling, Ind. On a visit.

While threshing at Charles Roberts', a load of oats in the proximity of the [steam] engine caught fire and was burned up. By overturning the load, the wagon was saved. They had to hustle to keep it from spreading.

Mrs. T.C. McMillan, who is spending the hot season with her folks, the Goudies, out at the Grove, received the information that her home in Chicago had been robbed, which caused her to make a hasty trip there this (Tuesday) morning.

Two of Yorkville's oldest men paid Oswego a visit last week. Lyman Lane was one of them, and he called on the Postmaster, whose parents and Mr. Lane came together from the state of New York to these parts. The other was Ex-Sheriff James S. Cornell, whom I always regard with some special interest because he is the man for whom I cast my first vote; it was for his re-election, but didn't count; he got snowed under. We were Democrats then. The voting was without the use of tickets.

Yorkville: H.J. Gillen's big dry goods store at Ottawa was closed last week by the sheriff. His was one of the best established stores in that city.

The Aurora Post says the F.B. Hills farm on the Oswego road has been sold to George Stevens of Canton, Ill., for \$12,000. Mr. Stevens is going into the fancy stock raising business.

Work is fairly underway on the new bridge across the Blackberry on the Plano road. The new bridge will be four feet wider than the old one, which will be a great improvement. The cost is to be \$1,800.

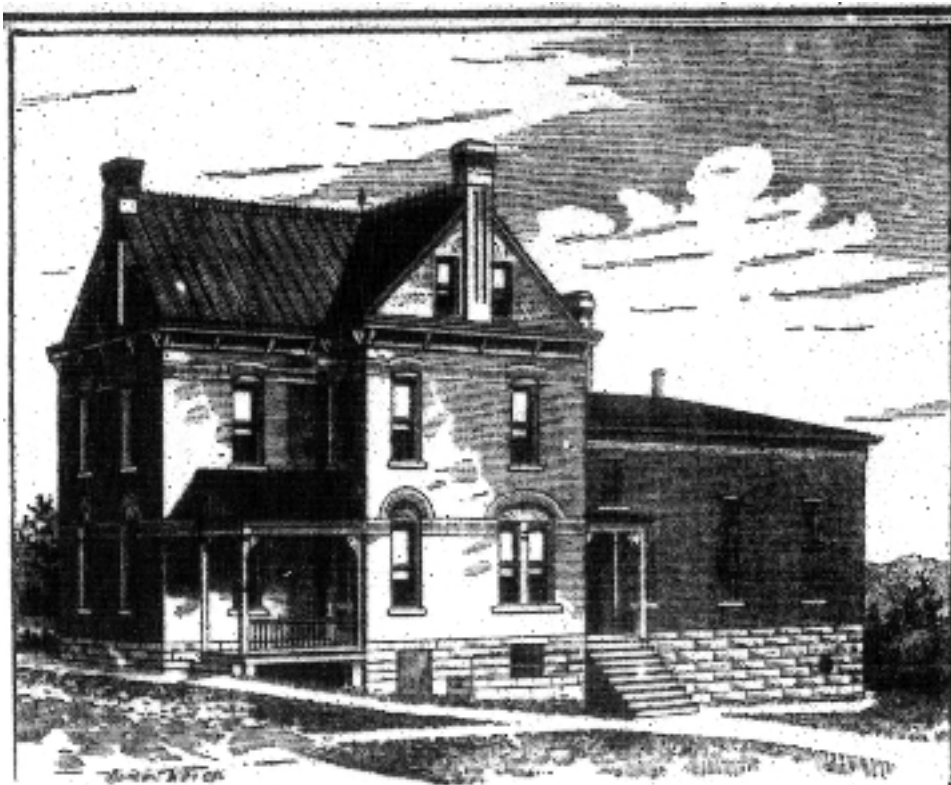
There was a very large party of gypsies in camp in the Van Emon timber near Yorkville last week--fifty or more of them and our village was canvassed by fortune-tellers and seekers after food.

Horseshoer Weese is busy manufacturing some aluminum shoes for the Caton Farm trotters. The shoes weigh only three ounces each.

#### L.N. HALL'S OSWEGO BANK

Report came to Yorkville this forenoon that the Oswego bank had closed. We have no word from our correspondent there and hope the report is not true. L.N. Hall has always been considered a conservative business man, not given to speculation.

Later: A dispatch from Oswego says the bank doors are closed; and a check on the bank was returned to Mr. Cornell with notation that the Oswego bank had suspended payment for a short time.



**THE NEW JAIL AND SHERIFF'S RESIDENCE.**

From a photograph by S. BENKESON, the Yorkville artist.



*The Record* prints above a picture of Kendall county's new building, the sheriff's residence and jail at Yorkville, which has just been completed at a cost of \$9,622.33. It is located across the street, north of the northwest corner of the court-house square and east of the Methodist Church.

The contract for this building was let last fall to the Pauly Jail Building and Manufacturing Company of St. Louis, Mo., this firm subletting the contract for all the work except putting in the cells to Sanders Brothers Manufacturing Company of Ottawa, Ill. The foundation was completed last fall and all the rest of the work has been done since spring. The best quality of stone was used for the foundation and the building is of pressed brick and has an iron roof.

The main part of this handsome structure--the residence portion in front--consists of a basement, two stories with nice high ceiling, and an attic. On the first floor are three large rooms, sitting-room, dining-room, and kitchen; the second story is divided into three bedrooms, and the attic is left in one large room. The basement contains a good cellar, coal room, and an apartment in which is the furnace, which is to furnish the hot air for heating the jail. The residence part will be heated with stoves.

The jail, the one-story part of the building on the north, is divided by a wall running east and west, leaving a large room in the north end; in this room are two steel cells and a corridor, which are locked with a key and also a combination lock. Each of these cells is large enough to accommodate four prisoners. The south part of the jail contains an office room for the sheriff, and back of this are two cells, one of them being also a bath room; there is an up-stairs to this department, where are two more cells and room for cots, should there be need for such. There is a system of pipes to furnish city water throughout the entire building. The jail is said to be absolutely fire-proof, and an inspection of it will convince most any one that there will be little chance for a prisoner to escape when once confined therein, except by due process of law. The board of supervisors started out with the intention of getting the best that could be had in the way of a jail, and we think they have succeeded admirably. Nothing is too good for Kendall county.

Aug. 23: The prevailing calm disposition of this community generally was interrupted by a series of sensational occurrences; the first being that of the suspension of the bank Wednesday morning, and which in a very short time was the universal topic. Knots of men could be seen here and there with their heads close together, and also larger clusters where the situation was discussed openly and freely, but at no time was there any mob spirit for the lynching of the banker manifested. In Aurora they had it that he was shot. We are what may be termed a deliberative community. We are for expressing our opinions and for convincing each other of their errors. So this case was fully discussed pro and con; some expressed surprise, others had expected it long ago and their only wonder was that it had run as long as it did. Some said that Levi [Hall] would come out of it all right and pay dollar for dollar, while others declared that they would be ready to take one cent on the dollar if they had anything in there. The different phases of human nature, as the sympathizing with a man when down by the one and the giving him a kick by the other were made manifest considerably.

To prolong and increase the excitement that day an occurrence transpired just as the afternoon passenger train was coming up the track of a far more sensational nature than the bank suspension. It is said that John Olson [sic; should be Oleson] and P.G. Hawley have been at outs for a good while. Olson was the tenant on Hawley's farm, the George Parker place. He has been away during this summer and returned several weeks ago, but was not living with his family. The two men met within a few rods of each other, Olson coming down by the burned buildings and Hawley up from the bridge and when he had turned to go towards the depot, Olson opened fire on him. Four pistol shots were fired, but none took effect. Olson immediately left the town. A warrant for Olson's arrest was procured, it is said, and was looked for the next day, but could not be found. The last seen of him was in Cook's cornfield on the grove road, and a rumor got current that a shot had been heard in that direction. It became believed that he had killed himself in there and the getting up of a search party was talked of. The two events furnished ample food for discussion all day Thursday. Friday morning, Gus Johnson, Mrs. Olson's brother, came over to town and reported that Olson was lying dead over there in a wagon box in the barn. This information, of course, had the effect of still further

agitating the people. Numbers went over there to see him and the shape he was found in...After an investigation the coroner's jury brought in a verdict of death by a pistol shot in the hands of one unknown to the jury.

From the German settlement it is reported that Miss Amelia Newman of Brighton Park, a cousin of John Schilling, has been on a visit to that family; that Fred G. and Julius Sorg were there from Iowa taking in the World's Fair and visiting their relatives there; that John Haag will move soon to his new home on Sexton street, Aurora.

The burial of John Olson [sic] took place Saturday afternoon in the NaAuSay cemetery without any ceremony, as the condition of the body would not permit of further delay. The departed was a native of Sweden, 62 years of age; a much younger wife and two small children constitute his family.

A young man well known in this town, as he has been living here several times, came in town one day in a rig which he said he would sell for a reasonable price as he had no particular use for it. As one of our business men wanted just about such a rig, he bought it, but subsequently was relieved of it by a livery stable man of Aurora, who claimed it as his property. The young man who sold it is now wanted.

#### Yorkville: L.N. HALL'S FAILURE

Tuesday night, Aug. 15, at about 10 o'clock, L.N. Hall, the Oswego banker, accompanied by his attorney, Paul G. Hawley, drove up to Circuit Clerk Beebe's residence in Yorkville and wanted his presence at the courthouse immediately.

Mr. Beebe went with them to his office and put the following on file: Quit claim deed to Asher B. Hall on lot 2 and north 20 feet of lot 3, block 2, original village of Oswego; and his interest in 240 acres of land in the estate of J.D. Hall, being 240 acres of land in Oswego township; consideration, \$2,500. Dated Aug. 14, 1893.

Mortgage from L.N. Hall to Oliver S. Westcott of his homestead in Oswego village for \$4,000 to run three years. This paper was not signed by Mrs. Hall. Dated Aug. 15, 1893.

L.N. Hall and wife, mortgage on his store and bank property in Oswego village for \$2,500.

Chattel mortgage to William Ladd for \$1,000 on L.N. Hall's horses, carriages, etc. Dated Aug. 15, 1893.

Wednesday morning, Aug. 16, Mr. Hall's bank was closed and payment suspended.

#### Henning Makes a Better Showing

Thursday last, E.L. Henning and his assignee, Mr. James Sears were over from Plano and filed an amended schedule of assets with County Clerk Hill, which makes the prospect of his creditors much more cheerful. He listed assets of \$124,700 and liabilities of \$84,647. This certainly ought to pay out dollar for dollar.

#### OSWEGO SENSATION

##### The Quiet Little Village Furnishes a Shooting Scrape

*Aurora Herald:* The quiet little village of Oswego is all stirred up over a scandalous shooting affray. The facts, as near as can be learned at this writing, are these:

Mr. Paul Hawley owns a farm near the village, which is occupied by one John Oleson, a Swede. Some two years ago, they had some trouble about Mr. Hawley interfering too much in the domestic affairs of Mr. Oleson, but the matter was settled and hushed up. Lately, however, hostilities have been renewed, and Mr. Oleson conceived the idea that Mr. Hawley was altogether too frisky around his house. He thereupon procured a pistol and meeting Mr. Hawley down near the depot commenced blazing away at him, shooting four times. Mr. Oleson is evidently a poor marksman for he only hit Hawley once, inflicting a slight wound. Both parties are very reticent and no further particulars can be obtained.

*Aurora Times:* P.G. Hawley had a narrow escape from a would-be assassin's weapon Thursday afternoon. John Oleson, a Swede who formerly was a tenant on Mr. Hawley's farm, was the man who handled the weapon.

Oleson, it is said, is a worthless fellow whose family has been kept from the poor house through the charitable offerings of Mr. Hawley. The two men had some words in the past, which culminated in the shooting affray yesterday. Mr. Hawley boarded with the Oleson family when they resided on his farm and Oleson accused Mr. Hawley of alienating the former's wife's affections. They met on the streets in Oswego afternoon when Oleson drew a revolver and fired

three shots in succession at his intended victim, but fortunately neither shot took effect.

Mr. Hawley attributes the trouble between him and his assailant to a blackmailing scheme and nothing else.

#### FAILURE OF THE KENDALL COUNTY BANK

Assets \$64,000; Debts, \$58,000.

Chicago Real Estate, \$18,500

The Kendall County Bank closed its doors this Thursday morning and a notice is put up on the front door that, owing to inability to further pay the demands for money, an assignment has been made.

M.E. Cornell has assigned to George Van Emon, his brother-in-law.

To say that it was a surprise is putting it mildly. It was a shock.

Everyone had confidence in Mr. Cornell that, with his well-known business ability and the time the financial depression had been upon us, he would have pulled himself together and made his currency account good. But he has been wholly unable to realize on his loans, and the end came this morning.

The closing of the bank is peculiarly hard on many people just at this time. Money is hard to get, you can neither borrow nor get what is due you, and many of our people have the currency needed in business tied up beyond remedy for some time.

The outcome of the whole matter is so peculiar that one's faith and confidence in all business enterprises is shaken. For Mr. Cornell, *The Record* has the greatest sympathy. He never failed on purpose. He had too much at stake, too good a business, his life's reputation was in the balance, and all is gone.

The newspapers of the whole country assumed the task of staying the panic by encouraging words and prophecies of better things, but their efforts were without avail. *The Record* stated that our business institutions were safe and conducted by safe men, and we believed firmly the statement because we had confidence in the integrity and business ability of the men. This statement too soon followed by the failure of Mr. Henning, then of Mr. Hall, followed by that of Mr. Cornell. The conclusion we have come to is that the newspapers don't know anything about the business of banks--neither does anyone else, not even the bank examiners--and we shall make no more prognostications along business lines.

Aug. 30: Prof. O.S. Westcott was here from Chicago to see his friends, Mr. and Mrs. L.N. Hall.

Being that Monday of next week is Labor Day the commencement of the school will not take place until the next day, Sept. 5.

Oswego got pretty well advertised during the past week, and in doing so some of the Aurora papers in one and the same sentence made it out to be both a very quiet and notorious place, as for instance: "The quiet little village of Oswego is again in a ferment of excitement and has good reason for being excited more than ever."

With all our boast of advanced civilization, a government of, by and for the people institutions under which all enjoy equal opportunities, yet things generally fetch up with "Everybody for himself, and the devil take the hindmost." The Cherokee Strip is to be thrown open for settlement in a few days; on its borders are now encamped thousands of homeseekers and professional claim-jumpers, and other thousands are on their way there. All are to be kept out until the day and hour appointed for the occupying of the land, and when that comes those with the fastest horses will get the choice pieces, while those the least equipped for the rush and the least able for struggle will get nothing at all. Brute force is the only thing recognized of merit.

So with this panic. When the tightening up commenced the newspapers were full of exhortations not to lose confidence, not to cripple the banks by withdrawal of deposits. But the more they exhorted the quicker were those that said, "I take no chances" to draw their money, and it were those who wrecked the banks, but who now chuckle at having been smart and call fools them that by trying to uphold the banks have got themselves into limbo.

The failure of the Kendall County Bank has complicated matters in some of the town and school districts. All of the money which the town of Bristol had on hand was on deposit in the bank. The officials are now wondering what to do.

Tuesday a state warrant was issued by W.F. Thompson, the Yorkville justice, for the appearance of L.N. Hall of Oswego charged with fraud as an insolvent banker. He is charged with receiving the sum of

\$150 as a deposit when he knew he was insolvent contrary to the laws of Illinois.

Mr. Hall appeared before Magistrate Thompson with P.G. Hawley, his attorney. N.J. Aldrich appeared for Oswego depositors. Mr. Hall waived an examination and was bound over to the grand jury, October term of the circuit court, under \$600 bonds. David Hall signed his bond.

This is only the first of a series of suits to be commenced, the interested parties claiming that Mr. Hall refuses to make any statement of his resources or liabilities.

September -- 1893

Sept. 6: Dr. Lester has taken his usual trip, about this time of the year, up the lakes to escape hay fever.

Grass and stubble fires have been prevalent. William Jungles had several stacks of hay burned.

J.S. Seely has filled his silo. The power for cutting up the corn was furnished by Pete Cooney with his [steam] engine.

George A. Troeger and wife of Charles City, IA., are now visiting his sister, Mrs. George Schilling, and net will visit their son at LaGrange, and the fair.

The upper end of Jackson street is now getting to be the tony part of the town. Mrs. Crossman [Crosman]'s residence has received the finishing touches of paint.

School commences Tuesday with the same teachers as the last term, except Lizzie Moore in place of Mabel Hunt. The school house has been repainted and otherwise fixed up.

By the Bible saying "many that are first shall be the last; and the last shall be first," probably has justified the course pursued in the payment of depositors by Oswego's embarrassed bank. The last deposits have been repaid in full, while those of which the bank had

the use for years are deferred to that time of hope and fear of anything being left.

The situation here in regard to the bank is getting worse and worse. The banker is under bail, being charged with receiving deposits when aware of his insolvency. An attachment has been put upon the store building and another on the contents of the bank vault, which now is in the hands of the sheriff and guarded day and night. The affair is causing too much feeling, due largely to too much stubbornness on one side and determination on the other. Levi was one of the leaders in this community. He was in front of public doings, ahead of organizations, shaping the local political campaigns, etc., all of which naturally developed in him the spirit to direct or that of bossism. The idea that he should not have his own way of settling his own business he could not entertain. The other side wants to have something to say in the matter, and some of the men are full of fight and aggressiveness. An assignment perhaps would have been much the better way. Hall is now confined to the house by sickness.

Oswego is now undergoing its full share of miseries; men that but a few weeks ago were "cheek by jowl" would now like to devour each other. Bank failures most always entail much misery, widows with their little savings, old people with the accumulations for their declining years, and laborers with what was laid up for a rainy day are usually aught in them. There is a class of men who hold that governments, especially ours, which is claimed to be by and for the people, should be responsible for the losses incurred through the institutions it makes legitimate, and the better to carry out this principle the government should run the institutions...By such a system there could be no motive for what is called "illegitimate banking," as all the earnings of the bank would go to the government. In unavoidable stringency the bank could be readily relieved; nothing would occur to stir up the bad blood as now exhibited, or lead to any wrangling lawsuits, such as now are engendered. This would be the most opportune time for the teaching of the theories of socialism in Oswego.

Yorkville: An army officer is authority for the statement that the federal army has approached the maximum membership of 25,000



more nearly at present than at any time since the war. A few days ago there were but 154 vacancies all told and some of these have since been filled. The large increase in the recruits at present is attributed to the fact that so many strong, healthy men are out of employment and see no very bright prospect before them.

The Chicago Inter Ocean is very severe on people who take their money out of the bank and put it under the carpet or in the cookstove for safekeeping. Robbers always steal it. Well, some think banks are no safer, and when they lose their money in the bank they feel worse than if it were stolen.

Sept. 13: The Woman's Club of Oswego will meet with Mrs. L.N. Hall Thursday afternoon, Sept. 21, at half past two. The meeting is important, and every member should be present.

The reunion of the 127th at Aurora was quite generally attended by the members of that regiment from here.

I am requested to say that whatever part was taken by the Rev. J.H. Reed in the negotiations for adjusting the affairs of the Oswego Bank was wholly disinterestedly; his sole object being to have the matter shaped for the best of all concerned and to the least injury of the social order. That no better results were obtained was not his fault.

In some respects, Oswego at present is as prosperous as ever before. Two handsome and of modern style new residences are nearing completion and improvements are being made on some of the old. Business is as good as usual at this season of the year; her merchants are having a fair trade but they report collections a little slow. Trade was especially brisk Saturday evening when every place was full, the street in the business part blocked once in awhile and the sidewalks flooded with humanity. The school has entered on a new term under very favorable conditions. The health of the place is excellent; its doctors are having a vacation. But there are also things which ought not to be, such as drunks, loafing, etc., and other things that are lacking. A place without a hotel can never be of much consequence.

We have been having a bank; its closing recently, instead of being but a suspension has developed into a flat breakdown. The bank

furniture, together with the building, three shares out of nine of the homestead farm, and a lot of notes, of the good, bad, and indifferent kind, amounting to about \$3,500 were taken by a syndicate embracing the Co-Operative Creamery and others in satisfaction of its claim of about \$12,000. Now what this syndicate ought to do is to reestablish the bank by organizing a stock company, electing a board of directors, appointing a cashier to run the bank on a salary, cause him or her to render a statement weekly of its affairs, prepare for such cashier at private list of the names of those to whom credit may be extended, and to what amount.

#### House Cleaning at Oswego

The village has always been proud of its public school building. The district isn't large and yet it has built and nearly paid for one of the prettiest and most substantial houses to be found in towns of our size in the state. In order to pay its bonded indebtedness promptly, and economical policy has been followed so that the debt might be raised by as moderate assessments upon the tax payers as possible. A new line of action is now practicable; the more liberal course entered upon by the board of directors this year.

During the summer the board has had the interior of the school building renovate. The walls have been calcimined; the woodwork oiled and painted, etc., until it is as neat and attractive within as a reception parlor.

These improvements have been needed for several years and yet the usefulness of the school was not much injured by that fact. It has suffered more severely from other causes, having had to go through two or three intensely cold winters with its course of study badly out at the knees and elbows, so to speak. Mr. McFarlane bought it a cheap suit in 1888. Then Mr. Ross, Mr. Merrill and Mr. Bucks successively patched it up to make it do. This fall, it was taken to the "store" and given a new outfit from toe to crown--coat, hat, trousers, shoes, shirt, collar, and necktie.

There is no good reason why as thorough a common school course cannot be taught in Oswego as is given by her neighbors. Competent teachers are employed. All the facilities for teaching have been furnished. The patrons of Oswego school should stand right royally by the teachers in their efforts to keep the school in the foremost rank, where it belongs.

The new course of study was adopted by the board of directors Sept. 4, 1893. It provides for 12 years of instruction, three of which is high school work.

A large percentage of scholars attending never go further than the intermediate grade. The imperative need then, is seen for a thorough elementary course. If a scholar never enters the grammar grade he may still be able to figure rapidly and accurately, read and write easily, and know something about his language and his country.

In the grammar department an advanced course in the English branches is thoroughly taught. A new feature introduced this year is the study of masterpieces of English literature. It consists of six year's work, begun in the lowest division of the grammar grade and carried thorough the grammar room and high school. Irving, Hawthorne, Longfellow, Whittier, and Lowell are intended to be something more than distinguished names to the graduate of the public school. He will have lived with them all for six years and will have learned to know them familiarly.

In the high school it is proposed to do two year's work in general history. Someone has said that a competent knowledge of history is in itself a liberal education. We mean to test it. A thorough course in mathematics also is given, including business arithmetic, book-keeping and business forms, algebra and geometry. We teach in the sciences nearly a year's course in physics, physical geography one year, physiology two terms, zoology and botany one-half year each. Civil government informs the boys and girls of the duties and responsibilities of citizenship. Spelling and penmanship are taught in every grade of the school. Excepting the languages your boy and girl can be "prepared" for college in Oswego. He should know the branches taught if he goes no further than the high school. Consider the matter carefully before sending him away to a distant high school or seminary.

For further information apply to Charles H. Bucks, principal, or Florence K. Read, secretary of the board of education.

From Plano: A new bank was opened Monday in the building lately occupied by E.L. Henning. Young Harry Henning will be the banker. E.L. Henning manager.

Yorkville: Why not have the Kendall County Bank organized under the state law, under state inspection? Surely there are enough monied men in this vicinity to establish such an institution as a stock company, or three or four men organize as a firm, if it better suits them We need a State or National bank in Yorkville.

Saturday forenoon, Sept. 9, there were some more instruments filed in the recorder's office at Yorkville affecting the property formerly owned by Levi Hall, the Oswego banker, which was transferred by him to his brothers at the time the bank was closed. They have released their claims on the property, it appears, in order that it might go for the benefit of other creditors.

One of the documents was a release of the mortgage given by L.N. Hall to David Hall Aug. 15, 1893 on the bank and store property in Oswego village. The release was dated Sept. 7, 1893.

A bill of sale signed by L.N. Hall, in favor of John Herren, Colvin Pearce, C.F. Shoger, and John D. Russell dated Sept. 7, 1893 was also filed; this covers the safe, vault, bank fixtures, gas machine and gas fixtures in the store building formerly occupied by Mr. Hall.

A warranty deed from L.N. Hall and Sarah J. Hall to John Herren, Colvin Pearce, C.F. Shoger and John D. Russell was another paper filed for record. It was dated Sept. 7, 1893, consideration \$1 and was for the property deeded Aug. 14, 1893 to Asher B. Hall and described as follows: Lot 2 and north 20 feet of Lot 3, Block 2, Original Village of Oswego, and his interest in 240 acres of land in the estate of J.D. Hall, being 240 acres of land in Oswego township. There was a provision in this deed that any heir of J.D. Hall might at any time within three years purchase the above lands for \$3,000.

This deed was also subject to the rights of the widow of J.D. Hall.

One other transfer was a warranty deed from L.N. Hall and Sarah J. Hall to John Herren, Colvin Pearce, C.F. Shoger, and John D. Russell for the lot and store building in Oswego formerly occupied by Mr. Hall, dated Sept. 7, 1893, consideration, \$1.

The above transfers are the result of an effort on the part of the creditors of Mr. Hall to get matters fixed up as *The Record* understands it. A meeting of the creditors was held and 26 went into a syndicate to see what could be done. Their claims amounted in the aggregate to about \$12, 300; the four gentlemen to whom the above deeds and bill of sale are made were appointed a committee to look after the interests of the syndicate and they think they will realize

about 50 cents on the dollar of their claims. The amount of Mr. Hall's indebtedness in excess of what is due the syndicate can not now be given. It is claimed that by the transfer of this --property by Mr. Hall's relatives to the syndicate, matters have been so compromised that there will be no more serious legal proceedings against him.

Monday afternoon, C.F. Shoger and John D. Russell were at the courthouse and placed on record the assignment of two mortgages to the syndicate committee from Mr. Hall amounting to \$910 on property in Oswego.

Sept. 20: That John Obman, an Oswego blacksmith of long ago, was here from Iowa visiting his children should have been mentioned last week.

Charley Read returned to college at Beloit Monday for further study and was accompanied by Garry Seely for the commencement of study there.

Sept. 27: Buy your bread at H.B. Read's store.

Dr. Lester has returned from his sojourn up on Lake Superior.

Nading's Yorkville bread must take well; H.B. Read sold 2,500 loaves during the month of August.

Mr. and Mrs. George W. Parker of New York State, she used to be Josephine Hopkins of this place, are here on a visit to their relatives, the Congdons and others.

William Parker has been gathered with those that were. He died Wednesday, Sept. 20, 1893 after but two days of sickness. The deceased was 65 years of age, a native of Canada, an old settler of Will county and came to Oswego 40 years ago. His wife, two daughters, and a son survive him.

The Hollis family have moved to St. Charles. The Fox River Creamery domicile vacated by them is now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Ed Rogers who have moved back here from Lisbon.

Yorkville: in response to many inquiries about the Cornell bank, we would say there are no new developments. The assignee is in daily attendance at the bank arranging things for a settlement, we suppose. It is not probable any payments will be made to creditors for some time, as it will take a good while to realize on assets. All creditors can do is be patient. And if you can't be patient you must wait.

October -- 1893

Oct. 4: Charles Knapp has bought another, namely the Hall building in the brick block, paying \$4,000 for it, including the bank fixtures. Seemingly, Charley wants to become the sole proprietor of Main Street.

Frank Friebele and Mary Herren were married last week Wednesday.

Effie Parker, according to report, has accepted a government position in the Indian schools. She goes to a reservation in northern Arizona and is getting a very good salary.

A meeting of the village board took place Monday evening. In the absence of the president, L.N. Hall, trustee John Bartlett occupied the chair. The big rain about noon had caused their attention to be drawn to several culverts that needed opening or cleaning out and the ordering of that to be done was the main business transaction.

Yorkville: Disobedience of orders caused the death of the engineer at fault and the severe and in some cases very serious injury of nine Ottawa people and several railroad employees in a terrific head-on freight collision a half mile south of Richards station near Streator, at about 6 o'clock Thursday evening, the trains coming together with a crash heard for five miles and piling up engines and cars in a wild mass of wood and iron.

William Gribbel of Aurora. engineer of the northbound train, was killed and 11 persons more or less injured, but not fatally.

The train left Streator on time with orders to lay over at the switch south of Richards for the Ottawa freight to pass, but the engineer, William Gribbel, a new man on the run, either forgot or willfully

disobeyed his orders. Instead of going in upon the siding, he ran by at full speed. Just as he rounded the curve a half mile south of Richards, the Ottawa train, also running at full speed but having the right-of-way, flashed into view from the trees, not a hundred feet ahead.

Gribbel did the only thing possible; reversed his engine and jumped for his life. But the trains were too close together to allow his escape and as he struck the ground the engines came together with a terrific roar and he was buried beneath the wreck of his own machine. His leap was to death.

Oct. 11: Operations in the gravel works down at Cowdry [Cowdrey]'s have been commenced.

The Rev. J.G. Butler attended one of the religious congresses in Chicago during last week.

The new house of Fred Leigh is nearing completion; the inside painting is now under way. It will be a model residence both as to beauty and convenience.

The scraping and cleaning of Main Street and the cleaning of some of the ditches and culverts was of the public work performed during the week. And the question of a new sidewalk in front of the brick block and whether it shall be a concrete or brick or another plank walk was before the village board and the property owners concerned. The conclusion reached is to patch up the old walk for the present and in the spring decide upon what is best.

Biographical information on Judge J.H. Sutherland of Detroit, Minnesota, who was born in Oswego where he was known, as a young man, as Henry Sutherland.

Yorkville: The October term of our circuit begins Monday, Oct. 16, in the courthouse at Yorkville. Judge Upton will be present.

State's Attorney Sweetland has charge of seven cases on the people's docket, but they will not trouble him much. Three of them are against parties who had a prize fight in Oswego; one for burglary, but the prisoner, Mr. Berry, took a walk from jail a few months ago and has not yet returned for trial.

There are 26 new suits this term, most of them attachments of which seven are against L.N. Hall of Oswego.

Oct. 12: *Aurora News Semi-Weekly*: Oswego's Latest Sensation  
Our Southern Neighbor To the Front Again

Mrs. Lester Canes Mrs. Haight

Mrs. H. Cast Sheep's Eyes at the Doctor  
and the Doctor's Wife Retaliated in  
Vigorous Manner

Oswego is all agog.

And Aurora will be pretty generally interested in her neighbor's latest sensation.

A bride of scarcely two months, jealous of her husband's attentions to another woman, waylaid her rival Tuesday night and administered a severe thrashing with a stout cane for which offense she this morning cheerfully paid a fine of three dollars and costs. And all parties are among Oswego's leading people.

Dr. Lester of Oswego, a widower past 60 years of age, was wed less than two months ago to Miss Anna Brown, a maiden lady of 40 summers or over. Miss Brown had lived much of the time in Oswego but of late years had been a school teacher at Sandwich.

For a few weeks after the honeymoon, all was apparently lovely in the relations of Dr. Lester and his bride. Lately observing people have noticed a slight change.

Mrs. Lester became convinced that Mrs. D.M. Haight, wife of one of the leading merchants of the town and her husband, were getting altogether too familiar. The sheep's eyes that Mrs. H. cast at the doctor were simply unbearable and there was talk, too, that made the matter all the worse. Tuesday night, matters came to a climax. Mrs. Lester waited in the shadow of her husband's office and when her rival came along for the usual evening chat with the doctor, the enraged wife fell upon her with a heavy cane, which she plied with such vigorous effect that Mrs. Haight still bears the bruises.

This morning, Mrs. Haight swore out a warrant for Mrs. Lester's arrest and 'Squire Lockwood assessed a fine of three dollars and costs. All is quiet now, but the natives are breathlessly awaiting for the next.

Oct. 18: Will Leigh, with one shot, killed 13 ducks, and wounded several more that got away.



Carrie Barrett is very sick with typhoid fever. Charles Hebert also was, but now is getting better.

That Charley Knapp, who has commenced the buying up of the town, has bought the L.N. Hall residence should have been mentioned last week.

An earnest attempt is being made under County Superintendent Curran's supervision to promote the interests of teachers in Kendall County. And following this movement it is proposed to organize a teachers' reading circle for Oswego and vicinity.

Oct. 25: The bridge has received a new oak plank floor.

William Walker, the Scandia, Kan. postmaster, is here to renew the acquaintances with the old Oswegoans and especially the boys of the 127th.

Haight's store was closed Friday by the sheriff on behalf of G.P. Boessenecker. It appears that the liabilities are now large and that the bank failure had much to do with the bringing of it about. The old saying that "Mishaps never come singly" is true in this case. Domestic troubles have preceded and may have helped towards the closing of the store.

Yorkville: The Fox River Gravel Co. at Cowdry's [Cowdrey's] Crossing got in working order last week but were forced to shut down again by the breaking of the gravel sieves. The company will do nothing this fall except to get the plant in readiness for work next spring.

It is sincerely regretted by very many friends of Mr. D.M. Haight of Oswego that he has failed in business and his store closed by the sheriff. Mr. Haight has much sympathy and we have heard a number of good people speak of him in a most excellent man whose hard luck is to be deplored. It is hoped enough may be realized from the sale of his stock to put him on his feet again. He has had much to contend with and his burdens have been heavy. That his future days may be free from care and his business ability recognized in some paying way is the wish of *The Record*.

Levi N. Hall was indicted by the Kendall County Grand Jury for obtaining money under false pretenses.

The attachment cases of the Oswego creamery, C.F. Shoger, J.S. Seely, M.J. Pogue, et. al., M.L. Wormley, and E.S. Ketchum vs. L.N. Hall were settled and dismissed.

November -- 1893

Nov. 1: A week of superlative tranquility here.

Dr. O.S. Parker has opened a physician's office over Barrett's store.

The drug store has again changed hands. Dr. Putt is now the proprietor.

The typhoid patients, Carrie Barrett and Charles Hebert, are now on the way of recovery.

At 30 feet a bounteous supply of water was found in a new well dug by Andrew Gray and George Inman for James Pearce.

The sale of the goods of Haight's store will commence Thursday. A bad time for it just now when all the spare money had been expended on the fair.

Now that the World's Fair is over it will no longer be treason to say that it has not been profitable to everybody and to every part of the country and that its education hasn't all been for the best.

A meeting of the village trustees has taken place at which their acts have said to have been hoggish as they increased their own and other officials' salaries and voted the payment in advance.

Dozens of cemeteries in communities along the CB&Q from Chicago to Oneida, including Princeton, Kewanee, Galva, and locally at Yorkville and Oswego, were desecrated.

Yorkville: The wall paper house of J.D. Rice & Son is represented in *The Record* by a handsome display advertisement. Their prices on wall paper are even more attractive than the advertisement. This store is located on the island, Aurora.

Plano: Died, in the city of Plano, Oct. 28, 1893, Archibald Sears, aged 91 years and 8 months; the aged father who has been blind for several years, passed quietly away in the early hours of the afternoon surrounded by several of his children in the home prepared for his declining years in the eastern part of the city, near his son, Albert's. There has been no perceptible disease, just a gradual breaking up of life's forces. Deceased was born in Putnam county, N.Y., Feb. 23, 1802. He is in the direct line of descent from the grand old revolutionary stock, and his life bore testimony of the honor, decision, and practical perseverance of the days of his forefathers. At the age of 12 years he journey[ed] with his parents to Wayne county, N.Y., where he spent his school days and became well versed in tilling the land, making the most of his opportunities. At 23 years of age, he became a country school teacher, following that vocation for several years, in the meantime making a special study of surveying--a most important study when the country was new. In June 1833, he married Susan Hadden and settled down as a local merchant; he being careful of his means accumulated money and decided to go west to the great new country, and in 1836 with his wife and small children, made the long and tedious journey from Putnam county to Chicago, Ill, and thence to Kendall county, arriving during the year 1836 and permanently located--purchasing a "squatter's claim" to 550 acres, paying nearly the balance of his cash, and later perfected his title. Finding himself without means in a new country and gifted with push, he was not an idle man; his broad acres soon bore evidence of his superior ability, and his knowledge of surveying came in good place. He was soon one of the busiest men of the locality and was subsequently elected and served as county surveyor, later holding the different offices of member of the board of supervisors and justice of the peace. In 1865 he removed to Sandwich, where he lived until 1887 when feeling the infirmities of age creeping on and hoping that a reasonable distribution of his wealth would be beneficial to his children in their younger years, he made such settlement and came

with his wife to Plano to reside near his son Albert and daughter, Mrs. Mary Henning.

Deceased had been twice married. Mrs. Rachel M. Smith became his wife Aug. 23, 1850; he was the father of 13 children. By first marriage, one son and six daughters, namely Frances, James, Caroline, Adeline, Julia, Cordella, and Susan. Frances became Mrs. Beard, recently deceased in Iowa; only James is left of the first children. By the second marriage there are six children, all married and happily settled. They are Charles M., of Aurora, Neb., Mary J. Henning of Plano; Mrs. Alice M. Mather of Nebraska and her twin brother, Albert Sears of Plano; Sherman S. of Nebraska, and Mrs. Ada A. Miller of Crawfordsville, Indiana. This venerable pioneer leaves a most devoted wife much broken in health, seven children, 22 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral arrangements were in perfect keeping with their manner of living; a short service at the home Tuesday afternoon by Pastor Lea and the mortal body was tenderly laid in the grave in the Plano cemetery. We learn the children were all able to be present at the last service.

Nov. 8: Indian Summer is on.

Esquire Murdock has been quite ill with pneumonia.

The river is now so very low that in many places the bottom sticks out of the water.

John Conway has opened an office in one of the rooms above Barrett's store. The same is nicely furnished, and likewise is that of Dr. Parker in another room nearby.

Daniel Brownell of Kansas, after quite a number of years, has returned here on a visit to his mother, Mrs. Burr.

A railroad smash-up, and the only real one that ever happened here, occurred during Saturday night, caused by a northbound freight running in the rear end of another that was standing on the track demolishing the caboose and tumbling down the embankment two cars, one a refrigerator and the other loaded with fire-proof building tiles. When people were getting up in the morning and

discovering it, a wrecking crew was at work on it. They worked very quietly; there being no loud talking and no swearing. Perhaps because it being Sunday. The wood part of the wreck was picked together and burned up which was regarded by some of the bystanders as wanton destruction, as it might have been utilized at least for fuel. By about 1 o'clock the wreck was cleared up.

Instead of a sheriff's sale the store goods of D.M. Haight were bought by F.B. Colliver of Aurora, who now is selling them on the "outclosing plan," at from 20 to 95 percent below the regular prices, according to the salability of the goods. There has been a great crush there ever since the store was opened Saturday morning. Besides a sister and brother of the proprietor and a clerk from Aurora. Deak Mann Maggie Miller, and John Simes of this place are the regular clerking force.

Really, we of Oswego would not care of the mail service of the morning up train was discontinued or we would be very glad if the Chicago newspapers were sent via Aurora instead of Ottawa so as to avoid the many issues of getting them in the forenoon. No papers again Tuesday.

**Man Killed:** A quarrel about something caused Fred Steltler and his hired man, Jacob Meyer, to clinch and get into a scuffle last night at about 9 in the back room of Fred's meat market. Tom Belschner, who was at work in the front part, went and pulled Jacob off and put him outdoors, where they had a fight in which Jacob got the worst of it. Immediately afterwards, Fred was found lying in the back room dead, which was about 10 minutes after the quarrel commenced. Dr. Parker was called in but all signs of life were gone. It is not thought that the death was caused by the violence of Jacobs, but that it was heart failure brought on by the excitement. Jacobs was arrested and calaboosed and the coroner was telegraphed for.

Oswego is to have a singing school this winter. Over 150 people gathered last Friday to discuss it in the Methodist church. Mr. Weeks is to be the teacher. There will be 12 lessons given on Friday nights, each lesson to be two hours.

The bicycle factory started in the old Aurora Watch factory was not a success. The factory building is again vacant.

The firm of Hopkins Bros. & Hawley, Aurora, has dissolved. Frank Hawley retires.

Nov. 15: Charles L. Murdock died Sunday forenoon. The funeral took place Tuesday afternoon.

The coroner's inquest on the body of Fred Stetter, held at the village hall Wednesday was preceded by a post mortem examination of the heart, lungs, and liver of the deceased, which were found in a normal condition. The heart, however, was more than usually large. The autopsy was performed by the doctors Hanna and Parker, and from their and other testimony, the jury rendered the verdict that Stetter's death was caused by strangulation at the hands of Jacob Meyer, who therefore shall be held for the action of the grand jury. Meyer subsequently was removed to the county jail. He is what is called a Swabian from the kingdom of Wurttemberg in Germany; is 23 years old and has been in this country about three years and in which he has no relatives.

The funeral of Fred Stetter took place Thursday afternoon, and because so few of his friends were on hand when the time had arrived, the holding of the services at the Congregational Church, as had been intended, was given up and all of the religious rites were performed at the grave by the Rev. J.H. Reed. The deceased was a single man, thought to be about 38 years of age, and said to be a native of Wurttemberg, Germany.

The following data were handed me about Emanuel Cooney who died last week at his home out in NaAuSay. He was born in Oneida County, N.Y., in 1834; came to Kendall county in 1838; died Nov. 9, 1893 at the age of 59 years, 10 months, and 9 days. Leaves a wife, and four children, three sons and a daughter, to mourn his loss.

George W. Kellogg was born in the town of Casleton, Rutland county, Vermont Dec. 25, 1811. At an early age he showed his liking for books, loved to study and read. He improved every opportunity and gradually passed through the district school into a higher, which

was attended through many difficulties being obliged to walk three miles every morning and night, often through deep snows. Having completed his education he was seized with a western fever and in company with a cousin, Charles Kellogg, they started for Peoria, Ill, which was then almost beyond civilization. After many weary days of travel with a covered wagon and span of horses they landed where the city of Joliet now stands, and at that time boasted of but four houses on the first day of October 1835. Their destination being Peoria, they took up the journey via Plattville, where they spent the night with Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Platt, who lived in a log house and had but a few acres of sod corn. In due time they reached Peoria, where they spent the winter.

In the spring of 1836, G.W. went to Oswego and settled on George Parker's place. He taught the first school ever taught in Oswego. Soon after this his father's family came to Illinois and they all settled near Oswego.

He married his first wife, Sarah Gleason, June 19, 1842. Two years later he bought the farm on which he died at government price, and moved to his prairie home. Seven children were born to them--one boy dying in childhood. Nov. 6, 1863 death took away the loving wife and mother, and he bowed his head in sorrow over his first great trial.

Dec. 18, 1866 he married Mrs. Mary Thompson, whose first husband gave his life for his country; she survives him. He was for many years Justice of the Peace and Town Clerk of NaAuSay until old age compelled him to retire; was a staunch Republican, ever ready to say a good word in favor of his party. The last of a large family, he has passed away full of years and willing to go. On the anniversary of his wife's death 30 years ago he passed away peacefully and quietly aged nearly 82 years. May he rest in peace.

Yorkville: The death of Charles L. Murdock at Oswego was wholly unexpected by his friends here. The funeral occurred Tuesday and Judge Hudson, John McOmber, John McMurtrie and other acquaintances went to Oswego to attend it. Mr. Murdock has been a useful man in his town--has been town clerk for a number of years, police magistrate, and a man of general utility in legal matters.

Nov. 22: The bargain sale business at the Colliver store has been in progress ever since it was opened.

Dr. Putt has returned from a two weeks visit to his late home, Hastings, Nev., where he has been settling up his business and shipping his household goods here. The family is moving in with C.F. Shaver.

The youngest child, about two years old, of the Oscar Briggs family, died last week.

Charles Mann, the popular clerk so long with Haight, is now engaged at Barrett's, where he will be pleased to meet his many friends and be at their service as formerly.

New and handsome swinging signs show where the offices of the Fox River Butter Co. and Dr. O.S. Parker are to be found.

Leonard Hettrich is building a large new barn, which was raised one day of last week. Schwartz is the builder.

Mrs. Lester is being visited by a sister, Mrs. Nettleton.

The west meat market will be opened again by John Knapp.

Morris Cliggitt of Pittsburg, Kansas, has been appointed Assistant United States Attorney for Kansas by President Cleveland. Mr. Cliggitt is an Oswego production; formerly taught school in the old Bristol school house and is a lawyer of prominence in the West.

Charles L. Murdock was born in Chenung County, N.Y.; was married to Emily Howland in 1841. Two children were born to them, Emma, wife of Dr. Van Deventer and Alfred. Alfred enlisted as a musician in the 127th Illinois Infantry and was killed at Atlanta. For many years Mr. Murdock held positions of public trust in the town of Oswego. He loved his home and the sorrow in bereavement is felt in separation when, after 52 years of association with the wife, the husband is called from time to eternity. Another of Kendall County's early settlers has passed.

*Aurora Express:* The demand for the Montgomery sheep pens is increasing as shippers are finding out about them. There are now



14,800 sheep there. The usual arrangement made with shippers is to feed a certain amount of grain to the sheep during five days at \$1 a bushel. The arrangements for caring for the sheep are very complete and every detail has been reduced to a thorough system. The other day 3,000 sheep were unloaded, fed and watered inside of two hours.

The pens make a fine market for neighboring farmers as all the hay, straw, and oats are bought of them.

Nov. 29: Will Samse a few months ago returned from Colorado where he had been for six years trying to benefit his health, it being impaired by lung affections. A few months ago he came home to die, being then in the last stages of the disease, but lingered along to last week Monday night. He was 29 years of age and a native of this place.

Orville E. Judson was one of the early settlers of this township, where he developed the farm of J. Constantine, and on which he lived for many years. Failing health caused him to quit farming, sell out, and move to Sandwich where he died last week. The remains were brought here Monday and buried in the family lot of the Oswego cemetery. Mr. J. is said to have been 78 years of age, and it is also said that his surviving wife and daughter, Mrs. Ida Esterbrooks, also of Sandwich both are sick.

Will sensations never come to an end? Here is another: Old Nibs, as he was called, after a desperate struggle for life, was brutally murdered. Just how it happened will never be known, as no human being was witness to the act. When found, Nibbs was lying on the ground bleeding and with his life ebbing fast away, and Taurus (the bull) the slayer, standing beside him full of rage. Nibs was 20 years old and a good mule. The bull is now held in restricted liberty. All of this happened down at Cutters.

The teachers' reading circle of Oswego township will meet at Lizzie Moore's on the evening of Dec. 9.

Watts Cutter is in Michigan settling up the affairs of his father-in-law, the Rev. George Colgrove, at one time the pastor of the Methodist church here, who died recently.

The funeral of a girl about seven years old of the family of R.D. Gates down in Specie Grove took place last week Wednesday.

The brother of Fred Stetter has arrived from Texas to look after the interests of his dead brother.

An entertainment was given here by the Saxon sisters, a traveling troupe.

W.H. Shackleford is the name of the new clerk at the drug store.

A new clerk, a stranger, is at the John Knapp Meat Market.

To the editor: We do not wish to create the impression that Oswego is given over to barbarism in reporting that the pastor of the Congregational Church received a pounding. The pounding was not administered in a barbarous manner; it was a pounding of many pounds of good things, adding weight to the larder and bin; for all of which we desire to express our thanks. J.H. and L.H. Reed.

Yorkville: Damon C. Kennedy, a former resident of Oswego and well known in Kendall county by the older settlers, died in Aurora at the home of his daughter last Sunday night. He was 81 years of age.

The Tennessee Land Company has gone into the hands of a receiver.

In accordance with a notice published in *The Record* last week, about 60 creditors of the Kendall County Bank met at the court house to receive a proposition for settlement from M.E. Cornell. The offer he makes is this: He pays 25 per cent in December; 25 percent in March next; and 50 percent in five years. Like the boy who had nothing to say, about all present signed the paper Mr. Cornell had drawn up.

[The text of the paper follows]

It will be noticed that none of Mr. Cornell's property, listed as some \$8,000 is in the deal--only his Chicago speculation is responsible. It is possibly the best arrangement the creditors can make, but a little thinking won't hurt. It is a one-sided affair, dictated by the

debtor, but as this is a common custom in these days of sharp financiering it will only be a nine days' wonder.

December -- 1893

Dec. 6: Gus Shoger is being boomed for police magistrate.

The "Xmas" has again made its appearance in the papers.

The crisp atmosphere and the beautiful snow have been quite plentiful so far.

Gus Voss has been appointed interim town clerk for the unexpired term of C.L. Murdock.

Should have been mentioned last week that the Damon Kennedy house has been bought by G.J. Hettrich for \$1,163. And by the way, Mr. Kennedy, who was one of the oldest inhabitants of this town, but for the last year or so had been living with a daughter in Aurora, died the fore part of last week.

Thanksgiving day was observed the usual way; some went to spend it elsewhere and others had their relatives and friends spend it with them.

Yorkville: M.E. Cornell took exception to the remarks in last week's Record concerning his proposed settlement and had a circular printed and mailed to all his creditors--except "this fellow" of *The Record*--restating his proposition and bearing down very hard on *The Record* editor for his assurances in censuring any act of his. "This fellow" obtained a copy of the circular and gives it the full force of *The Record* circulation that justice may be done Mr. Cornell. "This fellow" is too busy this week to make much comment on the remarkable production--here it is:  
[Follows "Mr. Cornell's Circular"]  
The editor of *The Record* is not going to quarrel with M.E. Cornell nor does he impugn his honesty. Mr. Cornell is a good citizen, a useful man in the community, and has many friends. The point *The Record* could make is that Mr. Cornell is looking after his own

interests, and it is natural he should, his past enterprises have not been all successful, and *The Record* has a right to question his ability to handle big enterprises.

Mr. Cornell wants to settle these matters himself; he seems to doubt the ability of his assignee, and some may doubt whether it is the right thing to give him this power

Dec. 13: J.B. Hunt was in town Monday.

Dr. Putt wants to get rid of a good deal of the fancy holiday goods that he bought with Oswego drug store, and one Saturday afternoon and evening, Dec. 16 and 23, you can buy Christmas presents at your own price at auction.

A live bird shooting match took place here Friday afternoon, which in some circles elicited much praise for the fine shooting that was done. We condemn the Spanish because of their bull fights, and with equal propriety they may condemn us because of our pigeon matches; both are barbarous sports, which some of the pagan nations would not tolerate.

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Yorkville: Fruit Trees

A word of caution to my brother farmers of Kendall County. Probably many of you set out fruit trees last year. I want to remind you that if you do not protect them from rabbits you will lose them. Wind the bodies from the ground up to the limbs with something, old screens, old sieves, burlap, or any such material and leave it on for the summer. Another sure remedy is taken from the privy vault: Make a slush of it and put it on with a swab. S.G. Minkler.

Dec. 20: Mr. and Mrs. Atlee Curran were among the visitors of the week.

Dr. and Mrs. Lester entertained friends Wednesday evening in honor of their guest, Miss Evelyn Nye, daughter of the R.H. Nye of Sandwich.

We are closing out the Haight store at 50 cents on the dollar. Colliver Brothers, Oswego.

Dr. Putt wants to get rid of a good deal of the fancy holiday goods that he bought with the Oswego drug store and on Saturday afternoon and evening, Dec. 23, you can buy Christmas presents at your own price, at auction.

At Barrett's you will find the largest stock of holiday goods.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Leigh have moved to town and into their elegant residence. Their three sons at the same time placed into it a very handsome \$50 parlor stove, which by clubbing together, they had procured for a present to their parents on the occasion. Mr. and Mrs. Leigh, who have been hard workers, are now beginning to take the comforts to be hand in life.

Will the persons in charge of the reading room submit to the outrage in the conduct of a number of boys that take special delight in making the place offensive to respectable people? It is high time that the law was enforced if parents will not take care of their children and see that they have regard for the rights of others. The names placed on the wall is an evidence that something will be done that will put an end to the rowdyism in and about the room'

Yorkville: Andrew Lynch, for many years one of the leading business men of Ottawa, died Sunday of heart trouble. He was 64 years of age and was a resident of Ottawa for over 30 years. Mr. Lynch was a leader in the fight against paying the Fox River R.R. bonds, and made many acquaintances in Kendall county at that time.

In referring to the Oswego schools, Supt. Curran says that they are in a flourishing condition. Principal C.H. Bucks is doing first class work, which is placing the schools on a higher grade. The pupils are receiving thorough and practical training. Mr. Bucks is ably assisted by a corps of teachers who stand high in the profession. Oswego is

to be congratulated upon her successful schools, which compare vary favorably with others in northern Illinois.

Mrs. Zoreb Ketchum died at her home in Aurora last Sunday morning, aged about 45 years. Her death came suddenly from the bursting of a blood vessel in the brain. Mrs. Ketchum was formerly a resident of Oswego, a sister of J.B. Hunt, and she was buried in the Oswego cemetery.

The Hon. Charles T. Cherry was in Yorkville Tuesday looking well and hearty, with all his political backbone in the right place. It is suspected that Charley is looking after his fences, ready to mend any breaks if there are any. Mr. Cherry is efficient in electioneering, and knows how to make friends, but unless Lee County is taken from this district, Kendall has little to hope for.

Dec. 27: The Chemical National Bank Chicago, has paid 70 percent of its indebtedness to depositors. Better than was expected.

In some unaccountable manner the letter from Oswego has failed to reach this office. Mr. Rank writes that he mailed it as usual Tuesday morning. Where the fault is we do not know but it is most annoying to the publisher, as it will be to Oswego readers.

1894

January

Jan. 3: Mrs. F.A. Pearce, the lady with both arms broken, has come home from Wedron and is said to be getting along nicely.

Nate Loucks arrived from California Monday, changed a little bit in looks but none at all in speech and action.

The committee will have the season tickets for the lecture course for sale at the postoffice Saturday evening Jan. 6; also following Monday and Tuesday evenings. The front seats will be reserved for those having season tickets.

In getting ready to move into the store on the corner of the block, Barrett wants to reduce his stock as much as possible and therefore the bargain sale order will be on at his store from now until then.

The death record of this place and vicinity for the past year is ten males averaging in age about 46 years; five females, 50 years, and four small children. Total deaths, 19, of which two were unnatural. Brought here from abroad for burial, two males of the average age of about 75 years; five females, 48 years, and one infant. Total burials from other places, eight. The marriage record is less complete, but shows 16 couples married, of which 11 males and a like number of females were of this community and the rest from elsewhere.

Among the questions that should be taken into consideration in the Hawaiian matter are: have the dusky aborigines of those islands any rights that white men are bound to respect?

1894 commences lovely as far as the weather is concerned.

A new set of watering troughs have been procured, and one at Anton Miller's has been put into place. The troughs are of iron and set up on frames high enough so that the horse only needs to open the mouth when the water will run down the neck. The horses will have to drink in the most unnatural way; no cow or dog can get any water at these; family supply from them will have to be secured with difficulty as the boy cannot be sent for it and the mother herself be unable to get it, unless stairs are built up to where it can be reached. The people should remonstrate against the tearing up of the other old and convenient trough at the Leigh corner for the purpose of supplanting with this two-story concern.

Held over from last week: The burial of Mrs. Sarah A. Ketchum of Aurora took place here Tuesday.

The store building occupied by Barrett, and which was sold the other day on a foreclosure, was bought by M.C. Richards of Aurora, one of its original owners.

A Montgomery writer in an Aurora paper a few weeks ago said something to this effect: Why don't Oswego pattern after her neighbor Montgomery and become a good place?

Christmas eve celebrations were had in the three active American churches Saturday evening for the benefit of their Sunday schools and at each a large congregation and highly interesting doings are said to have been enjoyed.

Jan. 10: So far in 1894, everything here has run most lovely.

The year 1900, of course, will be the last year of the 19th Century.

Colliver Bros., Mr. Haight's successors, will in a few days open a complete new stock of general merchandise in the corner building at the upper end of the block.

Silas Lamb was a cooper here in the long ago when that business was of some significance here. A son of his from Nebraska was a visitor at Lockwood's last week; they are relatives.

Ferd Shoger suddenly collapsed and was thrown into an unconscious condition Monday while in the gravel pit. He was taken into the house of his brother-in-law, Charles Knapp, and the Drs. Hanna of this place and Robbins of Aurora summoned. The last accounts from him were very favorable for his speedy recovery.

Joe Sierp of G.R. Wilcox's store will have a big Slaughter Sale of ladies', misses' and children's jackets and wraps at Shaver's furniture store in Oswego for three days.

Jan. 17: Sunday evening a company of the Young Men's Christian Association of Aurora came down to imbue the young men of this place, or anybody else, with the spirit of Christianity.

Death of Ferd Shoger. If thinking as to who should be the first of this community this year to pass from the living to the dead, Ferd Shoger would have been one of the very last thought of. As said last week he had been taken to the house of Charles Knapp and there he



died Sunday morning--his condition at no time would permit his removal to his own home.

When it comes to a shooting match between Oswego and Yorkville, Yorkville isn't in it; that at a shoot for 17 turkeys there Oswego carried off 14 of them.

The inside of the drug store has been much improved, and a space of it railed for some purpose.

There was a quiet wedding Monday afternoon at the residence of Mr. Geo. Burghart. Mr. Will Funk and Miss Lizzie Burghart were the contracting parties.

Colliver Brothers have moved into their new store in the Shoger Building and the Haight store has been receiving a new hard pine floor, is being painted and otherwise refitted for Barrett to move into.

Waish-Kee-Shaw was an Indian woman of the Pottawatomie Tribe. Her husband was a white man named David Laughton. By a treaty with the Indians of Fondulac, Wis., certain lands were set off by our government to individual Indians and called reservations. What is now the Charles T. Cherry place was given to Waish-Kee-Shaw, and is known today by her name. A half section just north of this in the township of Oswego was given to one Mo-ah-way and is down on the plat as Mo-ah-way Reservation. On June 15, 1835, Waish-Kee-Shaw conveyed this land to Joseph Lafrombois, a Frenchman. This deed was acknowledged by Isaac Townsend, Justice of the Peace, Cook County, Ill. Following this record is a deed from Joseph Lafrombois to Isaac Townsend and Charles A. Davis dated Dec. 18, 1835. Later the land as deeded to the Cherry family.

Jan. 24: C. FERDINAND SHOGER

was a native of Wurtemberg, Germany; was brought to this country and this neighborhood when quite small, where he was brought up on a farm. At an early age he was married to Maggie Sorg and commenced to pursue the occupation of farming on his own account, in which he was very successful--by his energy he has acquired a nice farm. He also early connected himself with the

Evangelical church here, which has two branches and two church buildings, becoming the leader of the western branch with their meeting held in the village, and whose Sunday school he was almost the constant superintendent. His services for public duties were also sought for, and that of road commissioner he was especially efficient, which office he held for several terms, and at his death. He died in his 42d year, leaving behind a family of a wife, five daughters, and one son; also five brothers and one sister, all but one residing in the immediate vicinity. The funeral, which took place Thursday afternoon, was perhaps the largest ever had in Oswego and the Congregational church never before at any one time contained so many people; every nook and corner, the staircases and the vestibule were packed, and many from the village when seeing that they could not get inside returned to their homes. The funeral appointments were all of the best, and the casket was bedecked with beautiful tokens of flowers. The services were performed in both English and German; a choir from the German settlement sang the selections in the latter language of which the last was his favorite song at church, and a choir of the village performed the singing in English...The order of Woodmen of which he was a member attended the funeral in a body and in token of keeping his memory ever green, surrounded the grave and dropped sprigs of evergreens upon the remains that had been lowered therein.

#### ANNA DUNBAR HAWLEY

Mrs. Charles J. Hawley, who is said to have been ailing for some time, was taken down about a week ago and for the last two or three days was lying at the point of death.

Mrs. Hawley died at 3:30 Tuesday afternoon. Funeral will be held at the Congregational church Friday.

A new baby, an the same being a boy, has come into the family of Bill Dwyre.

Oswego has now one of the best constituted drug stores of a country village.

Barrett's store was moved Monday from the old stand to the corner, where when things are straightened up a very neat and commodious store of general merchandise may be found.

The singing school will meet Friday evening at six o'clock instead of the usual hour so that those who wish to attend the Kalophon concert may be enabled to attend both.

The Kalophon quartet concert will take place Friday evening, Jan. 26, instead of Wednesday as has been announced. Admission 25 cents.

J.E. Barrett has moved to Haight's old corner. With better quarters he offers his customers better accommodations, better service, a larger assortment, and at prices as low as can be found in Oswego. He is adding some new features to his trade.

Jan. 31: Mrs. Lizzie Winser and Roy were down from Aurora to make the old folks, Mr. and Mrs. E.A. Hopkins, a visit.

The current has changed. Mr. Charles Clark and family have moved from Aurora to this place, occupying a part of Mrs. Child's house.

Now that there is a falling off in wages and in prices generally, let there be also a reduction in salaries from that of the President all the way down. An effort in that direction cannot be made too soon.

Mrs. E.M. Hawley, while here from Aurora to help in taking care of her daughter-in-law, became sick herself and for a few days was very much so but now is again much better and near recovery.

H.B. Read is moving his store into the building lately vacated by Barrett, which during last week was repainted and renovated for his occupation. Read occupied the same place when first coming to Oswego.

The K of P [Knights of Pythias] and MWA [Modern Woodmen of America] of which Mr. Charles Hawley is a member, passed resolutions of sympathy and condolence on the death of his wife, Mrs. Anna Hawley. The members of the lodges are ready to give their brother and neighbor a helping hand in the time of need.

Oswego, like the rest of the country, was the past week deeply absorbed with the great prize-fight and became highly enthused by America's victory. [On Jan. 25, 1904, "Gentleman" Jim Corbett knocked out England's Charlie Mitchell in the third round in a championship bout held in Jacksonville, Fla.] The show, however, (the tickets to which were \$20) was looked upon as having been not near as good as some such exhibitions here, enjoyed by us as deadheads. And by the way, is the power of the judge unlimited? Florida's governor undertook to stop the fight with the military power, but a judge all alone prevented him.

Mrs. Annie Hawley died at her home in Oswego, Ill., Jan. 23, 1894 in the 35th year of her age. In this sad providence the community sincerely sympathize with the bereaved husband and her son...None could be more devoted as a wife and mother than she, and the influence of her life in the tireless effort to promote the comfort of her home will remain with those she has left behind. Her last illness was only of a few days, and every effort of skill and care was of no avail. In her death the WCTU has lost an energetic and active worker.

The funeral was held at the Congregational church and was conducted by the pastor, Rev. J.H. Reed...The reading of special scripture as selections made by her for a part of the service and the words spoken by the pastor was an evidence of preparation for death.

February -- 1894

Feb. 7: Gus Shoger is building a new implement warehouse on Jackson Street.

The Hebert boys are having a hard time of it this winter; first Charley had a long siege with typhoid fever and now Joe is sorely afflicted with rheumatism.

Perhaps the ground hog is not an early riser and kept on snoozing till the middle of the forenoon Friday by which time it had become cloudy and no shallow would have scared him back into his hole

Feb. 14: Dwelling houses here are so scarce that some of those compelled to vacate are unable to secure residences and have to move to Aurora.

According to reports Oswego will have a millionaire ere long in the person of D.M. Haight. Speculation on the board of trade will do it.

That Charles Rieger and Sanford Chase have returned from their job of building ice-houses up north should have been mentioned last week.

The Aurora paper, which awhile ago said that Oswego was beating all creation in sensations, now heads its reports from this place "Rip Van Winkle's town."

Just learned that Lottie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alex White (colored), died Monday. She was 18 years of age, has been an invalid for several years, and for some time almost entirely helpless.

The members of Oswego Lodge 385, Knights of Pythias, has arranged to celebrate the 13th Anniversary of the founding of their order next Sunday afternoon at 2.

Feb. 21: A good deal of livestock was shipped from here during last week.

One of the Collivers has moved into the house of Mrs. Helen M. Pogue.

With our stores of general merchandise on the corners of the block, the businesses now is much better located than heretofore.

The drug store has been supplied with a wall paper rack and is on being repainted and papered, which job the new painters, Clark & McGregor, are doing.

On sale at Colliver Brothers in Oswego: 3 spools thread, 10 cents; men's hose, three pairs for 25 cents; ladies' black hose, 18 cents; men's overalls, 48 cents; good linen towels, 5 cents; best rice, 6 cents

per pound; best rolled oats, 4 cents per pound; 1 pound bar of soap, 4 cents; best chocolate drops, 15 cents per pound.

Feb. 28: We are informed that the sharp competition that has existed between the creamery of the Fox River Butter Company and the new farmer's factory at Oswego for the past two years will cease on March 1. The Farmer's Creamery Company has been anxious for some time to secure control of the entire territory about Oswego in order that they might haul their milk to better advantage and otherwise curtail their expenses and recently they made the old factory an offer to let them have all their butter and offered to put it up in any style package they wanted for an extended period of time if they would retire from the field. This offer has been accepted and the Fox River folks will shut down the Oswego factory March 1.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Platt of Plattville, whose death occurred within so short a time of each other recently had reached a good old age and fully accomplished all that is pertaining to a complete and well spent life, but still they must be missed. The writer once was living with them for a couple of years or more a part of the time off and on so Platt's house became like a home.

March -- 1894

March 7: As Sanford Chase was to take an early Northwestern train, he went to Aurora with a horse and buggy which he left there at a livery stable, to be called for and returned by one of our aldermen and a prominent young man, who went up there on the 9 o'clock train. It happened on the same day the night operator at the Naperville station was held up and robbed of what money was in his care, and which occurrence of course had been telegraphed to Aurora. As the robbers were making their movements with a horse and buggy, and as the same in appearance corresponded with the Oswego rig, a watch was placed over it and the police notified to be on the alert. When our men were through with their business and finally came around to the stable, they were somewhat detained; the idea was to concentrate a sufficient force of the police to make sure of the capture should the bandits show fight. Our men didn't get behind bars, but were closely watched until identified.

Ruth Jessup, the teacher of the Cherry school, has a brother visiting her.

M.C. Richards was down from Aurora Saturday looking after his interests here.

The annual meeting of the Cowdrey Cemetery Association will be held in the Ament School House on Saturday.

Everyone is cordially invited to attend the young people's spelling school, which will be held in the Congregational Church Monday evening, March 12. A short program will be given before the contest. Hattie Walker and Dora Pearce have been chosen captains and Frank W Herren to pronounce the words.

March 14: Street cleaning was commenced Tuesday morning.

A Republican caucus is called for next Saturday afternoon to put in nomination town officers.

No school for a week, and the teachers, C.H. Bucks and Luella Breed, have gone to visit their folks at home.

Will Boughton and Mr. Frazier were over from East Wheatland one day looking at our cooperative creamery.

The village council had a meeting Saturday evening; the allowing of bills and ordering of a sidewalk out as far as Severance's, a new and more substantial bunk for the calaboose, the fixing up of several of the old street lamps on two or three corners, and several other items was the business transacted.

Republicans generally are agreed that Cleveland for President proved a failure, and his administration most disastrous to the country. On the other hand, they are equally well agreed that Dole, the man ahead of the government of Hawaii, has proved himself a most competent executive for wisely managing the affairs of that country, whose inhabitants according to the last census were 81,639 and of whom 1,928 only were Americans. Hawaii wants to be

annexed to the United States, which should displace Dole from his wise rule of these islands and bring them under the disastrous rule of Cleveland. Now on the principle of "the greatest good to the greatest number," why not annex the United States to Hawaii and thus displace Cleveland and bring those 67,000,000 under the wise rule of Dole?

March 21: Supervisor Wormley got a finger sawed into.

Mrs. Maggie Edwards went to Chicago Tuesday morning, and a supply of the latest adornments for the heads of ladies may be expected.

Schwartz has been receiving the stone for the foundation of a new residence he will be building for himself, north and next to Wollenweber's.

The spring school term commenced with Monday of this week. All the small children now of school age should be presented for enrollment immediately, as after awhile they cannot be accepted until another term commences.

Dwight E. Smith of Wilton, Iowa who was here to attend the funeral of his step-mother, and to whom by her death the Smith house has fallen to, has sold the same to Emerson Ashley, a son from her former husband, for about half of its real value.

Prize-fights for Oswego doubtless are a thing of the past and no such exhibition will ever again occur here; but to be invaded some night for a cock-fight is not an improbability, and of the two kinds of fight, the latter, by far, is the most detestable.

Mrs. Ezra Smith died last week at the Elgin insane asylum, where she has been a patient for several years. The remains were brought here and buried at Bristol Station Friday. Before her mind became affected the deceased was an energetic and competent woman, successfully carrying on a hotel here for several years. She was 76 years of age and may be classed among the departed old settlers.



Waterworks of the most improved and scientific order, and to extend all over the town for both use and protection against fire, have been the topic for discussion more or less at certain quarters. An offer was made by a firm somewhere to send here experts, free gratis, to investigate the situation and estimate the cost, which offer some were anxious to accept, but the village authorities, though whom the invitation was to be made, didn't seem to have any faith in it.

The dealings of the government should always be for the common good but instead of that it has been making gold and silver kings by the purchase of their metals for money. Let these metals be made commodities, and their value be governed as in the case of other things, by the law of supply and demand.

The number of dwelling houses of this village have become quite insufficient for its inhabitants. Several renters are required to move who will be unable to find new residences. Never before has Oswego experienced such a dearth of habitations In consequence of this scarcity of dwellings, H.B. Read to make sure of maintaining himself in his residence, one of the Farley houses, has bought it. The Teller house has been bought for a Congregational parsonage, as no place could be found for the Rev. J.H. Reed, who is compelled to move out of his present residence, as the owner must have it for himself. F.B. Colliver has for some time been looking for a dwelling, and now has bought the last of the Farley houses, where Lew Inman now lives, and that family thereby will be subjected to displacement.

March 28: Not altogether lamblike did March behave.

Henry Helle is getting the materials for an addition to his residence.

Aurora now feels very bumptious, because of having advanced to "manhole explosions."

Never before was this community so much of one mind as now. Politically, all will go Republican at the coming election.

Two barns were burned on the Major Davis place Monday caused, it is said, by hastening the thawing out of frozen water pipes.

John Knapp has sold out his business to Malcolm, who has closed the Rink meat market and now is carrying on the market in the Knapp building. The John Knapp family will move to Chicago.

The John L. Gaylord residence is now the handsomest object in town in the way of buildings. It has just received the finishing job of painting, which was performed most artistically by Clark & McGregor.

Pat Flavin, the section boss here, has been promoted to the Somonauk section on the main line; the change will take place with the end of the month. The Flavin family have been here 15 years and had become thoroughly Oswegoized.

The question of a free township library was not raised in time to bring a decision of it within the coming town election.

To picture the calamitous effect of these Democratic times, the statement that the price of eggs has fallen to eight cents, the lowest it has been for upwards of 30 years, has been seen in several newspapers. But really, why should the cheapness of eggs be deplorable? Isn't it better for the buyers to get them cheap, and doesn't the motto "the greatest good to the greatest number" still hold good?

April -- 1894

April 4: A colored concert troop held forth at the Rink hall one evening.

Dr. Putt is building an addition to his residence lately bought. Schamp with his men is doing the job.

That snowy evening a nice church social was held over at Myron Wormley's in which sleighs were employed for the last time this season.

The west side corner building was reopened for a meat market by George J. Burghart--returned here from Montgomery--his brother Fritz and John Schmidt, known as the ditcher. Competition in the meat business here will be maintained.

There are two men in this place and prominent men, too, not at all related but who look so near alike and at present happen to dress alike that they frequently are mistaken one for the other, even sometimes by their own families. The other day one was met on the street by the wife of the other, who rather bluntly said to him, "Go and get a couple pounds of crackers and come home with them right away." Before the man could catch his breath to tell her that there must be some mistake about it, she had turned and was off. Of course her husband didn't come home right away and when he did was met with "Why didn't you come home as I told you, and where are them crackers?" Being assured that he didn't know she wanted crackers, and that he hadn't seen anything of her all that afternoon, the lady felt that an apology was due to somebody.

April 11: On checkers, Oswego is ahead of Yorkville.

Pharmacist Shackelford has spent a few days in Chicago.

Ed Johnson had a runaway near the depot and there were two or more runaways outside town; the damage in each of them was immaterial.

A change of sub-agents at the depot took place. Martin Miller has gone to Two Harbors, Minn., to take a position under his brother, Joe. His place here has been taken by Clarence Barnard.

"Putt and Huff" makes a nice looking and nice sounding name for a firm, which is the newly established firm here for undertaking. They very efficiently carried out their first service in conducting the funeral of Mrs. Rieger.

The movers are becoming somewhat settled again. The C.E. Hubbard family have moved into the P.G. Hawley house; the place they vacated has become the Congregational parsonage and is now

occupied by the Rev. J.H. Reed, and James Malcolm has moved his family over his market in the Knapp Building.

The funeral of Mrs. Leonard Rieger took place Friday from the Congregational church, where double services were performed, or rather where both the German and English vernaculars were employed in performing them. The deceased was 69 years of age; her maiden name had been Christina Barbara Kroemer, and was born in Bavaria, Germany. She leaves behind a husband, three sons, and one daughter; all attended the funeral except the daughter, Mrs. Schwartz, who had not sufficiently recovered from her recent sickness.

When taking into consideration the many labor troubles, it should become apparent to most anybody that the old system is worn out and something new needed, something comfortable to the changed situation...So long as there is a possibility for the few to say to the many, "you must come to our terms and work or else starve," labor is in semi-slavery; it is striving for its freedom.

April 18: Now is the time for the fishermen to put in their licks in lying.

The most of the oats that were sown before the cold snap are all right.

The front of Funk's establishment is on being beautified by repainting in stylish colors.

Dr. Parker is vacating the rooms over the Read store, and Lew Inman moving into them for a residence.

Rev. J.G. Butler has resigned the pastorate of the Presbyterian church here to take effect with the end of this month.

Your communications and statements which you want published must not be handed in to be forwarded with this letter; but you should send and pay the postage on them yourself, and at an earlier time. Only items of news always with your name signed to them is what I want.

April 25: Ida Norcross Weaver died Monday out her mother's from the effects of the pistol shot she inflicted upon herself awhile ago in Aurora, it is said.

Frank Van Doozer's horse got on top of a barb wire fence and cut himself so as to bleed to death. These fences are one of the things apropos to this age of violence.

The Aurora papers gave an account of how Leonard Burkhart came pretty near being taken in by confidence men on the old plan, but that on the way of getting the money he happened to think of John Collins.

Rev. J.G. Butler closes a year's service in the Presbyterian church next Sabbath. At his request the pastoral relation was dissolved.

May -- 1894

May 2: May has come in showery.

Watts Cutter has shipped for the east two carloads of hay.

The corner meat market has a new sign. The Burgharts have retired from it, leaving Schmidt sole proprietor.

A nine-pound pickerel was caught by Fred Wormley's hired man in the old part of the Wormley stone quarry, supposed to have grown up there, as there is no connection with the river except in the very highest stages of water.

May 9: Capt. Mann improved his residence by repainting.

Dr. Putt is extensively remodeling the house lately bought for a residence.

George Cowdrey had a six-legged lamb. But not withstanding the additional endowments for getting along, its life was brief; it died.

In the way of business and competition, a new barber shop has been established by Frank Van Doozer in the north room of the Rink building.

Schamp, with his gang of carpenters, is building a house down at Fox, and Schwartz, with his, an addition to the house of Otto Haag out in the German settlement.

Theron Richards, who has been unwell and gradually failing for a long while died Sunday morning at the age of 53 years.

At the council meeting Monday evening a few small extensions of sidewalks and repairs of old ones were ordered and the contemplated brick paved sewers, street lamps, improvement of the waterworks, etc. talked over.

May 16: G. Schwartz has begun work on the cellar of his new residence.

The Richards Brothers are out at Gene Minard's building an addition to and otherwise remodeling his residence.

It should have been mentioned heretofore that Lew Voss has returned from the Dental college at Chicago with a full graduate and is now entitled to a suffix of several letters to his name, which I believe are D.D.S.

Another libel suit is threatening *The Record* publisher; the cause is a changed sentence in the Oswego letter of last week, which was made to say that J.E. Barrett "is slow." Being right the opposite from what he really is, a bustler, and hence defamatory.

The old Kendall house stone barn, now the property of Mrs. Tirzah Minard, is being torn down, and Frank Andrews, who has taken the job, finds it pretty hard work to make it topple, notwithstanding it is in a sagged and cracked condition and was considered as dangerous to passers by.

This community was shocked Friday morning on learning that Mrs. George J. Hettrich had died; she was such a stout and robust woman

and but few were aware of her having become sick. After the funeral, the remains, followed by a large procession, were subsequently taken to the beautiful cemetery out in the German settlement for burial. The deceased's maiden name was Christina Wolf; she was born over in East Wheatland 28 years ago. She was survived by her husband, two small children, a father and mother, and two brothers.

At the funeral of Theron C. Richards last week Tuesday the church was filled with people. Rev. J.H. Reed was the officiating clergyman. The deceased was 53 years of age, was a native of New York state and came here with his folks forty-nine years ago, so he will come under the head of an old settler. He leaves a wife and ten children, half of them yet minors.

May 23: Tile gutters are going to be put in past the residences of C. Knapp and M.J. Pogue.

Was it warm enough for you one spell last week and cool enough the other spell?

Several pieces of new sidewalk around town have been built and old ones renewed.

The village board had several meetings during the week; they being in regard to the preliminary steps to be taken towards getting the modern system of waterworks, and the pavement of gutters.

Two couples of ladies and gentlemen from Aurora one evening while driving through the streets were shooting off their mouths with improper expressions for which they were arrested, but subsequently were let go without prosecution. Our new police machinery hasn't got into good working order yet.

May 30: The new addition to the Helle residence and the repainting of the old parts of the buildings makes the place now look very neat.

In the professional line, a new branch has been added to Oswego's make-up, viz: a dentistry office. Dr. L.P. Voss has established the same in the upper rooms of the Knapp building in the brick block.

June -- 1894

June 6: Decoration Day in Oswego was made a greater event than ever before. By the middle of forenoon the business houses were almost concealed from view by the bunting with which they were bedecked; every where flags were seen fluttering in the breeze. The procession was led by the Yorkville brass band from the Congregational church to the cemetery where graves were decorated.

The corner meat market has again changed hands; James Foran is the proprietor now.

Dr. Putt is almost making a new house out of the one he bought awhile ago. The Richards brothers are doing it.

Stockholders and renters of cards in the Oswego library Association are requested to pay their 50 cents assessment as soon as possible.

An entertainment by the Peerless Club of Aurora, assisted by local talent, on the evening of Decoration Day was much enjoyed by a large audience. Clara Minkler contributed two selections; she is quite an adept in impersonating.

Artificial stone sidewalks and brick paved gutters for the business part of Main Street; and to do some grading and graveling of the streets about the cooperative creamery, that association to cooperate; and to improve the water outlet on Boston street; and to give a permit to the drug store for selling liquor for medicinal purposes; and to have all the alleys opened and cleaned of manure and rubbish, was the business as far as learned, of the council meeting Monday evening.

NaAuSay: The creamery project which was on foot for some time in this community, is now well underway. Over half the stock being now taken. Gentlemen, come forward and help the enterprise along, as it will be a great benefit to the community and specially so to those interested in selling milk.



June 13: Thomas Dwyre and family have returned from the west, Montana I think.

Martha Potter has come home from Plano. This is the season of the year for the absent schoolma'ams to return.

Kate Butler has returned from Pennsylvania, where she has been teaching in one of its institutes of learning.

A baccalaureate sermon will be preached next Sunday evening, June 17, at the Congregational church by the Rev. Mr. Simes. All the graduates are requested to met at Clara Minkler's at 7 p.m. before going to the church.

The sidewalk system was extended from the Council house down to the Moore residence and from the corner of that and Adams street to the Samse residence. The new walks were made from material of old ones taken up elsewhere.

The funeral of Mrs. James Cliggitt, whose remains were brought here from St. Louis for burial, took place from the residence of Kate Cliggitt, a sister in law, Thursday. The deceased was about 40 years of age and leaves a husband--who was absent in Dakota--and two sons.

Hattie Rees returned in the best of health and spirit from Colorado Springs, where she was engaged in teaching and although she was delighted to be again in the prairie country to which scenes she has been accustomed nearly al her life, she liked the rugged hills of Colorado well enough as to engage herself to go back again after awhile.

June 20: The Oswego High School Class of 1894 consisted of three members, Shirley L. Crosman, Morris D. Cliggitt, and Rose Crosman. The graduates were honored during a special ceremony at the school in Oswego.

The young people who have attended Oswego high school during the past two years and a few of their friends were entertained

Tuesday evening of last week at the home of Charles Roberts by Prof. Bucks.

A new brass band is evolving here.

Scott Cutter has returned home; he graduated Thursday in Chicago from the pharmacy department of the Northwestern University.

Mr. and Mrs. John A. Young have returned home from Ithaca, N.Y. Mrs. Y., who broke a hip by falling on an icy sidewalk there last winter, is still unable to walk.

NaAuSay: NaAuSay will have a butter factory for certain, as all the necessary stock has been taken and the location decided on. Operations will begin at once.

Yorkville: Miss E.M. Benthien, the very successful teacher, is in Yorkville this week to attend the Sabbath school convention. Superintendent Curran reckons her among the most progressive and energetic teachers in the county.

Two men made an attempt to hold up Fred Cornell near the Rickard school house last Sunday night while he was returning from Aurora. He was ordered to halt, but refused and whipped up his horse and got away. Several shots were fired at him, he says, but he was not hit.

“Helmer” is a new postoffice to be located near the North Prairie church--about seven miles southwest of Yorkville and 4-1/2 miles north of Lisbon village. Mr. Frleze was in Yorkville Tuesday to present his bond as postmaster. Then give us a through mail to Lisbon, and we will be content--for a little while.

June 27: Copious rains here during Sunday and Monday nights.

Frank Van Doozer is getting his barber shop set out in fancy style by paint.

Dr. O.S. Parker, now of Aurora, is reported to have married Miss Hoag of Elgin, the girl he was after when living here.

The last week's greatest effort for village improvements was about the cooperative creamery in the way of grading, etc.

Doc Woolley wants to have it known that he has been doing worse during booming Republican times than he has in these terrible Democratic. With his ponies he brought a load of oats to town Thursday for which Joe Wayne paid him \$55.86, or 41 cents per bushel.

Nearly every morning and evening, for upwards of a week, one or more of the Aurora cyclists would be seen humped up and spinning through here as if Satan was after them; the same being preparatory for their road race Wednesday, down the east side, across the river here, and back on the west side.

Jim McCabe, a young man of NaAuSay, while in Aurora one day, mixed himself up with so much of that city's whisky as to become altogether subject to it. Whisky is iniquitous, especially Aurora whisky, and when getting the cinch on a fellow is apt to get him into trouble. Jim was found about 11 o'clock that night with his head somewhat bruised, lying in the road near this place with a horse tied to one of his wrists. Some of our men went and laid him away somewhere else and put the horse in the livery stable. The next day an Aurora man came and claimed the horse and of course was told that Jim was with it when found. When having returned home, he procured a warrant and two officials came down and put Jim under arrest. The next day he was bound over to the grand jury for house stealing--the bail, \$500, was subsequently given. Jim says he has no recollection whatever how he came to that horse or what transpired after a certain time.

NaAuSay: Miss Nellie Wheeler now rides in a new road wagon. Waldon Vinson and the Stiefbold boys have new top buggies.

There was a meeting of the creamery stockholders last Thursday at Mr. Louis Gabel's at which they decided to raise \$500 more and put in two separators at the start instead of one as was first intended.

July -- 1894

July 4: There will be a circus here today; the tent, in Shoger's pasture, is already put up.

The "Garment Cutting Company" in operation here for about two weeks has been reinforced by a young lady.

Henry C. Hopkins of Chicago, and a former Oswegoan, is dead; his remains are expected to arrive here for burial.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Clinton of Cincinnati have arrived here on a visit and put up at David Hall's. They came separate and from different directions, he in his own rig down from St. Paul, Minn., and she from Wichita, Kansas. Mrs. C. was an Oswego girl, Hattie Stoutemyer.

The road race of the Aurora cyclists Wednesday was attended with some accidents near here. One met a tumble right below town by which he lost a portion of his skin, and another broke down his wheel just after having crossed the bridge. The hurt cyclist was taken home by J.H. Reed in his buggy.

The remains of Mrs. Albert Hawley enclosed in a very nicest casket bedecked with many beautiful flowers, accompanied by the relative and pallbearers were brought here from Yorkville Sunday for burial by the side of her husband. The maiden name of the deceased was Elizabeth Hinchman, being one of the Martin Hinchman daughters and coming with that family from the East to this place in 1840. Her age was nearly 58 years, and she leaves behind an only daughter, Mrs. Nettie Flynn of Yorkville, a mother and one brother.

July 11: Charley Zorn has returned here and is engaged in the Foran meat market.

The sisters, Amy and Sophie Parkhurst, have gone to Ottawa on a week's visit.

H.G. Smith attended a reunion of his regiment [4th Wisconsin Cavalry] last week at Madison, Wis. He is now taking a vacation and relieved at the depot by a Mr. Parker.

Er. Parke is here from Kansas on a visit and is in fine health and spirit; carries no superfluous flesh, says that 100 pounds is all he can pull down now.

The Fourth in Oswego was the most quiet of any to the recollection of the oldest inhabitants. Quiet picnics were enjoyed by a few small parties; but few had gone away to celebrate elsewhere. The fireworks in the evening were confined to private houses; a limited number of sky-rockets were embraced in them.

July 18: The Congregational Church and parsonage were destroyed by fire at one o'clock Wednesday morning, July 17. The fire started in the back part of the parsonage; cause unknown. Rev. J.H. Reed, the pastor, was at home alone. It is fortunate there was no wind, as the village would have been the victim of a disastrous conflagration had there been much of a breeze. Understand there was no insurance on the church; \$800 on the house and that Mr. Reed had a little insurance on his furniture. The fire caused a good deal of excitement. The church was one of the landmarks of Oswego, and had been most useful as a gathering place for many organizations.

July 25: The preliminary steps for rebuilding the Congregational church--the getting of subscriptions--are under way. It is said that the Baptists offered their church to the Congregationalists for the mere cost of transfer; a showing of extraordinary liberality.

While thanks are due for waking us up to the engineer that went down the road with a train the other night when our fire had started, he also is censurable. By the terrible racket he made with his whistle some of us when aroused by it thought that the anarchists were upon us and instead of running for the water pail, Oswego's apparatus for fighting fires, we ran for our guns. Hereafter, be a little less violently demonstrative, Mr. Engineer, please.

The Congregationalists have moved into the Baptist church, which was vacant, and which next to their own is most centrally located, being only one block away.

The Congregational church, the first edifice for worship in Oswego, was built in 1848. The lot upon which erected had been donated to remain the ground for a church forever, or else revert to the donor; the building fund was subscribed to more generally by the people of the village and vicinity than was the case with the churches built subsequently; the Congregational, therefore, took largely of the nature of a people's church, which, to some extent, it retained to the last. Most of the non-church members rather always would go there, though the preacher was no better and they didn't like him any more than those of the other churches. No want for a place of worship as caused by the burning of this church as two church buildings have been standing vacant for many years. Nevertheless, its destruction is universally deplored, as it was the most popular place, the most convenient for lectures or other literary and musical doings of a moral nature; the handiest church from which to hold funerals and besides an old landmark. Again, there was its bell; everybody knows of its rich sounding quality, and according to some of the old settlers, its history is more than of ordinary significance, and it should have been exhibited at the World's fair last year. It is claimed that it was the first bell cast in Chicago--it being in the year 1849; that eighty-nine silver dollars had been collected and which were melted in with the metal that composed it. It is well remembered by the old settlers that "Black Bill," a large and very stout negro then inhabitant here, hauled it from Chicago; that after it had been unloaded in front of Chapman & Reynolds's store--in which it was kept for a few days--how it was raised to a hanging position and its sound tried, and with what enthusiasm the same was greeted. Since then it has been doing service in calling people to worship and other church doings and up to within some years, when the practice was discontinued, proclaimed the departure of many for that realm where the wicked cease from troubling and the weary are at rest.

August -- 1894

Aug. 1: A "tripped the light fantastic toe till the wee small hours" affair transpired one night at the Rink hall. It was an Aurora party.

The garment cutting school, which was, started here some weeks ago upstairs in the council building has been in operation during all of this hot weather.

The sad accident of Rob Cooney over in NaAuSay by getting killed in a runaway is deplored by all his acquaintances here. He was going to school here last winter.

Among the visitors down from Aurora were Mrs. C.A. Davis, Mrs. Frank Strossman, she who used to be Addie Kimball, with her husband; Jerry Shepard and family; Mrs. Helen M. Pogue, Joe Sierp.

With the sense of being for the best probably the project was evolved that the Presbyterians and Congregationalists would unite and together build a church on the site that burned down and to merge their congregations into one. The Presbyterians have for years been talking about changing the location of their church, and now as the Congregationalists are without one, and as their site is the site for a church, and as for some funerals and other special occasions a larger church is needed, there is the spot where it should be, and as in union there is strength, these two denominations conceived the idea that they would pool their creeds as far as the running of a church is concerned and to form a syndicate for the promulgation of the gospel. Each church appointed 12 of its best men--but why all men when the women are by far the most important factor in promoting the church interest?--which met at the Presbyterian church Monday, talked the matter over and appointed a committee for arrange the preliminary steps of a union, and which is to report in a week.

Aug. 8: An "Uncle Tom's Cabin" show company, with their own car, stayed here over Sunday, after having given a sort of performance of the play Saturday evening in a tent in Shoger's pasture.

Quite a number of Chicago rusticators have been and are still among us. At Cob Pearce's are four clever and pretty young ladies from that

city; they were visited over Sunday by four gentlemen friends from there.

Mr. and Mrs. L.B. Judson were down from Aurora Saturday calling upon such of their old neighbors as are yet left. L.B. has been sick awhile but now is as well as ever; walks as erect and with as firm a step as a Major General, and thinks that he ought to be good for a dozen years yet so as to round out to a centenarian. His memory of sixty years ago, when he first came here, is very fresh and he is full of reminiscences of the early times of these parts of the country.

The account given, after its destruction by fire, how the Congregational church was built was from what had been gathered from street talk and from what I thought I remembered about it myself, and was in most respects incorrect. It was not built by subscription as stated; an effort had been made to do so, but as not near enough could be raised the project was dropped. The village was located on land that had belonged to L.B. Judson, who was then yet a great real estate owner and hence most interested in its growth. A church, of course, was to be the great impetus to the advancement of Oswego--which at that time was as lively a place as any on Fox River--so Judson went and built it on his own hook, with the understanding that it was to be for the Congregationalists and they to reimburse him as much as possible by the buying of the pews. But the amount thus realized was not satisfactory, and to further recoup himself an interest in the church was sold to the Baptists, and for awhile it was jointly used by the two denominations, the Congregationalists occupying up to 2 p.m. and the Baptists the balance of the day, Sundays; but after a while the former bought out the latter's interest and in the course of time gained the entire control of it. The builders of the church were from Plainfield. The bell, also procured by Judson, was the first cast in Chicago, as it was kept and hung up for awhile at the just then started foundry as a sample; the man said he had put three times the amount of silver in it than was usual. It was brought out by Judson himself, instead of Black Bill, as was stated; the latter merely helped in unloading it. A subscription subsequently was gotten up for the payment of it.



Aug. 15: It is easy to tell which body, the Congress of the United States or the village board of Oswego underwent the most perplexities during the last four months. Congress merely was perplexed over a tariff bill it undertook to pass, while the Oswego board started out (1) to build water works extending all over the town, with a tank-tower high enough to throw the water over the houses on the most elevated ground. (2) Construct concrete sidewalks in the business part of the village. (3) Brick pave the gutters of the same. (4) Reestablish, increase, and maintain street lamps. (5) Build new sewers and enlarge some of the old ones. (6, 7, and 8) Forgot what they were. No agreement on any of them has been reached yet.

The Dr. Putt family are now settled in their new residence; the same having been almost entirely reconstructed, and which, according to report, is of all the modern designs for convenience and elegance.

The new residence of Schwartz is nearly completed as far as the outside is concerned; it is so far the only entirely new building put up this season in the village.

The Cummings Bros. entertained us two evenings with street concerts and selling us their Romany oil and Wine bitters.

Forty-nine Aurora cyclists on their wheels, and Joe Sierp and Painter Pfrangle in a buggy, were in town Monday evening.

Aug. 22: Oswego has no base-ball team, but it is afflicted with a brass band in embryo.

It is said that Marshall [George C.] Inman, Alderman Gaylord, Dr. Voss, Lew Rickard and Frank Pearce will start today for a camp-out down the river in Fox Township.

The rebuilding of the Congregational Church is now assured and the only question is how soon shall it be accomplished. The cleaning up of the lot was commenced Monday. The liberal subscriptions towards it are said to exceed all expectations.

The Zuni Medicine Company have established their Indian village below town on the flats and are giving musical and comic entertainments evenings. Besides the performances, White Eagle, the doctor, gives a lecture on the remedies they have for sale. White Eagle has become near enough pale fact as to sport a mustache. Saturday's how had special attraction for pretty women and small boys as a prize of a set of silver knives and forks was given to the handsomest lady present, the doctor being the judge, and a quarter of a dollar to the boy making the best time in eating a piece of pie with his hands behind him. Maud Sutherland carried off the beauty prize; the competitors in the pie eating race were Burt Dano, John Henry, John Sutherland and Warren Foster; the later coming under the wire first with quite a portion of the pie sticking to his chin and nose.

Aug. 29: The Kendall County Fair was set to be held at the fairgrounds in Yorkville Sept. 4-7. Special attractions were to include a balloon ascension and parachute leap each ay, harness racing, "Base Ball" games between Yorkville, Sugar Grove, Millington, and Plano; T.H. Decew's exhibit of his herd of imported Shetland Ponies, and more.

The cider mills are now in operation.

Mrs. Abram Emmons came up from Amboy to see her sick sister Mrs. Libbie Putt. Mrs. Putt was said to be on the brink of death for more of the week, but on Monday they changed to that of signs of improvement; this morning, however, they are again unfavorable.

The evening diversions of many of the people were down on the flats were the Zuni Medicine Co. gave daily entertainments, not to crowded houses, as the auditorium was outdoors, but to large assemblies. They are a pretty good set of men and have made friends here.

Prof. Gibson the new principal of the school, and wife have arrived and taken a part of Mrs. L. Walker's house for a residence.

We have some very fair-sized jobs of threshing in this vicinity, but only one so large that it required two machines to thresh it, and that

was James Vinson's. He found it necessary to employ one steamer and one horse-power rig, requiring forty-six men to operate them.

September -- 1894

Sept. 5: John S. Seely has been filling his silo. Peter Cooney, with his engine, furnished the power for cutting up the corn and siloing it.

There was another disastrous fire on the Martin (Major Davis) place Saturday night. Mr. Funk, the tenant, seemingly is in hard luck, suffering heavy by the destruction of his oats and hay.

Shower after shower, and such showers; well, it just poured right down followed each other from the middle of the forenoon until midnight Monday. We are now thoroughly soaked.

A law suit between Tom McCabe and Mr. Martin, of the Major Davis place, the issue being a misunderstanding about a job of tiling, was tried before Esquire Lockwood. The court at the time took the matter under advisement.

Mrs. Catherine E. Putt died on the evening of Wednesday, Aug. 29, 1894. A handsome drab-colored casket contained the richly attired remains. Libbie Putt, the name she went by, was 43 years of age, a native of New Jersey, brought here when quite young; she being one of the John Hall girls. Subsequent to her marriage she moved with her husband to Hastings, Neb., where, with the exception of awhile in Colorado, they were living for quite a number of years, returning here about a year ago. The family had just moved into their elegant new residence, and hardly were settled when she became sick and in a short time had to be carried from it a corpse. She leaves behind a husband and little daughter about five years old; a mother, four sisters and four brothers, all, except one brother who is in Texas, attended the funeral.

The Ladies' Guild of the Congregational Church will give a watermelon festival Friday evening at Ed Smith's farm.

Sept. 12: Mrs. Anne Margaretha Hafenrichter: The deceased's maiden name was Schaller and was born on Jan. 1, 1809, in the village of Bank in the north of Bavaria, Germany. She married Nicholas Hafenrichter of a neighboring place and came here in 1846 where they settled a few miles east of Oswego and helped from what is commonly known as the German Settlement. Together, with her husband, she connected herself with, and helped bring into existence, the prosperous church now known as the Evangelical, and of which she remained a devoted member.

Ada L. Child died Saturday morning was buried Sunday afternoon from the house. Ada was a member of the Presbyterian church. She leaves behind an aged mother and a sister, Mrs. Florence Washburn, of South Dakota, who but recently had returned there from a stay with the sick Ada, and as both could not leave home, the husband was let to come and attend the funeral. The age of the deceased is said to have been 47 years.

An addition is being built to the cooperative creamery.

Cider making is now one of the busiest industries of Oswego. John Wormley is running his mill with a gasoline engine.

Some thought that Schwartz should have selected a better site for the fine new residence he has been building, but as far as the showing off of it from out of town, specially from the north and the other side of the river is concerned, no better could have been had.

Sept. 19: The job of building the addition to the cooperative creamery is done by Aurora builders.

The village trustees secured a part of the three-cornered lot of Mrs. Van Driesen for water-works purposes.

Gus Voss and the Misses Mattie and Sadie Richards took a voyage one day in a boat down the Fox to Serena and returned the next day overland.

For the first time, on the 6th of November next, will the women have a chance to take part in the general election; but in order to avail

themselves of this privilege they must, like the men, get registered; the day for which is October 9, I think. Their attention to this requirement is called thus early so as to give them time for having fitted up a dress, as one specially for the occasion may be desirable.

Mrs. Margaretha Roth, who died last week Tuesday was a native of Bavaria, Germany; her maiden name was Pfifer. She came to this country in 1848, and was married to Michael Burkhart, who became one of the prosperous farmers of the German settlement. Some time after his death she married John Roth, who carried on the farm until a few years ago, when the couple moved to town and established a nice home. She was the mother of ten children, eight from her first husband and two from the second, all living but one, and all attended the funeral. She was within a few days of being 67 years of age.

Sept. 26: Charles Rieger is building an addition with underneath a cellar to it, to his residence.

Scott Cutter, who is engaged with a pharmacist on Ogden Avenue, Chicago, is now spending a vacation at home.

Thomas Miller sowed a patch of alfalfa, which turned out exceedingly well, yielded three cuttings, and animals prefer it to any other fodder.

Rev. Mr. Bas has commenced the ministration of the Presbyterian church.

The transformation of Oswego from a village to a city has been commenced by the construction of concrete gutters in front of the Brick block. The new Congregational church will be of regular city style. The changing of the name "Hotel de Schram," its public house, to City Hotel might help the matter along.

George Knapp, when leaving this place with his folks some years ago, was but a boy; since he has grown to a large sized man. He was here last week, having brought own from Hastings, Neb., a carload of pigs, which he sol to some farmers here. His father, John Knapp, was also here from Chicago.

October -- 1894

Oct. 3: The new gutter was opened for use Monday.

Scott Cutter was helping Dr. Putt run the drug store for a few days.

Burghart & Wallace are said to be the latest firm, and the proprietors of the saloon on the alley.

There is a new druggist in the drug store, a Mr. Hatch of Aurora; in what capacity has not been learned. Mr. Shackleford, theretofore the clerk, has departed.

For alleged insult, Mr. Wilkinson, son-in-law of Peter Cooney, gave Gus Shoger's hired man such a beating at the livery stable as to be rendered unconscious for several hours, for which he (Wilkinson) was fined \$5 and costs by the police magistrate.

Oct. 10: M. and Mrs. F.E. Hoar have moved from North Oswego to town.

Charles Leigh had a lot of apples stolen after they had been gathered and barreled.

Schwartz's new and the addition to Chas. Rieger's residence are nearly completed.

Charles Hebert has left the barber shop and is said to have gone to Chicago to study dentistry.

Dr. Van Deventer is having his new acquisition, the Child premises, improved by paint, shingles, and otherwise.

Gus Shoger is filling up the balance of the block by a new extension to his building on Main Street. The Richards Bros. are doing it.

Frank Van Doozer is building a commodious residence on the corner of Madison and Taylor streets near the Presbyterian Church. Aurora carpenters have the contract.

Active operation for the rebuilding of the Congregational Church are now fully underway, and the basement is well advanced, the job being done by Olaus Peterson with four assistant masons. Joliet stone is being used and was hauled from Aurora by a bee order.

The women should bear in mind the 16th of this month and get registered if they intend to improve their first opportunity of taking part in a general election; although they could vote without being registered by swearing in their votes but the doing of a lot of swearing themselves and by their witnesses for identification, as is required, would be very annoying to the most of them.

Oct. 17: A course of dramatic performances was commenced Monday evening at the rink hall by the Eureka theatre company.

Scott Cutter is now the sole proprietor of the drug store and will devote his entire energy to it. Dr. Hanna, who is also a graduate in pharmacy, will be his assistant.

Advertisement: 20 pounds of granulated sugar for \$1. Colliver Brothers, Oswego.

"Some Pumpkin" is the one that was raised by George Croushorn and left in the window of Read's store where it may be seen. It measures six feet, three inches around and weighs 110 pounds. Who has got a bigger one?

Oct. 24: A young man from Aurora is the new clerk in the corner meat market.

C.F. Shaver and C.I. Smith have developed into cyclists; each has a new wheel.

The contract for building the Congregational Church has been let to a Mr. Bryant of Joliet.

In drawing stone for the church Myron Cowdrey was somewhat bruised by the breaking down of a part of his wagon.

Very soon Oswego shall be able to show to the world half a block as good sidewalk and gutter as there is in Aurora, and to which the capital of Kendall County has nothing to compare.

Only 32 omen of this town thought it worth the while to get registered last Tuesday. They should do much better next week Tuesday The males registered so far number 408.

Things were pretty well tore up in the brick block last week. The old plank sidewalk was removed before the operations for putting down the new concrete sidewalks were ready. Spiler & Fisher of Aurora are doing the job.

The secretary of the weather apparently was not in sympathy with the projected ceremonial corner-stone laying for the Congregational Church, that was to take place Sunday afternoon for shower after shower in quick succession followed each other from noon on up to the time set for it, and the event had to be postponed to some future time.

In a letter to the editor, Dr. William T. Putt announced he was leaving the practice of medicine and would take up an undertaking business in order to give him more time to spend with his five year-old daughter given his wife's untimely death shortly before. "I shall bring the undertaking business to a high standard and endeavor to please the people by giving good service and selling nice goods, and will do any class of work and go any place where called. What I can do in that line is well known to you all, and requires no comment from myself," the wrote.

Oct. 31: The brick block has been improved by the repairing of the drug store's front, but the sidewalk of the block is still chaos--half of it is in place.

Mr. and Mrs. Schwartz will soon move into their own new and elegant residence, when the Shepard house, which they vacate, will be for rent--a desirable place for a family.



James H. Foran has bought out the furniture store and changed the appearance of it considerably by the removal of the office partition and the lighting up of it brilliantly evenings. Gilbert Smith is the clerk.

The corner-stone of the new Congregational Church will be laid Sabbath, Nov. 4, at 2:30 p.m.

November -- 1894

Nov. 7: The corner meat market has changed proprietors from James Foran to H.J. Collins.

Oh, what pleasure there is in walking over that artificial stone sidewalk that has just been completed.

The voting here was commenced with a rush, quite a number being on hand with an abiding faith that good times may be secured by only voting right and were anxious to vote them in as quick as possible.

Half after two Sunday afternoon the laying of the corner-stone of the Congregational Church took place; the ceremonies, though brief, were very impressive. Nov. 14: Do You Owe Me? All those indebted to me are requested to call and settle at once as I need all my money in my furniture business. Joseph A. Foran, Oswego.

Nov. 14: But 46 of the women voted here.

The Van Doozer barber shop has been moved into the new part of the Shoger block, and is now a very neat and tasty place.

Andrew Gray has now established a grocery store in the place heretofore occupied for the reading room; everything about it is new and neat.

Nov. 21: The Congregational Church is progressing nicely; the rafters are in and the enclosing of it is underway. Besides the

carpenters from out of town, Harley and Will Richards are at work on it, about seven in all. The mason work is nearly completed, the tower part of it is built of boulders, which were furnished by John Russell.

Oswego High School note; Miss Kate Cliggitt, teacher in the grammar room, being sick, her place was filled by Miss Anna Robinson of the senior class.

The senior class, consisting of 12 members met at the home of Miss Stella Shephard last Tuesday evening.

Arthur Wormley, of the senior class, was surprised by a party by his friends last Saturday night.

Mrs. Frances M. Davis, oldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Lumbard, died at her home in Oswego township Sunday, Nov. 11, 1894, aged 33 years, three months, and four days. The deceased was married to Wallace A. Davis March 26, 1885. She leaves, besides a husband and daughter six years old, a father and mother, three brothers, and three sisters to mourn her loss. She took her infant babe with her.

Nov. 28: The German Evangelical Church on the prairie will be reopened Dec. 26.

The residence of Gus Shoger looks now very elegant; the repainting of it in a greenish hue does it.

By the breaking of a scaffolding plank, Will Richards got a 15 foot fall Monday in working on the Congregational Church, but was not hurt any. During the spell of fine weather the work was pushed ahead very rapidly.

Charles Clinton of Cincinnati, who spent here the hot season of the year, during which together with his wife he attended the Presbyterian Church, now has sent to the same 50 each of new bibles and hymnals. The church Sunday passed a vote of thanks to the donor and ordered that they be sent to him in a letter.

Bookracks have been put up in every pew where these, together with other books are placed for the use of the auditors.

There is a sick tramp kept at the council house; his case is said to be not at all serious and that he may be more shamming than ailing.

December -- 1894

Dec. 5: Don't forget that Cutter will have a full stock of holiday goods about Dec. 10.

An important council meeting was held Monday evening, made so by the opening of the sealed bids for the building of the water-works not including the mains. The bids ran from \$3,000 to \$3,598. The Chicago Bridge and Iron Company being the lowest bidder. The final disposition of the matter was postponed to Tuesday evening.

Thanksgiving day here passed very quietly. That Thanksgiving Day is getting more and more an occasion for gormandizing and sport, and less of religious manifestation is quite evident.

Dec. 12: Two carloads of the world's fair wreckage lumber was received here for a barn on the Martin farm out at the grove.

Capt. Mann Sunday morning met again with a stroke of paralysis. He is working himself out of it and is able to move around the house; his speech being mostly affected.

Dec. 19: Mrs. H. McKinney and daughter, Mrs. Helen M. Pogue, were down from Aurora and visited at Wm. Ladd's.

Don't fight young men. Fighting has become disreputable and arbitration is now in fashion for the settling of disputes, so please arbitrate gentlemen, and quit your fisticuffs.

Dec. 26: The church is now all enclosed.

Mr. and Mrs. Schwartz are now nicely settled in their elegant new residence and have been so for several weeks.

1895

January

Jan. 2: The furnace for the new [Congregational] church is being put in by Aurora parties.

A dance at the Rink Hall, said to be the first of a series, took place one night.

Resolved, that we resolve to keep on resolving to resolve on every New Year's day.

Adam Wallace and wife have moved into the house with his partner, G.J. Burghart. [Burghart owned a local saloon]

The nimrods had a very, to them, interesting shooting-match here just before Christmas.

Frank VanDoozer has been walking lame, caused by running a nail in his only natural foot.

A second attempted hold-up near the cemetery is reported; it was on a Specie Grove man, but he also got away without delivering anything.

The death of Mrs. O.S. Parker of Aurora surprised all her acquaintances of this place, as she was such a healthy looking girl when living here.

We are apt to be too previous; there was altogether too much fulsomeness expressed about the mildness of this winter. Since Thursday the temperature has been humping enough.

The fellow that got drunk Monday and then undertook to whip the marshal for interfering with his team hitched in the street, and then

spent the balance of the afternoon in the calaboose ought to resolve today.

The last entertainment of the course will be given Thursday evening, Jan. 10, in the Presbyterian church. The evening's program is furnished by Mr. Barker, one of the finest impersonators of Chicago and Miss Spoor, violinist.

The year 1894 was spent here quietly; nothing of a sensational nature happened; the burning of the Congregational church and parsonage was about the only important event. While business was not booming, it was nevertheless fair; those of us out of employment didn't want to get in; the hard times, so much said about, did not strike Oswego. There was enough sickness to make our doctors do fairly well, but their skillfulness had kept the death rate very low; besides one infant but 14 died, of which two were male and 12 female, eight married, three single, and three widowed. Their average being about 48 years, that of the males 47 and females 49. The highest age of demised was 86 years and the lowest 18. The number brought here from abroad for burial was 11. The marriage record kept is probably not full; it shows but eight marriages, two of each sex being parties from elsewhere.

Christmas here was quietly spent in the usual way of feasting and entertaining of, and being feasted and entertained by relatives and friends.

Jan. 9: The reason why several items expected to appear will not do so is because no names were signed to them. The name of the writer must be signed to every slip of paper containing an item or notice for publication, no matter whether handed directly to the reporter or not.

The most fun got out of New Year's day was on the ice up on the mill-pond.

Lulu, the one year and 11 day old baby daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Rob. R. Smith, died Friday and opened the death list of this community for 1895.

The report of the death of Mrs. Harper Hopkins in Chicago, nee Susan Wormley, an Oswego Girl, was received.

The death and burial of old Dolly occurred last week, and she is entitled to an obituary notice. She would have been 35 years old in the spring. Dolly was the remaining old gray mare of John Andrews that has been drawing coal, etc., about town for so many years.

From the *Ottawa Republican*: The German carp which have lately been propagating profusely in this country and for which extraordinary claims were made as a food fish, has not held out in the practical test. For a while the carp were a fad and Booth, the great oyster man in Chicago, a few weeks ago said: "It was impossible to get enough of them for a while; we sent every place for them to meet the demand, but now we prefer the ordinary river sucker for our trade." The trouble with them, says an old fisherman, is that they are soft and oily. The fat on them is like the fat of hogs. An old fish dealer visited Chicago a week ago to sell several tons of carp but found them without a market, even in the lowest foreign districts, where the cheapest food is used. He could have sold suckers, bull-heads, red-horse, buffalo and any of our common river fish, but carp were not wanted.

Our rivers have developed wonderful schools of them in the last year and the fisherman who have been seining in that "navigable" river "the Illinois," under the new law have taken tons upon tons of these fish. If their increase continues they will soon become a positive nuisance and crowd out the better food fish native to our waters.

Jan. 16: Jennie Hubbard is now the one on deck at the post office.

H.J. Collins has moved his meat market into the rink building.

George and Lew Inman and Larkin are digging a well at Mrs. Moore's.

The new church is now progressing slowly; but two carpenters are to work at it.

The good skating was improved to the utmost and the fun got out of it was immense.

The Richards Bros. are down in the country building an addition to the residence of Capt. Raleigh.

The ice crop is of the best, both as to quality a quantity; and a large supply is being laid in by the ice company and others so that there will be no scarcity of it for making lemonade and ice-cream during the sweating season of next summer, the thought of which makes one feel cool already.

Jan. 23: Quite a variety of weather was that of Monday.

A wrestling match for a sum of money--the amount is not definitely known--took place Saturday afternoon at the rink hall.

As the stock of water was getting reduced, and as no activity was shown in the new waterworks, the people again turned to the old-fashioned way for getting a supply of water by well-digging. The Larkin & Inman firm dug a well at Mrs. Moore's and when having reached the depth of 17-1/2 feet, mostly through rock, a vein was struck that raised the water in the excavation over seven feet. A good well has there been constructed which was supplied with one of the best force pumps. The same parties that dug it are now engaged in deepening a well for Mayor Smith.

Jan. 30: Del Van Evra is learning type and shorthand writing.

Charles Knapp and Fred Walker had runaways in which their vehicles were somewhat damaged.

Carl nearly three years old, the youngest child of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Leigh, died the later part of the week and was buried Monday afternoon.

According to the best authority obtainable, the money for the completion of the new Congregational church is all in sight; an extra \$100, making the amount \$600, will be received from the church construction department of the denomination. The windows are all

of the memorial kind and their cost, \$475, is assumed by the persons, families, and organizations whose memories they will perpetuate. Instead of pews, the seating of the church will be by chairs, which were engaged last week through Healy & Pearce of Aurora from a Chicago house.

February -- 1895

Feb. 6: Eaton Smith has moved into the Failing house.

Isn't there rather an over-production of zero weather.

David Hall became disgusted with Illinois temperature, and Monday started to spend the balance of the winter in Louisiana and Texas.

An early spring is assured. Saturday was so blamed cold the ground hog wouldn't come out of his hole, and so didn't get scared at his shadow.

Don't forget that Valentines may be found at the pharmacy.

Rev. W.A. Bass was suddenly called to the East, in Canada, by the sickness of his father; hence there was no preaching at the Presbyterian church Sunday.

Fred Robinson, who has been ailing for a long while, got so that he had to give up the janitorship at the schoolhouse, which is now occupied by R.R. Smith. Robinson is said to be now pretty bad off.

Yorkville: Mr. James McMicken, one of the early settlers in the town of Wheaton [Wheatland?], died last Wednesday. He settled in Will county in 1847. Deceased was a brother of Hon. William McMicken of Aurora.

Saturday was ground-hog day, and if the ground-hog had nerve enough to leave his burrow and taken a walk, he certainly saw his shadow for it was a very bright, clear day—but cold—all the way from 18 to 22 below zero; the coldest day of the season.



The pupils of the Cutter school, district No. 2, gave a literary program consisting of composition, recitations, songs, and important news items on Friday afternoon. The exercises were interesting and evidenced careful training by the teacher, Miss Hattie Cooney, and good ability on the part of the pupils, who are bright and mannerly.

The steel works at Joliet have shut down, and over a thousand men are out of work in consequence.

George W. Kimball, for many years a resident of Oswego, was in Yorkville Monday for the first time in two years. He looks hale and is as jolly as ever. He is now a constable and collecting agent at Aurora, with an office at 26 South Broadway.

Be sure to read about Miss Maud Powell.

When the women get all their rights, will they shovel snow from the sidewalks?

Scraping the ice last week didn't seem to draw a very large number of skaters. It has been too cold for that sport.

About three inches of snow fell last night, and has not drifted any as yet; it will make the sleighing fine. It is some warmer today.

Last night, the Yorkville hill was a most delightful and happy scene—it being thronged with people, young and old, to enjoy the sport of coasting,. The hill was in fine shape and several coasting bobs were in use. The starting place was at the court-house, and the stopping place in the middle of the bridge down town, a ride worth having.

Miss Maud Powell

The renowned violinist is the daughter of Supt. W.B. Powell of the public schools of Washington, D.C., formerly of Aurora. Miss Powell has studied her art in Leipzig, Paris, and Berlin, and is now recognized to be the finest lady violinist on either continent. She is accompanied this season by three gentlemen violinists of rare talent,

and Mrs. Katherine Wadsworth, a soprano soloist of unusual excellence.

The entertainment given by the Maud Powell String Quartet, and Mrs. Wadsworth has received the highest praises wherever given. The lecture course committee have, by special arrangement, succeeded in securing this exceptionally fine entertainment for Yorkville on Saturday evening, Feb. 16, 1895, at the Congregational church.

An Oswego Wife Beater (from the *Aurora Post*): Down at Oswego there is a man who is a fit subject for the whipping post. The man in question is a farmer near that village and the father of several children. While one of the children was lying on its deathbed, the other night, the brutish father entered the home in a state of intoxication, most unmercifully beat his wife, who was deeply grieved over the approaching death of the child. Finally, the inebriate brute was quieted, but not until he had afflicted bodily harm on the poor woman. During the same night the white-winged messenger entered the house and bore the spirit of the little child to him who gave it.

Feb. 13: Mrs. John Andrews died. Mrs. A. was nearly 60 years of age; she was a native of New York state; was married in 1850; came here in 1856; was converted in the Methodist church here; she was the mother of eight children of whom but three are now living.

Fred A. Robinson died Friday, the day after his birthday that made him 43 years old, thus his life ended when it should have been in the prime. He had the malady of asthma. The remains were taken to Aurora where the funeral and burial took place Monday. A widow and two daughters in their teens are left to mourn his untimely death.

Mrs. Hannah U. Child, who last fall disposed of her property here and went to live with her only remaining daughter in South Dakota, was brought back Friday for making her abode here in the suburb of the silent near her husband and daughter. The burial took place Saturday. The remains were accompanied by Rev. W.S. Washburn, her son in law.

Oh for a let-up on zero weather.

An icicle 6-1/2 feet long and 18 inches around the base was produced here Monday. Who can boast of a bigger one?

The little boy that has come into the family of S.F. Cutter to be a brother to Gretchen is real cute; so Slade says.

Voss's Barber Shop is undergoing repairing, repainting, and renovation otherwise, which is deplorable interference with the pastime of some of us loungers.

Rev. J.G. Butler preached at the Methodist church Sunday morning and evening. Mr. Simes, the pastor, was suffering from a sudden attack of something like la grippe. So long as a man can borrow all the money he wants and does so he gets along nicely and appears to be prospering, but usually will get hard up when paying time comes; this is the case with nations as well as individuals.

The meeting of the 19th Century club occurred out at Frank Pearce's on the worst day of last week. Cob Pearce was pressed into the service of taking a sleighload of the ladies out there. At a place where the deposits of snow were the greatest, he upset the load and dumped the ladies into a big snowdrift. All were somewhat ruffled up, but none hurt. Some evil disposed person said that Cob did it on purpose, thinking that such a day as that women had no business being out.

NaAuSay: The storm of Thursday and Friday made many of the roads impassable; many fences have had to be cut, and the cold for those two days was intense. The mercury fluctuated considerable—18 to 20 degrees below zero were the marks, but it is claimed a few of the wild ones went still lower.

The cold spell has caused considerable extra labor at the creamery: each can of milk has had to be thawed out before it could be emptied. But considering the addition of able-bodied help they have there, it has passed off more pleasantly than otherwise. The freezing of the milk does not really add to its value, but please do not kick.

Yorkville: Sleighing on Fox river from Oswego to Montgomery is fine.

Mr. Lewis L. Rickard was in Yorkville Saturday. He thinks the new Congregational church at Oswego will be ready for dedication by the first of March.

A track has been broken on the river from Yorkville to Oswego and the sleighing could not be better.

Feb. 20: Fred Funk has rented the Shepard house for his residence hereafter.

Ernst Biesmeyer [Biesemeier] is a new buttermaker at the creamery, and has come here from Yorkville.

Ira, the little boy of Henry Hafenrichter, out at the German settlement, got his hip broken by falling off the fence at the schoolhouse.

Oswego is agoing to have once more a regular hotel. H.J. Collins is converting the rink building into one. Van Evra is doing the job.

Mark Chapman came out from Chicago last week to see how we were getting along. He says he has left the Democratic party and is now training with the Republicans.

A possible President sometime near the middle of the next century is now at C.A. Curran's. His net weight on arrival Friday was nine pounds, and as he is the first of a new generation, he receives the most marked attention.

NaAuSay: Farmers have been putting in their best efforts the past week getting their wood home while the sleighing lasted.

Yorkville: Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Goudie attended the Maud Powell concert Saturday evening.

A bobsled load of young folks drove to Aurora Wednesday night, taking supper at the Hotel Evans.

Feb. 27: The meadow lark is here.

Playing marbles with all its yelling disputes is on in full force.

D.W. Gray has opened a new meat market in the old red market building of the Smith block.

M.J. Wormley who is going to school in Chicago, came home to spend Washington's birthday and a few days more.

Mrs. Mary Mullen has returned from an all winter's visit with her brother, George Sutherland, in Wisconsin.

Brother James G. Andrews has left this county and moved to Will near Plainfield.

J.C. Shepard was over from Hinckley and has rented his house to James Malcom. The renting of it to Fred Funk, as reported last week, fell through.

William Ladd was remembered by a birthday present of a box of very nice canned fruit from his brother, Hubert, of Sacramento, Cal. They parted in 1852 when Hubert left for that country, and have not seen each other since.

Steve Fox versus Gus Huth was a jury trial suit before Esquire Lockwood Monday afternoon. The differences of a few dollars in settlement was the controversy. Verdict for plaintiff.

Parties from abroad are negotiating for the water power here and propose to establish a factory of some kind. Oswego may catch a boom; with a large and commodious hotel into which the rink building is now being reconstructed, an elegant new church, and if that factory should materialize, why wouldn't it?

Mrs. Esther Jane Minard died last Thursday at the age of 76 years. The deceased was a native of New York state. The family came here from Michigan about 1856. Her husband, Stephen Minard, enlisted in the war and was a member of the 36th Illinois Infantry; he died in the army and was buried at Murfreesboro, Tenn., making the widow

a pensioner. She was the mother of ten children, nine of them now living, seven daughters and two sons.

Yorkville: This a kind of a rainy day.

The snow has about disappeared.

Lots of water in the Fox River. Looks like the ice would soon break up and start on its journey to liquidation.

March -- 1895

March 6: Anton Miller will be a candidate for collector at the coming caucus.

Nellie May, baby of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Ring, died Feb. 21 on Oswego prairie aged seven weeks and one day.

The legislature should do something towards preventing city councils and village boards from running people into debt.

“Hotel Collins” is nearing completion and while in the remodeling, convenience and utility are the main desideratum, beauty is not neglected. The banister to the stairs is very ornamental.

Jennie Hubbard, who now has to spend nearly all of her time at the post office had to send to Aurora for a young lady dressmaker to come down and help her out with the engagements of work in that line.

A nice microscope was procured by the school directors. It is manufactured in Germany, and under some arrangement is freed from tariff. Great interest is manifested in it by the school element.

A few minutes before the commencement of the services at the Methodist church Sunday evening, the wind blew off one of the steeple blinds and down upon the roof, from where it slid down to the ground, making a big racket, which started some of the assembled audience on a run.

Mrs. Robinson is said to be going to move into the upper part of the house occupied by McEachron, and that the house she vacated has been sold to Dick Young, who will move into it. James Malcom has moved his family into the Shepard house. Gus Huth is moving on a farm of his own, near Plano. John Waldbillig takes the place vacated by Hugh. Fred Kuhman will work the Collins farm vacated by Waldbillig. George White has moved out and will work the Doud farm.

Yorkville: The hard road bill introduced in the House by Mr. Ely of Grundy, was killed in the committee. Its success was doubted from the first.

NaAuSay: March is acting quite lion-like at present writing.

Charles Lillie will labor for Colonel Clark during the year.

Mr. John Cherry is running a milk wagon now, successor to John Wheeler.

The Cutter boys were pressing straw for Mr. A.P. Walsh one day last week.

The cruel messenger of death visited the home of Mr. and Mrs. F.M. Seely last Thursday morning and took from them their youngest son, Francis, aged one year, five months and sixteen days. Bronchitis was the cause of his death. The funeral services were held at the house on Friday, March 1.

Yorkville: Rev. Henry Bucks died at Plainfield last week, aged 85 years. He was grandfather of Prof. Harry Bucks, who taught the Oswego schools.

The courts having decided that a bicycle is a vehicle, Andrew Welch has added bicycles to his stock of carriages. He will handle first-class wheels. Those intending to purchase should take a look at his "America" on the Island, Aurora.

March 13: Dr. Gilbert B. Lester has been prominently identified with Oswego nearly ever since the close of the war, having since been one of its leading physicians, and was frequently called upon to accept of public trusts especially those of school offices. Though himself a doctor, his health had become impaired for a number of years past, first becoming troubled with hay fever, which compelled him to spend the latter part of summers in a more northern latitude. Next he became afflicted with weak eyes and to all this about a year or ten months ago were added paralytic affections from which he was much weakened, both in body and mind during the last six months. [He died March 7, 1895 at his home in Oswego]

The funeral took place Monday afternoon from the house; the services were of more than of usual interest...at the grave [in the Oswego Cemetery] the impressive burial services of the Episcopalian church were read; this was done by the deceased's request as he had been brought up in that church. Following that, the GAR performed their beautiful rites, the deceased having been a member of the Yorkville Post and the comrades comprising it were present in force to perform the last duty to a comrade.

The deceased was 65 years of age, was a native of New Brunswick [born March 23, 1830], was surgeon in the army during the war. He leaves behind a widow, his second wife, and five children, viz: Fred and Mrs. Alice Ladd of Nebraska; Will of Wisconsin; Kate of Austin; and Mrs. Lizzie Smith of this place. Robert C. Bristol of Chicago, the husband of a deceased daughter, was also present at the funeral. Dr. Lester received a liberal training the schools of his native city. At the age of 18 years came west, locating at Aurora. He was engaged in teaching school for a time in Bristol, then in business in Chicago, and later appointed agent of the CB&Q railroad at Bristol. During these years he had closely applied himself to the study of medicine, and having accumulated sufficient means to attend school, he entered Rush Medical College, Chicago, from which he graduated in the class of 1863-64.

The summer preceding his graduation he entered the Union army; was appointed acting assistant surgeon, United States Army, at the military prison known during the rebellion as Camp Douglas at Chicago. He remained there until 1865, when he was made surgeon of the Sixth Regiment, United States Infantry, and ordered to Denver, Colorado, where he served as medical director upon the staff of Gen. [Emory] Upton for about a year and a half, when he was



mustered out at Fort Kearney, Neb., and honorably discharged. Returning to Kendall County, he located at Oswego and has been in active practice until declining health retired him. He was a member of the Fox River Medical Association, State Medical Society and American Medical Association. During these many years Doctor Lester held a wide and successful practice and many homes lament the loss of their family physician with his medical skill.

The windows of the Congregational church have come and they are beauties.

The boys, large size, are saying that the best place of a McGinty party is out at Ed Smith's.

A change in proprietors of the furniture store has taken place again; James H. Foran has sold out to W.T. Putt.

Those sun and moon dogs Sunday meant something. It is snowing now.

Postmaster Hubbard, Cob Pearce, George Cowdry [Cowdrey] and George White attended the funeral of Comrade Chris Beck at Plano. All were boys of the 127th.

It is not the "old town hall building" that is being converted into a hotel, as some of the Aurora papers have it, but the rink building, originally intended for roller skating, that is undergoing such transformation.

Mary Hunt of Aurora gave a lecture one evening at the K.P. [Knights of Pythias] hall to a very small audience, according to report. Her doctrine, which is from the "Christian Science" standpoint, is not fashionable, and no matter how good a thing may be, if it is not in fashion, the people will have none of it.

Miss Olive Thompson, America's greatest impersonator, is advertised to give an entertainment next Saturday at the K of P hall. Half of the proceeds to go decoration purposes of the Congregational church.

Those that hadn't been studying the almanac were surprised at the looks of the moon when coming out of church Sunday evening. One young lady said to her escort: "How queer; when we came to church the moon was full and now got already to the last quarter." Eclipse was on.

Some data were handed me for an obituary account of Michael Hemm, according to which he was born in the state of Bavaria, Germany, in the year 1825; emigrated to America and to this section in 1853, where he joined his two brothers, John and Christian, that had preceded him for several years, and for awhile was making his home with them in the German settlement near Oswego. Afterwards he established himself in Kendall township and was married in 1856 to Carolina Boessenecker. Twelve children were born to them, of whom ten are living and the most of them are now residing in Iowa. He was an invalid for a number of years, and came to the end of life's journey last week. The funeral took place Saturday from the house, Rev. Mr. Rabe of the Lutheran church in that neighborhood officiated; the sermon preached was partly in the German and English language.

NaAuSay: The Wynne school closed last Wednesday.

The Union school, taught by Mr. John Muir, will close for a month's vacation on Thursday of this week, after which it will again resume operations. Thursday afternoon will be devoted to entertainment exercises.

Yorkville: The Illinois State board of health contemplates distributing among the school directors of every county a very important pamphlet on school hygiene. This is a movement in the right direction.

The Oswego schools, under the management of Prof. W.E.D. Gibson and his faithful and efficient corps of teachers are well organized and doing excellent work, which ranks favorably with other schools in this section. The teachers are earnest and progressive.

It is very gratifying to know that Washington's birthday was appropriately celebrated in a large number of our public schools, notably among them Plano, Oswego, Newark, Lisbon, and Faxon.

There are other schools which should be mentioned, viz.: the Walker school, Oswego township gave a fine entertainment.

The Cherry school, NaAuSay township, Mrs. Ruth S. Jessup teacher, observed Washington's birthday. The school room appeared very bright and cheerful with flags nicely draped, pictures of Washington and Lincoln, and evergreen wreaths, etc. The school is in fine condition.

William Hiddleston, who was born in 1800, and who settled on the Rob Roy creek about 1835, died Wednesday afternoon, March 7, in the house in which he had lived for nearly 60 years in Little Rock township.

Uncle Billy Hiddleston, as so many friends called him, was an old-fashioned man, a man of integrity and one who had come to his property by hard work and plenty of it. He was born in Pennsylvania. As a boy he went to Dayton, Ohio, where he lived some years, coming from there to what is now Kendall county. He bought the farm on which he died from the government and began the manufacture of brick, a business he had followed in Ohio, and his was probably the first brick-yard in this county. Uncle Billy was twice married. His first wife died in 1852, and in 1856 ye was married to Hannah Sargeant, who survives as his widow. He leaves quite a family of grown children—a son living in California, two or three sons at Cabery, and two married daughters. The funeral was held Saturday and the burial was in the Griswold cemetery.

Farmers report the quail about extinct. Hundreds of not only these birds but prairie chickens were frozen to death during the recent cold spell. They became so starved that they went into the barnyards to eat with the chickens and were easily picked up.

#### March 20: Memorial Windows

The putting in of the windows was a part of the progress made on the new [Oswego Congregational] church during the past week, and as they are the most ornamental part of it, hence cause the most attraction. The 14 principal windows are all of the memorial order. The large arched front window memorized Mrs. Durand of Chicago and her deceased husband. Mr. and Mrs. Lysander Hoard of Aurora each has a window for themselves, and another between them for Harry Wormley, the young man who was murdered. The most of the

others are by children to parents, husband to wives, or vice versa, and are: One to Mrs. Christina Smith and Will and Cora Samse; one to Dr. D.B. Jewell; one to Deacon Horace Smith and widow; one to Mr. and Mrs. Seth Walker; one to Lauriston Walker and Widow; one to Eliza Kennedy; one to Mrs. Alma Ladd; one to Mrs. Alida Loucks; one to the "Fallen Heroes" by the soldiers, and one with the Motto, God is Love, by the young people's society. Of the two small windows back of the pulpit, one portrays the cross and the other the crown.

The writer well remembers the time when all of the divine services in Oswego were held in the old school house, which stood just about where Hebert's Blacksmith Shop now is. It was a one-story, common plain building; no vestibule or anything of that kind to it so one would step from the street right to inside the room. Benches without backs, standing lengthwise, formed the seats. In the summertime many of the men would come to church in their shirt sleeves; the preacher would also take off his coat and collar if they became uncomfortable; it was also allowable for men to be barefoot. In summer, of course, the door would be left standing open, so that some of the dogs would come in and they were allowed to stay if they didn't make any disturbance. These were the times of democratic simplicity, but then there was no jealousy existing; there was nothing to be jealous about.

The funeral of Mrs. Sarah A. Young, who died Thursday morning, took place from the house Saturday afternoon. The burial took place over to Keck Cemetery by the side of her husband, H.V.B. Young, who preceded her there nearly six years. Mrs. Young has been sick for a long while. Her daughter Mrs. J.C. Hopkins of Aurora had been with her a good deal. She was nearly 51 years of age; was one of whilom James Snook's daughters; came to this town about 40 years ago, and has been living here ever since.

S. Ness is the name of the new section boss.

John Wolf, on the Oswego prairie, is on the sick list.

The school authorities want to have all of the six year old children, which are to be sent to school, ready to commence with the new term, which is April 1.

The new meat market of Peter Young of Montgomery should have been mentioned heretofore. The facilities for getting meat are now very good; three markets here.

Married on Thursday, March 14, at the home of J. Hummel at 11 a.m., by Rev. M.C. Werner, Andrew Kramer of Oswego and Amelle Duman of Clear Creek, Kansas.

At Collins Hall, Saturday evening, March 23, Mary Hunt will speak on the subject, "Is Man the Thought of God, or is He the Progeny of Worms, Mud and Monkeys?" Doors open at 7:30. Admission free.

Yorkville: Don't ask an editor to suppress an item of news. Some other paper will get it anyway. The next day, something will happen to your neighbor, and if he asks to have it suppressed you will be the first one to jump on the editor for not daring to "say his soul is his own."

The man who was going to do up Mayor Smith and the aldermen of Oswego for false imprisonment failed in his purpose. It was shown that he had no case and the prosecution dismissed the suit.

Learn telegraphy at Dodge's Institute of Telegraphy, Valparaiso, Ind. Tuition, full course, \$25; calendar month, \$4.50. Good board, \$1.40; furnished room, 30 cents per week. Situations guaranteed. Write for catalog.

March 27: Edith Edwards has become a bicyclist.

Mrs. Maggie Edwards went to Chicago this morning for the purpose of providing herself the most fashionable millinery goods.

Joseph Hebert has returned from the Arkansas Hot Springs. He considers himself now free from rheumatism, and complains he went there for, but is weak and pale from the effects of the cure.

John Bartlett has returned from his winter's sojourn in Florida in improved health and spirits. He says we won't know Charley Shaver when he comes back, so fat and tanned has he become.

The live stock market was quite active during the week. Knapp said they shipped three carloads of steers which were the finest cattle he ever saw here.

The builders are getting busy again. The Richards brothers have a job down in NaAuSay; Schamp and his men are framing a barn for George Williams, and Schwartz was reflooring the hardware store Monday.

A *Hochzeit* (wedding) took place down at John Friebele's Thursday. Emma, their daughter, was married to Henry Hahnenstein of Kendall. Rev. J.H. Reed performed the ceremony.

The creamery well that is being dug is now 25 feet deep; all but about 18 inches on top is through rock. Larkin and George and Lew Inman, together with the pony have been to work on it for several weeks. An ordinary amount of water was reached some time ago, but a larger amount is desired.

Someone, presumably, threw a burning cigar stub own on the sawdust covered floor of the Malcom meat market one night just at shutting up time. In the morning the place was found full of smoke, and the floor burst into flame as soon as the door was opened but was quickly put out. About two foot square of the floor had been burned out.

Another death is to be mentioned, being that of Mrs. Charles Wilcox, about five miles east of here. She died Monday of last week after but a few days of sickness; the funeral took place Wednesday from the house, the minister of the Scotch settlement in the neighborhood was the officiating clergyman. The deceased was the daughter of the late John Collins; her age was 56, and while born in England was brought to this neighborhood when quite small. She leaves behind a husband and only daughter, Mrs. A.W. Keihl.

But a small audience materialized to hear Mary Hunt's lecture Saturday evening. There was nothing said in it that could be particularly objectionable to orthodox people. The main subject of it

was that “Man is what he makes himself,” which is now quite generally accepted as correct.

Yorkville: Aurora is growing metropolitan—like Chicago. It is to have a ball-club and Sunday games in the driving park, with lemonade stands, etc.

Ice went out from the pond above the dam Thursday afternoon, and Fox river is clear water again. The ice was so well honey-combed by the sun that it was almost like slush.

Don't throw paper in the streets or road. It is both untidy and dangerous. A big sheet of wrapping paper blowing about Bridge street in Yorkville during the high wind of Monday nearly stampeded Supervisor Murley's mettlesome team, and caused some annoyance. People are often careless about these things, never thinking of what may result.

The blackbirds are here with their chee-ree-ee, and now for spring.

April -- 1895

April 3: A.W. Keihl has rented his farm and will move in with his father in law, Charles Wilcox.

The Garfield pole that has stood on the street corner ever since the summer of 1880 has been cut down.

The Aurora Bicycle Club will again have a prize run on the Oswego route, and which is to be largely contested.

Miss Breed has returned from a week's visit at her old home in Princeton, and with the rest of the teachers commenced the new term of school Monday.

The second ticket got up for village officers is composed of Hank [Henry G.] Smith for president; G. Schwartz, John Conway, and John Gaylord, trustees, and Lew Voss Clerk.

Scott Cutter, who is in the Aurora hospital, is undergoing a siege of the typhoid, and is doing as well as can be expected in a fully developed case of that disease.

The Record's reporters were reminded not to omit sending in the results of the election today of their respective towns. I can do it now as well as if I were to wait till after the election, and thereby be saving the price of a postal card. For supervisor, town clerk, assessor, and collector, M.L. Wormley, G.H. Voss, J.R. Walker and H.S. Richards, respectively, to succeed themselves, and S.E. Walker to succeed C. Roberts as commissioner. The opposition to them, if any, will be very small and the vote polled naturally light.

Having bought and now having control of the Oswego furniture and undertaking business, we have refitted and restocked with a finer line of goods than has ever been shown in the town heretofore. We have also added paints and oils and a fine line of wall paper of our personal selection. We have decided to make Saturday, April 13, a grand opening day when we will offer some bargains in all lines. W.T. Putt, Proprietor.

Yorkville: Lawyer John Raymond rides a bicycle—that is, he tries to ride one.

Mr. and Mrs. James Bell of Seward and the little boy were in Yorkville Saturday on business. Mrs. Bell the daughter of David Hall of Oswego.

NaAuSay: The Eyre boys erected a new windmill tower last Thursday.

Many farmers in this vicinity began sowing oats last Thursday.

Rod. Maculay will work Joe Austin's farm down by the creamery this year while Joseph builds a new house for his own occupancy next year.

W.E. Derby moved to Oswego last week.

Eugene Cooney buzzed up {sawed with a steam-powered saw] wood



one day last week for the Vinsons.

April 10: Experienced an uneventful week.

“Gray’s Headquarters for Armour’s Meat” is the latest new sign in Oswego.

The dedication of the new Congregational church will take place the first Sunday in May.

A mirage of a house painted on the clouds is said to have been observed here Sunday afternoon.

A very nice and large size brown marble monument has been erected to Mrs. Anna Wilcox, recently deceased.

Mr. Walter Beane of Fox attended church here Sunday morning. For one of his years, Walter looks quite boyish.

Lizzie Moore had her fellow teachers and the school directors take tea and spend the evening with her on Friday.

M.M. James withdrew from the contest for the mayoralty and John Bartlett is said to have been substituted in place for him on the ticket.

Grand opening of millinery Friday and Saturday at Colliver Bros.

Yorkville: W.G. Wollenweber lives on the old Hartley Cleveland farm in Kendall. Some days ago some repairs were made on the house, and a chimney that was built nearly 40 years ago was taken down. AT the base of the chimney was found folded up a copy of the Kendall County Free Press, Jan. 13, 1858, published by H.S. Humphrey. The paper is badly damaged but is an interesting relic of days gone by. It shows that J.J. Cole was county clerk, G.M. Hollenback circuit clerk, Jonathan Raymond sheriff, and L.B. Judson his deputy. Someone stole a trunk and hat box from Wm. L. Fowler, and he offers a \$200 reward for their return and no questions asked. David Sinclair advertises a Durham bull, “Don Juan.” The paper is supporting John. C. Fremont for president for the 1860

campaign. The paper contains a notice of the marriage of George Gridley and Ellen Sterns, both of Newark, and of Samuel Greenfield to Elvira Robertson.

Rain Saturday night, Sunday and Monday. It is all needed for the benefit of the soil.

If you wish to purchase a new bicycle, see the line sold by Andrew Welch, on the Island, Aurora.

Plainfield Enterprise -- Father [Stephen R.] Beggs preached in the M.E. church last Sabbath in memory of his 94th birthday anniversary, and those who listened to his sermon were fairly astonished at the enthusiasm and vigor as well as the humor and logic brought out in the discourse.

Mr. Lyman Lane of Bristol made his annual call at The Record office Tuesday, April 9, his 96th birthday, to pay subscriptions for himself, for Philander Ball, and for his daughter, Mrs. A.D. Perrin. This has been an annual custom of Father Lane for many years.

Lyman Lane was born in Connecticut April 9, 1799. At the age of 5 years, with his parents, went to Lewis county, N.Y.; in the spring of 1837 came to Bristol, Kendall county, where he has since lived. He says he knew the late Isaac Hatch when he first came to this country. Mr. Hatch had but 25-cents and was working on the river dam at Oswego. "Mr. Hatch had 1,200 acres of land when he died," said Mr. Lane, "but he could not take it with him. All we can get in this world is a living."

April 17: Thomas Cliggitt near Oswego has good pasture for stock. Good grass and plenty of water.

Rev. Mr. Arlen of NaAuSay will occupy the pulpit of the Presbyterian church here both morning and evening of next Sunday.

H.C. Cutter was elected school trustee for the full term to succeed himself, and John H. Edwards to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Dr. Lester Saturday.

The Aurora papers of last week contained a report of the death of C.M. Butler, who doubtless is the same man who 40 years ago when a resident of Oswego, was called Curt Butler. He kept a hotel here (the Kendall House) for a while.

For supplying themselves with water much work has been accomplished by the people here during the last three months; the latest being that of George Barnard, who had his well deepened and otherwise reconstructed, and H.J. Collins who had the old National well cleaned out and will put in operation for use.

George Cowdrey one afternoon behind Chub's blacks, took this yahoo over quite a portion of two townships to show me how farmers were dragging and plowing and to point out to me the haunts of his boyhood. One of the places fetched up at was that of Hon. C.T. Cherry's, where we were most hospitably treated. Mr. Cherry is having his residence remodeled and had the painters and plumbers engaged—the carpenters had got through with the job. All of the latest appliances for convenience and comfort were being instituted, including an entire new bathing apparatus which, for obvious reason, is of the largest pattern. [Charles Cherry was an extremely large man.]

NaAuSay: Oat sowing is about all wound up in this vicinity.

The Union school resumed operation on Monday.

Andrew Oleson, who has worked for J.V. Jessup a number of years, will work this season near Oswego, and Mrs. Jessup will be assisted by John Sidleman and Peter Schlapp. They make things hum.

Yorkville: The Ottawa street cars have been stored in the barn and Ottawa people will walk—as usual. The road did not pay—Ottawa people were short of nickels.

April 24: New machine oil at Cutter's.

A new baby boy has been added to the family of John B. Pierce.

Charles Hebert has come home from Chicago Dental College on a short vacation.

Schwartz, with his force, has been framing a barn for George Schmidt Jr., out in the German settlement.

Scott Cutter is again about, but notably shows the effects of a tussle with the typhoid fever.

Putting in the seats was among the last of the work on the new church.

George Williams down the river is building a new barn; the raising of it was accomplished last Thursday. Mr. Schamp is the builder of it.

Mrs. Maggie Edwards is nursing a lame ankle; she got run away with on a bicycle. Cycling has become quite the rage here and a number of new wheels were bought.

C.J. Hawley was married again last week Wednesday; that it took place at Geneva and that the bride was Mrs. Lena Deashau of New York City was learned from the Aurora papers. She had been heretofore his housekeeper.

The first meeting of the board of trustees under the new administration was held Monday evening. Waterworks affairs comprised the most of the proceedings and which consisted pretty much all of talk. Some suggestions were advance to the board by a citizen in regard to Sunday traffic and work.

The building of the new waterworks was commenced Monday without being accompanied by any special ceremonies. It should have been delayed a few days longer; being it is a work of great importance, all risks should be avoided including that of commencing it on a waning moon. Three days later would have brought it in the new of the moon. The contract for the mason work was taken by Frank Swanson.

The elections are now finished for this season, the last came to pass Saturday, which was for one school director to fill the expiring term of Mrs. Florence K. Read. When she was elected three years ago there were not a few wagging their heads at the innovation and predicting failure; a woman on the board augured discord and contention. But so very different has it turned out—for at no time have school matters been so harmoniously and satisfactorily managed as during that of her being a member of the board—that when the election became to be talked up most everybody said Mrs. Read must be her own successor. She, however, believed in rotation of office and for some time declined a second term, but the women wanted a representative on the board and couldn't think of anyone to fill the place as well as she, and the men had on a streak of civil service reform, declaring that no good official must be displaced for an untried one; so she was prevailed upon to run again and received all the votes cast, 68, nearly half of them being ladies.

May -- 1895

May 1: George Cowdrey forbids the stripping of his lots on the flats of its sod.

Work on the waterworks was suspended for a few days.

At the council meeting Monday evening the usual standing committees were appointed; George Inman was elected marshal, and saloon licenses were granted to Burghart & Wallace and to John Schickler.

The dedication of the new congregational church next Sunday will consist of three services.

The new church was lighted for the first time Friday night to see how it looks lit up. The greatest splendor of the windows is only revealed when lights are behind them.

Doud & Wormley constitute perhaps the latest business firm of Oswego. They are the agents for which is called the Buchanan fence; a fence not only possessing superior points over all other kinds but

also is one of civilization. Save your stock from injury and viciousness resulting from the barbarous barb-wire fence.

Yorkville: If you should go over to the prison city and say that Jolli-et was a nice town, you would at once be put at work on the drainage canal. The city council of the "Stone City" has passed an ordinance directing all people to speak the name of the city Jo-li-et, emphasis on the Joe.

A man who is ugly and vicious when drunk is of the same nature when he is sober; only he lacks the nerve to put his viciousness into practice.

Thirty-one years ago this week the first number of the Kendall County Record was printed by John R. Marshall—the type was set and the paper printed by Marshall himself, as he had only two boys to assist him, who had not been in a printing office a week.

May 8: A lengthy story on the dedication of the Congregational Church was printed on page 1 of *The Record* that began: It is hoped that some one has written up for *The Record* an account of the dedication of the new Congregational church so that this one may be dropped. The affair has been so nice and pleasant that for the giving of a description of it I am inadequate, or "not in it." The Congregational people and a number of others had been kept busy all week by it, as a great deal of labor had to be performed to get everything ready; the basement was much behind, and as it was wanted for the serving of a repast to those coming from abroad, it had to be got in order. The new bell, a very handsome one, and which sounds a good deal like the old, came on from Troy, N.Y., and was hung during the week, so by being very expeditious, everything was gotten in readiness for the dedication.

Wils Briggs has had a cistern and an addition to his house built.

The new bell for the Congregational church weighs 1,005 pounds, or with the fixings, 1,540. It was very successfully hung by A.L. Rice.

Dr. Van Deventer is getting his residence remodeled; Van Evra is doing it. The doctor has much improved his lately acquired possessions by grading, fencing, etc.

James H. Foran is now the proprietor of the Rink building meat market, having bought out Young & Wormley. A young man by the name of Willis is the clerk.

Mr. and Mrs. Lockwood were visited over Sunday by their sons Will, who is the head of a firm of jewelers and opticians at Darlington, Wis., and Adelbert and wife from Shabbona.

Of the shops, or establishments of industry in Oswego that of the Young Brothers is the most extensive; it may be called a department shop. Besides all kinds of blacksmithing and wood repair work, they have a saw mill and much hardwood lumber is sawed there.

Yorkville: The extreme drouth of the past six or eight months has had a visible and troublesome effect on the great lakes. The water is from one to four feet lower than is usual and vessels have to carry smaller loads so as not to ground on the bottom of harbors. In Green Bay, it is said, the water is four feet lower than the ordinary level. When the new Chicago drainage canal gets at work they will be planting corn on the bottom of Lake Erie.

The bill to establish another State normal school in Northern Illinois has passed the Senate and is on the third reading in the house. The DeKalb barb-wire millionaire, Isaac Ellwood, is backing up the measure, hoping DeKalb will get the institution.

The prospect is now that the state tax will be 60 cents on the hundred dollars if these appropriation bills go through the Assembly--just twice as much as it has been heretofore. This will not help the republicans carry the state in 1896. There is a combination, it would seem, to loot the state treasury.

May 15: There is lamentation for the houseplants that were set out.

Barrett got a refrigerator or cold storage department added to his store.

John Varner has just got himself a new 20 pound bicycle, which, the boys say, is a daisy.

Herbert Barnard is now and has been for several weeks the male clerk at Colliver's store.

Among the Aurora cyclists who have come down here for an evening pleasure spin was Will Marion.

A gentleman and lady photographer have been engaged here the biggest part of the week in photographing the town.

The Chapman house is undergoing reshingling. John Bartlett will occupy it, and has moved some of his household goods in already.

The weather we have to take as it comes, so there is no use of making any remarks about it. A big frost here this (May 14) morning.

Chris Jarvis has returned here again from Indianapolis, and while there must have enjoyed the best of time as he went there in a broken down condition and discouraged spirit and now comes back in that of health, vigor, good looks and feelings of gayety; but he says there is no place to live in like Oswego.

I am authorized to make two proclamations: First, that the pasturing of horses and cows in the streets within the corporation will not be permitted; and second, that the bicyclists with their wheels must keep off the sidewalks.

The Aurora papers had favorable and more or less extensive accounts of our church dedication a week ago Sunday. That they shouldn't have everything accurate is quite natural. One said, "In the tower is a belfry but no bell." If it has listened it might have heard the ringing of the bell. Another had the old church built one year two early.

People usually will slick up a little where things are most seen, but such is not the case with Oswego. Its worst looking features are where they can be seen by the most, which is along the railroad



track, by the people passing through it on the trains. The appearances of the edges are well enough, but the aspect becomes desolating when the centre is reached. There is the corporation lot upon which is thrown helter skelter a lot of old taken up sidewalks and promiscuously dumped the refuse of the streets. Across the street from it are the ruins of the burned Chapman stone houses. Southward of it are some tumble down and the most dilapidated buildings in the village. Further on are the abandoned and partly demolished stone walls of the projected Baldwin warehouse. Some of the people passing through town may think us slovenly.

A dance, and a very loud one, took place Thursday night at the Rink hall. Now that some of the church people have become favorably inclined toward dancing, let an endeavor be made to reform it.

Yorkville: Mr. Elijah Updyke, an old resident of the county, living on the east line of Oswego or NaAuSay died Monday, aged 67 years.

#### THE MEMORIAL WINDOWS

The new Congregational church at Oswego is handsomely provided with stained glass windows, and they were generously donated as memorials by friends as follows:

One by Alida Loucks, Katie Gaylord and Jennie Pearce.

Three by Lysander Hord, bearing the respective inscriptions, "Bessie Hord," "Lysander Hord," and "Harry Wormley."

One, by Mrs. Honor G. Jewell, bearing the name of her husband, Dr. D.B. Jewell.

One by the GAR, inscribed with the words, "in Memory of Our Fallen heroes," and bearing in colors a beautiful Grand Army badge.

Triple window in front bearing the name "Durand" and donated by Anna and Cassius Durand of Chicago in memory of their father, James Durand.

One by Mrs. H.G. Smith in memory of Christiana Smith and Willie and Cora Samse.

Entry window with anchor by the young people of the church with the inscription, "God is Love."

One by Mr. and Mrs. Edward A. Smith in memory of Deacon Horace and Clara R. Smith.

One by Mr. and Mrs. Edward Walker in memory of Deacon Seth and Lyda Walker.

One by D.B. Fuller of Chicago in memory of Lauriston and Lydia K. Walker.

One inscribed "Eliza Kennedy," by Mrs. Lauriston Walker.

One by William and Lydia Ladd in memory of Alma Ladd.

Two small windows in the chancel, one bearing a cross and the other a crown by Rev. J.H. Reed.

The *Newark Nugget* is a new paper in the field, printed and published by C.B. Philips in his Aurora printing office and edited by Mr. Hoover, the Baptist preacher at Newark. It is a four-column folio and like all of Charley's work is very neat and attractive. With a paper at Newark and one at Sheridan, that field is well occupied.

Lisbon: *Aurora Beacon*: The little village of Lisbon, six miles south of Millington, voted the license ticket, and George Funk from Oswego will open a saloon, having rented the Lyman Bushnell building at \$13 a month, in which he is to place two large four-light windows and transoms besides thoroughly renovating the rooms, in order to have a first-class establishment. The license is \$1,000 a year.

Lisbonites are recognized as a jovial set and hitherto they have been dependent on Morris for the effusion of John Barleycorn. Their next neighbor, Morris, nine miles distant, the county seat of Grundy county, now has 15 saloons, which enrich the coffers of the city \$7,500 annually.

May 22: The Fox River Gravel Works, now on Cowdrey's farm, is now fully active.

This frosty weather is to be endured until next Thursday, so John Wormley says.

A new chimney constitutes the progress made on Hotel Collins during the week.

The Chapman house has been undergoing general repairs by its present owner, Thomas Gorton of Bristol.

The bicycle rage has struck Oswego hard. A two-seated bicycle was in town last Monday.

All interested in getting up a bicycle club and a road race for May 30 are to meet at Barrett's store Thursday evening at 8.

M.M. James, while driving on a street in Aurora one day was run into by a bicycle. The bicycle sustained the most damage.

Yorkville: John R. Simons, after years of litigation about a farm in Oswego, has at last won, and has beaten Paul Hawley in the State supreme court, as was announced last week. It has been a long, expensive and worrying lawsuit for Mr. Simons.

C. Thompson of Oswego has received a patent through the Washington agency of C.A. Snow & Co. for a car-wheel for electric cars.

NaAuSay: Some of us had to plant our corn over.

Wallie Davis is the proud possessor of a new top buggy.

A large barn is being erected on the Martin place, better known as the Major Davis farm.

NaAuSay has another enterprise added to its list of industries, which is that of a livery stable in the vicinity of the church, where young men who do not own a horse and buggy can hire one at the cheapest rates and will not have to deny themselves the pleasure of taking the girls out buggy riding.

May 29: Joe Sierp and Frank Gibson were down from Aurora to attend some of the gatherings of Oswego society.

Why there should be gravel put on the roads and thereby spoiling them for cycling is what puzzles some of the young wheelers [bicyclists] here.

The iron columns and other structural material for the waterworks tower are on the grounds. The men for putting it up are expected here right away.

Wire mats and which may be ornamented by marbles in any way desired, are one of the new things at the furniture store; and by the way, that store is now one of the best kept-up, handsomest, and complete business concerns in town.

Shepard, our blind man, in taking his accustomed walk out to James Pearce's, was struck by a bicycle Sunday but luckily no damage was sustained by either him or the bicycle. The wheeler, who was from abroad, probably would have been more careful had he known that the man he was meeting could not see.

June -- 1895

June 5: With the mercury at 90 degrees in the shade, and the coolest room in the house a pleasant place to linger in, it required some effort for people to put on their best clothes and attend church last Sunday, but those who went to Oswego and attended the new Congregational church were well repaid for the effort. The good people of Oswego had made splendid preparations for the observance of Memorial day and they can congratulate themselves on the great success of the occasion.

On Sunday last, by invitation, the Aurora Post, Plano, Plainfield, and Yorkville Posts, with the Relief Corps and Aurora Sons of Veterans attended services at Oswego and assisted in the dedication of a Grand Army window.

Decoration Day was stirringly kept. Little girls were out early in the morning gathering flowers, which were fashioned into bouquets by those having the matter in charge and volunteer ladies. Flags were made to flutter on many of the buildings and a large one was hung over the soldier's window of the new church. It was also the day of the cyclists' road race from Oswego to Montgomery and back and the six contestants were on hand at 9 o'clock in uniform, not full dress exactly. The boys were started at intervals and seemed to be in too big a hurry; one fell right on the start; another fell when having gone the distance of a block and then gave up the race, and the rest all went to dust somewhere on the route. M.J. Wormley gained the first prize by coming first and having made the run in 26 minutes. Distance supposed to be about eight miles.

At the appointed time in the afternoon the procession formed and marched to the Methodist church, where besides the usual devotional services and a program of patriotic songs, declamations and other presentations, the reading of reports and the election of officers of the society took place. The roster of the dead soldiers in the several cemeteries read. The subsequent procession to the cemetery and simply placing the flowers on the graves completed the decorations doings proper.

The ice cream dispensation by the Guild ladies in the Hotel Collins dining room was prolonged into the evening, when then in the hall above the best attended meeting was taking place.

August Keihl died Sunday afternoon; his funeral will take place Tuesday afternoon.

Smith G. Minkler died at his home Monday morning. When a man's past 80 years of age his death may be looked for at any time but when this man has lived a citizen of Kendall County for more than 62 years and been an active, public spirited citizen, it is hard to realize that he must die.

Smith Minkler came west in 1833 and soon they settled in Specie Grove, Kendall Township. He was one of the best fruit experts in the west; he was a member of the Illinois Horticultural Society of which he was treasurer for many years. He was a Methodist. He was a friend of the Sunday School and delighted in giving the children treats of fruits. He was the originator and patron of the Old Settlers yearly picnic.

A gang of workmen have come on for putting up the water works tower and are progressing very rapidly.

The salvation meetings at Collins' hall [the former Star Roller Skating Rink] are taking place regularly every evening, but are but moderately attended.

Mrs. George H. Switzer has been up from Peoria county for a number of weeks to help take care of her sick father, Mr. Keihl.

The Misses Ollie and Edith Edwards, Stella Sephard, and Lida Roberts are so far the most expert on the bicycle of the Oswego

feminines. Mrs. Maggie Edwards is still disabled from running the wheel by the sprained ankle received by a fall from it awhile ago.

Mrs. Roan Kenyon died Thursday after undergoing a long spell of severe suffering, she being afflicted with that worst of human maladies, cancer. The funeral took place Sunday afternoon from the house. She was all there was of the family; her husband, Joseph Kenyon, was a member of the 127th Illinois regiment and died while with it at Young's Point, La.; and was buried there. She was a sister of the several Richards that were living here, and a native of New York.

Yorkville: New concrete walks are being laid in the court-house yard.

Frank Weaver sent a big load of ice to Lisbon Friday for the soda fountain.

Assessor Patterson found one man in Bristol with seven dogs and he put them down on the book. A man who can afford seven dogs should pay a big tax.

Gollmar Brothers' circus was here Friday and gave satisfactory exhibitions. They went to Sandwich from here.

Smallpox has broken out in Aurora again, and it is said there are eight cases in the city.

NaAuSay: Miss Ruth Murley now rides in a new road wagon. She says it was a present.

A horse belonging to Mr. Kincaid Hopkins fell into a well last Saturday evening. By the prompt assistance of H.A. Smith, they succeeded in getting it out alive.

June 12: The funeral of S.G. Minkler was attended by quite a number from this place.

Oswego, too, had a tent show Friday evening. The performances were by bears, monkeys, and yahoos; the latter calling themselves

Mexicans. The show was not one for the development of esthetical and humanness.

John Varner, M.J. Wormley, Clarence Barnes, Erwin Haynes, and Frank Dano, our star cyclists, took a spin around Sunday, the distance of the trip being 65 miles.

The *Aurora News* Monday came back on Oswego with one of its characteristic flings by charging its people with cussedness and ignorance. The rig that was run into by a streetcar in Aurora Sunday did belong to Oswego, but the men with it did not. They are merely temporary sojourners here.

The funeral of August Keihl took place from the house June 4; the obsequies were performed by the Rev. G.A.E. Lippert. The deceased was nearly 69 years of age and was a native of Pomerania, a province of Prussia. He came to America in 1853 and for six years was living in Batavia, where, in 1856, he was married and three years later moved to this place. He was a quiet and industrious man. A widow and five grown children, two sons and three daughters, are the survivors of his family.

NaAuSay: James Austin is putting up a large implement shed for Mr. Hamilton Cherry.

The cemetery meeting last Saturday was held according to notice and several improvements were planned, including new gates, new hitching posts, etc. Next Saturday, June 15, was named as general house-cleaning day and all lot owners and as many as are interested in the welfare of the cemetery are requested to be on hand Saturday morning with axes and saws and spades in good running order and sufficient elbow grease to keep them in motion.

Yorkville: The Yorkville ball club has new uniforms—red; and when the boys are in full dress they look like gorgeous tropical birds. When they run the bases they will seem like meteors—we hope not like fallen stars.

At a regular meeting of the board of trustees of the north side—Bristol village—Monday night, an ordinance was passed declaring

the old cemetery in the north part of the village a nuisance, and providing for the removal of the remains of all persons buried there at public expense.

There was a very large attendance at the funeral of Mr. S.G. Minkler last Wednesday afternoon, drawing old friends from Aurora, Plainfield, and the towns of the county....Among others was Mr. Bryant of Princeton, Ill., whose father was a brother of William Cullen Bryant, and who was an old friend of Mr. Minkler's in the horticultural societies. The service was conducted by Rev. Wilbur Fisk of Yorkville, who made the address, assisted by Rev. Mr. Beal of Plainfield. The singing was by the Methodist church choir of Yorkville. The pall-bearers were old friends of the family--John S. Seely, Carey A. Hopkins, James Harkness, Kincaid Hopkins, Robert G. Leitch, A.M. Boomer. The burial was in the Cowdrey Cemetery. The remains of Mr. Minkler were taken to the burial place in the light fruit wagon so long used by him, drawn by the span of favorite mules, and they driven by the old colored comrade, Nathan Hughes. This was by special request of deceased. Two of Mr. Minkler's brothers were at the funeral--one from Rochelle and one from Morris.

#### June 19: HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

The event that has been for some time looked for and longed for with pleasing anticipation, not only by those directly interested but the community generally, viz: the commencement doings of the high school graduates, which came to pass Friday evening, could have in no respect been a disappointment to anybody, except in that of insufficient room for the accommodation of all that wanted to witness it. The new Congregational church, where it took place, again proved much too small for the occasion.

The motto of the class of '95, "Out of the school life into life's school, was conspicuously displayed in large letters from the front, which, together with a neat show of flowers and the flag, constituted the decorations of the church.

Aurora furnished the music, performed by Miss Dora Loucks and three young gentlemen from that city. The graduates came stepping in from the study-room, where they had been in waiting and together with their teacher, Prof. Gibson, took seats on the pulpit platform. The girls were attired in which, all but one, whose dress



was pink and adorned with the beautiful bouquets, they looked charmingly. The boys wore the conventional black suits and looked very neat and trim.

Rev. L.E. Simes earnestly invoked divine blessing when, after a piece of music, Prof. Gibson stated that the exercises would take place according to the printed program.

Stella Shepard then came forward and after having performed the salutatory, recited her essay on (4th of July) "A day worth celebrating." She was followed by Bessie Pearce on "Class History." Edith Rickard gave "School Life and its Relation to Life's School," and next came Carrie Barrett with "Our Motive Power is always Found in what we Lack."

More music and then Fred Hawley presented "Westminster Abbey." Next came Anna Robinson with "Night brings out its Stars," and was followed by her cousin, Zell Cowdrey with "Tower of London." Music once more, and then Lyman Pearce portrayed William E. Gladstone and next and last came Gerda Colliver--she was the prophetess and spoke from the 20th Century when the class are 25 or more years old.

The valedictory was to be given by a boy who for some reason dropped out towards the last and Anna Robinson efficiently supplied it.

It was one of Oswego's proud events.

Mrs. Anna Lester is on a visit in Ashton.

Bert, a son of Cass Gaylord, who nine years ago moved from this section to southern California, is here on a visit.

A brother from Iowa of Mrs. Myron Wormley is said to be a visitor in that family.

Dr. Van Deventer is on a flying visit to New Jersey.

Kate Butler has come home on a vacation from an institute of learning in Pennsylvania, in which she is engaged.

Knapp and Wollenweber had a runaway out on the Grove road Tuesday morning. Both were hurt somewhat, but not seriously.

Dr. Ewing of Pennsylvania, on his way to a physician's convention in Wisconsin, stopped over to make his sister, Mrs. David Shepard, a visit.

George Hettrich sold his house in town to Michael Shoger of East Wheatland. And the Jeneson house, sold at executor's sale, was bought by George Woolley.

Stockholders in the Library association and renters of cards are notified that the yearly assessment is now due. After June 30 no more books can be issued until assessments are paid.

F.J. Read, Secretary

Hattie Rees has returned from Colorado and now will go to make her native place in Wales a visit., next proceed to London where she has engaged to teach the blind of the Royal academy. She expects to be gone five years.

Burglars burglarized Burkhart & Wallace's saloon one night affecting an entrance through a cellar window. The plunder secured consisted of cigars and bottled goods, and its value estimated between eighty and ninety dollars.

Charles Samse was struck with paralysis rendering the left side entirely powerless, while on the street Friday afternoon. He was carried to his home where since he has been laying in a comatose condition. He is reported as very low now.

The tower and tank of the water works are nearing completion. The men doing the job worked very systematically. It is usually the custom of a lot of fellows here to be around where something new is going on and tell how it should be done, but in this case they conceded that the men understood their biz, and so would find the best shady place and look on without offering advice.

The construction of the new town well is causing a good deal of botheration. Operations on it had to be delayed for the want of the right kind of pump for coping with the flow of water. Too much of a gusher, is what's the matter with it now. A pump secured from the

company building the works and just put in place and driven by Leigh Brothers' engine is what makes the water move.

At the Presbyterian church in the evening Dr. Mr. Bass preached on the "Gold and Silver Issue," taking a strong stand for bimetallism and by implication the free coinage of silver, which, however, was not mentioned. Gold alone for the measuring of all value was portrayed a lever that would turn the commercial world over.

NaAuSay: Word on the McMillan house is progressing rapidly.

Farmers needing any kind of repairs for their Plano harvesting machinery can get them at the shops in Plano.

Jim Inglesby has invested in a new bicycle, and it's a daisy, too. Some of the girls are liable to receive a call from him most any evening.

The Union school closed last Thursday and Mrs. John Muir, the teacher, has departed for a vacation.

June 26: "We pay 12 cents doz. for eggs. Colliver's"

The Country Cousins took a trip to the big ditch last week Tuesday.

D.M. Haight came home from Chicago Saturday on a visit for the first time in a long while.

Farmers needing any kind of repairs for their Plano harvesting machines can get them at the shops in Plano.

The college students Garrett Seely and Charles Read came home on a vacation from Beloit, and Newt Pearce from Evanston.

The contract for a new iron bridge across the Waubonsie near Colvin Pearce's has been let to the Bridge & Iron Company of Chicago, the same establishment that is building the waterworks, for \$1,490.

To gratify his desire, H.J. Collins was brought back Monday evening from the Aurora hospital to his quarters in the Rink building. His wife is with him and will see to his care.

The digging of the new town well has caused much attraction. Great quantities of water had to be pumped out in order to prosecute the work it is a job that causes much botheration; the wall laid and which was taken down along the excavation didn't descend evenly and has to be entirely reconstructed.

The funeral of Charles Samse, who died on the evening of June 19, took place Saturday afternoon from the Congregational church. The burial was in the family lot of the cemetery by the side of two of his children. Deceased was 86 years of age and had been by a few days the oldest male within the corporation. He was a native of the province of Brunswick in Germany; came to America in 1840, was for some years living in New York state where he was married and came with his family to Oswego where since he has resided. A widow, four daughters, and two sons are the survivors of the family.

Bristol: While lying in my hammock today two ladies rode by on bicycles, dressed in bloomers (the first I have seen), and I thought why this hue and cry against that style of dress. I cannot see anything improper about them....If riding a bicycle is healthy for woman and the dress skirt is in the way, that surely is the best costume.

Yorkville: Sherman Duffy of the Chicago *Tribune* force, son of C.C. Duffy, clerk of the appellate court, was one of a class of 21 to graduate at the University of Illinois Wednesday, the 12th. Sherman has been on the *Tribune* for several weeks and has been very successful in his work here.

Corn is growing finely; oats are better than was expected, but the hay crop will be light owing to the drouth.

The pupils of the Collins school district No. 6, Oswego township, enjoyed a visit to the drainage canal a short time ago under the management of Miss Cathrine Bent, their efficient and energetic teacher, who is worth of much commendation for granting the

children the privilege of doing some field work in practical geography.

A single excursion like one to the drainage canal, which is one of the greatest pieces of engineering ever seen, will afford material for useful discussion for many lessons.

Water is low in the wells.

Barber shops are now closed on Sundays by the new State law.

Gov. Altgeld has signed the new libel law, and the newspaper man will have a show for his nickel in court.

Advertisement: Horses Taken Up: Come to my place June 21 two stray horses and one young mule which were shut up in my pasture after they had been through my corn and oats. Owner will please call for them, pay charges, and take them away. Frank Friedly, Oswego Post Office.

July -- 1895

July 3: Jay Young's family has been increased by another young Young.

The Richards brothers have taken the job of shingling Martin's big barn out at the grove.

If you want a new or second hand bicycle, write or call on O.L. Ervin & Son, Plano, Ill.

Henry Gray, one of Oswego's heaviest men and engaged in lightning rodding, has come back for a few days.

The Aurora papers last week gave an account of a very nice wedding, of which Frank Lippold was one of the principals. Frank is an Oswego product.

That Aurora cycling road race last week was lost to Oswego because gravel had been put on some parts of the route. Many of its cyclers,

however, make runs down here; one evening of last week 22 in one bunch.

While Oswego has been advancing with great strides in one direction it was falling behind in another. It built a new church, waterworks, a huge town well, concrete walks, converted several old style residences into modern ones, perseveringly kept running four of its churches, maintained an excellent school, which turned out ten graduates, has several lodges, camps, etc. of secret orders and any number of reformatory organizations--but it has no base ball club.

The water works tower and tank are a grand success even should they prove a failure for what intended; the adornment they give to the place would be more than sufficient for what they have cost. They are visible from all directions being 112 feet tall from the sole of the foot to the top of the vanes, the loftiest thing that Oswego has. While the Congregational people built a very fine church, on the steeple of it they were very moderate. The new well was walled up by Frank Swanson; in order to do the work a pump throwing an eight-inch stream of water was kept going constantly for three days and three nights; it pumped dry pretty much all the wells of the neighborhood. The well contains now ten feet of water. The engine is expected to be set up Tuesday. The job is nicely done, and the gang of men that did it are very clever fellows and got along with our folks splendidly.

NaAuSay: Farmers of this vicinity will begin haying in full force this week.

Yorkville: The CB&Q company will hereafter charge bicycles as excess baggage. Heretofore they were carried free.

To the public: The United States government will furnish suitable head-stones for unmarked graves of soldiers, sailors and marines who served in the army or navy of the United States, whether they died in the service or since.

The head-stones are made of Vermont marble, suitably engraves, and are delivered at the railroad station nearest the cemetery, free of charge. The applicant is expected to attend to setting, which is readily done.

Let the people throughout Kendall county see to it that each defender of our country who now lies in an unmarked grave, sleeping the hours of his manhood away, is remembered by placing at his grave a tablet that will point to his service.

Let the people of Kendall county remember that those who now sleep in unmarked graves died for liberty, died for their country, and that a grateful nation honors them by marking their silent mounds with a monument.

B.F. HERRINGTON

Adjutant, Yorkville Post No. 522, GAR  
Yorkville, Ill.

Hereafter McHugh's barber shop will be closed on Sundays. Sunday patrons will please take notice.

Workmen began to tear down the old cheese factory-blacksmith shop west of the feed mill in Yorkville Tuesday. It has had its day.

The dry weather continues, with cool nights and warm days. Cisterns and wells are nearly as dry as the weather, but we hope for rain soon.

July 10: Mrs. John L. and Mae Gaylord were on a visit in Lockport.

Capt. Frank Huyck left his boat on the lakes long enough for a visit of a day or two with his wife and boy here.

Situation wanted by threshing engineer of 17 years experience; can do all repairing; give good references. Address, Charles Boyle, Oswego, Ill.

A young Wormley of Shabbona came over on his bicycle to make his cousin, M.J. Wormley here a visit. M.J. wanted to show his visitor around a little, and so Saturday they mounted their wheels and took in half a dozen places, including Lockport and Joliet together with the penitentiary.

Mr. and Mrs. L.B. Judson were down from Aurora to attend the funeral of the wife of their old neighbor, S.L. Bartlett. L.B., who soon will be in the 90s, looks as fresh and walks as straight as ever. He

attributes his well preserved physical condition to his having always as much as possible kept clear of sin.

The water works are now a reality and the inauguration of furnishing water through them was the center of interest during the week. The gasoline engine and pump work admirably. Alderman Gaylord is running it for the present. And every part of the whole apparatus appears to be of excellent quality. What trouble it will be to properly take care of it will be found out hereafter.

There are in this community always enough possessed with patriotic spirit sufficient to get up or stay up for ushering in the Glorious 4th with 13 guns of anvil shooting. The doings of the day consisted of the explosion by the boys, and girls too, to some extent, of a large supply of firecrackers, among many of the giant kind; some target shooting on the flats; select picnics; social conviviality at the restaurants and saloons. The pyrotechnics of the evening were all on private account. A balloon sent up from the Malcolm residence was the best of the display.

Two funerals in one day is of seldom occurrence in Oswego, but it happened Saturday. The first was that of Mrs. S.L. Bartlett and took place at 11 o'clock from the house. While she has been quite feeble for several years, she was no worse when death overtook her, which, without premonition, occurred Wednesday evening. She was 83 years of age, a native of New York state; her maiden name was Phoebe Failing; the family came to Oswego in 1840. A husband, two sons, and two daughters are the survivors of it.

The other took place in the afternoon and was that of H.J. Collins, who had died on the afternoon of the 4th at his hotel building, and from where the funeral took place. The deceased was 54 years old and was brought up in this vicinity. He leaves a widow and three children, two of them by his first wife. At both funerals flowers were made use of for the expression of love and the undertaking services performed by W.T. Putt.

NaAuSay: Samuel Jessup is here for a visit.

Mr. Wm. Jessup's family ride in a new double carriage.



Yorkville: A long story under the headline:

Duncan MacGregor.

Methodist-Baptist-Divorced-Independent

Used to Preach at Oswego

A good many years ago—25, maybe—there came to the Methodist church at Oswego a handsome, dark-complexioned, stalwart young man named Duncan McGregor, who was to act as pastor; he was a student at the time, we believe. Duncan was a great big, jovial, social boy who could preach well, but was a little sensational in his posing and a bit indolent in his habits. He used to preach occasionally in the Yorkville church and made many friends here. Well, he drifted away; got into the cities; tired of Methodism and became a Baptist and stood high as a pulpiteer. But he had his failings, like us all, and was disfellowshipped by the Baptists and went to preaching in halls, etc. The Philadelphia Press of a recent date gives this further chapter in his history:

Rev. Dr. Duncan McGregor, the preacher who was expelled from the Association of Baptist Ministers and compelled to resign from the Centennial Baptist church, will wed Miss Sallie H George at noon today. It was his affection for Miss George that caused his wife to get a divorce, his people to demand his retirement, and it probably influenced his fellow Baptist ministers to drop him from the rolls...

The Norwegian Lutherans in Morris are building a new church to cost \$4,300.

Yorkville is getting pretty gay as a summer resort.

Did you hear about the Automatic Refrigerator? It's correct—an ice and money saver. Everybody buys them in Aurora, E.W.L. Rice & Co.

July 17: Salt mackerel, 50 cents a keg. Collivers'.

The village authorities have bought a hose and cart for protection against fire.

A number of Aurora cyclists were in town Monday evening, among them was Otto Schuman.

Beulah is said to be the name of the youngest daughter arrived at the home of James Pearce, July 12.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hawley are settling down to house-keeping in the Frank Hawley house.

The C.E. Hubbard family have changed residence by moving into the Van Deventer house on Van Buren street.

Henry Helle would like very much to have given back to him the cane which he laid down in the cemetery and forgot to pick up again as it was a keepsake from an old friend.

A small company greatly enjoyed an old settlers and old neighbors party given at the residence of David Severance one day last week. It was composed of Mr. and Mrs. L.B. Judson of Aurora; Mrs. O.E. Judson of Sandwich, Mr. and Mrs. William Ladd, Mrs. Sophrina Fosgate, and Mr. and Mrs. David Severance. Among other diversions they counted up their combined ages, which reached 606 years making the average 75-3/4 years.

Wayne's Elevator burned Tuesday afternoon, July 16. Origin of fire not definitely known. It was pretty much filled with grain, mostly oats. The waterworks did splendidly after having been supplied from Aurora by the Q railroad company with hose; the hose for the works here are bought but not yet received. Our folks are enthusiastic over it; the water was pumped faster than one stream could exhaust it. [Wonder what the loss and insurance on the elevator were? Editor]

Yorkville: The Columbia zouaves played a six-inning game of ball with the Yorkville team Wednesday afternoon to a score of about 25-5 in favor of Yorkville. The soldiers were not an organized team, never having played together before. They were rather surprised at the result, however, as one of their members expressed it, "they thought they were going to play a lot of farmers."

Mr. C.E. [Charles] Mann rode down from Oswego on his wheel last Monday morning to transact business in Yorkville.

*Aurora Beacon:* Several men, four horses and the city's scraper was at work Friday endeavoring to clean the east channel of the river below the dam. The amount of grass, weeds and filth scraped out was great, and the fragrance arising from the disturbed mass was vastly something greater. The horses scarcely wet their knees in the deepest places.

Fishermen say there are lots of dead fish in the river down about Oswego, killed with giant powder. If a party of real fishermen ever catch anyone using powder it will go hard with them.

"Wheelery" is the latest word from the Boston mind. A "Wheelery" is a bicycle shop.

July 24: Bob Jolly is around on crutches because of a broken bone in one leg, the result of scuffling.

There was no insurance on the elevator. A part of the oats was little damaged and has been shipped and much of the corn has been hauled away for hog feed. It is hoped that it will be speedily rebuilt.

Mr. Ames, the foreman of the waterworks returned here for several days tightening up the tank. What little leakage there is yet is near the top and will be stopped by the swelling of the staves.

Our people also have become affected with the camping fad and to some life would be a failure now without a camp out, a distance off, for a week or two. A number will start this morning for one down the river in Fox township.

Ollie Edwards was one among a number that distinguished themselves in fighting fire at the burning of the elevator. She climbed upon the roof of a nearby house and with a garden hose played upon it to keep it wet. And Ollie yet wears short dresses.

Among those from abroad who attended the funeral of I.F. Reed were his cousin, Andrew Henry of Kankakee county, and his brother-in-law, Ezra Pearce of Iowa, together with their wives. Both were formerly of this place or vicinity.

At the council meeting Monday evening a number of bills were allowed: flagging for covering the well ordered to be procured; J.C. Inman appointed engineer and conductor of the waterworks; a tile sewer ordered in front of a house to do away with a ditch, and divers matters talked over.

Two more of this community have the past week gone to the beyond. One was Isaac F. Reed, who for years has been much troubled with rheumatism shifting from one part of the body to another, but was no worse up to the time of his death. Tuesday afternoon he was at the fire and with others watched the burning down of the elevator. It is said that he had been having attacks on the heart and told his wife that his end wasn't far off. Such came to pass Wednesday morning, July 17, when sitting in a chair he suddenly expired. The deceased was 77 years of age, a native of New Jersey and came with his family to this place in 1855, where he followed his trade, that of a mason, so long as he was able. He leaves a widow, his third wife, and three daughters by his first wife. The other departed is Mrs. Schuman, who died here and was buried in Iowa, having been taken there by her daughter, Mrs. Emma Collman, when awhile ago here on a visit to her parents. Mrs. Schuman was a sufferer from a shattered nervous system for several years. She was about 67 years old, a native of Germany. The family came to this country and place about 26 years ago. She leaves a husband her, a son in Aurora, and two daughters, one residing in Missouri and one in Iowa.

July 31: A tent show of the comedy kind was here in Shoger's pasture Saturday and Monday evenings.

Van Andrews has rented the Bartlett blacksmith shop and moved into the tenant house next to it.

Mrs. Fullen and children have ended their summer sojourn here and after a short visit in Chicago will return to their home in St. Paul.

Jabez Newberry, who has evolved into a hotel keeper in Streator, visited Oswego, his old home when he was a shoemaker, one day of last week.

The hose and cart for the waterworks have been received and a trial given them Monday in putting out the fire of the still burning coal pile of the elevator.

Thompson's Wild Cherry Phosphate and Hire's Root Beer at Cutter's Drug Store.

A man, repairing wringers, was in town last week supposed to have been affected with hydrophobia. He stopped at James Pearce's to get a drink of water, but when it touched his mouth the jaws shut so as to bite a piece out of the tumbler. When out of the spasm he said that he had been bitten by a dog but the wound had been cauterized and that he had had one spasm before.

Who regulates the railroads? It is sometimes said that they are not allowed to leave cars standing in the streets at crossings; if that is the case no attention is paid to it so far as Oswego is concerned, as cars are frequently left standing partways in the street--a freight car stood right over the cross walk from Saturday afternoon to Monday forenoon. Cannot our village board make an ordinance in regard to the matter, and Mayor Smith enforce it? Another thing: stock cars well filled with manure, when left are apt to be placed as near to residences as can be, through the entire sidetrack may be vacant elsewhere. To add still to the nuisance of freight cars left standing near residences, especially over Sunday, it that they are made use of by the hoodlum small boys for their sporting facilities and hence a racket about there that is not conducive to the edification of people inclined to ethics.

August -- 1895

Aug. 7: The damaged hydrant at the drug store has been repaired.

John Roth is getting his barn shingled. Schwartz and Kohlhammer are doing it.

A replevin suit [a legal remedy for a person to recover goods unlawfully withheld from his or her possession] by parties from Millington was tried one day before Police Magistrate Fox.

A drink of Thompson's cherry phosphate tastes out of sight. Smoke Invincibles. At Cutter's.

Lettie Hebert is said to have left the camp down in Fox and returned to Chicago. John Conway and Gus Voss would stray away from it once in a while and make a run home.

According to those newspaper fellows that are commenting on bloomers, it would appear that all what makes women pretty is their dress. Don't mind those fellows.

A stunning crack followed by a rattling report startled the people in half of the village one afternoon, and made all think that something terrible had happened; but it was merely a blast for a reservoir in the creek at Young's shops. The rattling report was made by the falling of stones upon the roofs of the buildings.

Mrs. Funk experienced a terrible scare Saturday night by someone trying to get into her house through a window. The scare, however, did not deprive her of the power of screaming, of which she made the utmost use, being heard for several blocks away. The fellow ran away when she began to halloo.

Yorkville: The Earl Palmer family has moved to Aurora where the son has a place in the cotton bleaching factory. There seems to be no work in Yorkville for a good many willing hands.

Work on the new iron bridge at the mouth of Blackberry creek in Bristol is going on with a good deal of energy...The sone being used on the abutments are massive and should last a hundred years. This bridge business is quite expensive to town and country, but it is a necessary expanse, and cannot be avoided.

John Lester, a barber at Morrison, was fined \$3.60 by E.W. Payne, justice of the peace, Tuesday for keeping his barber shop open Sunday.

The bulkhead has been taken out of the race at Yorkville and now the river above the dam looks like a great muck marsh. If this thing

keeps on, Fox river will be among the things that were. There is scarcely any water to be seen in some parts of it.

There was a large turnout at Burlington park last Saturday on the occasion of the Scotch picnic.

There has been a notable change in the creamery proprietorship in this vicinity, and Mr. Kilbourne and the Fox River Butter Company have sold out, so it is said. The Palace Car Creamery Company now own the Yorkville creamery and Mr. J.C. Conway & Co. have the Platteville and Lisbon creameries.

The "Scottish Assembly Cadets" of Chicago, composed of three companies, girls, boys, and young ladies, will camp out at Cowdrey's grove next week, commencing Aug. 12.

#### Lawlessness at Spring Valley

The blight of lawlessness seems to have fallen upon Spring Valley, in its every beginning and rested there ever since. It began with the lawlessness of a corporation headed by the late W.L. Scott of Pennsylvania in building a town, selling lots to employees, and then closing the mines until the men should be starved into submission to its reduction of wages. Then appeals went out to all the Western country for food for the starving miners at Spring Valley. Chicago responded liberally and Mayor Creiger sent carloads of provisions to the locked-out miners. Those men were American citizens in the better sense of the term, for many of them were native-born and others had lived long in Illinois and had adopted the spirit of American principles. But they were finally compelled to lose their homes, leave Spring Valley and find employment elsewhere. They were compelled to do this because another class of miners came in to take their places and work for the wages they had refused. The new miners who came to Spring Valley were of another class. They were Americans only in the right to vote. They were Huns and Italians, and they had none of the spirit of America. The company made the same mistake in settling these miners at Spring Valley as the coal men in Pennsylvania when they threw out American labor to get the benefit of cheaper labor from Europe. Spring Valley has been a lawless community ever since they came.

These Spring Valley miners are again on the war path because negro miners have done just what they did several years ago. The negro miners are willing to work where the Italians and Huns are unwilling to work and the negroes are willing to accept the wages the Italians and Huns refuse. For this reason a mob is organized and an indiscriminate attack made on the negroes. This mob does not simply guard the mines to prevent the negroes from going to work. It marches against the homes of the negroes and presents an armed invasion of peaceable homes. It is a race war as cowardly on the part of the whites as any that has occurred in the southern States. There should be a short, sharp action on the part of the authorities of Bureau county in bringing these murderous miners to justice. They have been allowed their lawless license too long. They should be given to understand that Illinois is not a place for Italian brigandage.

And if the sheriff finds that he cannot enforce the law against these foreign rioters, the Governor should send enough of the National Guard to the place to enforce the law.

An echo of the Spring Valley trouble, whereby Italian miners wantonly attacked and shot down defenseless negroes, men women, and children, was heard at 496 State Street, Chicago where an indignation meeting was held by prominent colored citizens of the city.

Before the meeting was called to order a number of speeches were made. P. Buckner, a barber, said he wanted every able bodied colored man in Chicago to arm himself and proceed at once to Spring Valley.

"We have some rights," he declared. "We are American citizens and not a lot of foreigners, the refuse of Italy's hordes. I am in favor of proceeding at once to Spring Valley and annihilate the whole outfit. His remarks were wildly cheered.

Excitement is still high in these parts and the authorities fear that the war between Italian and negro miners will break out with renewed fury before many hours. The action of the Italians in raiding the negro settlement, in which over 40 negroes were more or less seriously wounded, is regarded as a cowardly outrage and all classes are offering their sympathy and support to the colored



people. A dozen or more of the wounded negroes are not expected to live and among them are several women.

The trouble was caused by the murder of an Italian named Barni Rulli and it was supposed that the deed was committed by the negroes. In the morning a mob of 200 Italians rushed down upon the negro district and began attacking every one it met with pistol, knife, and club. Houses were broken into and men, women, and children alike struck down. Hundreds of panic-stricken negroes flew to the woods for safety. It was late in the afternoon before order was restored and parties are now searching the neighboring woods where it is thought many dead negroes will be found. Several special deputies have been sworn in and every effort is being made to preserve order.

The Italians are restless and in an ugly mood and openly parade the streets with arms. It is now known that the raid on the negroes was planned over a week ago and that the murder of the Italian Rulli was a mere pretense for the outrage.

Aug. 14: The county fair is now the thing to be given attention.

Our campers have returned with tanned faces and with renewed ambition, strength, and love for life.

John H. Hafenrichter is commencing to build a new house, barn, and corn crib on his land out in the German settlement. The Richards Brothers are doing the job.

Threshing is now the predominant subject for discussion with the farmers and the blower device for stacking the straw the latest interesting thing about the machines. At Seely's they threshed Saturday.

Druggist Scott Cutter, together with his brother Dr. C.H. Cutter of Aurora, started Monday on a two week's bicycle trip through a part of Wisconsin, touching Lake Geneva and some other noted places.

Now is the season when flowers have reached their greatest beauty. Mrs. Helle as usual is having an extensive flower garden, and Mrs. Schwartz has her new residence almost surrounded with flowers.

A very nice party to the number of 125 made up from the neighborhood and surrounding towns including some from the city of Aurora, took place Wednesday night at the residence of John T. Wormley, where a dancing floor had been laid and the terpsichorean pleasure enjoyed to the fullest extent.

The council at its Monday evening meeting accepted the fire company that offered itself for service, and which is made up of the following members: Ernest Troll, C.M. Jarvis, H.S. Richards, O.L. Wormley, C.A. Barnard, C.C. Hopkins, G.J. Burkhart, F. Burghart, L.R. Inman, C.S. Smith, J. Albert Schmidt, Frank Swanson, H.D. Hebert, F.R. Nichols, G.E. Troll, J.C. Varner, A. Wallace, J.W. Carney, R.W. Richards, Sidney Cooney.

They are all good boys full of confidence and think if they only had been in Lockport Saturday with the water works and their hose here they would have shown that fire in a hurry what could have been done with it.

Yorkville: The Sycamore Cycle Club offer prizes to the actual value of \$450 for their bicycle race meet to be held at Membrino Driving Park, Sycamore, Wednesday, Aug. 28.

Aug. 21: John E. Barrett is having a pleasure trip which takes in Niagara Falls and a voyage around the lakes.

Rev. L.E. Simes is on shipping his household goods to Evanston. The family departed Tuesday morning for there.

Scarcely one thing is stopped before another is put in motion for gathering up the nickels. The merry-to-round is now being put up on the flats.

Another camping party went off from here the fore part of the week, and are supposed to be down in Fox on the grounds of C.R. Cook. They are John Gaylord, Lew Inman, L.L. Rickard and their families, and Frank Pearce with his wife and a part of the children.

The camp of the Chicago Scotch cadets at Cowdrey's park had great attraction for Oswego's inhabitants. Burlington Park also was visited by a portion of them.

At a meeting of the fire company, held one evening, over which Frank Nichols presided and Ernest Troll was secretary, Orville Wormley was elected fire marshal, Joe Varner first; and Clarence Hopkins second assistants. Saturday afternoon the company went through a drill practice and the move they got on themselves was satisfactory.

Rev. Sam Weir has returned from Germany where he has been pursuing certain studies in the Universities of Jens and Leipzig for about two years, and also visiting several others of the principal institutions of learning there. He has become so much imbued with German that for awhile it may bother him to talk straight U.S.

All of us expected to see the army march through or by Oswego Monday, and when learning that the head of it had reached this side of Montgomery and pursuing the road on the west side of the river, the small boys quite generally also some ladies, went across the bridge for a closer view and the balance of us were watching the road from this side. After waiting and watching for quite awhile it was learned that the regiment had flanked us by taking the Blackberry creek route. Militaryism was thought to be a good deal of humbug anyhow.

Yorkville: General Welch, Colonel Frazier and Captain Belden of the Third Brigade, Illinois Militia, drove down from Aurora early Friday morning to make arrangements for the camping of the third regiment on the fair grounds Monday night.

Aug. 28: School will commence Sept. 2.

The new bell for the school-house was received Monday.

By painting the appearance of the Hebert residence has been much improved.

Nettie Pogue has now a very nice new upright piano. She also has a nice father; the piano is a present from him.

Scott Cutter has returned from his bicycle trip and his appearance would indicate that it has done him physically much good.

Hotel Collins is now in full operation. Mrs. Carrie Collins herself is running it, and she is well qualified for a successful landlady.

The fire company have also formed themselves into a social organization, of which Ernest Troll was elected president; Clarence Barnard Secretary; and Ad Wallace, treasurer.

Yorkville: There was a nice rain Monday forenoon, from 7 o'clock till noon; it was a gentle, penetrating downfall, very acceptable, clinching the good effects of Friday's rain.

Mr. J.C. Conway is not now connected with the Yorkville creamery, as was stated in the *Record* a few weeks ago, but is devoting his whole attention to the Platteville and Lisbon concerns and that keeps him busy. The Palace Car Creamery Company owns and runs the Yorkville factory.

There will be a trail of the McCormick corn harvester on the John Crum farm about a mile west of Yorkville on Friday of this week, to which all interested parties are invited.

It is reported that "Stub" Russell, the legless and one-armed terror of Plano, is dead. He has been dead so often that many will hardly believe the report. Russell was (or is) a man of wonderful vitality and has had a checkered career. Years ago, when living in Plano, he lost first one and then the other leg while jumping railroad trains, and lost an arm in the same manner. The legs were taken off close to the body, but "Stub" continued his railroad life just the same, and rode when he pleased, pulling himself on trains with ease. He was in the Salvation army at one time, it is said.

September -- 1895

Sept. 4: The cider-making season is on. Dave Hall's mill is in full operation and others are starting up.

The hog market was very active here the past week.

John Cherry has been hauling the lumber for a new barn, which is being built by Bryant & Co.

The raising of the new barn of J.H. Hafenrichter took place one afternoon.

The last party of our campers have come in. Their ardor for camping had become somewhat dampened by the rains.

The new term of school commenced Monday with the new ring of the new bell and with a new principal and one new teacher, Miss Nellie Wormley; Kate Cliggitt and Luella Breed are the other teachers. The bell weighs 350 pounds and its ring is very clear and melodious.

Seely is on filling his silo with the aid of an engine and a gang of men.

Sept. 11: Pat Daly, a former resident of this place for many years, died last week at his home in Aurora.

The village authorities have caused much work to be done on the streets, more or less for the worse.

Frank R. Nichols has opened an office in the Lester office building and made Ernest Troll his secretary.

Misses Cora and Ella Willis, engaged in Aurora, were seen several times in town on their bicycles.

The railroad company has patched up its platforms about the depot and constructed some new walks across its tracks.

Will Cliggitt is negotiating for the elevator property with the intention of rebuilding, an object very much desired by the people of this vicinity.

Mr. and Mrs. C.E. Hubbard and daughter Jennie have attended the reunion of the 127th regiment at Aurora Friday.

Bloomers have been sat down upon by the preachers at several of their gatherings. They also have been denounced as unseemly by the doctors in convention. The lawyers have not yet been heard from, and probably are looking up the precedents in regard to bloomers. Now this is a free country and people ought to be free to enjoy such dress as they prefer so long as the same does not interfere with anybody else's rights and liberties. Let the bloomer ladies be independent in this matter; if these professional gents don't like their looks, they are at liberty to shut their eyes when meeting with them.

Sept. 18: Charles Knapp had his cow killed by a freight train.

A 14-foot tall cornstalk was brought to town by Fred Leigh Saturday.

Clarence Barnard is on the sick list; his brother, Herman, is filling his place at the depot.

Prof. and Mrs. Gibson have gone to Ohio where he has engaged in teaching in an academy.

The rebuilding of the elevator by Will Cliggitt is under way; the mason work is being done by O. Peterson and Frank Swanson, and is nearly completed.

The watering trough at A. Miller's [American Male & Co. building] is being changed over to Jackson street, alongside the livery stable. Convenience for the public never was taken into consideration in the locating of watering troughs.

Miss Katie G. Butler, after a pleasant vacation of three months at home, returned to her duties on Monday. Her parents went with her as far as Chicago. Miss Butler is a member of the faculty of Blairsville College for Women, not far from Pittsburg, Pa. The excellent catalogue this year shows the institution as a seminary to be one of the oldest in western Pennsylvania. In 1893 its authorities applied to the courts and obtained the right to engage in the higher education

of women, with full power and authority to grant diplomas to graduates and to confer degrees. Its students completing the prescribed courses of study may receive the college degrees of A.B., B.S., and B.M.

The “new woman” is for independence; she will require the man to make himself attractive and that not merely by his clothes; she is for being no more anxious of getting left than the man shall be. In short, she is for the enjoyment of equal privileges. Again, beauty, grace, taste, and style are to a great extent mere notions, cultivated conceptions. Old style costumes look ridiculous now, but they were pretty and tasty when in fashion. That bloomers were downed 30 years ago is no reason why they should not succeed now. Many good things fail in their first effort; the Cubans have been defeated theretofore in several revolts, but that is no reason that they should not succeed now.

Mrs. Nicholas Congdon was subject to paralysis that made her an invalid for three years and from the last of which she died during Thursday night. The funeral took place Saturday from the house. The deceased was nearly 76 years of age, a native of New York State, her maiden name being Mary D. Hopkins and was one of 14 brothers and sisters, all dead now but two, Mrs. Schram of this place, the twin sister, and Mrs. Marcius S. Richards of Aurora, or possibly three, a brother on the Pacific coast of whom nothing has been learned for many years. She came to Oswego in 1842, was married to her surviving husband in 1845, was the mother of six children, all dying in infancy but one, who became the wife of George H. Switzer, but who also died several years ago. Two of the grandchildren were present at the funeral.

The popular thing now to say is that “the government should go out of the banking business,” and certainly it should get out of the kind it has been engaged in for the last three years, that of furnishing the banks with all the gold they saw fit to get hold of. There probably is much more design than necessity in these calls upon the government for the redemption of greenbacks to secure gold for foreign shipments. The greenbacks always have been an eyesore to the money class, as they came into circulation without having been borrowed of it, and consequently no original interest is derived

from them. To force the government to retire the greenbacks and to have the amount replaced with the interest-drawing gold and silver and bank not money would be quite an item to the money class.

NaAuSay: Graveling of several of the roads commenced this week.

A great deal of corn is being cut for fodder on account of the short hay crop.

Pathmaster Morrissey has done a good job of graveling near the county line, at Tuttle's farm.

Truman Johnson will take for exhibition at the Wheatland Plowing Match some of his marvelous Gold Mine corn.

This is the time to shoot prairie chickens (Sept. 15-Nov. 1), and the report of the gun can be heard all around.

Yorkville: Miss Nora Willett commenced teaching in the Squires district, Oswego township, Monday.

Stephen R. Beggs, the oldest preacher in Illinois and the man who preached the first Methodist sermon in Chicago, died at his home in Plainfield Monday, Sept. 9, at the advanced age of 94 years and 5 months. "Father" Beggs is a part of the history of Illinois.

The annual plowing match and fair in the township of Wheatland, the township just east of Oswego, will be held next Saturday, Sept. 21. This meeting always draws a large crowd of participants and sightseers, and Kendall county should be well represented.

James Smith Cornell died at his home in Yorkville of paralysis Sept. 11, 1895 at the advanced age of 87 years and 5 days. Deceased was born in Queens county, Long Island, N.Y., Sept. 6, 1808, residing there and in New York City until the spring of 1835 when he came to Illinois with Rulief Duryea and, in partnership with him, built and opened the first store in Yorkville near where the court-house now stands; there being but one house in the place at that time.



He was the second sheriff of Kendall county, serving in that capacity for six years.

Sept. 13, 1838 he was united in marriage with Marion P. Howe, moving to the farm between Yorkville and Plano, where he resided most of his life. Twelve children were born to this worthy couple, nine of whom, with their mother, survive him, viz: Andrew J. Cornell of Joliet; M.E., and Charles of Yorkville; R.T. of Fox township; Neil of Plano; Willis of Dakota; Mrs. W.A. Puterbaugh, Mrs. George Van Emon, and Miss Eva Cornell of Yorkville.

The funeral service was at the house Saturday afternoon. The service was conducted by Rev. N.M. Stokes of Chicago, who was a much beloved pastor of the Yorkville Methodist church a few years ago.

With James S. Cornell goes one of the landmarks of Kendall county. He had a large acquaintance with the older people along the Fox river and was a man much respected. During his long life he had been an active man, only succumbing to the insidious advance of old age the last six months.

Sept. 25: Postmaster Hubbard was in Chicago Sunday.

It was more of an equinoctial scorcher than that of a storm.

A number from here attended the Wheatland Plowing Match.

J.S. Seely's windmill was shattered by the wind Sunday night.

From eating too much of new oats, F.E. Hoard had his horse die on Sunday.

Several carloads of large blocks of stone have arrived for the new bridge over the Waubonsie near Cob Pearce's.

Mr. Ames, the foreman of the waterworks, was here for a few days, engaged in stopping the leaking of the tank.

John Wormley and son Lew are down in Tennessee, where they have gone into the cider-making business. It is said that there is no end to apples where they are.

According to speeches made in connection with the GAR convention at Louisville and the dedication of the Chickamauga National Cemetery near Chattanooga, the greatest blessing that ever befell this country was the war. Now the credit of bringing on the war must be given to the south, and to be consistent the south is entitled to a greater bestowal of the encomium than the north for the resultant blessings. And in this light, should not the rebel soldiers also get pensions if what was said in those speeches was meant for the real meaning?

NaAuSay: The plowing match at Wheatland on Saturday on the farm of Peter Lantz was a great attraction for farmers for many miles around. NaAuSay had a good share of its farmers there. It was estimated there was about nine to ten thousand people present. A test of corn harvesters, one a McCormick and the other an Osborne machine, was witnessed by a large crowd; both machines did excellent work. Judging by the display of cereals, garden truck, etc., the land and good farmers are in keeping with each other for perfection in that part of the state. A corn husker and cutter and a patent lever binder was exhibited, the former machine made by a Milwaukee firm and the latter by the Plano Company, was the center of attraction.

October -- 1895

Oct. 2: Mr. John A. Young has commenced building a new residence near the old one.

The village authorities have done a good deal of tearing up of hydrants Monday.

A freight train and Otto Haag's wagon collided Monday near the depot, causing the taking off of a wheel from the wagon.

A new stable and other outbuildings and the repainting of the house are the improvements George Woolley has put on his new possessions in the village.

A flotilla of three boats is manned by J. Albert, or Shorty Schmidt, Dan Minich, and Sid Cooney. They intend to navigate the Mississippi to Arkansas, if not to the gulf. Shorty is the commodore of the fleet.

Thirty-five years ago Frank Fox left here and went to Boston, where he has been living ever since and Monday he returned for the first time on a visit. When he had come up town he looked around and said, "It seems Oswego has been moved into the woods" The shade trees have grown since.

NaAuSay: A combination of farmers in this vicinity is about to purchase a husking machine and to cut up their fodder.

The groves are full of people on Sundays, gathering nuts. Is Sunday the only day town people can gather nuts? It's a rare sight for country people to see so many coffin nails, i.e., cigarettes, pulled, which some town people glory in.

Oct. 9: Wouldn't the Cubans progress faster if they were for annexation?

Ten members of Oswego's fire company attended the firemen's review at Sandwich Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Archie Lake lost by death their 14 months-old boy, an only child, Sunday.

The demolition of the old Evangelical church [the old "French Castle" at Washington and Madison} has just begun. The Germans are bound to keep up with the style.

The stone work for the new Waubonsie bridge is nearly completed. It would seem to be too extensive a bridge for the creek.

After about six weeks of most hazardous sickness, S.S. Collins died Saturday. The funeral took place Tuesday.

Mrs. Anna Shepard and a young lady friend from Indiana cycled down from Aurora Saturday.

Charles Knapp has bought of the so-called syndicate the drug store building. If he keeps on buying village property he soon will own the biggest part of Oswego, at least of its business buildings. How would for the name then "Knappolis" look and sound?

Tuesday her relatives here received information that Mrs. Will Miller of Ottawa had been stricken with paralysis. Her mother, Mrs. Samse, and sister, Mrs. H.G. Smith, immediately went to her assistance. Saturday she died; the remains were brought here on the morning train Monday and the funeral took place in the afternoon from Mrs. Samse's residence. The deceased was 53 years of age; was Mary, the oldest of the Samse girls. She leaves behind a husband and grown son.

Oct. 16: Eight o'clock is now the shutting up time of the east side business houses.

Henry C. Cutter has bought the Richards store building in the brick block.

The Pat Daley house was sold to an Aurora party, the name of which was not learned.

George Burghart has sold out his residence to his son-in-law, Will Funk, of Aurora.

The elevator is up and its completion is being pushed with the utmost energy. Our builders are now very busy and have to get some help from neighboring towns. James Yard of Montgomery is one of the carpenters on the elevator.

The store of the Colliver Bros. has changed hands and for the present is not open. The title of the new proprietorship has not been ascertained, but Ed Sodt is the name of one man connected to it.

D.M. Haight was home over Sunday. He is now traveling for the Fox River Butter Company and is most enthusiastic over the business. He said he has been in many towns since he went on the road and has taken pains to observe the prospects for development of them, and in none has he found them so promising as they are in Oswego. He

claimed that Oswego might be foremost in that of a booming town, the price of its real estate double from what it is if it wasn't for the old fossils who hinder and discourage any enterprise undertaken, and especially blamable is the one who acts as reporter for the *Kendall County Record* as he never has anything to say for the good of the town.

Another old landmark is gone, namely the stone church on the southeast corner of Madison and Washington Street. The building stood there for over 50 years and in the first place was a two-story dwelling house. For a while it was known as the "French Castle," as the Canadian French occupied it when first coming here. About 42 years ago the Presbyterians bought it and converted it into a church, and several years later sold it to the German Methodists who have worshiped in it ever since. Last week it was torn down to make way for a more impressive structure.

The funeral of S.S. Collins took place Oct. 8 from the Presbyterian church. The Masons here, in the lodge of which the deceased was the chaplain, had the funeral in charge. S.S. Collins was a native of Connecticut, and was 67 years of age. He came to Oswego in 1884. He left behind a widow and adopted daughter.

Oct. 23: A number went to Aurora Monday night to hear Bob Ingersoll.

The lower corner store was opened again the latter part of the week under new management.

Sarah and Bertha Burghart are opening a restaurant in the old meat market on the corner.

The work on the elevator was somewhat reared for a day or two owing to the lumber being slow in coming.

The basement work of the new Evangelical church is progressing rapidly. Olaus Peterson is the foreman of the job.

Putt & Croushorn is now the title of the proprietorship of the furniture store and undertaking business. G.M. Croushorn bought a half interest in them.

From the *Aurora Beacon*: Cyrus Baker, aged 82 years, died at Oswego Oct. 15, 1895. He was a mason by trade and in all regards a highly respected citizen. He came from the vicinity of Schenectady, New York, and had been a resident of Oswego for 35 years. He was a brother of William Baker of this city, the old and well known west side mason. He was also uncle to Edward Baker of McMillan's dry goods establishment.

The large and imposing residence of Will Cliggitt down the river, the property of Chris Herren living in town, burned down Saturday night. According to report, the origin of the fire is now known, but supposed to have been carelessly caused by the hired man.

Yorkville: In the "memory of the oldest inhabitant" Fox river was never so low below the dam at Yorkville as it was last Thursday. As one man expressed it, "We will have to haul water to the river so that the ducks can swim."

"Rah, 'rah, 'rah! Northwestern!" There was a football game in Chicago Saturday between the Northwestern team of Evanston and the big team of the Chicago University--a combination that is seldom beaten. Result: 22 to 6 in favor of Northwestern, and the royal purple owned the town. Mr. Newton Pearce of Oswego, who is a senior at the Northwestern, played center, and did splendidly. He weighs 200 pounds and when he goes, something has to give way. He is one of Northwestern's most reliable players. Emmet Jeter of Yorkville also belongs to the Northwestern team, and was on the field to take the place of any who might be disabled. But it was a clean, gentlemanly game and there were no accidents.

#### ANOTHER PIONEER PASSED AWAY

James McCauley, One of the Few Remaining Early Settlers of Kendall County Called from this Life by Accident

Last Wednesday morning, Mr. McCauley arose bright and early and after doing his usual morning work left for the Caton elevator with a load of grain.

Little did he or any of his household think that this pleasant and joyous home was so soon to be the home of mourning, but such was the sad decree of fate.

He had just started on his homeward journey when the team--a fractious one--became frightened and started to run when one of the lines broke. This rendered them unmanageable and left the fated man on a high wagon with no means of control. The team dashed full speed against a post, throwing the occupant out upon his head. The bystanders crowded 'round, but human aid was of no avail, as his neck was broken by the fall.

Deceased James McCauley was born in Donegal county, Ireland Nov. 30, 1828 and has reached the rope age of 66 years, 10 months, and 16 days. When very young, he came with his parents to America, first locating in Canada and then in the State of New York. As a youth of 18 years, he came to Illinois, settling at Lockport, but soon after came to the Dougherty farm. Before there were any transcontinental railroads he took an overland trip to California and after remaining there for nearly five years, returned in January 1857. On Dec. 2, 1857 he was married to Malinda A. Goodwin, his lamenting wife, and took possession of the farm where he lived with brief interruptions until the time of his sudden death. Their married life was blessed with six sons and two daughters, of whom the daughters and two sons have preceded him to the spirit world, leaving four sons--Bert, Ead, Rod, and Fritz--to cheer and comfort the bereaved mother.

The funeral services were conducted by Rev. Henry Arlen at the Union church Friday, after which the remains were consigned to earth in the Union cemetery.

Oct. 30: A rear addition is being built to the Stodt store.

Will Cliggitt has moved into the Kenyon House.

The laying of the corner stone of the new Evangelical church will take place next Sunday at 2 o'clock. The indoor services in connection therewith will be held in the Congregational church, where Bishop Escher of Chicago will preach in the forenoon in the English language and in the evening in the German.

Oswego is so overwhelmed with activity at present there is no time for gossips and consequently what news items there may be they cannot be ascertained. There is no lounging at the stores and barber shops now; no cracking of jokes or comparing of ideas going on anywheres; the only thing of the kind noticed during the week was a dispute as to whether or not the top of a wheel of a wagon in motion did move faster than the bottom; some held that such a thing was impossible, as the bottom of the wheel gets there just as quick as the top.

Newton Pearce of Oswego, who plays center on the Northwestern University team has been highly commended for fine play in which Evanston beat the Chicago University. The Chicago *Tribune* said: "The keystone of the stone-wall line Saturday was the three center men, Stockstill, Pearce, and Pendleton, the trio weighing within five pounds of an even 600. Pearce played his first game at center in the contest with Beloit. He is a veteran at the position playing it first in the champion team of '92 when Paul Noyes was captain. If Phil Allen thought he was going to have a snap with Pearce it was because he had never met him, for Pearce has never found his superior."

November -- 1895

Nov. 6: The laying of the corner stone of the Evangelical church Sunday afternoon was witnessed by a large assembly, favored with the nicest kind of autumn weather and most successfully accomplished in all respects. The services were all performed in the German tongue, and were opened with singing a hymn. Placed in the receptacle for them the deposits, consisting of a record of the church and its officers, a copy of each of the different publications of the denomination and of its hymnals, catechism, the Bible, etc. Mrs. Knapp let the hymn-book she was carrying go in with the rest and on top of all this was placed last week's *Kendall County Record*. The mortar was then spread for the corner stone, which on one side bears the inscription of "First German Evangelical Church," and on the other, "Erected 1895." was put in place by Olaus Peterson.

Fanny Gregg, about 10 or 11 years old, was badly burned when her clothing caught fire. She was burned more or less all over the body,



but mostly on the neck, arms, and legs. She is yet in a precarious condition but according to the last reports more hopeful of recovery. It was a deplorable accident; Fannie is such a nice little girl.

John Schilling was one of the early settlers of the German settlement east of town and for a number of years was occupying the farm now owned by George Hettrich. He moved from here to Will county and later to near Lowell, Ind., where he has since been living on a farm. The information of his death by blood-poisoning was received Thursday by his brother George here.

The elevator is nearing completion.

People here will have to go up to the mill dam now to be able to drown their kittens in the river.

Ladd, the agent of the company that constructed the waterworks was in town Monday evening and received final payment for them.

The new restaurant by Sarah Burghart was opened the latter part of the week; her sister Bertha is assistant. They have fixed up the place very neatly.

The topic of conversation in Yorkville Thursday was the earthquake. Did you feel the shock? was a general inquiry. It happened about five o'clock in the morning, when sound sleepers were getting their best nap, and only wakeful ones were disturbed. But it is the evidence of a large number that Kendall county witnessed a "seismic" disturbance, as the big papers have it, and it was enough to make things rattle in some houses and frighten a good many children. The quake was general over many of the Southern and Northern states and scientists think something caved in about the center of the earth and the crust slipped a trifle. No damage is reported. The Chicago Journal suggests that the shock was caused when Gov. Clarke put his foot down so heavily on the prize-fighters in Arkansas.

Nov. 13: Sadie Baker died Wednesday, Nov. 6, and was buried Friday following her father to the grave in three weeks. Her death

astonished the community as she was in the prime of life, sick but a short time which was known but to a few and she was one of our most noted leaders and promoters in movements of esthetics. She was an elocutionist, was very apt in drilling children for literary exercises and also an artist of rare ability.

Mrs. S.G. Minkler down in Specie Grove, died Thursday and her funeral took place from the house Saturday. The old settlers of the thirties, of which she was one, are thinning out. It may be mentioned as coincident that on the same night she died the death of her brother-in-law, Harmon Minkler of Rochelle, also took place. This year has been one hard on the Minklers; within six months are embraced the deaths of three brothers: Mortimer, Smith and Harmon and one of their wives.

H.B. Read's store received a new floor.

The lumber for the new church has arrived, and the carpenters' work on it was commenced Monday.

According to the newspaper squibs on bloomers, all the beauty about women is owing to their dress.

Nov. 20: The beautiful snow is here.

The Methodist church [Little White School Museum] has been reshingled.

The building of the new Evangelical church [Church of the Good Shepherd] is progressing; a lot of nice stone left over is for sale.

The new elevator is done, all but putting in place the engine, a gasoline one, and the putting on of the finishing touches.

A baby, and the first of the family, has brought joy into the household of Fred Graham, down on the Specie grove road.

Marriage, the happiest of all earthly events, was entered into by a couple of this community the past week. It did not take place here, but at the Palmer House, Chicago. The ceremony, however, was

performed by the Rev. W.A. Bass of this place. The wedding card reads: Dr. William T. Putt--M. Maud Hopkins. Married Thursday, Nov. 14, 1895, Chicago. At home after December 1, Oswego, Illinois." According to reports, their wedding trip will include a visit to the Atlanta fair.

The future of the horse is one of the subjects of newspaper literature, and much solicitude is expressed for his destiny. He is alluded to as being threatened with displacement by the bicycle and electric motor, causing the writers to deplore that the animal so near to man, so much of the object of love and affection, should be in danger of extinction.

NaAuSay: All persons receiving mail at the Kendall Post office are requested to get their mail before 7 o'clock p.m., as the office will be closed every evening at that hour.

Bury those dead hogs; do not haul them on the roadside, nor leave them unburied on your farm. The law says you must and also fixes a penalty for the disobedience of the same.

Yorkville: The good old Chicago Journal is no more. It has passed into the hands of the Philistines, and will become one of those hyphenated monstrosities now so common in the journalistic world--the *Press-Journal* or the *Journal-Press*. For more than 50 years the Chicago has been in the hands of the Wilson family. Now it has been bought by a Detroit newspaper syndicate the Booth-Scripps people, who now own two papers in Detroit, one each in Milwaukee, Indianapolis, Cleveland, St. Louis, and the *Evening Press* in Chicago. The publisher of *The Record* went into the Journal office as a boy in August 1852 and worked there until 1856, learning the printer's trade, and ever since then he has been a reader of and a warm advocate of *The Journal*; and now it is gone and never can the void be filled in the home of the old time Journal reader. Well, well, well. Time is passing on, and it is hard to keep up with the procession.

Nov. 27: How do you like shoveling snow?

Dr. and Mrs. Putt, the bridal couple, returned Monday evening.

Henry Schilling of Iowa was a visitor at his uncle's, George Schilling, of the German settlement.

The unlucky number of 13 tramps were given quarters over night in the council house.

C.A. Doud and family were people that everybody would have liked to have remained in this community, but they have pulled up stakes and gone to Minnesota.

A special concert of delightful music by Edison's latest talking machine will be given in the Presbyterian church on Nov. 29, under the auspices of the ladies' society. Admission is 20 cents; children under 12 years, 10 cents.

NaAuSay: A heavy snow fell Sunday and Monday nights, which makes those farmers who have much corn in the field look "blue;" some even have assumed the pink of profanity.

Mr. John Cherry's new barn looks very pretty in its modern dress. Body of barn is painted red, battens white, windows frames and doors, two or three different colors.

Yorkville: There was a big fall of snow Sunday night, but Monday night came a corker. The snow began to fall about dusk and gathered in force during the evening helped on its activity by a strong wind. It was one of the snowstorms you read about. The Fox River Railroad line was under cover quite a while, and it was 11:15 in the forenoon when the morning passenger train from Ottawa arrived. Two freight trains had got stuck in the snow near Wedron and it took all the force on hand to get them out--the passenger engines helping them. When Chilvers' train did come, with two engines, the snow flew in clouds like the foam from the bows of a line of battle ship. The Chicago passenger was an hour late. It was the biggest snow we have had for a long time, and has been the cause of much worry and hard work, but that is all over and the sleighing is splendid.

December -- 1895

Dec. 4: Commencing Tuesday, Dec. 10, and continuing one week, the ladies of the Oswego Presbyterian church will hold a fair in Mr. Knapp's hall.

The new elevator is nearly completed and in about a week will open for business. It is being supplied with all the latest improvements for convenience and quick work.

Those that had horses and cutters or were able to hire them enjoyed the snow as much as possible by sleighing and when soft enough for the purpose, another class enjoyed it by pelting each other with snowballs.

Henry Ricker is the last of this community to depart for the realms where the wicked cease from troubling and the weary are at rest. He died early Sunday morning at the house of Mrs. Kinley, his boarding place. His burial is not yet determined as they are waiting to hear from a relative in Kentucky. He was a native of the province of Hanover, Germany; his age was in the neighborhood of 60 years. He was a resident of this place about 40 years, following his trade the entire time, that of jeweler.

Dec. 11: The work on the new church is again progressing; it is now partly enclosed.

Albert Schmidt, Dan Minich, and Sid Cooney, our navigators, have returned from their voyage down the rivers toward the gulf. They went as far on the Mississippi as New Madrid.

Arthur Wormley with his mother while driving in Aurora one day were run into by a street car and together with their cutter upset.

George Stickler, while sitting in Burghart's and Wallace's Saloon Thursday, all at once fell to the floor apparently dead. A doctor was sent for and in the meantime an effort was made to give him some whiskey, but as his teeth were set and his eyes closed it couldn't be readily done; as soon, however, as some of the whiskey got through his set teeth, he opened his eyes, and soon afterward was able to drink it the regular way again and was alright.

The remains of Henry Ricker had been removed from the private residence where he died to the undertaker's rooms and the funeral was delayed till Thursday when it took place from the Congregational church. The only relative present was a nephew from Louisville, Ky. He is said to have killed himself by the close confinement to the shop, still he had reached the age of 63 years, much more than the average of life. He is blamed for having denied himself of pleasures yet it is claimed that self-sacrifice the doing good to others, to be one of the noblest traits that man can have. His money, if rightly used, will do good to those that get it.

Dec. 18: A heavy thunder shower passed over Oswego during Monday night.

Fred Burghart is now the head clerk in the James Foran meat market.

The Methodists want to have it known that on Christmas eve they will have at their church the best Christmas doings ever got up.

Fred Teachner is the name of Oswego's new jeweler, and has taken up the business laid down by the old. He is a young man from Pommerania, Germany; has been in this country two years and came here from Aurora. He is occupying for his shop one of the front windows of Barrett's store, where he is prepared to attend to all watch and clock repairs and other work in the jewelry line.

To the Public:

My elevator is now practically completed and I am ready to receive grain in any quantity, for which I will pay the highest market prices. To all having grain, I extend a cordial invitation to call and see me and I will make it to your interest to bring your grain to his market. It shall be my endeavor to deal fairly and honestly by all, trusting thereby to build up a business from which, in the future, mutual benefits may result. I am putting gin a corn-sheller, and in a few days will be ready to handle ear corn.

William Cliggitt

Dec. 25: John Turpin out at the grove took a load of turkeys to Aurora. The motion of the wagon apparently made some of them seasick as they would vomit and he had eight die on the way.

Charles Zorn, the other day on his way home from Aurora, spent the evening in town. At about 10 o'clock or shutting up time, he started for his home down at John Friebele's. Near the cemetery he was confronted by two men who shoved a revolver in his face and took from him his money and watch, the former being about \$43 and the watch cost him \$33. The Aurora papers located the occurrence on the bridge, which caused resentment by some of the people over the river; they don't like to have such doings reported as in their neighborhood.

The funeral of Mrs. Sarah C. Baker took place last Friday. Nine weeks ago that day the funeral of her husband took place, and six weeks ago that day that of their daughter. So in nine weeks the Baker family, all but Harry the son, disappeared from the mundane existence. The deceased is said to have been 77 years of age.

1896

January

Jan. 1: John Wormley has received two more carloads of apples and one of cider from Tennessee.

George Cowdrey is said to have rented his farm and will become one of Oswego's men of leisure.

Little girls from the Home of the Friendless in Chicago have been adopted into the families of Charles Knapp and J.A. Shoger.

Camp 1401, M.W. of A. [Modern Woodmen of America] will install officers Thursday evening, Jan. 9, 1896. All neighbors and their families are requested to be present. Supper served by Eastern Star. E.A. Smith, V.C.

A meeting of the Waubonsie Farmers' club took place Saturday afternoon at Supervisor Wormley's. That club is our high-toned organization; its meetings are always associated with a grand banquet followed by "after dinner speeches," as it is the case with those swell clubs in the big cities.

The annual election of Lorraine Chapter O.E.S. [Order of the Eastern Star] No. 70, was held Saturday evening, Dec. 14. The following officers were elected: Emma L. Wormley, worthy matron  
Charles Roberts, worthy patron.  
Susan Rice, associate matron.  
James R. Fitzgerald, secretary.  
Ollie Voss, treasurer.  
Dora Pearce, conductress.  
Harriet Walker, associate conductress.

The recent judicial election, according to the supervisors' report, has cost the county \$423.70; the number of votes are reported as having been 338, making the cost of each a fraction of over \$1.25. The Lisbon votes came in the highest, \$3.14 each, and the lowest were those of Oswego at not quite 62 cents. There ought to be some kicking against the high prices of elections, especially such about which nobody cares a snap.

There seem to be always many more coming to town than going away on holidays, which would indicate that Oswego is a good place to feed in. The visitors on Christmas were so many that no account of them could be kept.

The brothers, Frank and Elias Darby, have married sisters, and they are dwelling together in the same house. A few weeks ago, Frank's family underwent an increase by the birth of twins, and week before last the same event happened in Elias's family. All are boys, so there can be no bragging on either side. It is also said that the two mothers have a married sister down south who, a few months ago, bore twins, so that within six months, twins were born to each of the three sisters.

NaAuSay: Happy New Year to all! In your spare moments practice writing 1896.



The Morgan brothers, who visited home over Christmas, have returned to their field of operation at Peru, Indiana; their work is operating electric machinery in the mines; they are also patentees of several electric machines for mining purposes.

In spite of the rain and mud, old Santa was in one of his best moods on Christmas eve at the [AuSable Presbyterian] church.

Yorkville: A Lisbon letter from "Record Reader" about a Mr. Barrett is not published because the name of the writer does not accompany the communication. "Will give name later on" is not acceptable in a newspaper office. Don't ask the publisher of a paper to print anything you are ashamed to acknowledge.

Jan. 8: The students of this place returned to their colleges Monday.

The Kenyon house sold at administrator's sale Monday was bought by Mrs. George D. Wormley.

At E.H. Sodt's, our new merchant, one sister is yet a visitor and another and a brother have been last week.

There will be a meeting of the stockholders of the Oswego Library Association Jan. 13 at Putt & Croushorn's store.

Some of us got scared the first thing in the morning of 1896 and got out of bed quicker than we are in the habit of doing by hearing the church bell ring and taking it for an alarm of fire. But it was for the sunrise prayer-meeting with which the new year was ushered in by the Endeavorers. The day was spent very quietly; none kept open house as far as learned, and the conventional call-making was left out. There were again a large number of guests from abroad distributed throughout the community.

The death record for Oswego and near vicinity for 1895 stands about thus: Total number of deaths, 26; of which 12 were males, 13 females, and an infant under a year of age. Fifteen were married, five single, and five widowed--all women. The average age being 58

years; that of the males 57 and the females 59. One of the females died and was buried in another state.

The bodies brought here for burial were four, three females and one male, the latter killed on a railroad, their average age was about 51 years.

The marriage record shows eight weddings--the same as last year--of which six of the males and three of the females were of this community.

The German Settlement's budget of news: John Hettrich has sold his farm to his brother George, and bought one in the neighborhood of his brother Otto, near St. Paul, Neb.

George Marck of Omaha spent the holiday at Leonard Wolf's.

Leonard Leigh of Iowa was a visitor at his uncle's, Christian Hemm, for a week.

NaAuSay: Corn-husking will soon be over--for last year.

Poles are all up and now the wire is being placed on them between Joliet and Plainfield for that telephone.

Yorkville: Miss Effie Parker has left Arizona and is now at Guthrie, Oklahoma. She was formerly from Oswego and has been teaching out West.

The skating on New Year's day was grand; the ice was glairy and smooth and not a flake of snow upon it. The pond was full of skaters during both the day-time and evening. But the good skating is a thing of the past.

*Aurora Herald:* -- John Golden was arrested in this city Wednesday night on a warrant from Kendall county. He had been working for Mr. McVicker below Oswego. During his employer's absence he is said to have sold some hogs and a calf and came to Aurora to get drunk on the proceeds. An officer from Kendall came after him.

We sometimes hear of people masquerading under other people's names, but the latest is the case of a young lady masquerading

under a newspaper's name. At the masquerade ball New Year's night in Union hall, a lady from Oswego had her costume covered with the headings of the Kendall County Record; we consider it quite a complimentary to the Record.

James Clark, so long the accommodating brakeman on the morning and evening Fox river passenger train, began his duties as baggageman on the same train with the new year. This is a promotion. Passengers will miss "Jim" on the platform and in the cars, for he always pleasant in manner and one of the company's most worthy employees. He is a Kendall county 'boy' and man, and of course is of good stock. The new brakeman is a natty looking young fellow who has the appearance of being a favorite.

The Hercules Company at Aurora is in financial trouble and judgments have been entered up against them for \$45,000. They make ice machines and the works are quite extensive.

The ice company is about discouraged. The weather has prevented their making full repairs on the dam and the ice on the pond must all be floated off and a new crop frozen before they can put any up. But it may be all right in February.

Jan. 15: Fifty-nine weeks more of Grover's reign.

Dan Minich is reported as being sick.

Work on the new evangelical church is progressing nicely.

The Terpsichorian club's regular dance transpired Wednesday night.

George J. Burghart has sold out his interest in their saloon to his partner, A. Wallace.

Ira Ackley of Aurora has moved to town and into the house made vacant by Orson Pearce, who again has moved down to NaAuSay.

Inman, Larkin & Co. have taken a job of cutting timber out at Cherry's, and a party with a portable sawmill is converting it into lumber.

Frank Gates over the river had two sheep killed outright and three so injured as to be little better than dead one night by an unknown dog or dogs.

According to the *Aurora News*, Frank Kastl of this neighborhood has struck a bonanza in obliging a tramp by buying some old coins of him for \$1, and for which Kastl has already been offered a couple of hundred dollars, but he expects to get thousands.

The east side business houses for the present close at 7 o'clock so as not to detain people from attending the revival meetings.

Religious services of the revival nature and the union kind were held every evening during the week at the Methodist church and will be so continued there for an indefinite time.

At present the more jingoish a man may talk the more patriotic he will be regarded; but is the exhibition of bluster really the correct thing? One would think that the golden rule should apply to nations as well as individuals. Irritation never does any good; if two enemies make faces at each other whenever they meet, it will do neither any good.

NaAuSay: January fog; Tie up that dog.

Corn shredding commenced in this neighborhood last week. Mr. Robert Thompson has got some of those patent moveable cribs in his cornfield filled with corn during this fine spell of weather.

Yorkville: To the Record editor it seems ungenerous for our city papers to demand that the United States recognize the Cuban insurgents as belligerents and to give them our assistance as a government. Many readers will remember the agony of the North during the war of the rebellion, when we feared the recognition of the South as a nation by European powers, and we took Great Britain to task for doing just what the government is now asked to do as against Spain. It is to be hoped that Cuba will win in this fight and become a lasting republic, but how far this government should take action in the matter is a grave question.

The Rufus Gray farm, just south of Montgomery, has been sold to Edward Roberts for \$9,000. Mr. Roberts turns his home in on the trade and it will be occupied by Mr. Gray.

Mrs. McMicken, a sister of Robert Harvey who resides east of Aurora, was thrown from her carriage on Broadway at about noon Thursday and was quite seriously cut about the head.

John D. Russell and Thomas Cliggitt of Oswego and Frank Farmer of Yorkville attended the banquet of the Hickory club in Aurora last Wednesday evening to celebrate General Jackson's birthday.

#### THE NEW GERMAN CHURCH

Stone was received at Yorkville last week for the foundation of the new German Lutheran church out by Mr. William Kollman's. The *Chicago Herald* of Friday has this mention: Bright & Burflend are preparing plans for a church to be erected in Yorkville, Ill., for the Evangelical Lutheran Bethlehem congregation, Rev. J.H. Rabe, pastor. The structure will cover 34 by 52 feet and be of attractive design in the Gothic style of architecture with exterior of stone for basement, frame above, relieved by stained glass windows and ornate tower. The church, which will have a seating capacity of 240, will cost about \$16,000.

Mr. Rabe of the ice company met with a painful mishap Tuesday forenoon. A horse kicked him in the face, making a gash under the chin, which Dr. McClelland had to sew up, It was a painful hurt, and as Mr. Rabe is very bush it came in an unfortunate time.

The ice company has got the break in the dam fixed in very good shape, but they 'cut no ice' till there is an improvement in that now on the pond.

The Yorkville in-door base ball club was again defeated by Plano in a close ten-inning contest at Plano last Friday evening, the score being 10 to 9. Our boys are not discouraged and have arranged for another game for Saturday evening.

Jan. 22: Found Hanging to a Tree

Oswego had a sensation, though the suicide was an entire stranger. Friday night, Dick Alexander and Harry Obman came down from Montgomery on the west bank of the river. A short distance above the railroad bridge they found a man hanging from a tree. The man was suspended by a new piece of rope to the limb of a tree. The deceased was found to be from Chicago and that he had been divorced from his wife, living with another woman, and had a lot of other trouble.

#### THE BODY IDENTIFIED

A dispatch from Oswego this morning to The Record says: Body of the suicide was identified by M.M. Ely of the Central Creamery company, Chicago; the man ha been employed by them for some time past. The cause of his doing the deed was family trouble and financial difficulty; he also charged his wife with unfaithfulness, an he was divorced from her some time ago. She remarried and the suicide was living with another woman with whom he ha trouble. Suicide's name is Ferd Reitz; was given to drink by spells. This Reitz used to work under Mayor Hopkins on the waterworks, but when Swift took charge he, Reitz, was let out. He was a Democrat and good deal of a politician, and was a salesman and collector for the Central Creamery Company.

The harvesting of ice off the pond by Esch Bros. & Rabe has been in progress.

Burglars affected an entrance through a window into Myron Wormley's house one night and ransacked several rooms. When in their sleeping room Mrs. W., by a slight noise made awoke and on opening her eyes could see by the light of the stove in the adjoining room through the open door a man standing near their bed when she asked, "Is that you, Arthur?" thinking it was their son. The fellow made no reply and at once disappeared. Mr. W. was awakened and went to investigate but could find nothing of them. His watch was the only thing taken. It is supposed they were after the Henry Ricker jewelry and watches, but in order to get that they will have to break into an Aurora bank vault.

Hauling gavel is what the boys of district 5 and 6 are engaged in. They want to make the best kind of roads so that their best girls

cannot find any excuse on account of bad going for not coming to see them during this, the last leap year until eight years have passed.

Jan. 29: Charles Rieger has gone to build ice houses for Esch Bros. & Rabe, on one of the lakes up north.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Funk, formerly of this place, had their tin wedding take place in Aurora one day of last week.

Er. Park of Kansas apparently thinks of his old home once in awhile as a paper, the Kansas City Star, was received from him.

Mrs. Rosilla Ferriss, after many years out west, has returned on a visit to her folks, Wm. Ladd. She is one of those that changes but little by getting old.

According to the Aurora papers, an Oswego man they called Fen and Fern, but doubtless meaning Foran, had 75 pounds of ham stolen out of his wagon while it was left standing a few minutes in the street of that city one evening.

The Evangelicals are bound to get the finest church in the town and perhaps in the county. The building of it is progressing. Louis Jupert of Aurora an expert brick-layer, built the chimney.

Rev. J.H. Reed will close his work as pastor of the Congregational church at Oswego Sunday, Feb. 2. He expects to leave for his new home in Kentucky about the third week in February.

Most of the papers that said anything about the inquest of the man found hanging near here had it that the jury identified him as the one whose picture was found in the lining of his hat, namely, a certain Mr. Warwick of Chicago, which was not the case; the jury found that he was to them unknown. The man evidently meant to conceal his identity, but this picture, which according to report was placed in the hat without his knowledge, led right up to the disclosure; a kind of providential incident. The body was buried Saturday; it was kept that long above ground as his Chicago friends held out that his brother in Pennsylvania or his lodge in Ohio would

attend to the final disposal of it, but both failed to act. The body was kept in fine preservation. A prayer at the grave by the Rev. J.H. Reed constituted the spiritual rites of the funeral.

NaAuSay: An epidemic of cough is raging among the children here.

The ice storm did considerable damage to orchards, shade and other trees; and mother earth was in such a state that many were compelled to claw the air for illusive aid and paw the ground until thereupon laid.

February -- 1896

Feb. 5: Jennie Hubbard and Mrs. George White went to Aurora today to get initiated into the Relief Corps.

Look out for George Cowdry's [Cowdrey's] sale about Feb. 19. A lot of fine bred sheep, horses, and Jersey cows will be sold.

Call and see the Henry Ricker stock of watches, clocks and Jewelry at the Oswego drug store, to be sold cheap.

M.L. Wormley, Administrator

The woodchuck, if he was out of his hole Sunday, must have seen his shadow, but it was so dim that he couldn't have scared him much and probably he crawled back. Neither early or late spring may be expected.

A replevin suit, growing out of a levy on saloon goods claimed by Adam Wallace on a judgment against Burghart & Wallace, was tried one day. The attorneys were Mr. Montgomery of Aurora and P.G. Hawley on one side and Mr. Sears of Aurora, who had a lady stenographer with him to take down the evidence, on the other.

Yorkville: Arthur M. Beaupre, a well known Aurora lawyer, has ordered his professional card to be published in the Record, which means that he desires business in that line. That he is a good man goes without saying, as he was at one time an Oswego boy, in this county. He has been connected with the county court of Kane



county for the past 16 years, being county clerk for one or two terms.

NaAuSay: The condition of the roads kept many church people home on Sunday.

Feb. 12: Dr. Putt is said to be gaining slowly.

A regular old folks' dance is being projected at which the old style cotillions, reels and other ancient figures are to be danced after music by a fiddle and dulcimer. Ad Armstrong so far is the only balking one for carrying it out, as he refuses to play the dulcimer.

The annual Valentine social under the auspices of the Presbyterian church will be held at Mr. George Woolley's Friday evening, Feb. 14. A free program, including an opera, will be given. Valentines will be on sale. Admission 10 cents, and supper 10 cents.

At the Methodist church next Sunday morning there will be a baptismal service, and a reception into full connection of those baptized. Any parents who desire to have their children baptized are invited to bring them, and they may be baptized at the same service.

Mrs. Emma L. Wormley has been visited by an aunt and cousin of Chicago, namely Mrs. P.H. Coon and her daughter, Mrs. Nellie L. Harris. The latter is the president of the Rebecca order of Illinois and Tuesday evening visited the Rebecca lodge of Montgomery, when, after its close, a banquet was given at the home of Mr. Keck. As was said awhile ago in these letters, that Oswegoans abroad are making their mark in the world; Mrs. Harris is one of them; her parents were living here about 40 years ago and when she was born.

Much hifalootin is now being expended by the newspapers over the American people in subscribing for \$600,000,000 of their government's bonds. There is not one that has subscribed for that loan but what did it for self-interest. The bonds subscribed for are interest-bearing, and they were subscribed for by the interest-getting portion of the people. Now give the interest-paying portion a chance to show their faith in the government by accepting its notes

without interest; they will readily do it if the money element, which runs the financial part of the government, would only let them.

Yorkville: The publisher of the Chicago Dispatch, Joseph Dunlop, was tried by a federal jury in Chicago and found guilty of publishing and sending through the United States mails, an indecent publication in the shape of his daily paper. He was found guilty and last week Judge Grosseup sentenced him to two years in the Joliet penitentiary and to pay a fine of \$2,000. It is a severe judgment, but not unjust. For years The Dispatch has pandered to the worst element of society and threatened many men with exposure of their sins unless they put up "hush money." Mr. Dunlop has his reward.

Emmet Jeter and Hugh Marshall were home from the Northwestern University to spend Sunday.

The youngest son of Chief Justice Craig of the Illinois supreme court died at Galesburg last week from typhoid fever, aged 28 years.

And now we have a state official in Yorkville. Gov. Altgeld has appointed Henry Chappell of this place a fish-warden, whose jurisdiction is along Fox river. It will be his duty to see that fish are not taken from the water by illegal means.

Fellow Teachers and School Officers:

It is very gratifying to learn that a determined effort is being made in many of our schools to procure libraries. A number of districts have already obtained them, and many teachers are taking definite action along the same line, and it is hoped that before the end of the school year, all schools in Kendall county will have the benefits of a good working library. No greater help can be given the children than placing within their reach books of unquestioned merit.

The popular plan to raise money for the purchase of books is to hold a "sociable" at some commodious residence in the district, and have a "box or basket" supper or a school entertainment might be given; but generally speaking, the "sociable" plan seems to be preferable, since it does not interfere with the regular work of the school.

You are advised by all means to purchase the Pupils' Reading Circle list of books for 1895-96, consisting of 18 volumes, price \$8. If you

with to procure a large number, take the 1894 list, also, comprising 13 volumes.

Very truly yours,

A.D. Curran

County Superintendent of Schools

The regular term of the Kendall county circuit court meets at the court-house, Yorkville, Monday, Feb. 24.

A good deal of snow has fallen since last night, and it is still snowing this forenoon, with prospects for good sleighing.

Samuel M. Ingles, state superintendent of public instruction, has issued an official circular calling examinations at the court-house of each county June 5 and 6, to determine who shall be entitled to a university scholarship from the county examined. If the county has more than one senatorial district, an additional scholarship will be had for each district.

Feb. 19: All the latest fads in tints and parchment stationery at Cutter's Drug Store.

Politics are very quiet. Oswego so far has evolved no candidate for anything at the fall election.

The creamery is getting a new steel smokestack and the top of the brick smokestack of the old Fox River creamery was blown off.

Wall paper will be in at Cutter's in about two weeks. All new stock.

A sleighing party of 16 young people from a Congregational church in Aurora spent Saturday evening at J.S. Seely's in eating their lunch, which they ha brought with them, and otherwise amusing themselves for awhile.

NaAuSay: If you want your milk to test good you must take more pains in washing your cans. Do not send your milk in cans that have the tin worn off inside. Rust injures the test. Do not allow it to freeze, and do not leave it in the barn over night. It is well to look carefully into these little things before you accuse the creameries of

negligence. And don't tell around that so and so's cows tested 40 when your only tested 4.

Feb. 26: The Good Templars will give an entertainment in the Congregational church Saturday evening, Feb. 29, by home talent assisted by the Barry brothers of Aurora, who will furnish music from cornet and organ.

Some of our hard of hearing people are getting treated by the specialist Dr. Coffee now in Aurora.

A good deal of livestock was shipped during the week. Among it were two carloads of steers from the Herren brothers.

Mrs. Maria Ann Burr died Wednesday and was buried Saturday; the funeral services were held at the M.E. church. The deceased was born Jan. 23, 1810 in Schaghticoke, New York; her maiden name was Wetsell. She was married to David Brownell Aug. 27, 1844. The family came to this part of Illinois in 1846 and settled in the vicinity of Reed's Hollow. Subsequently, after having lived in different parts of this section they came to this neighborhood. Three sons had been born to them, two of them died when young and Daniel, the living one, resides with his family at Oklahoma. Her husband died Feb. 11, 1859, and in 1861, April 4, she was married again to Festus Burr and lived with him until he died July 18, 1886.

A.B. Whipple died at his boarding house, George Troll's, Tuesday of last week and his funeral took place the next day from the Congregational church. The deceased was 84 years of age and a resident of this place for about 30 years. His wife preceded him to the grave for several years and there are no descendants.

Joseph Ervin, 77 years of age, died during Sunday night. Some of our aged people are dropping off.

March -- 1896

March 4: Last Wednesday evening in Collins' Hall, Oswego, the social event of the leap year season occurred. It was "The New Woman's

Ball." The whole affair, from beginning to end, was under the management of the ladies.

The war with Spain was over before fairly begun.

The leap year dance one night was another grand success and joyful affair to the dancers--and a curse to the nearby sleepers.

George Cowdry [Cowdrey] and family moved to town Thursday and into the house of Mrs. Lizzie Smith. George immediately commenced to wear a plug hat; perhaps he is in training for alderman.

A gramophone concert will take place at the Congregational Church under the auspices of the Sunday school next Thursday.

Kohlhammer is a very fine furniture maker and has been making a few extra nice center-tables of the inlaid kind for parties in Aurora. One on hand was on exhibition at the drug store.

It should have been mentioned last week that G.M. Croushorn has become a resident of the village, having moved into the Hawley house, known as the J.B. Judson place. Carl Hawley, who vacated the same, has moved into the Hawley homestead.

Quite a number of removals, especially in the country, have taken place; among them are John C. Turpin, Monday, to above Aurora; the place he vacated is now occupied by a Mr. J.H. Grant. Frank Clark has moved into the west side Doud house on the Specie grove road, and Mr. McMurtrie of Yorkville, as tenant of the farm, into the large house. Mr. Perkins, from down NaAuSay way, on the Cowdrey farm.

The funeral of Joseph Ervin took place Wednesday from his residence and the burial in the Oswego cemetery. Mr. Ervin was born and lived near Hillsboro, Ohio until about 35 years of age when he moved to this neighborhood in 1855, where he has been residing since. He had reached the age of 77 years and leaves behind a widow, son, and a daughter, Mrs. G.M. Croushorn.

It is our privilege to record the marriage of one of Oswego's fair daughters Thursday, Feb. 27, 1896, in the pleasant, quiet country home of Mr. and Mrs. Olaus Peterson. Miss Martha, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peterson, was united in marriage to Mr. Charles Schmidt of Oswego.

Cecilia Smith, infant daughter of Robert R. and Louisa Smith died Feb. 26, 1896, aged 3 months and 7 days. Funeral services were held at the home, conducted by Rev. J.G. Butler. Mr. Smith is the efficient school janitor. [Robert Ridley Smith was a black veteran of the Civil War and son-in-law of Nathan Hughes]

"Go to Van's and get first class haircut for 15 cents" Advertisement.

March 11: This is vacation week for the school.

Joe Darfler has moved down in NaAuSay.

Among the shipments of livestock was a carload of sheep by C.T. Cherry.

Charles Rieger has returned home from his job building ice houses for Esch Bros. & Rabe in Wisconsin.

Bessie Armstrong, now one of the stenographers and typewriters, came home from Chicago to spend Sunday.

Mrs. Carrie Collins, the heretofore landlady of the Hotel Nationale, and Charles Wilcox quietly got married on Thursday. The event took place in Aurora, and there is where the groom has bought a house and where they will live.

Heretofore Oswego was the village of churches as to quantity, and hereafter it will be such as to quality. The number is agoing to be reduced and the quality improved. The Congregational was rebuilt for the finest in this section; the Evangelical, on rebuilding now, is being made to exceed the former in all respects; and the Presbyterians, who have bought the Baptist church, will doubtless, when ready, build an edifice that will beat them all. Churches are fully up with the spirit in putting on show.

The annual meeting of the Cowdrey cemetery association will be held at the Minkler school house on Saturday, March 14, 1896, at 2 p.m.

A.J. Parkhurst, secretary

March 18: Hamlet Cowdrey was spending a few days vacation at home.

Henry Hebert is now engaged in a manufacturing establishment at Rochelle.

Fred Trechner, the jeweler, has moved his shop from Barrett's to the office of the hotel.

Mrs. Maggie R. Edwards went to Chicago Tuesday for a supply of the *fin de siècle* millinery.

The two Charleys, Zorn and Knapp, had a little unpleasantness and tried to have a lawsuit about it, but couldn't make it go, it is said.

Sam Wilson, formerly of this neighborhood, but now a livestock farmer of 800 acres in Tama county, Iowa, on his return from a trip to Chicago with stock came this way to look up old acquaintances.

March 25: J.N. Wayne has moved down on the farm.

Lew Inman went to Genoa Junction, Wis., for a short visit and to bring his wife home.

John Hettrich of the German settlement has moved to his recently bought farm near St. Paul, Neb.

The Graphophone concert given under the auspices of the Congregational Sunday school will be repeated Thursday evening, March 26. Admission 20 and 10 cents.

William A. Foster was in his usual health Monday morning, which, however, has not been very good for several years. He was engaged in hauling manure when suddenly taken sick and struck with

blindness; he was helped into the house by his wife and in the evening he died.

Arthur Wormley and Martha Clark surprised their friends by quietly getting married on Wednesday at Joliet.

The windows for the new Evangelical church have arrived and are in place. They are very handsome; the principal ones are all by donation, and mostly in memory of departed relatives. The large front window is by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Knapp; each of the 11 others are by William Shoger, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Burkhart Sr., Mrs. Minnie Leigh, the Sunday School, Mr. and Mrs. L.H. Shoger, Mr. and Mrs. Mundsinger, John Roth, Mr. and Mrs. J.A. Schoger, and two where the names of donors are not given, are to the memory of Tillie Schell and of father and mother Shoger. The church is now being plastered and progressing nicely.

April -- 1896

April 1: Charles Read is spending a vacation from the Beloit college at home.

"Everybody for himself, and the devil take the hindmost," is now the motto of the presidential candidates.

In giving the names of the donors of the windows to the Evangelical church in last week's report, the typo skipped those of Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Willie, Sophia Hansing, and Minnie Shoger, each of whom donated a window.

The end of life by Stephen Fox was reached Wednesday. He died of consumption and by inches, having lain unconscious for several weeks. The funeral took place Friday from the house. The burial was in the family lot, the best as to location in the cemetery, and he was buried like his father and a brother that have preceded him there, in a grave due east and west, with a brick walled receptacle for the casket, which, after the same had been deposited, was cover with flag stones and then the grave filled with earth. It is a characteristic of the family to be durably buried. He was born near Oswego Aug.



29, 1859 and died March 25, 1896, in the 48th year of his age. He was born and brought up in the place where he died.

The funeral services of William A. Foster, whose sudden death was mentioned last week, were held at the home Wednesday. Two brothers from a distance and quite a number of sympathizing friends and neighbors were in attendance. Deceased was born at Plainfield Oct. 12, 1840. Most of his life was spent in Downers Grove, where his father moved in 1848. About the year 1876 he had lived and worked at Bristol for two years and since then at Oswego. He leaves a wife and two children.

April 8. In the township election held April 7, Democrat Charles Roberts beat Kline Hall, Republican, by ten votes. The rest of the Republican ticket was elected. Roberts had 131 votes and Hall 121. For collector, A.L. Rice, 156, G.D. Wormley, 93. Road commissioner, George Collins, 184, George Schell, 56. Gus Voss walked in all alone as town clerk with 194 votes.

Several attended the Zouave dance in Aurora.

George Cowdrey, the proprietor of a potato planter, is now planting potatoes for anyone who wants him to.

Malcolm meat market has been painted green on the outside and cream color inside and nicely papered.

#### Millinery Opening

On or about April 9 we will open our millinery department. In connection with our already large stock, with a large line of the latest styles and shapes in trimmed hats. This department will be under the direct supervision of Mrs. E.H. Sodt, who has had considerable experience in this line. Kindly give us a call.  
E.H. Sodt, Oswego.

April 15: George J. Burghart has moved with his family on the large island.

John W. Edwards was elected school trustee Saturday to succeed himself.

What do sundogs mean at this season? They were visible Monday afternoon after the shower.

April 22: Fred Figge is now working in the brick block barbershop.

J.E. Barrett was elected without opposition school director to succeed David Hall.

The spire of the new Evangelical church was finished last week and it is a very neat looking one.

The result of the election Monday was a victory for the old [village] board by the following vote: President, H.G. Smith, 94; David Hall, 61. Trustees: H.S. Richards, 94, Charles Knapp, 92, J.H. Edwards, 92. They are winners. A.E. Van Deventer, 59, James Pearce, 64; A.L. Rice, 62. Clerk: Lewis P. Voss, 97; S.T. Young, 57.

April 29: Last Saturday night the Oswego school board met at the home of Mrs. H.B. Reed to organize for the ensuing year. Mr. John Barrett is the new member. Mr. David Hall, ex-president of the board and the outgoing board member, was present and burned the bonds, which were issued in order to raise money to build the new school house.

The board passed resolutions of appreciation of the faithful and efficient service rendered by David Hall during the past 15 years, which he has served as director. During his term of office the old school building burned and in its place has been erected a fine brick building which is well equipped for the comfort of pupils and teachers. He leaves the office with the esteem and respect of all for the capable manner he did his part for District No. 4.

The fronts of the buildings in the brick block occupied for the drug store and H.B. Read's store are being painted. And the gravel roofs of those of C.F. Shaver and C. Knapp, in the same block, are being removed and supplanted by tin roofs.

The saloon licenses for the next year are to be \$1,000.

Gen. Nicholas Gruesel, the old colonel of the 36th Illinois, and afterwards commanding a brigade, died at his home in Aurora Saturday morning, April 25, 1896 from cancer of the lip from which he had suffered for three or four years. He was 79 years of age.

Yorkville: It is general comment in the city and agricultural papers that good raft horses are getting scarce, and that the demand for first-class roadsters is increasing. It might be well for farmers to increase their stock in this line.

A ten-year-old boy named Willie Stein fell in the river at Montgomery Saturday while fishing and was drowned. He lived in Aurora.

One John West is in jail here, from Oswego, charged with the unlawful taking of iron machinery from the old furniture factory and the ice houses up that way.

Miss Benthien, who wrote the letter from India on the first page, was a Kendall County teacher; her folks live at Millbrook. She writes entertainingly and is a progressive young woman.

“Colonel Russell” if you please

News from Springfield conveys the pleasing information that Governor Altgeld has recognized the town of Oswego in most appropriate manner. He has appointed John D. Russell aide-de-camp on his staff, with the rank of colonel. Hon. and Col. Charles Page Bryan of DuPage county resigned his position on the governor’s staff, and Colonel Russell fills the vacancy.

Colonel Russell is a native of Oswego Township and has grown into local prominence by being a good citizen and a reliable man. He has been a very efficient commissioner of highways, stands high in the council of the Democratic Party, and is popular all around. *The Record* is happy to call our friend John as “Colonel Russell.” He will not disgrace the appointment.

May -- 1896

May 6: George Collins took 19 nice fat steers to Chicago.

George Collins is having a large corn crib and granary built by the Richards brothers.

Charles Rieger has spent a number of days on Esch Bros. & Rabe's ice houses up north on a lake.

"To which part of the village should the water mains be first extended?" was the bone of contention at the council meeting Monday evening.

The remains of Charles F. Gates were brought from his residence over in NaAuSay to the Oswego cemetery for burial Saturday. He was 68 years of age; a native of Virginia, and with his family came from Alabama, where he had been broken up in business by the war, to these parts in 1869, and since has been living here, a part of the time in the village.

According to reports, an experiment is to be tried and in regard to which a treaty between the Congregational and Methodist people has been entered into, and which is to last until the latter's conference next fall, when it may be renewed and altered. In it, "reciprocity" is especially recognized; one party will furnish the preaching and the other the meeting house.

The wedding of Miss Mae Jeneson to Will Denney of Aurora Tuesday evening was the interesting social event of the week. It was not one of those modern marriages where the first meeting, the engagement and splicing all took place in one day, but the couple have been acquainted with one another for years and doubtless been contemplating it for a long time.

Friday about 6 p.m. a mongrel storm, having some of the tornadoish, cloud-bursting, hail and electric qualities about it, struck this place, which some declare to have been the worst ever known here. It came suddenly without any warning from the southwest.

The damages around town were the demolition of the windmill and tower on the Hawley place; the upsetting of several outhouses; the blowing off of a few strips of the steel roofing on the elevator, one of

them being carried about 20 rods and wound around the top of a tree at Mrs. Moore's; the throwing over of several shade and fruit trees, and the dismantling of limbs or tops of many others; much of the garden stuff was cut off or washed out, and many of the fruit buds knocked off.

Smith, on the island, had many of his chickens blown into the river.

Mrs. Emma Wormley and Lettie Seely were on their way home from Aurora Friday and had reached Montgomery just when the storm commenced, where they drove under the mill shed for shelter; but no sooner than there and before they had time to get out of the buggy, the shed together with themselves and other rigs under it were blown into a heap. Mrs. Wormley as soon as possible was carried to a neighboring house and medical aid procured. When it was found that she had one rib fractured, one side of her face and neck severely bruised, and more or less wrenched internally. Lettie Seely did not sustain a scratch. The phaeton in which they were was annihilated. Piled up as they were among a number of scared horses, broken up vehicles and the wreck of the shed, the wonder is they came out as well as they did.

Yorkville: There is said to be a saloon war in Lisbon, and an attempt to freeze Frank Weaver out of the business. Frank has been buying beer from the Aurora brewery; the Morris brewers want him to buy from them, and threaten to start another saloon in Lisbon with Danny Flynn as manager unless Weaver uses Morris beer. Since May 1, Lisbon has been "Dry," it is reported, and there are people about Lisbon who wouldn't care if the saloon never opened again.

May 13: Mrs. C.F. Shoger and family have moved to town and into their new residence, the William Ladd house.

The bell for the new Evangelical Church is at the depot. It comes from Cincinnati and weighs 958 pounds net. The church now is nearly completed.

Cream-color with white trimmings and maroon sash is the style in which the Harley Richards' house has been painted. That part of the town is now very tony.

Fred Burghart and Miss Clara Decker were married at Wednesday at St. Mary's church in Aurora. Fred Figge acted as best man and Margaret Miller bridesmaid.

It should have been mentioned heretofore that the proprietorship of the Wallace saloon was changed to one Donahue of Geneva at the time the new license came into vogue. The new proprietor is said to be here most of the time, but has not moved here yet.

Mr. and Mrs. William Ladd have taken their departure and gone to New Jersey to reside with a daughter of Mrs. L. Mr. Ladd is 87 years of age and was the oldest male inhabitant of the village. He has been living here and in the immediate vicinity for 51 years.

Cob Pearce has been doing a good deal of blowing; not altogether the kind that requires a number to stand around to listen to it, but the most of it was the blowing out of stumps with dynamite. It was Harry Craidler rather that done it for him. He cleared 30 acres of the stumps this spring of what had been heavily timbered land.

The Congregational church entertainment was much more extensive than the printed program of it. Lewis Walker, who at one time was clerking in a store here but who is now a graphophonist of Chicago, happened to be here with the machine and caused it to produce a number of stored up pieces of vocal and instrumental music.

Homes are wanted for the following children:

Six boy babes from one to 11 months; three girl babes from three weeks to two months; 14 boys from two to 12 years of age; three girls eight to 12 years of age; one colored girl six years of age. Address Rev. George K Hoover, Gen'l Supt., 167 Dearborn Street, Room 712, Chicago.

May 20: Schamp and his gang of builders are at work down in Kendall for Mr. Leitch.

Will Minkler and wife are here on a visit. He has sold out his business at West Pullman and now is looking up a new place.

G.R. Minkler and Wallace Bartlett were at home over Sunday. They are operating roof painting over in DuPage county.

Mrs. Charles Knapp, Mrs. J.A. and Mrs. Leonard Shoger and Lena Shoger went to Chicago Tuesday on church furniture business.

The bell of the new Evangelical church was successfully hung Saturday afternoon, witnessed by a number of spectators, some of which would lend a hand when necessary. The only fault found with the bell is that its sound is so near that of the Congregational church that by the ringing of either people won't know which church calls them.

At a caucus held Monday evening at the village hall by the Oswego Democrats and presided over by Charles Roberts with John Wormley for secretary, Fred Pearce, R.D. Gates, C.J. Hawley, T. Cliggitt, J.D. Russell, J.T. Wormley, C. Roberts and S.T. Young were chosen as delegates to the county convention, uninstructed in regard to silver or candidates. J.D. Russell and Elmer Rickard were recommended as delegates to the state, and C. Roberts to the congressional convention. A bit of kicking was shown by a minority element.

May 27: This place is visited daily by some of Aurora's bicyclists, and on Sundays by numbers of them.

Mrs. Emma Wormley, who was hurt in the storm on the 1st inst., is again able to come over to town.

Charles Hebert came home from Chicago where he graduated to the second degree in a dental college awhile ago.

Mr. and Mrs. John A. Young have returned from a visit to their daughter in Iowa and have for the time being and till their new residence is completed, moved in with Mrs. Lydia Walker.

The committee on flowers for Decoration Day want all that have any to spare to donate such by leaving them at the furniture store, as apparently there will be a scarcity of flowers.

Eben F. Beaupre of Aurora was reported from Ottawa as being the first ever credited with 100 points, the acme of proficiency, of applicants for admission to the bar. Eben is an Oswego product, and that is the cause why.

June -- 1896

June 3: The Memorial Meeting was held Sunday, which is growing larger with every year. At 10 a.m. a special train of three coaches filled to overflowing with GARs, Woman's Relief Corps, Sons of Veterans, and two bands of music, orchestra and brass band, arrived from Aurora, formed a procession and marched from the depot to the Congregational church.

John Wormley has been laid up for several days; in falling over a milk stool, he broke it and also a rib in himself.

Mrs. Elizabeth Burke died early Monday morning; the remains will be taken to Aurora for burial under the auspices of the Catholic church. The deceased must have been about 75 years of age.

Nellie Malcom was married to John Fairweather at high noon Saturday at the residence of the bride's parents, James Malcom

June 10: H.G. Smith had some remodeling done to the inside of his residence.

The marriage of Martha Gray to Henry Hildebrand took place last week in Yorkville.

Fred Burghardt is now clerking in the Sodt store, and Myron Cowdrey in that of Will Funk.

As to roses, Mrs. Murdock has the greatest variety and the knack of cultivating the most choice.

Captain Frank Huyck left from his steamer in Chicago long enough to make his relatives here a flying visit.



H.A. Berry is the name of Oswego's new doctor. He is a good looking man, occupies the office vacated by Dr. Hanna, can make himself useful in other ways than his profession, as he did Sunday evening by carrying the bass part in a church choir.

In a recent number of the *Canadian Record*, a paper published in a place of that name in northern Texas, was seen that Attorney L.B. Judson of Norwich, Kan., was engaged in some cases before the district court in session at that place. He was just plain Lew Judson when of this community.

Monday evening, the bids for the extension of the water mains were opened; there were 13 of them from five different places. The lowest bid, \$1,599, was from James Wallace of Chicago and to him the job was awarded. All the bidders were represented at the meeting. After the lowest bid had been accepted the contractor said that it was owing to the name of the place the job will be so cheaply done, as he was born in Oswego, that of New York, and had great love for the name and because it was bound to get the job if he didn't make a cent.

A concrete sidewalk is being constructed around the new Evangelical church done by Spiker & Solfisburg. In the near future, the dedication will take place.

#### June 17: Oswego Commencement

In spite of the forbidding weather Friday evening, June 12, the Congregational church of this place was full and chairs were placed in the aisles to furnish seats for the many who came to witness the commencement exercises of the class of '96.

Amy Parkhurst gave the salutatory. Her oration was "Every Cloud has a Silver Lining." The valedictory by Daisy Pearce was very good indeed.

Other speakers included Alice Woolley, Harriet Gregg, Albert Woolley, and Florence White.

The alumni banquet took place Monday evening.

Effie Parker was met with Monday for the first time since her return a month ago from the wild and woolly west, which country she praises for its invigorating quality.

The concrete sidewalk around the Evangelical church has been extended the rest of the block on Madison street; it being in front of the Van Deventer premises. The dedication of the church is put down for July 12.

J.M. Hughes of Kansas City, Mo., and Mrs. E.J. Gregg of this vicinity were united in marriage at the Baptist parsonage in Yorkville Monday, June 15. They were both widowed and are said to have been intimate acquaintances when young people.

Miss Katie G. Butler is home again with her parents, from Blairsville Young Ladies' college, Pa., where she has been teaching during the past year.

James C. Shepard died Saturday evening at the residence of his son-in-law in Hinckley.

Mrs. Isabella S. Jolly rather suddenly was overtaken by death the 9th. The funeral took place the 11th from the Presbyterian church. The burial took place on the family lot in the cemetery by the side of her husband and a son. Mrs. Jolly was nearly 82 years of age. The family came from Southern Ohio to this place in 1850, and which since has been her residence. She was a daughter of a Presbyterian minister. She was one of the leading lights of the WCTU. Of the family remain two sons and two daughters, and there are a number of grand and great grandchildren.

June 24: The remains of James C. Shepard and a large number of relatives arrived on the 10 o'clock train of the 16th inst.; they were immediately taken to the Congregational church where the funeral services took place.

He was a native of Salem, Mass., was 76 years of age, was, with a twin sister, the youngest of six children and the first of them to die; three of them attended the funeral, but Mrs. John L. Clark, formerly of this vicinity, who is at present in Massachusetts, and David, an

invalid brother, were unable to be present. The survivors of his own family are two sons and a daughter.

He came to Kendall when a boy; subsequently returned to Salem; there caught the early gold fever and made a trip around Cape Horn in going to California. Returned from there he came again to Kendall county and followed farming for a number of years. When quitting the farm he settled down in this place, became a public spirited citizen of it and for several years was one of the village trustees. About 25 years ago he became totally blind but notwithstanding the great affliction he was most cheerful, an optimist. He would be reminded occasionally by the captious sort of fellow who done much of the reading to which he listened of late years, when an account of some diabolical doings had been reached that didn't jibe with his idea of the world was getting better. "Very well; very well," he would say. "Such and much worse things always were done, only we didn't hear of them. But now the telegraph is strung all over the world and the newspapers publish everything that happens. Just look at the good things," when he would refer to some exemplary people of his acquaintance and their surroundings.

Mrs. William Lippold of died of heart failure Saturday. The funeral took place here from the Congregational church Monday. Mrs. Lippold was 62 years of age, was a native of Württemberg, Germany. Her maiden name was Shoger; she came to this country and to Oswego in 1854, where she was married.

Burglars made George Cowdrey an unannounced visit during Friday night.

A good cigar with every shave, except Saturdays at Van's.

July -- 1896

July 1: The brick block barber shop has been tastefully repainted and repapered and is now a very brilliant place, all of which was done by the decorator, J. Albert Schmidt.

The bridge has been undergoing extensive repairs. The east abutment partly reconstructed, the floor of the footwalk patched,

and the railing rods of it straightened and fastened together, and the whole of the iron work repainted.

Am requested to say through *The Record* for one party that the hose procured for fire protection ought not be worn out for street sprinkling; and for another that the boys shouldn't practice playing ball in the village on Sundays, especially during church services.

The funeral of Mrs. Marcius S. Richards took place Saturday from the residence of her son, M.C. Richards, in Aurora, with whom she has been living. The body was brought to the Oswego cemetery for burial in the family lot. Mrs. R. was nearly 87 years of age. With her family she had come from New York State to this place in 1844 where she resided up to about ten years ago, then moving to Aurora. She was a member of the M.E. church from her youth; was one of the large Hopkins family of whom years ago four brothers and five sisters were residing in Oswego; all now dead except Mrs. Schram and perhaps a brother, who was among the first emigrants to California and there lost track of.

The remains of Miss Emma Sierp, in a beautiful white casket conveyed in a white hearse drawn by white horses were brought here from Aurora Sunday for burial by the side of her several sisters and her mother.. They are coming back; no less than three Oswego-Aurorans returned in their coffins within a week.

July 8: The dedication of the new Evangelical church will take place next Sunday, the services to commence at 10 a.m. Bishop Bowman of Chicago will preach the sermon, the same to be in German. The afternoon services will be at 2 o'clock and will be in the English language.

The glorious Fourth is now passed and we may breathe freer.

Base ball all at once has become the rage here and swamped bicycles, politics, and every other subject of discussion.

July 15: Thomas S. Hopkins has sold his farm to an Aurora party and gave immediate possession.

A very necessary thing, especially for the kind of weather we have been having for a few days past, a drinking fountain, was established by the municipal authorities at Haight's corner. The drinking cups fastened to it by chains should always be set back into it, and never left hanging on the outside.

Sunday, July 12, 1896 will become historic to the Germans of the Evangelical church of Oswego as on that day the dedication of their beautiful new church took place. The putting in of seats, which are the chair kind, and the carpeting of it had been performed the latter part of the week.

July 22: Our mayor has his mustache shaved of and oh how sweetly he now does smile.

The river is being drained here of its fish and turtles by the many campers from the big cities.

Like everything else this year, the katydids have matured about ten days ahead of the usual time.

The Columbian Zouaves, a Chicago order, are here, and are occupying the ice company's boarding house for barracks.

Will Cliggitt has had built a string of coal houses below the elevator, and will become a coal merchant as well as grain buyer.

Fred Teschner didn't well assimilate with this community and has taken his departure, which leaves Oswego again without a jeweler.

Wollenweber & Knapp shipped 60 fat setters Wednesday.

July 29: John L. Gaylord and family returned Saturday from a week's visit at Lockport.

A nine of our base ballers went to Plainfield Friday and played a game with a team of that place, the outcome of which was 15 to 22 in favor of our boys.

The brick block barber shop has a handsome new silver striped pole out to designate its location; the proprietor, however, is a gold bug Republican.

Lew Gaylord's horses got scared by the Zouave drill team and ran away.

The Columbian Zouaves were here and are gone, departing Saturday. They gave us two of their clockwork like drills on Tuesday and Friday afternoons, which were greatly admired by our people. They played a game of base ball with our boys and got beat one point.

The extension of the [Village of Oswego's] water mains is now under way. The pipes were distributed by Ham Cowdrey and Pete Dano and the digging of the trenches was begun Monday from Anton Miller's place, where connection is made with the old pipes, running the length of that block, then turning up Jefferson street. About ten men are at it. George Moss has the job and is the boss. Wallace, the contractor, is here and overseeing things.

NaAuSay: The Cherry school house being in too close proximity to the residence of H.S. Clark, the directors finally accepted Mr. Clark's offer to pay for moving to opposite side of the road, further north on Mr. C's land. The work of removal is now going on.

August -- 1896

Aug. 5: According to an Aurora paper, the mill property here has been traded for a 160 acre farm near Shabbona.

The tuition from pupils in our school who live out of the district amounts this year to \$169. The following teachers are engaged for the coming year: Mr. C.H. Newman, principal, room No. 4; Miss Martha Potter, No. 2; Miss Kate Cliggitt, No. 3; Miss Luella Breed, No. 1.

Forty-five dollars are on hand as the foundation for a school library. It is expected this will be ready for use in the fall.

The water mains of the north loop, running from the works down Van Buren street to Main and northerly on that to Jefferson on that easterly to Madison, southerly on that to Jackson, easterly on that to Monroe, again southerly on that to Washington, and easterly on that to the place of beginning, are laid. On Main street southerly they are laid to Tyler street, and the ditch is nearly completed one block further.

NaAuSay: Threshing is progressing slowly. Shocks are still wet and have to be opened to dry before hauling to machine. There has arrived a new Rumley machine in the south part of the town; a combination of farmers have purchased it.

Aug. 12: The Baker house and lot were sold Friday and bought by G.M. Croushorn.

While we have been having very good corn weather, on humanity it was a little too wilting.

There are quite a number of summer boarders from Chicago scattered through this community.

Threshing outfits are now in demand; that of Peter Cooney is at present engaged at J.S. Seely's.

The extension of the waterworks are completed as far as they were contemplated to be this season.

Charles Knapp is keeping on buying up the town. Friday he bought the hotel--the former rink--for \$1,350.

The Oswego base ballists are again exultingly enjoying an up; the Plainfields were over Friday and a game between them was played of which 12 to 23 in favor of Oswego was the score.

Mrs. Clara R. Smith, who would have reached the age of 88 years in two months, has been doing the house work for her son, William, on the home farm about three and one half miles southeast of town up to a week ago Saturday when she relinquished work and took to her

bed. Thursday she died and Saturday her funeral took place from the house. The remains were interred in the family lot at the Oswego cemetery. Mrs. Smith was a member of the Congregational church and together with her husband, who became universally known as "Deacon" Smith, were prominently identified with it in its early history.

Clara Royce was born Oct. 30, 1808 in Massachusetts and would have been 88 years old had she lived until October. In 1824, she was married to Horace Smith and in 1852 they moved to Aurora where they lived one year. After which they moved to the old homestead where she died. Five children were born to them, four of whom survive her: Mrs. Mowry of Wilmington, Mrs. Rice of Oswego, Edward who lived on the farm joining the old homestead, and William, who lived on the homestead.

The cider making business has been started up, but for some reason the mill owners were slow in getting ready for it.

Aug. 19: C.J. Hawley moved with his family to Aurora Wednesday.

Charles Knapp started Monday on a trip to Europe.

That sale of the hotel property for some cause fell through; it is again advertised to be sold Sept. 15.

Ruth Jessup, the teacher out at the Grove school went away awhile ago to be spending summer vacation with her folks in Kankakee county. Last week she returned as Mrs. Clarence Cherry.

While threshing at Andrew Shoger's, a horse of Charles Shoger, when near the machine, by switching his tail, had it caught in a pulley and instantly torn off. The horse was brought to town where the stub, which is now but a few inches long, was put in shape for healing.

Aug. 26: J.S. Seely is filling his silo.

John T. Wormley will be ready with his cider mill by Sept. 1 to attend to all the work offered.



A wagon loaded with oats out at Chris Stiefbold's was struck by lightning during Friday's storm and entirely burned up.

Andrew Lang's barn out east of town was consumed by fire with its contents caused by a stroke of lightning in the storm of Saturday noon.

The relatives here received the information of the death of Mrs. Julius Hubbard of Nebraska. She used to be Miss Harriet Hopkins and both she and her husband were from this place.

Mrs. Hannah Wormley died during Wednesday night and the funeral took place from the house Friday. Deceased was 67 years of age, a native of Great Britain, I think, and has resided here 30-odd years. Two sons, Sam and John West, by her first husband are her descendants.

Yorkville: Mr. Levi Gorton was in Yorkville Friday afternoon with his daughter and it was a pleasure for *The Record* folks to have a call from this old pioneer. He is now one of the few very early settlers living. He came to the Fox river country in 1833 and built the first dam and mill at Oswego, where the plant still stands, though much improved, a little above the village. It was expected to have the town grow up at that point but there were obstacles that prevented. Mr. Gorton lived on the corner where the late William Parker lived and died. Some 28 years ago he moved on the farm just a little northeast of Bristol Station, where he has since made his home. He was a member of the first grand jury that sat in this county after its organization. He and his wife have been partners for 58 years.

September -- 1896

Sept. 2: Every school child buying school supplies at Cutter's will be given a good hardwood ruler.

Any who favor sound money and protection are requested to attend a meeting Saturday evening next, at the town hall, for the purpose of organizing a McKinley and Hobart club.

Mr. and Mrs. John Minich celebrated their golden wedding Tuesday of last week, and which is said to have been a very joyous affair. Among the children and grandchildren attending it of course were Mr. and Mrs. T.J. and Stacy and Asa Pigott of Aurora.

School will commence next week Monday.

Yorkville: A full account of the death and funeral service of Lewis Steward, founder of Plano.

Sept. 9: Anna Robinson commenced to teach the school in the Wormley district last Monday and got herself a bicycle for journeying to and from it.

The school bell, which was silent for several months, again commenced ringing Monday, and Oswego's youth pointing for the school house at the same time.

Col. John D. Russell returned in uniform Monday from Rock Island where he helped Governor Altgeld display his dignity at the laying of the cornerstone of a new insane asylum. Mrs. Russell was along with the Colonel and of course looked out for him.

NaAuSay: Union school commenced Monday with their old teacher, M. John Muir.

Sept. 16: Lew Inman and John Conway, with their ladies, returned Monday from a five days' camp out in Cherry's woods.

The John A. Young new residence, now on building, will be the most notable house in town. It is being built of prepared boulders and brick lined.

Many Oswego women have beautiful and extensive flowerbeds, but Mrs. Maggie Schwartz is away ahead of them all.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Tamarack and Wheatland school began last Monday in the Wilcox district with Miss Grace Miler of Oswego as teacher. The scholars feel quite proud of their nearly new school house and the flag, which floats over it.

Sept. 23: John Bartlett is now engaged in the blacksmith department of Young's shop.

George Inman is said to have resigned the marshalship at a session of the board Monday evening.

Henry Helle is now the owner of the hotel or rink property, buying the same under the second sale by administrator.

Doctor Van Deventer has had the front of his residence much improved by a new plaza, windows, and other ornamental and useful additions.

Lewis Rickard Sr., is now being visited by an old neighbor, a Mr. Ball of California, who, with a brother, once owned the farm now occupied by P. Haley, and helped to build the stone house upon it.

From Tamarack and Wheatland: Although the weather was cold, the mud was deep, and the wind blew a hurricane, about 1,500 people many from here, some from Joliet, Aurora, Plainfield, Batavia, Big Rock, Yorkville, Bristol, and Oswego, attended the Wheatland Plowing Match, held at the home of Mr. John Graber Saturday. Malcolm Rance won the first prize for doing best work with riding plow for boys under 15.

Sept. 30: The hotel quarters were remodeled into a store room and Andrew Gray has moved his grocery store there.

The firemen's retreat, the upstairs part of the council building, has been royally fixed up. The boys are cultivating esthetics as well as bravery.

George Moses some weeks ago went to the Pacific coast to visit his partner Mark Shuttleworth, and to inspect the country. His wife, the landlady of the hotel, broke up the business and moved to Aurora, which makes Oswego again minus a hotel.

Charles Friebele and Flossie Hinchman together have entered the state of matrimony.

October -- 1896

Oct. 7: Politics were quite active during the week. The McKinley club got their uniforms and torches and were drilling about every other evening.

Oct. 14: County Treasurer Dead  
Special Election Called

For the second time, the treasurer of Kendall county has died during the term of office. David Jeneson of Oswego died after about a year's service as Treasurer, and on Saturday last, Mr. George Amerman died at the home of his brother-in-law in Chicago where he had gone for medical treatment of Bright's disease.

The front of the Rink building has been nicely painted and makes now a very imposing appearance.

Three-quarter pound pears are the kind Mr. Gregg on the west side of the river has been harvesting. He is the principal fruit grower hereabouts, and always has the choicest qualities.

Mrs. D.W. Gray has been an invalid for a number of years and Sunday she died. She was nearly 61 years of age, was a daughter of the late Morris Gray, was brought from New York State to this vicinity when an infant in the spring of 1836, and was therefore one of the early settlers. Mrs. Martha Gray was born in Montgomery county, New York Oct. 18, 1835 and died aged 61 years. She came to this state with her parents in the spring of 1836. The family settled first at Montgomery but finally came to Kendall county. At the age of 22 years she was married to D. Webster Gray Jan. 1, 1857.

The recent Methodist conference did not assign any pastor for the church here but it will be kept running by the supply of preachers.

The McKinley administration will give on the whole no more satisfaction than has that of Cleveland.

Oct. 21: Four tramps took lodging in the calaboose over Sunday night.

The report was received Monday that Charles Dano, the youngest of the old Alexander boys, who lived in the vicinity of Minooka, was killed by having a load of gravel run over him.

Everybody here, from the old person on the verge of the grave to the child at school is talking politics now, some of course in a more graphic manner than others.

The body of Joseph D. Kennedy of Manchester, Iowa, arrived here on the 10 o'clock train Friday accompanied by his widow, two neighbors and was taken to the house of Mrs. Moore, where it remained until the funeral took place from the Congregational church. Deceased had been for many years in the past a prominent member and for several terms the master of the Masonic lodge here, hence the burial was taken charge of by the Masons. Joseph D. Kennedy was nearly 68 years of age He was a native of Massachusetts, came west and to Oswego in 1845 and was a resident of it until 1867 when he moved to Manchester, Iowa, of which place he soon became a prominent man. He had the misfortune of becoming mentally deranged, and for upwards of two years was thus affected.

Oct. 28: The McKinley marchers here helped to swell the parade of the Yorkville rally and that of Aurora on the Governor's day.

A grand rally by the Republicans is now to be had here next Friday evening. W.R. Hunter of Kankakee will be the speaker.

Mrs. Julia Pierce died Friday at the home of her son, John. Deceased was a native of Ireland.

The beginning of the end of this miserable, avaricious campaign is reached. It was wholly devoted to the arousal of the selfish faculties: "Vote our side and it will be money in your pocket," and the prediction of dire calamity if the other side should win.

Yorkville: In a front page editorial, the *Kendall County Record* endorsed Republican William McKinley for President over Democrat William Jennings Bryan in the upcoming November election.

November -- 1896

Nov. 4: Whichever way the election goes will be for the best in the end, so don't worry.

A new building has been put on Plainfield avenue for a blacksmith and general repair shop by Charles Reed.

Clarence Barnard was appointed night operator at Kangley on the Streator & Walnut branch, and Charley Wollenweber is now the all-around assistant at the depot here.

Among the removals lately were George Burghart from the island to the house vacated by McEachron; Van Andrews to the Gentensburg house; Joe Foss to over the Schroeder saloon; Charles Friebele, a new family, to over the Malcom meat market.

NaAuSay: Some farmers are already through with their corn picking.

The fore part of last week was very pleasant for this time of year. Some of the old settlers say they have never experienced such warm weather in October.

Nov. 11: Clara Malcom had an attack of the typhoid fever.

Sixteen government gravestones for unmarked graves of soldiers have been received.

The Republicans have been smoking lots of cigars at the expense of the Democrats since the election. Gus Voss is wearing a new silk hat of the stovepipe pattern paid for by a deluded Byranite. [McKinley carried Kendall County easily, 2,128 to 772 votes for Democrat William Jennings Bryan.]

The funeral and burial of the widow of Morris Cliggitt took place Wednesday at Aurora. The deceased was 78 years of age; was, I presume, a native of Ireland, an inhabitant of this vicinity for about 50 years, the mother of a large family of children, eight now living. Two sons lost their lives in the war.

Nov. 18: Indian summer is on.

The front of the furniture store is being painted, brick and all. Albert Schmidt is doing it.

Oswego has developed a mandolin or string music orchestra. E.H. Sodt, Fred Figge, Bert Davis, and Dick Alexander are members of it.

Oswego is experiencing already a touch of the new boom. A jewelry establishment is secured for which the room in the Shoger block, vacated by Andrew Gray, is being fitted up. The proprietor's name is said to be Arthur Jones. It is also rumored that a laundry and bakery are on the way coming, and it is hoped that the boom may be vigorous enough to bring us a hotel, of which the village is most in need.

The Methodist church has been very nicely renovated with paper and paint and made a place the neatest appearance. Decorator Ira Ackley did it. Now if there were only enough church-going people to fill it at meeting times.

Nov. 25: The Aurora Borealis has made its appearance and reflects the light of silver.

O.L. Wormley has resigned the marshalship and for the time being the village is lacking that official.

At the Youngs' shop a new 45 horsepower engine is being put in place, which will prove a great aid to the works.

December -- 1896

Dec. 2: The funeral of Mrs. L.B. Judson of Aurora took place Thursday. She was for many years a resident of this place, having been one of its early settlers.

The winter term of school begins on next Monday. Our school is very prosperous and outsiders can find there the best of facilities of its grade.

Thanksgiving in Oswego was passed without any public demonstration of thankfulness.

Dec. 9: Charles Reed has opened his new blacksmith shop. Van Andrews is his assistant.

A very good stereoscopic exhibition, "Around the World," was given at the Congregational church Wednesday evening.

Dec. 16: Charles Roberts has become a resident of the village and moved into the McKinney house. The Roberts farm is now occupied by Robert Johnston.

Mrs. M.A. Kellogg died Tuesday morning.

It took two days, seven men, a span of horses, and block and tackle apparatus to move the ten ton solid Shepard family monument from the depot to the cemetery and there put it in place.

It is said that Dr. Berry is going to remove from here to Southern Illinois.

The appearance of a new newspaper should be a notable event to a place, especially to one in where none before had an existence, and as the press is one of the most powerful agents in shaping the affairs of man. Unfortunately my notice last week of the appearance of the Oswego *Enterprise* was made too long, or rather the coupling with it of other matter made that paragraph too lengthy for finding room. The absence of any mention of it was taken by some as my being hostile to the *Enterprise*, as faring that it would damage my newspaper interests.



Samuel Herren died at his home near the grove road, three miles out from Oswego Friday morning, Dec. 11, 1896. He had been in only moderate health for more than two years, but during the last few months he grew steadily weaker until the end.

Mr. Herren was born in Muhlenberg, Canton of Berne, Switzerland, Oct. 18, 1824. He came to this country in 1853 and settled in this vicinity, where he engaged in farming and lived the rest of his days. Early in life he united with the Reformed church in his native country in 1841. So far as can be learned from those who knew him, he lived a consistent Christian life.

The funeral was held at the home of his brother, Mr. Christian Herren, on Sunday morning. A long line of carriages followed the remains to the place of interment in the Union Cemetery.

Dec. 23: The milk wagon rig of Charley Reed, while left standing in the street one day took a notion to run away. No damage.

The mandolin club here has developed into a very symphonious institution. It consists now of seven instruments, viz: Two mandolins, two guitars, two violins, and one bass viol.

The Fox River valley electric road and the lighting by electricity the villages upon it, of which Oswego is to furnish a large amount of power, received the attention of a column of last week's *Enterprise*.

J.H. Gray, who had been taken to the Aurora hospital, died there Friday and the corpse was returned here. He was the heaviest man of this community, weighing nearly 400, and his disease, dropsy, rather increased than diminished his size. A special coffin had to be sent for. He was nearly 57 years of age, and was a native of this town.

Dec. 30: Most of the Oswegoans sojourning elsewhere came home to spend Christmas.

Bernice Pearce came home from the Northwestern University on a holiday vacation.

According to an account of the life, death, and funeral of J. Henry Gray furnished me, he was born in 1840; married Ann Herrick in

1859. Their only son Morris died when 19 years old and the mother of him died in 1887. Gray subsequently married Mrs. Mary A. Decker, and they have a son now six years old.

1897

January

Jan. 1: Tearing offs and turning over new leaves were in order.

A meeting of the stockholders of the Oswego library association will take place next Monday night at 7 o'clock at the store of G.M. Croushorn.

1896 acted very gloomy during its last days and 1897 put in its appearance in a similar mood, and then turned to weeping, copiously shedding tears for two days; next it began blowing and snowing and freezing.

The deaths and burials of Oswego for 1896 were 21 adults with the average of 62 years; of which 10 were males with the average of 53, 11 females, 71, and besides there were 3 infants under one year old. Of the males 5 were married 3 single, and two widowed. Of the females, 2 were married and 9 widowed. There was one suicide with the limits of the town by a Chicago man. Six corpses were brought there from abroad for burial.

The Oswego Woodmen and the Knights of Pythias share a meeting room upstairs over Scott Cutter's Drug Store.

A vast amount of rain fell Saturday and Sunday. The splendid roads of late were converted into mud beds.

Jan. 20: Mrs. Helme, one of our old people, though not having been very well for a few days was up and around the house. A neighborhood lady it is said, made a call Thursday afternoon with whom she went to the door on leaving, then returned to her chair, in which she expired a few minutes afterward. The burial took place

in the Bristol Station cemetery. Deceased was in her 91st year; she was one of the 1d settlers, having come with her husband, the late Judge J.W. Helme, from New York State, and settled in Bristol township at an early day; about 1850 they moved to this place where she has been living ever since. Of the family is left a son and a daughter.

Jan. 27: Could you keep warm these days?

Rumor has it that Nick Congdon and Mrs. Fugate were married about the middle of the week.

The sidewalks were quite slippery of late. Saturday, a man brought two dozen of eggs and started to take them home in a paper bag; in passing the postoffice he met a fellow who slipped and in trying to catch himself struck this man's paper bag and knocking out the bottom of it scattered the eggs over the sidewalk. Seven in a cracked condition were saved out of the lot.

Oswego is to have a postoffice fight, a thing of which the present generation doesn't know anything about as none has been experienced here in 36 years. In 1861, there was quite a lively one, but it was about 1855 when the democracy was split and when about every two or three months the office was changed from one wing to the other and when it was moved on the west side of the river when Samuel Roberts got it away from Dar Bradley, it was then when there was fun.

NaAuSay: The farmers of the town seem to have wake up to the fact that hard roads are the thing needed and will greatly benefit every one whose business takes them on the roads in wet weather; with the Goudie Brothers in the north part of the town and the Winne Brothers in the south part of the town the work receives an impetus that makes it go.

February -- 1897

Feb. 3: Fred Schilling accidentally shot himself while hunting rabbits with his father, Henry. The scene at the house is said to have been

most heartrending on the arrival of the body; the family is one in moderate circumstances with a large number of small children; Fred was the second oldest and just got to where he could be of help; he was also a good and quiet boy. The funeral took place Sunday afternoon from the Evangelical church, which was crowded--the Germans always turn up for funerals. The deceased was a native of Hanover, Germany and brought to this country and place when four years old.

Ground hog day Tuesday morning and the sun has made a shadow.

Wells Briggs, of Oswego when a boy, and who followed the trade of a tinner died at Sterling, his home, about ten days ago.

That foreign immigration should be restricted was debated Monday night and won by Fred Kuhman and Gus Shoger for restriction and L. Rank and D.M. Haight against it.

A sleighing party were down one evening from Aurora and had a dance at the rink hall; and Monday evening a sleighing party of Endeavourers from that city were down and enjoyed an oyster supper and social time at Mr. Barrett's.

Henry Rink is breaking his team of colts.

The farmers spent a few days hauling gravel on the road west of the railroad track near Wolf's Crossing. We hope they will spend many more in the same way.

Feb. 10: It was in the ice harvest where the most activity was displayed the forepart of last week. The two stone quarries in the neighborhood furnished the nicest kind, it being a foot thick and so clear that nonpareil print could be read through it without specs on. Malcolm filled the Fox River Creamery ice-houses with it and quite a number of others from both sides of the village and country laid in supplies.

Now that the postoffice here is undergoing an agitation, a brief history of it for the benefit of the present generation may be in order. As near as it can be learned it was established in 1837. Levi

Arnold was the first postmaster and was such up until 1845 when it went to W.O. Parke, who kept it in his store, now the Anton Miller place, which was then as much the center of business as any other part of the village, there being two stores and a grocery right across the street from it, and a hotel below it. The Whig Party came into power in 1849 causing the post office to be changed to M.A. Fenton, who kept it in the first place in the building which is now Helle's Shoe Store, connecting with it the school book and stationery trade, but moved it in 1852 into the store of William P. Boyd now on the ground where the drug store is. In 1853 the administration changed back to the Democrats and, with it, the post office back to W.O. Parke who resigned it early in 1855 and that was the year of the post office sensation. In the first place, E.D. Bradley became the postmaster but as the Democrats were out with themselves in the Kansas-Nebraska Bill, he was reported not sound on the goose, so off came his head; Sam Roberts, about the only administration man here, was the successor. Bradley had kept the post office in a store where Voss's Barber Shop now is; Roberts moved it over the river into a building a little north of the bridge, which raised such indignation that remonstrances were sent to Washington and soon caused another change to J.W. Chapman who kept it on the corner from Nov. 1, 1855 to 1861, and was succeeded by Lorenzo Rank, who kept it there for 13 years and then moved it to where it now is. He was succeeded in the fall of 1887 by C.E. Hubbard, the incumbent who is the eighth postmaster of Oswego.

A very serious accident occurred Friday evening about seven miles north from Normantown, on the main line of the EJ&E railroad. One freight train was standing on the track and another from the opposite direction ran into it. One engineer was killed and two trainmen badly hurt.

Feb. 17: Watts Cutter has been shipping baled hay.

The creamery had to suspend operation Tuesday of last week to get its boiler repaired.

The genuine police duties are to protect persons and property and to arrest offenders, but the Chicago police got the idea that their

principal duties are to prosecute and procure evidence against alleged offenders; especially such as they want prosecuted.

Feb. 24: The Chicago Burlington & Quincy Railroad has just accomplished the greatest feat the world has ever know for long distance fast running. It was made in a race against death to carry Henry J. Mayham of New York to the bedside of his dying son in Denver. The distance from Chicago to Denver, 1,025 miles, was covered in exactly 1,069 minutes actually running time. That is only a small fraction less than one mile a minute for the longest continuous run ever made by any railroad in the world. The engine which took the train on the first run out of Chicago to Galesburg had just come in from Aurora pulling a regular passenger train.

T.S. Hopkins and Dr. Putt have gone to Alabama on a prospecting tour.

Mrs. E.A. Murdock died early Monday morning. Funeral Wednesday afternoon.

Mrs. Maud Putt has returned from a visit at Hinckley bringing with her cousin Miss Jennie McClelland, who will visit her while the doctor is away.

The electric road coming to Oswego was the topic of debate by the club Monday evening, Gus Shoger and John Roberts holding that it will be beneficial to the village and Barrett, Armstrong, and James, injurious. The vote taken at its close, of the audience, was in favor of its coming.

Mr. G.H. Voss, known by his many friends as "us Voss," is the only representative Kendall county has at Springfield at this session of the legislature. He has been appointed by Rep. Guffin as clerk of the committee on Penal and Reform institutions. It is a very important committee--one of the best in the House, and Mr. Voss will have an opportunity to see some of the best men in the State in connection with his duties. The pay is \$3 a day, seven days in the week, and there are other privileges that will make the position interesting. Mr. Voss's many friends congratulate him on holding the place and being the only worthy representative of Little Kendall. Mr. Guffin

did a pleasant thing in giving him the appointment, and we expect the Hon. Charles Cherry used some influence in the matter.

March -- 1897

March 3: L.R. Inman is also out as a candidate for collector.

The body of the four year old boy of Mrs. Lottie Sanders of Aurora was brought here for burial.

Frank Vanderlip, who so rapidly is advancing towards the front of the men of fame and importance, got his start from the Oswego school.

Mrs. E.A. Murdock had reached the age of 76 years and was one of the few remaining old settlers of this village, having been living here about 54 years. The daughter, Mrs. Van Deventer, is the only survivor of the family.

Mrs. Emily Murdock died at her home in Oswego Feb. 22, 1897, of pneumonia, aged 76 years--Christmas being her last birthday. She was an old settler; the home in which she died was built by her husband in 1848, she having lived in the same for 47 years. Mrs. Murdock had many friends and no enemies and died a fearless death, willing and ready at any moment to join her husband and son on the other side. She leaves but one of her immediate family--even as she was the last of hers.

While at work with his son cleaning up the barn for a new tenant on his farm Thursday, H.W. Wormley of Shabbona dropped dead. Mr. Wormley was born at Corning, N.Y. Nov. 2, 1832. When five years of age he removed with his parents to Oswego, Kendall county, ill., where he grew to manhood. For a few years he served as a clerk. In 1852 he went to California where he spent over a year. Returning to Illinois he, in company with his brother, purchased the homestead farm in Kendall county. In 1856, he came to DeKalb county and bought the land in Shabbona township, where he had since resided. Mr. Wormley was married at Oswego January 5, 1858, to Miss Miranda S. Lilly.

John A. Herren married Nellie R. Wormley on February 25, 1897 at the home of Mrs. Myron Wormley of Oswego, the bride's father.

March 10: Clarence Shumway arrived here on a visit Wednesday from Hastings, Neb.

Dr. Putt and T.S. Hopkins have returned from Alabama and, it is said have invested in real estate and will soon move there.

March 17: At Anton Miller's, his daughter, Mrs. Jennie Welton and children of Compton, are visitors.

The Methodist church steeple, which a few years ago was curtailed, is now being removed altogether. The said organization and the steeple of their church seemingly have a corresponding conformity to each other; when they were as strong as any, if not the strongest in town, their church steeple was as tall, if not the tallest of any; when they had become somewhat diminished, the beaked part of the steeple was taken down and now that they have become still more reduced the steeple will disappear altogether. Causing the church to leak, however, is why it has to go.

March 24: George M. Bower is building a new barn. Schwartz is doing the work.

More or less of the color of green was displayed by the enthusiastic inclined on St. Patrick's Day.

March 31: The widow of Stephen Fox died Sunday night, aged 83 years.

No other but four-horse teams have been seen hauling milk of late and they had become reduced to few.

A check pump, a new device for keeping the return of skim milk straight, has been instituted at the creamery.

T.S. Hopkins and Dr. Putt are loading a car with their goods and will take their departure for their new home in Alabama Tuesday. Their



friends regret it, and so does the town in losing such old and staunch citizens.

G.M. Croushorn is about to announce the building of his new residence on the northwest corner of Jackson and Madison Streets.

April -- 1897

April 7: Carrie Barrett goes daily to Aurora to acquire the art of millinery.

Millington: The oldest landmark and relic of the red men in this vicinity, the Indian mound on Mr. Lewis Jones's lot, and probably the largest of its kind in Kendall or LaSalle counties, is now no more, for the work of leveling it commenced Saturday and is now about finished. A great many people said it seemed too bad to destroy it, but it is located near the front of the lot and near where a house ought to be placed if the owner saw fit to build one. Mr. Jones's family are known to be hustlers, but they did not care to have a hump on their front yard so, for reasons mentioned above, the historic pile has been leveled.

As is generally known, the mound was an Indian burying place and was opened a number of years ago by relic hunters. We do not remember just what relics were found or how many, but not all of them were unearthed at that time, for a few were discovered the other day, which proves that the redman's remains have not yet all crumbled into dust. Monday, a part of the frontal bone of a skull was found and one of the bones of the lower limbs. They are of a dark brown color and have much the appearance of decayed wood, but the shape and porous structure proves them to be human bones. Quite a number of arrow heads of various sizes and shapes were also found.

Yorkville: Frank Vanderlip, formerly of Oswego, private secretary of Mr. Gage, secretary of the treasury, has been acting this week as private secretary of President McKinley during the temporary absence of Secretary Porter. Who says Kendall county is not in it?

April 14: At Thomas Miller's Mr. Palmer, a young gentleman from Joliet was a visitor.

Were down from Aurora: Etta Roberts, Mrs. Schram, Mrs. Libbie Hale, Mrs. Stevens, Clinton Pease, H.H. Miller, and a number of cyclists and rideouters for pleasure.

Christian Hemm out on the German settlement, has been unwell for some time but came to town meeting last week and voted. Since then he became suddenly dangerously sick and Monday evening died. He was one of the prominent and wealthy farmers of Oswego.

The east side license ticket for the village election of next week is composed of J.C. Conway as mayor and Schwartz, Charles Roberts, and Peter Cooney for aldermen; L.P. Voss, clerk and Henry Fox police magistrate. That of the west side--also for license--H. Helle, mayor; James Pearce, O. Hebert, and E.T. Sutherland, aldermen. By last account, the clerkship and magistracy had not yet been settled and it is charged that the east side gang were engaged in debauching the candidates the west sides were putting up for those positions. There is no apparent issue between the two factions, but nevertheless, the contest is to be most sharp and fought to the bitter end just for the bossism in it.

An effort should be made to get the legislature to simplify the election machinery and to reduce the expenses thereof. The Australian system as now in practice is too cumbersome, and is also in one respect calculated to educate deception, for it virtually says, "You may promise your boss or anyone else you want to please to vote as he wants you to, and then go and vote to the contrary." At the town election of last week, many pledges are said to have been violated.

April 21: Mr. and Mrs. John A. Herren have moved into their new home over the river.

Which is it--does winter tarry on the lap of spring or it is spring held in the lap of winter so long?

The road-scraper was employed all over the township in smoothening the roads. Myron Cowdrey and Oscar Briggs with four horses were operating it.

Barrett has disposed of his stock of goods to a man by the name of Friend, and according to report an exchange of store buildings will take place between him and E.H. Sodt.

Yorkville: Mr. Lorenzo Rank was down from Oswego a little while Thursday on some business matters. Mr. Rank is the first local correspondent The Record ever had, he beginning to send Oswego items soon after the paper was established over 30 years ago, and he has continued ever since--one of the best correspondents a paper ever had. His manuscript is a marvel of clearness--he writes a good business hand and it is just as perfect now as it was when he first commenced.

#### Local Elections Tuesday

Oswego: The east side license ticket was elected by the average majority of 51-1/2 out of the total vote of 152. The victors are for president, J.C. Conway; for trustees, Chas. Roberts, G. Schwartz, and Peter Cooney; for clerk, L.P. Voss; for magistrate, Henry Fox.

April 28: George Inman is reported as gradually failing.

The administration of Oswego changed Monday evening; Hank Smith and John Gaylord stepped down and out. The new Mayor Conway excused himself from making an inaugural address, saying that he had been too busy for preparing a suitable one.

Another of Oswego's old settlers returned here in a box for the final abode. Mrs. Fred Coffin died last week at Vandalia where she had been living with her daughter, Mrs. Alice Van Dorstan.

G.H. Voss was home from Springfield over Sunday. He is getting down on the newspapers; says they are maligning the legislature; that on the whole it is composed of very nice and honorable men.

The funeral of Christian Hemm of the German settlement took place Tuesday afternoon of last week and was one of the large gatherings

which the Germans are wont to make up on such occasions. The deceased was 76 years of age; was a native of Bavaria; came to America in 1845, when he settled on the land where he has lived ever since.

Mrs. Dolly Marie Rhines Coffin, born at Sharon Springs, N.Y. Jan. 20, 1822, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. A.M. Van Dorstan, in Vandalia Monday, April 19, 1897.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Andrew Brown painted the inside of the Tamarack knowledge factory last week.

The funeral of Mr. Robert Glenn, the aged father of Mrs. McLaren, occurred Saturday afternoon at the house. His death from old age was on Wednesday.

May -- 1897

May 5: The *Kendall County Record* was celebrating its 33rd anniversary in business.

Carrie Briggs is now the teacher in the Russell district.

E.H. Sodt's store was moved Saturday to the corner of the brick block; into the rooms vacated by J.E. Barrett.

If the weather guessing at Chicago is done according to any system it better be discarded in favor of the one of John Wormley, which by far is the most correct.

It was not Wiley as reported in the Aurora papers, but George Woolley who sold a span of English shire horses weighing 3,400 pounds to Mr. Ellsworth for \$300.

The building of the new residences of Croushorn and Charles Roberts has been commenced by the excavation of the cellars. While the building of these are assured that of three others are contemplated.

The principal doings of the village council at their meetings Friday and Monday were the reducing of the liquor licenses from \$1,000 to \$750; the renewing of them to the old saloon keepers; the authorization of inviting bids for the extension of the water mains so as to complete the second loop; the electing of Ezekiel Davis Jr. as marshal and street commissioner and John Varner as engineer that is to attend to the pumping. An application for a new saloon by an Aurora man came before the board at their last meeting which was laid on the table for action at the next meeting.

Mrs. John Lockwood died Wednesday night. Deceased was 78 years old; was a resident of this place for forth-odd years. She has left a husband and five sons to mourn the demise of a good wife and mother.

Mrs. Ann Eliza Devoe, who has been living of late years with her son-in-law, C.G. Doud of Winona, Minn., and who a few weeks ago fell and broke her hip-bone, which injury though doing well probably was the cause in bringing on sickness otherwise that resulted in her death. The burial took place in the Oswego cemetery. Mrs. Devoe had reached the age of 89 years; she was one of the oldest settlers of this section; her maiden name was Townsend and she had a number of sisters residing in this neighborhood, all of them now dead except Mrs. Levi C. Gorton of Bristol. In 1849 or '50, she accompanied her husband overland to California. Her daughter, Mrs. C.G. Doud is the only survivor of the Devoe family.

May 12: Arrangements for a soda fountain at the drug store are in progress

Mrs. Maud Putt and little girl, Clara, departed for their new home in Alabama last week.

The brothers Thomas and Gordon Hopkins have returned from Alabama on a visit.

It is said that a Minnesota doctor was here looking over the ground with a view of locating in Oswego.

Mrs. Amanda Ketchum is on a visit to her old friend and schoolmate, Mrs. Netty Getty Shaoon in Chicago. Mrs. Ketchum has bought the lot next to the L.N. Hall place and contemplates building a residence there.

The cellar and foundation of the new residence of Charles Roberts are completed and those of G.M. Croushorn nearly so.

It is said Charles Hoard of Chicago has bought of Wayne the lot next to J.W. Morrison and will build a residence on it for his parents.

Dr. Van Deventer has bought of the Barrett premises the lot opposite the Evangelical church and it is said will build a house on it during the summer.

Thirteen of the YMCA bicycle club of Aurora had a run own here one evening when they took in the birthday party at James Pearce's.

May 19: Quit a number of Aurora cyclers were in town Monday evening.

The jewelry shop of Arthur Jones has been moved into the furniture store.

Dr. Fred Lester of Rising City, Neb., is said to have been here on a flying visit.

John Inman of Michigan who lived here for a while is now making his sick brother George a visit.

The embellishments of the new saloon are nearly completed and its fixtures in place. It will by far be the most gorgeous establishment of the kind that Oswego ever had.

The new residence of Charles Roberts is up and inclosed; the Richards brothers are the builders; that of Croushorn is ready to go up; Schamp with his gang is doing the job; Schwartz, with Kohlhammer is building the George M. Bower barn out in the German settlement; the raising of it will take place this Tuesday afternoon.

Many of the farmers are nearly done corn planting.

May 26: Quite a frost here this 25th day of May.

The new saloon has been connected to the waterworks.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Edwards are enjoying a new surrey.

The Jackson street blacksmith shop is now used for the hose-cart house.

Archie Lake is now the assistant barber at the Van Doozer shop.

Street and sidewalk work is being prosecuted under the new village administration.

The decoration exercises will take place Sunday; the oratorical part of it in the forenoon at the Evangelical church.

Young Leonard Shoger last week, on his birthday that made him into a voter, was honored with a surprise party by which he realized a new gold watch and some money in gold.

The latest provision against thirstiness is that of a beautiful soda fountain by Scott Cutter at the drug store. With two such fountains, two restaurants where they make lemonade, three saloons and the water-works, there certainly is no need to go thirsty.

At a council meeting Monday evening 11 contractors or their agents were present to learn whether or not their bids for the extension of the water mains would be accepted, the meeting being for the opening of them. The bids for the job from the lowest to the highest were about \$00 apart. The lowest being \$1,323 by H.D. Hallett of Aurora, to whom it was awarded.

Ed Pike of Chicago, well known to the soldiers of the 127th here, having been a member of that regiment, was here for a day or two with the object, however, of furnishing the village with chemical fire extinguishers, and one evening showed how it can be done. Though

working satisfactorily the authorities declined procuring them; relying on the firemen and waterworks for protection.

The body of Mrs. Eliza J. Palmer--better known to this community as Mrs. Dr. Davis--was brought here from Minnesota where with her last husband she was residing, for burial Wednesday. She was 59 years of age, was the daughter of the late John H. Wormley, and had been living in this village for a number of years.

George C. Inman came to the end of life during Wednesday night after months of suffering. A number of the post of GAR, to which the deceased belonged, were down from Aurora and over the grave performed their impressive burial rites. The body was in a very nice solid oak casket which was covered with the American flag and beautiful flowers. Deceased was born in Pennsylvania in June 1835; he has been permanently living here for about 30 years but also on and off before the war, but the most of the time then in Michigan, from where he enlisted in the army. For several years he was the marshal and street commissioner of the village. He leaves a widow [Julia E. (Curtis) Baxter, married 20 Sept. 1883] and son and daughter from his first wife [Olive M.].

June -- 1897

June 2: Oliver Hem and George Roth have been shipping oats and corn by the carloads.

The residences of Charles Knapp and George Minkler were repainted. Also the Shoger block.

John Funk has moved his family here from Aurora and into the Mrs. Collins house on Plainfield avenue.

M.J. Richards was laid to rest in the Oswego cemetery Saturday. He died at his home in Chicago May 27, 1897, where services were conducted. He was born at Gill, Franklin county, Mass. , July 12, 1825; came to Oswego June 3, 1847; was proprietor of the National hotel from 1862 until it was burned. He moved to Chicago in May 1877 where he was engaged in the real estate business until his



death. He leaves a widow, one daughter, Mrs. George D. Wormley, and two step-daughters, Mrs. Lysander Hord and Mrs. Frank O. Hawley.

The cold weather makes many of the farmers look “blue,” and various are the conjectures indulged in about the corn and potato crops. Most every crop seems several weeks behind in growth.

Millington: The Fox river bridge is condemned by the commissioners but is used as much as ever, there having been no ford made yet. The Massillon Bridge Company of Ohio has the contract for repairing it.

June 9: A horse trader's band is encamped here.

Frank Van Doozer is having a new and handsome barn built.

The digging of the trenches for the extension of the water mains was begun Monday

It is at the outskirts of the town where the most beautifying is taking place. John S. Seely is having all his buildings repainted and out on Naperville avenue, Van Evra and Smith have been painting and all three otherwise improving their premises.

We have Mrs. Shelley, a professor of Phrenology and Palmistry with us who has given us four lectures and at which public examinations were made.

The remains of Samuel Devoe and children were removed from the Wormley to the Oswego cemetery where a few weeks ago the wife and mother was buried. It is said that some of the clothing, especially a satin vest and whatever was of silk, was yet in good state of preservation though all were buried for over 30 years. In the exhuming of these the bones of what is supposed to have been those of an Indian of very large size were also struck.

Millbrook: Contractors were in town last week bidding for the new iron bridge that is to be across the creek west of Mr. Taylor's.

Millington: This is the last opportunity we have of announcing the great patriotic event which is to take place at the Millington-Newark cemetery on Flag Day, June 14, which comes on Monday next, namely the unveiling of the monument of Henry Misner, which is purchased by the Daughters of the American Revolution of Ottawa. It will be an event the like of which the most of us will not have the opportunity of seeing again, as so few of the burial places of the Revolutionary soldiers are known. The Patriotic Home Workers will have charge of the refreshments to be served the Daughters and Misner relatives at the hall after the exercises, which will be held between 1 and 5 p.m. and the most of the visitors will return on the evening train at 6:37.

Yorkville: Ice-cream soda, 5-cents, at Cotton's.

Paul Hawley has closed his school at Pavilion for the summer vacation and is now taking it easy.

June 16: John Schickler had the lower front of his buildings painted cream and the tin roofs of them with the ordinary red.

Humanness would dictate that during such weather as this all non-essential work be dispensed with and that to both printers and readers of newspapers be given a relaxation from the usual push.

The main business at the council meeting Monday evening was the building of a hose house, the same is to be joined to the council building and that the firemen be more under the regulation of the council than they were heretofore.

The extension of the water mains is progressing; the hardest part that of the lower part of Jackson street, which was most entirely through rock and dynamite was made to supply a large amount of the energy is completed. Mr. Hallett the contractor is right along with the workmen.

Oswego has been having but one doctor for some time, during which its people had to economize on sickness and keep their health in good condition Hereafter the facilities for sickness will be much improved, as according to report, Dr. [Thomas Barnette] Drew of

Aurora will open an office in the Schram building for many years occupied for a doctor's office, and that Dr. Scott of Sandwich has engaged a room in the Haight building for an office. Still another doctor is considering the plan of coming here.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Alex Harvey leaves next week for a trip to Iowa where he will visit his two sons.

Bessie and Helen Clow of East Wheatland are visiting at Grandpa Stewart's and attended the picnic.

Yorkville: In The Record of last week was given a sketch of the Revolutionary soldier Henry Misner and the proposed unveiling of a monument in his memory in the Millington cemetery June 14. The event came off Monday afternoon and there was a very large gathering from LaSalle, DeKalb, Grundy, Will, and Kendall counties, with a few from Chicago and Aurora.

June 23: The hose house is now being built. Schwartz is doing it.

The school term came to a close Friday and Miss Breed, the only non-resident teacher, has gone to her home at Princeton.

The two new doctors--R.G. Scott and T.B. Drew--have arrived and opened offices respectively in the Haight building and in the Schram building.

The water mains extension is nearly completed. In blasting out a boulder in the way of it, a few window lights were broken out of the houses of William Dwyer and A.L. Rich; also the latter some chinaware ornaments by the concussion. The rain has hindered the work much.

Sweltering, showery and cool weather was experienced within a week. The almanac said for Sunday: "The sun enters Cancer, summer begins." While the relative positions of sun and earth and the point for a return towards the opposite season reached Sunday are very important to the dwellers upon the latter, just when the sun enters Cancer will be immaterial to the average man, but an untruth should be dropped and not told year after year. The Sun

will not enter Cancer for several weeks yet. The constant little shifting going on in the grand machine has caused about a month's difference from what it was when the marking of it was commenced several thousand years ago. The almanac makers should get the sun's true zodiacal location or else quit saying anything about it.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Last week lightning struck in a new barb wire fence built last year cut off top wire, split one post to kindling wood and damaged 14 other posts on Section 15, farm owned by George Schilling east of town.

Millington: The machinery at the new sand bank was set in motion Monday morning, pumping the water out of the pit. If, after the water is removed, the sand is found to be in good condition there will be some prospects of the plant opening again.

Yorkville: Preliminary proceedings were again commenced Monday for the opening of the road from Yorkville to Cowdrey's--to a certain intersecting point. Commissioners Collins, Walker, and Herren were here to oppose the proposed opening on the part of Oswego. At a former attempt to open this road, the town of Kendall paid about \$300 for attorney's fees and expenses and Oswego as much more. It looks as though the dose was to be repeated at a greater cost. The tones of the attorney for Kendall displeased the Oswego commissioners Monday and they got up and left the room while he was talking.

Tamarack and Wheatland: The Wilcox and the Church schools closed last Friday for the summer vacation.

June 30: The hose house was built during the week. Ornamentally the inclined approach to it is not imposing.

Strawberries are now in the ascendancy; they are very plenty and of the nicest quality.

The extension of the water mains is completed; the job accepted, and the contract settled with at a special meeting Saturday.

The board hearing complaints on assessments was in session Monday. A reform is needed very much in making assessments; somebody should invent a machine by which it may be one. The judgment and discretion of man can no longer be trusted.

Wednesday, lightning struck the depot, which at the time was closed; [Henry Green] Smith, the agent, had just left it to go to his supper. M.J. Pogue saw the bolt enter and immediately noticed smoke arising from the roof. He thereupon hailed Smith, who with Will Richards, returned and together with a Babcock chemical extinguisher soon had the fire, which was mostly overhead in the ceiling under control. An alarm had also been sent to the fire department, which readily responded and put on the finishing touches towards putting out the fire. Some of the telegraphing apparatus was damaged but the loss was little.

Millington: The voters from here went to Millbrook Tuesday to ballot on the question of erecting a bridge over Fox river near Millbrook. The folks down this way do not want it.

July -- 1897

July 7: Prof. C.H. Rucks was in town one day.

Mrs. O.F. Judson of Sandwich was making friends here a visit.

Henry Hebert came down from Rochelle to celebrate the 4th at home.

Think of how the Australians and Patagonians must now be shivering in the cold.

A man from Elgin was here to see what facilities this place would afford for a bicycle factory.

The Yorkville road case was postponed last week Tuesday, when several from the capital had been called here by it.

Rev. O.F. Johnson of NaAuSay was the officiating clergyman at the Presbyterian Church Sunday morning.

Laura Lindemeier, employed at C.T. Cherry's, was severely hurt by falling onto the handle bars of her bicycle when striking a big gravel on the road.

There was no concerted action here about celebrating the 4th; everybody was left to choose their own way and time for it.

The wave of torrid weather under which the central states sweltered last week showed no abatement Sunday. From Pittsburgh to Kansas City and from Chicago south the cloudless skies and blazing sun left a record of prostrations and death which has seldom been equaled for the early days of July.

Tamarack and Wheatland: The funeral of Mr. and Mrs. James Campbell's infant daughter was held last Thursday at the home of her parents. Interment in the cemetery at the U.P. church.

The glorious Forth has come and gone once more and people have settled down into hum-drum life again. Some of our folks spent Saturday at the picnic held at the Clow farm in East Wheatland; others went to Plainfield; and still others simply went to the Plainfield fire-works at night. A few went to Joliet Monday and lastly, a good many stayed home.

Yorkville: Dr. Scott of Oswego had some professional business in Yorkville Thursday and The Record people were glad to have a call from him. He is a pleasant young man, a graduate of old Rush, which has turned out so many good doctors. And we felt better acquainted with the Doctor when he said he was a grandson of our old and good friend, Mr. Andrew Scott of Little Rock, one of the early settlers here.

The new law passed by the legislature requiring farmers and villages to cut weeds goes into effect July 1. Every farmer is required to remove thistles, briars, burdocks, and other obnoxious weeds that grow along the highway contiguous to his property on or before Aug. 20. For this work, he is allowed \$1.25 a day, the amount to be

credited on his road tax. Persons failing to cut these weeds before the date specified the supervisor is empowered to have the work done and charge the same to the property owner.

Millington: The river bridge was torn down Monday and the country folks have to cross principally on the steel stringers, the river being too high to make fording desirable.

July 14: Garrett Seely has done to Colorado to engage in engineering.

Mrs. Julia E. Inman complains that the flowers planted on her husband's grave have been torn up.

The Goudie brothers brought early Monday morning a handsome lot of fat steers to town for shipment.

A number of horses about here succumbed to the heat Thursday and Friday, most of them proved fatal.

William Bradford, formerly of here, was brought down from Aurora to take his abode in the suburb below, where the wicked cease from troubling and the weary are at rest.

They are in the habit of coming down here from Aurora for an outing and cause disturbances wherever they happen to put up. A lot of silver platers from there were down and picnicked in the Cob Pearce woods and before they left the grounds presented him, of course, a silver pitcher.

Another Oswego Boy has come clear to the front. John Cliggitt is the chosen candidate for Governor of Iowa by the gold democracy of that state. John was one of Oswego's debating club years ago and from there doubtless took his start for fame and honor in the world.

Upshaw Hord of Aurora spent part of Wednesday in this village to get the right-of-way for the electric road through it and there was little kicking against it that was said. While at it the company should be induced to get the best of roads; if the third rail pattern is any improvement on the trolley, let it be had right in the beginning.

John Inman was the one victim here of the heated spell. He came here from Michigan about two months ago, or a few days before the death of his brother George; subsequently to which he concluded to stay and went to work; was one of the ditch diggers for the water mains extension. Saturday afternoon he was engaged mowing the lawn at Frank Van Doozer's and about 5 o'clock while running the mower he fell forward and in a few minutes, before a doctor could reach him, was dead. Deceased was about 65 years of age and was one of the old soldiers. Charles, his son, arrived from Michigan Monday and attended the funeral.

Yorkville: The first ten days of July 1897 will long be remembered by the oldest inhabitant as something to talk about in future days. It was a period of great heat--solid torridity--moist humidity--weather man's stupidity--in giving us such weather during a holiday season. For ten days, the mercury ranged from 90 to 100 degrees and at times the air was too oppressive even to breathe.

The highway commissioners of Oswego and Kendall had a meeting in Yorkville Saturday to talk over that road up the river to Cowdrey's [modern VanEmmon Road] and will have another conference meeting Saturday, Aug. 7, when it will be made known what the Oswego commissioners will do about the matter. The Oswego people cannot be censured for not wanting the road opened and if they can stop it they will do so. Yorkville people want the road opened because it is thought it will be a benefit to this town. It is self-interest on both sides. Oswego says it will be an expensive piece of road to make and keep in order. Yorkville says it will not cost much and there you are.

Millington: Work is necessarily delayed on the bridge this week till the arrival of more lumber. A ford ferry and foot bridge are means by which the river is crossed.

While a ford is necessary as a means of crossing the river, it should be properly staked out and it is the business of the commissioners to see that this is done. All accidents caused by driving into holes would then be avoided and the water is but little over a foot deep in the best route.



July 21: Chicago, Joliet, Elgin, and other Illinois cities begin to feel the shortage of soft coal consequent upon the strike of the miners. Railroads pursue their policy of confiscating coal wherever found, the public institutions which use soft coal for fuel are facing a serious problem.

Some of us fellows here are threatened with the Klondike gold fever. It is said that it takes no less than \$500 to get there with provisions enough to last until one's pile is made, and most of us haven't got that \$500 handy.

Mrs. Helen Huyck returned on the boat of which her husband is captain to her home in New York State, taking her mother, Mrs. Samse, with her. They were accompanied to Chicago by Mrs. H.G. Smith, who thus was gone from home two days, during which Hank was quite desolate.

The fire department was reorganized the other evening by making some amendments to its rules and the election of new officers. The company now consists of 17 members and the officers are G.M. Croushorn, president; Clint Jackson vice president; G.H. Voss, secretary; Scott Cutter, treasurer; John Varner, marshal; Ezekiel Davis, assistant marshal; Charles Rieger, captain.

The "Roney Hay Carrier Returner," another device for quick work and the saving of labor was put up by Charles I. Smith for a number of the farmers of this vicinity. The one in Frank Hawley's barn was seen working, and about all the manual labor required was the setting of the fork and the driving of the team for pulling up the hay. Let machinery do all the work, but provide a way for all getting a living.

The bugbear now is socialism. While the great majority will sneer at socialism, all more or less favor it, the degree is merely upon which men differ. Some of the wells here formerly were made to supply several families with water; the owner of the well was willing to furnish the water if the outsiders provided the pump; that was socialism to a small extent; now by the waterworks pretty much the whole town is provided with water from one well, which is socialism

to a much greater extent. The exchange of work with one another; co-partnerships; syndicates of all kinds; trusts; governments, all are species of socialism--trusts are roundly denounced yet everybody would like to belong to a good trust. In union is strength, in combination success; civilization means socialism; the question merely is, Shall socialism be enjoyed by corporate bodies and classes, and at the expense of the people in general, or shall the people enjoy it for their own benefit; shall we have general of special, public or private socialism.

Millington: The work on the bridge will not be completed this week unless the lumber arrives in a day or two.

Yorkville: As will be seen in the report of the [Kendall County Board of] supervisors' proceedings published in last week's Record, parties were down from Aurora to ask the board for the right of way along the highway for the laying of rails for an electric car line to run from Aurora via Oswego and on to Yorkville, thence to Morris or any other route they may determine on.

Members of the board were not prepared to take any action in the matter at that meeting and by suggestion of Messrs. Hord and Winslow, will again meet on the 2d of August to hear the matter discussed--the railway company to pay the expense of the meeting. This is a matter the people should talk to their supervisors about. A favorable action by the board means the running of a railway along the roads most traveled by our farmers and others who drive. Whether the people want it should be ascertained before the right of way is granted. And it is possible the board may object to the scheme anyway. At least the matter should be talked over before the time for meeting.

July 28: The lawn illumination at Barrett's on the occasion of the Endeavourer's festival was very beautiful.

Will the borrower of volume 25 of Mrs. Lester's Encyclopedia Britannica please return the same and oblige the owner?

With Aurora [horse] races, the Logan day, and some other excursions, this place was rendered rather dull during most of last week.

The firemen were trying to see how fast they can run with their hose-cart, and how quick they can get the water playing on Monday evening.

It is Harley Richards that will ere long be delivering to the people here their missives of joy and sorrow, duns and promises, and to the girls their love letters, as postmaster.

Tamarack and Wheatland: The Tamarack threshing ring met at Mr. John Gilmour's Monday evening to transact such business as might come before the meeting.

Farmers were very busy last week in cutting oats, some have finished while others will get through in a few days. They were too busy to attend the races at Aurora.

Millbrook: The supervisors, commissioners, and bridge contractors met Saturday to select a place to build a bridge but came to no decision.

Yorkville: The railroad company has been unloading trainloads of cinders along the track in Yorkville and will raise the rails about six inches.

August -- 1897

Aug. 4: The electric road ordinance under consideration by the council Monday evening was left as unfinished business for next Monday evening.

The Shepard building was supplied with a tin roof. It was the last in the brick block from which the bothersome gravel roof was removed and replaced with tin.

William Davies and Harry Chapin of Chicago took a century run as far as Aurora on their wheels [high-wheeled bicycles] Monday morning; from that place they were accompanied by Alfred Black,

and all made a flying visit to the home of Lewis L. Rickard, where they spent the evening with a merry party of Oswego's young folks.

That "Old Settler" of Bristol of rather the north side of Yorkville is now trying to get the electric road away from Oswego in order to secure it for his side of the town insisting that the "company cannot afford to pass by the north side of our city." But can the company afford to pass by Oswego any more than the north side of Yorkville? And that he is for cutting off from it, too, the south side of his place as he wants the road there built away up over the houses where the people couldn't get to it. O.S. is altogether too grasping.

Tamarack and Wheatland: We hear the whistle of the steam threshers.

NaAuSay: KENDALL COOPERATIVE CREAMERY

Notice of special Meeting

You are hereby notified that a special meeting of the Kendall Co-operative Creamery Company is called for the first day of September 1897 to vote on the proposition to increase the capital stock of said corporation. Said meeting is to be held at the office of the company at 2 o'clock p.m.

NaAuSay, Illinois, July 31, 1897

E.S. KETCHUM

S.W. JOHNSON

M.F. DHUSE

Wolf's Crossing: The carpenters are busily working at Mr. Gilmour's corn crib; they expect to have it finished by the time Mr. Rink's oats are threshed.

Friday forenoon the threshing outfit of the Harvey district was taken from its store room at Robert Harvey's and run as far as Mr. Updike's where it was put in working order and a few loads of bundles were threshed out just to see how the machine worked. The following men were elected to go with the machine: Frank Mighell, engineer; George Smith, blower tender; Charles Sorg, separator tender; Abner Updike, timekeeper; Robert Harvey, water boy.

Millbrook: The bridge over Hollenback run just east of town is under repairs.

Millington: The remainder of the lumber having finally arrived, the work of repairing the bridge is continued this week. Travel will not be impeded however, as the old floor will be removed but one board at a time.

Yorkville: Dr. Scott was down from Oswego Saturday.

#### THE ELECTRIC ROAD FRANCHISE

There was quite a large attendance on the special meeting of the board of supervisors in the court-room in Yorkville Monday, called for the purpose of hearing the application of the directors of the Aurora, Yorkville & Morris Electric Railroad. Besides Vice-President Hord and Attorney Aldrich of Aurora, representing the road there were a number of gentlemen from Helmar, Oswego and Yorkville in the room to watch the phases of the discussion. It was developed by answers to questions that the company would put the track on the side of the highways, would lengthen out all culverts and strengthen bridges at their own expense for the purposes of the road; would take care of all surface drainage, and would go within six feet of fences and not further from them in any case than 22 feet; that one row of poles would be used with side-arm construction, and that in every way possible the company would guard against frightening horses or incommoding travel on the public roads. This was all fair and met with favor. Upshaw Hord, vice president of the company, said a car would occupy seven feet space on a bridge in passing over. In crossing the river bridge at Oswego the company would strengthen it with steel girders and there would be room enough for teams to pass a car on the bridge. The electric [interurban trolley] road ordinance under consideration by the council Monday evening was left as unfinished business for next Monday's meeting.

While the great majority is in favor of the building of the road, there are those who fear the effect of it on the business of the county and towns. The opinions of these should be considered in the matter. And there is a disposition to know who is back of the project. So far, the people have seen only the promoters of the scheme. They want to know who puts up the money and on what terms the road is to be built.

Aug. 11: The Nick Dillenberg family moved to Aurora.

Esquire Roberts has moved into his new residence.

Several Aurora K.P.'s [Knights of Pythias] were visitors at the meeting of that order's lodge here.

Mr. and Mrs. Winser were down from Aurora Monday to attend her uncle's funeral.

The Presbyterian Church is undergoing inside renovation and there were no services there Sunday.

Beautiful flower beds are, and for some time have been, the joy and pride of many of our ladies.

The ordinance allowing the electric road through the village was passed by the board Monday evening.

A few months ago, Thomas S. Hopkins went to Alabama, bought some land there and started anew for making a fortune; Monday his body was returned here for final disposition. His son-in-law and daughter, Dr. and Mrs. Putt and Hoy, the youngest son, who are residing there too accompanied the body, which was taken to the residence of his brother, E.A. Hopkins, where the funeral services took place. Deceased was 73 years of age, was an old settler, coming her from Ohio forty-odd years ago; since then however, he was living awhile in Aurora and Chicago. Five sons and one daughter constitute the survivors of the family.

Oswego was visited by a hurricane accompanied by heavy rain about 2:30 Monday morning. The trees all around town suffered severely, a number of them wholly destroyed.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Threshing is well under way. Straw is short and oats are light in this vicinity. The farmers feel quite discouraged over the light crop and the present prices but hope for better times.

Wolf's Crossing: While Mr. Updike was away from home last Saturday helping a neighbor thresh, his best cow was nearly choked to death by an apple sticking in her throat. Mr. Harvey, who is an expert at handling Jersey cows, happened along and with the aid of two men who were passing extracted the apple and saved the cow's life.

Yorkville: Refreshing shower Monday afternoon. Good for the turnip crop.

The band-house has been taken down and removed from the north side park, which adds improvement to the pretty square.

Hugh Marshall came out from Chicago last Friday and is now laid up at home with an acute attack of inflammatory rheumatism in his hands. Night work on a city newspaper is not the healthiest business in the world.

Aug. 18: Get ready for school; it commences August 30.

Slade Cutter is some more father. Another boy.

It took several days of last week to clean up the ravages of the storm in the village.

Will Crossman has developed into an expert scorcher and is carrying off some of the prizes at cycling races.

Dr. and Mrs. W.T. Putt are visiting for a little while with their friends here before returning to their home in Alabama.

Besides the inside renovation of the Presbyterian church--which is being done by a Yorkville artist--it has also been shingled.

Besides the inside renovation of the Presbyterian church--which is being done by a Yorkville artist--it has also been shingled.

H.S. Richards began postmastering Monday, becoming Oswego's ninth postmaster. For the present the old force of clerks will be retained--Jennie Hubbard as chief and Rank as sub.

There is now one thing Oswego has had which the Aurora papers did not belittle, viz.: its blow. They gave it the big sounding name of "cyclone," and it didn't detract any from its energy and accomplishments.

Oswego has now a brush factory. A building for it was put up by Gus Shoger adjoining his warehouse on Jackson street; the Richards brothers doing the job. The outfit was brought here from Aurora. The title of the firm has not yet been learned.

As the big blow took off the roof of Will Cliggitt's office, and as the building was one of the few remaining from the pioneer times, and having been moved several times, it was concluded that it better go and was pulled down and a new one-story building is rapidly taking the place of it; Schamp is the builder.

Tamarack and Wheatland: The nights are exceedingly cool for this time of the year; some predict a frost by the first of September. With early frost and cyclones the farmers will be quite discouraged.

Yorkville: As the Kendall County Board discussed granting a franchise to the Aurora, Yorkville & Morris electric railway, Oswego Township Supervisor J.D. Russell made the township's case for a new bridge at Oswego paid for by the company: "The matter of building a new bridge at Oswego was reverted to, it having been passed when reached in its regular order, and there was a long discussion over the matter. Supervisor Russell and other members of the board thought the company should pay for half a new bridge across the river when it became necessary to build one. Messrs. Hord and Aldrich contended that all they were asked in other places was to help plank the bridges and they thought it was asking too much from them. The Oswego Supervisor hung on quite a while for half, but finally it was voted that the railway people would pay not to exceed \$3,500 if half the cost of the bridge was over that sum.

August Shoger has bought the stock and fixtures of a brush factory in Aurora and will operate the same in Oswego.



J.W. Muir, so long the teacher of the Union school in NaAuSay, now gets The Record at Los Angeles, Calif. In a letter of the 2d, he says "I have had a mighty fine time on the beach and in the mountains."

The big storm of Monday afternoon the 9th was destructive of windmills in part of Oswego and Wheatland, and 19 mills were blown down in a space of two miles square. The injury to crops was also great, much of the corn being so cut by hail as to be beyond recovery.

The endeavor to open a road up the river from Yorkville to the Cowdry [Cowdrey] farm is developing a good deal of animosity in certain quarters and threatening the entente cordiale between the two neighborhoods. The methods of the attorney for the Kendall commissioners is resented by the Oswego commissioners and one of them said that if more courtesy had been shown there would not have been so much trouble.

Aug. 25: Wizard oil concert on the street Wednesday evening.

The Croushorn family are now occupying their elegant new residence.

Postmaster Richards and ex-Postmaster Hubbard together were in Chicago Thursday.

Casper Wolf of the German Settlement is said to have bought Mrs. F.A. Pearce's residence property.

Mrs. Walter McFarlane and adopted daughter of Waterman were visiting with friends here for a few days.

Received of J.W. Cherry, agent for Home Insurance Co., the full amount of tornado loss on Aug. 9. L.F. Burkhart.

Sundays have got to be most stirring and to livery stables and bicycle renters-out the most profitable day of the week.

Fire! Fire! was the cry early Friday morning; it was at the residence of R.R. Smith, where the boy undertook to help make the fire in the

kitchen stove burn by pouring kerosene on it, followed by the usual explosion of the can. By the cries the boy, whose clothes were on fire, Smith, who had gone out doors returned and took the boy out and put him into the creek which runs by the house. A portion of the firemen were promptly on hand and quick to work and soon had the fire extinguished--some of those not there didn't like it that they were not waked up and a chance given in having a hand of putting out the first fire of the company's regime. The boy was considerably burned about the legs, the building more or less damaged and some of the furniture destroyed, which, however, was replaced by other given to the family by neighbors.

Specie Grove: The farms advertised in The Record for some time back by Mr. Stansel were bid in for \$67.50, \$57.50, and \$40.50 for the timber lots; the other bidders of course offering less.

September -- 1897

Sept. 1: Mrs. J.S. Dwyre has moved into the Jewel house.

A.L. Rice has his new residence up and partly inclosed.

The campers hereabouts are pulling up stakes and vamoosing.

Fred Leigh had a new well drilled on his lot; Evan Edwards did it.

Henry Schmidt, out east of here, is said to have had a horse, harness, and buggy stolen.

Dr. Scott is now occupying the old Dr. Lester office, which has been repainted and refitted.

Mrs. Jewell has broken up housekeeping and moved over the river to board with Mrs. Olson.

Dr. Van Deventer commenced Monday clearing the ground for a new house on the southeast corner of Washington and Madison streets.

Mrs. Lew Inman is being visited by her friend, Mrs. Davis of Genoa Junction, Wis., who was Miss Dora Graves when living in Oswego.

Jacob Constantine commenced the building of a barn on his lately bought lot in town; the foundation is completed and the frame work under way.

A dozen of the firemen donned their new uniforms and went to Sandwich to attend a tournament there the other day. They expressed great delight for the good time experienced and the courteous treatment received.

The school bell, by the way, a very good one, commenced sending fourth its peals and the children in more than their usual fixed-upness were wending their way toward the school house Monday morning. It is said that the authorities had everything in tip-top order for the commencement of school and added some new improvements.

Specie Grove: The threshing season is over now for the next crop. With the brighter prospects ahead, farmers will begin again with new zeal.

Have you noticed the beaming countenance of the farmers who have three or four crops of unsold grain in hand? Even a free silverite can't hide it.

Some miners from Coal City passed along the Plainfield road Friday soliciting aid to help support their families while carrying on the strike. "Man's inhumanity to man has made countless numbers mourn."

Millbrook: Bids for the river ridge will be received Friday.

Machinery and twine bills are now due. D. VanTassel.

After spending two weeks of outdoor life, the camping party pulled stakes Thursday.

Yorkville: Supervisor Russell and town Clerk Voss were down from Oswego Thursday but they were behaving themselves.

President T.J. Allen of the Aurora Modern College (formerly Aurora Normal and Business College) sends catalog of courses in law, English, business, shorthand, teachers training, etc., on request. Sixth successful year begins Sept. 6. Some courses can be taken at home by correspondence.

Sept. 8: John S. Seely is cutting the fodder corn and filling his silo.

Mrs. David Shepard, after a long sickness, died Monday morning.

The first week of school passed pleasantly; the attendance was quite good.

Cider making time now. David Hall's mill has been in operation for a week, and perhaps others are.

That Oswego is booming is expressing it but mildly. Two fine residences have already been built, and three more are on building.

The main thing of the council proceedings at Monday evening's meeting was the voting of \$1,000 tax towards the support of the corporation.

A game of base ball by local talent was played Monday, apparently got up by our grocery men, Read and Gray, each of whom had picked nine players. The game was won by the Read team by 21-19.

C.E. Hubbard, with wife and daughter, and George White, Cob Pearce and George Cowdrey with their wives, attended the reunion of the 127th at St. Charles Monday and returned highly pleased with it, reporting that the event next year will take place here.

Weddings are the most joyous events on earth, and become moreso when the bride is an only daughter. This was the case over at John T. Wormley's where Wednesday evening, Sept. 1, Mabel, their only daughter, was married to Roy Kennedy of Aurora. The Rev. C.A. Hucks performed the annexing service.

Tamarack and Wheatland: The celebrated Wheatland plowing match will be held on the Daniel Fry farm seven miles east of Oswego Saturday, Sept. 18, instead of the 11th as was reported.

Schools have begun calling on young people to a year of study. Mr. Robert Patterson is going to the Seminary, Aurora. Thomas McMicken is going to Monmouth, Ill. Russell Patterson to Wisconsin; also Miss Margaret Rance to Monmouth. Our teachers also have no easy work before them. Mr. John Hewen has taken charge of the Wilcox school; Miss McEwen the Tamarack school; Mr. McNeal of Chicago the Church school. Miss Mae Burnett at her old place in the George Collins district; Miss Lizzie Anderson teaching in the Green district west of Plainfield; Mr. Prichard Stewart will instruct the youths at the White school in East Wheatland; Miss Simpson of Aurora at the Harvey school.

NaAuSay: The Union school commences Monday of this week with Wm. Price of Bloomington as teacher.

This year's potato crop seems rather slim; some farmers declare they will barely get back their seed.

There are quite a number of bridges in the town that are in very poor shape, and several are a menace to the public safety.

Yorkville: The annual Wheatland plowing match open to the United States, will be held on the farm of David Fry on Saturday, Sept. 18; premiums will be awarded.

The Wheatland Plowing Match Association will award three prizes for the best-kept farm in the town of Wheatland of 160 acres or under, the same for farms over 160 acres.

Specie Grove: Sidney Stansel was in the city last week and purchased a new wheel [high-wheeled bicycle]. He never got track of the one recently stolen.

The Kendall school south of the Grove will be taught the coming fall and winter by Mr. Geo. H. Tuttle of NaAuSay. The fall term begins Monday next.

Sept. 15: Two fires in one day took place in Oswego on Sept. 8. Young Lottie Foss was fatally burned when a kerosene can she had placed on a hot stove exploded in the family apartment over the saloon on the west side of Main Street. Then fire broke out in Clinton Jackson's harness shop in the old [Star Roller] Rink Building [at 70 Main Street]. Jackson, a member of Oswego's fire brigade, helped fight the new fire. With one stream [of water] the fire was kept from making much headway, and as soon as the second stream was brought into play its entire control was secured...At the post office in the adjoining building Uncle Sam's belongings and the people's letters were being moved to a place of safety.

Record reporter U.R. Strooley [Oswego Postmaster Lorenzo Rank] admitted that he and others who had opposed construction of the village's new water works were rethinking their positions since the two fires were so easily extinguished. "So now, here it goes," he wrote. "We are a miserable set of poltroons and nincompoops, a blight upon the earth which would revolve much easier if it wasn't for us...May we soon be extinct and long may wave the enthusiasts of the water works."

The funeral of unfortunate Lottie Foss, who had died of her injuries during Friday night, took place Saturday afternoon from the residence of her parents, where brief services were held. Quite a number attended it and lots of flowers were contributed in manifestation of sorrow for her untimely and tragic death. She was 15 years of age.

The funeral of Mrs. David Shepard took place Wednesday afternoon from the residence of her step-daughter, Mrs. Maggie R. Edwards, where she had been lying sick for upwards of two years. Deceased was 84 years of age, was a native of Pennsylvania, was for 40 years the second wife of her husband, who also has been an invalid, even much longer than she has, but is surviving her. The remains were taken to the NaAuSay cemetery for interment.

Mrs. Maggie Edwards, after carrying on most successfully the millinery business here for 20 years, proposes now to sell out and

retire. It is the only establishment of the kind in town and hence a good opening for some one to get into a profitable business.

H.G. Smith went Tuesday to Ripon, Wis. to attend a soldier's reunion. In the meantime, Clarence Barnard is running the depot.

G.H. Voss probably has sold his late purchase--the old Burr property--to Ketchum, in which case another new residence will be built this season.

The body of a Mrs. Eberhard, 69 years old, with accompanying relatives, arrived here Monday on the 10 o'clock train and was taken by hearse to the NaAuSay cemetery for burial.

Because of the fire, the family of Joe Foss moved into the Sam West house and that of Clint Jackson into the Helen Pogue house. The shop of the latter was moved into the vacant storeroom of the Shoger bloc.

If the anarchists wanted to assassinate President McKinley they would not have made it known through an anonymous letter. Probably but one person was in the plot and that a good Republican but disappointed in getting office, who thus wanted to get a little revenge out of the scare, in which he succeeded so well. Don't let anybody waste their sympathy on that hoax.

NaAuSay: The hot weather ripens the corn very fast and the cutting of it for fodder is being hurried forward.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Nearly everybody from this burg attended the Yorkville Fair and reported fine exhibits, a large crowd, and a good time; but, oh, so hot!

Mr. Editor, the writer wishes to correct a mistake the printer made in regard to the names of two of our teachers. It should have been Mr. John Herren at the Wilcox school and Miss Gertrude McQueen of Wilmington at the Tamarack school.

Specie Grove: The Katydids are silent.

### Our Former Greatness

There was a time when Specie Grove had a postoffice and a postmaster, had a name on the maps, had a large nursery and blacksmith shop; much business was done in the timber; the residents were prominent in social, church, and political life; had spelling schools and a secret society; furnished men to run the county offices and the Fair; and was in every way one of the leading places in the county, but for some years back it has not been heard so much and has lost in part some of its old-time glory. While the post office may not be regained, we yet have much to build upon and by the aid of The Record correspondent who promises to record everything from the goings and comings of our young people and their strange doings to the weighty matters of statesmanship and the hard facts of life, we hope to again be known for far and near, expected, and feared as we deserve.

Yorkville: The greatest of them all--that's what the officers advertised that the Kendall County Fair of 1897 was to be--and it was. Greatest in attendance, greatest in number of entries in all departments, greatest in races, and greatest in amount of dust. It was awfully hot and the dust was thick."

Millbrook: The contract for the bridge has been let to the Bellefontaine Bridge Company. The bridge will be built on the ford and contractor Howland proposes to have it finished some time in December.

Sept. 22: Mrs. Georgia Robinson and daughters have moved to Aurora.

The foundation of the Constantine residence is nearly completed.

The old Jewell house has been resingled and extensively repaired otherwise.

The new Van Deventer house is up and inclosd. Schamp is the architect of it.

A new building for a wash-house was erected back of the J.A. Shoger residence.



Leonard Burkhart Jr. is building a new residence with furnace and all other modern improvements.

The old Burr house is being moved back and the digging of the cellar for Ketchum residence has been commenced.

Many from here attended the plowing match Saturday and hardly anything but plowing talk could be heard in the evening.

The brush factory is supplied with quite a number of different kinds of machines and is now in full operation. John Gaylord has apprenticed himself there for business.

Mrs. John Foss has recently returned from the funeral of a brother at Delphi, Ind., by whose death she will inherit a large share of real estate.

The boom here will become more immense by the doubling of the meat markets. The Lockwood harness shop is said to be used for one of the new and the part of the rink building recently damaged by fire is being fitted up for the other.

What gratification there is expressed because wheat has reached the \$ mark. How many farmers in Illinois have sold any wheat for a dollar? But few of the farmers hereabouts raise any wheat, but all eat it. Why the cheapness of a thing that everybody used should be calamitous this Yahoo cannot understand. Will somebody explain, please?

The boom is growing and where it may boost Oswego the Lord only knows. But will it ever bring forth a hotel? The remarkable getalong of the village may be said to be due first to its government, the public-spirited and far-seeing presidents and trustees with which the village has been and is still blessed; second, to private enterprise; and thirdly to the esthetics of its people, their assiduous study of the science of the beautifying had developed such tastefulness that many of the former things about the village have become painful in their sight and thence require their removal. As qualities become most apparent by contrast, so by the beauty of the

12-foot wide concrete sidewalk in front of the brick buildings, the but 10-foot wide plank walk, the balance of the block became the more offensive and the longer this state of affairs has been existing, the more acute become the feelings in beholding he sight...Thank goodness however that we are near Aurora; she always comes to our assistance; a firm there will replace this obnoxious wooden walk with a nice concrete one.

Mrs. Margaret Schilling died from a complication of ailments Sept. 16, 1897; the funeral took place from the church in the German Settlement Sunday afternoon, the 19th, and was very largely attended.

Deceased was born Dec. 5, 1821 at Kleinlosnitz, Bavaria, Germany; came to America and this vicinity in 1848; in the same year was married to George Schilling. Their union was blessed with a son and daughter, the latter preceded the mother to the grave. She was a member of the Evangelical church nearly the whole time since coming here. She leaves behind a husband, a son, a sister in Iowa, and a brother and sister in Germany. The husband will be 92 years old next month and owing to rheumatic affliction and other debility could not attend the church services and burial, but brief services had been held at the house.

NaAuSay: Philip Gerlach has been cutting the grass and trimming up the old soldiers' lot [at the AuSable Church cemetery]. Philip thinks if all the lots looked as neat as that, what a fine cemetery we would have.

A great many people from this town attended the plowing match Saturday. A great crowd of people were there; plowing was good and the exhibits of cereals, etc., was very fine. The ball game in the afternoon between the Porters of Joliet and the Naperville team was a drawing card.

Tamarack and Wheatland: The Wheatland Plowing Match was held Saturday on the farm of David Fry. The weather was cool and bracing and a large crowd was in attendance. It is estimated there were between eight and ten thousand people on the ground. The usual program was observed--there were grain exhibits, fancy work, pastry, etc. and Scott & Pease of Aurora had a display of dry goods.

Yorkville; Knute Anderson bought the old school-house in the Needham district and will move it to Helmar.

A fine rain covered Kendall county and a good portion of Illinois last Thursday forenoon, cooling the air and making life worth living for.

The Chicago papers announce that Hon. Irus Coy had died on Monday, Sept. 20, at his home in that city. His death came suddenly from a second attack of paralysis--a stroke of which prostrated him for a time in the spring.

Irus Coy lived several years in Kendall county and was a well-known attorney during his residence in Yorkville, and here his children were born. He represented this county one term in the Illinois legislature. Subsequently, he moved to Chicago and became attorney for the great corporation, The Union Stockyards, of which he was a stockholder and was therewith connected at the time of his death. The writer never expected to publish an obituary for Irus Coy, for he seemed to be a man to whom long life was guaranteed. He leaves a widow, who is a daughter of Mr. Manchester, formerly of Newark, two sons, and a daughter.

Irus Coy was born at Pitcher, N.Y. July 25, 1832; was stricken with apoplexy last Thursday morning and died Monday. He came to Newark, Kendall co., Ill. in 1853; clerked in the store of his brother, John A. Coy, for two years; then went to Albany law school, graduating in 1857; he returned to Newark and began the practice of law. He subsequently moved to Yorkville where he lived till 1874 when he moved with his family to Chicago. Funeral at the residence this afternoon and burial in Oakwoods cemetery, Chicago.

Charles H. "Harry" Bucks, who was principal of the Oswego public school for three years and later superintending the schools at St. Charles, has abandoned that profession and taken his place among the country--or "provincial" editors. He has recently bought the interest of Mr. VanGalder in the Sycamore True Republican, thus obtaining a position in a business that has taken years to build up. Mr. VanGalder, being editor of "The Modern Woodman," which takes his time, could not do justice to both papers.

Harry Bucks will succeed as an editor and newspaper man, else The Record editor is no judge of his ability.

Specie Grove: The flowing bowl of cider may now be had.

Many of the farmers are cutting up large quantities of corn--W.T. Linn & Son perhaps more than others.

Bert Simons is again with his parents for a short time. The report is about that his brother, Minkler Simons, is thinking of going to the Klondike gold fields.

John Armbruster Jr. and Will and George Campbell attended the plowing match Saturday and remained with the James Campbell people on the "ridge" till Sunday afternoon.

Owing to so many families moving away who took part, and the lack of interest by others, the Sunday school at the Minkler school-house has been discontinued for the remainder of the year, and till spring, when it may be started again.

Sept. 29: Among those lately moved to Aurora from here was the family of Elias Darby.

M.J. Pogue & Sons are making a large extension to their lumber sheds.

The part of the block which is getting the new cement sidewalk has now a very torn-up appearance.

One of the new meat-markets became operative during the week. Van Doozer & Smith, or vice versa, is the firm.

John Lockwood has quit business down town, but will carry it on at his house--especially that of insurance.

Ed Walker was the only one from here of the 4th cavalry that attended the reunion of that regiment in Chicago last week.

Besides all its mechanics and helpers being as busy as they can be, about eight or ten more men are down from Aurora helping to build up Oswego.

Five thousand sheep said to have been from Mexico were unloaded here Sunday for a rest and feed. They were pastured on the Hawley farm and reshipped Monday.

Fred Sierp was in town the other day. He is now engaged in farming in the neighborhood of Mobile, Ala. , but didn't dare risk to get surrounded by the yellow fever there and so came up here to stay during its prevalence.

A man by the name of Sleep from Aurora brought himself into trouble by using the cornknife with which he was at work to ward off the aggressiveness of Mr. Cooley, the owner of the old Phillip Young farm up the river, and on which the fracas happened. An examination was had before Justice Roberts when Sleep was put under \$5,000 bail. The injury of Cooley is said to have been not near as great as it was then supposed.

Oswego's debating club will resume active mental and dilsartic exercises next Friday evening, Oct. 1, at the Firemen's hall. There should be a good turnout of spectators as the six foremost local orators will discuss the important question, "Resolved, that strikes are detrimental to the country"

Tamarack and Wheatland: Several from here attended the plowing match at Big Rock last Saturday and report a large crowd.

Millbrook: It is reported that work will be commenced on the new bridge this week.

Yorkville: Aurora claims a population of 25,000 on a city directory estimate.

The Aurora Beacon had good comprehensive reports of the reunions of the 89th and 36th Illinois comrades. Mr. Durant has a warm side for the soldier boys.

I have the agency for the Montana buffalo robe. Call and see them. Complete line of blankets for street and barn use. Prices lower than last winter, at John Cooper's, Yorkville.

October -- 1897

October 6: A.H. Switzer and wife have moved to Aurora.

Wils Briggs has changed the color of his residence to that of a drab.

Carrie Barrett has gone back to Sawyer's millinery store in Aurora.

A photograph car has established itself on the vacant lot south of Troll's.

The Cooley-Sleep suit was in progress Friday afternoon, and is to be resumed this Tuesday.

The old Jewell residence has been repainted and now looks as bright as a summer girl. Albert Schmidt did it.

The Schroeder saloon building is being demolished by Aurora parties to whom it belongs and a new one will be erected in the place of it.

Garrett Seely returned from Colorado where he was engaged in surveying and immediately went to resume his studies at the University in Champaign.

The improvements are progressing nicely; the concrete sidewalk is ready for the top dressing; the Constantine building is inclosed; the foundation of the Ketchum building is underway.

NaAuSay: Nutting parties are in abundance every day in the woods. Walnuts seem plentiful.

Another stretch of the Plainfield road was graveled last week. The new road now reaches the Bethel school-house.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Same old story--children playing with matches. While Mr. Woolley was away, his five-year-old son set fire to his straw-stack, but with the help of the neighbors and corn shellers who were near, the barns were saved. However, a large amount of straw and a hen-house were burned.

Millbrook: Postmaster Larson received a letter Monday from a firm in Seattle, Wash., in which was enclosed a letter which was written by some person here making inquiries of that firm concerning the Klondyke. The person who wrote evidently forgot to sign his name.

Yorkville: The woods were full of boys, girls, and the older people Saturday who were out to gather nuts. Some went in wagons and carriages, and others "took to their feet."

We may have telephone connection with the surrounding towns before long, and Yorkville placed in hearing of the big city of Chicago. Mr. E.G. Drew, special agent of the Chicago Telephone Company, and Mrs. O.J. Holbrook, right-of-way agent for the same, were in Yorkville Friday last in the interest of the company, looking up the opportunities for a line here and to Plano, Lisbon, Plattville, and way stations. The gentlemen were traveling on wheels [high-wheeled bicycles] and looked as though they had passed through the great desert of Sahara and acquired all the dust there was in the locality. It is hoped they will fix us up with their talking machines.

Specie Grove: It used to be that along between the 20th and 25th of September we could have our equinoxial or fall rains--good soaking ones. They came regularly and farmers planned their work accordingly; but since the Democrats are winning a Presidential election occasionally, we can put no dependence on the weather.

Henry G. Smith, ex-mayor of Oswego and the trusted agent of the Burlington road in that town, was sloshing around Yorkville this week shaking hands with a lot of old neighbors who were glad to see him. He has recently returned from a reunion of his old regiment, the First Wisconsin cavalry, at Ripon and had the best time in the world with the old boys. "Hank" has been with the Q road for 26 years, and their agent at Oswego for 17 years, and if he was not a

good man they would not keep him. That's what's the matter with H.G. Smith.

October 13: The photographic car took its departure Tuesday.

Charles Clinton of Cincinnati is here on a brief visit to David Hall.

Mrs. Emanuel Cooney, who of late was living in Aurora, died there Monday.

Archie Lake has quit business here and will move to Morrison. Sam Herren is said to have taken his place in the barber-shop.

The old Coffin building is gone and the foundation of a new brick building in place of it is under way. The new building will be pushed with all the energy possible.

Besides repairing and repainting all the buildings on the Hawley place over the river, an addition to a barn is being built. Kohlhammer and Boyle are doing the carpenter work, and Ackley and Albert the painting.

The Cooley-Sleep case which had been continued to last week Tuesday was finished then with the discharge of the defendant. It appeared that Cooley was most to blame for the fracas and that he hadn't been hurt much.

If the men who laid out this village could only have seen what a bother a certain alley would be sixty-odd years afterward when an artificial stone sidewalk is being constructed they certainly would have had compassion enough for the present generation not to have made that alley.

NaAuSay: Many farmers are hauling their winter supply of coal from Morris.

Specie Grove: Some farmers are husking corn.

Ducks are migrating south. Hunters have already killed some.



Mr. George Williams in the northeast part of the Grove is building a large double corn crib. With the house rebuilt and a large, new barn, an now a crib. His place is getting to be one of the finest in the neighborhood.

Millbrook: The prospects look very good now for a bridge. Work has been going on since the middle of last week, and now stone is being hauled, derricks raised, stonecutters at work, and the bridge is progressing as fast as could be expected.

Yorkville: On Saturday, the Plano foot-ball team came over to Yorkville accompanied by their professional coach with nothing but glory in sight. Glory was still in sight when they went home, but only in sight. They had been vanquished by a team who had no coach, no practice, and no advantage. it was the first game played in Yorkville for three years and not a few of the citizens witnessed it.

Scott Cutter, the Oswego druggist, is making a big reduction in the price of wall paper to close out what he has on hand. He must have room for his spring stock.

*The Aurora Post:* David C. Kennedy died at the residence of his niece Mrs. John M. Raymond [in Aurora] on Friday evening, Oct. 8, 1897 of heart failure, aged 78 years. Deceased was one of Kendall county's pioneers, having located there in 1839. He owned a fine farm on the river road near the village of Bristol. He was a widower and leaves one daughter, Mrs. Agnes Mailander, who resides in Somonauk. Mr. Kennedy was taken sick at Chicago a week ago Thursday and Attorney Raymond went after him, bringing him to his home in this city. He had good medical attendance but did not rally, his advanced age making it impossible for his recovery.

Oct. 20: Hank Smith is station agent again.

The stonework on the John Knell building is completed.

The Ketchum house is up and inclosed.

Photographer James Delamater of Aurora was in town Monday.

Hello! Get ready for talking through the telephone; it soon will be here.

The new house of John A. Young has been plastered by Aurora parties. The Rice and Van Deventer houses are ready for plastering. All of that work will have to be done by outside parties.

Now that the village authorities are full of the spirit of enterprise and of the desire of elevating the place wherever it can be done, a good thing for them to do would be to engage a competent surveyor for locating the current limits of the blocks, some of which are not definitely known, and also to establish the grades on the several streets so that when people wanting to build may know where they are at.

The fall weather thus far has been most opportune for building purposes. It is said that if it could be depended upon for a month longer, two more or rather a double brick building for stores below and hotel above would be constructed adjoining the one now on building, and thus making a solid brick block of 66 feet frontage. It will be accomplished early in the spring if not sooner. Charles Knapp will have it done having secured the Troll premises for the enterprise.

The artificial stone sidewalk on Main street of the entire block seven is now a reality, and for getting onto it at the northern end the rounding steps are just splendid. In regard to the alley in the center, which caused so much bother, it may be safely said that no city in America and Europe can show a cross walk of an alley so gorgeous as this one has been made; the presumption is that it was built more for a monument of the village authorities than of utility.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Mrs. Robert Patterson of Aurora rode down to church Sabbath on her bicycle.

Mr. Andrew Brown, with a carload of household furniture and farm machinery, left Normantown Wednesday morning to make his future home in Iowa. The community is very sorry to lose him, and especially the young people's society of which he was a very efficient member. Dame Rumor hath it that in the glad springtime

he will come back again for a short time and when he returns will take with him a partner to share his joys and sorrows.

Millbrook: One of the chief attractions of this place now is the work on the bridge. River street was alive with people passing to and from the river Sunday.

NaAuSay: Corn husking has commenced in earnest and extra men to pick the corn are being earnestly sought after.

Specie Grove: Many of the farmers are selling their hogs before fully matured for fear of the cholera, which is getting quite near. There have been none lost yet, but it is reported to be among the herds west and south of Yorkville.

Farmers are quite generally engaged in cribbing corn. The uncommonly dry weather has not only ripened the corn prematurely, but has so hardened the ground as to make plowing impossible.

Yorkville: A telephone line has been erected from Dr. Kinnett's residence to A.P. Hill's store, and from there to Mr. Hill's residence. Later on, another line will be stretched across the river to the south side (it is said), thus making it very convenient for the gentlemen. Yorkville has quite a number of private telephone lines.

Yorkville was treated on Saturday to one of the best high-school foot-ball games ever played in the Northern part of Illinois. The West Aurora team came down to try conclusions with the Yorkville boys, and the struggle which ensued was long and fierce. When time was called, the score was Yorkville 0, Aurora 0.

The engineering corps of the electric railway have completed their work from Morris to Yorkville and are now nearly at Oswego on the line from Yorkville to Aurora. They made their headquarters here for some days.

Oct. 27: The funeral of Mrs. Esther Ferriss took place Friday afternoon from the M.E. church. Deceased was 82 years of age, was born in Ohio, came to Chicago in 1833, moved to Big Rock the next

year, and came to Oswego in 1845, where ever since, her home has been. A number of children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren constitute her posterity.

Carrie Briggs is again teaching the Russell School.

A coon lunch was an attraction one evening at John Funk's.

William Funk's new delivery wagon is away ahead in beauty of all such in town.

James Pearce has bought the 33-acre piece of land adjoining his farm of the James C. Shepard estate.

The many contentions among relatives over wills and the divisions of estates furnish strong argument for socialism.

J.W. Morrison is now the sexton of the cemetery.

The laying of the brick for the upper story of the new saloon building is under way. All the other new buildings are progressing toward completion. The John Young residence will be the most unique and attract most attention.

NaAuSay: A fair crop of corn is reported by those who have already husked some. It is very dry and in good condition to crib for so early in the season. The corn husker and shredder commenced work on the Wheeler road last week.

Yorkville: One of the best educators of the country died at Galesburg last week--Hon. Newton Bateman, president of Knox College, who was State superintendent of public instruction for Illinois some 16 years. He came to this state in 1833.

Specie Grove: Ray Raleigh rides on a new wheel [high-wheeled bicycle].

November -- 1897

Nov. 3: Dr. Scott visited Sandwich twice during the week because of his mother being sick.

The Waubonsie Farmers' Club had a meeting and was entertained at Colvin Pearce's Saturday.

Orv. Wormley, who awhile ago bought the harness shop of Del Lockwood at Shabbona, was over from there to spend Sunday.

George Troll Jr. is for the present filling the place at the depot of Charley Wollenweber, who is laid up with a hurt knee, received when at play.

Among the modern inventions for bursting, ripping and tearing things, the corn-shredder is about equal to anything in the maiming and deadly work.

The new brick building, which is to be built of the most modern style of architecture and finish, will be the pride of the town. We folks who have been in the habit of saying that "saloons are no good" will have to dry up. The building is about ready for the roof.

There is some stealing going on out around the country. At J.G. Hettrich's the potatoes were diminishing faster than it was thought they ought to; the cause was explained when one morning a barrel that contained some was gone. There also has been stealing at Boessenecker's and Mrs. Lottie Woolley's, but I have forgotten now what it was.

NaAuSay: A team of horses, harness, and a top buggy were stolen Friday night from the barn of McCauley brothers. No trace has yet been found of them.

The people of this community were completely shocked last Sunday morning to hear of the death of Henry Wheeler Sr., whose death occurred dearly Sunday morning as the result of injuries received by being caught in a corn-shredder. It would seem as though Mr. Wheeler reached into the shredding knives for some purpose unknown to the men working around the machine. One arm was caught and completely torn from the shoulder; his head received

very serious bruises, which it is thought caused his death. The funeral took place at the home Tuesday at 1 o'clock.

Specie Grove: Saturday, right after dinner, we moved the cooking stove from the summer into the winter kitchen. That of itself would hardly be worth mentioning, but when a job of that kind is done as we did it without any more forcible expressions than "Oh my!" and "Gosh!" it should not go unmentioned.

Nov. 10: Lumber is being hauled now for a back addition to the drug store.

The oyster social at John Gaylord's is said to have been just splendid.

Charles Woolley goes to Chicago every day with his little boy for treatment.

The fire department has been supplied with an additional section of 250 feet of hose.

The new brick building was provided Monday with a handsome metal cornice. The new residence buildings are all past the plastering stage and those of Van Deventer and Constantine much further advanced; the outside of the latter has been painted.

Specie Grove: Captain John Raleigh came home Saturday for the winter.

Yorkville: Appellate Clerk [Christopher] Duffy has threshed his wheat and cribbed his corn in Iowa, and returned home Monday noon, says the Ottawa Republican.

Don't waste any of your money on Klondyke investment companies. Their projectors, as a rule, are endeavoring to get wealth from gullible persons rather than go to Alaska for it. If you will reason with yourself a little, you can figure out what you will lose.

There is so much bad blood between the East and West side high schools in Aurora that the board of education forbids their playing

football together on Thanksgiving day. They should get out of that kind of contention.

The poles for the new telephone line from Yorkville to Aurora connecting with Chicago have been set through these villages and well along the road towards Aurora. The tall white poles may have a business-like look, but they are certainly ornamental to the streets.

NaAuSay: While many counties of this State received last week a bountiful rain, we received very little, not sufficient to encourage fall plowing.

Funeral of Lewis Wilson Perkins took place at the home Saturday, Nov. 7, services being held at the church one hour later. Mr. Perkins had been ill for a considerable time, first with pneumonia, which left him very weak, from which he did not rally. He was born in Wyoming county, N.Y., Nov. 12, 1840, where he resided until April 6, 1879, when he moved to Michigan and located in Midland county, at which place he and his family lived until the fall of 1891, when he moved to Kendall county, where he has continued to reside until his death Nov. 1, 1897. He was married Dec. 31, 1863 to Miss Elizabeth Shepherd and this union was blessed with seven children, of whom three sons and three daughters survive to mourn their great loss. The interment was made in the NaAuSay cemetery.

Nov. 17: The telephone pole-setters have reached here.

The new brick building is now ready for plastering.

Born to Mr. and Mrs.. John King, Nov. 12, an eight-pound boy.

Jay E. Young has sold out his interest in the works to his father and brother.

Charles Wilcox of Aurora has bought the Shepard building in the brick block.

John Schickler has bought the part of the old Chapman lot fronting on Main street, including the best corner in the village.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry C. Cutter have moved to town and into their house which heretofore was occupied by Squire Fox.

Hinchman & Friebele is now the firm operating the rink meat market. A transfer by sale was made to them by Rob Smith.

Millbrook: The stone work of the new bridge is now nearly completed.

Specie Grove: Let's extend the telephone line to the Grove.

Many of the farmers are plowing since the rains, but much more moisture is needed to do good work.

The soaking rain of Saturday night was followed by a spring-like day Sunday, and grass is beginning to grow again.

Mr. Job Wampah is hauling large size tile--12-inch--from Plainfield so as to close up an open ditch across part of his farm. Land is nearly all drained out in this part of the country. What a difference between now and 25 years ago when ponds and swales were on every farm. When politicians tell of the great change that came over the country in "'73," they should not forget to state that farmers began tiling about that time.

NaAuSay: Rain, the very welcome rain, has come at last! Our face does not feel as though sewed together any more since the soft water has come. We were almost skinbound--in fact, the rain is very thankfully received by everyone. Several of the farmers have finished husking their corn and are now devoting their time to plowing stubble, as long as weather remains open.

Nov. 24: The coolest thus far, 19 degrees, Tuesday morning.

The winter term of school begins Nov. 20.

The river is drying up here and the water works may have to be extended to it so as to give the fishes something to drink.



Ham Cowdrey is now engaged with James Malcom.

“City Meat Market” is the new sign of that of Hinchman & Friebele.

The telephone poles are all up around here except a few that have to be set in rock.

The winter term of school begins Nov. 30. Much depends on commencing on the first day.

The river is drying up here, and the waterworks may have to be extended to it so as to give the fishes something to drink.

George Troll has bought the Theron Richards house and is causing it to be remodeled for occupancy in the near future.

NaAuSay: Farmers are busy plowing; the ground is in good condition for that work.

Millbrook: The stonework of the bridge is completed and work will begin immediately on grading the approaches.

Yorkville: L.B. Judson, formerly of Oswego, celebrated his 91st birthday last week by giving a dinner to relatives and old associates at his home in Aurora. Mr. Judson has remarkably good health.

December -- 1897

Dec. 1: The depot platform has been partly renewed.

The telephone poles are now all up and the trees all trimmed.

George Burghart had his nose broken by a scantling falling on it when helping butchering.

Mrs. D.B. Jewell has had placed in the cemetery a nice granite monument for Dr. Jewell and family by T. Otto Fisk of Aurora.

The Thanksgiving school exercises Wednesday were very creditable and the rooms appropriately decorated with corn, pumpkins, turnips, berries, and the chrysanthemum; also pictures and bunting.

Uncle Josiah is anxious to have his corn all husked by Christmas and on Thursday, Dec. 2, will be the event of the season as he gives his old-fashioned husking bee. Everybody invited. Admission, 15-cents.

In coming to town Friday evening to attend the Juniors' entertainment, the Gregg family were thrown from the buggy by the horse getting scared and running away. Mrs. G. had an arm broken near the wrist, and Fannie, the unfortunate girl who once got so severely burnt, had an arm much bruised. The buggy and harness were also more or less damaged.

Died on Sunday, Nov. 21, 1897, Alice, wife of John Watkins, and daughter of Mrs. Emma Washington. The funeral service was conducted by Rev. J.G. Butler of Oswego on the following Tuesday. Mrs. Watkins was born in NaAuSay Jan. 8, 1868. Most of her life was spent in this vicinity where she died. Married to John Watkins Oct. 14, 1885. Five boys and one girl are the children left motherless. Interment in Cowdrey cemetery.

NaAuSay: The cold wave has put a stop to plowing. Sherman Kellogg has a large crop of corn and is still at work husking it.

Thanksgiving day was very unpleasant outdoors.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Superintendent Curran of Bristol Station visited the Wilcox school last Tuesday and took dinner at Charles Ladue's.

Married, Wednesday, Nov. 24, 1897 by Rev. R.J. Kyle at the parsonage, Mr. George Shoger of Aurora and Miss Mary Gilmour of Tamarack. Mr. Shoger is well known and well liked, having worked around here for several years. The bride has lived here all her life and is loved by all who are acquainted with her. Mr. and Mrs. Shoger will keep house in the Gilmour house west of the church.

Mr. Ernest Fraser and Miss Matilda Fairweather, both of Wheatland, were united in matrimony Wednesday evening, Nov. 24, 1897 at the bride's home--the residence of George B. Boardman--by Rev. R.J. Kyle. The groom has taught school for several years but is now farming. He is much esteemed by many friends and is prominent in church work. The bride was also a school teacher, having taught school successfully until a year ago.

Specie Grove: The Grove farmers are selling a good deal of train these days.

Miss Tella Curtis, and accomplished dressmaker, is spending some time at Thad Seely's, where she is prepared to do dressmaking at reasonable prices.

The school in the Minkler district had Thanksgiving exercises Wednesday afternoon consisting of recitations, readings, an songs appropriate to the occasion.

John Shumaker started out early Thanksgiving morning. His place of rendezvous for the day we did not learn. The picture of John (as taken by Miss Clara Seely) as he started out for a ride is well worth seeing.

Yorkville: Skating on the Blackberry creek by the mill is quite the thing with the younger element now; the ice is about three inches thick.

Frank Skinner captured a big pickerel near the dam Friday morning. It weighted 7-1/2 pounds and would make a meal for a large family.

Fox river above the dam was skimmed over with ice Saturday morning--the first of the season and Monday morning was frozen heavily.

Dec. 8: Ed Haines has bought the old Rising place up in Troy.

Will Cliggitt is being rushed with the elevator business.

E.H. Sodt and H.B. Read took business trips to Chicago.

Attorney Sam Lumbard of Chicago was seen in town one day.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Lantz of East Wheatland were visitors at Malcom's.

C.H. Jarvis has sold his premises to Wm. Dillon and will go to Indianapolis to reside.

The husking bee Thursday and Friday evenings was, of course, very entertaining. Dare not undertake to mention names of those that got off the funniest of fun.

According to last report, the electric road is likely to reach Oswego by the east side of the river, which would require a new bridge across the Waubonsie--in fact a new bridge over it will soon become a necessity anyhow. Why not then secure the Vorhees lot and the right-of-way or the road on the other side of the creek through the Wollenweber land, extend Main street to the creek; together with the electric people build a good iron bridge across it and have a straight avenue in that direction out of town? No better improvement of the place could be made.

NaAuSay: We are now enjoying a spell of the famous corduroy roads of Illinois.

Good time now to fill up your coal house. Drive to the mines of Espley & Company just north of Morris and get good coal, good weight, and low price.

Yorkville: A very pleasant party of over 100 relatives and friends gathered in response to the invitation "Mr. and Mrs. James Vinson request the pleasure of your company at the marriage of their daughter, Elydia Zell to Walter W. Heap, Thursday, December second, eighteen hundred and ninety-seven at one o'clock p.m.

Hugh R. Marshall has been out from Chicago during the past week for a short vacation.

Eugene Hinchman of Oswego and Miss Della Bivens of Aurora are to be married Dec. 22, so says the *News*.

S.W. Johnson got time to do business in Yorkville Monday afternoon. Notwithstanding the short crop of milk, he says the NaAuSay creamery is doing a large business and we know it is done well.

The Aurora papers note that Hon. George M. Hollenback was 66 years of age Dec. 1. He was born in what is now the town of Fox, Kendall county, in 1831, the first white child born in the borders of this county. He is hale and hearty and is taking life quietly and rationally. May his years increase till they cover a century.

Specie Grove: S.F. Ashley has 60 acres of corn still unhusked.

A.C. Gabel finished corn-husking Saturday; he has been unable himself to help any at the fall work, so his men are later than usual getting it done.

Thomas McCabe is endeavoring to get the farmers interested in getting sewer tile of large size to put in the open ditches in the Grove region. He says a certain grade of sewer tile can be obtained as cheaply as ordinary tile and when laid are much better. Nothing is nicer in farming than to have square fields and this is impossible where open ditches run diagonally through them. As land becomes more valuable, this improvement to the farms will be undertaken more generally.

Dec. 15: The hello racket on the telephone was ushered in last Saturday. The poles have been set all around town.

Superintendent Curran visited the Oswego school Wednesday.

The blacksmiths lately were on a hustle in shoeing horses.

The big plate glass for the front of the new saloon building has arrived.

The telephone is much appreciated by some of our people and quite a few distant colloquies were had by them through it on Monday. It

was suggested to me that I might more readily phone my report to *The Record* than the doing it by writing.

The legislature of the state is now in session for the main purpose apparently of making laws for personal power. One man wants the U.S. senatorship for himself secured and most of the legislators are trying to advance their own political advantage in the redistricting of the state. The old political saying, "All being equal before the law" seems to be of no account any more.

Not a drink could be got for ten hours on Tuesday last week--unless surreptitious and by privileged parties--in consequence of a special election for filling the vacancies of the town constabships caused by the moving away of the one incumbent and the resignation of the other and at which 22 voters were cast, the half of them perhaps were only obtained because the voters happened to pass by and were called in. But one ticket, dubbed "Republican," was out; it took, however, six able-bodied men for the performance of the task. There ought to be provisions by which such trivial but costly elections could be avoided.

NaAuSay: The milk haulers have had a rough time during the past week for their work; one man tipped over his load of milk Sunday morning.

Thomas Lewis from the Scotch settlement was circulating among his friends here for several days last week looking up the threshing business.

Truman Thompson has, by subscription, raised \$1,000 for graveling the road to Plainfield--the one running from the town-house to the Green school-house. The work will be pushed along as soon as weather permits.

We are of the opinion that a suggestion regarding the graveling of the Grove road would not be out of order just now. Could not work be donated to extend the travel from Goudie's further into the town? The Goudie brothers have shown great zeal in pushing the work along former years, let others not take hold and lead the work along.

Specie Grove: The unraveled roads are very bad.

Some farmers are plowing again since the milder weather has set in.

Thomas Miller and A.C. Gable sold a carload of hogs Wednesday night to Greenacre & Sons.

Yorkville: Mr. Henry Schmidt of North Oswego was in Yorkville Monday and found time to drop into The Record office and take the two-dollar combination. Mr. Schmidt is a wideawake farmer.

The Caton Stock Farm, on the edge of Kendall and Will counties, is perhaps one of the largest and certainly one of the best-managed stock farms in America under the hard-working and successful superintendent, McKenna, says the Joliet Times. It comprises 1,400 acres and has model houses, barns, and elevators. It is well fenced and skillfully operated. They work from 12 to 15 men all the time and keep the stock and land in first-class shape. They raised this year 16,000 bushels of corn besides many thousand tons of hay. They have 50 head of cattle, 150 head of sheep, and 300 head of hogs, a fine lot of poultry, and 300 wild turkeys domesticated. It is the premium farm of the west.

The sidetracks at the sandbanks at Millington have been taken up by the Burlington railroad company.

The miners down the Fox river railroad are again at work and the regular freight trains are running again. This makes more business all around.

The 127th Regiment members: John P. Bartlett, Charles Hubbard, George White, Cob Pearce, George Cowdrey, Chris Herren, John Roberts.

Dec. 22: The body of the Rev. E.T. Ferriss of Minneapolis was brought here for burial Wednesday.

According to the almanac the turning point of the sun or rather of this part of the earth towards the sun has been reached

The large plate-glass was put in place in the new saloon building and the steel ceiling overhead has been put on by John Edwards

A Miss Schickler about eight pounds in weight, arrived last week Tuesday for making her abode in the John Schickler family.

The funeral and burial of the 13 year old daughter of Charles Ladew of Tamarack took place here from the M.E. Church Thursday.

The holiday goods are getting nicer, of greater variety, and more profuse with every year. Here, Scott Cutter has the largest and best assorted stock ever had at the drug store, the main place for such goods ranging from the most exquisite and costly article to the cheapest toy. Arthur Jones, the jeweler, has a certain class, and those in the window for display are surrounded by a miniature railway track upon which an electric car is running round and round. The running car attracts much attention.

Among other things, the Solons at Springfield are wrestling with a primary election law calculated to give them and other politicians better control over the people's vote and to double the election expenses, which mostly would be for their benefit as they be running the elections.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Death in its visit this time has taken the youngest daughter of Mr. Charles LaDew, who died Wednesday, Dec. 15, after a short but painful illness of appendicitis. It will be remembered that she was taken sick Dec. 7, and on Friday following a very critical operation was performed from which she rallied. During the days that followed all that medical skill and loving care could do was done, but all was of no avail and at 7 o'clock Wednesday morning her spirit took flight to God.

Nora M. LaDew was born Feb. 18, 1885 in Oswego. She was of a quiet disposition, and will be greatly missed in the home circle and in the school where she was a favorite. She leaves a father and mother, sister and three brothers, besides a large number of relatives and friends to mourn her.



Yorkville: Mr. George R. Schamp, Oswego's master builder, was down from Oswego Saturday and his Record label will not read January, '99.

Mercury was down from four to ten degrees below zero Saturday morning and it was a wholesome, crisp atmosphere.

George Leppert of Normantown was in Aurora Saturday to sell poultry; he slipped and fell on the sidewalk and broke a leg.

These are the shortest days in the year, and the old saying is "As the days begin to lengthen the cold begins to strengthen," and that would be most agreeable to Esch Bros. & Rabe, who are waiting for the ice on the river to freeze hard for the Chicago market.

The miners have commenced work again and you can get the genuine Wilmington coal at Jeter & Boston's.

Specie Grove. Myron Ashley of the Chicago University and "Dick" Ferriss of Joliet were at the Ferriss funeral and burial Wednesday.

Frank Seely, Alonzo Stansel, Charles Shepard, and Charles Young were the pall-bearers at the burial of Rev. Edward Ferriss, meeting the funeral cortege at Oswego.

The people of the Grove neighborhood were shocked when they heard of the death of Ed Ferriss, and following so soon that of his brother, George, makes it all the more grievous for the near friends. A young man in apparently good health, he bid fair to live to an advanced age and round out a long life of usefulness in his sacred calling. His youth and young manhood while not away to school were spend among us. Being of a social nature and bright and intelligent, he was welcome and wanted at the gatherings of the young people. In his teens, he consecrated his life to Christ and ever lived a faithful, aggressive Christian life. Just in the height of his usefulness, as it seems to us finite beings, he is called to his reward. The wife and sons, the sisters and aged mother have the sympathy of old neighbors and early friends.

Dec. 29: A masquerade ball at the rink hall transpired Friday night.

Clarence Barnard, engaged as night operator at Sandwich, came home to spend Christmas.

Sam Jessup got off the train here for NaAuSay one day accompanied by a bride; that is, he has committed matrimony.

Am requested to say by one of his customers that Carlos Hawley, the Oswego milkman, in his round of delivery Saturday morning declined to take pay, but cried "Merry Christmas! Keep your ticket this morning."

Mr. and Mrs. E.Y. Ketchum have moved into their new residence, and the L.F. Burkhart family are moving into theirs, which contains furnace and all other modern improvements, and is being supplied with entire new furniture.

Dave Hall had his grip packed and was on starting for Texas to see his brother Asher B., who was seriously sick, when he received a telegram that the patient was better and the trip was given up. George Race, who will be remembered as an Oswego boy is with the sick man.

A wedding occurred Sunday just before dinner at the residence of J.A. Shoger, which seemed to be all in one family, as the bride is Miss Carrie Raden, who was living there in the capacity of a domestic and the groom, Gustav Weiz, the brushmaker, boarded there.

NaAuSay: Graveling the town-house road commences this week.

Tamarack and Wheatland: As there were no Christmas exercises at the church a number went to the M.E. church at Oswego Saturday evening.

Our students came from their schools this week to spend Christmas in their homes. They are Miss Margaret Rance from Monmouth; Russell Patterson from Madison, Wis.; Thomas McMicken from Monmouth; and Robert Patterson from Aurora.

Wolf's Crossing: The farmers have finished working out their taxes and all are liberally donating work for the purpose of making as good a gravel road as there is in the county.

The Christmas entertainment at the German church was a success as usual. There were two trees laden with gifts.

Specie Grove: It is said that three miners from the coal fields of Pennsylvania who had drifted westward in search of work and failed to get it have made them a hut of old trees and slough hay near the big slough in the timber and are intending to winter there. How true that half the world knows not how the other half lives.

Word has come to Mr. Jeff Hatheway of the death of Mrs. Susan Duryea at the home of her son-in-law, Edward Hatheway in Sebastopol, Calif., Dec. 19, aged 90 years. Death came after a short illness from old age.

Mrs. Duryea came to Yorkville in 1834 with her husband, Rulief Duryea, who kept the first store in this town and for many years they lived in the log house that stood where the Kendall county court-house now is, a beautiful situation on the bluff that must have been enchanting in those years when the Fox river valley was in all its primitive magnificence. After her husband's death, she lived on farms in Kendall and Bristol, leaving the place in Bristol a dozen years ago for California to live with her daughters, who had moved there.

Mrs. Duryea was a woman of positive character; she was one of the first to advocate "woman's rights" and female suffrage. She was an active woman of brain who compelled attention by her strong personality.

1898

January

Jan. 5: Skating is now the rage of the moonlight evenings.

The depot is being resingled and extensively repaired otherwise.

Charley Schultz was bitten in the face by the dog of his employer, Will Funk.

New Year's day was spent rather quietly; nothing of a public nature was going on. Many from abroad ate dinner and spent the afternoon here, the greatest number were perhaps at George Cowdrey's, where the guests are said to have numbered 16, mostly from Aurora and a few from Chicago.

The general health of Oswego during 1897 was very good and the death rate extra low. The number of deaths was 14, of which two were accidental, one by shooting and the other burning; four were males and 10 females; five were married, two single, and 7 widowed. Of those dying a natural death, the oldest was 90 and the youngest 30 years of age and their average was about 73. The marriage record, which perhaps is not complete, shows 10 weddings, two of them being widowers with widows. Five of the gentlemen were from other parts, but all the ladies from here.

Yorkville: 1898! Write it 1898. Three more years in this century--is that correct?

There has been skating parties on the river every evening during the past week--and such beautiful nights for the pleasures of that sport.

Jan. 12: Dr. Scott is being visited by a friend.

Mr. and Mrs. A.L Rice are moving into their new residence.

A shooting match out in the Hawley pasture transpired Wednesday afternoon.

Dan Figge was in town; he has quit Mazon and again is residing in Montgomery.

O.L. Wormley has sold out at Shabbona and returned here. There is no place like Oswego.

The revival meetings out in the German settlement are said to exert great interest and have been quite prosperous.

Another of the enjoyable--except to horses and nearby roomers--Woodmen dances came to pass at the rink hall during Friday night.

James Malcom, A. Armstrong and others were filling their ice houses from the stone quarry ponds, the ice of which was as pure as nectar and as clear as crystal.

Next week Monday, Collector Rice will open office at the furniture store and be ready to receive your taxes. The town of Oswego will pay the second highest amount of state, county, and dog taxes that are levied in the county.

There will be an entertainment of songs and elocution and the production of motion pictures of the sceneries on the Yukon en route to the Klondike, the doings of the people, etc.,--the pictures in motion are especially interesting--next Saturday evening at the Congregational church. Admission 25 and 15 cents.

The firemen's election of officers took place at their hall Thursday evening, and the choice fell on Charles Roberts for president; Clint Jackson, vice president; G.H. Voss, secretary; Scott Cutter, treasurer; John Varner marshal; E. Davis, assistant marshal; Charles Rieger, captain; and Fred Burghart, sergeant. The most were reelections.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Mr. John Brown of Tamarack and Miss Nairan of Wilmington were very quietly married Dec. 31, 1897, in Joliet. They will live on the groom's farm near Tamarack.

NaAuSay: The Oswego gravel road is being covered and repaired by the farmers of that neighborhood. It is already a fine road and a great credit to the farmers of that district.

The Plainfield road running through the center of the township is being graveled at the rate of about 100 loads a day and will continue as long as the weather permits.

Lovely weather so far this year. Florida or California can not furnish better.

Captain Raleigh and wife attended the lecture on arctic explorations at Yorkville Thursday night.

At the home of the Parkhursts we noticed on the walls some fine paintings, the work of Miss Amy. They show evidence of superior artistic talent and would do credit to a professional.

S.F. Ashley finished up his corn husking with the old year and last Wednesday and Thursday did his threshing. It seems late to do threshing, but in an early day when machines were few, much grain was threshed in the winter time.

Yorkville: Comrade George White was here from Oswego yesterday to have some sale bills printed. He is going to quit farming and live in Oswego village the coming year. His sale will be on Wednesday, Jan. 26. Comrade White was a good soldier in the 127th Illinois, undergoing all the hardships of the camp, battlefield, and prison. If any man deserves a rest and a good round pension, it is George White.

Jan. 19: The morality record of 1898 of this community was opened by its oldest member; the same had been born Jan. 24, 1804. Mrs. Susan B. Page, who died at Oswego at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Carrie E. Young, at the age of nearly 94 years, was in many respects a remarkable character. She suffered an injury to her spine while yet a young woman; yet she lived for nearly 70 years after and outlived all but two of her nine children. She was of old revolutionary stock, a grand-niece of Gen. Israel Putnam, and her ancestors, immediate relatives and descendants have been prominent in every war in America from colonial times to the present day. Hon. Jonathan Cilley, who was killed by Graves in the first duel ever fought in Congress was her first cousin [Democratic Rep. Jonathan Cilley of Maine was killed Feb. 24, 1838 by Rep. William Graves of Kentucky, a Whig, in a duel on the outskirts of D.C., in Prince George's County, Maryland]. Her father was Capt. Nealley of a company of Vermont volunteers in the War of 1812. Her grandfather was one of the "Boston Tea Party."

Her husband, Rev. J.F. Page, who died in 1879, was one of the early settlers in Maine. The funeral took place Saturday from the house, Rev. J.G. Butler performing the spiritual services.

Leonard Hettrich of the German settlement died Sunday of typhoid malaria, it is said. His wife was also dangerously sick, but is now much better

What has become of the electric road anyhow?

The Olaus Peterson family has moved from this vicinity to Bristol.

There is a new clerk, a stranger at Sodr's store; Fred Burghart has severed his connection with it.

John G. Schilling of the German settlement is for the present subject to an unbalanced mind and requires constant watching.

Two brothers, Arthur M. and William F. Young of LaSalle and Chicago, respectively, were here to attend the funeral of their grandmother.

Mrs. Fred Leigh Jr. is paying special attention to the raising of choice ducks. She shipped six very handsome thoroughbreds of the White Pekin specie to Sandwich Monday.

Jennie Hubbard has resigned her clerkship in the post office, held by her for upwards of three years and in which she has been extra efficient. Her leaving the office will be generally regretted. The bidding of good-bye to the P.M., the sub clerk, and Tabby, the office cat, took place Monday evening.

NaAuSay: About \$1,600 has been donated for the graveling of the Plainfield-Yorkville road. The elevator men in Plainfield have given very liberally towards it; five years is the limit for the work and the town to buy the gravel and pay the men who shovel it.

Specie Grove: Surveyor Dolph was in the Grove neighborhood on business Wednesday.

The groves and shrubbery look pretty these frosty mornings. All seasons of the year have their charms--if we would only forget ourselves and see them.

Yorkville: Supervisor Russell, Colvin Pearce and John Herren were down from Oswego Saturday and were cordially received by acquaintances. Col. Russell has faith that the electric road will be started in the spring.

Jan. 26: Sleighing is now the furor and the poor horses have a busy time of it.

John and Otto Hettrich were in from Nebraska to attend the funeral of their brother.

C.S. Kilbourne, formerly of this place, and where he became started on the road to prosperity, has subscribed \$2,500 towards a fund of \$25,000 for the benefit of the Aurora hospital.

"A Double Crime" was the drama performed here by a company of five men and three ladies Saturday evening. The weather was such as to make most any gathering a failure, yet enough men and boys braved the storm for a small audience. The company had come in a hack from Naperville and intended to return there again that night, but did not dare venture out in such a blinding storm. To find a place in Oswego for putting up at 10 o'clock at night with such a blizzard on as was then was a serious matter.

From the funeral of Leonard Hettrich, which took place Wednesday of last week, was learned that there was a large turnout, for which the church of the German settlement at which the services were held was inadequate in seating capacity; that Rev. J.J. Lintner in German preached the main sermon and Rev. J.G. Butler, in English a supplementary one. Deceased was 36 years of age and born in that settlement. His wife, also sick and at the time of the funeral unable to sit up, is now much improved. A young widow and two small children are the immediate bereft.

The death of David Shepard, who had been lying helpless and down sick for a number of years at the residence of his daughter, Mrs.



Margaret R. Edwards, took place Thursday and the funeral at the house Saturday. The body was taken to the NaAuSay cemetery for interment. Deceased was within two months of being 85 years of age. He was born in Salem, Mass. In his early life he was a sailor and then circumnavigated the globe; came to Illinois in 1837, where he followed farming. Two wives followed him to the grave; of the first only was there any posterity, viz: two daughters and a son.

NaAuSay: The jingle of sleigh bells can now be heard; sleighing is fair and numerous tip-overs on account of large drifts.

Sunday was a cold day here with an abundance of snow on the roads and no track, therefore the congregation at the church in the morning was a very slim one.

The Kendall Co-operative Creamery is becoming a concern of great importance; it will after the first day of February assume control of the Lisbon and Plattville creameries.

Millbrook: The boys now enjoy the sport of hare-chasing; they drive the rabbit from the hole with a ferret and then run him down. It beats shootin' 'em.

Specie Grove: Joe Atkins, with helpers, is cutting a large amount of wood for John Gates.

Fred Gates is the last acquisition to the Woodmen society from the Grove neighborhood.

Saturday has been one of the worst days of the winter. Such days farmers it would see should manage to stay at home and save themselves from exposure and yet we saw quite a number of the teams hauling grain and doing other work. Is it wise to be out in very bad weather at ordinary work?

Uncle David Shepard, one of the early settlers of the Grove neighborhood, lately of Oswego has passed to the realm of the unknown where so many friends of his early days have gone. Settling on the farm just east of the Kendall school-house, there he lived for many years and reared a large family who, a quarter of a

century ago with his brother Jackson's family, were active in all social and church doings of this vicinity. Very rapidly indeed the old settlers to whom we owe so much are passing away. May their noble lives encourage us to higher aspirations.

Millbrook: Millbrook is soon to be connected with the west side of the river by a fine iron or steel bridge. The builders have been in jeopardy for a few days on account of the thawy weather, fearing that the false work would go out. The bridge would have been completed by this time had the mills not been hindered in getting out the material on account of the coal strike.

Mr. Howland, agent for the bridge company, let a 1,000 [pound] piece of iron down on his toe Monday and although he is so large, it hurt pretty bad.

Yorkville: The Record is informed that Mr. Paul G. Hawley is very ill at his home near Oswego and has so been for four or five days. There was a rumor this morning that he was dead, but that was not true. Still, he is in a critical condition. Mr. Hawley is one of the old residents of the county and is generally well-known throughout this section of country.

February -- 1898

Feb. 2: The ice company is now on housing ice here.

Much stock has been shipped during the week.

George White's sale is said to have been successful.

The Eaton Smith family have moved into the Shaver house.

February came in with the lowest temperature thus far this winter.

The family of Grover Earl was increased by a new member of the nine to eleven pound heft.

John Schilling, whose mental malady did not improve any, was taken to a private sanitarium at Rockford.

The Oswego library will hold its annual meeting at George M. Croushorn's store Feb. 2, for the election of officers.

The Irvin's Comedy Company performed again in the rink hall here Monday evening, and are advertised for two evenings more. They are well liked by those that have witnessed their plays.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Strossman of Aurora staid over from the Bartlett funeral for a few days' visit with the H.G. Smith family and Sunday Hank and Frank enjoyed a sleighride together and a tip over into the snow at the same time.

P.G. Hawley has been sick for upwards of a week, but according to last reports is now much better. Dr. Scott is attending him. His sons, Frank and Charles of Aurora, are with him most of the time, and his brother, Dr. William A. Hawley of Chicago is also with him.

John P. Bartlett, though complaining of feeling not very well Wednesday, worked all day at his trade, blacksmithing, in Young's shop. When having come home towards evening and standing looking out of the window, he called for a chair and at the same time began to fall, being caught by his wife; the end had come. In 30 minutes after he was surely dead. The suddenness of the event was such a shock to the family that from it Mrs. Bartlett has not fully recovered yet.

The funeral took place from the house Saturday. The pallbearers were Charles Hubbard, George White, Cob Pearce, George Cowdrey, Chris Herren, and John Roberts, all of the 127th regiment, of which the deceased was a member. Deceased was 62 years of age; he came to this place with the Bartlett family when seven years old and as said before, was a veteran of the late war, after which he married Miss Emma Minkler, who now, together with a son and a daughter, are bereft of his care and presence.

NaAuSay: The Creamery Company is filling the ice houses here and at Plattville; the ice is not of the best quality, but will pass muster for cooling milk.

The milk haulers had a rough time getting to the creamery with their loads of milk last Wednesday morning. In several instances, the roads had to be shoveled out.

Farmers are hauling considerable wood from the groves. Sleighing is fine for the work, but it is rather tedious walking around in the grove, owing to the depth of the snow, it being about 16 inches deep on the level.

Millbrook: Work on the bridge has commenced in earnest. The last carload of iron, mentioned by our special correspondent, has arrived at last.

Yorkville: There are so many sleighing parties nowadays that it is impossible for a person to keep track of them all.

Joe Sierp of Wilcox's store, Aurora, was in town yesterday.

About eight degrees below zero in Yorkville Tuesday morning was the average of the thermometers. The coldest morning of the winter.

Mr. George Schilling, who is to have a sale of his farm property in Oswego township Feb. 9, is 92 years of age and wants to retire from farming and take life easy his remaining years.

The Oatman Brothers, big dairymen at Dundee, Kane Co., have failed for over \$100,000. It is said they owe farmers about \$40,000 for two months' milk. The apparent cause is that the firm spread itself over too much territory.

The ice cutters were getting ready for work on the river yesterday morning, cutting a channel to the ice elevator and making other preparations for rapid work. It is hoped the ice company will get a good harvest this season as they have hard luck for some years by reason of poor ice here.

The ground hog didn't get up very early this morning, for it was bitterly cold with a sharp driving wind from the northwest that sent the snow in flurries in every crack and crevice and filling up paths and roads. Mr. Ground Hog saw the sun shining brightly and his

shadow was sharply defined; he at once took to the woods and to his hole, where he will lie, perdue, for six weeks awaiting a change in the weather for the better

The ice men are at work on the river and the cakes clink merrily up the elevator on the runs and into the houses, but it must be almost unbearable for the workmen on the pond as the wind sweeps up in the chilliest of blasts. But they are well-clothed, are used to outdoor life, and the work is laborious--that itself keeps the blood moving. Notwithstanding the cold, the air is bracing and healthful and all feel better for the change.

Feb. 9: Henry Baich has moved from this neighborhood to Iowa.

Mamie Richards is now the chief clerk in the postoffice.

It is said that W.A. Mahoney, late of Mississippi, will engage in farming near here.

Mrs. Leonard Hettrich, whose husband died a few weeks ago, wants to rent a farm.

A large company of youngsters went out to Andrew Walsh's Thursday for a sleighride and party.

Lew Figge was over from Plainfield Monday and discussing its fire with the boys of our fire company.

Mrs. Carrie E. Young offers her house for sale. Her neighbors are opposed to it; they don't like to lose her.

A sleighing party from Aurora bound for Lew Rickard's one evening broke down near Montgomery and had to return home.

General Prosperity is reported to have arrived here and there. Though Oswego has no hotel, doubtless the General would be got in somewheres if he was to come here.

Old Sol came up on the 2nd accompanied by the most magnificent sundogs. Probably the groundhog was so charmed with the

phenomenon that he didn't notice his shadow, and we shall have spring right along.

Charles Lindenmeier and Fannie Varner were the first of this community to enter the state of matrimony this year.

His folks here received the information of the death of Asher B. Hall down in Texas, who had been sick for some time. He was for six or seven years a prominent merchant of Oswego before the war, into which he entered as a first lieutenant of a company in the 4th Cavalry, afterwards becoming its captain, and at the close of it settled in Texas.

J.H. Sutherland was one of the Oswego boys that ventured out into the world. In an issue of the Detroit (Minnesota) Record, an entire column is devoted to him, extolling his business qualifications, his enterprising character, his worth, together with that of his wife, as citizens, his judicial acumen as county judge for many years; bidding him good-bye as Judge Sutherland--and welcoming him as Major Sutherland--the usual title of Indian agents--as such he was appointed to the White Earth agency by President McKinley.

At the WCTU meeting, President Mrs. Margaret Young complimented the people of Oswego for their liberality saying, among other things, they maintain four churches for salvation, and three saloons for damnation.

#### Yorkville: Big Fire in Plainfield

Soon after midnight Friday, or rather early Saturday morning, fire broke out on the main business street of Plainfield and totally destroyed the handsome opera house block, as well as several other buildings.

The flames which caused this havoc broke out in the basement of Hays & McCreery's store, and are supposed to have originated from the furnace.

Some 13 buildings burned. Plainfield has practically no firefighting apparatus.

The big fire at Plainfield caught the town without appliances for fire fighting. Yorkville is more fortunate in this regard--but we need more hose.

Mr. John Conway of Oswego, the well-known creamery man, is a recognized candidate for sheriff of Kendall county. John will have to hire a housekeeper if he gets the office, else find Mrs. Conway by the first of December. It is said Assessor Rush Walker of the same town would like to live in the sheriff's residence.

Henry G. Smith, the Burlington's representative at Oswego was down to see his brother William Sunday. Mrs. Smith came with him, so we know he got home safely.

There is an opportunity for Yorkville to have electric lights for both sides of the river.

A man has been here with a proposition. The Yorkville trustees have accepted it. The north side trustees must accept it. It will cost the northsiders about \$450 a year. A mighty small sum to be made to be brilliant after night. It will improve the price of property over there. We need it.

Specie Grove: S.F. Ashley broke several panes of large glass in his home while experimenting with a new kind of explosive gas recently.

All good, thoughtful farmers have half their grain and rough feed left on candelmas day. Such, at least, was an old rule of our fathers.

NaAuSay: Fred Falk has moved his household effects into the house on the Mrs. Austin farm.

Frank Johnson returned home Thursday last from Wisconsin. Frank says that 38 degrees below zero is too cold for him.

Feb. 16: Dr. Scott was visited by his mother from Sandwich.

George Burghart has returned here from Iowa on a visit.

Several farmers from here took in the [farmers'] institute at Yorkville

The Troll family have moved to their new residence in the south end of the village.

John D. Russell delivered a lot of May pigs for market Monday that averaged 301 pounds.

Martin Richards was bitten by R.R. [Robert Ridley] Smith's dog, which afterward was condemned and shot by Marshal Davis.

G.R. Schamp was elected president, H.B. Read vice president and Lettie Seely secretary and treasurer of the library at the meeting Saturday.

Oswego has become a model town; people from abroad are coming to examine and to study its institutions, as the water works, sources of revenue, etc. A delegation from Plainfield consisting, I believe, of the Mayor and a part of the council were here for that purpose Tuesday.

The horses must have been glad when the craze for getting all the sleighing the snow afforded had come to an end.

#### Death of Paul Hawley

It is doubtful whether the death of any other person of this community would awaken such interest as did that of P.G. Hawley, which occurred Thursday evening, Feb. 10, 1898. He was an old settler and constantly before the people. By his demise a prominent landmark from Oswego is removed. The funeral, which was generally regarded as being private, took place Sunday forenoon from the house. A number of carriages with the relatives followed the remains to the grave, where Rev. J.G. Butler made a short prayer. The pall-bearers were his three sons, a grandson, his brother, and Frank Schram. He was about 80 years of age.

The body of Asher B. Hall, whose death in Texas was mentioned last week, arrived here Friday and the funeral took place Saturday from the Presbyterian church. The funeral was under the auspices of the Masonic lodge here, deceased being a demitted member of it. The pall-bearers were of the brethren and the ritual of the order at the



grave was impressively performed. His age was 66 years; his native state New Jersey. He came to Oswego in 1854.

NaAuSay: Kendall [Post Office] will soon be a money order office.

The melting snow has filled the creeks to overflowing and flooded the highways in many places.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Word has been received that Mr. Stewart Harvey of Estherville, Ia., was married at that place last Wednesday. He is one of the older sons of Mr. Alex. Harvey and is well known here. He has lived in Iowa about ten years.

Yorkville: Mr. John Roth, Mrs. Leonard Hettrich and Mr. C.J. Hettrich were down from Oswego Friday on business with the probate court.

Plainfield has had three destructive fires--the aggregate loss of which was \$83,000. And yet, the people, with the experience of two fires, made no effort for a water system. Now that \$40,000 has gone up in smoke at this last fire, they're eager for water works. Lock the stable, etc., etc.

The poles for the Yorkville telephone exchange have been put in place this week, and soon the two villages will have connection with the central station at the Nading Hotel and our people can talk to any part of the village as well as the country at large. About a dozen phones have been put in business places and private houses and the number will be enlarged as their usefulness becomes apparent to our people. The company will put a long distance telephone in the court-house, which will be of great utility. Mr. Drew of the Chicago office was in town Monday and promises good service.

Feb. 23: The first sign of spring, the move for town offices.

Chris Herren is getting ready to move back on the farm.

Mr. and Mrs. John Gaylord entertained a euchre party Wednesday evening.

F.E. Hoard was somewhat hurt by a log rolling on him, which he helped to unload at the Young's saw mill.

Eugene Schweinoff, who has charge of the ice-houses here, was considerably hurt Thursday. How it happened was not learned.

Anton Miller and George White announce themselves as candidates for collector; both subject to the Republican caucus.

Mrs. Carrie E. Young has sold her house to Will Cliggitt and the sale of her household goods will take place next Saturday.

The amendment by the printers to my report last that P.G. Hawley was about 80 years old was seven years out of the way. His age was 73.

While of many of the dogs in town is wished they might be defunct, the death of Rover, which occurred the other day, is deplored by all who knew him. Rover was the heaviest dog in town, and an altogether misnamed dog, for he never would go off the premises where he belonged, except when he saw the mistress of the house coming home with a bundle, when he would meet her and carry it up the hill for her. He used to be with the Dr. Hanna family and since their departure with that of John Edwards.

The week has been so full of excitement that little attention was paid to the local happening, which usually make up these reports and hence the Oswego letter is short. To say that we people here were heated up patriotically to nearly the boiling point is only expressing it mildly; we were ready for dire war, were looking up the manuals for drill study. Not only were we for wiping the Spaniards from off the face of the earth, but also for sinking the peninsula on which Spain is situated. No stock was taken in the accident theory [of the sinking of the Maine], and anyone mentioning it was denounced a Spaniard, threatened with a passport and told to follow DeLome. Governor Tanner, and Senator Mason were hurraed for as the men for an emergency.

Yorkville: Wallie Beane of Seward was going business in Yorkville Monday.

### The Naval Catastrophe

The city dailies for the past week have been full of the news and discussion concerning the horrible catastrophe which destroyed the United States armored cruiser, "Maine." It was one of the fearful things of the century. This war-ship had been lying at anchor for some weeks in the harbor at Havana, Cuba, as a refuge for American citizens should occasion require. At night she was wrecked by an awful explosion that tore her in two and she sank in the harbor with all her armament, which, a few moments before, had been so formidable in presence of a foe. Her loss to this nation is over five millions of dollars; but worse than that, the lives of 250 noble men--the crew of the ship--went with her. It is appalling.

The cause of the wreck was a mystery. It was attributed to various things: Spontaneous combustion; bomb in the coal bunkers; explosion of boiler; and to the willful wrecking of the ship by a torpedo set off by some Spaniard to destroy the vessel.

There will be no trouble to whip Spain should the occasion require, but war is too fearful a thing to jump into unless warranted by dire necessity.

The probate of Paul Hawley's will hit a snag. According to *The Record*: Subsequent investigation of the records showed that Mr. Hawley had not complied with a decree of the circuit court at the time his wife, the mother of the sons, got a divorce from him, and it would appear that she had a claim on the estate. It was the order of that court that Mr. Hawley pay his divorced wife \$800 a year alimony, but there was some compromise effected or arrangement made by which this was not done, and the decree remained unfulfilled. It is said this lady will have a claim on the estate.

On Saturday last another phase of the case appeared. A lady who had been known as Mrs. Christine Olson, and who had been Mr. Hawley's housekeeper in the fine Parker residence north of Oswego, came to Yorkville with Attorney Frank Hanchett as her legal adviser, accompanied by Dr. William Hawley of Chicago, P.G.'s brother, and set up that she was the widow of the late Paul G. Hawley, asked that the former proceedings be set aside, Mr. Hollenback be removed as administrator, and that she, as the lawful widow, be made administratrix.

The second Mrs. Hawley intimates that she is prepared to prove her rights as the widow of the deceased and that she will maintain her case in the courts. The matter promises to be a complicated one and lead to much litigation unless some compromise is effected.

NaAuSay: We are again enjoying fine sleighing, and all traffic is on runners once more.

The transforming of the Kendall post office into a money order office will be fully appreciated by the business portion of this town.

Specie Grove: The sleighing is quite good again.

Taxes are nearly 20 percent higher than they were last year. Give us a little more legislation and malfeasance in office and our cup of bitterness will be full.

March -- 1898

March 2: Now that Lent is on, let us moderate down some.

Will Cliggitt has moved into his new residence recently bought.

The past week was a very active one here in the shipping of hogs.

Neither like the lion nor the lamb did March come in, but a sort of mule like.

John Cherry and family are on moving to town and into the new Constantine house.

Chris Herren is moving to the farm; the house he vacates will be occupied by L.R. Inman.

Will F. Young was out from Chicago seeing to his mother's closing out affairs in Oswego. She will make her home with him.

Andrew Kramer loaded two cars with his effects Monday for removal to Kansas. The farm he vacated is taken by John Hoch.

J.A. Schmidt is doing the painting of the new saloon building. The arrangements of it are most commodious for both the business below and the dwelling purposes above.

The Leonard Hettrich sale was very successful. The widow with her children moved Monday to town and will keep house for her father, John Roth. The farm will be occupied by George Schark.

Thursday evening, Feb. 24, about 50 relatives of the contracting parties gathered at the pleasant home of E.A. Smith to witness the marriage of their only daughter, Clara Louise to Fred Walker.

Specie Grove: Load your guns again for chicken thieves. Albert Thurrow, on the R.G. Leitch farm, lost the most of his lately.

The report is about, but not fully confirmed, that George Cowdrey has sold his farm to Aurora parties who will utilize the park and other ground along the river for camping purposes and picnic gatherings. The farm, being on the line of the electric road, would be a very desirable location for the above purposes.

Tamarack and Wheatland: The LaDew boys are mourning the loss of their pet cow, "Joe," which died last week of diphtheria.

There will be no danger of our staying too late at the church Sabbath evenings, as the young men have presented the congregation with a fine clock, which now adorns the church wall.

Born, to Mr. and Mrs. Richard Rance, Thursday, Feb. 17, 1898, a little daughter. All concerned are doing nicely. She will be named Elizabeth, after both her grandmothers. We would suggest as a middle name, Margaret, after "Auntie Margaret."

Yorkville: Mr. Hugh R. Marshall, who has been engaged as a reporter on the Chicago Daily Chronicle for 15 months, has given up his position and will be in Yorkville to begin work in the post-office on March 14. He has been away from home for more than four years and thinks he will like the quiet life of a country town for some

years. He will devote his time to the post-office and to The Record as occasion demands.

Millbrook: The new bridge is now completed and a fine bridge it is, indeed. It is a three span, each 133 feet long. It is all iron excepting the floor planks, which are laid on iron joists, making it very convenient to lay a new floor when necessary without inconveniencing the traveling public by having to lay new joists. There is no rattling of the rods and bars, as each is securely fastened in its place. The trimmings are of lattice work. A neat iron fence of lattice work, raised above the floor about a foot, extends along the bridge on either side. There is a name plate of the commissioners, engineer, and agent on each side of both ends of the bridge. In all, it is a neat, well-built substantial bridge. It supplies a long-felt want and is a great improvement to the town.

March 9: Mrs. Carrie E. Young has moved to Austin.

The Waubonsie Farmers Club was entertained at J.S. Seely's Thursday.

A violin class of ten pupils has been formed to be taught by Prof. Ed. Miller of Aurora.

Ad Armstrong is constructing a cold storage receptacle for his trade in butter and eggs.

Lew Inman is also a candidate for collector. He came very near being nominated last year.

James H. Foran, who is going on a farm down Lisbon way, has moved part of his effects there.

Frank Kessel, up the river, is said to have been married to a young lady in the vicinity of Montgomery.

L.C. Young is building a residence for himself over the river near West Roberts. Lew Inman is helping him.

Lew Inman has moved into the Chris Herren house, vacated by the owner, who moved down the river on his farm.

The boys have commenced playing marbles; the prairie chicken roosters are crowing mornings; the cats holding concerts at night--all signs of spring.

George White has moved to town and will occupy the house of Mrs. M.G. Hall, as soon as the McMurtrie family vacates it, who are moving to Yorkville.

We are nearly all ready and anxious for the war to commence. There are a few disloyal rascals here who call it uncalled for, but they soon be squelched.

All but the summer kitchen, which was moved over on the adjoining lot to be used for a tool house, of the Troll building was demolished, and the rubbish mostly carried off. The idea of moving the meat market building over on the next lot is given up, and it is now being torn down. Malcom has moved into the rink meat market room across the way.

Ed K. Jeneson was raised in this town. After having left school he went to St. Joseph, Mo., and there learned the printer's craft. Subsequently he came to Peoria to follow his profession and also was married there. He was on the *Herald* newspaper of that city and raised to be foreman of it. While thus enjoying prosperity the disease of consumption was gradually gaining on him and he had been sent to Arizona for relief, but not obtaining it returned to Peoria to die, which occurred the 2d inst. His mother from here has been with him the last two weeks of his life. A wife and child are left. Ed was highly esteemed by his acquaintances here.

The Era of Protection is now enjoyed, and if only those that really needed protection were to receive it, all should rejoice; but generally it is bestowed on classes already in the ascendancy and made at the expense of the more common people. There was a great rush to the Klondike last fall, and much distress there for want of provision was feared. The government immediately came forward with protection; contracted for supplies of concentrated food; sent

agents to Lapland for the purchase of 600 reindeer and to engage a lot of the natives for their care; all to be employed for the carrying of the provisions from the Alaskan ports to the American needy miners on the Klondike. It was stated in the papers that the Canadian Pacific railroad offered to carry the reindeer and accompanying Laplanders from New York to the Pacific ocean for \$1,500 less than any other road, but that the service was given to an American road. The outfit went through Chicago one day last week and consisted of 539 reindeer and 118 Laps, including the women and children. The provisions now are not wanted, as they only interfere with the trade--private enterprise there. Instead of protection, gold-seeking rushes should be discouraged; they are demoralizing, breaking up families, and while one man be the gainer by them, nine will be losers.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Supt. Curran visited the Wilcox and Collins schools last week.

Malcolm Rance had the misfortune to run a rusty nail into his foot one day last week. He was out of school several days.

Mr. William Cochlan will soon begin the erection of a corn-crib. The lumber came to Normantown from Chicago this week and several of the neighbors helped him haul it from the depot.

Yorkville: *The Record* carried a half page of political and diplomatic news concerning the tensions over the sinking of the Maine. Among the news, the U.S. House unanimously passed a national defense bill and Spain reportedly bought two armored cruisers from the Armstrong yards in England originally intended for Brazil.

John Tuttle, who has been teaching the winter term of school at Tamarack, has closed his work. He has been engaged for the spring term, which begins the first Monday in April.

Mr. Ed Fletcher drove 11 miles Monday to do some business in Yorkville, and he wants to know what has become of Upshaw Hord and that electric [rail] road. And he wants to know bad, for he says they are too far from the county seat when the roads are in the spring and fall condition. The people between Yorkville and Morris



really need some way of easier transportation. Mr. Hord, when is that road to be? You have the franchises--where is the money?

The ice went out of the river last night.

Fox river has been loudly odorous for a few days. All the filth from the cities above has been coming down with the rise in the water.

The new bridge at Millbrook was completed and accepted by the commissioners and the bridge committee Monday, and the county paid its one-half of the same, \$4,000.

#### Burglars in Post-Office

When Postmaster Crimmin went into the Yorkville post-office Thursday morning he found things were not as he had left them the night before. Someone had made forcible entry and attempted to open the safe, but were not successful. The night-watchman, Officer Ohse, knew nothing of the occurrence until told it in the morning, nor did he see any strangers about the town that night.

The working tools were all left behind in the departure, the pinch bar, bits, brace, and chisels. The men also left a small bottle with some dark-colored liquid in it which some thought might be nitro-glycerin, but is probably oil for use on the drill.

This is the second time robbery has been attempted in the office. Four years ago, about two weeks after Mr. Crimmin entered on the duties of post-master, a like attempt was made on the safe--a hole was drilled but they could not open the safe.

Specie Grove: Frank Beasley has left the Grove neighborhood and will engage in farming and milk hauling near Plattville.

Mr. Charles Jessup has put an entirely new device for fastening and unfastening cows in Frank Seely's barn. It works well and is very simple and inexpensive. The inventors of the Grove are bound to become famous.

March 16: No school this week.

Aurora Borealis was seen on Monday evening.

Frank Schram has bought the Henry Ricker place.

The John Cherry family is now fully settled in town.

Fred Jessup has done the only plowing heard of so far.

H.C. Cutter is building a new barn on his premises in town.

The robins, wrens, and several other kinds of birds have returned.

Born, to Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Briggs, March 8, 1898, a son. Weight, four pounds.

Some want to know which is agoing to be first completed, the Nigaragua [sic] canal or the electric road through here.

By the arrival of a 12-pound boy, John A. Herren was elevated to the dignity of a dad, and Myron Wormley a grand-dad.

Lew Wollenweber, one of the engaged in demolishing the meat market building, found a silver half dollar of date 1833 within the wall.

The phone poles in the village were repainted white with a black base, but the rain immediately followed the artistic aspect of it.

Arthur Jones and family have packed up and moved to Buchanan, Mich., which leaves this place again without a jeweler. They were nice people and their departure is regretted.

The west side of the business part of Main street has now quite a vacant look; the Troll and meat market buildings have been torn down and the rubble removed. The excavation for the cellars was begun Monday.

If Christ was to come on earth and be told that his religion is believed to mean "Peace on earth, good will toward men," and then be shown the armaments, the war spirit-like grasping disposition of the Christian nations, and the pictures of warships, big guns, and

other engines for the destruction of each other now in the city papers, what would he think about it?

The burglarizing of Sodt's store was undertaken Wednesday night. The tools for effecting an entrance had been taken from Schamp's shop, and the front door of the store had been nearly pried open, when apparently they were frightened away by Dr. Scott, who came by there in visiting a patient, his attention being attracted to it by seeing the tools laying there. He notified Constable Jarvis about it.

Mrs. Mary Hunt, formerly of Oswego, has obtained a copyright of ownership for 40 years on a volume of poems soon to be published with the title, "Vibratile-Intelligent Energy, Divinity, Unity and Harmony in Nature." Miss Hunt says that man and the universe are constructed on Mathematical principles as exact as the laws of astronomy; that He who formed the harmonic chord in Himself can play on all keys of humanity and is a Master Musician.

On one of the fine days last week, a tramp, walking laboriously with a crutch, called on business men for ten cents with which to pay his railroad fare. To get him off, most everyone paid the assessment. Subsequently he met two companions who had procured eatables, and then with the money collected, they bought a pony of beer, which they fastened to the crutch and the fellow who had been using it to collect the money was now carrying it over his shoulder.

Yorkville: New York, March 15.--The 200 artillery men ordered from Fort Hamilton and Fort Wadsworth to Sandy Hook have been transferred to the latter. Under the directions of army engineers, hundreds of workmen are mounting guns, building ramparts, and laying other defenses of the Hook. Not since the Civil War has such activity been seen there. A train of 21 cars, each loaded with a 12-inch steel mortar, is lying on a siding near the fortifications.

Lutgert, who was convicted of boiling his wife up in his sausage vats and sentenced to prison for life, was taken to Joliet by Chicago officials a few days ago. He weighs 250 pounds.

G.H. Voss, Thomas Cliggitt, Commissioner Collins, John Lockwood, Esq., --well, and a heap more others--were down from Oswego Monday to attend the Hawley suit at the court-house.

HAWLEY CASE IS ON.

Widow Claims Share of Estate.

Heirs Will Attempt to Prove There was No Marriage.

The trial of the Hawley case in which Mrs. Christine Johnson Olson claims to be the lawful widow of Paul G. Hawley deceased, of Oswego, and asks for the letters of administration granted to the four heirs of the estate to be revoked and she be allowed her share, is on in the county court. The trial for the granting of the petition was begun Monday. The whole question rests with the proving of the marriage, which the attorneys of the widow have made a strong case.

Louis Lindemier, whose father had worked the Parker farm, said that Paul G. Hawley had admitted to him that he was married and that they had had some bantering conversation about it.

The heirs are attempting to prove an alibi, that Paul G. Hawley was at the races in Aurora July 21, 1897, instead of in Kenosha, Wis., where the marriage is said to have taken place. The fact that Mrs. Belle Killauf, one of the heirs, is testifying on the side of the widow, is a strong point in favor of the petition.

Wolf's Crossing: Abner Updike is quite a sprinter; he is wintering a number of horses from town, and they got out of their enclosure and started for home. A.G. started after them, and after running more than a mile succeeded in heading them off, bringing them back.

Specie Grove: The wild ducks are flying northward.

All true Grovites will stand by our candidate at the coming town election.

The frost is all out of the ground and the ground is drying up very rapidly. Farmers are getting ready to start the plows. An early spring, indeed.

Tamarack and Wheatland: The roads are very bad, especially the mud roads. Even the graveled ones are none of the best.

NaAuSay: There is untold wealth awaiting the man who will invent a flying machine that will work successfully; he would certainly sell a large amount of them in this mud-stricken part of the world.

March 23: The Henry Funk family have moved to Aurora.

The bicycle has made its appearance again on the road.

The war with Spain has pushed the price of oats above that of corn.

Oswego furnished some newspaper literature from Yorkville last week.

The Sodt family is now occupying the new Van Deventer house for a residence.

At Leonard F. Burkhart's, a new girl weighing 10 pounds has been added to the family.

Mrs. Lizzie Davis has returned here and is occupying her own house, vacated by James Foran recently.

Invitations are issued for the wedding of Miss Mabel Geraldine Wagner of Chicago to Dr. Raymond G. Scott, Wednesday, April 6.

Mrs. J.E. and Carrie Barrett attended the funeral of the Rev. Frank Barrett in Wisconsin. Elder Newton Barrett returned here with them.

Just learned that a third ticket, styled "Independent," with Charles Rieger for town clerk, Rush Walker assessor, and Leonard Shoger road commissioner, has been evolved. The main battle will be on assessor and commissioner.

The knowing ones last week had to spend some of their time in Yorkville. From 15 to 20 of the working ones were busy in excavating for the new buildings, and about the same number of the tired ones were looking on.

J.A. Schmidt and Ira Ackley have been doing the decorating of the new saloon building, all of which is most magnificent. Every room is of different color and pattern. The wine room--well, gorgeous or splendid--fail to express the sight of it.

Senator Hale of Maine is reported to have said: "I do to believe in war. War is a great blunder; it is a great crime. But I fear the newspapers may drive us into it. I believe the best way to avoid war is to be prepared for it." Now as there is no power threatening war against this country, if war there is at all it must be of our own making, and would the authorities be more apt to go to war when not prepared than they will be when well prepared?

Lou C. Young over the river is moving into his new residence. George White has moved into the quarters vacated by the McMurtrie family who moved to Yorkville. Loren Millard moved into the house vacated by John Devany, who moved into the Fred Funk house, corner Madison and Rosehill streets.

About 30 years ago, someone in New York imported several pairs of English sparrows for the purpose of destroying worms that were injuring the trees in that city. They increased very fast and in the courts of time spread all over the country, when their presence became obnoxious to the authorities. Since, legislatures, including that of Illinois, have passed bounty laws for their destruction, thereby demoralizing the boys and at a good deal of expense to the taxpayers. If nature had been left alone in the distribution of the birds, no sparrows would be here, but they are here and agoing to stay and they also have their utility. The animal kingdom is mostly living upon one another; man, the most developed of all is living in part on numerous animals, fowls, and fish; but the lower the animal, the less their variety of food. The owl is preying on other birds--their eggs, mice, and other small animals; the owl is ding its work at night and is especially destructive to the sparrows, whose nests are easily to be found; but who would allow an owl to live or to remain at liberty, if possibly it can be killed or captured? Let the sparrow and the owl alone, which is all the regulation required.

Township Candidates

S.E. Walker presided over the Republican caucus Saturday. The nominations were: For town clerk, G.H. Voss, by acclamation. Assessor, G.M. Croushorn by eight votes over one competitor. Collector, George White by six votes over two. Commissioner of highways, Colvin Pearce by 48 votes over one. Constable, Ezekiel Davis by acclamation. The vote ran to 184. G.H. Voss, E.A. Smith, and C. Roberts were chosen for town committee.

At the people's caucus, Alexander Harvey presided and nominations were made for town clerk--M.J. Wormley; commissioner, Frank D. Pearce; constable, C.M. Hawley--all by acclamation. Thomas Cliggitt, Fred Pearce, and Mr. Carrington were selected for town committee.

Yorkville: HOLLENBACK STAYS.

Judge Hudson Takes the Breath out of Hanchett & Plain.

Charles Wheaton Makes the Winning Point.

Judge Does Not Decide as to the Marriage, But Says Hollenback Will Suit Him.

Henry S. Hudson, Judge of the county court of Kendall county, rendered his decision in the celebrated Hawley case yesterday afternoon after the arguments of the attorneys had been heard. According to the opinions of the legal talent of the county, he completely ignored the main issue of the case in the disregard of the question of the legal marriage of Paul G. Hawley to Christine Johnson Olson on July 21 last. In his decision he denied the petition entered by the widow and left the rest of the case undecided. The plaintiff, through Hanchett & Plain, her attorneys, will at once take an appeal and filed a bond of \$300 for the same. As soon as the matter can be prepared, a petition will be entered asking for the appointment of an administrator while shall be nominated by the widow.

One of the reasons for the giving of this decision as stated by the Judge was that the estate would be left with loose ends of he removed Mr. Hollenback as the administrator, and so long as there was no petition of the appointment of a new one, he would consider it his duty to retain the present incumbent.

Mr. Hanchett said that the decision was one of the most peculiar he had heard and that he would not be satisfied to let it remain with the present ruling.

As soon as he had closed his case, the judge started in to render his decision. He took some time in explaining that he perhaps had been

too lenient in the admission of so much evidence, which was of no value in the specific case, and that it would all have to be gone over again when the petition for a new administrator would be heard. He said that he thought it would be best to leave Mr. Hollenback in charge of the estate. And so it was decreed. And now we will not know whether Mr. Hawley married Mrs. Olson until the circuit court hears the matter, unless there should be a settlement between the parties.

A page three story gives a complete account of the testimony in the Hawley case.

Plainfield has advertised for bids for the drilling of a well for a new waterworks system. The boring is to take in an eight-inch casing.

The two Carr brothers, with their wives, drove down from Aurora Sunday to attend the funeral of Ashton Laird. One of the gentlemen lived in Yorkville a few years ago, having charge of the Fox River Creamery.

Wolf's Crossing: The gravel road is appreciated by all who travel this way.

Abner Updike is at present in the employ of Ryburn, Wolf & Parker at Aurora.

NaAuSay: Farmers have been obliged to abandon work in the field for a short time on account of the heavy rains. Evidences of spring are all around, with the exception of the spring poet--who is not yet on deck.

March 30: A new boy was added to the family of R.R. Smith.

Archie Lake has come home from St. Charles, where he was at work.

Fred Jessup moved over the river into the house vacated by Lou Young.

Charles Friebele and Milton Beck will become the new proprietors of the Web Gray meat market. Gray retires.



The stone mason work on the Knapp double building was nearly completed Monday. The work was accomplished with much push.

James Jarvis has engaged himself with the Deering Company of Chicago as traveling agent, and with his wife intends to move there to reside ere long.

Clarence Cherry is now a father. The little girl born did not want to be a NaAuSay girl, and so came to town to be born at John Cherry's, whom she made a grandfather. The mother was on a visit when all this took place.

That peace demanded the fullest armament has been the accepted sentiment of Europe for years. America now is going that one better by having come out with "Peace demands bloodshed." We are bound to be ahead in everything on earth.

Jennie Hubbard was one of our bet girls and that she was about to get married had been surmised, but her doing it on the sly and keeping it secret till after gone away was a rather a--I was almost agoing to say--sneaky trick on us. The marriage was to O.L. Wormley, said to have taken place on the 10th inst., and consummated by Esquire Roberts. The bridal couple have moved to Shabbona to reside.

Specie Grove: The heavy rains of Saturday night and Sunday delayed oat sowing several days. Some had planned to begin Monday. The ground is now very wet and the weather cold.

Before another issue of The Record, Yorkville will have a new postmaster. Most of the Grove people get their mail at that place and while they expect to be well treated by the incoming officials and doubtless will be for the next four years, yet we believe we express the universal sentiment of our people when we praise the ever courteous and gentlemanly treatment to all the patrons of the office by the present incumbent, Mr. Crimmin and his assistant.

It's a pretty sight to see sugar making in the "bush" at night, with several fires brightly burning among the leafless trees and the weird

forms of the sugar makers as they go about their work, and the surrounding darkness all combine to make the scene strangely peculiar and one to be remembered. We have often wondered if people are happier in our advanced and pampered and more genteel way of living than they were in the olden times when they lived nearer to nature and in a more simple and primitive way. We have often heard our parents and old people tell of the various kind of “bees” they used to have for haying and harvesting, logging and husking, quilting and apple paring, and at sugar time and the great bake ovens and fire places that they had in York State and the East and when we see a couple of men doing all the work now on a large farm we wonder if there is much improvement as far as real happiness is concerned. Usually the most simple things contribute the greatest to our enjoyment.

Yorkville: Just at this time there seems to be a demand for war with Spain from the more radical men in Congress and by the “commercial” newspapers of the cities. The country remains conservative, with confidence that President McKinley and his advisers will maintain the honor of the United States and protect its interests.

Should war begin, we will get our fill of fighting, and a few days waiting now will be no hardship. It was the great Grant who said, “Let us have peace.” And so says The Record, if it can be had with honor to this patriotic people.

April -- 1898

April 6: Hawaii has been sunk out of sight by Cuba.

Dr. Scott had a younger brother visiting him.

Sodt & Morse is said to be the title under which the corner store is now existing.

The Clint Jackson family moved into the Edwards house, vacated by Mrs. Henry Funk.

Effie Parker has returned here from the south to regain her health, which had become impaired.

Mr. and Mrs. Gustav Welz have commenced housekeeping by moving into a house on Plainfield avenue.

A new and larger buzz saw has been put in the Young's mill for the manufacture of hardwood lumber.

Because a thing wasn't done in the first place as it should have been causes extra expense and labor on the new buildings.

Thomas Edwards has bought the Colliver house, corner Madison and Jackson streets. Tom has become a real estate grabber.

Lizzie Moore is opening a new millinery establishment in the building on Main street, just south of the old Jewell residence. She has just returned from Chicago, where she bought the stock.

NaAuSay: Kendall [Post Office] becomes a money order office Monday, April 4.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Miss Barryman of Joliet teaches school the spring term at the church school.

The Wilcox school began Monday after a three week's vacation with Mr. John Herren as teacher.

Specie Grove: Get out your wheel and that new buggy. The roads are good again.

We saw the vice-president of the Aurora and Morris electric road going toward the latter place Thursday. The next event will be a "trolley party" on the new road, maybe.

The Americans and Spaniards made a mistake in investigating the Maine disaster. There should have been a committee and divers chosen from some neutral nation. The report made by it would then have been binding on both nations. To have made haste slowly at the beginning would have expedited the settlement of the present

trouble. And it might be done rather than begin an expensive war on two diametrically opposite reports of the cause of the explosion. We believe our report. Why should not the Spaniards believe theirs? We can well afford to wait a month or so before going to war. The fellows who get out of the notion of fighting by that time would probably desert if they went now.

Yorkville: Frank Platt is going to leave his native town--Plattville, and move to Alabama. Folks out there will miss Frank. It is said that Nels C. Munson will take the Plattville post office.

#### Town Elections

Oswego: There were 347 votes cast in all.

Voss, town clerk, 193; Reiger, 143.

Croushorn, assessor, 190; Walker, 147.

White, collector, 275 majority.

Calvin Pearce, commissioner, 79 majority.

Davis, constable, 197 majority.

All Republicans elected.

April 13: There is a new boy down at Joe Wayne's.

A lot of fishermen were down from Aurora Monday.

The sowing of oats has been occupying the farmers.

The furniture--all new--for the new saloon is arriving.

Carrie Barrett is engaged in a millinery house in Chicago.

Fred Figge went to his old home--Montgomery--on some business Monday.

Miss Sarah Roderick of Aurora is the trimmer in the new millinery bazaar here.

Frank Pearce was elected school trustee Saturday to succeed H.C. Cutter, who had become ineligible for reelection by moving to town.

The defective foundation has been repaired, and the advance on the new buildings is now going briskly forward. The brick-laying is underway. Schwartz is the woodwork architect.

As there was but one ticket gotten up Conway as [Oswego village] president; James Pearce, John Edwards, Charles Knapp, together with the holdovers as the trustees, Lew Voss as clerk, and Ad Armstrong as police magistrate will constitute the village government for the coming year. Pearce and Armstrong are the only new material about it.

Some years ago a newspaper advanced the absurd idea that in order to express the solid, combined and inseparable oneness of the United States they should be mentioned in the single number: "The United States is." Some newspaper men have fallen in with the ridiculous suggestion and now "the United States is" is frequently seen in print. We may in time get used to the ungrammatical expression, for foreigners will never fall in and adopt the folly. Expressed in German, "Die Vereinigten Staaten is" could not be made permissible. We use "you," the plural number, in addressing each other or in speaking to the horse, dog, and everything else, but we don't say "you is." It would be just as proper to say "you is a smart boy" at "The United States is the great nation." The oneness of the boy is more definite than that of the nation.

Easter was a magnificent and picturesque day at the German Evangelical church. The pastor's sermon was appropriate to the Easter time: text, "Denn wir haben such ein Osterlamm, das ist Christus, fur uns geopfert. Lasset uns Ostern halten in der Wahrheit."

Autocracy or democracy, which has been for the best? For several weeks past the people and their representative in congress wanted to go to war, but the president wouldn't let them. He came the Czar on them by letting them know that he knew much better what should not be done than they did. As the outcome of most everything is taken as that for the best, so probably will be the outcome of this controversy with Spain, and McKinley's course fully endorsed, which, however, will show a point against Republican government. Apparently popular government is now conducive to

the welfare of some people, and full popular government to no people; it has too much of the mob principle in it.

NaAuSay: Several farmers are already through with their oat sowing; considerable plowing is to be done for corn, and the cold weather is keeping back the grass and pastures.

Yorkville: The grand jury last week seems to have reversed Judge Hudson in the Hawley matter. Davis, who swore he saw Paul Hawley at the Aurora races July 21, 1897, was indicted for perjury, and the conclusion is that the preponderance of evidence before the county court taken as a whole was against the probability of Mr. Hawley seeing the races that day.

If you want to see Edison's living pictures and Swiss bell ringers, come to Union Hall tonight.

The Viola Enterprise says: "The Swiss Bell Ringers and Edison Kenetoscope Co. are fine, first-class, the best show that has come to our town.

Specie Grove: John Wampah of Kendall Dairy farm shelled corn north of the river Wednesday with his steam outfit.

April 20: The election of village officers today will be a quiet one.

A photograph tent has been pitched here east of the village hall.

H.B. Read has a new delivery team of well-matched young horses.

The residence part of the Will Funk building is receiving improvements.

Mrs. Florence K. Read was reelected school director Saturday without opposition.

Dr. Scott has returned with his bride and the couple have commenced boarding at Barrett's.

Beck & Friebele is the new firm of the City Meat Market, the old Gray stand.

Politics will be cropping out of the war in spite of everything that can be done to show it up in the garb of patriotism.

George Burghart in cutting wood had the ax catch in the clothes line causing it to strike his own head. A doctor put it in shape for the healing up process.

The work on the Knapp new buildings is going forward very rapidly. The laying of the brick is expertly and expeditiously done. A few fair days would reach the putting on of the roof.

Mr. and Mrs. George Rabe of Chicago, a bridal couple, and Jonas Rabe from Wisconsin, together with another lady returned Monday to their homes after a visit here with Mrs. Margaret Rabe, the mother of the gentlemen.

The depot folks were paralyzed one day when a freight train stood on the track and a brakeman had gone between cars just as the train commenced to back with a sudden push, by which he was knocked down. He had the presence of mind in laying as flat as he could until a few trucks had passed over him, when he quickly slid out, not being hurt in the least.

Is there going to be much glory in the whipping of Spain, a nation less than one-fourth that of the United States, with two rebellions, thousands of miles apart and away from home, on and besides being all tore up at home? Won't it be much like kicking a dead dog just to let him know that there is such a thing as punishment after death?

According to the papers, to meet the expenses of the war, the beer drinkers are to contribute \$35,000,000 per year towards it, the cigar smokers \$15,000,000; tea and coffee to be taxed 10 and 3 cents per pound, respectively. The stamp tax to be revived.

NaAuSay: Alvin Kellogg has got one of those new wells. It is 51 feet deep, with water seven feet from top of ground.

Alvin Kellogg was elected school director of the Marysville school, and Mrs. Belle Kellogg was elected as director for the McCauley school.

Mr. Whipple, the Caton Farm grain merchant, and Sidney Van Dyke are going among the farmers soliciting aid to gravel the road straight west from Caton Farm, each landowner pledging one dollar per acre, and several persons who rent farms have subscribed 50 cents per acre. Of course these subscriptions will be worked out with a five year limit.

Tamarack and Wheatland: The section boss of Normantown died at his home in that place after a few days' illness from typhoid fever. He leaves a wife and six small children.

Yorkville: Mr. Gus Shoger came down from Oswego Friday to attend the Fair Association meeting. He is one of the solid men of his town.

Master Franz Boston caught a big black bass in the river the other day that weighed three pounds, two ounces, with a very ordinary pole and line--and Master Franz was about the proudest boy in Yorkville.

#### Corporation Elections

##### Oswego

Only one ticket. These are elected:

President of the board, J.C. Conway.

Trustees, James Pearce, J.H. Edwards, Charles Knapp.

Village clerk, Lewis P. Voss.

Police magistrate, A. Armstrong.

Specie Grove: Captain Raleigh is away on the lakes for the summer.

If war should come, would those fellows who break down doors to get cushioned seats in the Senate galleries at Washington be the first to enlist?

April 27: Arbor Day was duly observed by the school.

Mr. and Mrs. John A. Young have moved into their new house.



Van Andrews is said to have gone on the Frank Hawley farm to live and work.

Jay Richards of the Downers Grove depot made a flying visit to this place--his old home.

A few more of those ladies' trimmed hats at greatly reduced price at the Oswego Millinery Bazar store.

The man from Ottawa to start a newspaper here; the two men peddling some kind of a musical instrument; the man with a bear, and another with a monkey, all were in town Wednesday.

The village election last week Tuesday was a tame affair; but one ticket, for license, of course, was up and but 37 votes were cast for it. This would have been a time for stealing a march.

The sexton of the cemetery wanted me to say several weeks ago, but kept forgetting it, that people when cleaning up their lots there must remove those cleanings to the regular dumping part, or elsewhere outside the cemetery.

The Republican primary election Saturday was pretty well attended. J.W. Cherry was its president and G.H. Voss secretary. 199 votes were cast; about half a dozen of there were claimed to be bogus.

Her friends here were informed of the death of Mattie Shoger, the girl who had been adopted in the family of J.A. Shoger. It occurred quite suddenly and apparently was due to the bursting of a blood vessel in the head. She had been with her sister in Beloit, Wis.

Rev. J.J. Lintner has returned from conference with the appointment of pastor of the Evangelical church here for another year.

I am objectionable as *The Record's* reporter of Oswego to some of its inhabitants because of belittling the place by referring to it always as a village, when other towns of no greater importance are styled "cities" by their reporters. They think that surely Oswego ought to call itself a city when White Willow is calling itself such. As soon as

Oswego will get a hotel, it may be entitled to that distinction, but the idea of a stranger arriving in a city and then having to hunt around among private houses for a place to stay over night!

Is there a civilized nation on earth? We claim to be the most advanced, but are we fully civilized? The other day when war was declared, or the ultimatum had been sent, bells were rung and steam whistles blown in many cities of the country. "Tidings of great joy," War news causes gladness," and similar expressions were the headlines of the newspapers. While much satisfaction was expressed here, no special demonstrations of approval were then had, but Monday the national flag was suspended across the street.

Yorkville: Ami D. Newton was born in Broome county, New York, Nov. 17, 1824; came to this section from Binghamton, New York, in 1836, settling near old Georgetown--now Newark, Kendall county. Married to Miss Mary A. Reynolds June 29, 1847, and this faithful woman--the sharer of the joys and sorrows of a pioneer--survives to remember his good qualities as a husband and father. He died April 24, 1898, about 10:45 a.m. from neuralgia of the heart. In 1862 Mr. Newton was elected sheriff of this county and was re-elected several times, serving as sheriff 16 years in all. In performing the duties of the office he first lived at Oswego--then the county seat--when the county records were moved to Yorkville he came here to live and with the exception of a few years on his farm at Newark, this has been his home since 1864. Besides the widow he leaves three sons to remember an indulgent father--Henry H. Newton of Plainfield, William R. and Robert N. of Yorkville.

The funeral was held at the home yesterday (Tuesday) forenoon, Rev. J.B. McGuffin of Chicago, an old pastor and friend of the family, conducting the service, assisted by Rev. J.M. Griswold of the Yorkville Methodist church. Burial in Newark-Millington cemetery. It will be many years before A.D. Newton is forgotten in this county--he had such a pleasing hold on the people.

Page 5, center column:

WAR DECLARED.

Congress Responds to Message.

Quick Work in the House.

Action on President's Message Declaring War Completed in less than Two Minutes.

It took the House one minute and 41 seconds to pass the declaration of war.

The Record does not endorse, neither will it support the nomination of Judge Hudson for re-election. This is not a bolt--The Record simply ignores the nomination, as did the convention, which was driven to its action because no other candidate appeared.

Four-fifths of the delegates to the convention, in the forenoon, said they would not support Judge Hudson. The town from which he first came (Oswego) refused to name him in convention; the town in which he has lived 34 years (Bristol) refused to recognize him; Little Rock, the most populous town in the county, with 20 votes in the convention, polled 15 against Hudson and five for him in the forenoon. He had no standing in a single town save Seward, and when that town was reached on the call for nominations--it being the last town called--one of its delegates in an oppressed manner named H.S. Hudson for county judge, and there being no other available candidate the convention acquiesced--in a heartless manner.

One of the Seward delegation said in the forenoon that he hated "to turn the old man down," at the same time acknowledging his unfitness for the place. If it is an act of charity, Judge Hudson hardly needs it. He is the best-paid man in Kendall county for the service rendered. His salary as county judge, his fees as master in chancery, his emoluments as an attorney and conveyancer have all paid him handsomely, and he is not in need of financial aid from the county.

No Republican is under obligations to support him--he has never done anything for the party. His day of usefulness as probate judge and judge of the county court has passed, and this expression has been reiterated in the hearing of the editor of The Record by many prominent Republicans of the county. The Record does not propose to pursue the Judge in the campaign; it has given the facts--the people can act their pleasure.

Sheriff Ackerman was in Chicago Friday and saw Chris Merry, the wife murderer, executed.

Despite the chilly weather, the wild spring flowers are out in abundance--the woods out back of the fair grounds are full of the beautiful little things. If anyone desires to take a pleasant walk on a Sunday afternoon or any other time, go out that way--the scenery is lovely.

In honor of the memory of Shabbona, chief of the Pottawatomies and friend of the White pioneers of the Illinois river valley, it is proposed to erect a monument in Evergreen cemetery, Morris, Ill. The project was first mentioned at a meeting of LaSalle county pioneers and last summer articles of incorporation were filed with the secretary of state organizing a memorial association for that purpose.

Shabbona was the son of an Ottawa chief and was born near the Maumee river in Ohio about 1773. He married a Pottawatomie girl and became closely identified with the tribe. He became identified with Tecumseh in 1807. In the battle of the Thames, Shabbona was second in command to Tecumseh. After the War of 1812, Shabbona moved from the Wabash to the Illinois and located his village near where Ottawa, Ill. now stands. He sought to lead his people into ideas of peace toward the white settlers. His first prominent part as a peacemaker was in 1827 when he journeyed northward to use his influence for peace with Big Foot.

The court-room was filled with people Sunday morning to listen to a patriotic sermon by Rev. J.M. Griswold. The audience was very much in feeling with the remarks of the good pastor, who appeared to be very deeply interested in his subject, that of war.

Specie Grove: If we are to have war, let us lay aside our school fight and show a united front against the enemy. Both sides have won a battle; now let us have peace.

We were shown one of the Hemm hayrack connections and consider them a great help to farmers in the construction of the necessary adjunct to the farm machinery. By their use, a rack can be easily and cheaply made and by the removal of a few bolts can be taken apart and put under cover when not in use. A set of them will last a life time when put on new woods occasionally. If you have occasion

to make a rack before the coming haying write to Mr. Charles Hemm, Kendall post office, for particulars.

Who will be the first to enlist from the Grove in the Spanish-American war? Some of us must go. When our country is fighting for the rights of humanity she should be gloriously victorious and that means sacrifice on the part of our people. Let us overlook all past mistakes on the part of our rulers and give them our hearty support at this time in all possible ways in their efforts to suppress tyranny and cruelty in Cuba--our sister republic. We lament the necessity of war and are shocked when we hear others speak of it so lightly, and seem so anxious to go with the expectation of having a good time. Let us not be deceived. War is placed in the same category with pestilence and famine. Are these desirable, and promoters of good times? Far from it! War always brings to those who take part in it a train of evils that far outweigh the glory and profit which come to a few, and its only benefit succeeding generations that righteousness may prevail among them that war should be waged at all.

May -- 1898

May 4: Jay Young has started a regular fuel, wood, and fence post business.

John Bud, one of the section hands, has moved into the old McKinney house.

Henry Burkhart will build a new residence this season, and John Burkhart a new barn.

G.R. Schamp, with his gang of men, is building a house down in Kendall, for a Mr. Kahle, I think.

The old folks' dance, with Hebert, Armstrong and Ackley musicians, transpired Thursday night very satisfactorily.

The war is absorbing all attention, and Oswegoans are fully up in spirit of feeling jubilant over the triumphant reports.

The grand opening of the new saloon was very quietly affected. The place looked magnificent when lighted up in the evening.

James Pearce has commenced building a new barn, the basement of it being underway, and for which he received for carloads of stone.

Michels and Conway Sample Rooms was artistically painted on the large plate-glass of the new saloon Monday, which had opened for business in the morning.

G. Schwartz has been down sick for upwards of a week; part of the time severely so. Kohlhammer and Will Richards, the men with him, are to work on the Knapp buildings.

Loren Millard joined the Presbyterian church Sunday. He is now the sexton of the same. Communion services were had; a new minister, and he being a Scotchman, officiated.

The head of the United States is President McKinley, a man. The head of Spain is Queen Christina, a woman. How will we come out on gallantry by severely whipping Spain?

The rate of [saloon] license was again fixed at \$750, and again licenses granted for three saloons, at last week's board meeting. Michels & Conway of Aurora coming in and Schroeder going out. The Klondike is no more.

The body of Albert Todd, who at one time was a resident of Kendall county and related to the Wheelers, arrived here on the 10 o'clock train Monday and then taken by hearse to the NaAuSay cemetery for burial.

The marriage of Miss Grace Miller to Mr. Palmer--Will, I think his given name is--of Joliet took place quietly Saturday afternoon, Rev. O.B. Waite performing the ceremony. Gracie was one of the exemplary girls and all her acquaintances will congratulate her.

NaAuSay: Farmers are bringing their planters out with a view of commencing to plant corn in a short time. Oat fields are greened over and look fine.

One of our enterprising farmers in the northeast part of the township has fenced in considerable of the public highway; we presume a toll-gate will be the next move.

Wolf's Crossing: Grip seems to be prevalent in this vicinity; a number of school children are sick with it.

Mr. Albert Henke and sister Albertine of Aurora spent Sunday evening with their cousins, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Rink.

Specie Grove: "Cubania," the 45th star in the constellation of States-1900.

Charles Wagoner of Aurora and a youth from the same place were in the Grove neighborhood shearing sheep with an automatic shearer. With this machine an experienced man with a helper can shear from 50 to 75 sheep a day. They are not expensive and will no doubt soon be used by the flock masters of the country generally.

Yorkville: Because of what this paper said concerning the candidate at the head of the Republican county ticket last week, some of our Democratic friends assume that The Record would support the Democratic nominee for judge. The assumption is too violent for us to consider. The Record will not do it. We expect still to travel with the old Republican party, as we have done for 40 years, and though the walking may be hard in some places, The Record will try and keep up with the procession.

There is no military organization in Kendall county. It is the opinion of a good many citizens that one should be formed. Why not make any effort in Yorkville? A company of 50 or 60 young men could easily be raised in this vicinity if proper officers were placed at the head. And so it could be done at Plano, Oswego, Newark, and the southeast townships. Military training is healthful, forms discipline, gives knowledge in offense and defense, and our whole country

should show a military sprit as there is no telling what may happen before this war is over.

## VICTORY IS OURS

Spain Defeated in the First Naval Battle

Its Fleet is Annihilated.

Two Hundred Spanish Killed and 400 Wounded During a Two Hours' Engagement.

The Flagship of Commodore Menteje and the Cruiser Castilla Burned and the Don Juan de Austria Blow Up by a Well Directed Shot--Loss of Americans during the Engagement Not Stated--A Great Victory for Commodore Dewey.

The first naval battle of the war has been fought and it is an overwhelming victory for the stars and stripes. Acting Rear Admiral Dewey, in command of the pacific squadron, has administered a crushing blow to the Spanish fleet defending Manila and it is probably annihilated.

The news from the Philippine Islands Monday morning made Commodore Dewey the hero of the day, and soon Bridge street, in Yorkville, was in a flutter of flags--red, white and blue flying from nearly every business house and the post office--also from the porches of many residences. It was a glorious day for America.

Supervisor Russell was down from Oswego Saturday and his son, Harold, came with him to take his first lesson in politics at a county convention.

The Record would be pleased to have news of young men from Kendall county who are in the service of the United States army or navy during this war.

Frank O. Hawley was down from Aurora Thursday. He says there are still lots of men in Aurora ready to be soldiers to take the field, with two companies already gone, if they are needed.

The telephone service is very useful during the war excitement. The news is sent from Chicago to Yorkville by the company all through the day--and of course to the other towns on its line--and the people



are pleased with it. G.H. VanEmon is a handy man to bulletin the messages and Nading's Hotel is headquarters for news.

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May 11: Who all will be the heroes?

The plastering at Knapp's new buildings was begun Monday.

The Reno show held forth here Saturday evening and was pretty well patronized.

The photographer temporarily here took down his tent Monday and removed elsewhere.

So far as known Oswego is not represented in the army against Spain, except by Gilbert Smith who has joined the regulars.

Fred Schroeder is the new barkeeper at the Funk saloon. And a new clerk from Aurora is said to be also at the Schickler saloon.

Peter Cooney got his face about one eye considerably bruised one day by some part of the machinery while engaged in shelling corn.

Mr. and Mrs. Wallace are packing up for removal to Lisbon. They are a pleasant couple, were good neighbors, and had well assimilated without people.

Oswego is a nice looking name anyhow and when produced with letters of the most approved style it becomes much more so, which makes the sign of the new saloon a magnificent view, and independent of its artistic work and fine finish.

NaAuSay: Farmers are planting corn.

Obituary of Michael Falkenberg, who departed this life at three o'clock Friday morning, May 6, at the home of a cousin, Mr. Kostenholtz, at Joliet. Mr. Falkenberg was moved there a week ago to receive and be near medical aid, but all efforts for relief proved of no avail. He was afflicted with dropsy of the heart, which proved fatal. Deceased came to this country in 1825 from Rhineland, Prussia, settling first at Buffalo, lived there until 1848, when he came to Illinois, settling in this county at the present home at the time of his death. The funeral took place at the St. John's church, Joliet, May 8; the interment was made in the cemetery in connection with the church. He was 73 years old and leaves a wife and five sons to mourn the loss of a husband and father.

Specie Grove: There is no dew on Dewey.

Much corn will be planted this week.

The bulge in the price of corn has induced some of the farmers to shell and sell.

If the gentle "Dewey" can do such fighting what will the mighty "Sampson" leave unconquered when once in the fray?

Edmond Russ, formerly in the employ of John Wald, has enlisted for the war. It is also reported that Hamlet Cowdrey, formerly of Oswego has offered his service to Uncle Sam. Who'll be the next?

Yorkville: It is surprising how men are now claiming to have been intimate friends with Admiral Dewey since his grand victory at Manila. The names of hundreds are being published in the papers of those who went to school with Dewey--played marbled with Dewey--were on gunboats with Dewey--and slept with Dewey. There is nothing like prosperity to bring out a man's friends.

Tamarack and Wheatland; Robert Patterson rode down on his bicycle Sabbath and attended church.

Fred Young is doing a fine business at his Bristol Station creamery and is enthusiastic over the outlook. Added to his separator, churn, and other fixtures he has an ice-plant--making his own ice for cooling purposes.

#### Circuit Court

Christine J. Hawley vs. Frank O. Hawley and other heirs of the late Paul Hawley, petition for dower. This is still before court as The Record goes to press; 15 witnesses for complainant had been examined up to last night. This is not the appeal case from the country court, but a new procedure for dower to which Mrs. Christine Olson Hawley claims she is entitled as the lawful widow. And there is another phase in the case: Judge Brown's docket yesterday contained this entry--"Rule on all defendants (in the Hawley case) to cross-bill of Emily M. Hawley to plead, answer, and demur to said cross-bill instanter," etc. This is a cause in which the mother of the Hawley brothers sets up her right to consideration. True, there were divorce proceedings some years ago in which it was thought Mrs. Emily Hawley was divorced from Paul G., but it was and has been claimed that the terms of the decree were not all complied with. But that will appear before this court. Mrs. Hawley had and has a host of friends who want to see her rights protected. It all promises to be a "celebrated case."

May 18: Oswego will have a fire-alarm bell.

These are booming times for the speculators.

The plastering of the Knapp block is nearly completed.

Ham Cowdrey is going to Aurora to engage in the street car service.

Charles Jarvis has quit at H.B. Read's and gone to Chicago to work for Deering.

The basement for James Pearce's new barn, one nice enough for a palace, is completed.

Will Funk had the front of his building repainted in a dark green shade. Zeke Davis did it.

Two 10-inch live alligators were received by Lew Wollenweber from a friend in Jacksonville, Fla.

No school Thursday and Friday. The teachers were on a diversion ramble in visiting learning institutions elsewhere.

It is exasperating now that the dollar, which we so dearly love, and America of which we are so proud, the names of both we got from the Spanish.

The saloon business here is now wholly in the hands of former Aurorans. Not even a bottle washer or spittoon cleaner is of local Oswego stock.

Dewey kept a hotel, or tavern as it was called at that time, in the northeast corner of this township on the Naperville road, about five miles from here.

Who shall fire the last shot? I mean in the war between Millington and Newark reporters. The *casus belli* seems to be about jurisdiction. Now I want to say to the reporters of this neighborhood that they must not be afraid to come over on my territory; the more they do so the better I shall like it; and the printers are always at liberty to drop my account of a thing if also written up by some one else. The neglect of getting for the Record more of the laudable social doings is the greatest fault found with me; so please come over from all directions and help yourself to any of the Oswego news.

What Washington said about avoiding entangling alliances with foreign nations, and what others of the old-time statesmen said about confining ourselves to this side of the ocean, was well enough while we, as a nation, were in our swaddling clothes and knickerbockers, so to speak, but now we are of full growth, wear

pants and long dresses, are afraid of nobody, so these old notions are no longer befitting to our standing; we must be fully abreast in everything with the best of nations, and so we too must have colonies, and the further off and more scattered they are the better, for American interests must be extended to every nook and corner of the globe.

Mr. James H. Shaw of Bloomington, Illinois, will give a free patriotic citizenship address at Gray's hall Wednesday evening, May 23, at 8 o'clock.

NaAuSay: Farmers have about finished corn planting.

The assessor is around in the land loose again; don't treat him as though he was a Spaniard.

Born, to Mr. and Mrs. Fritz McCauley of Joliet, late of this town, a boy. Fritz, no doubt, feels considerable larger.

Wolf's Crossing: Supt. Curran visited our school [Harvey School] Monday; he ate dinner at Mr. Updike's and spoke very highly of the work being done in the school.

Tamarack and Wheatland: The families of Mr. Stephen Findley and Mrs. Margaret Rance went fishing over near Plainfield Saturday. They took along lunch, and we presume they caught lots of fish and had a fine time. At any rate, they were caught in the rain.

Specie Grove: Alonzo Stansel will raise artichokes for his swine.

A nice baby girl has come to reside with the Olsons on the Ferris farm.

Attorney Hanchett was out among us on business relating to the Hawley case.

H. Lattimore and family will occupy G.S. Roe's tenant house and work on him the rest of the season.

Those who have peach trees have the promise of a bountiful crop this fall. The trees have looked lovely in their dark carnation dress.

Nathan Hughes returned from the Grand Army encampment at Streator Thursday. Uncle Nate is still possessed with the war spirit as in the 60s and would willingly take part in the present [Spanish American War] conflict but infirmities of old age prevent.

If the Record correspondents of Newark and Millington lived in a life town like Specie Grove they would have no trouble to fill their corner of the paper without going to a neighboring town for items and if some one wrote up part of its doings, there would still be enough for a good-sized letter.

Yorkville: The great war editors of the great war dailies in the great cities of the United States are crying "On to Havana!" drop everything else, but "On to Havana!" The writer remembers some such similar cry nearly 37 years ago when the great new York Tribune and the great Horace Greeley were crying "on to Richmond!" and Bull Run was the result. History is repeating itself in the unreasonable demands of some editors of today, but the Government has experience and backbone, and will resist undue interference.

Yorkville: Comrade Nathan Hughes was at the Streator encampment last week and enjoyed the meeting very much.

#### The Hawley Case

The Record has not felt it necessary to give a full report on the trial of the Hawley case before Judge Brown the past week for the reason that it is mostly a repetition of the testimony before the county court--only longer drawn out.

The contention has been the one thing--where was Paul G. Hawley on the 21st day of July 1897? A number of witnesses have sworn they saw him on the train that day between Aurora and Chicago, or at the depot in Chicago, while another number are equally positive they saw him in Aurora and at the driving park in that city on that day.

It is claimed, and a minister and his two daughters swear, that Mr. Hawley was in Chicago on July 21 and was married to a woman

giving the name of Mrs. Olson. The defense do not deny but what Mrs. Olson may have married some man giving his name as P.G. Hawley, but it was not P.G. Hawley of Oswego. It is for Judge Brown to decide which side has the most creditable witnesses--or makes the best showing.

This suit is not the one begun in the county court--to have Administrator Hollenback removed, but is a new issue in which Mrs. Christine Olson Hawley sues for her dower interest in the estate.

May 25: Special memorial services will take place at the M.E. church next Sunday morning.

The Oswego orchestra is gaining popularity by the good music it is producing for dances in the neighborhood.

A capacious horse shed has been added to the new saloon in the rear of it; a good thing and well might be imitated by other institutions.

The marriage of John Varner to Miss Mattie Moore took place at Yorkville last week Tuesday. The bridal couple made a visit to relatives at Millbrook and returned from there Wednesday afternoon.

Everybody come to the village hall Friday evening, May 27, for the purpose of determining whether or not Oswego shall have a Fourth of July celebration, and if in favor, to effect an organization towards that end.

Wolf's Crossing: The people who are interested in the German cemetery are at work fixing it up, as they always do just before Decoration Day. It would be hard to find a better kept country burying ground.

Yorkville: is the United States to have a pensioned military and naval aristocracy--"in the near future?"

If you want true pictures of the American-Spanish war, with correct portraits of the principal officers and stirring naval scenes--as well

as a well-digested epitome of each week's doings, you should buy Harper's Weekly.

#### Christine Olson-Hawley

As far as a circuit court decision can settle the matter, it has been established that the late Paul G. Hawley was married to Christine J. Oleson on the 21st of last July and is entitled to dower rights in his estate.

Judge Brown, who heard the case in Kendall county, rendered his decision Saturday morning in the city court room at Aurora.

The Aurora News says the case will be taken to the supreme court in a few days and in the meantime, Judge Hollenback will continue to act as administrator of the estate.

#### Another Hawley Case

Dr. W.A. Hawley, a brother of the late Paul Hawley, and a former resident of Oswego where he did a merchandise business for a few years, has a divorce suite on.

After seven years of married life, Emma H. Hawley, wife of Dr. William Arthur Hawley, a well-known physician having offices in the Masonic Temple, has petitioned the courts for a divorce, filing a bill for separate maintenance in the superior court yesterday. Mrs. Hawley is prominent among society circles on the north side [of Chicago].

The immediate cause of the trouble, the complainant says, is the infatuation of the doctor for his typewriter, Miss Nina Munson.

Some weeks ago, Mrs. Hawley says, she commenced a close watch of her husband's actions and soon made discoveries which rewarded her vigilance.

One day about a month ago, according to her story, she went to her husband's office and took him by surprise. To her dismay, she found her husband and Miss Munson laughing over one of her old love letters. Mrs. Hawley says she was overcome with indignation and on the spur of the moment rushed upon her, pulled her hair and administered a severe chastisement.

Another source of trouble between the couple was about money matters.

In the war over Dr. William A. Hawley's pretty typewriter, the friends of the prominent physician and those of his divorce-seeking



wife are rapidly taking sides and south side society is split into factions by the affair.

At the fashionable boarding house of the Hawleys on Lake Park avenue near Thirty-first street, it was said that on at least two occasions, Mrs. Hawley publicly chastised her hated rival. All three of the parties to the suit have had considerable matrimonial experience, the typewriter being a widow and Mrs. Hawley having had a former husband, while the doctor has been married just six times.

John Brydon rode out from LaGrange on his wheel yesterday and will return tomorrow. Yorkville people are always glad to see John.

Specie Grove; D.W. Winn finished husking corn just recently, with prospective high price for this cereal, it pays to raise a crop that will keep one busy husking till obliged to plant again.

June -- 1898

June 1: Mr. and Mrs. Varner have moved into the Coffin house for their residence.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Jones were here from Michigan to remove their household goods.

Carrie Barrett is again engaged in a millinery store at Aurora, and J.E. Barrett spent decoration day at home.

Mrs. Louise Kennedy is here from Manchester, Iowa to have some cemetery work done and to visit her folks.

The war and the cyclones are altogether too tame for furnishing news sufficiently stirring to suit the people.

"Gray & Cherry" is now the title of the Andrew Gray grocery store. Abram Cherry is the junior partner in the firm.

The tenant house adjoining Thomas Edwards' residence is being moved further east on the lot and reconstructed.

Decoration Day passed very satisfactorily. George White as marshal and George Cowdrey as president performed their functions thoroughly. The crowd perhaps was the largest of all previous occasions. The procession formed in front of the school house and marched to the Congregational church, which was much too small to admit all. An Aurora band, by its stirring music, furnished plenty of the outdoor enthusiasm. The death roll was read and showed an increase of three during the year.

The procession then reformed and marched to the cemetery where a long string of nicely dressed girls in single file were led winding around among the graves of every part of the cemetery to deposit flowers. The marching under music back to town finished it. A base ball game was also played by some of the boys.

The stockholders are requested to pay their annual assessment during the month of June, and the renters of cards at the expiration of their year.

#### SEC., LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

NaAuSay: Razed to the ground was the large farm house on the Wayne farm, occupied by Andrew Walsh, Friday noon last, and burned to death his youngest child.

It is supposed the fire originated on the roof, most likely from sparks, and as soon as the girl saw it she caught up the baby and carried to a considerable distance from the house, thinking it could not go back to the house, while she notified her father who was a considerable distance from the house in the field. Meantime, other help arriving, furniture, etc. was being carried from the house to a safe distance. The child was then missed and eagerly sought for, some scouring the woods, thinking it had strayed away, the extreme heat making it impossible to approach the north side of the house to look for the baby. When the heat had subsided sufficiently to examine among the debris, a few small bones were found where the stoop on the north side of the house had formerly stood, which only too plainly told of the terrible death the little one had met. It had toddled back again to the house while Maggie had gone for her father.

A small amount of insurance was carried by Mr. Walsh. The family of Mr. Walsh is now living in tents. The bereaved family has the heartfelt sympathy of the entire community.

Yorkville: Mr. George Bopp of Oswego township was in Yorkville all day Saturday. His daughter came to have a session with Superintendent Curran and passed an excellent examination in school studies.

News comes of the death of Benjamin F. Fridley at his home in Aurora Sunday night, aged 88 years. Deceased was one of the leading men of the Fox River Valley fifty years ago. He came here in 1835 and was, in his younger days, a resident of Oswego. He was a noted lawyer and Democratic politician.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Mr. James Stewart of Tamarack and Miss Alberta Haines of Xenia, Ohio, were united in marriage at the home of the bride's parents, Tuesday May 22, 1898. The bride is an accomplished young lady, having many friends in this vicinity as she taught school here several years ago. The groom is a traveling salesman for a Chicago firm and has a host of friends and relatives who wish him and his bride a long life of happiness. They came here the latter part of the week and after spending a few days here they expect to go to Austin, Minnesota where they will make their home.

Lisbon: The Engineers have been busy the past two days moving a house from the Likeness farm onto the Henry Olson farm. Three engines were attached to the house and from the frequent whistling we almost imagined in our dreams that the railroad was here. There are many sad awakenings in this world, however.

June 8: A street dog show in town one afternoon.

Thomas Edwards has the village waterworks connected with his residence.

It is not to be forgotten that Oswego will have a loud Fourth of July celebration.

By Charles Friebele selling out to Charles Zorn, the Smith block meat market was changed to Beck & Zorn.

The artificial stone sidewalk on the booming half of block six is completed, and now the contractors, Enbody & Bullock, are putting in the concrete gutter.

The Edwards hardware store will be enlarged to a department store by connecting groceries with it. The painting and remodeling of it is now under way.

The stopping off of the entrance to the Santiago harbor is a great relief to the Oswego strategy board. It had been a heap of solicitude to its members while it was open.

Kendall county is honored by having a candidate for Congress and the honor doubtless is all there will be in it as the outlook for the prohibitionists is no more reassuring than it ever has been. However, Sheldon W. Johnson is running for Congress.

"The country is suffering from under-consumption," was the argument frequently heard during the hard times, so as there is now much consumption going on flourishing times, of course, must be had. Every shot from the big guns on the battleships is said to cost \$1,000. The destruction of property is the creation of capital, all the profits made on the war supplies, and the pay to the soldiers and sailors is that much increase of capital. Riches consist in what others owe or are deprived of.

The body of Mrs. Stephen Mundy arrived here Saturday from St. Louis. The funeral took place Sunday afternoon. Deceased was a native of New York state, was 70 years of age; has been an invalid for a number of years. She was buried by the side of her husband, who preceded her to the grave many years ago. Five sons are left of the family, four being present at the funeral.

H.G. Smith as president; S.E. Walker, vice; Charles Roberts, secretary and treasurer, were chosen to manage the Decoration doings the next year.

Bills allowed, sidewalks ordered to be built, water donated for street sprinkling, the building of tower and hanging of fire bell referred to committee and much talk as to what should be done were the transactions of the [village] council meeting Monday.

The barn raising at James Pearce's took place Thursday afternoon and was accomplished without any hitch or halt, the builder, George Schamp, had everything in perfect shape. The crowd of men present were of the active, pushing, and jovial sort who, after the frame was up, changed the exercises to the putting down of a big supper.

NaAuSay: The hot weather is making growing corn boom, also the weeds, and farmers are keeping the cultivator shovels hot.

Wolf's Crossing: Mesdames Updike and Rink spent Thursday with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Armour.

Roy Tremain, who is working for Abner Updike, visited relatives in NaAuSay Saturday and Sunday.

Yorkville: When you want to "buzz" Agent Lyon at the Yorkville depot, call him up by telephone. The company has put in a fine instrument with all the modern appliances--and it is a great convenience.

Specie Grove: The warm weather is making the corn grow rapidly.

We congratulate our neighboring town of NaAuSay and Kendall county in general, upon having a candidate for Congress of their own. Now let's stand by him.

Yorkville: AN OSWEGO VIEW

Some Reflections on Patriotism, War, etc.

For several years following the rebellion, the decoration of the soldiers' graves was not thought of, and, if I mistake not, the practice was first begun in the South. Here in Oswego it was commenced by a few ladies--and such seemed to be the case more or less all over the country--who, on a nice day, would quietly go to the cemetery and place flowers on the graves of the soldiers of the late war. The spirit that then moved the decorators was that of pity; a

pity that these young lives should have been sacrificed; that kind of practice would have tended towards aversion to war.

But a regular day was appointed for it; the affair was taken out of the hands of the women by the soldiers, especially by the organized G.A.R. To secure a band was the first move towards decoration; the procession in military order was made the great imposing feature; the oration the more bombastic the better; in short, the spirit of pity was changed to that of glory, and the affair made to stimulate militarism. Under this spirit and practice, it was no wonder that the sporting class improved the day for races, base ball games, etc.

The question now is: Which disposition for a people is the best, the civil or military? A temperance lecture here one evening, of course portrayed the liquor business as the great danger with which the country is threatened; it fully endorsed the war with Spain; closing with a peroration of the most popular sentiments in regard to it such as the holy cause of securing liberty to the oppressed.

To illustrate a point, the opinions of two great men as to the destiny of the United States were quoted: one by President McKinley to the effect "that the institutions handed down by the father are safe in the hands of the people;" the other by the historian Macaulay, in substance "that the government within itself will furnish its destruction by the leading up to a military dictator."

Considering the military spirit and hero worship to which we are running, the Macaulay opinion is the more in line. The expression "We want to lick Spain like h--l" may not sound very patriotic, but there is such a thing that the greater the victory the worse for the victory. By fighting for liberty for others, you may thereby lose your own. The more fighting, the greater the prestige of the army.

Militarism and nobility are going hand in hand. The rule now that when other things being equal preference shall be given to the soldiers for federal offices can be easily enlarged. The islands to be conquered are to be governed by the army, of course, and Hawaii to be annexed by a small fraction of the inhabitants who, though not called nobility, constitute one all the same.

What makes millionaires and the sons of great men so readily enlist in the war but the fame to be realized from it?

GNARL

June 15: Society's interest of the week centered on the meeting for the commencement exercises of the graduates which took place

Friday evening at the Congregational church. As usual there was a jamful house, and elaborate floral decorations. "Seeking the heights" was emblazoned for their motto, with emblematical ladders by which the same are to be reached. A quintet of Aurora ladies with four violins and a piano furnished the music of which encores were frequently demanded.

Miss Sophie Parkhurst gave the salutatory, followed by an oration on the "Possibilities of the American Girl."

Oliver Burkhart was next. In seeking the heights he must have had the office of secretary of war in view, as "National Defense" was his theme.

Leroy Pearce came next with an address of "Self-reliance."

John G. Seely had "Influence of Music" for his theme. John will not be seeking his heights in politics but rather in the literary world; the professorship of a university would be in his line.

Professor Newman presented the diplomas with an impressive address of encouragement.

The Eleventh Alumni Meeting of the Oswego High School was held at the home of George Woolley Monday evening, June 13, where the former graduates welcomed the class of '98.

At Shoger's livery stable, Guy Hopkins is now assistant.

Henry Lamson of Aurora is now the sub-agent at the depot.

Rev. J.G. Butler has returned from a prolonged sojourn in Iowa.

Large line of straw hats, summer underwear, etc., at Sodt & Morse's, Oswego.

Newt Pearce, Charles Jarvis, and Attorney Sam Lumbard were here from Chicago.

The potato bug is said to be in excellent health and spirit and is getting in his work perseveringly.

The grocery department of the Edwards store is now in full operation. Charley Mann is head clerk of it.

The Americans pronounced his name so outrageously that John Waldbillig had his name legally shortened to John Wald. Now stop calling him Wallbelly.

The teachers, Hattie Rees from Jacksonville and Decie Rees from Hinckley, have come home on a vacation.

Garrett Seely came home from the Champaign university on vacation but only remained a few days, when he repaired to Topeka to be engaged in surveying.

George N. Ruby, watch and Jewelry repairer, will hereafter be in Oswego every Tuesday and Friday and will make his headquarters at G.M. Croushorn's furniture store.

At John Burkhart's barn raising the other day a stick of timber fell and struck John Hummel, scraping the skin off one cheek.

The people here have exhibited extraordinary pride in keeping the cemetery in trim order this season. The latest conspicuous and one of the handsomest family monuments erected there was by Henry Helle.

It is over the river where the strawberries have reached the highest evolution; where they grow to the size of hens' eggs, and probably would grow larger if they had room to do so--they are crowding against each other on the ground. Lippold, Gregg, Seely, and both John and West Roberts are thus fixed.

A severe thunder storm passed over Oswego last week Tuesday afternoon, raining copiously and lightning striking the Evangelical church steeple, partly demolishing a blind to the belfry and tearing out casings. Also striking the residence of Henry Bower a mile and a half east of town on which a gable was ripped up.

NaAuSay: This wet weather must certainly be the wet season of Illinois. Corn has to be tilled between showers and many opportunities are afforded the farmers to go fishing.



John W. Muir, formerly teacher of the Union school, came to attend the school field-day and visit among friends. Mr. M. has been living for considerable time at Los Angeles, Calif.; has also been employed in taking a census of that city.

Tamarack and Wheatland: The storm of Wednesday blew down many trees and shrubs; also, the church sheds, which are a complete wreck.

Yorkville: There is some talk about having a cement sidewalk put around the courthouse square. It would cost some money, but a new walk will soon be necessary and a cement walk will stand, if properly laid.

S. Benensohn is having the partitions in the rooms over F.M. Hobbs & Sons' store changed, making the place more convenient for his photograph work.

John Tuttle lately finished teaching the spring term of school in Tamarack and left at once for Normal to attend the school during the summer vacation, after having been rehired for another year.

#### Go To Oswego For The Fourth

Yorkville people and those in the southeast part of the county should give the pretty village of Oswego a call on the Fourth of July. It is the first celebration the people there have attempted for some time, and they should receive the encouragement of a large slice of Kendall county. Oswego is a pretty place to go to; it has a pleasant and a social lot of people in it; they have recently been improving the town with new buildings and enlarging their water works and they want our folks to see what a nice place they have made one of the oldest and well-preserved villages on Fox river.

There will be amusements to keep you awake from sunrise on the 4th until sunrise on the 5th, and you will enjoy every minute of the time.

There will be a game of ball between Oswego and Wheatland nines; tugs-of-war; fire company drill; bicycle races; band concerts afternoon and evening; shooting matches; grand balloon ascension and a splendid display of fireworks at night.

June 22: We want your eggs; they're as good as money at Sodt & Morse's, Oswego.

The Fourth here will be a red letter day; that is, if the color of the letters of the bills have any significance.

That portion of Main street with the new concrete gutter was made fitting to it and the street generally cleaned up Monday.

John T. Hopkins of Omaha and Mrs. Anna Mather of Austin, Tex., are visiting their folks here--E.A. Hopkins, and others of this region.

The bell tower is nearly completed, which will make another ornament to the village. In an Aurora paper it was reported to be 60 feet high, but don't you believe that.

George N. Ruby, watch and jewelry repairer, will hereafter be in Oswego every Tuesday and Friday and will make his headquarters at G.M. Croushorn's furniture store. Bring him your work. Satisfaction guaranteed.

The Knapp buildings are nearly completed and now receiving the finishing touches. The metallic ceiling of the hall and rooms connected with it are made dazzling by paint.

Another feature of Oswego's progress is that its police now wears the regulation uniform when on official duty. George has the real policeman's build and in this suit makes quite an ornament to the town.

The marriage of Decima Rees to Cyrus Wheeler of NaAuSay occurred Tuesday, June 14, Aurora; the ceremony at Trinity church by the Rev. Mr. Holbrook, and the dinner at the Hotel Bishop.

William Morse went to his old home, Dundee, and was married to a lady from there Wednesday. The bridal couple arrived here on the 9:58 train Monday. They will occupy the Thomas Edwards house, corner Jackson and Madison streets.

Rev. F.W. Long also went to his old home and married the girl he had left behind; a clipping in regard to it from the local paper was furnished;

Malvern, Iowa Leader: "Right sweetly chimed the wedding bells at the pleasant home of Mrs. Sarah J. Gaston last evening, the occasion being the marriage of her youngest daughter, Miss May and Rev. Fred Long of Oswego, Illinois.

A couple of weeks will be spent with relatives and friends in this vicinity and then the happy couple will go to Oswego, a pretty little Illinois town, where Fred is most acceptably serving a church.

A number of people from this vicinity attended the graduating exercises of the West Aurora high school Thursday morning at the opera house. Among the graduates was Miss Lettie Ellen Wooley, a young lady well known in Oswego. Miss Lettie was the prophet of her class and received mention in the *Daily Beacon*.

NaAuSay: The present glorious weather is helping along all vegetation to a vigorous growth and farmers can smile again. Wet weather seems to affect their countenances wonderfully.

Yorkville: Recruiting officers will be in Yorkville Saturday for the purpose of securing volunteers for the Aurora Rifles, who expect to go to the front. Here is a chance for the boys to show their patriotism.

It will be a pleasure for the people of Oswego to entertain Kendall county on the great National holiday. The committees have been at much expense to prepare for the celebration and want to be rewarded by a big attendance.

Supervisor Johnson mounted the flag-staff on the court-house dome Wednesday afternoon and rove a new set of halyards for the flag. He is about the only man in Yorkville who has sand to do such a job. Mr. Johnson has the blood of the old Norse sailor-man.

Specie Grove: Confound the potato bugs, anyway.

Mrs. Thomas McCabe lost 40 chickens by rats one night last week.

It's an ill wind that blows no one any good, they say, so the wet weather has been good for ditching, and Mr. McCabe has improved

it in putting in a great deal of tile, Has had three men employed all the season and has much work yet to do.

The Minkler school closed with a picnic Friday. A pleasant time was had in the grove at games and in social ways.

Lieutenant William Dutton and Frank Skinner came down from Aurora this morning looking for recruits for the Aurora Rifles. The Lieutenant's white duck pants, blue blouse, gray hat, belt and bayonet gave the "old man" a thrill that made him want to go to war himself.

June 29: Advertisement: "At Sodt and Morse's, good broom, 10 cents; 1 lb. Can of Alaska salmon, 10 cents; good zinc washboard, 10 cents; 25 bars laundry soap, 30 cents; salt, 19 cents a barrel.

The bridal couple, Mr. and Mrs. Ray T. Moore of Pontiac spent a part of Saturday with relatives and friends here.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Strossman were here from Chicago for a few days visiting at G.D. Wormley's and calling on friends generally. They made the trip on bicycles.

Harry Larkin was around for a few days with his face all covered over with sticking plaster, which was due to a collision with Harry Sutherland in a bicycle ride.

Oswego can now boast of as nice a meat market, one with all the modern improvements, as there is anywhere. It is in the new block and was opened by James Malcom Saturday.

In Thursday's thunderstorm, James Pearce's old barn was struck by lightning. Charles Smith, working nearby, had the chisel jerked out of his hand by it. The damage was immaterial.

Oswego is advancing politically as well as materially. John W. Cherry has been appointed Deputy U.S. Collector for the Joliet Division, and G.H. [Gustavus] Voss deputy U.S. Marshall with headquarters in Chicago.

The social event of the week was the reception given Wednesday afternoon and evening by Mrs. E.H. Sodt in honor of Mr. and Mrs. William J. Morse, the newly married couple. The groom has for some months been an active business man here, and that the bride will be a pleasing addition to Oswego society is a foregone conclusion.

The river rose quite suddenly Saturday, overflowing its banks. The plantations on the islands were partly submerged and George Burghart had to move his pigs to keep them from being drowned. An Aurora picnicking party down the river had engaged two boats from here. One was returned by wagon, the other rowed back by hard work, as the current had become very swift.

Souvenir tea spoon or match box, U.S. Battle Ship Maine, given away free with every cash purchase of \$2 this week at Sodt & Morse's, Oswego.

Souvenir tea spoon or match box, U.S. Battle Ship Maine, given away free with every cash purchase of \$2 this week only at Sodt & Morse's Oswego.

NaAuSay: This part of the world was visited by a tremendous rain in the early hours of Saturday morning last; in some localities, corn has suffered a great deal.

Farmers are tilling their corn fields for the last time preparatory to commence haying. Some are already haying, but the unsettled weather of the past week has made the work rather tedious.

Yorkville: Mr. John W. Cherry has been appointed deputy revenue collector for this district. The new war revenue bill makes an increased number of these officers in the State. Mr. Cherry is now a resident of the village of Oswego, but has lived all his life, nearly, in NaAuSay. He will make a capable officer.

The Record may be a little late, but it nevertheless is cordial in its endorsement of G.H. Voss of Oswego as deputy United States marshal for the Eighth district. Mr. Voss is a young man of business attainments; he has been an active, earnest Republican, and has

earned this reward. It is a good position and we all shake heartily with "Gus."

Oswego is not disconsolate nor deserted by any means. The town has a United States revenue collector, a United States deputy marshal, and a county judge. Oswego is in the front official rank.

Don't set your house on fire on the Fourth of July--nor any other person's house.

George Herrington was bitten by a dog while riding his wheel Thursday afternoon. The cur chased him and caught him by the calf a leg. Such dogs are a nuisance.

Oswego will draw a big crowd on the Fourth. They want to show the people of Kendall county that the old village is very much on earth with new clothes all around.

The CB&Q has, without a threatened strike or even solicitation, advanced the wages of all its section men 10 cents per day. Who says corporations have no souls?

Fox river got on an outrageous tear Saturday and there was some uneasiness as to the outcome. There had been quite a heavy rain early Saturday morning but it did not seem to affect the river much here, and therefore the surprise was great when, along in the afternoon of Saturday, the water began rising and a torrent of muddy fluid, old trees, logs, stumps, beer-kegs, wagon-wheels, etc. began to come over the dam and float down to the Mississippi. The water must have risen six feet in a few hours and a six o'clock Saturday evening, the water below the dam was nearly even with the dam and there was fear that the old structure might go out, but it is still there, and we may still have the ice-cutters in winter. Monday morning, the water had subsided to near its proper level, but it was intensely muddy, showing that acres of top-soil had been swept away by the rains. The news from up the river was that there had been a cloudburst at and above Algonquin in McHenry county, and that Fox river rose 12 feet in a very short time, doing great damage to roads, bridges, crops, and stock.

Monday evening, June 20, a large number of the people in the vicinity of the Gaylord school of NaAuSay took advantage of the privilege to enjoy the graduating exercises held in the beautifully adorned room of that school.

At about 8 o'clock the graduating class, consisting of three members--Albert Johnson, Mary L. Bopp, and James McMicken--together with their teacher, Mr. Carpenter, took their places on the rostrum, all wearing the class colors.

Albert Johnson was the first of the class to address the audience. He therefore may be called the salutatorian; his oration, "Life's Battle," was very ably mastered.

James McMicken delivered an oration on "The Bicycle." In this he cited his hearers to the different modes of travel from the discovery of America to the present day.

Mary L. Bopp followed with an essay and valedictory, her subject being "Evils of War."

New cement walks for the business district of Yorkville is the need of the hour.

Mr. Gus Shoger was down from Oswego Saturday afternoon with Mr. Arthur Rice of St. Paul. The latter gentleman was calling on some of the friends of his boyhood days. Some 30 years ago, or less, he lived with his parents on the farm where Lewis L Rickard now lives up towards Oswego.

Specie Grove: Alonzo Stansel has 117 acres of corn planted on his farm.

Any young lady who will refuse to take a ride in Will Campbell's new buggy ought to become an old lady.

Farmers are making clover hay when the weather will permit. Next week haying will be general. The crop is just an average one.

July -- 1898

July 6: Myron Cowdrey has engaged himself in the street car service in Aurora.

Oswego advanced to street sprinkling last week; a regular sprinkling cart is now in operation with G.M. Croushorn, prop.

A hayrack load of young folks and several carriages went over to George D. Wormley's grove one evening and enjoyed a moonlight picnic.

#### The National Holiday

The celebration is regarded all around as a most magnificent blow-out; it passed off without accident or jar, except that from the giant fire cracker.

The exhibition wagons in the procession looked splendid. The oration from the school-house steps was eloquent and patriotic.

Supervisor Russell presided over the proceedings.

The fireworks were immense; the best ever had. The dances were very enjoyable to the participants. The ice-cream ladies expressed themselves satisfactory, their receipts being well up in the 40s.

The new fire alarm bell was brought into use for the first time about 8:30 Saturday night when Malcolm's barn was on fire. The hose cart was hustled there in hurry but the fire had too much of a start to be put out; to keep it from spreading was the only thing that could be done. Besides the hay, Malcom lost a cutter, some harness, forks, etc. Small boys full of patriotism with matches and firecrackers are supposed to have caused it. The barn belonged to the J.C. Shepard estate, and had \$200 insurance on it, it is said.

NaAuSay: Clover hay is a very heavy crop this year and needs considerable handling to make it into hay. Several fields have yielded from three to four loads to the acre. Potatoes in this vicinity promise an abundant yield; many farmers are now using them and say they are large for the time of year.

Specie Grove: The Downers Grove sheep buyer was here last week and many of the farmers shipped lambs Friday.

The A.J. Denney family of Aurora have moved to their summer home near the Minkler school-house.



Miss May Burnett, sister of Mrs. James Campbell, from Tamarack way, has been visiting her sister and attended the teachers' institute.

William Wollenweber Jr., southwest part of Kendall town, has an immense crop of cherries. Think there will be 75 bushels if all are picked.

July 13: Ribbons at half-price at the Millinery store.

The E.H. Sodt family are on a visit to their old home, Barrington.

Henry Fox, who has been down in Georgia, has returned to these parts.

Mr. and Mrs. James Jarvis are here and packing their household goods for removal to Chicago.

The McMillan family came out from Chicago Thursday for their summer sojourn at the grove, and the Hon. T.C. joined them Saturday.

The G.M. Croushorn furniture store, the Malcom Meat Market and "The Oswego" saloon constitute now the most tony business part of the place.

William Puff, an Oswego product of whom nothing had been heard of for upwards of 25 years, suddenly turned up Sunday. When a small boy back in the early 50s, he was almost amphibious, being in the river nearly as much as on land, especially in the summer time. He has been west and in Texas.

NaAuSay: Rye is being harvested; several fields of wheat in this township look very promising.

The Gates brothers are driving with a new surrey, which, with their black team, makes one of the finest turnouts.

The directors of the Union school are making a much needed improvement to the school house. They have engaged Mr. Ashcraft to reside there and put in new windows and blinds. It was in bad

shape and cold in the winter, and like many others in the county, needed remodeling very much.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Bessie and Helen Clow from East Wheatland came over to attend the social and spent the rest of the week with relatives.

Yorkville: On Wednesday, by a vote of 42 to 21, the Senate concurred in the House resolution for the annexation of the Sandwich Islands to the United States as a territory. Thirty-six Republicans and six Democrats for annexation; 19 Democrats and two Republicans against. The President soon after signed the joint resolutions and now we have possessions in the far Pacific with Honolulu as the capital city. The Record is run by an old foggy who does not deem it best to extend the territory of the United States to the islands of the seas, but he may be wrong in this instance. It is possible that when war with Spain is closed, we shall own the Philippines, Cuba and Porto Rico--saying nothing of the Ladrones, the Caroline Islands, and the Canaries. This extensive spread of Yankee territory means a larger and more powerful navy--a large standing army, and may engender jealous feelings in the Eastern nations which will keep us on the qui vive. Will it pay? That is the usual Yankee question. It may be all right and the wisdom of this extension may soon be apparent, but The Record is fearful of the outcome.

July 20: A six foot eight inch tall man was in town Saturday.

Several summer boarders at private families are here from Chicago.

George Collins is having built an addition to his house out southeast.

The brick block barbershop has changed proprietors. G.H. Voss, now a federal official, has sold out to Fred Figge. Charles Wollenweber is the assistant in the same.

Collector Cherry and Marshal Voss returned to their posts Monday from being over Sunday at home. The latter was accompanied by his wife, who means to keep Gus straight during this week.

The Figge barber shop is being repainted, repapered, and undergoing general renovation. The front of the drug store is also being painted. Aurora artists are doing it.

NaAuSay: Harvesting of the oat crop commences this week in earnest. From outward appearances, indications are for a fair crop. Pastures are drying up greatly and rain is needed very much. The haying season has been longer than for many years--a large crop and splendid weather for securing it.

Specie Grove: The corn is tastling. The cicada are with us.

The directors of the Kendall school district are making some needed repairs on the school house during vacation.

The directors have replaced the old chain pump at the Minkler school house with a new force pump, a much-needed improvement.

Full report on the ongoing marital lawsuit between Dr. W.A. Hawley and his wife Emma.

July 27: The woods about here are occupied by campers.

A new addition has been built to the brush factory.

Another section of cement sidewalk, that is, on the west side of Main street from Jackson to Jefferson streets, has been constructed.

A thunderstorm passed over this section Monday forenoon by which Cob Pearce had five cows and three horses killed. They were found lying almost in heaps near a barb wire fence of the pasture. The storm was merely a good shower, three fifth inch rainfall, with two or three sharp claps of thunder, no wind. The stock carried insurance.

The death of Mrs. James Dwyer, which occurred Saturday, is one of the sad happenings of this world. There are left a newborn babe and another quite small child motherless. Her maiden name was Lizzie McMurtrie and she was but 19 years old.

Tamarack and Wheatland: A number of our farmers have bought new harvesters, and in consequence nearly all the oats are cut. Some of the straw is heavy while in the low places it is light. The greatest complaint is the rust.

NaAuSay: Harvesting is about completed and threshing will commence in some localities towards the end of this week. The rain proved very beneficial to corn and pastures.

August -- 1898

Aug. 3: Soldiers are using hardtack for the material of correspondence; one such was received in the mail here.

Some of our ball players were at Plainfield Thursday and played a "broke up in a snarl" game with a club there.

The serenade of the katydids is on, but where is that of the mosquito? Haven't heard nor seen a 'squito this season.

One of Lou Wollenweber's alligators had got away and was gone for several weeks, but was one day recaptured back of the brush factory. Where he was and what he has been eating while gone is a mystery.

Fred Figge has got his barbershop all renewed with paint and paper, supplied it also with nice settees and made everything there very pleasant and comfortable for the board of strategy and others of us who have leisure time to while away--what ungenerous people call loafing.

Specie Grove: Our threshermen, Wampah & Schale, started their machines Monday.

Aug. 10: Base ball is now all the talk among the boys and several games have been played.

William Dillon, 37 years of age, died Sunday. The funeral took place Tuesday in Aurora from the Catholic church. He had been living with his parents, and aged couple who survive him.

Aug. 17: A new scale house at the stockyards has been built.

Joe Wayne has commenced building a new barn.

The Carter farm down on the west side of the river has been bought by a Mr. Walker of Chicago.

The inside of the school house is now being repainted by Schmidt & Ackley. Each room will be of a different color.

Aug. 24: Cabinets, \$1 per dozen, at the photo car, Oswego. [The reference is to cabinet photographs]

The reunion of the 127th Illinois will take place here Sept. 6.

Mahan the picture man at Oswego will make you one dozen full-sized cabinets for \$1.

A photograph car has taken position on the vacant village lot. J.E. Mahan is the proprietor.

Lizzie Moore went to Chicago Monday to be gone two weeks in behalf of millinery, during which her shop will be run by Edith Schamp.

Many people now cannot be happy any more without a season of camping. If that want had existed 50 years ago, what nice places for camps could have been found up in Pearce's woods. Besides, they were full of plums, blackberries, and other fruits.

NaAuSay: Word has come to this neighborhood that James Austin, formerly of NaAuSay, was in the battle near Santiago, was wounded, and is now in the U.S. General Hospital at Key West, Fla. His recovery is hopeful.

Threshing drags along slowly with a great deal of rain, a fair sprinkling of profanity mixed in with it.

Aug. 31: Mrs. Tirzah Minard had her residence repainted.

The council house, the hose house, the water tank and tower, the hydrants and all the village property is being repainted.

A baseball team went Saturday to Aurora and played a game with one there, coming out second best. Chewing the rag, as they call it, was a part of the exercise.

Aurora cyclists, male and female, singly, by couples, and companies are constant visitors to this place and as a general thing are well behaved, but occasionally a party of the masculiners want to show their city accomplishments and such was the case Sunday night with a lot of nine. When told by the marshal to keep more quiet they knocked him down and commenced stoning him, but George was gritty and with assistance caged five of them; the worst however, escaped the roundup. The captured plead guilty to disorderly conduct Monday morning before Justice Roberts and were fined \$3 and costs apiece. One was allowed to go home for the funds. The assault is yet to be settled.

September -- 1898

Sept. 7: A letter to his comrades of the 127th Illinois Volunteers from Robinson B. Murphy on the occasion of the regimental reunion at Oswego:

Montreal, Sept. 3, 1898

To my Comrades of the 127th Illinois--

J. Frank Richmond, President.

Your kind notice of the 29th annual reunion and invitation to meet with you at Oswego came duly to hand, but finds me away up here in Canada where I have come to see if I can get rid of my annual spell of hay fever, which I have been afflicted with ever year at this season for several years. Were it not for this hay fever coming just as it does this time of year, I should try to meet with you often for my heart is with you and now that you meet once more in my old

home, the town where I was born and from where I enlisted to go with you to war, I do most exceedingly regret that I am unable to be with you. Your meeting at Oswego takes me back to my boyhood days and vividly brings to my memory the day the writer, a mere school boy only 13 years of age, cast his lot with you for the war; and it recalls to me the three years we spent together in the camp on the battle-field and upon the march. The writer was too young to be of much service to you, but though so young my heart was with you and many times touched in its tender spot for the hardships you had to endure and the dangers you underwent upon the battlefield.

As you all know, the most of the time my position was such that I could look on and see what was being done and oh! how I always turned towards my own regiment, and how it grieved me to see them stricken down either from disease or the rebel bullet. I shall never forget that 28th day of July in front of Atlanta, when "Billy" Lawton came running out of the woods and said "Bob, for God's sake get us some reinforcements; they are cutting us all to pieces," and a little later as I rode up near the line with the reinforcements, there I found our comrades, Ax. Murdoch [sic] and "Billy" Pooley, both shot dead; they were our Oswego boys. Do you wonder I was deeply touched and the tears rolled down my face?

God bless you my old comrades, I know what you passed through during those trying times and it is the pride of my life that I am registered as one of you. This country has just had a little war; there has been much complaint from the scarcity of rations, insufficient number of surgeons, the lack of facilities for caring for the sick in Cuba, but you remember many a time when all our rations were a little rustyhardtack and dirty bacon or "sowbelly," and the next meal a little "sowbelly" and hard-tack.

This war is going to help the veterans; it is going to open the eyes of the public to what you did and what you suffered. It has been a great war, but you, old comrades, who drove Pemberton to surrender at Vicksburg and hurled the "jonnies" back over the mountains of Lookout and Missionary Ridge, sent them flying from Kennesaw and drove them from Atlanta to the sea, would call that battle before Santiago but a skirmish. Day after day you fought and every day more men fell than were engaged in Cuba, yet you bore it uncomplainingly, and fought on, not only three months, but for three years.

With the new soldier marching home, with the wounded from Santiago in our midst, we shall find a sentiment growing which must surely result in the benefit to the heroes of those other battlefields. Wishing you all many rich blessings and hoping all the good things of life may be yours, I remain your comrade.

“Bob”

R.B. Murphy

The Archie Lake family moved Monday into the old Chapman place.

Don't buy your fall hats until you inspect the stock of the Oswego millinery.

The baby boy of the Oscar Briggs family died last week.

The Shepard new barn is nearly completed; the Richards brothers are doing the work.

Dr. R.G. Scott has rented the Barrett premises. The Barrett family will move to Chicago.

Stella Hem of the German settlement was visiting with her cousin, Nellie Boessenecker, in Aurora.

Fred Lindenmeier and Miss Eliza Foss, a youthful couple, entered the state of matrimony Wednesday.

No sooner the United States had become a world power when Russia popped up to do away with world powers.

Will E. Smith is now the engineer at the creamery, taking the place so long occupied by Frank McEachron.

John Lockwood, for over 40 years an inhabitant here, departed last week for New York state, where he came from. He has been discontented ever since his wife died.

School commenced Monday. The Oswego school has been running very smoothly for many years and such is expected from the staff of teachers for the present term.



It is the cemetery just now where a boom is most visible. Three elegant granite family monuments have just been erected, one on David Hall's lot, one on that of J.D. Kennedy of Iowa, and one on the joint lots where Mrs. Beckley of Chicago and her father, Joseph Safford are buried; the old monument of the latter was removed.

The authorities are having the village property immensely embellished. The water tank and tower have been painted a dark bluish gray color, same as that of the navy during the war. The hydrants white, with their caps maroon. The council house and fire bell tower slate and trimmed with white, the lettering "Village Hall" also white. It looks very knobby.

A number of carloads of oats by the Hemm brothers and others were shipped last week by the loading of which an exciting runaway was furnished. Charles Leigh's wagon team was frightened and ran around the coal sheds crossing the tracks and onto the depot platform, hitting some window frames piled up on it then took the elevated plank sidewalk from there up to town and as soon as they had reached Main street, one of the horses fell which stopped further progress. Solomon Hemm was in the wagon all the time but all he could do was to hold on to the box. No great damage was done.

Specie Grove: Farmers are cutting and shocking corn; the warm weather has ripened the corn very rapidly and many fields would be but little inured by frost even if it came now.

Sept. 14: Lewis Rickard is building a new barn.

Owing to the [county] fair, a quiet week here was quite natural.

Among the proceedings of the soldiers' reunion were recitations by Clara Minkler and Edna Walker.

37 to 24 in favor of the smaller boys was the score of the ball game played Saturday on the school house grounds.

Gilbert Smith, an Oswego boy, has had his share of suffering in Cuba. He is with the Fourth Regular Infantry and is now sick with typhoid fever in the hospital, Governor's island, New York City.

Three of Aurora's smart Alecks were down here one evening and became desirous of enjoying a fast drive out in the country, so they took the one-horse rig of Mr. Slick of East Wheatland, that was standing in the street, to accomplish it. On their return they hitched the horse down at Fred Leigh's so as to keep out of trouble.

Esquire Lockwood has been heard from. He is now established with a sister, a widow, who owns a small farm on which he will employ his time. He is happy and contented there but wants *The Record* sent him to keep informed of the behavior of Oswego.

The funeral of Patrick Deveney took place Wednesday in Aurora under the management of the Catholic church. He had been ailing for a long time; Bright's Disease is said to have been the complaint. Was a native of Ireland, an inhabitant of this place for about 40 years, a member of the 4th Illinois Cavalry, and had reached the age of 75 years. A widow, two sons, and a daughter from a first wife are the surviving members of the family.

NaAuSay: Farmers are now doing their fall plowing; ground is in good shape. Gang plows are all the go this fall.

Specie Grove: Those farmers who have peach trees are blessed with a bountiful crop this year.

Fred Schale brought home a new clover huller Saturday.

George Tuttle of NaAuSay, who has been with the Wampah threshing machine this fall, has begun his school at Normal.

Sept. 21: John A. Young is one of the invalids.

The Wheatland plowing match was taken in by many here.

Doc Woolley's traction engine became stalled in the soft ground over at Henry Colver's Monday.

A new dressmaking establishment is opened by Miss Belle Jacobson at the residence of Mrs. Charles Craig.

J.E. Barrett is at home and making preparation for the removal of his family to Chicago.

Tamarack and Wheatland: The 1898 Wheatland Plowing Match is now a thing of the past. Saturday a great crowd of people from Wheatland, Naperville, Big Rock, Aurora, Yorkville, Bristol, Plainfield and Oswego assembled on the farm of Ernest Kinley to attend it. It is not known how great the crowd was; some estimate it at 5,000 and others place it at a much lower figure.

Sept. 28: The silo over at Seely's was filled.

Reconstruction of the depot platforms is going on.

Mrs. Anna B. Lester has returned from a visit at Ashton, Ill.

Er Parke, an old-time Oswegoan, but since of Kansas and the natural gas district of that State, is here on a visit.

Dr. and Mrs. Dwight E. Smith arrived this Tuesday morning to attend the funeral of her father, John A. Young, to take place this afternoon.

John A. Young, who Thursday returned from the Aurora hospital where he had been undergoing surgical treatment for urinary troubles, died early Monday morning.

The Barrett family moved to their new home in Chicago Friday, all but May, who stayed over to Monday. The household effects, three loads of it, were taken there by wagons.

Milton B. Pogue is one that went out from here and succeeded in making a strike abroad. He has been nominated the Republican candidate of Norton county to the Kansas legislature.

Frank McEachron, 47 years old, was a stout and well built man, liked by everybody, for he was of a friendly disposition and always good-natured, but he had become subjected to whiskey and its control was going on him. He was for about six years the engineer at the creamery and in the spring was told that he must either quit drinking or his job; he said he would do the former, and for over two months kept perfectly sober and it is said that he hadn't touched it during that time, but he got at it again, said to have been dared to take a drink by an old co-indulgent on the Fourth of July. About three weeks ago he was discharged at the creamery, the manager said he hated it worse than anything he ever did in his life, but it had become actually necessary. Since then he was unemployed and much away from home it is said, which was the case Thursday afternoon when his wife packed up some of the apparel and with the two youngest children went to relatives at Hinckley, leaving a note for him, stating that from there they will go to Iowa for the winter and stay with her brother; that Janette, the oldest girl, will stay at Prof. Newman's and keep on going to school. It is not known whether he ever saw the note. Friday on the 10 train his sister from Waterman arrived on a visit; finding the front door locked she went to the back door and there gained entrance and there found Frank lying on the lounge cold in death with a revolver lying nearby on the floor. Coroner Lord, being telephoned for, arrived in the afternoon, empanelled a jury and after having viewed the body, held the inquest at the village hall. The sister and the 14 year-old daughter of the deceased, the lady of the next house, neighbor, and undertaker were the persons examined. The verdict was to the effect that the death of Frank McEachron was due to a pistol shot fired by his own hands. The body was taken near Waterman Saturday where the funeral and burial took place.

October -- 1898

Oct. 5: Henry Schilling is said to have bought the Henry Case premises.

Charles Read has gone to Chicago to attend Rush Medical college.

Joe Sierp with his friend Tuttle came down from Aurora on their wheels to attend the dance.

Among the deaths of Oswego's old settlers should have appeared the name of P.G. Hawley.

The household effects of the McEachron family were sold at auction by George Kimball of Aurora Saturday.

An election to fill the vacancy of school director caused by the removal of J.E. Barrett was held Saturday. E.H. Sodt was the only candidate for it and was unanimously elected.

The revolver has become one of the requirements of our high civilization. Every man of modern spirit carries one, and it is said that many ladies also carry them. Because of whiskey, perhaps, Chris Henne may not have given as much road as the cyclist was entitled to, and because of the revolver at hand, a murder was committed.

The ordination and instillation of Rev. W.E. Youtsler at the Presbyterian church were very pleasingly accomplished.

The funeral of John A. Young took place Tuesday afternoon from the house. Rev. L.L. Turney from Chicago, a friend of the family officiated. Mr. Turney was formerly pastor of the Congregational church here. Deceased was 67 years of age; a native of New Jersey, from where he came to this place about 45 years ago, where subsequently he was married and has been living every since. A widow, four sons, and two daughters are the survivors of the family.

NaAuSay: The creamery sold 36,000 pounds of butter during the past year.

[19th Century road rage!]

COWARDLY MURDER

Farmer Shot Down by a Strange Bicyclist

Chris Henne loses his life while driving toward his home.

Thursday evening about 6 o'clock, Chris Henne, a tenant farmer living on the Curtis Beecher on Section 18, in the town of Bristol, was driving home from the village of Oswego and when somewhat

below the farm of Charles Roberts just entering the timber at the top of the hill he met a man riding on a bicycle who shot him and the result was the death of Mr. Henne about 9 o'clock Friday forenoon. [Henne had apparently been drinking in Oswego and was on his way home to the farm he was renting in Bristol Township. While underway, he ran the driver of the local ice delivery wagon off the road, and then apparently did the same to the 'wheelman,' who climbed back on his high wheel cycle, sped past Henne and then shot him. The full story of the attack and Henne's subsequent death and the murder investigation follow on page 1]

Oct. 12: Fred Mundsinger is building a new house.

A show that had pitched its tent here did not meet with success.

The new barn down at L. Rickard's was inaugurated for use by a dance last Wednesday night.

Justice Roberts the other day certified to an application for a widow's pension of a soldier of the war of 1812.

Fred Figge is getting ready for housekeeping; he has bought the Barrett house opposite the school house.

Harry Van Evra who is now the superintendent of the Pullman Postal Station in Chicago, was making his folks a visit.

Pears weighing fully three-fourths of a pound and measuring ten inches in circumference were raised plentifully at Gregg's over the river.

A delegation of the Manhattan aldermen were here Monday to inspect our waterworks, which they were told by a Joliet lawyer, was the best plant in the country.

John Varner has moved into the house on Plainfield avenue vacated by Gustav Welz, who has moved into the old Dodge house in the southern part of town, now owned by Gus Shoger.

The reunion of the 4th Illinois cavalry has been changed to Oct. 18 and 19 at the new library building, Chicago, which will be the time of the great Peace Carnival, when McKinley and many of the big guns will be there.

A millinery department will be opened in Croushorn's furniture store in Oswego Saturday, Oct. 15. It will be managed by Mrs. N. Jones of Indianapolis, Ind., who kindly solicits the patronage of the public.

A special meeting of the village council had been called for Wednesday evening for the presentation of grievances growing out of the saloon question, but as not enough of the aldermen appeared to make a quorum it turned into a free-for-all debate of the subject. As the outsiders were well represented there was no lack of speeches--sometimes a dozen all at the same time were trying to make themselves heard. How the saloons should be run, are the ordinances good or no good, what constitutes a drunkard, the abomination of the black list were some of the points discussed.

NaAuSay: The large barn of Morrissey brothers was raised Saturday.

Several farmers have commenced to husk corn and they complain of a poor crop.

Several of the public highways are being tiled in places that have needed it for several years.

Lieutenant James Austin is home for a several days' furlough to recuperate in health after a long siege of hospital life, the result of wounds received at the Battle of San Juan Hill, Santiago, and for heroic conduct on the field was promoted from the ranks to a second lieutenant.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Mr. Andrew Rhodes loaded his household goods and farm machinery at Normantown last Tuesday and left for Dakota, where he will run a large farm.

The Tamarack threshing ring and the Harvey ring had a ball game and tug-of-war Saturday afternoon.

Specie Grove: Alonzo Stansel did work in the Keck cemetery last week.

Many of the farmers here will begin cribbing corn next week.

The Jessup and Seely hay press pressed 18 tons of hay in about eight hours one day recently.

It's been ten weeks now since the katydids first made their appearance, and no frost yet. So next year don't say that frost will surely come in six weeks from the time the katydids do.

Oct. 19: Mrs. Jennie Hubbard Wormley is here from Shabbona making the old home a visit.

The Andrew Gray grocery store has changed proprietors. It having been bought by his nephew, H.S. Warner.

Samples of the new crop of corn were hung up in the Figge barbershop; those of Bob Johnston excelling. One ear containing 1080 kernels and the next largest 1000.

R.B. Murphy, after 20 years, came around once again for a visit to his native town. Bob, as he was called here, looks extra well and is prosperous. He is now residing with his family in Virginia.

The death of Thomas Coglein, 92 years of age, took place in Aurora last week as reported by the papers in that city. He was presumably the same man residing and carrying on a harness shop here for a number of years in the 50s.

Tamarack and Wheatland: The community was pained last Wednesday evening to hear of the death of Mr. Eli Varley. Eli Varley was born Sept. 6, 1826 in Yorkshire England. Jan. 24, 1850 he was married to Miss Sarah Castle of the same place. In 1852 they immigrated to America settling for a time in Ontario County, N.Y., but in 1858 they removed to Tamarack, Ill, in which vicinity he lived till called from earth to his reward Oct. 12, 1898. Eh was blessed with a family of eight children, several of whom are still



living, who, with their widowed mother, mourn his death. They are Joseph of Nebraska, Thomas of Channahon, Mrs. Mary Buchanan of Aurora, William of Nebraska, and Eli and Mrs. Annie Jones of Tamarack,

Mr. Varley was converted at the age of 18 and united with the Methodist Episcopal church of his native town. On coming to America he, with his wife, united with the M.E. Church of Oswego. But in 1872 they united with the Wheatland U.P. congregation, he serving the congregation as trustee for many years.

Oct. 26: A hot air furnace has been put up at the Ketchum residence.

Fred Cutter is here from Boston to attend court in the Fox will case.

George R. Minkler has returned home from an all summer's work of roof painting.

A carload of hard coal was received for the reconstructed residence of W.H. Walker down the river.

Clara Malcom will now be one of the pleasant waiters on you at the Sodt & Morse store.

It should have been mentioned heretofore that Willie Lamb has taken a position with Sodt & Morse in the store.

The Van Doozer barbershop has been moved one door south, this is into the smaller department of the rink building.

A new baseburner stove has been put up at Figge's barbershop, and Fred also talks about getting the settees cushioned. He is making it very comfortable for us to while away leisure hours.

At the election next month women are entitled to a vote for a part of the ticket. If they want to exercise that right they should get their names on the register next week Tuesday. As none had registered heretofore, the swearing in of their votes would cause them too much botheration. It would seem that women ought either be allowed to vote at all elections and the whole ticket or not at all, as that would put them on an equality with the men, or else let them

know that thy cannot vote simply because they are women. As it now is, it is virtually saying: "you are well enough advanced in regard to certain school matters, but aside from that you are not competent to vote." As to general intelligence, women are fully up with the men; as to ethics, refinement and sagacity, they are away ahead of us.

Tamarack and Wheatland: There is a great deal of complaint of corn rotting in the fields.

James Collins is digging a cellar, preparatory to building a house.

November -- 1898

Nov. 2: Anton Miller has baled hay for sale.

Bert Davis is now the junior tonsorial artist in the Fred Figge shop.

In the windows of the furniture store is exhibited a nice display of chrysanthemums and other flowers.

L. Wellaz is now in the lead of big corn. He reported an ear from his place containing 1115 kernels.

Fred Figge has his newly purchased house raised up to the new grade. Nichols, the Newark house mover did it.

The race war in Mississippi and North Carolina, the miners' troubles at Virden and Pana, and the outbreak of the Philager Indians in Minnesota would indicate that there is yet room at home for the governing ability, which is seeking employment abroad.

The marriage of Jacob Meyer to Mrs. Bellon, a young widow of Aurora, and lately the housekeeper of G.J. Hettrich, took place in that city Thursday.

Nov. 9: The household goods of Henry Case were sold.

On petition a curfew ordinance was adopted by the council Monday evening; 7:30 now and 8:30 summer time is fixed for the time of retirement.

Edwin Prince of Canada was a prisoner in the Joliet penitentiary for whom J.A. Shoger secured a parole in order to work in his livery stable. Prince was a neat and in all respects likely fellow and was well thought of by all he came in contact with. Being by trade an engraver, Shoger got him a set of instruments with which Prince performed some nice work. One morning last week Shoger came down to the barn and found Prince together with a horse and buggy gone. At first he thought Prince had taken some one to Aurora for an early train, as the engraving kit and some of his clothes were left, but ere long it developed an abscondance. Shoger just got a telegram that Prince was apprehended and the rig recovered in Chicago.

The funeral of William Rees took place Wednesday from the house. William Rees was born in St. Mary Hill, South Wales, May 10, 1821 and came to America and to this vicinity in 1868, where, with the exception of three years, when about 20 miles here, he was living ever since. He was twice married, the first wife being Catharine Griffiths of South Wales, whom he married in 1842 and who bore him six children namely Elizabeth, John, Frank, Catharine, William, and Louisa, but three of them are now living. His first wife died in 1855 and in 1858 he married Catharine Leigh, by which marriage seven children were born, William, Mary (Mrs. CW. Severance), Edmund, Harriet, Margaret (Mrs. Charles Woolley), Alice (Mrs. Will Cliggitt) and Decima (Mrs. Cyrus Wheeler.)

The death of Mrs. Kohlhammer occurred Wednesday. She had been sick only about a week, but had been subject to Bright's disease. The funeral took place Friday from the Evangelical church, the sermon preached in two tongues. Deceased was 28 years of age, was a native of the Grand Duchy Baden in Germany. Her maiden name was Caroline L. Weiss. She came to this country and this neighborhood in 1891 and was married to Fred Kohlhammer in 1893. Besides her husband and Gertie, their little daughter nearly five years old, she left behind a brother in this country and a mother and four brothers in the old.

NaAuSay: *The Record* wants a weekly correspondent in the township of NaAuSay to give us the news of the locality, for a consideration of course. Mr. Potts, who has done the work for us so long, is about to move into the town of Kendall and has given up the position.

Nov. 16: Phillip Clauser, the only volunteer from here in the war with Spain, has returned with the Third [Illinois Infantry].

Some of the school girls became much alarmed by thinking that the curfew institution would prevent them from moonlight skating after 7:30, but were much relieved when told that the river was outside the corporation and beyond jurisdiction of the marshal.

Don't all of you retiring farmers go to Yorkville to live because of its electric lights there; they are as much injurious as beneficial. There are more eyes ruined by too much light than not enough of it. Come to Oswego to live, where there are good sidewalks and no street lights needed to keep you from falling into holes and thereby preserve your eyesight.

Curfew Ordinance: That it shall be unlawful for any minor under 16 years of age to play, loiter, or loaf upon the streets or walks or in the stores or public places of the Village of Oswego after the hour of 7:30 p.m. between October 1 and April 1, and after 8:30 p.m. between April 1 and October 1 unless accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Wolf's Crossing: A number of farmers are having their corn shredded by the Phillips brothers of Montgomery.

Frank Perkins has had a very sore hand, resulting from a scratch with his husking pin; it is nearly well.

NaAuSay: The snowstorm was not welcomed by the huskers in this vicinity.

Nov. 23: At John Minich's a granddaughter, Miss May Fuller of Iowa is a visitor.

The Henry Schilling family moved into its new residence, heretofore Case's.

The Declaration of independence is much out of joint with the prevailing sentiments of this generation.

John Cherry has received a very handsome got up commission from Gov. Tanner as an associate delegate to the Farmer's National Congress to be held at Ft. Worth, Texas, from Dec. 6-14.

Phil Clauser, the returned soldier from here, is one that enjoyed the war; says that they had both rough and good times, but on the while he liked the service, that if the thing was to be done over again he would not miss it.

To say that everybody was surprised on learning that Scott Cutter and May Gaylord had committed matrimony is putting it quite mildly, as not a surmise of it had been extant. Their marriage occurred Wednesday evening at the residence of his brother, C.H. Cutter, in Aurora. The bridal couple arrived here Thursday evening from a trip to Chicago.

George Stickler died the 15th and was buried the 17th inst., in the Cowdrey cemetery. He was 69 years of age and an old setter. He became separated from his family years ago and being one of us non-expansionists, no strife will be about his estate.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Two more wrecks occurred on the EJ&E last week. One on Sunday night and one on Monday. No one was injured in either.

Specie Grove: Several of the farmers from here have finished that laborious job (for this year) of corn husking.

The Kendall school started again Monday after a forced vacation of three weeks on account of sickness in the district.

Nov. 30: A new bartender at Schickler's from Plano has moved into Mrs. Carpenter's house.

The winding up part of Thanksgiving was a well attended dance at the Woodmen Hall at night, after the music of a Chicago orchestra.

December -- 1898

Dec. 7: A.L. Rice is building a barn for himself.

The Young's shops are being resingled.

John L. Gaylord has had his attention occupied by a giant carbuncle on the back of his neck.

The death of Leonard Rieger down on his farm is reported.

Mrs. J.S. Dwyre, who was 93 years of age, had been sick for some time, died about noon Monday.

Mayor Conway is in town and presiding over the regular council meeting Monday evening, at which, besides the allowance of some bills and certain instructions to the marshal, nothing special happened. Alderman Cooney, the enthusiast on electric light, brought up that subject but it was not formally acted upon, merely talked over.

Specie Grove: Mr. August Wollenweber put up a new windmill on his farm.

A good deal of black walnut timber in the shape of logs is being taken out of the woods here and shipped to Chicago; the Cottage Organ Company being the purchasers.

Parties from abroad (Elgin we believe) are prospecting on the Cowdrey place with a view of opening a gravel bed, the output to be shipped to Chicago. There were such works established there several years ago, but failed during the hard times of '93.

Dec. 14: The gravel development down on the Cowdrey farm is to be resumed by Elgin parties.

Mrs. James Dwyre was 93 years of age and the oldest person in this village. She was a native of Ulster province, Ireland. The body was interred in the family lot of the NaAuSay cemetery, Deceased was remarkably active up to about a year and a half ago. Six sons and a daughter and a number of grand and great grandchildren constitute her descendants.

J. Leonard Rieger was 76 years old and was a native of Bavaria, Germany. He was buried by the side of his wife in the Oswego cemetery who preceded him there a few years.

Suppose Oswego was not having the electric light in complete operation and a stranger came off the six o'clock train and stepping up to a citizen should say, "What a nice little city you have got here, so beautifully lighted up." That would make the citizen feel proud and when the stranger should proceed and say, "Where are your hotels? I want to put up at one," the citizen then would feel like the fellow who sported a watch chain without having a watch when met by an acquaintance who wanted to know the time.

Specie Grove: The railroad company, and not private parties, is prospecting for gravel on the Cowdrey farm.

Capt. John Raleigh is home from the lakes. He is glad to get back again and enjoy his quiet rest.

Dec. 21: Charles Clinton of Cincinnati arrived here Saturday and is as jovial as ever.

Skating has been a large part of the evening amusement of the young.

The ice harvest has been in progress both by the ice company and other parties.

Graveling roads has been a part of the industry in this vicinity the past week.

Christmas Carols at the Congregational church Friday evening at 7 o'clock. All are cordially invited to attend.

The wedding of Miss Edith Schamp to Arthur Rowsell occurred at the residence of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. G.R. Schamp Tuesday, Dec. 13.

Thursday evening Dec. 15 at the Evangelical church, Rev. J.J. Lintner united in marriage George Scheuring and Miss Lena Bohn, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Bohn.

Specie Grove. Last week was a busy one with the Grove farmers; some were still at corn husking while others were filling ice-houses and teaming in various ways. With good roads and nice winter weather it was just the time to hurry the work along.

Dec. 28: D.M. Haight was notified from Washington that his application for patent of egg tester is accepted. It is the best tester that is, or can be brought into existence and there is a great fortune in it.

George White, while engaged on the mill pond in helping harvesting ice, accidentally fell into the water. A cold bath, a hurt leg and the experience of several chills afterwards were the result of it.

Christmas was distributed here over four days, the main part of its celebration being on Saturday when perhaps the most of the big dinners were eaten and greatest sociality enjoyed.

Tamarack and Wheatland: quite a number from here attended the Christmas entertainments at Oswego.

Specie Grove: Two more years in this century.

1899

January

Jan. 4: The moon eclipse the other evening did no damage here.



1899 was welcomed in by the ringing of the fire bell and the shooting of guns.

The death record of Oswego and immediate vicinity for the year 1898 shows 16 adults of the average age of about 63 years of which 11 were males and 5 females; the oldest was 94 and the youngest 19 years of age, the two oldest, 94 and 93, constituted the first and last funerals of the year. Besides the foregoing, there was one suicide and the death of two infants. The persons brought here for burial numbered two. The marriage record shows 16 couples of whom 11 males and 12 females were from here and 5 males and 4 females from abroad.

The golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Burkhart was celebrated Dec. 26.

NaAuSay: The NaAuSay Creamery closed Sunday, giving its employees a much desired holiday.

Jan. 11: It looks very much as though this government was going to have serious trouble with the revolutionists in the Philippine Islands. The leaders of the natives are not disposed to yield to American sovereignty, claiming their right to an independent government. And who shall say they are not just as much right in these views as were the American colonies in 1776 when they revolted against British rule. The status of affairs is giving the President much concern and we may have another war on our hands, ten thousand miles away, in which the Republic of the United States is coercing a foreign people to come under a banner they refuse to recognize.

Skating is again the main outdoor sport.

John T. Wormley is said to have sold his farm over the river taking Aurora property for part payment.

William Ladd, one of the old residents of Oswego, died Wednesday, Jan. 4, at Three Bridges, N.J., where he had been living of late. Mr. Ladd will be well remembered by all of the old settlers of Kendall

county. He was born in 1809 and located in Oswego in 1849. The funeral was at the Congregational church at Oswego.

Mrs. George Woolley Sr. died Tuesday evening January 10, 1899.

Wolf's Crossing: Most of the farmers are busy hauling gravel in the road.

Jan. 18: William Ladd was a native of New York State and came with his family to Oswego in 1845, establishing a farm about two miles south of the village. His wife [Alma Emaline Hunt] died in 1875. Subsequently he married a widow lady from New Jersey [Lydia Smith Cole], who formerly had been an Oswego girl. About 15 years ago he moved to town where he was living until about two and a half years ago, when he moved to New Jersey--his wife wishing to live with or near her daughter there. His body arrived here on the ten o'clock train Wednesday accompanied by R.L. Force, his wife's son-in-law and was immediately taken to the Congregational church where funeral services took place. Mr. Ladd was within three weeks of being ninety years of age; he was one of the best citizens. He leaves a widow but no descendants--an adopted daughter was formerly one of the family. Relatives from Aurora, Sandwich, and Dayton were present at the funeral; owing to her own severe afflictions with inflammatory rheumatism the widow could not be present.

The funeral of Mrs. George Woolley Sr. which took place from the Presbyterian Church Friday afternoon was attended by a large congregation. The burial took place in the Oswego cemetery by the side of her husband, who preceded her there in 1879. Deceased was within a month of being 79 years of age; was a native of England; was married there to George Woolley in 1840; came with her husband and an infant to America in 1841; and to this vicinity in 1844. In her early life she was an adherent of the Episcopal church, but later joined the Presbyterian. Three sons and a number of grandchildren comprise her descendants.

As soon as hostilities between the United States and Spain were suspended, they began between the Generals of the army, and last

week a battle, by the shooting off of mouths, was had. Eagan is the hero so far.

Captain Mann had one of his poor spells, and Mrs. Frank Perkins out in the country is very sick.

Hypnotism was plentifully produced here during the week by Prof. Blaundin, which constituted the major part of the amusement.

Specie Grove: Next week we will write our last letter from Specie Grove for *The Record*. We hope some one else will take the trouble to inform the world what the Grove people are doing.

Jan. 25: Of the monuments erected lately in the cemetery, that of Race and Murphy is the most magnificent.

A part of the Cowdrey farm comprising that known as the Cowdrey park, was sold to William Derby of Chicago, said to be a multi-millionaire who will make a magnificent private park of it.

Fred Kohlhammer and Miss Katherine Radmacher were married Saturday at the residence of the bride's uncle, Charles Knapp.

Mrs. Esther Reed, daughter and Mrs. Walter Pearce [sic. should be "daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Pearce"], was born in Logan county, Ohio March 6, 1830. In the spring of 1832 her parents came to Illinois and settled on the Fox River at the place now known as Oswego, and lived there until she was married to David B. Gray in 1849. A short time after they moved to Freedom, Ill. and lived there until her husband died in 1857. Then she moved back to Oswego where, excepting two years she lived in Aurora, she has resided until her death. In May 1893 she was married to Isaac F. Reed, who died July 17, 1895.

The Christian Endeavor Society of the Congregational Church will give a "Coon" social at the home of Calvin Pearce Friday evening, Jan. 27. A program consisting of Negro songs and readings will be given and refreshments will be served by colored waiters.

Wolf's Crossing: The protracted meetings, which were held at the German church, have closed; the attendance was good and a number were converted.

There is now a good gravel road from Oswego to the county line via the German church [Wolf's Crossing Road], and the same kind of a road [Harvey Road] is being made from the Harvey school house south, through the liberal donations of the farmers and the good management of George Smith, pathmaster.

#### COWDREY'S PARK

Sold to a Man With Money Who Will Improve It--George M. Makes a Good Sale

The Aurora *Herald* gives the following details of a trade, which is of interest to this neighborhood:

A deal which has been in the process of negotiation some time was concluded this morning and will be of great interest to the people of lower Kane and Kendall counties. The deal involves the transfer of Cowdrey's Park below Oswego to a wealthy syndicate, who will transform it into a private park with an elegant club house.

The deed of 20 acres comprising the park runs to William Derby of Chicago and the price paid was \$2,000, \$100 an acre. At the same time, the gravel bank on the other side of the CB&Q railroad was deeded to the railroad company for \$200 an acre, the two deals giving Mr. Cowdrey the use of \$4,000 cash, which will place his finances in comfortable condition and at the same time, leaving him the most valuable portion of his farm for agricultural purposes.

Interested with Mr. Derby in the proposed park are his nephew, Frank Derby of Chicago and that enthusiastic sportsman and lover of nature, Joy Love of Aurora. Work on the club house will begin as soon as possible. The building will be a picturesque structure 35 feet square, two stories high, and with a ten-foot porch running entirely around it. Everything needful to comfort will be added, including a fire-proof vault for Mr. Derby's valuables.

It is comforting to know that there are a few men who appreciate the natural beauties of Illinois and especially of Fox river scenery. Mr. Derby has traveled all over the world and he says that he has never found anything in the way of river scenery, which compares with Fox river.

The new park will have a river frontage of 1,400 feet, just where the Fox makes a broad bend to the south. This is said to be the deepest part of the river throughout its entire course. Its depth there is ten feet at low water. The new electric road will skirt the park on one side.

Mr. Derby, who is worth two or three million dollars, is a great lover of hunting and fishing and wants a club house to which he can run out from Chicago from time to time for a day's or week's sport. He has a fine resort on Lake Superior for summer use and expects to make two trips a year to the new park, in the spring and fall. The new park will be beautified and fruit trees will be set out.

February -- 1899

Feb. 1: The elevator has been doing a rushing business for some time.

Up here in the north end of the county, we have been almost froze up.

The ice company went to work again and all of its houses have been filled.

Brown's variety show held forth here Saturday evening. The turnout is said to have been mighty slim.

NaAuSay: Mr. Austin Jr. is now residing at Joe Austin's and receives the undivided attention of the entire household.

Feb. 8: Saturday evening a show of moving pictures was held at the Woodman hall by which several naval battles and bombardments in the war with Spain were seen; also all the heroes except Lawson made by that war; the parade of the peace jubilee in Chicago and many other scenes and doings.

A lady and gentleman were giving exhibitions at some of the saloons Friday performing feats with the rope in lassoing, of balancing, of strength, etc. One feat was the holding of two 1-1/2 inch iron bars

midway in his teeth, and four men on each end pulling it down to the floor so as to bend them.

Watts Cutter will build a new residence next spring and is now hauling stone for it.

Gustav Welz the brushmaker has moved away from here; it is said he could not make the business pay.

Advertisement: I wish to call attention of the public to my curious collection of waxworks. This collection contains a large number of costly and beautiful figures including the Chinese Giant, the Two-Headed Girl, the Siamese Twins, and others. I will have them on exhibition at Woodman's Hall Wednesday evening, Feb. 15. Admission, 10 cents. Don't miss it!

Addison Walker, once an Oswego boy, and who is a cousin of Seth Walker's here, has got himself elected state senator for the state of Washington.

It has been decided that an additional room will be obtained and teacher employed for the next term of school.

Those who always have been opposed to the acquisition of the Philippines against the will of the inhabitants thereof, will it be treason for them to maintain that the Filipinos are justifiable now that hostilities have commenced?

Mrs. Margaret Rance carried out a very pleasant surprise on Miss Lizzie Barryman, who is teaching the Church school Wednesday evening.

NaAuSay: The farmers on "Wool Street" held a meeting Saturday evening at the town hall and decided to engage Mr. Gray of Tamarack to do their threshing next fall. This speaks well for Mr. Gray, as he has threshed in this neighborhood for the past three seasons.

The newly elected United States Senator for the State of Washington lived several years in Oswego before his parents took him to the

Great West. Hon. George Hollenback knew him well and says he was a good boy in every respect. The Hon. Addison Foster is a cousin of the Walkers of Oswego, his mother having been a sister of the late Lauriston Walker.

Feb. 15: Early school teacher, one of the first, Joan Dorcas Schram died Tuesday, Feb. 7, 1899. She was over 78 years of age, having been born Oct. 1, 1820 at Smyrna, Chenango county, New York. The family moved to Oswego when she was a mere child and it was her home for 50 years. There she taught school when but 15 years old. That was way back in the days of goose quill pens, slab benches, and puncheon floors. She belonged to the Hopkins family.

It used to be said "The good Indian is the dead Indian," and now is the "The nation going to civilize those Philippine Islanders if we have to kill every one of them."

Oswego came near having a fire Thursday. A passing freight train apparently had set the dry grass afire which ran up to Armstrong's old shop setting fire to a pile of straw adjacent to it. It was discovered in time to be extinguished. By the way, the day was the anniversary of Oswego's great fire in 1867, and the day was just about as cold as it was then.

The arrival of the body of James B. Stafford from Yuba City, Cal., Feb. 3, and its burial that day was inadvertently omitted in last week's report. He was in a metallic casket and though dead two months looked quite natural. He was 71 years of age, and wants to be classed an old settler of Oswego, having come here when a boy. His widow, the second wife, accompanied the remains.

The talk was pretty much all about the cold weather; some had their water pipes frozen, compelling them to get water of the neighbors, who hadn't theirs, or have a well. Some had the frost come into the cellars and froze their potatoes or bursted the cans of their preserves. Others kept oil stoves burning in theirs to moderate the temperature. Cob Pearce had his hydraulic ram freeze up. Supervisor Russell had his windmill watering apparatus freeze and was in town Saturday for appliances whereby to water 70 head of

stock from another source. Many other farmers have their watering facilities more or less disarranged.

NaAuSay: Quite a number of NaAuSay farmers have taken advantage of the good roads and have hauled away corn and hogs.

Wolf's Crossing: Pritchard Stewart of Tamarack visited our school last Monday.

Feb. 22: Sam Herren has gone into the tonsorial business at Plattville.

Even to the worst grumbler here the mild weather was welcome.

It was a stirring week for the shipping of livestock and the receiving of grain at the elevator.

Peter Cooney's engine was used for thawing out frozen up hydrants and for otherwise repairing damages to the waterworks. A leaking cut-off had caused the water to run into Henry Helle's cellar.

His relatives here were informed of the death of Ambrose Maxom, once a resident of this place, at his home in North Dakota.

The building of the electric road is now said to be commenced as soon as the frost is out of the ground; that additions will be built onto the piers of the bridge for it to cross the river, and that from there it will be on trestles to Adams street, where it will cross the railroad tracks at the elevation of 19 feet. Such work should never be permitted. For a great improvement of the village the straight outlet to the north of Main Street and the having of the electric come in that way should be much in order.

James Gannon, for many years a resident of AuSable Grove and other parts of this vicinity died Feb. 5 at his home in LeMars, Iowa of the grip. He was 75 years of age and was a native of Ireland. He went from here to Iowa 17 years ago and there engaged in farming. A lengthy eulogistic obituary appeared in the LeMars Globe. He should be included in the deaths of old settlers of Kendall County.



March -- 1899

March 1: James B. Pearce was the fourth of former Oswegoans returned here this year for the final abode. He died at Joliet, where he of late resided. He was 42 years of age, was born in this vicinity, and lived here until about 10 years ago when he moved to Aurora and later to Joliet. He leaves a widow and an only son.

Died in Oswego Feb. 22, 1899 Mrs. Susan M. Maxam in the 80th year of her age. Mrs. Maxam was born in Montgomery County, N.Y. March 22, 1820, and was within a month of her 80th birthday when she died. She was married to Nelson Maxam at Johnstown, N.Y. in July 1839. They with their children came to Kendall County in 1854 and lived for two years near Bristol and the rest of the time in and about Oswego. She leaves her husband and two children, Peter now living in Kansas and Mrs. James Morrison of Oswego. George, her son, was killed by the cars in 1889 and the death of the other son, Ambrose, in North Dakota a few weeks ago was reported in the Oswego correspondence last week.

NaAuSay: The recent heavy rains have filled the ponds and some of the farmers are impatiently awaiting the arrival of wild ducks and geese.

March 8: Undertaker Croushorn went to Aurora Friday to take from there by hearse the body of Mrs. Cyrus Wheeler of Batavia to the NaAuSay cemetery for burial.

W.B. Derby and J. Love of Chicago and Aurora respectively were on the ground of their park and made the arrangements for the building of the large pleasure house in it. The Richards Brothers will do the job.

The river here was clear of ice some distance above and below the bridge Sunday night and had been so for a number of days. Monday morning it was frozen over again the entire width. Who remembers the river freezing over in March?

Wolf's Crossing: Abner Updike is hauling milk to Aurora for the Palace Car [Creamery] Co.

The District No. 10 threshing ring held a meeting in the school house Wednesday eve for the purpose of settling financial accounts and transacting other business. The men who went with the machine last year were all reelected.

Specie Grove: That generous bachelor Alonzo Stansel, has taken a little boy from the orphans' home to provide and give a home. Strange somewhat that he should do so, and yet it's natural that a man should have someone to love and care for.

March 15: Will Funk has fixed a department in the back part of his building for a meat market. Zorn is his butcher.

Grace Pearce will be the teacher in the new department; the room for it is fixed up in the basement of the school house.

Frank Dano is now the assistant artist in the VanDoozer barber shop.

Frank Schram and Milt Beck have moved over the river and into the stone house and the old William Parker house respectively. They will work the Hawley farm there.

Wolf's Crossing: School closed March 10 for a month's vacation.

Specie Grove: John Grate had a "bee" Saturday afternoon and raised his shop. Mr. Grate has a mechanical turn of mind and can do most anything in that line that comes along.

The wild ducks are beginning to fly northward and the prairie roosters to crow, which are indications of returning spring, even though the weather is cold here and the ground deeply frozen.

March 22: Which is this, winter in the lap of spring or vice versa?

The Oswego orchestra played for a ball Friday night at Sugar Grove.

G.R. Schamp and men are framing a barn for the Wayne farm down in NaAuSay.

The baby boy of R.R. Smith would have been a year old Wednesday when his funeral took place, the same being from the house.

Specie Grove: A new sap evaporator has been purchased by R.G. Leitch and put on the Hall farm for the purpose of converting sap into syrup and sugar. There is a large 'sugar bush' on this farm and it will be developed to its fullest capacity this year.

That part of the George Cowdrey farm extending from the public road to lands already sold to the park and railroad people has been sold to the railroad company. This tract is underlaid with a deep strata of gravel, which induced the above company to buy the property. An immense gravel bed will be opened and the farm dwellings used after this year as a boarding house for those employed in it.

March 29: Yes, it does keep cold.

John Schickler commenced Monday excavating for his sixty-feet front brick building, corner of Main and Washington.

M.J. Wormley was kicked by a horse Monday by which he had two ribs broken, one of them twice. His father, George D., is also nursing an injured hand, verifying the saying that accidents in a family seldom come single.

A special council meeting was held Thursday, presided over by Mayor Conway for the first time in several months, as he had been present. The main business was for constructing an outlet to the alley above the depot, necessitated by the railroad company giving notice that it would fence in its premises.

April -- 1899

April 5: Township election news:  
Kendall Township

There was a very large attendance at the Kendall town meeting and the new town hall was accepted by the voters almost unanimously. The Burlington Railroad company made a proposition to the township, offering to give \$500 for the return of the Fox River Railroad stock in exchange for the town's bonds. As the bonds have been declared worthless by the Supreme court and the stock is not legally held by the town, the offer is a good one. Mr. Fitzgerald submitted the proposition to the meeting and a committee of three was voted to arrange the matter with the supervisor as chairman.

#### Bristol Township

The matter of a new town hall came up and by a nearly a unanimous vote it was ordered that the committee, George Mewhirter, H.P. Barnes and Alex Patterson, have one built, 30x50, one story high, to cost with lights, heating and seats, not over \$1,100.

#### Oswego Township

The battle in Oswego was sharp and the result mixed. The Republicans elected four: clerk, assessor, commissioner, and constable. The independents carried two, supervisor and collector. For supervisor, E.A. Smith, 124; John D. Russell, 246. [Russell was a Democrat]

For Town Clerk: L.P. Voss, 183, I.H. Edwards, 162.

For Assessor: G.M. Croushorn, 291; J.R. Walker, 159.

For Collector: L.R. Inman, 136, George White, 228.

For Highway Commissioner: George Collins, 218, A.W. Keihl, 140.

For Constable: E. Davis, 190; G.J. Burkhart, 165.

And when Colonel Russell beat Ed Smith for supervisor, he beat a mighty good man.

Emma Sutherland is the assistant in the millinery store.

Charles Leigh started for California Wednesday. He was accompanied to Aurora by his family.

Funk & Conway is said to be the new firm of the Will Funk store; that J.C. Conway has bought an interest in it.

Dick Alexander was called home from Chicago to fill up the orchestra for the music of the Woodman Ball Friday night.

That the Oswego village council may vacate and dispose of streets was a part of the proceedings of its meeting Monday evening.

The body of Ren Bradford was brought here from Aurora for burial. He was about 16 years old and lived here for awhile with his folks several years ago.

Friday morning was found a big hole in front of James's residence and ponds made of the low places thereabouts. The cold weather had burst a part of the water main causing the water to break out during the night, emptying the tank.

Easter was observed Sunday in one form or another and by floral decorations at all churches here; the display was especially fine at the Methodist where in the evening the monthly union meeting took place. Thanks are due Mr. and Mrs. Hall for the beautiful display of potted plants used in the decorations at the church.

Notwithstanding the booming times, Oswego has been lodging more tramps than ever before. Tramps have to get a living in some way, and as they are the product of modern civilization they should be supported in a more systematic manner and by the people in general. With a system of national money--a money issued by the government to pay its expenses with, including the support of the paupers of the nation--nobody would feel the burden and those furnishing the supplies get their pay for them. In the cities and towns of certain size there should be employment agencies where the wants for labor could be registered and likewise the unemployed. In this age of mails, telegraphs, and telephones, the tramping of men over the country is incongruous. But our legislators don't think of the tramp question; their time is too much occupied by keeping themselves in office and taking care of their backers.

There won't be no fight here over Tuesday's election but a good deal of talk about rings. Rings are the natural order of the age. Everything is running to combines; there are the clubs of society,

the trusts of business, the denominations of the church, the parties of politics, the alliances of nations. it is natural that those who associate together, play dominoes, or McGinty together should favor one another of themselves for local officials more than those with whom they have little intercourse, and thus unwittingly constitute a ring. In two weeks, the village election will take place in which there is no issue, nor has there been for years. As to license here, it is the settled belief that the revenue from it is necessary to keep the town from going to decay and that the illegal sale of liquor without license would be more demoralizing than the legal sale under license.

Who is getting up the tickets, where and how they are got up is not made known. In fact, popular government as to the village is condemned. "We would have no waterworks, no fire department, no concrete sidewalks if the people had to be consulted," it is said. While the popular will would not lessen the power of the board of trustees, it would however be more satisfactory to have had a voice in such things, especially to those whom the improvements do little or no good, whom the waterworks do not reach nor give protection against fire. There are several things that might be added to the ticket and voted upon, as for or against electric lights, and a more essential proposition would be a straight avenue out of town from the north end of Main street.

#### Mr. Conway Defines his Position

Wishing no one to carry the wrong impression as some may be at present by the report that the issue of my ticket is low license, I take the liberty of informing you through the columns of this paper that such is not the case and that not one member of the ticket is in favor of making any alterations in the license from the present.

J.C. Conway

Specie Grove: Four hundred maple trees have been tapped on the Evergreen Hill farm. Somebody is going to have 'lasses.

It is reported that there was a wedding last week. The contracting parties being Miss Alice Collins and Mr. John Chaplin.

April 12: Otto Haage of the German settlement was elected the new school trustee Saturday. Didn't hear whether he ran as a Democrat or an independent.

What better arguments are there for socialism than the frequent contentions and feelings among relatives caused by the dividing of private estates.

There are some dogs of farmers out east of here said to be in the habit of running around the neighborhood worrying sheep. They will be shot if their owner allow them to continue such course.

So that in the mean time they may be thoroughly studied, scrutinized and reflected upon, the two tickets from which to elect the village officials a week hence are herewith given--both are license tickets, both claim to be law and order tickets, and both the "best man" ticket. One is J.C. Conway for president with J.L. Gaylord, H. Helle, and H. Wollenweber for trustees and Scott Cutter, clerk. The other, M.M. James for president, with C. Roberts, H.G. Smith, and Charles Rieger for trustees and F.W. Figge, clerk.

Mrs. Jessie Cornelia Richards Perry was born at Oswego May 20, 1866 and died April 3, 1899. She was a graduate of the Oswego high school and when quite young united with the Congregational church. She leaves a husband, a mother, father, and three brothers to mourn the loss.

Mrs. Emily M. Hawley's funeral took place from her late home with her son, Frank in Aurora. Mrs. Hawley was 72 years of age. Her maiden name was Hubbard. She is to be classed as an old settler of Oswego, having come here with her folks when a small girl, believed to have been in 1836, and in company with the Lyman Lane family of old Bristol.

Specie Grove: Speaking of late springs reminds us of that of 1881. It was after the 20th of April before anything was one on the land and then there were snowdrifts along the hedgerows. In our private diary we have it recorded that we helped open the roads on the way to Yorkville and found snow four feet, four inches deep. A great deal

of the oats were sowed the first week in May. This season may be as late, but not probable.

The people of Specie Grove are a unit against the saloon and have as lively an interest in the result of the elections in the neighboring villages of Yorkville and Oswego as residents of those places. Our men and boys, when they go to our village, come constantly under the influence of this temptation and many fall...Some day we believe the people of this great country will look upon our liquor and saloon laws as they did upon the slavery laws of 50 year ago. We have sworn eternal enmity to the saloons and hope to see those of Yorkville closed at the coming municipal election.

#### April 19: MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

##### Oswego for License

There was a remarkably close contest up the river, and there are charges that illegal votes were polled. Here is the vote:

##### Conway Ticket

President, J.C. Conway, 84; Clerk, Scott Cutter, 79; Trustees, J.L. Gaylord, 75, Henry Helle, 86, H. Wollenweber, 72.

##### The James Ticket

President, M.M. James, 80; Clerk, Fred W. Figge, 79; Trustees, Charles Roberts, 77, H.G. Smith, 78, Charles Rieger, 77; Police Magistrate, E. Ketchum, 97.

There is a tie on clerk and on the first two trustees on opposite tickets.

#### FORMING AN ICE TRUST

##### Trying To Tie Up The Yorkville and Oswego Industries

Parties were here [Yorkville] from Chicago last week trying to buy up or lease privileges on Fox River that have not already been secured by Esch Brothers & Rabe for the purpose of controlling the output of ice here, for forcing our ice company out of the market. This "Trust" business is becoming so distasteful to the people and so dangerous to the business world that before long there will be a revolution at the ballot box and men sent to legislatures and to congress who are beyond the influence of moneyed corporations and who will give relief by statutory enactment.

The representative of the Chicago ice trust who was here was endeavoring to lease privileges on the north side of the river, and



did make a bargain with Mr. Ball. Mr. J. Darfler was then interviewed and he was offered \$100 for his right on the old Lathrop property. Mr. Rabe offered him the same and as they were old friends, M. Darfler sold to him. Then the trust man came again and made Mr. Darfler a bid of \$350, it is said, and the bid was met by the Esch and Rabe company. This auctioneering went on until both parties had offered Darfler \$700 and then they quit. It subsequently occurred to both parties that they were doing a foolish thing and all trades were declared off and a conference held in Chicago Monday to settle matters. Esch Brothers & Rabe are good men and have done a good turn for Yorkville in keeping the dam in repair and otherwise helping the town in a business way. It is hoped they may beat the trust and remain at the head of ice affairs here.

E.H. Sodt was reelected school director Saturday.

F. Kohlhammer is building a barn for himself. Herman Bohn is also having one built.

Schmidt, the ditcher, has been putting in a new sewer across Main on Jackson street.

G.H. Voss and C.J. Hawley have changed their residences from Aurora back to Oswego.

So as to save time in going and coming, Mayme Richards, chief clerk at the post office, has provided herself with a handsome new bicycle.

Captain Rieger of the fire company is carrying an arm in a sling, having been thrown from a vehicle impressed to speed along the hose cart Sunday.

The dry grass of the cemetery near the railroad track was set on fire Sunday forenoon, there being a stiff breeze from the west, causing it to spread rapidly over two thirds of the ground, also getting into the Hawley pasture, from which it reached the sidewalk and set it afire. As soon as found out, men went down and extinguished it with shovels and cedar brush; the fire department also turned out, but hadn't enough hose to reach it. The main damage was done to the

arborvitae hedges. The ends of the nicely kept one around the Hubbard lot and a part of that of the Shoger lot are perhaps totally destroyed.

Fred Smith went his last round and sold his last paper; no special news shall gladden him again. He died Thursday; the funeral took place Saturday. Like some other men's, Fred's worth and goodness was only acknowledged after being dead. His life was not a happy one; while he grew in years and had reached the 40s, he always remained a boy, and many were the vexations he suffered from both men and boys. But now he is where the wicked cease from troubling.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Mr. James Collins figured in rather a distressing accident one day last week. While driving up Lincoln Avenue in Aurora he happened to see a lady bicyclist coming up behind him. Knowing that one of his horses, which was a colt, would be afraid of her, he motioned for her to pass him on the left. For some reason she did not heed his warning but rode on and attempted to pass him on the right. Just as she was opposite the colt, it kicked and knocked the lady off, but did not injure her. The bicycle, however, was smashed to pieces. She went down town and swore out a warrant for his arrest. When brought up before the justice of the peace, Mr. Collins called in a man who happened to see the whole affair. After hearing both sides the case was dismissed, there being no cause for action. The lady went home wiser and sadder, we presume.

NaAuSay: At the school election in District No. 4 Saturday night, Mrs. Florence McCauley was elected Directress. In the same district a year ago, Mrs. Belle Kellogg was elected in the place of a man.

Specie Grove: This is a busy week with farmers. All are at work putting in the oat crop. The ground is moist and with warm weather there will be a very rapid growth.

At the school meeting in the Minkler district Saturday night, there were 34 votes cast. Miss Julie Williams received 19 and John Simons 15. Miss Williams succeeds herself as director.

Yorkville: A special meeting has been called for the stockholders of the Ottawa, Oswego and Fox River Valley Railroad to be held in Chicago Thursday, May 18 at the office of the company, wherever that may be. Probably the officials of the Burlington road will find the meeting place. The purpose of this meeting is 'to consider and act upon the sale of the railroad and property and franchises of the company to the CB& Q R.R. Co.'" The towns in Kendall county, the county, and other stockholders here interested should try and find out about the matter.

April 26: Charles Wollenweber is now engaged with an Aurora manufacturing company.

A new lattice-work structure is among other improvements of the premises of Henry Helle.

Anton Miller came home from Compton and is now closing out the rest of his store goods.

The St. Cyr Theatre Company opened Monday evening of a week's engagement at Woodmen Hall.

The progress of the Schickler block was interrupted for a few days by the delay of getting of stone.

Will Funk is an expansionist, that is in business, and now is expanding his store facilities by having a rear addition built.

The indications are that Oswego will have a divided village government the ensuing year, and that therefore no great undertakings may be expected.

The old council died Monday evening and the new one was ushered into existence, but there is still talk of its being made of no effect. According to the strict letter of the law, some errors were made in the counting of the votes, of which all concerned were ignorant at the time, it being about split tickets, using the circle of one ticket and one or two squares of the trustees in the other.

Yorkville: The savagery displayed in Georgia and Kansas in lynching negroes makes one think that civilization is a failure, and that we are becoming a race of barbarians. And this is no apology for the nameless crime of the ignorant and brutal negro, but the reflection on our courts and communities is serious in the eyes of the world. More certain punishment for crime by the legally constituted authorities would lessen the occasion for south outbreaks.

Las Gatos, April 13. -- The funeral of Henry Case, who died the 11th instant, was held yesterday afternoon from the residence of his son, C.E. Case on University avenue. Rev. Dr. Dennett, pastor of the Methodist church, conducted the funeral services. The funeral was largely attended and many beautiful floral offerings were brought as tokens of sympathy to the bereaved family. Henry Case was born May 3, 1817 in New York. He was united in marriage in 1842 to Martha Elizabeth Gaylord at Turin, Lewis county, New York, who with the son, C.E. Case, here survive him. One son and one daughter died in New York. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Case moved to Earlville, Ill. In 1860, going to Oswego, Ill. In 1871 and living in Kendall county up to the time of their coming to Los Gatos last November. The deceased had been a member of the Methodist church for 58 years. He was a thoroughly honest, upright man and very retiring habits. He had always enjoyed good health and up to the time when he celebrated his golden wedding at Oswego, Ill. Seven years ago, had never been under a doctor's care.

Thirty-five years ago this week John R. Marshall printed the first issue of The Kendall County Record on an old Washington Hand-press--300 copies. He is still at it, but prints every week 1,800 copies by steam power.

Wolf's Crossing: Miss Jennie Galt, who will teach in the Collins district, came from Hawarden, Iowa Wednesday and was met at the Crossing by her sister Sarah, who teaches in the Harvey district and Cassie Collins who teaches in the Hayward district.

NaAuSay: Most of the farmers are through sowing oats, but not many of their wives have finished house cleaning yet.

May -- 1899

May 3: Oswego can't be called a wet town now, when seeing the dust fly.

David Severance, for a long time suffering from a cancer on one hand, is now said to be in a precarious condition.

Lt. James Austin came home on a brief furlough. Did not learn where his regiments was stationed. He looks fine.

The clubhouse down the river is nearing completion and the Schickler block is ready for the bricklaying to commence.

Charles F. Read, who is studying medicine at Rush College, has been appointed assistant in the dispensary of the Milwaukee hospital for the insane.

"Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, and Empress of India" is a great title; so would be "President of the United States of America, and Emperor of the West Indies and the Philippines," and what an alliance of the two it would be.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Knapp started Monday for Germany. Though not a millionaire, yet, Charles is doubtless the wealthiest man of this place, and like other men of wealth is spending occasional pleasure seasons in Europe.

The village government is now settled and in running order. Charles Roberts and Scott Cutter won in the drawing lots on ties. The licenses were kept at the old figure, \$750, and granted to the former proprietors. The appointments made so far are E.T. Sutherland, marshal and street commissioner; Charles Reed pumping engineer; and J.A. Shoger, treasurer.

At the Nineteenth Century Club meeting, the Graham brothers won hearty encores for their duets upon guitar and mandolin.

Tamarack and Wheatland: The cherry and plum trees are in full bloom at this writing.

Specie Grove: The clover in this vicinity is badly winter killed and most of the fields will probably be plowed up. This will make hay scarce another winter and cause a larger acreage of corn to be planted.

May 10: Anti-corset seems to be one of the new antis.

The Michel & Conway saloon use now the compressed air gasoline light.

Henry Helle has enlarged his residence by building an extra kitchen onto it, and also much improved his premises otherwise.

Charles Rieger is doing a job of work for Esch Brothers & Rabe up near Antioch.

The new street commissioner has been very active in cleaning up the streets and alleys, but the rubbish is not always dumped to suit all concerned.

There was no school the latter part of the week; the teaches enjoyed their two days granted for visiting other schools.

The other day a party were practicing when a missed ball went out and across the street. Pat Tigue happened to be near to where it stopped and he was hallooed to throw it back. Pat is one out of practice throwing balls, for he flung it right through one of the large window lights of the drug store.

NaAuSay: The click of the corn planter is again heard throughout the town.

Specie Grove; The whip-poor-wills began to sing their evening songs last week. According to the sayings of early settlers, the advent of these night birds was a reminder of corn planting time, and many would not plant till they began to sing.

May 17: Quietude reigns here.

A phonograph exhibition on the street from a wagon is in town this morning.

Captain Edward Mann, an invalid for several years, died early Monday morning, May 15, 1899. He was a natural born horseman and loved the animals he owned and used. Years ago he was one of the best known horsemen in this part of the state and at times owned and drove some fine animals.

Edward Mann had a war record to be proud of. He enlisted in the Fourth Illinois Cavalry Aug. 25, 1861; was mustered in Sept. 26 of the same year. He was made quartermaster sergeant at the time of his enlistment and held the position until Oct. 12, when he was appointed hospital steward for the regiment. He was then made veterinary surgeon for the regiment and held this position till the 4th was consolidated with the 12th Illinois Cavalry when he was made captain of Company I of the new regiment July 14, 1865. He was mustered out at the close of the war March 4, 1866 after a service in the Union army of nearly five years. The captain was a honored member of Yorkville Post GAR. Since the war he has been a resident of Oswego.

Edward Mann was born at Worchester, Mass may 2, 1818. Had lived in Oswego about 46 years He leaves a widow and one son by his first marriage. Was living awhile in Canada and came from there to Newark in 1851 and about two years afterward moved to Oswego.

By the delay of getting the lumber the progress of the Schickler block was temporarily interrupted, but now is again fully under way.

NaAuSay: Farmers in this section are having trouble getting good seed corn. This is something that requires considerable attention in drying and selecting and should not be neglected.

Wolf's Crossing: The East Oswego ball players have already opened their campaign and by choosing sides they have had two games.

Specie Grove: Benjamin Franklin (colored) of Aurora was on our streets Sunday. Ben used to live in the Grove, has still a love for his old home, and would not object to coming back among us again. It

may be news to some to hear that his son, Porter, has passed on to his reward, departing this life about a year ago.

May 24: Haight's egg tester has taken the front rank of that kind of utensil.

Hats sold very cheap at the Oswego millinery store, opposite Dr. Drew's office.

James Malcom has a new butcher; Jake Meyer is now with Will Funk & Co.

For cabbage and tomato plants of the good and vigorous quality, call on Mrs. Ann Gentensbert, who has them for sale.

Mr. and Mrs. W.S. Beaupre and Mrs. Ellis Minkler were down from Aurora attending Capt. Mann's funeral.

The funeral cortege of Jackson Shepard passed through here from Aurora to the NaAuSay cemetery Sunday. Mr. Shepard being so well known here, was almost regarded as one of this community, by which he was universally respected.

The funeral of Captain Mann took place Wednesday from the house. The GAR of the Yorkville Post impressively performed the rites of the order and took charge of the burial.

The bricklaying of the second story of the Schickler block is well advanced. The building of Watts Cutter's new house is underway. The constructing and mending of board sidewalks is in progress at different parts of the village. All the builders and painters and laboring men are overrun with work.

May 31: The brick work on the Schickler block is receiving the finishing touches.

The body of Chris Jarvis will arrive from Indianapolis on the 10:02 train and the funeral will take place immediately.



Mr. and Mrs. George W. Sutherland of Wisconsin are visiting relatives here. George developed from an Oswego boy to a representative of one of those big corporations--Northwestern R.R. Co., and is an expansionist to the extent of--don't know how many feet around the waist.

It would appear that Charley Knapp is not merely in Europe for having a good time, but also in advancing this country's commercial interests there, making the American beef popular in Germany. A special to the Aurora *Volksfreund* from a party in Chicago, translated, is to this effect: According to dispatch, cabled, presumably, Mr. and Mrs. Knapp of Oswego were most cordially received by the Minister of Commerce of Augsburg. As the sender of the best beef cattle, Mr. Knapp was especially thanked by the Minister. Mr. Knapp promised that after his return home he would secure the finest and biggest steer in Kendall county and send it to the Minister for present.

June

Tamarack and Wheatland: The Wilcox school closed Friday for the summer vacation.

While digging a ditch last week Andrew Armour found frost in the ground.

Specie Grove. Ben Franklin and son Robert of Aurora, with their teams, are helping Mr. Funk with his farm work. These colored men would like to get work among the farmers during the summer season.

The hedges through the country here are apparently badly winter killed. Whether they will grow up from the roots is questionable. Enough will probably be killed off to cause many fences to be grubbed out, but this, in the opinion of many farmers, will not be much loss as the care of a hedge fence is expensive.

June -- 1899

June 7: Masonic hall has been undergoing repainting.

Attorney Harry Haight of Naperville was making his uncle, D.M., a visit here.

It is too bad now that Uncle Sam while at it did not gobble up the Carolines, Palaos and Ladrones [island chains in the Pacific].

The 12th annual alumni meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Thomas Edwards on Monday evening, June 19.

Miss Louise Marshall would be pleased to meet patrons at Mr. Croushorn's furniture store the remainder of this week, where she has a full line of ladies' and children's hats of the latest styles. This is her last week in Oswego for the summer season.

A Fourth of July celebration here has been decided upon. Eighty odd dollars are said to have already been subscribed towards it.

During the forenoon of Decoration Day the business part of the town was extensively bedecked with bunting--on the new Schickler block a staff had been raised surmounted by a decorated tree with ribbons of different colors, which looked very pretty. At noon the bandwagon with the band playing a stirring piece hove into town. The gathering of the crowd began soon afterwards. Marshal White was on hand to get the procession in shape, first marching the Woodmen from their hall to the schoolhouse yard where the formation took place and from which it proceeded to the Congregational church in the following order: Band, Woodmen, Soldiers, Sons of Veterans, the flowers on a bier carried by some of the latter; school, in three divisions designated by red, white and blue sashes; citizens. [After the service] the procession then reformed and marched to the cemetery where by the school children the flowers were placed on the soldiers' graves in the usual manner--as many girls, each provided with a bouquet, as there are soldiers' graves follow a leader in single file from grave to grave around the cemetery--the head one laying her bouquet on the grave and then stands still till the end of the column reaches there, when she falls in behind and thus keeps the string intact to the end.

June 14: Burdocks and sweet clover are doing nicely.

Dr. Drew has secured for himself a new horse and buggy.

Dr. Scott will not change his residence on account of the change of ownership of it.

Tuesday at high 12 the unification into one family of Ham [Hamlet H.] Cowdrey and Clara Malcom was to take place. Mr. Cowdrey is a popular young conductor on the New York Street car line, Aurora. The bride is one of Oswego's fairest daughters and a most estimable young lady.

Archie Lake has returned from Bloomington, Ind. where he was engaged for a number of months. He now works at the Figge shop.

A Polish policeman of Chicago awhile ago shot and killed an Italian, for which he is about to be tried. The Italians are raising money for the prosecution and the Poles for the defense of him...The money is for engaging sharp lawyers and securing testimony. It seems that the pass has been reached when verdicts are more depending on money than justice.

Story of how Decoration Day had evolved in Oswego over the years: Here in Oswego it was commenced by three or four ladies who, on a fine day, together went to the cemetery and placed a few flowers on the graves of those that had been in the war. Their number was much increased the next year and kept increasing. The practice was then in the spirit of sorrow; of it being a pity that the lives of these young men should have been sacrificed and this had a tendency to wards developing aversion to war.

In the course of time the men took a part in it, and organization was formed, and the exercises enlarged by having an address made, songs sung, and recitations had. The next move was that the soldiers took the matter into their own hands, and then the band and parade became the most important features, the spirit of it change from that of sorrow and pity to valor and glory and the whole of it became one of the incentives to militarism. What was done here was pretty much the case all over the country and now instead of solemnity as the women started it, the occasion is one of pride and self-congratulation, and the day one for the enjoyment of sport

generally. The commercial spirit is also in it; it being made profitable to certain interests. It has its share in the general evolution, and which way is it?

June 21: The class of '99 graduating from the Oswego school were but two--Earl Cliggitt and Agnes Walsh.

Summer corsets on sale at Sodt & Morse, Oswego.

The Alumni banquet at the home of Miss Stella Shepard Monday evening brought the commencement season of the Oswego schools to a fitting close.

Fruit-can headquarters at Sodt & Morse's, Oswego. We are prepared to supply your wants in this line with the best machine-made cans at following extremely low prices--Pints, 45¢ a dozen; quarts, 55¢ a doz.; half-gallon, 75¢ a oz.

NaAuSay: Robert Lucas and Clifford Cherry of the Grove school graduated [from eighth grade] and have received their diplomas. Myrtle Kellogg and Hazel Letzow of the McCauley school also graduated.

June 28: Eggs wanted at Sodt & Morse's. Send them in.

Plastering was the main work done to the Schickler block during last week.

Fireworks in abundance for the Fourth at Sodt & Morse's, Oswego.

An Uncle Tom's Cabin show on quite an extensive scale performed here Monday evening. They were a pretty nice company; their playing well liked and they had a good turnout.

Mrs. Emma Wormley over the river is provoked, claiming that somebody stole her lawn rabbits. She is positive they were stolen, as cast iron rabbits would not stray off.

And now for the Fourth! Its celebration here is agoing to be the biggest thing that ever came to pass in Oswego.

Roycroft, infant son and only child of George H. and Letitia Rabe, died at their home in Chicago June 20, 1899. The sorrowing young parents brought the body of their little one to Oswego for burial.

July -- 1899

July 5. Some street graveling has been done.

While left standing in the street for a moment unhitched, the milk wagon of Frank Gates put out and ran home, but caused no damage.

Levi C. Gorton had the remains of their children and those of his wife's parents, Mr. and Mrs. [Claudius and Sarah (McCormick)] Townsend, taken up at the Wormley Cemetery and removed to Bristol Station. J.W. Morrison performed it.

The cellar of the Schickler block is now being provided with a concrete floor.

July 12: A street lamp of the compressed air gasoline vapor kind, giving a light whither than snow, was put up on trial Monday evening by being strung centrally across Main and Washington streets.

Dr. Voss, Prof. Newman and Frank Pearce with their wives are enjoying a week's outing down the river.

Tamarack and Wheatland: State Agent Orcutt and a Chicago expert put up a harvester and binder last week for A.G. Griffin.

NaAuSay: Last Wednesday while helping to drive cattle to the depot at Oswego, Clifford Cherry was thrown from his horse and one of his legs were broken. At present writing he is doing well.

July 19: Last week's weather was not congenial to the campers of this vicinity; some of them pulled up stakes and returned home.

Now that clean shaving has become the go, and young men are parting their hair in the middle and both ladies and gentlemen wear chin-high collars, they are hard to tell which from t'other by their pictures in the papers.

Some of the boys here had been down in LaSalle County for several days, during which a gasoline fume compressed air-lamp was put up on trial for street lighting. They returned on the 10 night freight and after having left the train, "Sheol," said one of them in English, "We got off at the wrong place; see the electric light!"

July 26: Rev. J.G. Butler is said to be one of the ailing.

Cruising on the Fox was much enjoyed during the moonlight nights.

Charles Gray became tired of the town bustle and municipal impertinence, and moved up in the suburb of Troy.

Leonard Shoger has commenced building the largest and best house of this section on the Morris Gray farm. G. Schwartz is the architect.

Several camps from each of Juliet, Chicago, Plainfield, and Aurora are in this vicinity. One imagines himself in a strange place by the many campers and visitors that are met on the street.

The marriage of Clarence Barnard and Hattie Gregg was announced.

August -- 1899

Aug. 9: Gus Shoger is getting his barn resingled and store building repainted.

Frank Van Doozer has moved his quarters and is now having the handsomest barber shop that ever was in Oswego. It occupies the center room of the new Schickler block, and is the first place opened in that building.

The great crowd gathered at the Burlington park the other day to witness a sham battle; the excursion to visit some warships Sunday

in Maine, resulting in over 20 losing their lives and twice as many getting injured; the great ado that is made over the army and navy officers are prominent symptoms of the militarism with which this nation has become afflicted.

Maggie Jeneson was one of the Oswego girls loved by everybody. After having left school she went to Chicago and acquired the profession of stenography, by which she maintained herself in good paying positions. In the course of time, consumption began to invade her health and about two years ago she was persuaded to go to California where, for a while, she had become restored and there engaged in remunerative employment of late. However, the disease reappeared and she went to a health resort in the mountains. Thursday her folks here received a telegram that she was very sick, which was followed shortly after by another that she was dead.

Mrs. Martha Elizabeth Case died at the residence of her son in Los Gatos, California Sunday, July 23 at the age of 77 years. She was a native of Connecticut, came from New York to Illinois in 1862, had united herself with the M.E. church when quite young. Mr. and Mrs. Case went from here to California last November.

The new white light is spreading; it is now in all the saloons, in the furniture store, was put up in the Figge barber shop Monday night for trial, and the village board ordered four lamps with which to commence the lighting of the streets. The other business of the board Monday evening consisted in the allowance of many bills, principally for street work; contracting for a piece of concrete sidewalk the length of the new Schickler block; help pay up the Fourth of July celebration expenses, not more than \$20 worth; getting a leak stopped in the water tank; the reorganizing of the fire company and to furnish the members with rubber suits.

Aug. 16: The concrete sidewalk past the new Schickler building is under way of construction.

Layton Lippold had the fingers on one hand badly pinched while engaged on some work at the new house for L.H. Shoger.

Some men from abroad have been here for a week or more at starting lodge for a new order--the Mystic Workers, I think it is called.

Aug. 23: Lieut. Pike of Chicago spent a day or two in town visiting with George Cowdrey and other comrades of the 127th.

The residence of W.J. Morse has been improved by a covering of felt paper, new siding, being painted, and new windows.

France is one of the countries where militarism has been and still is most dominant. The government is made dependent on the army.

Aug. 30: Among the latest new things here are an elevator in the new Schickler building, and a water-motor driving a fan in the Funk saloon.

Lots of gravel has been hauled on the streets. Wonder how long before it will be raked up and hauled off again, as been customary heretofore.

Notwithstanding the very hot spell of weather the young ladies persist in wrapping up their necks clear up to the ears. They look very uncomfortable, but presumably it being the fashion cannot be helped.

The Mystic Workers of the World, a new fraternal insurance society, was formed at Oswego Aug. 28. G.M. Croushorn was installed as Worthy Master.

September -- 1899

Sept. 6: Call at the Oswego millinery store and see the new fall hats.

Archie Lake has changed his place of employment from the Figge barbershop to one in Aurora.

A.P. Werve of Kenosha, Wisconsin, has opened a jeweler's shop in the south room of the Shoger block.



H.S. Warner has moved his store into the corner room of the new Schickler block and now has the toniest place of business ever had in town. There is an elevator to the basement and everything is arranged for the greatest convenience.

Sept. 13: Sam Herren is the new clerk at the Figge barber shop.

There is some talk of converting the Anton Miller building into a hotel.

Fred Figge Saturday, towards evening, undertook to roast the flies under his awning with a torch, which proved more of roasting to himself, as thereby the awning was set on fire. It was put out without turning in an alarm.

Sept. 20: The rapid clang, clang of the fire bell startled the people one morning. The roof of the Hawley house near the Presbyterian church, occupied by the John King family, being on fire. The firemen with the host responded promptly, but when getting there the fire was already under control. The damage was little.

John Springstead Seeley [Seely] died Sept. 15, 1899 at his home and farm just at the west end of the Oswego river bridge. He was 80 years old and came to Oswego in 1853 and lived in the present homestead for 39 years lacking two months. He was township treasurer for 35 years and that office is made vacant by his death. For nearly 30 years he kept weather reports, during the last 20 of which he was an observer for the U.S. Government. He was a deacon in the Congregational Church for many years.

October -- 1899

Oct. 4: The principal transaction of the council meeting Monday evening was the rescinding of the order adopted in the spring to allow no gaming tables to be run in the saloons. A bagatelle table in one saloon and pool tables in another will not probably be in order. The laying of concrete sidewalks on Madison Street in front of the Croushorn and Figge houses was ordered.

While New York has been jubilating over Dewey, Oswego was glorificating over its fireman. It was on Thursday at noon when the cry of fire was raised and the blackest kind of smoke came pouring out of every crevice of the Will Funk building, occupied for a grocery store below and residence of the family above, being on the day when the wind was blowing at the rate of 50 miles an hour, more or less. The smoke was generated so fast and suddenly become so stifling that all in the building had to flee for life--the family at the time was eating dinner; the boy, Charley Schultz, was alone left in charge of the store below. In the quickest time possible the firemen had the bell clanging, the hose-cart out and on the ground, the hose adjusted to two hydrants, and with two streams went at the fire, which when the door was opened, shot out and ignited the awning. The whole of the inside was at once ablaze, caused by the gas from the kerosene. The ceiling was the first part drenched with water, there was much crackling and popping of the bottles, show-cases, and other glassware when the water struck it. In about 15 minutes from the time the playing of the water had commenced, the fire was entirely put out and everybody said the job could not have been done better by the best of professionals. Rubber suits will be furnished them now right away. The fire started in the oil-room, a small place enclosed for the kerosene, the tank of which had just been filled. Jack Heyer, the distributor, had not yet left the place when the fire was discovered and he had been the last in the room, but he disclaimed any responsibility for it. While hardly anything was wholly burned up, all the stock was more or less damaged, and has been moved across the street into the Rink building, where it is being disposed of for whatever it may bring.

Oct. 11: A.P. Werve, our new jeweler, has moved his family here and into the Murdock house.

The repairs of the damaged by fire Funk building are nearly completed, and the place thereby will be much improved.

Six thousand sheep were shipped here from Idaho and pastured on the Hawley farm, where also they were sorted and the best shipped to Chicago; the rest will be fed for awhile.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Knapp have returned in the best of health from their summer's sojourn in Europe.

Oct. 18: McKinley is beating his predecessors out of sight in the Presidential swings around the circle.

Adams is the name of the new Methodist preacher here, and he commenced his services Sunday.

The Will Funk storeroom is nearly ready for occupancy and will now be almost as good as a new place. It has been provided with whole glass windows; glass-covered sections of shelving; new show-cases, and everything of it made most convenient.

Tamarack: Oscar Lantz of East Wheatland died at the home of his father on Friday, Oct. 13, of pneumonia. His death is peculiarly sad as he was but 16 years of age and was sick but a few days. He was one of the successful contestants at the last plowing match.

Oct. 25: Monday evening courses in the German language will be given in Oswego by Prof. A. Diem of Aurora College.

October is all right.

Board sidewalks were renewed in front of E.T. Sutherland's and Henry Helle's.

"Hands off, there must be no interference in the war of the United States with Spain," is what England said. And now Uncle Sam must reciprocate by saying the same in regard to the war of England with the Transvaal.

Mrs. Haight has had her house, formerly occupied by Mrs. Crossman [Crosman], newly painted and papered throughout. Charlie Jessup has been engaged the last two weeks in doing the work. Charlie does a first-class job. It is a nice place, and one of the finest locations in town.

November -- 1899

Nov. 1: The Aurora police overtook and arrested three chaps in passing through here one day. Didn't learn what for.

A large family by the name of Graham, coming all the way from Kansas overland in two wagons, have moved into the Schickler house--the old Baker place. They are related to Mrs. Lucy Potter.

The German evening classes in Oswego opened their first term Monday with an enthusiastic membership.

Tamarack: Remember the entertainment at the Wilcox schoolhouse next Friday night.

George Richardson, who is telegraph operator at a station below Plainfield, spent Sunday with his parents here.

Mr. Frank McMicken is now prepared to thresh, shell, and shred in the most up to date manner with the most modern machinery. He has purchased a new engine and separator and a shredder. Last spring he bought a new cornsheller and since threshing time has shelled over 35,000 bushels of corn. The past week he has been shredding corn in this neighborhood, averaging about an acre and hour. At A.G. Griffin's he shredded four and a half acres in four hours.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Oct. 24 was Malcolm Rance's eighteenth birthday and he was surprised in the evening to have a party of friends unexpectedly drop in.

Nov. 8: Ed Ketchum has been engaged for some time in breaking horses down in the country.

At the council meeting Monday evening the main doings were allowing bills and chewing the rag.

At the opening of the Funk & Conway saloon a coon and possum dinner was enjoyed, at which a number of guests were present from abroad, mostly from Aurora.

Wolf's Crossing: The erection of a house which will soon be occupied by Ellis Bills, who is well and favorably known here, as he formerly lived at Normantown, is well on the way toward completion. It is situated south of the elevator, of which Mr. Bills will be head man.

The new elevator is nearly completed. The machinery has arrive and will soon be put in working order. An incompleted elevator does not hinder Mr. Marsh from buying grain, as he shipped on an average three carloads of shelled corn daily the first week after the switch was laid. The fact they can get cash for their grain seems to encourage the farmers to haul it here.

Nov. 15: William F. Elliott had a large job of tiling done. George Moses of Aurora did it.

Doc Woolley saw published the cornhusking qualifications of several men, and he wants to let it be known what his man, Isaac Tripp, can do in that line, and that is that he can husk one hundred 20 bushels of seventy-two pounds in ten hours. If anyone doubts it, Doc says he has \$100 to back it up. [This was Norval Tripp's father; Bob Tripp's grandfather.]

The wedding of Miss Clara Walker to Harding Edwards Wednesday evening, Nov. 8, at the residence of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. Rush Walker, is said to have been am a most pleasant event.

Mr. A. Lincoln Kirk, an impersonator of national ability will present his unique and original entertainment at the Congregational Church Saturday evening.

Nov. 22: Martin Decker is now the sub-tonsorial artist at the west side--Persey Wormley's--barber shop.

Superintendent Curran visited the school here one day and said that he found everywhere about it the best of order.

It is hoped that the night of Nov. 14, 1932 will be clear, so we may witness that grand meteoric display of which we were deprived this year.

The bridges in Oswego township are being overhauled and those out of repair attended to. All the iron ones are being repainted, which is done by Albert Schmidt.

If there had been no American-Spanish War would there be now a British Transvaal War? There is where the "World Power," once so much talked about, may come in.

I am requested to say that Doc Woolley with his man husking 120 bushels of corn in 10 hours is not in it at all. That Hugh Goudie has a man husking 100 bushels in seven hours and is doing it right along every day.

The show of moving war pictures Friday evening was right in line with the prevailing military spirit, and so was well liked and pronounced good. "You could see the gun flash, the soldier hit drop his gun, throw up his arms, and fall, a couple of fellows come running and carry him off on a stretcher, and the doctor then bandaging up the wound, all just as natural as if really taking place. It was grand, I tell you," said one boy. Shooting men to pieces and then taking good care of them is one of the things civilization is priding itself on.

Nov. 29: Orson Pearce's team, while left standing without being hitched, started to run away, but as their course was up hill and the wagon was loaded with coal, the task was given up after having gone about two blocks. No damage was one.

It seems that the shoot the expansionists will take will be that the United States may acquire territory without the same becoming an integral part of the country to be governed under the Constitution. That is to say that in the acquired islands slavery may be established, polygamy permitted, autocrats appointed to govern them, the feudal or any other system of political economy instituted that any kind of government and institutions may be had there.

Wolf's Crossing: The shooting match which was held at Abner Updike's Monday afternoon was well attended, the prizes being ducks, geese, and turkeys; the honors were pretty evenly divided

and nearly everybody carried home something for Thanksgiving dinner.

December -- 1899

Dec. 6: The first touch of winter Monday morning.

Walter McFarlane, professor when in Oswego but now lumber dealer at Waterman, spent Sunday in town, the guest at M.J. Pogue's. He is the same genial Mac as of yore.

Thanksgiving Day was passed here quietly. Many more had come than gone away to spend it.

Dec. 13: Three weeks more and we shall have entered the last year of the 19th Century, during which doubtless many resolutions will be formed for turning over new leaves with the beginning of the 20th Century. There is one reform needed in Oswego which is easy to accomplish and should be done right away. The churches here will seat between 300 and 400 persons and there are occasions when they are too small but ordinarily much too large as the average attendance at most of their meetings is perhaps about 50, which leaves over four-fifths of the seats vacant. The church members will go forward just far enough for the usual number to fill the seats behind them, bring the audience at one end of the church and the preacher at the other. This should not be; the vacant pews should be in the rear instead of the front.

Specie Grove: With a telephone line through the Grove we will all be putting in city airs, but will probably not have a "central" or a "hello" girl for a while yet.

#### THE ELECTRIC ROAD

Senator Evans Will Ask New Franchise From County  
Sen. H.H. Evans, who is the principal factor in the Aurora and Yorkville electric road, was in Yorkville Thursday afternoon to meet with the supervisors and confer with them concerning a franchise. The board was, however, too busy to give him a hearing and they took a recess until Dec. 27, when the matter will be taken up. Mr.

Evans says the building of the road is now up to the supervisors and if they give their consent, the cars will be running between Aurora and Yorkville on the first of next July.

As near as can be estimated now, the run between the two cities will be made in about 40 minutes, and that length of time will be taken between cars. The fare will probably be 10 cents from Yorkville to Oswego; 5 cents from Oswego to Montgomery; and 5 cents from Montgomery to Aurora, making the fare from terminal to terminal 20 cents. The cars will be required to stop at any farm house on the line and will be prepared to accommodate the patrons in every way possible. The route of the road, as at present planned, is to run down the west side of the river through Riverview Park and under the Fox river railroad bridge to within about a mile of Oswego, when they will cross the river on a bridge of their own. Running down the regular road out of Oswego to Cowdrey's the line will run down the valley near the river into Yorkville, where the terminus will be on VanEmon street.

It seems highly probable that the new road will be built, and if the promises of the promoters of the road are to be believed, it will be far from a detriment to the people of Yorkville and vicinity. One of the greatest drawbacks to the making of Yorkville either a summer resort or a manufacturing center has been the lack of railroad accommodations. With only four reliable trains a day it was hard for one to come here and be so late getting into Chicago as is necessary with the regular passenger train. With the electric accommodations, one can go to Aurora and take an early morning train to Chicago. And again, the lack of a theatre train on our branch has often been felt, and this will also be overcome by the proposed road. If freight carrying were a possibility, the second fault could be remedied, and mayhap this will be permitted.

Dec. 20: George Collins has bought a ram of the Shropshire kind--or some such name--in Chicago for which he paid \$100.

The McGinty Club had a meeting Wednesday at L.L. Rickard's.

Effie Parker is visiting relatives and friends here previous to her going to Oklahoma, where she has engaged herself to the government to teach an Indian school.



That the boomiest kind of times are existing is made manifest by the immense stock of holiday goods exposed at the drug store. More or less of the same is also on sale at other stores.

A rattling good sermon in English was given Sunday night in the German Evangelical Church by the pastor, to a small audience.

The remains of Mrs. James M. Chapman--who formerly was a resident of this place--were brought here for burial Thursday, the funeral services taking place at the residence of her sister, Mrs. Breese, near Montgomery and the interment in the Wormley Cemetery by the side of her husband. Deceased was nearly 89 years of age, was the last but one of the several Wormley brothers and sisters and one of the early settlers. Four daughters are the survivors of the family.

Christian Herren was born Oct. 18, 1828 near Berne, Switzerland; came to America and this vicinity in 1854 and was married to Anna Stahley in 1860. At first he was following his trade, that of a wagon maker, at AuSable Grove and afterwards went at farming there. He became sick about 14 months ago and remained so till death ended it Friday, Dec. 15. The undertaking services were by G.M. Croushorn, and the burial in the NaAuSay Cemetery. A widow and five sons mourn the loss of a kind husband and father.

Dec. 27: Christmas was spent very quietly here; the visitors were numerous and at many houses family reunions or other invited gusts were made to enjoy a turkey dinner and a season of social intercourse.

It is said to be a settled fact that Oswego ain't agoing to get the electric road, but that it will proceed along down the west side of the river. All right; they may keep their old thing and stick it wherever they please.

James R. Gibbs was one of the old settlers, owned and carried on a farm southeast of here and subsequently moved into the village, engaging in the mercantile business. His departure from here was about 40 years ago, most of the time since, if not all, he has resided

in Racine, Wis. His body was brought here Sunday for burial in the family lot of the cemetery.

1900

January

Jan. 3: D.W. Gray, after a long siege of sickness, surrendered to death Monday at noon.

A new year, a new moon, and a lot of new resolutions, all brought forth the same day.

A gate at the sawmill was sawed out and thereby the water in the pond lowered--said to have been done by the ice trust to prevent Esch Bros. & Rabe from harvesting the ice on it.

With the exception of the little boy that died Friday from burns and two infants, the whole number of deaths of Oswego and vicinity during the year 1899 was 10, of which 9 were within the village--one of them a visitor from elsewhere--7 were males, 5 of them married, 2 single; their average age was about 66 years.

Jan. 10: The regular council meeting Monday evening was an extra harmonious one.

The death of Geo. Squires occurred Saturday. He was about 72 years of age.

At Sodt & Morse's store the heating is now one by hot air from a furnace in the cellar below.

Funk & Foran is the newest firm of the Oswego business houses. Jim Foran having bought in at Will Funk's.

While one ice company was hauling into their houses the ice from the pond as fast as possible, another had two men at work in opening the gates at the saw mill to let the water out and break up the work of the former. The small boy is always around of which two

were there; one expressing himself to the two men something like this: "Tis a damn shame for you fellers to let the water run of the dam." Notwithstanding the interference of the trust, Esch Bros. & Rabe have gathered in a good deal of nice ice.

Jan. 17: George Bopp was loading his effects into a car Monday for shipment to his future home in Iowa.

An entrance into Funk & Foran's store was attempted one night. The dog inside made such a noise as to have them given up.

The stockholders in the library are requested to meet at its location Saturday evening to elect officers.

The ladies of the M.E. Church will have an oyster supper at Mrs. Congdon's Friday night, Jan. 19. Everybody invited.

Jan. 24: Joseph Failing was a native of the State of New York; came to Illinois and Oswego in 1839 and followed farming for about 30 years, then moved to town and since the death of his wife about 13 years ago has been living in the families of his daughter here and his granddaughter at Yorkville. Thursday night, Jan. 18, 1900, he died at the age of nearly 86 years. There is now but one member--Mrs. Andrew ray of this place--of the family left, though there had been six children.

Jan. 31: Mrs. Lucy Spellman Seely died at her home in Oswego Friday evening, Jan. 26, 1900. Her husband, John S. Seely, died Sept. 15, 1899. Mrs. Seely came to Illinois 41 years ago and 39 years ago last March she married Mr. Seely. During all this time they have lived at the Seely homestead across the river. She was 67 years, 7 months and 6 days of age.

George Troll was a native of Baden, Germany; came to America when 20 years old, to Kendall County in 1857, and to reside in Oswego 31 years ago and since had become a landmark of the village. He was up and around to within a week of his death, which occurred Thursday, Jan. 25, 1900 at the age of 66 years, 9 months and 5 days.

The body of Amos Terry, from his home near Aurora, was bought here Wednesday for burial. He was 58 years of age, one of the soldiers of the Civil War, and the husband of Roqua [Viroqua] Minard of this place, who with two children, mourn his demise.

Seldon Bunn of Bloomington made Oswego, his native place, a visit. He is an expansionist, having expanded from an ordinary railroad night operator to an official of much importance, general agent in the Big Four system, and from an ordinary size boy to a 220-pound man.

February -- 1900

Feb. 7: The sun shown on the 2nd.

The new ice crop is now being harvested.

Have to get along without a new moon this month.

Slade Cutter has been shipping baled hay to Chicago.

Mrs. Anna B. Lester has returned from a long visit in Ogle County.

F.C. Hoard fell off a load of wood Saturday and broke a shoulder blade.

Allowing of ills and wrestling with a new telephone franchise, which was laid on the table to await an investigation of the concern by a committee were the proceedings of the council meeting Monday evening.

Specie Grove: Many of the Grove people are in attendance at a lawsuit today (Monday) at Yorkville. It is between William Partridge and Harry Smith in which the price of a hog is at stake.

The recent cold weather has made good roads again, and many of our farmers have taken advantage of them to haul away grain. The prices are fair, but not high by any means; lower than they were last year at this time.

Coal is getting much sought for these days and it is difficult for dealers to keep customers supplied. Double-engined coal trains have been running on the Fox River road to keep the Burlington supplied.

Feb. 14: The elevator has been doing a large business during the time of good roads.

The last crop of ice got on the move before much of it could be gathered in.

#### Yorkville: DAM DAMAGED

About Two Hundred Feet of Yorkville

Dam Carried Out By Freshet and Ice

The Esch Brothers & Rabe Ice Company might well be discouraged in their efforts to retain the old Fox river dam in place at this point were it not that they had abundance of energy and business pluck. They have fought time and again to keep the old dam in place and frequent breaks have been repaired and stout fillings put in; and not only have they fought the elements but have had an ice trust to content with which was trying to buy their rights out from under them, but have thus far failed.

After the freeze of two weeks ago the Esch Brothers attempted to fill two of the empty houses here and began work a week ago Monday, but soft weather came again and by Tuesday it was doubtful if they got much ice. Wednesday morning last it was warm and a good deal of rain fell, stopping their work after they had put in about 11 tiers. Thursday morning the river rose rapidly and in the forenoon there was a great breaking up of ice up the river and a gorge broke somewhere letting a great rush of water come down which proved too much for the north center of the old dam, and about two hundred feet was washed down the river. It was a big hole, sure, and the damage is expensive. But the substructure, or foundation seems to be undisturbed and it may do to build on again.

The flood carried immense quantities of ice and piled it high on the banks, and with it carried tons of fish, mostly carp, high and dry and more than a wagonload was gathered by the people about. It is probable the dam will be rebuilt, as the large ice-houses are valuable and the industry is a paying one.

*The Record* believes a good substantial dam should be put in and the water-power used to run the electric light plant and furnish electric power for various industries in Yorkville.

Feb. 21: H.S. Warner is said to have sold his residence to A.P. Werve, the jeweler.

E.S. Walker is said to be contemplating moving to town and let Fred run the farm alone.

The weather, according to Hicks [*The Rev. Irl R. Hicks Almanac*], is to be rising temperature from about the 19th to 21st; unsettled and more or less foul weather to end or nearly so of the month.

At the residence of Mr. and Mrs. George Woolley, Oswego township, Wednesday, Feb. 14, at high noon, occurred the marriage of Miss Emma Jane Woolley and Mr. Leonard F. Shoger, two of Oswego's most popular young people.

#### RAILROAD REMINISCENCE

First Passenger Trains on Fox River

Road--Other First Happenings--First Train Crew.

There has been some discussion as to when the first passenger train on the Fox River Valley Railroad passed through Yorkville and on down to Streator. It was referred to *The Record*, and on looking over the files for 1870-71, the following facts were ascertained: Thursday, Oct. 27, 1870, the first engine and cars arrived in Yorkville from Aurora. It was the construction train and was manned by James Procter Sherwin, conductor; Joseph C. Porter, engineer; Con Hurley, fireman; J.C. Baldwin, brakeman. Engine No. 54 had the honor of making the train debut at the county seat of Little Kendall.

The next day Friday, Hon. William P. Pierce, then of Lisbon, came down from Oswego as a passenger on this construction train, and the next day, Saturday, D. John A. Cook was the first passenger down from Aurora. Of course others had ridden on this train previously. The late Hon. Jacob P. Black and the editor of *The Record* walked up nearly to Oswego looking at the track, and had a ride on this train before the way was finished to Yorkville.

Wednesday night Nov. 10, a little ways above Yorkville, occurred the first railroad accident in this vicinity. The tender jumped the track

and created delay. The boiler of the engine ran out of water and was a "dead engine." The steam dome was removed, or opened and water poured in the boiler with pails till there was enough to get up steam when the work went on again.

Three carloads of Vermillion coal were taken up to Oswego from Streator Jan. 13, 1871. There was a heavy snow about that time and quite a scarcity of coal in this neighborhood.

On Friday morning, Jan. 20, 1871, the first passenger train came down from Aurora with Chicago passengers and made its way to Streator on a regular run. Trains then left Yorkville for Chicago at 7:15 a.m. and 5:25 p.m. Arrived here from Chicago at 10:20 a.m. and 6:56 p.m. The fare from Yorkville to Chicago was \$1.80. Now it is \$1.50.

C.W. McCurdy was the first station agent and George Durrell the first telegraph operator. Andrew Welch bought the first regular ticket as a passenger at our station and John McOmber received the first bill of freight--and invoice of drygoods.

Feb. 28: John Schickler sold his house, the old Baker place, to H.S. Warner.

March -- 1900

March 7: Horses doubtless will be glad when the snow is played out.

H.S. Warner will move into the Hawley tenement house east side of Main street.

C.E. Johnson has moved to Plano; the Andrews house thereby vacated is being occupied by the Arthur Rowswell family.

When we see a little boy getting unmercifully licked by a big burly bully because the boy was in his way, we naturally feel sympathy for the boy and so do all but a few arrogant aristocrats--but two such are known here--have been on the side of the Boers and against England.

William M. Forbes was born May 13, 1809 at Wilton, N.Y.; joined the Baptist church at Saratoga Springs in 1831, and the same year was

married; came to Illinois in 1837 and settled near Tonica; in the spring of 1841 he moved to Plainfield; in May 1842 his wife died leaving one daughter; in 1843 moved to Chicago where he became a member of the first Baptist church there; came to Oswego in 1846 and the following year was again married to Sarah A. Fox at St. Johnsville, N.Y. He was one of the charter members of the Baptist church organized here in 1848. He was a carpenter by trade, and many of the early principal buildings, both here and Plainfield were built by him. A widow, a son, a daughter, and granddaughter survive him.

The Nineteenth Century Club is working to secure for Oswego Township a public library. The question will come before the people at the spring election and should receive the fair and honest consideration of every voter.

The deep snowdrifts caused a good deal of trouble to traction-engine owners in getting from place to place.

Charles Hemm reports a large sale this winter of his patent hay rack fixtures. He is making many complete racks on his farm this winter.

March 14: School vacation this week.

Dick Alexander is again working at the creamery.

Mr. and Mrs. L.F. Shoger have returned from their bridal visit in Iowa, and will now settle down for the realities of life.

The small boy is around on suitable spots playing marbles; the March ice crop is mostly out of the river; the little wren has made its appearance; all signs of spring.

According to an Aurora paper the business of this place is to be increased by an additional saloon--Fred Funk is to return for that purpose. And as the license is to be raised to \$1,000, the board will then have lots of money to spend.



How gingerly United States Senators are about a simple resolution of sympathy for the Boers. What makes them so delicate about offending England?

Charles Smith had a carload of stone shipped from Joliet to the Crossing, with which to lay the foundation for large barn, which will be erected in the near future.

#### March 21: BRICK BLOCK BURNED

About nine Thursday evening when the Woodmen hall was well filled with people enjoying a home talent theatrical performance, the cry of fire was raised and when ascertained that it was in the next building there was a lively getting out, but no panic resulted. The fire was in H.S. Warner's store; the firemen responded promptly, energetically went to work, and at first it seemed that it might be extinguished, but very suddenly it flashed out and enveloped the whole inside of the store. That the Schickler block was doomed was then evident and the efforts were exerted towards confining it there, which too began to look doubtful, and Aurora was telephoned to for help, but before a start was made from there, they were notified that the fire was under control and no assistance needed.

The event has thrown a gloom over Oswego; the west side brick block, with plate glass front was its pride, and now the half of it consists in fire-gutted walls; its young merchant just fairly started in life now broken up; but everybody is full of praise for the boys of the fire company; it is believed they done all that was possible. The loss of Schickler on the building is put from \$6,000 to \$6,500, insurance \$400; that of Warner, stock of goods, \$3,500, insurance \$2,000--he saved nothing but his ledger at great risk. W.P. Wormley saved his two barber chairs and razors; the other furniture worth \$50 was lost.

The Knapp block, across a narrow alley, had its side windows burned out; the occupants, Croushorn, furniture store, and Malcom, meat market--removed their goods. The Woodmen, because of their show, were all present, and in removing their effects from their hall, Ed Smith, Lew Inman, and John Russell had a thrilling experience; they with others were on taking the piano out, being on the forward end and therefore walking backwards and just as they had entered the stairway the firemen rushed in from below with their hose with

full pressure stream on, which struck the upper or hind carriers in the face and naturally made them let go of the hold, causing the piano with the three men in front of it to be thrown down stairs in a heap, but no one was hurt nor was the piano much damaged. The north room of the burned building was vacant, and the upper story was being converted into dwelling apartments--making a hotel of it was talked of--Harley Richards was doing the wood-work and had his tool chest there, which was burned; loss at least \$40. The wind was from the west, which made it quite hot on the east side of the street, and some of the glass in the store windows was cracked by the heat; the Edwards store and the Figge barber shop suffered most.

The men to whom the water works are due are now topmost in esteem. It is said that Mr. Schickler will rebuild the block at once.

E.A. Hopkins was born in Ohio in 1820; came to Illinois and settled near Oswego in 1857, following farming. His wife died some years afterwards and in 1873 he was married again. For a year or more he had become quite feeble and his death, which occurred March 14, 1900, probably was hastened by a fall he sustained lately.

March 28: Johnny Collins was in town one day.

Large piles of ties are deposited here for the electric road.

The insurance adjusters were here and it is said allowed Schickler \$3,800 and Warner \$1,900, docking them \$200 and \$100, respectively.

An attempt is to be made for a straight trans-Waubonsie outlet of the village from Main street, and on which the electric road is to come.

C.S. Kilbourne and Charles Wilcox were of those down from Aurora, the latter seeing to the restoration of the windows of his store building damaged by the heat of the fire.

Tom Cliggitt is said to have bought of Harry Warner his late purchase, the old Baker place, and Harry Warner of Charles Knapp the brick building now occupied by Fred Figge.

To whom it may concern: This is to certify that on March 15, I suffered loss by fire. Was insured by the Fire Association of Philadelphia. Scott C. Cutter, agent, Oswego, and secured a fair and satisfactory adjustment.

April -- 1900

April 4: Kate Cliggitt has bought the Helen Pogue house and lot.

There is an electric road meeting one evening attended by the Hon. H.H. Evans and Mr. D.A. Beiden of Aurora. Representatives of the electric will be down again Tuesday when the route through the village will be determined.

At the council meeting Monday evening another tussle was had with the Northern Illinois Telephone Company's franchise, which again was left hanging undecided. That franchise has caused the council more trouble than the Porto Rican bill has to Congress.

The Oswego [lumber] business of M.J. Pogue & Sons has been sold to Charles Rieger, and thus one of the oldest--27 years--and most extensive business houses is no more in name; but the sale will hardly cause a ripple in the business.

April 11: A family of newcomers from Aurora has moved into the rooms above Read's store.

The demand for eligible dwelling houses here seems now greater than the supply of them.

The carpenter work for rebuilding the Schickler block was commenced Saturday. H.S. Richards and gang are doing it. The brick work is being done by the former contractor, Chris Armbruster of Aurora.

As the project for a free town library fell through, an effort is being made for the expansion of the old--the stock company's one--by securing a supply of new and good books.

C.P. Burton in his paper the *Aurora Express*, said: "The 19th Century Club ought to change its name. The club is a century in advance of the town."

The Tamarack School does not begin until May 1.

There will be free mail delivery after April 16 in the Tamarack neighborhood. The post office at Normantown will be abolished.

April 18: At the council meeting Monday franchises were granted for 20 years operation in the village to both the electric road and the Northern Illinois Telephone companies.

First, is the electric road to strike this village, and if so which of the three ways will it come in? Second, how will the Northern Illinois Company's franchise be disposed of?

Not only is Gus Shoger an expansionist because an ardent supporter of McKinley, and of being such around the waist, but also by spreading his possessions, especially that of buying up the village. His latest purchase is the Anton Miller place; it was built in 1845 and then for a number of years subsequent was the grandest and most substantial store building in Oswego. The post office--the requiring but little space--was kept there from that year to 1849, and for about one year under Frank Pierce's administration; at both times W.O. Parke was the P.M.

April 25: The John Schickler family have moved into the Schram house.

L.R. Inman has moved into what is known as the Jewell house.

Anton Miller was here from Compton to remove the rest of his effects from his building sold to J.A. Shoger.

The rebuilding of the Schickler block is progressing nicely. The laying of the pressed brick is now under way.

A company of 20 couples and musicians of Aurora drove down Wednesday evening and had a dance at the Woodman Hall.

George R. Schamp was elected school director to succeed himself, and L.P. Voss to fill the vacancy caused by Mrs. Read's resignation.

The Grove Road and NaAuSay loop rural mail delivery route will soon be in operation. J.R. Walker and his son Lauriston qualified Monday as carrier and substitute, respectively

Gus Shoger has expanded some more by buying the Mrs. Kinley place for J.A. Schmidt, who has bought the cheese factory, which will be moved into the former place and converted into a paint shop.

A lot of fellows went to Yorkville Monday to attend a meeting under the U.S. court in bankruptcy in the matter of L.N. Hall. The proceedings turned out not pleasingly to them; the invitation stated that Hall was ordered to be present and would be examined, so the creditors thought they would at least get an explanation, but he failed to put in an appearance, and all there was to do was to present claims, which in form and shape had to be according to prescribed red tape, i.e., made out on special blanks and sworn to before proper officials; of course the preparation of these papers had better be done by lawyers; but when considering that the assets showed but a fraction of a cent to the dollar of liabilities, the incurring of expenses in the matter was scary. Charles Roberts was appointed trustee.

The Electric Road is now supposed an assured fact. It has been agitated long enough to become evolved into a want. Many of us have come to believe that upon it depends the integrity of the village and our individual prosperity--the company, of course assured us that they were doing the best thing for Oswego that ever happened to it. That it will benefit some individuals and interests is quite likely, besides cutting the fare for all to Aurora and Yorkville to nearly half what it is now; also that it will bring more casual visitors here who naturally will want to refresh themselves, so that on the whole, business may be increased notwithstanding the better opportunities to go to Aurora to trade--the damage to the dry goods

trade will be more than made up by the wet goods trade. Again, it may have a tendency to somewhat increase the population, thereby increase business of all kinds, make a market for village and suburban real estate and stimulate building. The road, however, is not agoing to be altogether for the benefit of the people on the line; the company expect profits in it for themselves and it is not a thing for the creation of material wealth like farming and manufacturing, but in a financial sense what it gains the people will lose; while it may increase the value of some property it will not produce any. It is one of the modern institutions for creating wants that will make people hustle to get the money for gratifying them; wants to go to Aurora to attend the theater, the races, etc., and wants for the Aurorans to come down to the parks for recreation, fishing, etc., and institution tending towards making the rich richer and the poor poorer, and lead to trusts.

L.B. Judson, one of the earliest pioneers, the oldest resident of Aurora, died April 14, at his home at 254 Galena street, aged 94 years. While starting to attend the funeral of Mrs. Swift last December he tripped on a rug and fell, sustaining injuries from which, on account of his extreme age, he never recovered, and since which he has been confined to his bed. Lewis B. Judson was born in Westfield, Mass., of old colonial ancestry. He was one of a family of 12 children. He received a common school education and was employed on farms until 17, when he entered the employ of a manufacturing company as a traveling salesman. After six years at this work he located at White Pigeon Prairie, Mich., in 1829, taking up a tract of 300 acres and establishing a home to which the following year he took his young wife, whose maiden name was Catherine P. Mudgett. Six children were born to them. When the Blackhawk War commenced he was commissioned paymaster by Gov. Cass and went to the western part of Illinois with the regiment, and later to Chicago. Two years after the disbanding of his regiment he sold his Michigan property and removed his family to Oswego, Kendall County. He located 600 acres of land including the present site of Oswego, and built the first house in that town. In 1840 his wife died and on March 13, 1843 he married Miss Diana E. Stafford. Eight children were born of this union. In 1873, Mr. Judson came to Aurora since which time he has been actively engaged in various enterprises. He built some of the substantial blocks of the city, was

one of the organizers and stockholders of the Silver Plate factory and a stockholder in three Aurora national banks. He has been a Republican since the organization of the party and held many offices while in Kendall County, including chairmanship of the board of supervisors. He eaves some two score of children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. His wife died four years ago last November. Burial in the family lot at Spring Lake Cemetery.

May -- 1900

May 2: Heroes cause a good deal of expense and trouble.

Will Sutherland is now engaged with the Fox River Butter Company at Aurora.

Joe Sierp was in town one evening. Joe takes much interest in the Oswego cemetery and is laboring to get the waterworks to reach it.

Farm work is progressing quite favorably during the fine weather that we have had for the past two weeks and farmers will be ready to plant corn in a few days.

May 9: The whip you lost Saturday night on the bridge is at the post office.

It is said that John G. Parker's barn down in NaAuSay was struck by lightning and burned Monday.

A young man from Aurora, while fishing at the mill-pond, fell in and came pretty near drowning.

The rebuilding of the Schickler block has progressed very rapidly. It is being made much more imposing than it was formerly; the corner bay window is ahead of anything that Oswego has had yet.

May 16: D.M. Haight spent a few days in Chicago on egg-tester business with great success. He now wears new clothes from top to bottom.

The inauguration of the village's new government took place Thursday evening when licenses were granted at the former rate, \$750, to the three old saloons. At a meeting Monday evening the same was completed by the appointments of the standing committees, that of George White for marshal and street commissioner at \$22 per month salary; the reappointment of Charles Reed for pumping engineer at \$12 per month; also that of Gus Shoger for treasurer with no salary. The improvement of the quality of water on Madison street was under consideration.

William Pearce was born in Ohio Feb. 21, 1815; came to Illinois and this vicinity with his parents in 1833, making him with a sister, the oldest settlers living in the township. In 1843 he was married to Miss Lois Warner, who died many years ago, and on Saturday, May 12, 1900, he also died.

May 23: Sailor hats, 20 cents at Oswego Millinery Store.

Pipes were laid across Main street to bring the water into the Schickler block.

The new street commissioner has commenced keeping things very slick.

There are now 26 cars loaded with rails for the electric road on the side tracks here.

In three recent fights of the Philippine war, reported in Saturday's papers, the killed of the enemy were 324 by actual count. The Americans had three men wounded and lost three horses.

The decoration doings will be principally by the schools, but the public is invited to be present and on hand by one o'clock in the school-house yard, where a program will be carried out, followed by marching to the cemetery and decorating the graves.

There were council meetings Wednesday and Friday evenings, which were very harmonious and decorous. Ordinances were passed for the construction of a four feet wide concrete sidewalk from the Evangelical church down to Main street and one ten feet wide from



the Jewell corner to the village hall. Also contraction of the corporation, reconstruction of culvert, etc. were under consideration.

May 30: The eclipse here was eclipsed by the clouds.

The cheese factory now on the move to its new location for a paint-shop got as far as around the corner into Main street.

The northeast corner of the Funk & Conway saloon is being portioned off for a restaurant, with the entrance to it on the corner.

The remodeling by putting in a place glass front of the H.S. Warner store building was begun Monday, which of course will be followed by others in that block.

The bridge question was up for consideration within the last week. The supervisors' committee--Barnes, Murley, and Bedford--and representatives of the electric road were here Saturday, but no decision was then reached. For further investigation the supervisors returned Monday with an expert, who quite naturally advised a new bridge, and such was the decision of the authorities. Who would have thought that our bridge wasn't all O.K. if no electric road was being built?

June -- 1900

June 6: Rural mail delivery on Route 1 from Oswego commenced Monday with a very handsome and commodious rig.

Superintendent Curran visited the school Monday and expressed himself as well pleased with the work being done.

The transfer from one part of the town to another, and the transmuting from the cheese factory to Albert Schmidt's paint shop has been accomplished.

The plate glass front of the H.S. Warner building is nearing completion. The place will be occupied by the Edwards for their hardware and grocery store.

Oswego the past week has been, and still is, a great distributing point of electric road and telephone material. The erection of the poles in the village of the Northern Illinois 'phone is now under way.

J.G. Andrews was over from Plainfield to attend the Republican opening at Riverview Park.

Various projects were talked about but noting definite was done towards any at the council meeting Monday. The board has got an economical streak on; want to keep tab as to where they are at with the amount on hand in the treasury.

The ball game played on Decoration Day between the Wheatland and East Oswego teams was a very exciting and close game, but at the finish the score was in favor of East Oswego.

June 13: Sodt and Morse had their store repainted in and outside.

A new slaughter house has been built for the Malcolm butchery.

Graduation takes place Friday evening at the Congregational Church.

A second plate glass for the Warner building safely arrived and was put in place.

The strawberry times are now fully on and Gregg over the river has been raising the biggest and nicest.

Oswego is bristling with telephone poles and the lines being run from it in all directions. The farmers have been struck with the phone craze and it would seem as though they mean to raise corn and pigs by telephone from now on.

The 13th annual meeting of the Oswego Alumni Association will be held at the home of Edith Rickard Wednesday, June 20.

We who have to walk on lower Washington street are now “middle-of-the-road men,” and women too, for that matter. The old board sidewalks on both sides have been torn up to be replaced with the concrete.

Conrad Schark was born in Darmansttat, Germany, Dec. 2, 1812; came to America in 1837, remaining about seven years in New York state during which time in 1841 he was married; in 1844 he came west and established a farm in what became known as the German Prairie or Settlement, where he lived until after his wife died about 18 years ago; since then he has been living mostly with his daughter, Mrs. Mack, in Aurora. He enjoyed perfect health with unimpaired faculties up to within a little over a day of his death, which occurred June 4, 1900. The funeral took place from the Evangelical church in the German Settlement, and the burial in the beautiful cemetery near there. The living children of the family are: Conrad and George of the German Settlement; and John, Mrs. Kate Mack, Mrs. Sarah Mall and Mrs. Margaret Fenske of Aurora.

June 20: High school graduation Friday evening, in thoroughness of the participants and pleasing surroundings generally was doubtless ahead of any of the former similar events of this place. Graduates included Carrie Walsh, Mary Listner, and Susie Croushorn.

In a week, as promised, we may go to Aurora on the electric by going across the river to get on.

John Burkhart is bound to keep up with the times and now he rides in a new \$150 rubber tire buggy.

While Oswego keeps on booming yet there are no signs of it in the direction of a hotel, unless Schickler will convert his upstairs into one. A hotel is now much needed.

Among other improvements for Yorkville advocated by J.M. Gale some years ago was a railroad to run above the tops of the houses. Now Oswego is to have the very same thing; only it is to be an electric instead of steam.

The letting of the contract for the new bridge was not completed at the adjourned meeting Saturday. Six bidders were present, and the bids numbered 11--two made several bids for different kinds--they ran from \$6,650 to \$7,792. The authorities wanted a little time for examining which bid was the best according to quality.

#### FOX RIVER DRYING UP

##### Less Water in the Stream Than in Years Past

From the *Aurora Express*: Is Fox river drying up? This question is at present on the minds of many people living on its banks.

Manufacturers who receive power from its waters and sportsmen who entice the game fish from its depths all united in the timely query. From all information and statistics which can be obtained, it is quite evident that the amount of water is becoming less and less every year. In the summer time when the water is at its lowest there is hardly any water in the shallow places, while the deep ones are filled with weeds which show that the bottom and surface are not far apart. Every year the bare places in the bed of the river become larger and larger and the high water mark in the spring creeps lower and lower.

Several causes are to blame for the condition of affairs. One is the rapid denudation of the land at the northern lakes from which the river takes its source. Much timber is cut every year near the headwaters of the river and that diminishes the water supply.

Another cause is the draining of swamps and small lakes formerly furnished their small quota of water each year to the body of the stream. But lately such places as Nelson's Lake are being drained and there will soon be no feeders at all for Fox River.

June 27: Will Cliggitt is expanding on his coal sheds.

Joe Richards is now clerking in the drug store.

Yes, some of the country people say that you can't keep house any more without the telephone.

The Edwards store has been moved to its new location and is now making a much more showy appearance.

Strawberry picking has been quite an industry over on Gregg's fruit farm. His berries were so large it would take but a few fill a fellow up, and he was very liberal with them.

Now, in hurrahing for McKinley and Roosevelt, the right pronunciation of the latter's name should be used. Is it Roo-se-velt as some pronounce it, or Roos-velt, with only two syllables, as others do? Please inform us, whosoever can.

Operation of the electric road from the bridge will be commenced this Tuesday afternoon at 3:20 by a free ride of the town and village officials to Aurora and back. Yorkville will have to wait about three months longer before enjoying such privilege, but then the ride will be so much longer.

The Schickler saloon has been transferred to the new building on the corner, and will be the most complete establishment of the kind in these parts. The population of Oswego is perhaps near to 800, and so it is doubtful whether any place in the state of as many thousands of inhabitants can show anything better in the shape of saloons.

July -- 1900

July 4: Doc Woolley bought of Frank Lyons of Aurora the famous stallion Anti-Wilco.

Among the new monuments put up in the cemetery is a very handsome one by Anton Miller.

If telephone poles are improvements to a place, then Oswego has been prodigiously improved.

Charles Clinton is here from Cincinnati and staying with David Hall's.

The office of the Northern Illinois telephone is at John Gaylord's. Dr. Drew's office, Charles Rieger's office, the depot, and H.G. Smith's residence have been connected with the Bell system.

The grading for the electric road with quite a force of teams and men was commenced this Monday morning on Main street here. Eight big horses pulling with all their might on one plow shows hard ground.

The electric road was opened for business Saturday. Sunday, however, was its booming day; the Montgomery Woodmen were having a picnic at Riverview Park. That initiatory and free ride on it to Aurora and back Tuesday was very enjoyable; a large delegation of Aurorans came down to receive the Oswegoans; a stop was made at the park for going down to the gushing well to get a drink, also to witness shooting the chute. The running of the car was as smooth as cream.

Marriages in June: Dr. A.H. Churchill to Miss Daisy Gaylord; Jonas Raabe; W.P. Wormley and Sennie Peterson.

As the country grows older the private or home graveyard is departing and burials take place in the larger incorporated cemetery, which is taken care of in a systematic manner. It is always a source of regret to see an old family burial place run to weeds or used as a pasture and it seems useless to try to keep them in good order for the dead are soon forgotten when property changes hands. The old graveyard above Oswego, in the Wormley neighborhood is being bereft of its inhabitants. Already the remains of 29 bodies have been removed, and recently Henry J. Wormley of Mendota came and removed the remains of his grandfather, Henry Wormley, and had them buried in the Oswego cemetery.

Aurora extended an arm June 26 over six miles of intervening territory and gripped the hand of Oswego and Kendall county. From this on the two counties of Kane and Kendall will be cemented together more strongly than ever by the bonds of commercial and social intercourse made possible by the inauguration of rapid transit railroad communication. On that afternoon between three and four o'clock, the first car ever run on the Aurora-Oswego stretch of the Aurora, Yorkville & Morris railroad passed over the line bearing a representative delegation of Aurora's professional, political, business, and newspaper men, the guests of Senator H.H. Evans.

Those in the party who went down from Aurora on the initial trip were Senator Evans, W. Pfrangle, William Rose, John Freeman, C.D. Treman, C.S. Kilbourne, E.W. Trask, Isaac Martin, H.Z. Berry, R. Conkling, Fred Belden, A.M. Smith, N.W. Tomblin, F.W. Thatcher, Mayor Howard, William Tyers, Jesse Curry, Harvey Rackmyer, Robert Taylor, L.B. Frazier, W.S. Beaupre, A.F. Hagen, L.A. Constantine, W.H. Watson, Guy LaSuer, E.S. Lancaster, Frank Greenway, F.F. Marley.

General Manager David Belden handled the motor and showed the paces of the new car on the new road-bed. At Oswego the company was joined by the following Oswego gentlemen: J.C. Conway, Charles Knapp, H.G. Smith, George White, George Collins, George W. Cowdrey, H.C. Cutter, Charles Roberts, David Hall, Henry Helle, Calvin Pearce, John Herren.

From the *Batavia Herald*: Senator H.H. Evans, one of the main promoters and financial supporters of the new electric road to Oswego and Yorkville had the satisfaction of seeing the first electric car run to Oswego June 26, 1900, and he was accompanied by about fifty guests--the city officers of Aurora, newspaper men and representative citizens.

The line and roadbed is one of the finest in the State, built very substantially and up-to-date, the cars being large, convenient and comfortable--in fact, everything pertaining to the road is first-class. This is indeed a great enterprise to carry through. It will be a fine point for Oswego, Aurora, and the Fox River Valley. It opens up a great avenue for business and pleasure. The benefits are bound to be felt in a little time.

General Manager Belden of the Aurora street railway stood at the helm as motorman and guided the passengers safely through. The first trip to Oswego over the new electric line is long to be remembered.

July 11: The track of the electric road through the village is done, all but the ballasting, and the grading extended some distance below it.

Undertaker Croushorn with the hearse went this morning--July 10--to conduct the funeral of John Gilmore, out near Tamarack. He, perhaps, was the wealthiest man of Oswego township.

By having the porch and chimney removed and all else of it painted drab, the old Anton Miller building doesn't look like its former self. It is not going to be a hotel, but Gus Shoger's implement warehouse.

Now that in going and coming to and from the electric car much walking is being done on the lower end of Washington Street where the old board sidewalks have been removed and the construction of new ones delayed, which makes it bad, especially for ladies after a rain.

The telephone work during the week had been quite extensive and several new features were added. The poles and wires of the two companies are so mixed up that last week in giving a few of the connections the mistake was made of showing some of them to be with the Bell company when they should have been with the Northern Illinois.

Specie Grove: Peter VanZee has superior talent as an artist, doing some fine work with the brush and crayon.

The Friday night rain caught many farmers with hay in the field and some damage was done.

Rye is already cut and in shock. The crop is good. Oat harvest will probably begin next week.

Theodore Hamm has in a hundred and 20 acres of corn this year on his own and mother's farm. Pretty good for a young farmer.

Quails are getting to be much more plentiful than they have been, and their cries of "bob-white" or "more wheat" are heard in all directions.

Wild raspberries are very plenty this year, growing along the hedgerows and in the woods in abundance. They are good size and fine flavor.

July 18: A pretty home wedding was solemnized at the home of Mrs. Ferdinand Shoger Thursday evening, July 12, when her daughter



Clara was united in marriage with Charles A. Clark. After congratulations and a social time the company was invited to the dining-room to partake of a bountiful supper. The Davis and Minard orchestra furnished music during the evening.

Thomas Miller has fine sweet corn for sale.

Buy your harvester and cylinder oils at Sot & Morse, Oswego.

Street graveling is one of the village improvements in progress.

The piers and abutments of the bridge are undergoing repairs preparatory for the new bridge.

Will Funk, it is said, will open the adjoining vacant building for his restaurant business.

Harry Sutherland has joined an Aurora militia company and has to go into camp at Springfield in a few days.

Expansion of the concrete sidewalks was begun Monday on Van Buren Street past the Van Deventer premises. Fisher & Co. of Aurora are doing it.

Which of the world powers shall reap the supreme honor by furnishing the great general in the China war? It is now the most important question.

Riverview Park has become very popular with our people. Small parties of both the old and the young frequently spend the afternoon there on fine days.

The body of Mrs. Lydia Cook was brought here from Chicago for burial Sunday afternoon, accompanied by her son and wife, a nephew, and a clergyman. Mrs. Cook was one of Oswego's nicest girls of 50 years ago, a daughter of the prominent Arnold family who owned and were living on the Henry Cutter farm. Her father was the first postmaster of Oswego; the business apparently adhered to her, as she was a clerk in the Chicago postoffice for many years.

To Runners of Traction Engines: Notice is hereby given that when a traction engine crosses any of the bridges in NaAuSay Township, the bridge must be planked for the wheels as is provided by law. Any neglect of this duty will be prosecuted. By order of Highway Commissioners.

John Gilmour was born August 15, 1819 in Carswell, Neltston, Scotland; died July 8, 1900 in Oswego township, Illinois. In 1839 he was married to Mrs. Isabella Craig Howie, who died over 30 years ago. Of this union were seven children, five of whom survive their father. In 1852 they came to Illinois and settled on a farm in Oswego Township. For nearly forty years Mr. Gilmour lived there, but about ten years ago he built a new house just across the road and has since lived there. His children are John and James, Mrs. Ann Anderson, Mrs. Mary Armour, and Miss Belle Gilmour, all of whom live within two miles of the old home. Besides these he leaves a half-brother, William Cochlan; 19 grandchildren; and 21 great-grandchildren.

July 25: The expansion telephone facilities are still progressing.

A carload of paving brick for street crosswalks is received.

The job of putting down concrete sidewalks on Van Buren street is completed.

The new restaurant of Will Funk was opened the latter part of last week. Guy Hopkins is attending to it.

It is worse for horses now to keep them hitched during daytime to a post than have them hard at work, and they shouldn't be kept so in harness unnecessarily.

By these wars in the strange parts of the word we at least gain the benefit of being taught some geography, but may be apt to not properly pronounce the names of such places as Blagoveschenak.

The report of the death of Mrs. Marsh Christie of Phoenix, Ariz. at Los Angeles, Cal., to where she had gone for her health, was received

here. She was Louise Bennett of the Charles Bennett family of this vicinity away back in the 50s and 60s.

From Tamarack and Wheatland: On account of repairing the church, there will be no morning service next Sabbath, but, if the weather permits, an open-air meeting will be held in the evening.

Specie Grove: By the time this gets in print harvesting will be over in this vicinity. The work has gone along rapidly and pleasantly as the weather has been favorable and the grain was not lodged. Threshing will soon begin. It is this constant change from one kind of work to another that enables farmers to do so much work. There is no monotony about farm work. With the change of seasons comes a change of work and there is rest to the mind in change.

August -- 1900

August 1: Rose Barrett is visiting with friends here.

The medicine show is holding forth here this week.

A lot of water mains are received for the extension of the works.

E.Y. Ketchum is now the Q's [CB&Q] foreman at the gravel pit.

Arthur Havenhill of Montgomery is sub agent at the depot for the present.

William Howard of Evanston, who with his brother Ed were, 36 years ago, the owners of the Herren farm on the river was in town the other day.

Tamarack and Wheatland: A number of farmers are searching the country over to find hired men--offering from \$14 to \$18 a month.

That the Aurora and Yorkville electric road will be a great convenience and daily comfort is shown by the way it is used now between Oswego and Aurora. Every day parties drive up from about here [Yorkville] to Oswego and take the car there for Aurora, saving

12 miles' drive. Saturday morning a party of ladies went from Yorkville to Lake Geneva, Wis. on an excursion train, which left Aurora at 7:30. They were driven to Oswego by friends, leaving here about 5:30 and caught the 6:30 car at Oswego. They returned the same way--friends driving to Oswego to meet them at night.

Specie Grove: Threshing will begin this week.

We noticed that other correspondents than this one saw binders running on Sunday during the late harvest.

The heavy rain of Monday night week caught farmers with a good deal of grain unshocked, especially those who had cut the Sunday previous.

Aug. 8: Fritz Burghart and family have moved to Paw Paw.

Theron Richards is now the attendant of the Funk & Company restaurant.

Notwithstanding the torrid heat of the afternoon, the concrete sidewalk builders kept right on with their work on the south side of the street through all of it.

The Indian Medicine Company held forth here last week and Monday of this week, so this community is now pretty well supplied with the worm-killer, and other Indian medicines, also with the Barnum biographies and barometers thrown in with the sales. The encyclopedia prize Wednesday fell to Mrs. Maggie Hawley; that of the lay's watch Saturday to John Burkhart, and the diamond ring Monday to a lady named Irma Blessey.

A carload of the bridge iron was received Monday. And by the way, awhile ago when we were told of the weakness of the bridge some of us fellows stepped rather light and felt a little skittish when walking over it. Then Doc Woolley came along with his traction engine, threshing machine, separator, water tank--all bunched together, and either being ignorant of the weakness of the bridge or through sheer recklessness, went right over it. Since other threshing outfits have gone over it in like manner.

The M.E. Sunday school had a splendid picnic Thursday at Riverview Park. A delightful ride on the electric road made the children's hearts flutter with joy. The afternoon was spent in boat-riding, sliding down the chutes, looking at the monkeys, coon and guinea pigs, etc.

Wolf's Crossing: The farmers are paying \$25 a month for harvest hands and glad to get one at that price.

Charles Sorg's name can now be added to the list of those owning rubber-tired rigs. His is said to be the best one in this vicinity.

Specie Grove: Oats in the south part of the Grove are turning out about a wagon-box to the acre. One farmer, H. Haag, got 41 boxes from 40 acres. As the grain is plump and heavy the yield is considered a good one. The yield in the north part of the Grove not be as good.

Aug. 15: Could you keep cool last week?

The extension of concrete sidewalks is progressing.

C.J. Hawley is a motorman on the Aurora and Oswego electric line.

Lew Inman is engaged to assist Charles Rieger in his lumber and coal trade.

Main Street for two blocks is much torn up. The new water mains are being laid.

Arthur Rowsell has changed his residence to the Van Deventer house on Van Buren street.

Kate Cliggitt has caused the renovation of her lately bought residence. The plastering and decorating were done by Yorkville and Aurora parties.

Herman Young and Joe Richards are the telephone operators--the former especially at night--at the company's office in the drug store.

Tamarack and Wheatland: The U.P. Church has been vastly improved on the inside lately. The woodwork is finished in cherry red and the paper is green, making it a very neat and tasteful contrast. The Y.P.O.U. have purchased a new carpet for the church, besides some other improvements.

Wolf's Crossing: The work of threshing in the Harvey ring was finished Saturday night; they having threshed 25,000 bushels of oats in 102.5 hours.

Specie Grove: The excessive heat of last week made threshing hard work, but farmers are inured to the extremes of the weather and keep continually at the work in hand. The result is usually success. Agriculture is the most healthful, most useful, most noble occupation of man.

Aug. 22: In an article in the Chicago *Tribune*, reprinted in *The Record*, it was reported that H.W. Walker of rural Oswego had barred the passage of the lines of the Northern Illinois Telephone Company from crossing his land. "With the exception of the gap before the Walker place, the line is complete from Aurora, Ill. to the Mississippi River," the *Tribune* reported. The Walker house is the large limestone home along the east side of U.S. Route 34 about a mile south of Orchard Road. "It has injured one family's present happiness and caused a father to turn his only daughter and her husband from his home. John Gaylord, Oswego manager of the Northern Illinois Telephone Company, became opposed to the presence in his house of his son-in-law, Scott Cutter, local manager of the rival Chicago Telephone Company, and now they do not speak when they meet at the post office. Walker, in his opposition to the new company, is now the worshiped friend of Cutter, and the enemy of Gaylord."

School will commence Sept. 10.

The new sidewalks and water mains are still in an unfinished state.

The lightning Wednesday demoralized the telephone here more or less.

The excavation of the cellar for the new Hopkins residence is under way.

Charles Smith is said to be reconstructing the Waubonsie water-power for the running of a feed mill.

Chicago and other places are kicking against the returns of their census takers, and so will Oswego against Ed Smith if its population doesn't reach 800.

About that write-up in the Sunday *Tribune*, of Oswego, its telephone, H.W. Walker and his bull dog, Scott Cutter and John Gaylord, etc., was not anything very funny or smart.

Joe Sierp and Miss Mary Burries of Aurora were married at St. Mary's Church there by Rev. F.A. McLaughlin, recently. The wedding was private, and after a honeymoon trip the couple are now at home at 42 South Union Street, Aurora.

The entertainment by Clara Minkler's pupils in elocution Friday evening was a great success.

The marriage of Fred L. Hawley to Miss Mame Conners, both of Aurora, took place there Wednesday evening. Fred was an Oswego boy.

London, Aug. 22--The flags of the allied powers now float over the imperial palace in Peking, after a hard fight lasting some 36 hours. The foreign troops, aided by 4,000 armed native Christians, carried the Sacred city last Friday. The first details of the capture of the Tartar city and the rescue of the legations show that the American troops were the first to raise their flag on the walls.

Specie Grove: The rain of last week interfered with the threshing. The machines ran only one day, Monday. Some loss will follow by oats growing in the shock.

If the street car company should continue its line down the river road to the Armbruster lane, it would get a good many passengers from the southeast that it will lose if the line keeps near the river.

H.H. Evans, Manager Belden, and Surveyor Wilder were in the river country of our province last week looking up desirable routes for the electric road. Whether it will follow the wagon road farther than Cowdrey's seems yet a question.

Aug. 29: The cider making industry is now on here.

The demolition of the bridge was commenced Monday.

The tall construction car of the electric road has been brought over into town.

Charles Smith is establishing a Waubesa water power for the running of a feed mill.

The concrete approach to John Gaylord's residence is a great improvement of its premises.

M.W. Milne of Yorkville is the interim station agent here. Hank Smith is taking a vacation.

The gorgeous new drinking fountain is just received. It will be a grand ornament to the village, and a monument to the goodness of its present authorities.

Don't go to Aurora for the children's shoes. We have a complete line. Sadt & Morse, Oswego.

The electric road coming into town on an elevated track never was favorably looked upon by our people, but it was said that it would be on neat steel trestle work and prove an ornament to the place; and behold, now it is going to be the old clumsy wood trestle.

Wolf's Crossing: A number of fond fathers attended the Buffalo Bill Show [in Aurora] for the purpose of taking their children.



School commenced in the Harvey district Aug. 27.

Through the efforts of Charles Sorg, Abner Updike, and Harley Richards of Oswego, a petition was gotten up and circulated for the purpose of having a rural delivery from Oswego out this way. Mr. George Bennett inspected the proposed route and approved it. We hope to see the mail-wagon make its daily rounds in a few weeks.

NaAuSay: Very little threshing has been done in this neighborhood the last two weeks and the farmers who have grain in the field are getting very uneasy.

Specie Grove: The rains have put the ground in good shape for plowing and some have already begun.

School commenced in the Minkler district Monday with Nelson Morley of Yorkville as teacher.

All turned out en masse and took in the big show in Aurora Saturday. Many went to Oswego and took the electric [streetcar] from there.

The rains of last week were not needed, although the one that came Friday night made it possible for farmers to attend the Wild West show by stopping threshing.

The lack of respect for the rights of drivers on the public roads by threshermen in moving from place to place with their outfits is quite common. The provision of the law that one of their party should go ahead of the engine is generally ignored, and the habit of blowing the whistle of the engine on the road is another breach of the law. Engines are on the roads but a few weeks of the year and horses do not become accustomed to them, and it would be better for all concerned to prevent accidents as far as lies in their power while running them upon the public roads.

September -- 1900

Sept. 5: The Doc Woolley traction engine and other threshing outfits forded the river very nicely one morning.

James Conners, one of the sidewalk contractors from Aurora stepped on and ran a nail into his foot, causing him to be laid up.

Rural mail route No. 2 began operation Saturday. It takes in the Naperville and East Wheatland roads. B.W. Richards is the carrier.

It takes lots of material for the trestle from the river to town; the road is covered with stone and timber. One span of the old bridge is removed and the new in place partly constructed.

The John Schickler family moved into the new and elegant quarters above the saloon. And by the way, one of the bent glass lights of the bay window dropped out and down on the sidewalk Saturday.

Wolf's Crossing: The threshing machine belonging to the Harvey ring finished its work for 1900 and was put in its house Friday.

Hunters from town are getting to be a nuisance around here, and the farmers are talking of making them observe the law.

Tamarack and Wheatland: A mail route from Oswego takes in the western part of this neighborhood.

The Wilcox school began Monday with Miss Edna Boyle of Aurora as teacher.

Sept. 12: News was received of the destruction of Galveston, Tex. by a hurricane.

The carpenters' work on the Mrs. Hopkins new residence was begun Monday. Schamp and gang are the builders.

The bridge work is progressing and was continued during Sunday. The west end span is nearly completed; the old bridge from the center removed.

The construction of a cement sidewalk is now under way in front of the Shoger livery stable. A cement floor was also made, over which an addition to the barn is to be built.

Am requested to say, by authority, that the riding of bicycles on sidewalks is prohibited by ordinance.

NaAuSay: The married men and the young men of the Thompson and Falkenburg threshing ring indulged in a game of ball Saturday afternoon. The married men were defeated.

Specie Grove: Ed Kusmaul is working in the railroad gravel bed with a team. The company employ from eight to a dozen teams to remove the top dirt.

Mr. John Bills and his helpers of Plainfield, who have been threshing in these parts, made many friends by their gentlemanly conduct.

The Stansels attended the Keck family picnic at Riverview Park Saturday. They are a branch of the original Keck tree that took root in the Blackberry in Bristol township in the early '40s.

Sept. 19: The most rushing business here since the very windy day a week ago is that of making cider, prosecuted to some extend day and night.

The Star course of entertainments will open in the Congregational church Saturday evening, Sept. 29. Alton Packard, the cartoonist and chalk-talk artist, will be the first and he is one of the best.

Tamarack and Wheatland: The 1900 Wheatland Plowing Match has passed into history. In spite of the rain in the morning, a large crowd was present although it was difficult to estimate the number as the crowd was scattered over the farm viewing the different attractions, such as the plowing, the ladies' fair, the grain and poultry exhibits, the machinery and the base-ball games, all of which were up to their usual standard.

Specie Grove: Corn-cutting is progressing rapidly with the self-binding corn harvesters.

The Kendall School began Sept. 10 with Miss Anna Robinson of Aurora as teacher.

The directors of the Minkler school district voluntarily raised the teacher's wages five dollars a month. A practical way of showing their appreciation of his good services.

Sept. 26: It is said that Mrs. Julia E. Inman has bought the Samse house.

The family of J.W. Graham, who moved to the southern part of this state a few months ago, have returned and are occupying the Strossman house.

The new bridge is progressing toward completion; the iron parts are most all in place. A workman on it last week had three fingers crushed to they had to be cut off. The trestle from the bridge to town is nearly ready for being raised.

Of course, the presidential campaign wouldn't be complete without Oswego having a marching club, and such is now all made up except the uniforms, the measurements of which were taken last evening. Early Sutherland is the captain of it. Of the Republican club, Croushorn is the president.

Large line of husking gloves, mittens, pins, etc., at Sodt & Morse's, Oswego.

October -- 1900

Oct. 3: George J. Burghart died Friday morning, Sept. 28, 1900 from a complication that commenced with a carbuncle and ended with typhoid fever. The funeral occurred Sunday afternoon at the Congregational church and was very largely attended. Deceased was 38 years old, was born in LaSalle County and brought up in this place; was married to a Miss Shields of Wisconsin, who together with a little son, survive him; as also does his father, one brother and six sisters, all of them being present at the funeral.

Amy Parkhurst is attending a high school in Aurora.

The school house is now supplied with the village water.

An infant of Mrs. Mabel Kimball Stanton of Aurora was brought here for burial one day.

H.G. Smith, one day when his wife was away, had a new piano put up in the parlor as a present to her and which was to astonish her on returning.

Gus Shoger has had built a one story addition to his livery barn with improved facilities for his fancy horses. Also is having built a large hitching shed on the lower part of the old Miller lot where people may get their teams under shelter.

The two German Evangelical churches served by Rev. J.J. Lintner gave generous contributions, in a quiet way, to help the sufferers at Galveston. The church on the prairie contributed over \$30 and the Oswego church enough more to make a total of something over \$45.

Oswego will beat Chicago in one thing and that is a more lofty elevated street car line. Passengers on it will get a birds-eye view of a part of the town, but unhappily of the worst looking part. The trestle between the town and bridge is now about half of the way raised; the sight of it doesn't awaken admiration. The bridge will still require about two weeks for completion.

The first of the "Star Lyceum course entertainments" at the Congregational church came to pass Saturday evening and was hugely enjoyed.

The newly organized Saturday Cub of Oswego held its first meeting at the home of Mrs. John T. Cherry, its presiding officer.

NaAuSay: Mr. McMicken, besides owning a fine threshing machine and corn-sheller, has recently purchased a new corn-shredder.

Yorkville: Governor Roosevelt will speak in DeKalb at 1 o'clock Saturday afternoon--so the *DeKalb Review* says. Senators Culom and Hanna, Congressman Hopkins and Judge Yates will also be present. Parties going from Kendall county can go in the morning and get back by night--by a little driving to Oswego electric road.

In view of the fact that many a farmer has a desire nowadays to be up to date and must needs have a telephone, Manager Nading has made strides in the direction of the farmer's benefit. Mr. Nading has been given a reasonable rate whereby the farmer may have telephone service over the Chicago Telephone Company's lines as advantageously as his city brother. This company has the best service in the country and it would be well for a farmer to investigate before putting in any other phone. Once can put himself in connection with the Yorkville exchange and thereby get connection with about 40 subscribers in Yorkville and within easy reach of Aurora, Chicago, and intermediate points.

Specie Grove: Ed Lippold will give up farming and go to Aurora to live.

It is said that the sheriff searched one of our premises for stolen property recently.

Why not have a street fair to commemorate the completion of the street car line to Yorkville? Or have we had fairs enough?

The electric street car line is progressing rapidly to completion to Yorkville. The trees and stumps are nearly all out where it passes over private property and as there are no deep cuts or high grades and remainder of the work will not be difficult.

And now comes the telephone companies seeking an entrance (for a consideration) into our quiet community. Parties from Yorkville are working for the Chicago company and Mr. Patton from Chicago for the Northern Illinois line. A meeting was held Saturday night at the Kendall School house in the interest of the last-named line. Nothing definite was decided upon.

Yorkville: The mail carriers from Yorkville postoffice commenced the free delivery of mail among the farmers Monday morning. They found only about half the places on the routes provided with boxes. If boxes are not placed in position, mail will not be delivered and unless the routes are patronized by the people living along the roads, the free rural delivery will not be continued.

Oct. 10: The Republican marchers and rough riders, in uniforms, with their torches, and the latter on horses, were out drilling and parading the streets Monday evening.

A team of ball-players from the village played a game with the East Oswego team Thursday afternoon, which terminated 13-12 in favor of the village.

Harley Richards, Victor Mather, Abner Updike, C.T. Cherry, and two Smiths from out east were of those who went to DeKalb Saturday to hear and see Teddy and Hanna.

"Oswego hasn't changed any," used to be said--lack of progress mostly meant thereby--when people returned here after an absence of a number of years, but such cannot be said of it now. The bridge is now nearly completed and the trestle well got along. The Hopkins' new residence has advanced past the plastering. The Weber feedmill is enclosed all but on top.

Aurora College & Business School offers thorough courses in Law, Business, Shorthand, Elocution Music, Normal, Mathematics, French, German, Literary College course. Write for catalog.

U.S. Sen. W.E. Mason had to beg off speaking to Republicans in Oswego due to the illness of his daughter, but Judge George W. Brown from Wheaton agreed to fill in. "Brown took the schoolhouse steps and addressed his audience on the living issues--not the dead ones. Mr. Croushorn, chairman of the Republican Club, introduced Judge Brown, and though his listeners had to stand in the schoolhouse yard for nearly two hours--the hall not being big enough to hold the crowd--they begged him to go on till the clock struck 6."

NaAuSay: The farmers in this section have finished shelling and are now busy throwing corn.

Specie Grove: The rural mail delivery is quite popular with our people. The Specie Grove district is quite fortunate in getting this convenience so soon.

Oct. 17: The Golden Rule in politics is more essential than in all things else.

A cement gutter from the Helle corner to the alley on Main street is now being put down.

Henry Rink and Andrew Armour have purchased a new steel baling press. Any one having hay or straw to press, call or address them at their residence east of Oswego.

Bob Johnston shot a white crow Monday and brought it over to Fred Figge, who will mount it.

Irwin Fugate, about 10 years old, had his jaw broken and his tongue nearly cut off Sunday by the kick of a horse, as is supposed; nobody saw it done and the boy can't talk. He was taken to an Aurora hospital.

Yorkville: *The Record* reported that the Women's Relief Corps of Yorkville was collecting the names of every man who enlisted from Kendall County to fight in the Civil War so their names could be included on a set of bronze tablets to be installed in the main hall of the Kendall County Courthouse. The list of names collected so far was published, with a request for readers to submit names that might be missing or to correct any errors.

Specie Grove: Parties have been looking over the ground for a street railroad from Joliet to Yorkville. Practical developments will be awaited with interest.

The Chicago Telephone Company have secured the right-of-way from property owners for a line out as far as Alonzo Stansel's farm residence and will construct the line this fall.



The rural mail delivery will induce many farmers to take a Chicago daily. The getting of three or four papers at one time is often the case when mail is not gotten daily, is not satisfactory. Fully half the farmers in this vicinity can get their morning papers now before the noon hours

Oct. 24: Lew Inman has moved into his new home near the M.E. church.

Both Anna B. Lester and Dr. Van Deventer had their residences painted.

Archie Lake is expecting to return from Aurora and occupy the Schram house for a residence.

A few more days and the cars will come over to the village. The rails on the trestle are now being laid.

Charles Weber is said to have engaged the Jewell house for residence and his mill is nearly ready for commencing operations.

Oswego is now provided with bridges all around. Besides the new bridge across the river, the two bridges across the Waubonsie were replaced with new ones last week--the upper a good iron one.

Of course the Democrats cannot make much of a show here, yet their meeting the other evening was a respectable one.

Specie Grove: Blessings, like misfortunes, never seem to come singly. Two telephone lines are now coming to serve us at the same time. The Chicago line runs along the river road from J.C. Raleigh's to the corner south of Yorkville where it connects with the line running south from town with a stub to the Shepard farm, while the Northern Illinois line runs from Yorkville on the Plainfield road to the Plattville road, running south past the Kendall schoolhouse. Side lines will be put in to accommodate farmers not on these roads. Both companies have had gangs of men at work the past week and there is much to do yet. The latter line intends to continue on to Plattville.

Wolf's Crossing: The tolling of the church bell Monday afternoon told of the passing away of another old settler--Leonard Haag--formerly of this place, but for the past few years he resided in Aurora. Mr. Haag was born in Germany, came to America when 15 years old, lived for two years in New York, afterward coming to Illinois where he spent the rest of his days. He leaves a wife, eight children, a number of grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. His death was due to a stroke of paralysis and a complication of diseases. He was in his seventy-third year.

Oct. 31: Seldon Bunn is said to have been here on a flying visit.

Will J. Morse was advanced to the dignity of dad by the arrival of a son.

The electric car was to come into town Sunday but has not yet; probably will do so Tuesday.

The vote of Oswego is already determined, viz: McKinley 335; Bryan 90; Woolley 7; and Debs 3. The rest, 25, will either not vote or vote defective or blank ballots, as the register will show 460 voters.

At Elias Darby's they are having a hard time of it; three of the family became afflicted with typhoid fever, including the mother who is still in a precarious condition, while the two children are somewhat better.

NaAuSay: The NaAuSay creamery is undergoing repairs so that it becomes necessary to haul the milk to Plattville.

Wolf's Crossing: Andrew Armour and Henry Rink have been busy baling hay and straw with their new press.

Specie Grove: Those of our farmers who have been helping on the electric road are now at their home work.

The telephone men were cared for several days at the Evergreen Hill farm. They are now off near Plattville working.

Some tramps or regular burglars went through Ed Lippold's house Saturday forenoon while he and his wife were away. They got about \$2 in money, failing to find \$25 that was in another room. They seemed to care to take nothing but money. The same day, a man stopped at Will Boyd's and insisted on having something to eat. Mrs. Boyd, not feeling inclined to grant his request, ordered him away. He not going as requested, she went to the back kitchen and got the shotgun, which persuaded him to say "Good morning, Madam," in short order.

November -- 1900

Nov. 7: Leonard Shoger has been hauling home lumber for a new barn and corncrib.

An attempt was made to break into the postoffice Tuesday night, but the falling window glass roused up the roomer upstairs, and the intrusion was abandoned.

The strength of the trestle was fully tried Monday evening; the 6:30 car was packed as snug as sardines inside, and all that could hang on the outside, with people who were attending the Alschuler rally in Aurora.

Wednesday of last week was when the electric car commenced the regular run into Oswego, and on its first trip carried the officials of the road and a number of representative men of Aurora. By the event Oswego apparently committed an egregious breach of etiquette, being referred to as "Sleepy Hollow," and its citizens as a "trifle slow in awakening to the importance of the event" in the account of it in an Aurora paper. H.G. Smith was mentioned as the only one to welcome the visitors but that during their stay of an hour John Edwards, Will Cliggitt, Henry Hebert, and Scott Cutter put in an appearance. It was too bad we were not up to our duty; not dressed in our Sunday clothes and collectively in waiting to receive them with cheers, music a speech of welcome, and offering the freedom of the village. Perhaps the affair hadn't been advertised and none knew of their coming, and again not all think that this trolley line is such a great thing for this town; that commercially it

will benefit Aurora more than Oswego and thus relatively bring them further apart than otherwise they would have been. Oswego wasn't seeking the road and those conceited Aurorans should get over their notions of being the making of this village.

Yorkville: The Republican Party swept the 1900 election in Kendall County, from President on down to local offices. In Kendall, Republican William McKinley received 2,114 votes in his contest for reelection while the Democrats' William Jennings Bryan totaled 710 votes.

Wolf's Crossing: The Oswego rough riders who attended the Republican rally in Yorkville wish to let the people of that town know that they appreciate the gentlemanly treatment and the hot coffee and lunch to which was tendered to them.

A.G. Updike, Captain.

Nov. 14: The M.E. Church has been repainted.

In order to be near the meat market, Jake Meyer has changed his residence to upstairs in the Shaver store building. The house thus vacated Evan Edwards is moving in.

The typhoid fever patients are reported to be all on the road to recovery.

The Oswego correspondent of the Aurora *Herald-Express*--who is highly exercised how somebody here has voted--should have kept himself better posted on the returns. He stated the [Eugene V.] Debs vote of this town to be just double the number it was. Had he given the correct number he could then have imagined himself able to put his finger on the entire Debs party.

Nov. 21: A siding to the trolley track has been put in right after its turn into Main Street.

The next entertainment on the Star course will come Monday evening, Nov. 2, Frederick, the magician, in his wonder-working feats. All school children 10 cents.

His relatives here have received information that William F. Sutherland has died at his place of residence in Arkansas. He was the youngest of the Charles Sutherland boys, coming her with that family about 50 years ago. In 1861 he enlisted in the 36th Illinois and became a lieutenant of a company in that regiment. After the war he drifted west, got married and for quite a while was living in Kansas but of late years in Arkansas. A friend has written these further particulars: William F. Sutherland died Nov. 1 of heart failure He was buried with Masonic honors at Fort Smith, Ark. For many years he had lived in Kansas, where he held a responsible position with the Texas Coal Company. This company moved to Huntington, Ark about 13 years ago, Mr. S. Going with them and continued in the same position He was a Republican, but his popularity elected him twice mayor of his city (Democratic), defeating a prominent Democratic attorney. Mr. Sutherland enlisted in the Oswego company of the 36th Illinois in 1862 and was acting quartermaster of the regiment the greater part of his service. Henry Sutherland, brother of deceased, is now Indian agent at White Earth, Minn.

#### LAWRENCE HAFENRICHTER SHOT

By Rabbit Hunters--But Not Seriously Injured

Sunday last Lawrence Hafenrichter and James Swain were up in the vicinity of Cowdrey's hunting about for Indian arrow-heads and other such relics--both being enthusiasts in this line of curios. When somewhere about the club-house up there they noticed some men out with guns hunting rabbits. Something attracted the attention of one of the hunters right in line with Mr. Hafenrichter and he up with his gun to shoot. An outcry was made, and the man told not to shoot, but it was too late; he let fly and a portion of the charge of shot struck Mr. H.

Seeing the man was about to fire, Lawrence threw up his hand to protect his face, and some of the shot went into his hand, others struck his lip and face, and it was only the distance away that saved him from serious and possibly fatal injury. He was confined to the house a short time recovering from the wounds.

Specie Grove: The Chicago line have put in their telephones, but are not yet in working order.

Hog cholera has made its appearance in the last part of the Grove, and many farmers are selling off their hogs for fear of loss.

Nov. 28: The Weber mill for grinding is now completed and has commenced operation.

Seldon Bunn and wife of Bloomington have been here on a visit to his uncle's, the Roberts's.

Leonard Shoger is undergoing a run of the typhoid fever.

At Schickler's saloon, the grand opening took place Tuesday by orchestral music and a free lunch.

Deputy U.S. Marshal Voss has returned from Washington, where he had taken an insane Federal prisoner for keeping.

A sample Nebraska ballot was shown me being just a yard long and 10 inches wide. It differs from our in that it does not contain the separate party tickets, but groups the candidates for each office of the several parties together.

Specie Grove: The telephones now in are giving satisfaction. A large part of the farmers along the lines will avail themselves of this up-to-date luxury.

December -- 1900

Dec. 5: An Aurora man is to start a bakery here; carpenters commenced Monday to convert the rink into it.

What would we do without Aurora? Now its Salvation Army is trying to save us; a squad of it commenced a series of meetings at the Congregational church--preceded by a song and prayer service on the street down town--Monday evening.

Thanksgiving Day was passed very quietly; no public amusement or sport of any kind going on. The religious services in the forenoon were but scantily attended.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Frank McMicken's new double shredder, which he purchased this fall, is not working satisfactorily at present.

Specie Grove: John Simons has 50 acres of corn to husk yet. He will have a big yield.

Dec. 12: An addition is being built to the Young's shop, said to be for a feed mill.

Gus Shoger has had built an implement exhibition structure on his lately bought--Anton Miller--premises.

Croushorn has now his sore heated from a furnace; a material improvement, and promotive to his choice house plants.

Many were the discussions about the 20th century a year ago, but now when near to it, it is rarely mentioned. Everybody now ought to be making preparations for a great turning over on its arrival.

I believe it was the six o'clock passenger train going down Friday that caused so much damage near here. Willis's sheep had got out of the pasture and strayed down on the track just above town and 16 of them were killed. Below town, at the Budlong crossing, Lester Kenney of Bristol was passing over the rack with his corn-shredder when something gave way about it and before he could get it off the track the train came along and smashed it in to a shapeless mass.

Mrs. T.D. Wayne died Friday, Dec. 7, at the residence of her son Joseph. Deceased was 86 years of age, a native of England, and the family came to Oswego about 50 years ago. An aged husband, who is also much ailing and was unable to attend the burial at the cemetery and two sons are the chief mourners.

Tamarack and Wheatland: There will be an entertainment at the Wilcox schoolhouse on Thursday evening, Dec. 20, at 7 o'clock, sharp, by the pupils of the school.

Specie Grove: Captain Raleigh returned home from the lakes Monday week, and will look to the interests of his farm here till spring.

The telephones on the Northern Illinois line are now in and in working order. It's somewhat unfortunate that there should be a division of the farmers on this convenience. It would have been much better for them all to be on one line. There ought to be some way of consolidating the services of these lines for near-by use.

Dec. 19: Census returns for 1900 showed that Kendall County's population decreased from 12,106 in 1890 to 11,467. Oswego township's population fell from 1,538 in 1890 to 1,532 in 1900. The population of the village of Oswego fell from 641 in 1890 to 618 in 1900.

The war against sin by the Salvation Army will be continued at the Evangelical church up to next Friday evening.

John P. Schmitz of Aurora has moved here with his family into the rink building, where he has established a bakery, which was opened for business Monday.

Charles Smith's new pond up the Waubonsie is now furnishing much fun for the skaters, young and old. Smith is now building an ice-house and expects to fill it with the cleanest kind of ice.

The construction car was in town Monday afternoon and the trolley wire for the switch of the electric road was put in place.

More extensive stocks of holiday goods have been laid in than every before. The drug store was inadequate to hold Scott Cutter's so he opened in the nearby vacant Shaver building, a store for it by itself.

Married at the home of the bride, Mr. John Hummel's, Wednesday, at high noon, Dec. 12, Miss Tina Hummel of Oswego and Mr. Edward Hafenrichter of Wheatland.

Specie Grove: The long spell of good weather has allowed farmers to finish corn husking in good shape.



Corn sold at 34 cents a bushel at the Boyd sale. The corn crop is much poorer than expected, and we will probably see 50 cent corn before another crop is raised.

Yorkville: The first car on the electric railway uniting Aurora, Oswego and Yorkville arrived in Yorkville on Tuesday, Dec. 11, 1900. It was only a car for the working force, but its arrival was a matter of interest to a great number of our people. Put this item in your scrap book. It is expected and is so announced by manager Henry Evans that the road will be open for regular business on Monday next, Dec. 24. There is a good deal of uneasiness among Yorkville business men and their friends as to the influence of the road on trade here. One chief advantage of the road in view of many is that we can go to Aurora or Chicago to evening or afternoon entertainments and not be dependent on our one railroad, which runs only the one evening train. There is no cause for uneasiness.

Tuesday afternoon a big three-seated vehicle stopped in front of *The Record* office and soon had a crowd around it. It was a fine looking thing on wheels, but the peculiarity was, there were no horses. It was an automobile carriage of 12 horse power gasoline engine manufactured by the Chicago Motor Vehicle Company at Harvey, south of Chicago. This vehicle had come out from Chicago by way of Plano and had been to Sheridan, and Tuesday morning it left Sheridan for the return by way of Yorkville, Oswego, Plainfield and Joliet. The party came here from Sheridan in an hour and a quarter--and we know the roads that way are not smooth as a floor. The motorman by the touch of a lever started the machine and took us across the bridges and east along Main street on the north side and back, and did it as easily as one would drive a family horse and for speed...well, George Pedersen just had to hold onto his hat and the writer was uneasy for fear the machine would bolt the track and go into the ditch. But the driver had perfect control, even while running at the rate of 20 miles an hour, and brought us back safely. The power is from gasoline vapor, without the use of any water, and it is very economical. The price of such a machine as was here is \$1,600; it will carry a dozen people easily.

Dec. 26: The Christmas school exhibitions are said to have been extra good.

As to population, both Oswego and Kendall County have to be mum on expansion.

Mr. and Mrs. C.E. Moore came over the new trolley line from Yorkville here Sunday and he was quite enthusiastic over the enterprise.

The telephone people were busy here in putting up more wires and the electric road people in stringing additional feeders. This village is getting strung over with so many wires in all directions that our sparrows in navigating the air will have to keep their eyes open.

Yorkville apparently did the proper thing Saturday in receiving the Aurora excursion for opening the trolley line to that place, as on its return here the two cars came into town under music by the Yorkville band and several pieces were played while stopping.

The Salvation Army has evacuated Oswego. There were conversions but the number was not learned. The work of the Army and its personnel was much liked by our people.

Yorkville:

ELECTRIC ROAD DOING BUSINESS

First Car For Passenger Traffic Came Down  
to Yorkville Saturday--Opening Exercises

The management of the Aurora, Oswego and Yorkville electric railroad anticipated the opening of the road and began business Saturday instead of Monday as had been previously arranged. The track was in running order and the officers did not want to lay out of those Yorkville nickels any longer than was necessary. So the word was passed around and a number of our people congregated at the end of the track where a few members of the Yorkville band that could be got together at that hour prepared to receive the great guns from the wonderful metropolis of Kane county at 10:45 a.m. Saturday, December 22, 1900. There were two cars down--one with the Aurora guests, the other empty to return with a number of the distinguished populace of Kendall's capital. When you read the

notices in the Aurora papers of these comings down to Oswego and Yorkville, the reader is impressed with the notion that the people of these bucolic villages are mostly wild Injuns or that they stand with mouths wide open and gawk at every Aurora man they see. The *Aurora News* thus describes the scene in Yorkville:

“People cheered, dogs barked, horses shied, a band played and the older residents of Kendall county stood in open mouthed amazement at 11 o’clock this morning when the two cars that had left Aurora nearly two hours before rolled to a stop...

“As soon as the excitement occasioned by the arrival had subsided somewhat, Hon. John R. Marshall, editor of the *Kendall County Record*, and who welcomed the first railroad train into Yorkville 30 years ago, was assisted to a car platform and rose nicely to the occasion with a silvery tongued address of welcome. He stated that the people of Yorkville were not fully sure as yet whether the opening of the new line meant to them a feast or a funeral, whether it meant that more Yorkville money would be spent in Aurora or whether more Aurora money would come to Yorkville, but that in a spirit of progress, Yorkville welcomed the street cars anyhow.”

The time-card for the winter running is as follows: Car leaves Aurora at six o’clock in the morning; arrives in Yorkville about 6:50. Leaves Yorkville at 7 a.m. and every hour thereafter on the hour. Leave Aurora same. The last car leaves Aurora at 9 p.m., except Saturday night, when there will be a ten o’clock car for Yorkville--leaving this place at 11 for Aurora.

The management and operatives should impress on the minds of some of the male passengers that the car is not “a smoker.”

The operators of the first business car were Kendall County men-- Charles Hawley, motorman, and Vine Raymond conductor. “Chub” Cowdrey is also a conductor on this line.

1901

January

Jan. 2: Now all of us over a day old can brag of having lived in two centuries, and the few over a hundred years old, in three.

The picture-play, the newest and best thing in the entertainment line, at the Congregational church, Saturday evening, Jan. 5. The latest moving pictures also given.

The deaths of Oswego for 1900 may be stated to have been 19, the oldest nearly 91 and the youngest 2 years old--their average age sixty; that of the males 59, and females 68; the males numbered 15, seven of which were married, three single, and five widowed; of the four females, one was married, two single, and one widowed. The deaths within the corporation were six, one caused by lightning. Besides the foregoing there were also two infant deaths. Those brought here for burial from elsewhere were three married men, a widow, and a small girl. The marriages were about 16 couples, all young people; 13 of the males and 11 of the females were of this community.

Tamarack and Wheatland: During the year there have been five births, five deaths, and one marriage in this community.

Marveled *The Record's* Lisbon Center reporter: New telephones were placed in the residences of Ira Berry and Myron Alford Thursday. We have rural delivery and telephones. What next--electric railroad? And when will it come?

Jan. 9: Fred Burghart has moved back here from Paw Paw and into the Thomas Pierce house.

Apparently not all the hold-up men, safe blowers and negro lynchers have been turning over a new leaf with the new century.

The going out of the 19th Century and the coming in of the 20th Century was observed here by a union watch-meeting at the M.E. church by the ringing of bells, by the firing of a few guns, and by a masquerade social of the young misses at the Woodman hall.

Russell, the little boy of Slade Cutter, having with others of the family got off the electric car near their home on New Year's day, was run over by a rig that furiously drove by. He was more or less bruised but not seriously hurt.

The old Burke house, now owned by the town and used for the housing of paupers, got on fire from defective chimney, presumably. Thursday noon. The fire company responded promptly and put it out; but the old house, not amounting to much as it was, was rendered worthless for repairs for further use. Mr. and Mrs. Dillon, an old couple, were the occupants.

Wolf's Crossing: Abner Updike is agent for Dunham, Fletcher & Coleman of Wayne, Ill.

Nearly everyone in this vicinity have a telephone; a branch of the Northwestern, whose use they have free of charge.

Specie Grove: John Wampah had business in Aurora Wednesday, going over the trolley line.

Charles Shepard is having a new windmill put up on his farm for Fred Myer's use.

There has been considerable gravel hauled on the roads lately; many of the farmers are donating work.

Jan. 16: At Myron Wormley's Sunday night two fat hogs were killed and carried off by some enterprising parties that meant business.

Herman Bohn has returned from the Aurora Hospital where he has been undergoing a surgical operation for the removal of a cancerous growth in the stomach.

The electric cars run as regular as clockwork, but once they were somewhat impeded by the snow storm--at night, when one comes to town over the trestle and another at the same time up Main Street, with their flashing headlights, they make quite a spectacle.

If instead of naming localities with the names of some of the residents, as for instance, "up to Wormley's," "Out at Walker's," people should adopt special names, that will remain good for all time, it would be much better. George D. Wormley, who lives on the electric line about half way between here and Montgomery has made a move in that direction and calls his place "Fairfield."

The death of Thos. D. Wayne occurred Thursday, Jan. 10, and the funeral Sunday--being just a few weeks after that of his wife, who was the last of the deaths in this community of the 19th century and he is the first of the 20th. He was 83 years of age, came to Oswego about 50 years ago, and with the exception of a few years visit to England, his native country, has been residing and was most of the time in business here. Two sons are left of the family, the oldest--Thomas of Chicago--was not present at the funeral, being with his family on a visit in California.

Specie Grove: Alonzo Stansel has invented a new rural delivery mail box that overcomes all the defects of the ones now in use. He is having some made for farmers.

We talked to the ancient city of Plattville over the 'phone Friday. What a triumph! Certainly it would be such if the roads were as bad as they sometimes are. At the end of the century we expect to be able to talk to planets Saturn and Neptune, and to hear the songs of the stars as they sing together. Why not? It would be no greater achievement than those accomplished in the past century.

Nathan Hughes and his good wife ride in a new covered carriage.

Jan. 23: *The Record* reported on the death of Queen Victoria of Great Britain on Jan. 22. "A mighty woman has passed away," *The Record* reported. "Not might in power only, but in all the virtues that a good wife and mother can possess."

C.M. Hawley and family have returned from their visit in Iowa.

Mrs. Tirzah Minard suffered a paralytic stroke, which left her in a precarious condition.

"His Majesty the King" may sound somewhat strange to the English people after so many years "Her Majesty the Queen" having been the address of their sovereign.

Apparently George Wormley started a popular move by giving his place a special name. I am now requested to announce through *The*

*Record* that the Seely place will hereafter be known as "River Edge" and that the region out at Walker's, "Prairie View."

Mrs. Nancy Danforth of Milwaukee, together with a niece, was in town the other day. She was an Oswegoan of the fore part of the 50s, the daughter of a Rev. Mr. Moore, but at that time one of Oswego's merchants. She was married here to Dr. Willis Danforth, a young Oswego M.D., who afterwards became a prominent physician in Chicago and later in Milwaukee.

It is said that it is not a telephone craze which is prevailing over this part of the country, as some would have it, but that it is the spirit of a great economical and elevating advance, that much of the business is now transacted and much of the visiting done through the telephone; that it is a great promoter of sociability and brings you in touch with society; that music and other accomplishments may be taught through it; the games of chess and checkers are said to be more interesting when played through the telephone than otherwise. As to courting, however, its employment so far does not fill the bill.

Specie Grove: The Minkler school was closed Thursday and Friday by reason of the sickness of the teacher, Mr. Morley. Attendance at the Kendall school is very light owing to so many children being sick.

The misunderstanding between one of the telephone companies and a certain farmer has two sides to it, as most cases have. It is told that the farmer will not let the line have the right-of-way along his farm. The farmer says he only insists on having a half-dozen poles raised to a sufficient height to allow them to be strung without mutilating shade trees. Now you have both sides of the question as told us.

One of our thoughtful farmers, A.C. Gabel, is of the opinion the electric railway may be used to solve the good roads problem. That, as they become numerous through our prairie country, hard material for our roads may be hauled over them and deposited at cross-roads at less cost than in any other way--as such roads need a good deal of ballast for their own use and generally run through gravel deposits somewhere on the line. He thinks farm property

would be greatly enhanced in value as a result of having good roads. It might be a wise provision in granting franchises to oblige companies to gravel the roads on which their lines run for the benefit of wagon traffic.

Jan. 30: Home and distant semaphores, in both directions, were constructed on the railroad line here.

George White is prepared to receive the taxes at Cutter's store, and on Saturdays at the Bloss hardware store in Aurora.

Mrs. Jeneson has returned from Aurora, where for some time she had been staying with her daughter, Mrs. Mae Denney.

Frank Dano has established a barber shop for himself by re-opening for that purpose the corner building of the Smith block.

Charles Smith, after having put up some of his ice, ran the balance out of the pond, trusting to the getting of a better quality hereafter.

The ice company at their works had the snow scraped off the ice and were about ready to commence cutting when a thicker covering was snowed on it than had been there before.

James Pearce is having made a valuable waterworks at his place. A new steel windmill on a steel tower is pumping water from a spring under the bluff on the Waubonsie, filling an elevated tank, from which the water is distributed in the house and barn.

The Herren farm on the old Budlong place down the river is to be known hereafter as "Maple Lane," and the place on which Kuhman is, "Woodlawn."

Tamarack and Wheatland: The Harvey boys are amusing their friends this winter with a "talking machine," which they purchased last fall.

Patents: Jacob Zimmerman produced an improved cultivator in 1855, and improved road scraper in 1892. Hamilton Cherry and Sheldon Wheeler, an improved barbed wire in 1877. A.V. Wormley



improved barb wire in 1873. D.M. Haight, an oil dispenser in 1876, a rope reel in 1877. E.G. Ament, an improved thill coupling in 1865. Oliver Hebert, improved carriage seat spring in 1865. J.B. Poage, a combined baby chair and walker in 1876. Broom Factory in 1854 by Adam Armstrong.

The first newspaper of importance in Kendall County was the *Kendall County Courier*, which was founded by H.S. Humphrey in July 1852 at Oswego. The Courier was neutral politically and its pages were six columns wide. It was a four page paper.

February -- 1901

Feb. 6: The cutting of ice by Esch Bros. & Rabe was commenced here Monday.

The R.D. Mail carriers have had hard work in making their rounds Monday. Shoveling themselves out of the snow drifts sometimes became necessary.

General and Mrs. Andrew Welch were down from Aurora visiting at John Cherry's. The General became a little alarmed of being left stranded here by the trolley line playing out owing to the storm.

S.L. Bartlett was born in New York State in 1818, came to Oswego in 1842 and since has lived here and carried on the blacksmith trade as long as he was able to work. He was married here to the widow of his deceased brother and to his children he acted the kind and loving father--many of the people here of a later arrival never knew but what John and Ike and Lorena and Ruth Bartlett were the actual children of Mr. B. He died after about two weeks' sickness Feb. 1, 1901, and his funeral took place Sunday from his house, occupied by M.B. Lamb, with whom he has been living.

Yorkville: Big Snow-Fall

Monday morning found the snow in the vicinity about eight inches deep on a level--result of the fall of Saturday afternoon and all day Sunday. The sleighing is good and everything on runners is in use.

Feb. 13: Oswego in the best behavior; everybody was for doing good in one way or another. Especially was this shown in the shoveling of snow, for not only did everybody shovel past their own premises, but wanted to help their neighbors, or went to shovel by the vacant lots of non-residents. The village authorities also had a force employed to shovel out the crosswalks, so there was very little inconvenience experienced anywhere in town soon after the storms had abated. The school children had much fun in rolling one another in the snow and the boys in jumping onto passing sleighs.

Charles Light has engaged himself with Watts Cutter and will move into the Fox house, now occupied by Frank Darby.

Charles Boyle has returned from Wisconsin, where he has been running an engine for the ice company.

A number from town enjoyed a sleighride to and from Lew Gaylord's and a visit with that family Wednesday evening.

The ice company is filling its houses with 14-inch thick ice of the best quality.

Charles Smith has completed filling his ice-house from his pond on the Waubonsie creek, the water of which is entirely pure; no microbe ever found anything in it to subsist upon, consequently the ice from it is of the choicest quality for family use.

Specie Grove: Alonzo Stansel has named his corner place "Corner View," and the farm "Centerfield."

Miss Anna Robinson dismissed school by permission of the directors for half a day and with the larger scholars attended the Farmer's Institute Wednesday.

Feb. 20: Sleighing parties off to some house in the country evenings were the go of the week.

Wednesday evening a goodly number of Oswego people assembled at Woodman Hall to eat oysters served by the ladies' aid society of the M.E. church.

Neil, the youngest of Lew young's boys, broke a leg while coasting, of which he won't have any more this season but will be all right for playing marbles as he is doing well.

Get your feed ground at Weber's Mill near Cliggitt's elevator. Can shell your corn or grind it cob and all, and do it right on short notice.

Wolf's Crossing: The rival ice companies have filled their ice-houses and are now hauling sawdust from Aurora with which to pack it.

Feb. 27: The old stone church (Baptist) is being demolished.

*The Record* reported that on July 1, 1899 there were 391 rural free delivery routes in operation in the U.S. and on Nov. 1, 1900 there were 2,551 in 44 states and territories, the number in Illinois being 243. A route averages about 25 miles and is supposed to serve 100 families. Carriers receive \$500 a year, furnish their own conveyances, may be of either sex, and must make their deliveries and collections every day except Sundays.

*The Record* reported on the inauguration of President William McKinley and Vice-President Theodore Roosevelt.

Specie Grove: Notwithstanding the severe cold of last week, the men engaged in putting up the telephone lines have made progress. Their work at this time for the year shows how difficulties may be overcome by persistent effort and intelligent leadership and ought to be an inspiring object lesson to those in other employments.

March -- 1901

March 6: The Thomas Edwards residence has been supplied with the acetylene light.

Government display is getting more and more spectacular as time rolls on. Queen Victoria's funeral was doubtless the biggest show ever on earth.

March 13: Harrison Albee, who died in Aurora last week, was one of the old settlers in Oswego Township.

All are cordially invited to the Oswego millinery opening March 22 to 23.

Weber has his mill in good order now.

Wolf's Crossing: The farmers here are talking of manuring their farms, but only two have decided on a name yet--Robert Harvey calls his "Highland," and Abner Updike's is "Pleasant View."

A poem extolling the virtues of Riverview Park, written by E.V. of Montgomery.

Specie Grove: We have a new brass band of 18 pieces in our neighborhood, called "The Specie Grove Rural Band." Look out for the boys about Decoration Day, as they intend then to make their first appearance.

March 20: "Sunnyside" is what Fred Walker is calling his place.

Dr. Churchill is now occupying for residence the Constantine building.

The ice went out of the pond Sunday and with it a lot of the planking of the dam.

A change of proprietorship of our electric line is one of the near possibilities.

The Blind Boone Concert Company will give a concert in the Congregational church Thursday evening, March 28.

Wolf's Crossing: The farmers are now only thinking of "manuring" their farms, but are doing it to perfection--some even hauling the fertilizer from the sheep pens at Montgomery.

Yorkville: A number of attorneys were here from Aurora last Wednesday to confer as to a peaceful settlement of the estate of the late Paul Hawley, which has been in litigation for some time and by the arrangement Frank O. Hawley buys out all the other heirs and takes the estate. When the title of the Morgan farm was awarded F.O. Hawley it seems to have taken further contest out of the matter.

Specie Grove: William Jeter and Perry Penman each had a Chicago telephone put in their residences last week. There are seven Northern Illinois 'phones to be put in soon.

The condition of the roads has been the principal topic for conversation among the rural male population. The state of the dirt indoors will soon be under discussion by the women of the household.

March 27: Watts and Slade Cutter are shopping baled hay.

During the thunder shower Monday afternoon, A.L. Rice's house was struck by lightning, knocking a few bricks off the chimney and tearing some shingles from the roof.

Mrs. Christine Hawley, having sold her possessions over the river to Frank O. Hawley, will move to town and into the Shepard house. Frank, it is supposed, will occupy for a residence the place she vacates.

Specie Grove: This last week has been a busy one at the sugar camp; about 25 gallons of syrup having been made, It is a good place to visit.

The commissioners have been out looking over the roads with a view to putting in tile drains to carry off the water. The roads are in a dreadful condition and something ought to be done.

April -- 1901

April 3: The body of Mrs. Harriet A. McKinney was brought here from Aurora for burial by the side of her husband, who died from

the kick of a horse nearly 35 years ago. Mrs. McKinney died in Chicago March 27, where she had been on a visit to her daughter. The age of the deceased was 75 years. The children surviving her are Mrs. Helen M. Pogue, Mrs. Ida Fosgate, Mrs. Carrie Hunt, and Mrs. Etta Thorp.

Specie Grove: The snow storm Saturday was anything but pleasant to one just from the sunny south.

The Grates have named their farm "Maple Front," and the Gowrans theirs, "Sunnyside."

Thad Seely and Ed Hahnenstein moved their corn sheller over to Elmer Rickard's Friday, about 6 or 7 miles. It took them from noon till nine o'clock at night to do so. Guess Ed thinks there are more than 6 feet and 7 inches of mud now.

April 10: There are divisions of the people, unintentional and by common consent, all over the country, which constitute the neighborhoods, and I thought that neighborhoods were meant when first the naming of places was started. The naming of every farm would only create confusion; already several have been named "Sunnyside."

Specie Grove: Grover Earls was the first to sow oats in this vicinity, commencing April 1. Sowing will be general this week.

April 17: George Woolley is hauling lumber for a new house and barn.

Edith Gates, who comes here to school from Specie Grove, had her horse scared by the car and run away one day.

M.J. Pogue has commenced the laying of the cellar walls of his new residence. Chris Armbruster of Aurora is doing the job.

Scott Cutter attended a telephone managers' convention last week and it is said that the facilities of the plant here will be much enlarged and improved.

Thursday noon the firemen were called out by the bell but the fire was put out before they got there.

Will Cliggitt has traded his residence with F.O. Hawley for the old Judson homestead, together with the land on that side of the road except a small strip next to the cemetery for a passage way.

Wolf's Crossing: Sodt & Morse groceries in Oswego are running a wagon out this way, which makes it very convenient for the farmers during the busy season.

April 24: The condition of Herman Bohn, afflicted with cancer of the stomach and who had an operation performed a while ago is growing worse.

The appearance of the swallows was usually taken for the sign of spring having fully set in and the warm weather commenced, but such proved a fake this year. They were seen here first Friday morning, so must have arrived Thursday, since which the weather has been of the worst kind for the season.

Building operations are now fully under way here. D.M. Haight has had the addition of a summer kitchen put to his residence of the second floor of his store building. The Pogue house has the stone work completed and the floor joists put on; Schwartz is doing the carpenter work. Schamp and his men are about to commence a big job out at George Woolley's. The Richards gang is remodeling the Will Cliggitt house--Old Judson homestead. Watts Cutter is getting the foundation ready for a barn on the Fox place.

Specie Grove: We are perfectly willing that Sandwich and vicinity come in Kendall County, as may be expected with street car communication to that locality, but the Grove people are satisfied to have the county seat remain where it is and not have it removed to Plano.

May -- 1901

May 1: John P. Schickler has had his name and "sample room" emblazoned on his plate glass.

Oswego's high school base ball team went to Plainfield Saturday to play with a similar team from there, in which they were beaten.

H.S. Clark has bought the Haight dwelling house, corner of Jackson and Monroe streets. The adjoining vacant lot was reserved for building upon it in the near future, as dwelling houses are in much demand here.

Yorkville: Riverview Park and the ball ground are in Kendall county and subject to Kendall county authority, and the boys must be good.

May 8: Considerable work here in graveling was done on the electric line.

"Let there be light," and that the acetylene so thought Doc Woolley and James Pearce, who had it put in their residences by John Edwards, whose generator of the gas is considered the best extant.

Another of the old settlers dropped off. Mrs. Josiah [Josinah] Pearce--first husband Anson [Ansel] Kimball--the mother of George and Charles Kimball of Aurora, died Monday. Deceased was the widow of the late Walter Pearce and was 87 years old, one of the early settlers in this neighborhood. Mrs. Pearce had lived in the Fox River Valley for 69 years.

May 15: Several retiring farmers are said to have secured eligible sites for residences in town.

Jake Meyer has moved into the north part up stairs rooms of the Schickler block for a residence.

The Specie Grove rural Band will play in Oswego Saturday evening.

J.W. Cherry, who lately resigned his U.S. deputy collectorship, will now give his whole attention to the insurance business.



The Edwards's will now confine their business to hardware and the selling of the acetylene light, having sold out their stock of groceries to Sodt & Morse.

The repairs of the Methodist church are completed and the morning and evening services there, including Sunday school, will be resumed next Sunday, May 19.

May 22: Orma and Dwight Young enjoyed a tour to St. Paul and back with grandpa and ma Smith.

The OHS base ball team won a game one day from the East Oswego team, but didn't the one played at Plano Saturday.

The inside of the Methodist church has been repainted, repapered, and otherwise ornamented, and is now as neat and trim as can be.

James Morrison is appointed thistle commissioner and you may see him poking around on your farm looking for the Canada species.

The putting in an appearance of a daughter has elevated Mr. and Mrs. Bert Richards and Mr. and Mrs. West Roberts to higher and grander station.

The fine residence of John Gaylord presents now more of an imposing view than ever before, having been repainted in a dark greenish color with white trimmings.

May 29: Herman Bohn died Tuesday morning.

The new Pogue building is progressing nicely; lathing, the erection of chimneys, etc. are under way. The Woolley house out east is said to be nearing completion.

Specie Grove: Capt. John Raleigh is away on the lakes for the summer.

The R.D. Gates family have named their home "Prospect Hill."

Hemm Brothers received an order for 60 of their hayrack fixtures last week. Their sales have averaged about 100 a month so far this year, and a good part of the year is yet to come. Our manufacturing firms are doing a good business, although we don't organize stock companies or bluster around much. The Dhuse & Hemm foot rests are selling well, and Stansel & Son are working up quite a trade in mailboxes and with the first mentioned factory we think our burg will compare favorably with the brush factory and white metal cities.

June -- 1901

June 5: Pearl Bartlett was down from Aurora spending Sunday with Mayme Richards.

The game of baseball on Decoration Day by the high school team and an Aurora team was won by our boys.

Herman Bohn, with his family, came in 1883 from the Prussian province Pomerania, Germany, to this country and this town, where since he has resided. He was very industrious, a good worker, and for a common laborer was well getting along. A year or so ago he became afflicted with cancer of the stomach and later on had an operation for the same performed but derived no benefit therefrom. His death at the age of 52 years occurred May 28, and the funeral Thursday afternoon from the Evangelical church with a large attendance. Rev. George Schwartz assisted by Rev. J.G. Butler performed the spiritual obsequies. A short address in English as to deceased's late condition was made by Mr. Butler. The pallbearers were Henry Helle, Henry Schilling, Charles Keslinger, John Hummel, John Hoch, and Mike Fees. A widow, a daughter, and two sons are the survivors of the family.

Bristol: Mrs. Jane Townsend Gorton, wife of Levi P., died at her home in Bristol Station Sunday morning. Deceased was 88 years of age and has been a resident of Kendall county 66 years. Her husband, who survives her, is 93 years of age and is totally blind.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Miss Gertie LaDew pleasantly entertained a hayrack load of young people from Aurora Modern College last Wednesday evening.

The threatening weather Friday evening somewhat interfered with the thank offering service given by the Mission Band.

Specie Grove: The street car company has bought gravel land of George Cowdrey and is getting gravel there to ballast the road bed.

Wolf's Crossing: Mr. Stevens and family of Aurora rode their bicycles out as far as Perry Wilder's Sunday.

Russell Patterson, who has been teaching the Harvey school, closed a successful term Friday for the summer vacation.

June 12: Further expansion of the village water supply--to Willis's, the Jolly house, and L.R. Inman's--is in progress.

The new management of the electric line has caused the setting further apart of the trolley supports, so as to make it perfectly safe for the running of the open cars.

The Oswego school has developed three baseball teams. That of the high school has with varying success played with outsiders, while the other two, who are younger in years, are merely playing each other. The team from the south part of the village are called the Morgantowns and are uniformed with red knickerbockers and blue jackets; those of the north part are called Polliwogs, and they have the letters P.W. pinned to their shirts.

June 19: The street received a cleaning up.

Telephone expansion is progressing. Each company had a gang of men at work.

Joe Ebinger has had a new rock well bored, and at a depth of 180 feet secured plenty of water.

Henry Burkhart has improved his premises by a new well and wind mill on a 60-foot high steel tower, together with a 100-barrels supply tank.

June 26: The coroner was here Saturday holding an inquest on a man who had strayed from the Kane county poor farm and was killed on the railroad track a short distance north of Cowdrey's Crossing. Accidental death by a train during Friday night was the substance of the verdict. He was buried in the Oswego cemetery Saturday.

Graduates of Oswego High School were Lillie Burkhart, Amanda Hummel, and Mamie Pearce.

One of the prettiest weddings of the season occurred Wednesday evening June 19 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Edwards when their daughter, Miss Stella Shepard, became the wife of Mr. Albert L. Woolley, oldest son of Mr. and Mrs. George Woolley. A beautiful new house is being erected about a mile east of town where Mr. and Mrs. Woolley will be at home to their friends after Aug. 1.

July -- 1901

July 3: The library managers want the delinquent assessments paid up.

Dan Puff, after 20-odd years' absence from the old place has come on a visit in splendid condition.

It is a false report that the 4th of July picnic over at Rob Johnston's has been given up, but on the contrary will be fully carried out. The Specie Grove Band will furnish music.

At the council meeting Monday, it was voted that the firing off of the giant, or cannon, crackers on the Fourth or any other time is to be prohibited within the corporation limits.

A great effort is to be made in celebrating the 4th of July in the Philippines by the soldiers and others of our folks there in order of

making an impression of Americanism on the natives. Will the Declaration of Independence be read to them? By the way, the reading of that instrument is little in evidence any more in 4th of July celebrations, and as things stand now--Uncle Sam and John Bull sleeping together in the same bed--would it not be best for the sake of this harmony to refer to it hereafter as the thing of "glittering generalities," and as of more recent expression, "mush sentiments?" Commercialism cuts much more of a figure in the Fourth of July celebrations now than patriotism.

Married at the home of the bride's parents Oswego, June 26, 1901 by Rev. J.G. Butler, Mr. Frank Swanson of Aurora and Miss Elizabeth Hinchman of Oswego.

July 10: the Fourth in Oswego was passed satisfactorily and without accident; the celebration of it was mostly good.

A bread famine was reported Monday evening. The bakery is breaking up; the proprietor moving to Minnesota, where he has a farm.

George Schilling, the oldest person in the township, lacking three months of being 96, died Sunday morning. Obituary sketch will be given next week.

July 17: The telephone companies are continually making improvements to their plants here.

Many strangers are seen now in town, some being visitors and others summer boarders. A hotel is wanted here now more than ever.

A party of 13 ladies, provided with luncheons, etc., took an excursion to Geneva lake Saturday.

Central Springs Ice for sale by C.I. Smith.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Farmers are looking pretty blue. The oat crop was a comparative failure and so will the corn unless we have rain.

Specie Grove: The Specie Grove rural Band will give a concert at Evergreen hill Farm Wednesday, July 24. This band has everything in first-class shape now, and it proposes to be a permanent thing among us.

July 24: Dr. and Mrs. Drew are now domiciled in what is called the Murdock house.

Rev. F.W. Long with his family starts Tuesday for Iowa on a three weeks vacation.

Mrs. Mina Barr has rented the Oswego bakery. Will be open July 25. Bread, biscuit, cookies, pies and doughnuts on hand. Everything strictly homemade.

Threshing time is at hand. Get your supply now of cups and saucers, plates, bowls, glass tumblers, knives, forks, and spoons. Prices the lowest at Sodt & Morse's, Oswego.

July 31: Charles Reed is said to be building an automobile for himself.

The first threshing heard of was at Rob Johnston's and George Kesslinger's. Their oats went 35 bushels, by weight, to the acre.

Albert Smith's best ferret--wouldn't have taken \$10 for him--was killed by Earl Sutherland while caught at killing his chickens. John Conway also settled for some chickens of Zeke Davis's that an escaped ferret of his killed during Sunday night.

F.E. VanFleet of Chicago came here to summer with the entire household, including the mother-in-law, Mrs. Huntington, the servants, horse, etc. They put up on the island in the river just below town, occupying the cabins on it. "Bell Island" is what they call their location.

A strange dog wearing a muzzle--but the same so defective as not prevent the use of his teeth--appeared in town Monday forenoon and pitched on every dog in sight, which in Oswego were not a few.

He was pronounced to be a mad dog and Loren Millard shot and killed him. Any dog loose and unmuzzled within the village is to be killed, consequently the streets this morning have a lonesome appearance.

The body of John Suhler was brought here from NaAuSay Wednesday, the funeral taking place from the Evangelical church, which was filled with the large attendance. Deceased was a member of the NaAuSay church; Rev. Mr. Todd, the pastor, together with a choir of it, performed the spiritual rites, assisted by Rev. George Schwartz of this place. The sermon was based on the self-chosen text...A brief part of it was preached in German. John Suhler was in his 45th year; he came from Bavaria, Germany to this country in 1883; was married in this place to Margaret Unsinn; he followed farming, in which he was very successful; became afflicted with internal cancer, and was in a Chicago hospital for awhile. An operation was performed and it was then ascertained that his life could be prolonged but a short time. He left a widow, a son, and a daughter.

Wolf's Crossing: The threshing machine in the Harvey district was started at Robert Harvey's Saturday. The oat crop does not yield many bushels to the acre this year.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Farmers are just getting busily at threshing.

Mrs. James Collins is assisting her daughter, Mrs. Harry Warner, move to Oswego.

James Stewart took a carload of fat cattle to Chicago Friday. He reports that prices were never so low as now.

The storm last week played havoc with the telephone wires and for several days those in this neighborhood were unable to use their 'phones.

Specie Grove: Mr. Wotten of Downers Grove has been buying lambs in this vicinity and many farmers delivered Friday.

Glorious rains have come to this vicinity since last writing--beginning Wednesday night. The benefit to vegetation is great. All nature is putting on new life.

Lightning struck a telephone pole near John Wampah's house Wednesday night and the subtle fluid was carried by the wires to the house, scorching it some but doing no damage.

The Specie Grove band boys have decided to repeat their concert and social Thursday night of this week, Aug. 1, at Oakwood, the home of Will Campbell. No nicer place could be found for an outdoor evening gathering.

#### Yorkville: THE MEMORIAL TABLETS

Are Now in Place in the Court-House

Make a Notable Addition to the Corridor Walls

The committee of the Woman's Relief Corps of Yorkville--Mesdames W.T. Boston, E.A. Lyon, and William Hill--have concluded the work assigned to them by the corps and doubtless draw a breath of relief as they look upon the long list of Kendall county soldiers whose names adorn the hall of the court-house and know that the work is over and their responsibility ends...it was no light task to collect and collate the names of over fifteen hundred men from the adjutant general's reports and contemporaneous history to find those who had served in the Union army from Kendall county. It was not so hard to get the names of those who were in our principal organizations--the 20th, 36th, 89th, etc.--but there were so many scattering names found in other organizations and so many of these that it took careful sifting to get the right result.

#### Frank Vanderlip's Success

A few years ago the parents of Frank Vanderlip were tenant farmers in the town of Oswego, Kendall county, and most worthy people. Their son, Frank, had aspirations and the pluck to achieve them. He became the leading financial editor in Chicago, then assistant treasurer of the United States under Mr. Gage, now he has been elected vice-president of the leading National bank of New York City with a salary, probably, of \$20,000. Mr. Vanderlip was a country boy, he had no special influence to carry him into high place--he



was an honest worker, a man of brains, and he used them to a good purpose. He has achieved success--it has not been thrust upon him.

August -- 1901

Aug. 7: Ellis Minkler was seen in town Saturday.

The repairs of the Croushorn barn, struck and set on fire by lightning awhile ago, are completed.

H.S. Warner has returned here from Millington and moved into the Mrs. Gray house, purchased by him.

The well at the Oswego Cemetery has been finished and those who subscribed toward the same are requested to leave the money with H.S. Richards at the post office at once.

Rev. G. Schwartz wishes to announce that he will preach in German Sunday, Aug. 11, at 11 a.m. in the Oswego church, to which the public is cordially invited.

The Oswego post office will hereafter be closed evenings at 7:30 and on Saturday evenings at 8:30.

Tamarack: Last week while threshing, a horse driven by Prichard R. Stewart, caught its tail in the machine and had it pulled off. At last reports, the horse was still alive.

Specie Grove: Robert Patterson has taken a position in Chicago as a mail agent, hence he was obliged to give up his position as helper with the Wampah threshing gang. Jerry Allen takes his place.

Farmers are already making plans for next years work. The high price of grain and stock will give a great impetus and encouragement to future operations.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Last week, while threshing, a horse driven by Pritchard R. Stewart caught its tail in the machine and had it pulled off. At last reports, the horse was still alive.

Specie Grove: The directors of the Minkler school are having it papered and painted.

Charles Young was the first to begin farming for 1902, having put in a field of rye last week.

All nature is rejoicing in the new life that the trains have brought. The country looks beautiful.

Will Hahnenstein has received the highest price yet paid for corn, getting 55 cents a bushel from a feeder.

Robert Patterson has taken a position in Chicago as a mail agent, hence he was obliged to give up his position as helper with the Wampah threshing gang. Jerry Allen takes his place.

The band social Thursday night was equally as successful as the previous one...The band gave a good entertainment.

John Grate says that his wife is responsible for his buying a nice new single buggy and harness. He thought the old one might do, but we are of the opinion he enjoys riding in it as well as any of the family.

Fred Graham happily surprised his wife by bringing home a fine new buggy and harness and a gentle driving horse for her use. Such outfits are just what every farmer's wife should have to make life pleasant.

Farmers are already making plans for next year's work. The high price of grain and stock will give a great impetus and encouragement to future operations. With the surplus of grain reduced to a minimum, the prospect of good prices for a year or two hence is very bright. The wise persevering farmer may turn the losses of this year's short crops to his advantage and what seemed at one time a misfortune be made a blessing. If course that will not be if he sits down and laments over his loss and thinks next year will be worse than the last. We must ever take new courage and be up and at it with a will if we would succeed in any undertaking.

Yorkville: Augustus Volle, assistant United States marshal, of Chicago, was the guest of Ottawa friends Wednesday.

Charles E. Jessup of Oswego has purchased the entire equipment of the photograph gallery of S. Benensohn, and will reopen it at once. Mr. Jessup is well known in this community having many relatives in the country near Yorkville and Oswego. Of late he has been employed in Evanston by C.E. Smith, who has a reputation as a photographer of merit.

The memorial tablets recently placed in the court house by the Woman's Relief Corps, in honor of the Kendall county soldiers of the civil war, will be formally dedicated on Thursday, Aug. 15, at 2:30 p.m. The exercises will be held on the court house lawn. The W.R.C. are busy planning for the event, and have prepared an interesting program for the occasion. The neighboring Post and Corps have been invited, and it is expected that some of the Department officials will be present.

The tablet fund of the Woman's Relief Corps received substantial aid from Benjamin J. Gifford of Kankakee, who sent a check for \$25 the first of the week. Mr. Gifford was formerly a resident of Kendall county and enlisted from here. He was second lieutenant in the Thirteenth Illinois regiment, and afterwards captain in the Fifteenth Illinois. Mr. Gifford is widely known by reason of his development of a large tract of Indiana swamp land into farms by a system of drainage.

Aug. 14: A.P. Werve, Oswego's jeweler, has sold his residence to Kline Hall, with the intention of removing.

The Aurora carnival caused Oswego to have a deserted appearance some of the evenings.

George Williams has bought the Weber feed mill building and with his son will carry on the feed and hay selling business.

The M.J. Pogue family moved into its new residence, which is one with all the modern improvements for comfort and convenience as well as of elegance.

Mr. Guy, from out in the country, was one of the gang that threshed at Willis's here, and in getting into the strawstack, the ladder tipped over and he was precipitated to the ground, getting considerably hurt.

The old Judson house has been remodeled into an elegant residence by Will Cliggitt, having now the appearance of an entire new structure of the modern style. It is painted in a darkish red color with cream trimmings.

The cemetery has been improved by the development of a well in nearly the central part of it, a great convenience to all who grow flowers on the graves of relatives and friends. Joe Sierp of Aurora, who has his mother and several sisters buried here, is not only the promoter, but had it constructed, put in a nice iron pump in it, and paid for all. Of course, he expects to get recouped to some extent, a certain amount for it is already subscribed.

Tamarack: The threshing rings around here have finished threshing. Oats went from 12 to 30 bushels per acre.

Specie Grove: John Grate and Harry Linn take prizes for raising the best crops of oats, each getting about 40 bushels to the acre.

Thomas Miller has put a telephone in his house and is using the free mail delivery, getting his daily paper like city folks.

Threshing is finished in this vicinity. The season of work is fully three weeks early, owing to the drought. Farmers will have plenty of time to do the fall work before winter sets in.

Yorkville: Mr. A.N. Beebe, the circuit clerk of Kendall County, sent to the Chicago *Tribune*, by request, an account of the placing of the memorial tablets and a picture of the corridor and the copper plates. This was published in the *Tribune* Sunday.

Aug. 21: Mrs. J.B. Hunt is here from Chicago, a guest at Cowdrey's.

James Miller, Edwards' tinner, has moved his family here from Aurora into the Congdon house.

Fred Figge is remodeling his house for occupancy by himself and a Gattin, according to rumor.

The body of Mrs. Charles Wilcox was brought here from Aurora for burial Wednesday of last week.

The M.E. church has been furnished with new embellished widows, and is now a very neat place of worship.

Funk and Foran's smoke house got afire Thursday but was discovered in time to be easily put out.

Burglars broke into Werve's jeweler shop Friday night and stole watches to the value of \$25 and into Jake Meyer's meatmarket, where they swiped several dollars in money that had been left in the cash register.

Specie Grove: School will begin next Monday, Aug 26. It is hoped all the pupils will be present.

Yorkville: Thursday afternoon in the court house yard, which is kept so nicely by Sheriff Normandin, was a scene of fraternity and loyalty and the men and women who gathered there to assist in the presentation of the memorial tablets in the corridor of the court house and the formal dedication of the same were heard and so thankful that so noble a work had been performed by the women of the Yorkville Relief Corps.

Aug. 28: School commences Monday, Sept. 2.

At Dr. Churchill's is a lady visitor, probably his sister.

Burglars attempted to get into M.J. Pogue's new residence one night, but when learning of being discovered desisted. A whistle was their sign of "to git."

Andrew Gray has been at work for nearly two weeks in the old part of the cemetery grubbing, cleaning up and uncovering fallen-down slabs marking the graves of the earlier departed and sometimes wholly forgotten. He has improved things materially as far as he went.

E. Schweinof and H. Schilling in doing some digging on the bank of the river just above the ice-houses struck an Indian grave containing, besides a few bones, quite a number of articles, mostly stone implements of one kind or another, a large clay pipe, beads, a scalping knife with the word "Montreal" on one side of the blade, arrowheads, etc.

Tamarack: The milk haulers to the Wheatland creamery were compelled to wait several hours one day last week on account of an accident which occurred to the engine. It will be necessary to purchase a new engine costing about \$180.

Specie Grove: Plowing is quite general among the farmers. A soaking rain now would make the work easier as it is getting quite dry again.

September -- 1901

Sept. 4: Call at the Oswego Millinery and see the new style of hats.

School commenced Monday; the teachers are the same as last term. Those from abroad, the Misses Prine and Stevens, were on hand, the latter, from Aurora, came down Sunday accompanied by her mother, who is a native of Oswego, having been Jessie a little girl of David Iliff when living here.

Fred W. Figge and Miss Paulina Shoger were quietly married Wednesday evening.

Specie Grove: There are 30 pupils enrolled at the Minkler school, a good showing for the first week.

The Chicago Telephone Company have put in new extension transmitters on their 'phones in this neighborhood.

The Kendall school begins next Monday.

Sept 11: Front page Record article, with photo of the President: While holding a reception at the Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo, New York, Friday afternoon, September 6, 1901, President McKinley was shot twice by an anarchist named Leon Czolgosz. One ball struck him in the breast, the other in the stomach, which was most serious. The President will recover. The would-be assassin is in jail.

Morris Cliggitt, attorney at law of Pittsburg, Kansas, is here on a visit.

Florence White has returned to the hello service of the Chicago Telephone exchange here.

The Congregational church is being improved by furnishing it with the acetylene light by J.H. Edwards.

The opening of a night blooming Cereus was witnessed one evening at J.L. Gaylord's by a party of ladies.

Mr. and Mrs. C.T. Cherry have returned from the Buffalo exposition. Among the visits made there was one to the old farm of his parents.

Joe Sierp was down from Aurora and he is no longer a mere clerk, but the junior partner or the Co. in the firm of George R. Wilcox & Co. Yet he didn't put on any extra airs.

The fair last week, followed by the attempted assassination of the President, had a "breaking up" effect on many of the usual pursuits, including that getting the news items of the town.

The Oswego ball players went to spend a merry afternoon at Plainfield, indulging in a pleasant game of ball. The Oswego boys have met and defeated the Plainfield boys twice before and went to play them in the third game merely as a pastime more than anything else because then cannot play fast ball or never could beat any tem by fair playing.

Sept. 18: WILLIAM McKINLEY IS DEAD!

The President of the United States is gone, the victim of an assassin. But, "The Government at Washington still lives. God reigns!"

When *The Record* was printed last Wednesday, all looked well, and there was not a doubt in the minds of the mass of the people but what he would recover. But the assassin's bullet did its work. It plowed a furrow through the victim's body that was filled with a poisonous result as venomous as was the anarchist heart."

And President McKinley is dead!

In his closing consciousness he chanted a verse of "Nearer my God to Thee, Nearer to Thee," and his last words to those about him were full of Christian fortitude.

Abe and Charley Cherry are shipping baled hay.

Oliver Burkhart is attending the law school at Lake Forest.

Mrs. R.H. Johnston, over the river, is sick--said to be typhoid.

Beg pardon for omitting last week to mention that the veterans of the 127th were accompanied by their wives at that regiment's reunion.

School will be closed Thursday in pursuance of President Roosevelt's proclamation for devoting the day to obituary observance in behalf of the late President McKinley.

The Methodist church is now undergoing outside renovation, having been painted and is being provided with a steeple again; also with an addition for an auditorium. A bell is also to be procured for it.

Sam Foster, a government land appraiser in the Indian Territory, and about 46 years ago, when a young man, a business man of Oswego, was here on a flying visit to Mrs. Lauriston Walker and Rush Walker, relatives.

All events met are lessons that will shape our characters for the better or worse. An event has now been met for a lesson not only of the entire nation but of the world at large. Which way will the effects be greatest?



The old soldiers will meet at Woodman hall Thursday, 2:30 p.m., for the purpose of being prepared to march in a body to the McKinley reverence meeting, 3 o'clock, at the Evangelical church. It is desired that all should fall in.

#### No Rural Mail Thursday

The chief executive of the nation has set apart as a day of mourning and prayer, Thursday, Sept. 19, the day when the body of our beloved deceased President is to be laid away in its last earthly resting place.

In accordance with the President's proclamation and in order that rural mail carriers may be able to join in obeying his recommendations that "all the people of the United States assemble on that day and bow down in submission to the will of Almighty God," that all rural free delivery carriers throughout the country shall refrain entirely from performing any official duties on the day designated.

J.N. MASTEN

Acting First Asst. Postmaster General.

Tamarack: The rain Saturday afternoon spoiled what is said to have been one of the best plowing matches ever held, in exhibits, attendance, etc. The plowing was only fair on account of the wet ground.

#### Sept. 25: The Acetylene Light

was used for the first time at the Congregational church Sunday evening and proved most satisfactory and admirable, its efficacy being distributed alike to all parts of the house, there being now no dark corners for us boys to cut up unobserved.

The national mourning observances Thursday [commemorating the death of President William McKinley] were strictly in accordance with the plan proposed. The public places and many private houses were draped more or less in black; the black bordered picture of McKinley was everywhere visible, the business places closed at the proper time. At 2:30 all movements stopped for five minutes--the [interurban] cars then were in town--after which the several church bells tolled and the people were wending their way to the church,

which was appropriately draped and which became densely crowded.

It is supposed that congress at its next session will pass adequate laws for the suppression of anarchy in this country. The prohibition of anarchist literature and the meetings of anarchists will doubtless be given first consideration, but that leaves the anarchists still intact and what shall be done with them is a more perplexing question. The shooting and hanging of them, as frequently suggested during the sensation, of course, cannot be entertained when the people are cooled off. The returning them to the countries where they came from would only touch a part, as there are being many native born and naturalized Americans among them. Then there are the suggestions of confining them all in prisons or securing one of the Fiji Islands and to deport them there.

Anarchists are mainly found in the larger cities, and with the exception of a few leaders, are of the very poor; it is there where they mostly witnessed the display of pomp, haughtiness, and extravagance of reigning royalty. They reason that the cost of such display is making their lot the harder, and it is most likely that by this means the deadly antipathy against royal rulers was developed.

Wolf's Crossing: School in the Harvey district was closed Thursday out of respect for the late President.

Tamarack: Memorial services were held at the church Thursday afternoon in honor of the late President McKinley.

The social, which was held Friday evening in the new corncrib on Harvey Ferguson's farm, was a success.

October -- 1901

Oct. 2: Hon. C.T. Cherry attended the funeral of President McKinley at Canton [Ohio].

John Malcolm came back from Iowa on a visit. He has grown much for the short time gone.

C.I. Smith has substantially repaired the damages to his reservoir, made by the breaking up of the ice last spring.

The annual meeting of the Kendall Cooperative Creamery Company will be held in the office of said company Saturday, Oct. 5, 1901.  
S.W. Johnson, Secretary.

Specie Grove: A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. R.D. Gates Sept. 28.

Hazel and hickory nuts are quite plentiful, and the boys are laying in a supply for winter.

A.D. Curran visited the Minkler school Monday week and found everything progressing nicely under Mr. Morley's efficient management.

A large amount of corn has been cut and shocked and farmers will begin winter with plenty of feed for the amount of stock to be wintered.

A large amount of clover is being cut for seed, and the crop will be good.

Wolfs Crossing: Mrs. Thomas Stewart of Tamarack spent a day at her brother's, Robert Harvey.

Oct. 9: Susie Croushorn is taking a full course in the Normal school at DeKalb.

Col. Clark and family are now residents of this village. He will make a good candidate for mayor next spring.

This point has been made a sheep rest, and many thousand unloaded here and pastured on the Hawley farm before reshipment.

The Methodist church, after these many years of existence without a bell, is now provided with one, and Sunday it was made serviceable for the first time.

The construction of the basement for the new location of the Presbyterian church is now under way, and the job of moving the church upon it will be strenuously pushed.

The attempt of a hold-up of a lady was made Monday evening. The fellow arrested and lodged in the calaboose over night said this morning, in court, that he was from Minneapolis on his way to Vincennes and the last thing he remembered of the day before was being in a saloon in Aurora. The lady wouldn't appear against him, and he had no money to pay a fine so he had to be let go on a promise of behaving and clearing out, which he did on the 8:30 car going north.

Wolf's Crossing: Conrad Schark is sick with malarial fever.

Oct. 16: The residence of A.P. Werve is now upstairs in the Shoger stone building.

Ezekiel Davis Jr. has bought the Van Driesen tenant house near the pumping station.

The Cast-Iron Zulu performed one evening on the street by eating his supper of broken glass and burning kerosene soaked cotton, doing feats of strength, dancing a jig in his bare feet in a box partly filled with broken bottles and other glassware, etc.

Oct. 23: Victor Mather had his fine stallion die of colic Sunday night, for which he would not have taken \$1,000; having been a 2:30 trotter, and of very gentle disposition.

The remains of Mrs. James A. Durand were brought here Saturday from Chicago for burial by the side of her husband. They were accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Cassius Durand and their son and a minister of that city. The Durands were a prominent family here about 35 or 40 years ago.

Down at Slade Cutter's Thursday, as they were arranging the outfit for shredding corn, Charley Reed, who was to run the engine, had a leg caught and broke just above the ankle. Dr. Drew adjusted the

fractured bones, and Charley will be laid up for awhile. Shredding seems to be unlucky work.

The report of the death of William S. Bunn at his late residence in Sturgis, Mich., was received here. He was one of Oswego's business men of 40 years ago, more or less. And by the way, his daughter Maggie became Mrs. Cassius Durand, of whom mention is made in another paragraph, who was present at his death, and thus bade to witness the death of both her father and mother-in-law within nearly a week of each other.

The builders are very busy. The Richards gang is building a new house for Mrs. Lizzie Davis out at the grove. The Schamp gang is rebuilding the townhouse burned a year ago. Joe Wayne is constructing the basement of a large and very fine residence to be built next spring. Everything is now ready and waiting for George Nichols to move the Presbyterian church to its new location.

Wolfs Crossing: Casper Wolf and wife of Oswego are visiting their son John Wolf.

Tamarack: Corn husking is occupying the attention of the farmers.

Abner Updike and Charles Smith and wife of Wolf's Crossing, visited at Walter Gilmour's Sunday.

Oct. 30: The new mill for grinding feed of A.P. Werve's in the Gus Shoger Westside building is now in operation.

Watts Cutter is going to have a building moved on the old Fox place to a more eligible site by George Nichols.

L. Schuman has broken up housekeeping and his business here and will move to Iowa to live with his daughter.

Garrett Seely is one of the Oswego boys who are getting up in the world. He has been promoted to the superintendency of an elevated road in Chicago.

Last Saturday a telephone company put a handsome desk phone in the M.E. church and Mrs. T. Minard sitting in her chair at home enjoyed the services Sunday morning and evening.

Doc Woolley's shredding outfit was engaged for several days at Rob Johnston's to work up a part of his large crop of corn. The machine is one of the wonderful things of this wonderful age.

The most interesting proceedings of the week, and which together with the fine weather, were a nice opportunity for whiling away the time of us fellows who like to look on and see other people work, was the moving of the Presbyterian church to its new location downtown. Some of us also were curious to hear George Nichols swear among a lot of staid Presbyterians and in moving their church, but in this we had deceived ourselves; Nichols has reformed--he was as temperate in his language as could be desired--only twice when he let slip a few of the minor cuss words. The job was accomplished satisfactorily and without any accident; the edifice was much heavier than supposed, having been built when oak timber was used, and Nichols was grieved when he saw so many of his nice maple rollers crushed to splinters or cut in two. The masons are now completing the underpinning of the structure.

Through the columns of our paper Joe Sierp wishes to thank the friends who so kindly contributed toward his undertaking of putting in the pump and well in the Oswego cemetery.

#### OSWEGO VILLAGE

One Of The Pretty Towns On Fox River

Improvements Being Made--Convenient Residence Place--Electric Car Line--Water Works--Sightly Building Sites

*The Record* man had an errand in the village of Oswego some days ago and took a walk about the residence part of the town. It was a pleasure to view the improvements made and the comfortable residences of its people. There is an evidence of home-life and domestic comfort displayed as well as business thrift. The village board seems to be alive to modern improvements and are always looking for something to make better.

Oswego is convenient to Aurora, Yorkville and Chicago. It has the Fox River Branch of the Burlington Railroad for freight and

passenger purposes and the Aurora, Yorkville and Morris electric line for convenience. These modes of travel put Oswego in an advantageous position for people who like country homes and do city business. The journey to Chicago is not tedious, and many might avail themselves of rural residence if they knew what nice towns we had along the Fox River.

Oswego has a good system of water-works, which is a great accession to any place. Its walks and streets are good. This was the first village in this section to put in cement walks, curbs and gutters. Its principal business street is as perfect and neat as can be found. There are watering places for horses that are easy of access and make it handy for those who drive.

Oswego has a good school, which has been under the intelligent supervision of Mr. Charles Newman for several years. He has able assistants to keep the school in the front rank. A commodious brick school building situated in a big square of ground, or a park, all nicely kept, makes it a notable place in the village. Then there are some fine residences around this square with pretty yards and well-kept lawns.

Oswego is also well provided with churches, and the societies are growing in usefulness and influence. The German Evangelical Church is a handsome and well-arranged building, with a good congregation every Sunday to listen to a good preacher. The Congregational people have one of the best-appointed churches on Fox River, so far as convenience and comfort is concerned. They have a modern well lighted and heated structure with a strong membership. They have a capable pastor, the Rev. F. W. Long, who is doubtless satisfied with the backing he receives from his people. The Presbyterian Church is having a new lease of life and growing young again. The building, which has stood for so many years on the outskirts of the village, is to have a new location, almost "down town," and will be fixed up neatly for the new pastor who will do his best to make it a strong church. The Methodists, after some years of quietude are becoming zealous and the old church has been greatly improved. The church has taken a prominent stand in the religious affairs of the town. Stand by the churches and school, ye people of Oswego, and your homes will be more desirable.

To the writer, the favorite street in Oswego is the one along which the electric road runs. Not that this road improves it for residences, but the natural lay of the land has always attracted one driving

through town. The pretty homes make it all look pleasant. This street is being improved. The building of a stone wall along a ravine and the new sidewalks thus made possible adds to the looks of the street. The newer residences will attract others, and will rival the pretty places around the Schoolhouse Square.

There is a large business done in Oswego, notwithstanding its proximity to Aurora. The store of Sodt & Morse is a leading place for trade. They have a fine storeroom filled with seasonable and staple goods. The people of the village and the farmers about should do what they can to keep this firm busy. Mr. Croushorn in the furniture store and Mr. Edwards in the hardware business have a fine trade. Mr. Edwards has patented and makes a machine for acetylene gas that is meeting with success. There is a splendid livery barn that is kept in the best condition. Mr. Shoger, the proprietor, also does well in the line of farm machinery. As to grain trade, Mr. William Cliggitt has a good business and Oswego draws the farmer from many miles out. Then there are good grocery stores, good market where you get good meat, a first class barbershop, and wagon and blacksmith shops that are all up to the standard.

A well-appointed drug store is a necessity in every town, and Oswego keeps up with the procession in this direction. Scott Cutter has one of the best-regulated drug stores on Fox River. He keeps a fine line of fancy and staple goods.

Two telephone systems put Oswego in touch with a large territory. The businessman or the housewife can readily have a talk in ordering new goods or about the last meeting of the woman's club. The telephone is a great device. It puts us in touch with each other while the work of the store, the shop, the office or the home is going on.

The rural mail delivery is also a factor. Two routes run out of Oswego. It is a pleasant innovation for the farmer and his family. The daily paper and your letters are delivered at the door, though you are six or eight miles from the post office. Merchants complain some in the different towns that the free mail delivery and the telephone hurt trade somewhat in the villages, but it is a matter that we must accustom ourselves to. The farming community may not be in town so often, but they have to use the same quantity of supplies. If not bought every day, the bill is much larger when they do come to buy. These improvements in the manner of living continue to grow. There will be other innovations in the years to come.



It may be said that to allude to the cemetery is not a pleasant theme, but it is a common lot where we all must meet. When you see a well located, neatly kept place for the last rest of humanity, it is not sad to speak of it. Oswego has a beautiful acre of God on the riverbank. The well kept grounds and handsome monuments are to be commended. It is the resting-place of many of the pioneers. Many memories are revived as you look at the inscriptions on the gravestones. The cemetery should always be kept in good order, as the one at Oswego is.

That Oswego holds a cultured community is in evidence when you read of the doings of the women's clubs. There are two, and both well sustained.

The Nineteenth Century Club is the older and larger one, and it is doing good work. Its meetings are well attended and the talks, discussions, music, and the social side are most attractive. The Saturday Club is the younger organization, and limits its membership in numbers. This club has been most successful in its work. These two intellectual functions in a country village show what kind of people live in Oswego. There is all the enjoyment here one can find in a big city. If one tires of home amusement, they can take the car or the train and attend a matinee or evening performance elsewhere and get home before midnight.

There are worse places than a country village to live in and not many better. The folks who have their homes in Oswego and Yorkville are not the most desolate people in the world.

November -- 1901

Nov. 6: Get your feed ground at A.P. Werve's new feed mill in the Shoger building on Main Street, Oswego [All-American Male building].

John Burkhart has had a new well drilled on his farm, and has had a 60-foot tower windmill put up.

A.P. Werve has moved his jewelry stock into the Shoger building. Fine line of jewelry for sale. All kinds of repairing done promptly.

A quiet and pleasant event transpired at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Cherry, Thursday, Oct. 31, when at high noon, Mrs. Cherry's brother, Albert S. Jessup and Miss Jessie Armitage of Buckingham, Ill. were united in marriage.

Wolf's Crossing: George Scholl has several cows killed by an engine on the EJ&E railroad.

The fall term of school in the Harvey district closed last week. Following is a list of pupils who were not absent during the month: Gertrude Haag, Alice Updike, Esther Smith, Mary Updike, George Smith, Elmer Updike, Courtney Smith. Neither absent nor tardy, Elmer Updike.

Phebe Copps, Teacher

Specie Grove: The weather took an awful cold Sunday night.

Eddie Kusmaul is helping the Clark boys with the fall work.

Yorkville: THE DAM IS COMPLETED.

Yorkville Has a Small River Lake Again

Good Ice Will be Cut if the Winter is Cold Enough

The holes that developed in the river dam here a week ago Sunday were treated by Mr. Fred Esch and his workmen so completely that when the race was closed Saturday night and the water was high enough to run over the dam, it held all that was expected and the wearying work is done. It is a good thing for Yorkville; not only to have the big pond in the river, but the ice-cutting and ice-shipping business gives work to a number of our people and brings money to the town, as well as helping the railroad company in the way of freights. The past two months a number of our men have been given work, which has been very acceptable. We should all feel like commending the firm of Esch Brothers & Rabe for sticking to Yorkville, as they have been greatly harassed by the Chicago ice trust, which tried every means to dispossess them of their property. And Chicago people will get good ice from Yorkville. The water in the Fox river at this point has been very clear and clean this year. All the impurities from the towns above seem to have been eradicated by the passage of the water to this place, and the pond being free from weeds and river grass, there is no reason why the

ice here should not be in first-class condition. It is hoped our ice company may be reimbursed for their outlay of money on the dam by a fine crop of ice this winter.

And it is not beyond possibility that the waterpower here may be used for some purpose in the line of manufacturing or running dynamos to furnish electric lighting or power. Mr. Esch has been approached by parties who have talked of utilizing the waterpower here. It would seem that it would be profitable.

Nov. 13: A young gentleman from Aurora, not knowing we had any ordinance against shooting within the corporation limits, rapidly emptied his repeating gun at the Schickler corner one evening just before boarding a north-bound car. He was peremptorily invited down the next and one having been informed of our regulations, paid \$7 in fine and costs.

Tamarack: About 35 or 40 men helped raise the new barn on the Stewart farm Friday afternoon. After the work was done, the Stewart ladies invited them to come to the corn crib where a fine supper of buns, wienies, coffee, pie, cake, grapes and other good things awaited them.

Yorkville: Thursday night at a little after eight o'clock, an alarm of fire was spread in Yorkville by the long ringing of the Congregational church bell and it was discovered there was a big blaze out on the fair grounds.

Twenty-seven sheds in all were burned and the loss is probably about \$500. The origin of the fire is unknown but supposed to be the work of tramps who were careless about their fire. It may have been spontaneous combustion.

Esch Brothers & Rabe loaded the big boiler of the old Castle paper mill on a flat car and will take it to one of their ice plants in Wisconsin. There is some hope now that the old paper mill's debris will be cleaned up and a better look be given to the riverfront opposite the Yorkville depot.

Specie Grove: Superintendent A.D. Curran visited the Minkler school one day last week.

Corn husking is practically finished in this vicinity. The yield is fair in quantity but have a low grade.

The road commissioners are opening a gravel bed on the Myron Hopkins farm opposite the Doetschman residence.

In the fire at the fair grounds last week, many of our farmers will suffer loss as they have stock in the association.

The Lyons farm house on the river road is nearly completed. It is a neat, tasty structure and will make a comfortable home.

The Fox river improvement convention to be soon held should be attended by representative men, and all that is possible be done to improve the summer condition of this stream, lest it sometime be the cause of an epidemic of sickness.

Nov. 20: J.A. Shoger has had an acetylene light plant put in his residence.

It is said that Abner Updike has bought the Shepard premises and will become a townsman.

C.I. Smith is gradually improving the premises about his pond on the Waubonsie. A hydraulic ram for the watering of his stock is one of the things to be there.

“Is the electric road hurting the business of Oswego any?” is a question occasionally propounded and was generally answered that what hurt it may be to some business is much more than made up by it to others; that while the dry goods business may thereby be somewhat retarded, that of the wet goods be largely enhanced. Now, however, it is said that Oswego money has taken a current to Aurora even through the wet goods business. It appears that certain ones cannot supply themselves here in that line of goods but being so handy to Aurora they jump on a car to get them there, and then are apt to lay in too much, “filling up,” as it is called, and when full some of them need assistance and are helped to lodgings for which afterwards they are charged an outrageous price. Men that are flush

when leaving here for Aurora have nary a red [cent] on returning and in this way Oswego is getting impoverished.

An act of the legislature which goes into effect Jan. 1, 1902, contains some new provisions in regard to the recording of births and deaths and makes some different regulations in regard to the work of the corner.

The act provides that births shall be reported to the county clerk, but to each doctor or other person reporting a birth a fee of 25 cents shall be paid by the county treasurer.

Deaths are to be reported to the city clerk if they occur within the city and when outside the city to the town clerk of the township in which they occur.

The law states that where a body has been buried without the proper permit it will be the duty of the coroner to disinter the body and hold an inquest.

Specie Grove: Many of the farmers are needing rain to fill up wells and cisterns before cold weather begins in earnest. The want of water in winter for stock is quite as bad as to be short of it in the summertime.

#### Tamarack Wedding

The country residence of Mr. John Gilmour at Tamarack is a scene of a happy gathering of people as *The Record* goes to press this noon, the occasion being the marriage of his daughter, Miss Elizabeth Gilmour to Mr. Thomas McMicken, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank McMicken.

Nov. 27: The Presbyterian church in its reconstruction has also been provided with a furnace.

Charley Reed has his broken leg so far repaired as to allow him to be around the house on crutches.

Myron Cowdrey, electric car conductor on this line, got his head hurt in Aurora Tuesday morning.

The brothers Abe and Charley Cherry have engaged themselves with the Chicago Telephone Company.

The Methodist church has undergone more improvements by paint, etc. Its new bell is a splendid ringer.

The new town house is nearly complete and is shaped for occupants to keep themselves real cozy. I want the south side rooms if I go there.

The Union Thanksgiving Service will be held at the German Evangelical church Thursday morning.

Specie Grove: Many farmers were obliged to pump water by hand during the calm weather of last week; there was not enough wind to run the windmills.

The road commissioners are preparing to put a new bridge near the Lippold place and lower the hills on each side before graveling is begun. Instead of sewer tile, large steel cylinders are used. It is claimed the latter are not affected by freezing as the former sometimes are.

December -- 1901

Dec. 4: Thanksgiving here was fully observed.

Dec. 11: Mayor Roberts has been ailing during the week.

Cob Pearce has been increasing his facilities for stabling cattle by some new buildings.

Improving the road to the cemetery by the electric railroad company and the village authorities has been in progress.

The Schickler saloon was burglarized of \$12 and some cigars; how the entrance was effected is not known; surmised the fellow was locked in. The same night the depot was broken into and the money drawer broken open, but nothing secured.

Specie Grove: A great deal of grain is being hauled away from here now.

Dec. 18: Fred Tarbox was in town Thursday calling on a few of his old friends. He was the station agent here at one time when he gained the friendship of the whole community.

Specie Grove: With just a little more snow we would have good sleighing for Christmas.

Dec. 25: Joe Foss has moved into the trans-Waubonsie Schilling house.

A number of the high school students spend the noon hour skating on Mr. Smith's pond.

Mrs. Christine Hawley has bought the Kate Cliggitt house on Main street for a permanent house.

Many of the Filipinos are now taking the oath of allegiance, swearing that they will support the constitution of the United States. What relation does that make them to this country?

The funeral of Ms. Anna Herren took place Friday. Anna Stahley, the maiden of the deceased was born in the canton of Berne, Switzerland, Dec. 24, 1827. In 1851 the family came to America and bought a home 12 miles east of Joliet, where she resided until her marriage to Christian Herren in 1860. Five sons were born to them, Charles C. of Austin; Frank, W. of Plainfield; John A. over the river; and Robert R. and Walter W. at home.

Miss Jeanette Kimball died at her brother's George Kimball, in Aurora.

Mr. Jacob Constantine died at his home in Oswego township Saturday, Dec. 21, 1901 in the 65th year of his age. Deceased was born in Wittemberg, Germany June 3, 1837; came to this country in 1852, and settled soon after in Kendall County. He was married to Miss Barbara Hafenrichter Sept. 20, 1859, who is a sister of

Lawrence Hafenrichter of Yorkville. He leaves a widow and two children.

Specie Grove: Last week will pass into history as one of the coldest December weeks on record, and if the cold is going to “strengthen as the days lengthen” we will have an uncommonly cold winter.

1902

January

Jan. 1: Christmas here was quiet, no public sporting of any kind and the day was not made use of for the evolution of cruelty and violence as is done frequently.

The age of Mrs. Anna Herren was made ten years too high by *The Record* last week.

Mrs. Caroline Strossman died at her son, Edward’s home in Aurora Sunday and will be brought here for burial Tuesday. She was 83 years of age; the family came her from York State in the early fifties; her husband died ten years ago. The survivors of the family are four sons, Edward and Frank of Aurora, Henry of Chicago, and William of Kentucky.

Specie Grove: John Wampah and Charles Shepard filled their ice-houses last week.

Jan. 8: An optograph show came to pass here Friday evening. [The optograph was an early moving picture presentation machine. From The Marlin Democrat, Marlin, Tex., Sept. 18, 1907: “For Sale--One No. 4 Optograph, 1907 model, moving picture machine. Will sell at a bargain. E. W. Bounds.”]

Didn’t learn whether any church had a watch meeting of the old out and the new one in.



Caroline Sutherland was born in Hanover Germany and came to America when about 12 years of age and settled in Canajoharie, N.Y. Was married to William Strossman 63 years ago; six children, of which four sons are now living. Came to Oswego about 50 years ago and died in Aurora Dec. 29, 1901 at the age of 81 years, four months, and 11 days.

The necronological record of this community shows 13 deaths of which eight were males and five females. The oldest was 95 years and the youngest 17 years.

The marriage record shows 10 couples.

Tamarack: Thomas Stewart went to Chicago with a load of cattle.

During the year 1901 there were three deaths, seven births, and two marriages in this community.

#### KILL THREE TONS OF SPARROWS

Annual Hunt Near Pana, Ill., Results In 24,000 Dead Birds.

The annual sparrow hunt of Pleasant township came to an end last night and as a result over three tons of sparrows were killed.

Yorkville: For some weeks there has been work doing in starting a State Bank in Yorkville, and the matter is about consummated. The Yorkville Bank of Newton Brothers will be transferred to the new organization and as soon as the papers are received from the Secretary of State at Springfield the stock books will be opened and business commenced.

Those involved in the project are John R. Marshall, Robert N. Newton, Lew W. Mason and W.A. Meyer. The first three are Yorkville men; Mr. Meyer is from Somonauk.

Jan. 15: The first sign of spring, playing marbles, was on those nice days last week.

Doc Woolley attended the Caton horse sale and bought a span of fine Norman mares.

A thimble party was had at the residence of Mrs. Lester Wednesday afternoon, being composed only of ladies, some from Aurora. The dawning was interrupted by a nice lunch.

The brethren of the Masonic lodge, on their installation of new officers, presented L.P. Voss, the retiring master, who having served a number of years, with a nice carved Morris chair.

The small-pox scare reached here, somewhat. It happened that Rev. F.W. Long and wife called at Rev. Mr. Meek's in Yorkville when the son was in the house in another room. To be as precautionary as possible, it was deemed best that the Longs remain at home for some days and receive no company.

As to an isthmanian canal, if we shall have one it should be the best that can be made. Formerly, one naturally favored the Nicaragua route, it being the nearest to this country and supposed to be quite a straight route over a comparatively level country--the of Panama was known to be very rough. A commission to examine both routes had reported and salient extracts from the report have been published, which should made everybody favor the Panama route.

Specie Grove: It has been an uncommon good winter so far for mail carriers and milk haulers as the roads have been excellent and the weather generally good.

Jan. 22: Skating is now the chief amusement and exercise of the young.

At Schickler's, a free venison lunch was on one day, and was well patronized, it is said.

The business of Funk & Foran kept constantly increasing so that they had to occupy the adjoining building, and when again crowded for room the next adjoining one. It is said that they have divided the business, Funk taking the meat market and Foran the grocery store.

The Grinnell Concert Trio of Chicago will give a concert at the Congregational church Wednesday evening.

Four gentlemen from Plano were up here week before last and one of them again Saturday to collect data for a history of Kendall County. As there were no records kept of the inhabitants and doings of Oswego, what is known by the people here now is desired to be obtained. In order for Oswego to be well represented in that history the oldest settlers here should minute down on a piece of paper, or get their granddaughters to do it for them, the situation of the place and surrounding country, who were the prominent people, etc. when they came here and the years following. The paper when ready may be handed to the postmaster, and they will receive attention.

It would appear that a Congressional committee was charged with the investigation of the United States “are” and “is” question, and that it reported in favor of the “is,” so that in government papers the “is” when used shall be legal.

Tamarack: A land agent from the western part of Indiana is staying at Thomas Stewart’s and trying to induce the farmers here to invest their spare cash in land there.

Jan. 29: C.I. Smith has built another ice-house and he welcomes this cold snap.

B.W. Richards has resigned as carrier of rural mail route No. 2. The new appointee is Otto Lippold with his brother Theodore as substitute.

Specie Grove: It was 15 below zero Monday morning, the coldest we have had yet.

The schools have been but slimly attended owing to so much indisposition among the children from being vaccinated.

Our milk haulers have lively times near “Corner View” mornings in trying to get on the main road first, so as to unload first at the factory. One of these times when an accident happens as the result of their racing it will not be so funny.

Tamarack: The eldest son of Robert Pennington living about two miles east of Tamarack, died Saturday of typhoid fever.

February -- 1902

Feb. 5: A double funeral, the burial at the same time of husband and wife, occurred here Sunday. The sickness of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Leigh with pneumonia was mentioned last week. Mrs. Leigh, the last of the two to become sick, died Thursday evening and Mr. Leigh Friday evening, within a few minutes of 24 hours apart. The funeral was from the Evangelical church.

The burial of the demised couple was in one grave, and notwithstanding the severe cold weather, quite a number, besides the relatives, followed the hearse to the cemetery to witness the interment.

George Fredrick Leigh was born at Petersdorf, Bavaria, Dec. 17, 1826 and Barbara M. Kraft at Wildenstein, Wurttemberg, Dec. 26, 1823. Both came to America in 1852, and in September of the same year they were married at Rochester, N.Y., then came to Oswego where shortly after they engaged in farming in which they were very successful.

John Wald is said to have bought the George Williams farm for \$13,000.

Abner Updike moved to town Tuesday. He will make a good candidate for president of the board.

The sun shown brightly Feb. 2, but I reckon that the groundhog was not fool enough to come out of his hole on such a cold day, and that we are all right yet for an early spring.

Sun dogs of the most magnificent kind were displayed Tuesday morning, rising like pillars from out of the horizon and reaching half way to the zenith.

J.N. Wayne will retire from farming and has rented the farm to Charles Friebele. He will, however, not move to town but build for himself and family a nice residence in the country.

After school one day a number of the boys went up to the Smith pond skating; from a part of it the ice had been cut, another thin layer formed and a light snow fallen on the whole causing the line between the thick and thin ice to be invisible. Frank Norris got over the line and went through; his companions got him out and provided him with dry clothes to go home--a mile and a half out of town.

Tamarack: Miss Margaret Rance and James Stewart were married Thursday, Jan. 30, by the Rev. R.J. Kyle at the home of the bride's mother in the presence of immediately relatives only. They went at once to housekeeping in the fine residence, which the groom had lately built and nicely furnished west of Tamarack.

Feb. 12: Teacher Mary Prine has changed her boarding place to her parents in Aurora.

The saloon firm of Michels & Conway is said to be dissolved and that Michels has gone into business in Joliet.

A company has been and is yet entertaining people with comical performances and medicine talk at the Woodman hall evenings.

Charles Leigh died Thursday, Feb. 6, 1902 and his funeral took place Sunday, eight days from that of his parents, all having died in the same house and of what was called pneumonia, which in this case seems to have been contagious. The attendance at the funeral was very large.

The sermon in German by the pastor was according to the text, "Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." Charles Leigh was born here and was 42 years, 7 months, and 1 day of age.

President Roosevelt's proclamation forbidding government employees petitioning congress for increase of salary under the penalty of getting fired is both right and wrong, but under the circumstances more right than wrong.

Yorkville: The news of the great carp catches at the dam in Yorkville brought the fish and fish warden, Don Winn, to the scene Saturday,

and there was great consternation among those engaged in the seemingly harmless business. The fish are being driven down the river in great numbers to seek openings where they get a breath of pure water by the coal gas refuse and sewerage that is run in the stream from the cities above us, and the ice forming an impervious covering the fish can't stand the stench and are making for the pure air of Yorkville, It seems only merciful that the fish should be taken from the suffocating river and placed to as good use as food. Especially it is deemed desirable to lessen the number of carp, which is growing rapidly.

No one thought it wrong to take these fish where they are so plenty by any means at hand, and all kinds of implements are used, except the lawful hook and line. Warden Winn appeared among the fishermen and captured some of the grab hooks and spears, but did not make any arrests.

Feb. 19: A love feast is what the Illinois Republicans are most in need of just now.

John Varner and Harry Warner have recently been spending the most of their time in the north of DeKalb county in putting acetylene light into houses.

George Knapp, who was born and spent part of his boyhood days here, is here from Colorado where he has a ranch with some good horses. He has grown into a great big fellow.

Mrs. Louisa Weller died Feb. 12, 1902 having been an invalid for about six years. The principal ailment was asthma. She was an adherent of the Lutheran church, a native of Bavaria, Germany, came to America in 1857, was married to L. Weller in 1858. Her age was 81 years, four months, and some days The body was taken to the NaAuSay cemetery for interment.

Mrs. Martha Z. Gorsuch was buried from the home of Mrs. Forbes, Oswego, Thursday. She was the wife of Luther S. Gorsuch, city electrician of Joliet. Martha Z. England was born in New York State Dec. 14, 1848; was married to Mr. Gorsuch Nov. 3, 1881. Deceased had been an invalid for 14 years. A short service was held at her home in Joliet after which the remains were brought to Oswego.

Here a simple service was held, the pastor of the Methodist church preaching a short discourse.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Sleighloads were much in evidence last week. Monday night a crowd of eight drove to Aurora. Friday night two loads went over to the Pilcher school house to attend an entertainment, and Saturday night a load of 12 came down from Aurora and spent the evening at Charles LaDew's.

Wolf's Crossing: Among those are still entertaining the chicken pox are Alvin and Charlie Sorg and Courtney Smith.

Feb. 26: Arthur C. Lyon and Henrietta A. Marin were married Wednesday at the home of an aunt of the bride in Aurora.

A free chicken fry was being served Thursday at the saloon, "The Oswego," proprietor M. Conway.

Specie Grove: One of our enterprising farmers used his idle time in peddling fish about the country with the result that he was arrested by the game warden and brought before an Oswego justice for a reckoning with the State. As there was no evidence brought forth that the accused had caught the fish, the case was dismissed.

Another tally for Specie Grove: We have been honored at the feast to be given the royal prince. The caterers for the Chicago Auditorium banquet to be given in honor of Prince Henry of Germany ordered spring lambs for the occasion direct from this neighborhood. Our sheep man, John Gates, will furnish them on time.

March -- 1902

March 5: Mrs. Tina Suhler moved here from NaAuSay and into the Seely tenement house over the river.

Mrs. Mame Davis is now performing the central hello duties at the drug store telephone office.

Mr. Albert Phillips and family of Kendall have moved into the Fox house a mile down the road.

Fred W. Figge has sold his residence to Jake Friebele and the barber shop outfit to Gus Voss. He intended to leave here for Tacoma, Wash., about the end of the month but has just received information of his father being very sick there, which may hasten matters. The departure of Fred and his wife is regretted, but his health is believed to demand a change of location.

The funeral of Bessie Richards took place Tuesday from the residence of the family in Aurora. She died from pneumonia at the age of 24 years and was brought here for the final abode in the Oswego cemetery. The pall bearers were her five brothers and G.H. Voss, a brother-in-law.

March 12: Charles Pearsall is the new occupant of the Squires farm.

James H. Foran has bought the Shaver house on Madison street.

Another of the oldest citizens gone to be among the silent majority. Last Friday, Mrs. Sanders passed away after nearly a year of failing health.

Nancy Pearce, daughter of Daniel Pearce, was born May 1, 1891 near Urbana, Champlain county, Ohio. Her mother died when she was 16 months old and she was taken to live with her grandparents. When she was 12 years of age they moved to Perry county, Ill., where she remained until she was 18 when she came to Oswego to live with her father. At the age of 22, on the 16th day of April, 1840, she was married to Dr. Lyman King of Oswego. Four children were born to them, two of whom are dead. Two daughters are living, Mrs. Elizabeth Mason and Mrs. Marian Wormley of Walker, Mo. Dr. King died March 17, 1850. Sept. 17, 1851 she became the wife of John Sanders. Mr. and Mrs. Sanders always resided in Oswego, excepting the five years they were residents of Dallas, Tex. Five children were born to them, three are dead and two living, Henry and Nettie Sanders. Mr. Sanders died Feb. 6, 1885. Mrs. Sanders died March 7, 1902 aged 82 years, 10 months, and 6 days.

March 19: The Leigh House in town is for rent.



Rob Johnston, who has been so seriously sick, is now on the way to recovery.

All are cordially invited to attend the spring opening at the Oswego Millinery store Thursday, March 27.

Seldon Bunn, an Oswego product, now a railroad official at Bloomington, is here to see his cousins, the Roberts.

Rev. G. Schwartz is having a house built in Naperville and carpenter G. Schwartz will be doing it, and Charles Rieger will furnish the lumber, having given the best rates of several other dealers consulted.

Thursday evening, two special trolley cars brought 105 persons of the Men's Congregational League of Aurora to the Congregational church here, where a lunch was served and addresses made in response to toasts by the pastor of the church, Rev. Mr. Aldrich and Albert Denney of Aurora.

NaAuSay: Quite a small pox scare developed through here the 11th as the result of a case at Sell Harshbarger's, on the Frank Johnson place. A nephew of Mrs. Harshbarger's came here from Wisconsin and was taken sick. Dr. Jump was called and pronounced it a well developed case of small pox, fully six days along. The family was quarantined and the neighborhood has been quite thoroughly vaccinated.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Stone are being hauled for a new house on the Armour farm.

On account of the small pox, it was decided to postpone the thank-offering service until April 3.

March 26: The Oswego millinery opening this week, Thursday, March 27.

The L.N. Hall residence was bought by C.E. Fowler of Chicago.

Mr. and Mrs. Dan Minich have moved into the upstairs rooms of the Cutter building in the brick block.

The Williams' livery, feed, and tie-barn, opposite Cliggitt's elevator. All kinds of teaming done, light and heavy.

John Esch has moved to the suburb, Troy, relieving Schweinoff of the charge of the ice-houses, and who has moved down into the Watts Cutter tenant house.

Mrs. Sarah Ervin, widow of Joseph Ervin, died Saturday morning at the residence of her son. The funeral took place Monday afternoon from the house and the remains were brought here for burial in the family lot of the Oswego cemetery. The Ervin family came here from Ohio in 1854 and settled on a farm about three miles northeast of here. The husband died seven years ago. A son and daughter, Cyrus Ervin of Aurora and Mrs. G.M. Croushorn of his place, are the survivors of the family. Deceased was 79 years of age and was one of the good mothers.

NaAuSay: Mrs. Lucas is very sick again.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Dick Moss is running a milk wagon to Plainfield.

Farmers are getting out their farming implements and will soon be at work.

April -- 1902

April 2: The election here Tuesday was a tame affair.

The W.J. Morse family has moved into the house vacated by Fred Figge.

D.M. Haight spent two days in Chicago in behalf of the egg-tester interest.

Dr. L.P. Voss was in Chicago Tuesday and Wednesday attending a dental convention.

Easter was disappointing. Its weather was not that desired for the display of nice bonnets, and the weather authorities were far out of harmony with wishes of the ladies.

John Hettrich of Nebraska brought a carload of horses to Chicago and after having disposed of them came here for a few days' visit with relatives and former neighbors in the German settlement.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Figge took their departure for Tacoma, Wash. on Monday. Both will be much missed here in social circles and she besides in church doings. It is hoped that region will be more conducive to his health than this was.

Specie Grove: Several of the farmers here have sowed oats.

Well drillers brought in a well for John Wald last week on the farm that he recently bought of George Williams. He will have a windmill put up right away.

We were in error when we stated last week that the Chicago Telephone company were putting in 10-party lines in this vicinity. It was making some other changes.

Yorkville: The machinery for the Yorkville electric light plant has at last arrived, and is now being installed. The engine, 125 horse-power, of the Corliss type, is already in place and the new dynamo is ready for its work. The dynamo is an immense one for the size of the town. It is rated to carry 75,000 watts and run at a voltage of 440, which will give more than enough power to carry the lights of the town and the power that may be purchased. It will take some time for the installation of the new machine.

As a special favor, Mr. Young asks that the users of electricity in the villages prepare for the burning of oil for a night or two, the exact time not being known at present. The changing over of the power will necessitate the withdrawal of electricity. Have your lamps ready and when the time comes you will receive notice.

April 9: Fred Kohlhammer is said to have bought the Severance property.

Jennie Obman has been taken to Geneva for special schooling.

Special meetings are being held evenings at the Methodist church.

A picture gallery at the rink building for the time being is an accession to Oswego business.

The Oswego high school will give a basket social at Woodman hall Friday night, April 18. Ladies are requested to bring boxes.

From Andrew Welch's repository the following gentlemen bought vehicles: Frank Pearce, a Staver buggy; Fred Gray a Studebaker wagon; Levi Thomas a Studebaker spring wagon. On the Island, Aurora.

A number of the farmers with teams and implements came together Friday on the farm occupied by Rob Johnston and sowed his oats-- 50 acres. Fifty five horses were employed in doing it. Rob, who had undergone severe sickness was watching it part of the time from the window. He is now reported as getting along finely.

Specie Grove: The Stansel manufacturing plant has been putting in a set of tools for the making of mail boxes.

April 16: A thimble party was entertained by Mrs. H.B. Read, Saturday afternoon.

West Roberts has been quite sick for two weeks having had a run of typhoid fever.

The Schickler building has been provided with a rear porch and storage room.

The acetylene gas light has been established in the residence of A.J. Parkhurst.

Otto Haag was reelected school trustee at the election for that purpose Saturday at Edwards' store.

Another John Martin--Jake Meyer's new butcher--has moved here into the George Woolley house.

L.N. Hall has stored his effects in the Shaver building and for the time being moved in with his mother-in-law, Mrs. Forbes.

Tuesday the voters of this village exercised that priceless privilege of American citizenship by being proud of the opportunity of voting a ticket about which they had no chance whatever to say anything about.

"War is hell," is what General Sherman is reported to have said. England and the United States have now for several years been engaged in raising the most damnable hell on earth; destructive to themselves and those they are fighting and demoralizing to all.

Specie Grove: The Kendall school room is the best equipped and the neatest and most homelike in the county. Nothing but praise is heard of the efficiency of the teacher and her care of the school property and of the liberality of the directors in providing everything needful.

There was but a small vote polled for the trustee at the school election Saturday. A Pavilion man was elected. There are times when the office of trustee is a responsible one. One of these days we may consolidate all of the school districts and have a central high school with the free transportation of the pupils to school and return, and in the change much work and good judgment will be required of the board of trustees. An improvement on the above plan would be to have the children study their lessons at home and recite to a teacher centrally located over telephone. She assigning lessons and making corrections as needed. No directors or school houses would then be needed. The details of the new plan we will develop later.

April 23: But 30 felt patriotic enough to turn out and vote for the new portion of the village council last week.

The construction of Joseph Wayne's mansion down the river is now under way. H.S. Richards and gang are doing the carpenter work.

At the election of school director Saturday considerable interest was manifested and 179 votes were polled, about half that ladies. L.F. Burkhart won by 29 majority.

The acetylene light supplied through the Edwards machine here is that of giving full satisfaction. In the write-up of the dedication of the new Presbyterian church at Paw Paw, it was eulogistically mentioned as just the thing.

According to the reports from the Philippines it would appear that the United States there got on some of the old customs of Spain, which at one time was engaged in forcing religion down people by torture--Spanish inquisition--we forcing Americanism on the people in the same mode. What kind of patriots will such-made citizens or subjects turn out?

The old board of the village trustees Monday evening finished its business by allowing some bills, canvassing the vote of the election, declaring Charles Roberts as president, John Conway, John Gaylord, and James Pearce as trustees, and Lew Voss as clerk elected to the board, and then quit. The new board qualified and adjourned to meet next Monday.

The funeral of William Lippold, who died Saturday at the residence of his brother-in-law, Fred Leigh, down the river, occurred Monday from the Evangelical church. Will was 45 years, 3 months and 25 days of age and is survived by four brothers--who acted as pall bearers--and three sisters. Bright's disease was given as the cause of death.

On Thursday afternoon, April 17, 1902, Nellie B. Boessenecker, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G.P. Boessenecker, Aurora, was united in marriage with Fred C. Ebinger of Chicago. From the old Walker school with Miss E.M. Benthien as teacher, Miss Nellie Boessenecker, the 20th pupil on the roll, to be married.

Specie Grove: The Minkler School will have Arbor day exercises Friday of this week.

Perry Penman was elected director at the Kendall school meeting Saturday night.

April 30: Libbie Dwyre starts today for Salt Lake City.

David Hall is getting a tubular well constructed on his premises. H.H. Moore of Bristol is doing it.

John G. Seely has become a celebrated pianist; he electrified a party in Aurora the other day with his music.

Mrs. Sandford Chase died Sunday morning quite suddenly; said to have been sick only a day.

Clarence Barnard is said to have severed his connection with the CB&Q Company and engaged himself with the Plano Manufacturing Company.

At the council meeting Monday evening licenses were granted to the three saloons under the old managements and rates: A license to Werve for two pool tables. J.W. Morrison was elected marshal and street commissioner at \$25 per month for the marshal service, Charles Reed pumping agent at \$12, and Gus Shoger treasurer.

Anna Elizabeth McCord was born May 18, 1839; married to Charles F. Gates Dec. 5, 1860. She came with her husband and children from Montgomery, Ala. to Oswego in 1869, being of those that had been ruined by the war, and has lived here and vicinity ever since. She died April 19, the funeral occurring Tuesday afternoon from the house. The burial was in the family lot of the cemetery where her husband in '96 and a daughter in '90 had preceded her.

Helmar: New Lutheran Church at Helmar, Kendall County. To Be Dedicated Sunday next, May 4, 1902. Service in Norwegian in Forenoon--Sermon in English in Afternoon. Church Costs \$15,000 or More.

Rev. Mr. Peterson, pastor of the Lutheran church to be dedicated at Helmar on Sunday next invites the presence of the American friends to the services at 3:30 in the afternoon when the sermon will be in the English language. This will be a notable occasion and there will be a very large attendance. Ministers from other places will be present and members from this denomination from neighboring points.

Specie Grove: Some of our farmers are talking of having their houses lit by electricity from the Yorkville power-house. A wag has suggested that the rock-crusher be run by power from that source. It might be a good plan if there could be some elastic arrangement devised so as not to break the connection while the crusher moved about picking up stone.

May -- 1902

May 7: Bernice Pearce resigned her pharmacist's position at Plattville and accepted on with a druggist in Aurora.

Enos Briggs was taken sick with a kind of spasm at the funeral of his uncle. He was carried across the street to Hinchman's and a doctor called.

At a meeting of the school directors Tuesday evening it is said that Prof. C.H. Newman, Grace Pearce and Mary Prine were reengaged of the old corps as principal and teachers, respectively, and that Anna Robinson and Susie Croushorn were engaged as new teachers.

Harriet Miller was born In Bristol township, Kendall county, March 3, 1851; married to Sanford B. Chase March 3, 1880; and died April 27, 1902. Her entire married life was spent in Oswego. It was one of the sad funerals--that of the mother most essential to the family--a husband and two daughters, the oldest but 14 years of age, are the survivors.

Floyd Pearce, the young man killed, together with his affianced and her mother, by the cars at Joliet, was brought here. The funeral taking place Wednesday afternoon from the home of his uncle,



Colvin Pearce. His school class and all others with whom he associated contributed largely to the floral supply, Floyd being a great favorite with them all. The interment was in the Pearce cemetery.

Wilson Briggs, who had been ailing for some time, died Saturday. The funeral took place Monday afternoon from the house. "Wils" was one of the many old bachelors of Oswego; was 57 years of age, born in New York State, brought here when a child, where he lived the most of his life. Three brothers and two sisters are the survivors of the family, all present except a brother in Texas.

NaAuSay: Eugene Cooney and Harry Smith were up to Zion City last week, building a house for Mr. Watkins, who recently moved there.

Tamarack and Wheatland: James Stewart has a new windmill to replace the old one.

John Anderson has resumed his studies in the Plainfield high school.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas King of Normantown have returned home from a winter's sojourn in California.

The funeral of Mrs. William Moss was held Sunday afternoon in Plainfield Dick Moss of this place is one of her sons.

Miss Gertie LaDew closed her school in the Wilcox district Friday and is now finishing her course in the normal department at the Aurora college.

Specie Grove: A.D. Curran visited the Minkler school last week.

Arbor day was observed Friday by our schools.

Farmers have been selling off their surplus corn quite generally.

The prospect for cherries and apples is good, but small fruits will not be plentiful.

The road commissioners have been smoothing the roads, but the rains have again made them rutty.

The Minkler school closes the last of this month. The next year's school will be taught by Clinton Carpenter.

Helmar: TWO THOUSAND PEOPLE AT HELMAR SUNDAY.  
THE NEW CHURCH IS DEDICATED WITH IMPRESSIVE CEREMONY.  
The Day Started Pleasantly, But Rain Marred the Afternoon Service--  
It Was a notable Occasion--Story of *The Record* Reporter--Sketch of  
the Congregation and Building by a Pastor--Notes by A.L. Brown of  
Newark.

May 14: At John Minich's their daughter, Mrs. E.S. Fuller of Iowa is visiting.

Andrew Shoger is getting ready for building a new house. Schamp will be the architect.

Rush Walker returned from the Republican State convention full of political intelligence and faith. The Hon. C.T. Cherry also attended it.

The body of Mrs. Alfred M. Wormley was brought here Thursday for burial in the Pearce cemetery. She was within a few days of being 53 years old.

An insane man fetched up here about the middle of the week. A paper found on him showed that he had been at Sterling. By a lot of 'phoning it was found that he hailed from Earlville. From there was received the request of his retention until someone would come and take charge of him, which didn't take place until Monday when a sheriff came to take him to the DeKalb county poor house.

Specie Grove: The new rock crusher was tried last week.

A.C. Gabel raised his barn Monday afternoon.

Captain J.C. Raleigh went off on the lakes last week.

The woods are full of flowers and many people were out Sunday gathering them.

Everybody is satisfied with the crop prospects excepting the fellow who is holding his corn for a dollar a bushel.

#### BIG FIRE IN PLANO

Robbins' Livery Barn Destroyed--Seven Horses Burned--Good Work by the Firemen--Mayor Steward a Good Fire Director

The most destructive fire that has occurred here in more than 20 years took place early Saturday morning, sweeping away the livery stable owned by J.B. Robbins and two residences also owned by him.

#### AN AWFUL CALAMITY

Thirty Thousand People Destroyed By A Volcano

The Island of Martinique, Near Porto Rico, The Scene of Death and Destruction--Dramatic Story of a Native Girl--The Worst Not Fully Known.

May 21: Front page photo of Lorenzo Rank had this caption: Lorenzo Rank of Oswego, Illinois. The first local correspondent *The Record* ever had, and who has written for this paper since 1864. He is a man of ideas and one of the strictest integrity in every way. Mr. Rank is something of a student, as well, and is a reader of the topics of the day and makes use of his investigations in an interesting way.

His brother-in-law, Mr. Gaylord of Chicago, was a visitor at Dr. Churchill's.

C.E. Hubbard has returned from South Elgin in improved condition.

The report of the death of Henry Wollenweber in California, where the family went a year ago, was received here.

Mr. and Mrs. Sodt, while driving near Montgomery Sunday were run into by fellows that were racing, causing the smashing of a wheel of Sodt's buggy.

The old Henry Ricker building is being dismantled and the materials removed by the owner, Frank Schram, which will have an improving effect of that block.

John C. Turpin died Monday night at his home in the edge of NaAuSay, to where the family had recently moved.

J.D. Russell, J.L. Gaylord, L.P Voss, and Charles Roberts were on the Federal grand jury in Chicago--Russell being foreman of it--and in a few days expedited a great deal of Uncle Sam's criminal business.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Knapp started Wednesday--he for the third, and together for the second time in about a half dozen years--for Germany to be gone till November. The livestock business will be conducted by W.S. Dwyre and Ed A. Smith.

James Cliggitt is here on a visit to relatives and friends. He is holding the position of registrar of deeds of Brule county, South Dakota.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Stephen Findley has the telephone in his house now.

William Barron of Plainfield was in the neighborhood last week inspecting telephones.

Specie Grove: The Minkler school will close on the 29th with a literary program, field sports, and picnic dinner.

E.W. Lippold has a stump-puller to help clear his land of stumps--it's safer than dynamite for that purpose.

Yorkville: YORKVILLE WATER-POWER

Esch Brothers and Rabe Now Own the Dam Property--Will Improve and Build More ice-Houses.

After some years of awaiting the action of the courts in settling the affairs of the Columbia Paper Company and fighting the Knickerbocker Ice Trust at the same time, the firm of Esch Brothers & Rabe can read their title clear to the dam across Fox river at Yorkville and the adjacent lands that had been the property of the

paper mills before they got into the hands of the trust were burned and went to everlasting ruin. The ice company here has made a brave fight for the property; spent lots of money in rebuilding and repairing the dam and keeping the property out of the clutches of the Chicago ice combine. The property was sold some days ago at sheriff's sale in Sangamon county, and brought \$40,000 for the various mills and sites owned by the trusts--property that had been worth hundreds of thousands of dollars. The Esch firm paid \$4,000, it is said, for the equity in the Yorkville property, and had tax deeds as well to protect their interests. This firm, though doing business in Chicago, has always used Yorkville well and spent a good deal of money here cutting, storing, and shipping ice.

It is now probable that the dam will be raised a foot and a half and made more substantial by building an apron along the whole lower front. Several more big ice-houses will be built for storage purposes and the old iron--boilers, engines, wheels, etc. relics of the paper mills--will be sold and cleaned out, the stone and brick walls be removed for strengthening the dam, the holes filled up, and the grounds made more sightly. It would be a splendid place for the village to own a river park and would be very attractive to travelers on the railroad. But there is a possibility of the water power being used for manufacturing purposes.

Wolf's Crossing: Mr. Cochran received \$8 from McWethy Brothers for damage of their couch last week by accident.

May 28: A frost the 27th day of May.

Will Lamb is tonsorial assistant at the Voss barbershop.

Mrs. Kate Austin and children started Monday for Washington, D.C. to join her husband who is holding there a government position.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Updike and Mrs. E.A. Updike and daughter, Mrs. M.C. Bristol, are now residents of this town occupying the spacious Leigh house.

Decoration Day exercises to be by the school; all interested to meet at the school house yard by 9 a.m., march from there to the

cemetery where a short program will be carried out and following, the graves decorated by children.

Early risers Friday morning saw a funnel-shaped cloud drift east of Oswego in a northerly direction, which doubtless was the one striking the ground and doing much damage at Huntley, McHenry county, that morning.

I am not dead, have not been nominated to an office, committed no great crime, had no great fortune fall to me, not gone crazy or had anything extraordinary happen to me. Why a snapshot picture of me should have been procured, gone to the expense of getting it put on a plate and have it appear conspicuously in the paper is one of the queer things of this age.

The funeral of John C. Turpin took place Wednesday from the house. The burial was in the Oswego cemetery and under the auspices of the Masons of Raven lodge of which he had been made a member in 1869. The brethren--James Pearce, Colvin Pearce, A.L. Rice, George Cowdrey, H. Helle, and D. Hall--were the pall bearers. Deceased was 59 years of age, came to this vicinity from Richmond, Va. shortly after the war, was married here, was a good man, had rather more than his share of misfortunes. He leaves a widow and adopted son.

"The water of the Caribbean seas receded 50 yards and then rushed back again," and "the sea line drew back 100 feet and then the water rushed in again." These and similar sentences were used in describing the effects of the eruption of Mount Pelee on the water in the harbor of St. Pierre, Martinique Island. What force caused the water to recede, caused the sea line to draw back, nothing is said about; the returning of it is referred to as a tidal wave. Does it not seem that science about old mother earth needs reconstruction?

Wolf's Crossing: cut-worms are playing havoc with corn and vegetables in this locality. Several farmers are replanting their corn.

Specie Grove: Joseph Wayne's new house on the river road is nearing completion. He also built a neat barn adjoining.

The electric storm Saturday night was quite severe out this way.

The threshing ring in the Shepard-VanEmmon combine met Thursday evening, organized, and planned the work for the season.

The hauling of gravel cars with passenger cars on the electric car lines, with attendant delays incident to the work, is not agreeable to the traveling public.

The first crop of the season, rye, is coming on in good shape and will be a good yield. Marklein, Lippold, Pearce, and Kuhman have fine crops. A field of winter wheat or rye makes a fine contrast with other crops on the far, being green in the late fall and early spring.

June -- 1902

June 4: An "Uncle Tom's Cabin" show held forth here Saturday evening and stayed over Sunday.

Rev. C.A. Woodcock of Chicago is the new pastor of the Congregational church. The family will move into the Edwards house, corner of Jackson and Madison streets.

Oh, how it rained Monday night! Everything here became flooded; most of the sewers and culverts became inadequate. Bob Smith's nice garden was all washed away; a sidewalk down near the Waubonsie is said to have been washed away; some cellars have been filled with water; the river broke over its banks at spots. J.L. Gaylord's house was struck by lightning, knocking a chimney to pieces.

Decorating of the soldiers' graves was commenced here by three or four ladies at a very early day; their number increased year by year, and 'ere long quite many ladies would annually some fine day repair to the cemetery and lay flowers on the graves of all that had been in the war--teamsters as well as the soldiers.

Specie Grove: The threshing combine spoken of last week has bought a new separator, which Thad Seely will run with his engine this season.

June 11; The commencement exercises of the senior class of the Oswego school will be held in the Congregational church Friday evening, June 13.

A medicine company has pitched its tent at the lower end of Van Buren street and there giving vaudeville shows evenings.

The farmer's picnic out east was quite largely attended from here, and the ball players returned wearing the blue ribbon, having beat a Wheatland team 9-5.

The owners of Canada thistle patches are herewith notified that they must take care of them or the commissioners will be after them--not the thistles, but the men who let them grow.

A drinking fountain has been reestablished and now the small boys should be made to understand that in no part was it made a plaything for them, as has been the case with the former fountain.

Mary A. Hunt of Aurora, an Oswego girl of former times, is the author of a new book, or rather the re-writer of an old book, the Bible; apparently making the mythological part of it conform to nature, explaining its mysteries by science, treating the version in the new thought and presenting it in poetry. "Scientific Bible," I believe is the title of the book.

The past week was full of events, some of them coupled with strenuousness. There were the heavy rains causing damage and inconvenience. The happy ending of the South African war, in which both sides came out ahead, both thought they were right, both fought well, and both may celebrate it together. The passing by congress of notable laws. The search for the leak of Philippine war news, which was to be withheld, from the Democrats. The great strike of the anthracite coal miners and the several others in different parts of the country; that of the meat teamsters in Chicago was short but full of animation while it lasted--broken heads



clubbed into insensibility, dragged off to prison, bleeding policemen hit in the head with brickbats and broken bottles were parts of the description given of it. Regulation of business by the force of competition is desired; that of physical force condemned. The former, however, will stimulate the latter. This reliance on force for shaping affairs is decried more or less, but it couldn't be otherwise.

Specie Grove: A.C. Gabel's barn is completed It makes a fine appearance. Joe Austin has one rapid work.

A foot bridge washing away from the Gates farm lodging across the culvert in the railroad embankment caused the washout Monday night week.

June 18: Graduation here is always looked forward to with pleasing expectancy, and in the one Friday evening realization exceeded anticipation by a good deal. The only disagreeable thing about it was the too large a crowd for the accommodations. The Congregational church, where it took place, was packed to the furthest end of the lecture room, not withstanding quite a number went away. Graduates were Carrie Shoger, Herman Young, Beatrice Woolley, Martha White, Walter Herren, Roy Hettrick, Mamie Cutter, Zeke Pearce, Elsie Lukens, and Laura Burkhart.

The Alumni association's reunion occurred Monday at the house of L.F. Burkhart.

The Fowler house is being made the most imposing edifice in town. The Knuth brothers are on painting and trimming it up in the most approved style.

Our ball players returned Saturday from a game played over in East Wheatland and seemed to be rather indisposed to talk about it. however, some remarks dropped about it not having been enjoyable, 11-2, contrary umpire, indicated that they were beaten.

Tamarack and Wheatland: When the Aurora papers were received here this week everyone was much surprised to learn that Thomas Stewart had become a benedict--the bride being Miss Frances Gale. The ceremony occurred June 10 at the residence of the bride's

father, Dr. Gale. After a short trip the couple are now at home on the Stewart farm.

Wolf's Crossing: March & Wood elevators at Wolf's Crossing and Plainfield, also the Grangers at Normantown, have been sold out to some man in Chicago.

#### Yorkville: THE ICE HOUSES BURN

Are Struck by Lightning and Make a Lurid Blaze--Heavy Loss to Ice Company

An electrical storm revisited Yorkville about 10 o'clock Thursday night and continued for some three hours with more or less violence. About half past 12 the storm raged with fearful vehemence and there came a crash that made one jump so near it seemed. Soon after the fire bell rang. By the time a person could get up and go to a window the sky was flaming red and it was seen that the big ice-houses of Esch Brothers & Rabe on the south bank of the river were in flames. The fire company was soon on the ground and run out the lead of hose--500 feet, all the village owns--and it was inadequate for the service. The firemen made the best fight they could but were only able to reach one side of the buildings.

600 feet of hose and two firemen were sent down from Aurora by a special locomotive by the Burlington, and this gave an opportunity to get at the burning timbers and extinguish the flames. The village needs 500 more feet of hose, and it is conceded, but the authorities do not feel able to buy. Better get it now as it may save ten times its cost in time of fire. Had this amount been available at the beginning Thursday night, the engine house and machinery would have been saved for the ice company.

The loss will be heavy and all regret that Esch Brothers & Rabe have had this misfortune added to their loss account. The houses were in fine condition. There were about 30,000 tons of ice stored in them last winter and only one house had been emptied.

It seems outrageous to leave some 20,000 tons of ice to melt away in the sun, but the cause is from the tar roof which while burning, dropped the hot tar on the ice and it is thoroughly permeated with the odor, making it useless for any kind of cooling purpose, as it would taint any refrigerator or cooling room with its tar flavor.

The insurance on the company's property here is \$4,500--the loss is fully \$30,000. The Burlington company will lose the freight on

hauling the ice to Chicago, which would amount to about \$10,000 or more.

Specie Grove: Many of our people saw the ice-house fire at Yorkville. Being awakened by the storm the light through the windows drew their attention to the fire.

We have long felt the need of a country store, where we could go evenings and hear the news. The telephones are good but they can't come up to the old-fashioned country store where gossipers meet and swap yarns and tell the news with relish, bringing out all the little details which when written up are so interesting.

June 25: The strawberry crop of T.A. Gregg's was a large and fine one, and there was a ready sale for all that could be picked.

A new bakery in connection with the restaurant on the corner of Main and Jackson streets has been established. Guy Kelley is the proprietor.

Prof. and Mrs. Sam Weir arrived from Cincinnati Saturday to spend a part of the summer vacation with relatives and friends here and in Aurora.

A reunion picnic of the schoolmates of about 30 years ago was held at Riverview Park Saturday. Mrs. Anna Dew was the only one present from Chicago, but quite a number from Aurora.

At the meeting Saturday afternoon for letting contracts to improve the east side approach to the bridge, in which the town, the county, and the Electric Traction Company are interested, the highway commissioners and Supervisors Barnes, Murley and Bedford were on hand, but the Traction Company failed to be represented, and the matter had to be postponed.

Strikes are still prevailing. There is timidity in correcting them shown by the authorities. That the police keep order, and once in awhile an injunction given by a judge, is about all there is done about it. The politicians are scary about touching the matter. In both Congress and the State legislatures they steer clear of it, or

perhaps be talking in favor of labor while giving aid to capital-- laborers are mostly voters, and taffy with them can be made effective.

Specie Grove: Farmers having rye will begin cutting this week.

The separator [threshing machine] for the Specie Grove threshing ring has come.

The Specie Grove Band will play at Plattville on the Fourth.

It is noticeable that there is less sweet clover along the roads this season than for many years back, which is certainly a blessing. On the other hand, dandelions are spreading rapidly in pastures.

Walter Stansel caught 18 rats in one of those new-fangled wire traps at one setting last week.

Washington, June 20: Senator Spooner's substitute for the Nicaraguan bill providing for the construction of an isthmian canal by the Panama route if the president can secure a clear title was adopted yesterday by the senate by a vote of 42-34.

July -- 1902

July 2: Mr. and Mrs. John Wolf celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

The barn of Charles Woolley's village premises is up and enclosed.

Tamarack and Wheatland: John Parker has a new rubber tire buggy and Will Anderson takes his best girl riding in a new carriage, when it doesn't rain.

Specie Grove: Alonzo Stansel is in attendance at the State prohibition convention at Peoria.

During the three years of Miss Robinson's teaching at the Kendall school, Glen Gabel did not miss a single day.

Ed Hahnenstein has brought out Fred Wright's interest in the Dunn & Wright threshing and clover hulling machines. The new firm will be Zider & Hahnenstein.

July 9: The Fourth here during the middle of the day and in the afternoon was more quiet than Sundays. It was late in the evening when the most noise was produced by some fellows in the use of cannon crackers.

H.G. Smith has resumed his work at the depot.

Specie Grove: Walter and Alonzo Stansel attended the Keck family reunion at Riverview Park Saturday.

Rye is in shock and farmers are making hay. The hay crop will be uneven; some fields will be heavy and others light.

July 16: This is vacation season and why not newspapers have a vacation and give the public a much-needed rest.

The new barn and the basement of the residence in town of Charles Woolley are completed or nearly so.

Mrs. Suhler has had a very nice and substantial monument erected at the grave of her husband in the Oswego cemetery.

Gustav Welz with his family has returned here from Springfield and again associated himself with J.A. Shoger for the resumption of the brush making business after awhile.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Farmers are busy getting their hay crop stored away, as the oats are beginning to turn and will soon be ripe.

Specie Grove: The Danish Lutheran Sunday school of Plano picnicked in Olson's grove Sunday.

Haymaking is the order of business, and with good weather this week most of it will be in the barn.

July 23: The Charles Woolley new house reached the stage of raising Monday.

The siding in the village of the trolley line is being taken out and moved over the river, where the meeting of the cars will be more exact as to getting there at the same time.

The first accident here on the trolley line, a rather lucky one, occurred Saturday. Mrs. Fred Pearce in taking home her hired girl, a colored girl, was driving down the road in a covered buggy at a time when no car was due, and when the first would have to be met and thus no danger was suspected. But following them was the work car, the operator of which doubtless thought that the buggy would keep on down the road and was about to overtake and pass it when about the same time the buggy turned to cross the track for taking the Specie Grove road and then the car crashed into it. The occupants of the buggy were thrown on the platform of the car and carried along with it till brought to a stop. The horse had been cut loose and escaped without any apparent injury, but the buggy was entirely demolished. Mrs. Pearce was considerably bruised and shocked, also the girl to some extent.

It doesn't matter whether it is called imperialism or whatnot we are drifting into; that we are drifting away from democracy is apparent in many ways. The old idea of a government by the people is fast disappearing and the leaders are looked to as constituting the same.

Specie Grove: Frank Dunn is one of the fortunate ones with his oat harvest. Having a very early kind, he got them nearly all cut and in shock before the late storm.

Some rowdies broke several window lights in the Minkler schoolhouse apparently by shooting rifle balls through them. Such conduct cannot be too severely punished.

During the storm early Thursday evening, the large new barn on the Ed Schur farm was struck by lightning and burned to the ground. The corncrib and granary adjoining were also destroyed. The barn was 40x50 feet on the ground with lean-tos attached and contained

some 40 tons of hay, wagons, buggies, farming tools, harnesses and three calves. Nothing was saved.

Yorkville: Tuesday, men and teams were engaged in transferring ice from the burnt houses to Starr's ice-house and the Carr Creamery house, for the use of Yorkville patrons. It is the purpose of Esch Brothers & Rabe to begin the erection of new houses and they will install a larger plant than the one burned. Mr. Knudson is preparing to protect his customers by having a lot of ice safely housed, but will use from the old houses till about the middle of August when the ground will be cleared away for the new buildings.

The destruction of the houses by lightning made quite a difference in the business of Yorkville this summer as the business of shipping to Chicago gave employment to men living here and made things livelier about the railroad tracks up the river.

Plattville: About noon Tuesday, telephone messages came to Yorkville saying that the Cooperative Creamery was on fire and the drug store and big store of Munson & Tremaine were threatened. Later accounts confirmed the news. The fire was discovered between 11:00 and 12:00 o'clock in the woodwork near the smokestack. It is thought the fire was caused by a defect in the smokestack, perhaps caused by an extra hot boiler. Efforts were made without success to halt the flames. The fire spread rapidly and the frame building was soon in ashes. The creamery scales were the only thing saved. The Field drug store and the building occupied by Munson & Tremaine started to burn several times. They were only saved by hard work. The loss to the owners of the creamery was about \$3,000. The property destroyed belonged to the Cooperative Creamery Company, an association of farmers that controlled plants in NaAuSay, Lisbon and Plattville. S. W. Johnson is the general manager. It is unknown whether the building will be rebuilt. There was no insurance and the loss was total. The directors will meet soon to decide whether or not to rebuild.

July 30: Will Denney and family of Aurora are now living at her mother's here, Mrs. M.E. Jeneson.

A new barber shop by Snyder & Stewart of Aurora has been opened in the Shoger block. And at the G.H. Voss shop, four chairs are being run part of the time. The demand for tonsorial work here is rushing.

The base-ball element here is displaying much energy. The principal club has secured new uniforms of the dark trousers and shirts and white stockings; on the shirts is emblazoned the newly chosen and euphonious name "Pirates." A junior team played with the Aurora Shamrocks and held them very close, 4-5.

The town was largely visited by farmers Saturday evening and groups of them were strung along the sidewalks engaged in comparing notes on how they were getting along, or had got along, in cutting the oats--how the shocks should be made, which binders were doing the best work, the probable yield of their oats, their high prices now, etc.

Wolf's Crossing: The farmers in this vicinity are having hard work to cut their oats. Most of them are obliged to cut them one way. Several have bought new binders, among them were Mr. Schell and Alex Harvey.

Specie Grove: Corn is making wonderful growth these days, and is earing well. A big crop is assured.

The lightning splintered up several telephone poles near the Minkler school Saturday afternoon.

August -- 1902

Aug. 6: The evolution of "chauffeurs" in this country is another advance in its greatness.

The Andrew Shoger new house, being built by Schamp and men, is nearly ready for plastering.

Levi Miller of Aurora is said to be running the Charles Reed shop, which Reed is fully occupied with perfecting a new motor invention.



The new barber shop has been changed to next door south into the rink building, of which a part is being used for the residence of the family.

We have in our government a department of war, of the navy, of state, of the treasury, the post office, the interior, of law and of agriculture--one of commerce is much talked of--each regulating at all times the affairs under its charge. Labor, which not only has to create the means for the support for all these, but to which is due all material wealth, never received any governmental recognition. A department of labor is now urgently demanded. Which political party will first move in the matter?

The first game played under their new name and in their new uniforms of the Oswego boys with the Yorkville team Friday afternoon, and it was a hard fought game. The Pirates came out 4 ahead and the end of the game; 20-16 the score stood.

Tamarack and Wheatland: The whistle of threshing machines was heard Monday morning, bright and early.

Specie Grove: Will Rink is having a run of typhoid fever.

Will Bieritz has bought Winfield Clark's milk-hauling outfit, team and wagon.

Farmers in the John Wald neighborhood have combined and bought a thresher.

Aug. 13: Charles Reed has gone to Batavia to work.

Mrs. Abner Updike starts today on a few weeks' visit at Minneapolis.

F.O. Hawley has bought the H.S. Warner building in the brick block.

The creamery and the hose house have been provided with rubber roofing.

Threshing was the prevailing activity of the farmers. From 40-45 bushels of oats to the acres is generally given as the average.

The wall for the improvement of the east passage to the bridge is now being constructed. G.D. Wormley is the contractor.

The extension of concrete sidewalks is now under way. Three separate blocks on one side are being provided with them and the walk to the school house door.

A real estate office is opened here in the Shoger block--principally for the sale of the rich wheat lands of the Red River Valley--by J.E. Paradise of Minnesota. The manager here is A.C. Burkhart, son of Fred Burkhart, who went from here and established himself in Iowa.

Baseball talk is carried on for hours by a bunch of men without getting anyways near the end. One had no idea there was so much technique and science about the game.

Specie Grove: The 17 year locust is with us, but not plentiful.

The oat crop is not turning gout as big as was expected. There will not be three fourths of a full crop.

This has been a very favorable season for seeding, and many of the oat and rye fields are covered with a thick luxuriant growth of clover and timothy. This will afford an abundance of fall feed and a good hay crop next year.

Aug. 20: Oswego now has a "Buffet."

John Schickler and family are off on a camping trip.

Will Funk has bought the Wilcox building in the brick block.

The new barbershop is no more; the proprietor moved away Monday.

J.H. Foran is having a large porch built onto his residence. VanEvra is doing it.

John T. Wormley, with his improved cider mill will in short order convert into cider all apples brought to him for that purpose.

Graveling for the new cement walks is progressing and in it is included the bloc on Madison street between the residences of Mrs. C.F. Shoger and Mrs. L. Walker.

Thirty-five years ago, when but a boy, Oliver Ashley went away from here and last week for the first time came back on a visit, accompanied by a daughter and another young lady, all of Chicago. He went down to see the place where he was brought up--the old Daniel Ashley place--and in that he was highly delighted, as it had changed the least of anything else. When at home, change, variation is describable, but when returning after years to a place of former acquaintance the old sights are cherished. When Senator Foster of Washington, a multi-millionaire, was here awhile ago the sight of the house where Wallace Davis lives now--the most ramshackle in town--pleased him ever so much for it looked just the same as it did when his father was living in it, nearly 40 years ago, only showing more age.

Aug. 27: County residents were invited to attend the 49th Annual Kendall County Fair at the fairgrounds in Yorkville.

Cider making is now on and Dave Hall has his mill in operation.

A couple of feather cleaners commenced operation in the rink building Monday.

Jay and Lester Young took a voyage on Fox river down to Wedron and returned by rail.

The pirates went to Plainfield Monday and played a game of ball with the Rivals there and came home jubilant. Score 15-9.

By the putting in an appearance of a new girl at L.C. Young's over the river Sunday, there are now two girls and two boys in that family.

School books and supplies at Sodt & Morse's, Oswego.

Calvin Dugan, formerly of this place and was married here, died at Newmarket, Ohio, where he resided. The funeral took place Sunday before last.

Having leased Charley Reed's shop in Oswego, I am prepared to do all kinds of blacksmith work, making plow and wagon repairs, and horseshoeing a specialty. Levi Miller.

Specie Grove. Farmers made good progress in threshing last week and with settled weather the work in that line will soon be done.

The Wampah threshing machine was laid up by a breakdown a couple of days last week.

Religious services in country schoolhouses on the long summer Sunday afternoons are usually well attended and of much profit. The one last Sunday was ably conducted by Pastor Meek of Yorkville.

September -- 1902

Sept. 3: The construction of concrete walks progresses.

Attorney Hally Haight of Naperville was here on a visit to his uncle, D.M. Haight.

The front of Will Funk's newly purchased building has been attractively painted.

School began Tuesday and children are again wending their way to the schoolhouse.

Prof. F.W. Herren will quit teaching and engage in farming—having rented the C.T. Cherry farm.

A.C. Burkhart with his uncles, Leonard and Henry Burkhart, and Joe Ebinger start today on a trip through Minnesota for land inspection.

O.S. Wescott, the principal of the school here 30-odd years ago was seen in town Wednesday.

Being his father, Curt Butler, was an early inhabitant of and kept a hotel a while in Oswego, Fred Butler, a railroad official of a Chicago suburb, was in town one day for inspecting the place

Rev. J.G. Butler preached in the Claim street Baptist church, Aurora Sunday morning and evening to good congregations. The church is made up largely of railroad men and other working people, and is doing excellent work in a part of the city where a good church is needed.

Through the death of Mrs. Sophia Willie at Platteville, which occurred Aug. 21, caused by asthma and dropsy, the Evangelical church of Oswego lost one of its most devoted and faithful members. Although she had 14 miles to drive, she attended services oftener than some much nearer, and has thereby set a good example to others and also in her support to the church she was always in the first rank and will be very much missed by all.

Deceased was born Dec. 28, 1822 in Meloen, Bavaria, Germany; came to this country in 1854 and worked in Oswego until 1855 when she was married to Conrad Willie (who preceded her in death five years ago), and since lived at their present home. She had four children, one girl preceded her in death.

During her sickness that lasted nine months and rendered her at times quite helpless she was tenderly taken care of by her son, William. At her own request her funeral service was held at her lovely and spacious home, which was filled with many friends, showing the esteem she was held by them. On account of the distance from Oswego and a camp-meeting held in Naperville where a number were in attendance, but few of the members of her society could attend the funeral. Her age was 79 years, 7 months, 25 days. She leaves three sons, five grandchildren, and many friends. Her pastor preached the funeral sermon from John's revelation, 21:4.

Specie Grove: The Frank Hawley farm now worked by John Wald has been rented to a Bristol farmer.

The directors of the Minkler school have put a new fence around the school yard and tidied up things generally.

The ring thresher owners are well pleased with their new rig, and under the efficient management of James McMurtrie and Charles Shepard is doing good work.

Herbert Fitzgerald of Yorkville has been roughing it for a couple of weeks along with the threshers in this neighborhood. He seems to take to farming like a duck to water and is right at home among the horny-handed tillers of the soil.

Yorkville: The Kendall County Fair is now in full swing for about the 50th time. It is a good place for the people to spend the day or two days. Lots to see and plenty going on to keep you from being lonesome.

United States officials do not seem to be working overtime in putting down the trust and coal combine evil. It is pleasant to hear these things denounced by our big men, but it seems to end in talk.

S.W. Johnson of the NaAuSay creamery was in Yorkville Saturday. He says it is suggested that only a skimming station be built at Platteville at present in place of the burned-down creamery at that place.

Down with the trusts! And down with such men as John Pierpont Morgan, whose only mission in life is to oppress the working man. This government should put a firm hand on these disturbers of the public peace.

If these trust emperors and coal czars continue in the line they are now working on, it will only be a short time before there is a political revolution in this country like those of greenback and granger times. The pig parties should take heed.

The authorities of the south side [Yorkville] forbid the riding of bicycles on the sidewalks. Officer Habel will get after those who violate this rule.

Charles Beebe has resumed work with the Wilcox Manufacturing Company at Aurora after being laid off several days by a strike in that concern. The strike is settled.

Sept. 10: Charles Fullen is now the sub agent at the depot.

New fall hats at the Oswego millinery store; also white caps and tams.

Hank Smith was passing around pears of his own raising that weighed as high as 14 ozs.

Oswegoans came home Wednesday from the Fair full of pride and good feeling over the results of the ball game played there.

A good deal of the Fair money this year came to Oswego. The Presbyterian ladies brought a lot of it home.

Comrades George White, George Cowdrey, Cob Pearce and M.B. Lamb attended the reunion of the 127th Illinois at St. Charles Saturday.

Clinton Gaylord, wife, and daughter have come back from California on a visit. Clint has changed but little since 15 years ago when departing from here.

Mr. and Mrs. George Bower out in the German settlement are said to be having their golden wedding next Friday.

Funk and Schultz constitute a new firm of the Oswego business which is on opening a grocery store and meat market in the orange-colored building of the east side brick block.

Wolf's Crossing: School started Monday with Miss Grace Patterson as teacher.

Mr. and Mrs. George Bower will celebrate their golden wedding next Friday and it is rumored their son George will get married the same day.

Specie Grove: Threshing is done.

School began in Kendall district Monday with Miss Clara Graham as teacher.

A soaking rain would be good now to fit the ground for fall plowing.

Ernest Lippold, on the Mason farm, cut 35 loads of second-growth stuff from his 12-acre rye field. It is quite the common thing to get the second crop of hay this year.

Yorkville: The Kendall County Fair for 1902 is over and the society is content with the result. Fine weather every day and large crowds present on Thursday and Friday. In fact, the crowd on Friday surprised all. It was children's day and they were here in force.

Plainfield Enterprise – Eighteen pounds of bass in three hours is the record set by Joe Stumm. He took 23 beauties out of the DuPage river last Friday and was exhibiting them with justifiable pride to the nimrods about town in the evening. It represents the biggest catch of the season.

The Sandwich Fair is on this week, also the Will county Fair at Joliet.

The Sleezer cream separator took the eye of visitors at the Fair. There was a number of the separators on exhibition and those who understood the dairy business said they were just the thing for the farmer's wife. They are made in Newark, and Mr. Sleezer has built up a large trade with them.

One year ago next Sunday, Sept. 14, William McKinley, president of the United States, died from a wound at the hands of an assassin. There will be a memorial service in most of the churches in the land to recall the Christian qualities of the dead statesman.

Some years ago, Henry D. Hatch was principal of the public school at Oswego and was known as an energetic educator. He wooed and won one of the best young ladies in that village for his wife and subsequently they moved to Chicago, where he was engaged as principal of the of the city schools. The world seemed good to them



then, and there seems no reason why it should not have been a happy family. For some reason, Mrs. Hatch soon after sought a divorce, which was granted, and she returned to Oswego to live, where she is known as a model woman. Mr. Hatch is now in more serious trouble, and it is probable he is an unsafe man in some directions. The Chicago Chronicle of Tuesday contains the following: "In order to give Henry D. Hatch, principal of the Chicago Lawn school, more time in which to prepare a defense against the charges of 'indiscreet conduct,' filed with the secretary of the board of education by the residents of Chicago Lawn last Saturday, the special committee appointed to hear the evidence granted a continuance of the hearing until next Monday afternoon. "The testimony of 20 witnesses was heard yesterday afternoon. The citizens of Chicago Lawn declare that they do not want Mr. Hatch as principal of the school and that if he is reinstated, they will compel him to leave the school. "Mr. Hatch explained to the committee that he did not receive a copy of the charges against him until Saturday afternoon. 'Since that time,' he said, 'I have not had time to get my witnesses together.' "Until four years ago, Mr. Hatch was principal of the Gladstone school at a salary of \$2,400 per year. He was transferred at that time to the Chicago Lawn school at an annual salary of \$1,000 a year. He has been divorced from his wife."

Sept. 17: A caucus of the Republicans is to occur Saturday next at 3 p.m. at the village hall.

Attorney Morris Cliggitt is here from Pittsburg, Kansas on a visit to his sisters and brothers.

Mr. and Mrs. James Goudie returned Tuesday morning from their Western trip.

You must sign your name to any paper you want to be published in these reports.

Elsie Lukens, one of Oswego's '02 graduates, is teaching school in the Wormley district.

Rev. W.A. Montgomery returned Thursday from the attendance on the presbytery held at Paw.

Mr. and Mrs. George Rower, out in the German settlement, are said to be having their golden wedding next Friday.

Frank Buschick of Chicago is visiting at his uncle's—A. [Adam] Armstrong—and at the same time, with a partner, is taking photographs of the town, etc.

Mr. and Mrs. C.E. Hubbard have come from South Elgin where they have spent most of the summer with their son in law, O.L. Wormley.

Funk & Schultz constitute a new firm of the Oswego business, which is on opening a grocery store and meat market in the orange-colored building of the east side brick block.

McKinley memorial service was held Sunday at the Methodist church in the morning—the pastor of the Presbyterian church preaching the sermon. And at the Congregational church in the evening.

In looking over old papers the other day, one that turned up was a list of 30 of the oldest people in the township in 1894, made out by Rev. Newton Barrett, then living here. In looking it over, but four of them, including himself, are now living.

Merging is much depreciated nowadays, yet there is one merger which apparently would be for the best, and that is the merging of the four churches [Presbyterian, Congregational, Methodist-Episcopal, German Evangelical] here into but two. Any of the meeting houses would much more than hold the increased attendance. The doctrine preached in all of them is the same; the ministrations of the sacraments could be divided and performed according to everyone's desire. Besides saving of expenses, it would probably have a tendency to a more united community and more good will among it. Elder Stoughton, when alive, preached once in a while on church piracy, the competing against each other of the church denominations.

As there is much practicing of base-ball by teams because of expectation to play games with other teams in which victory is desired, it might be inferred that as there is much practicing of war battles by the army and navy, another war with one or more foreign powers is a near possibility. Since having become a world power the people cannot be taken into confidence by the ruling element; many things have become incompatible to go to the public. The Monroe Doctrine is frequently referred to in the press; the question how it stands now is very unsettled. The McKinley administration knocked the props out from under it by bobbling the Philippines. No further foothold from what they already had—by foreign elements on this hemisphere, implied no foothold by American powers on the eastern hemisphere.

Wolf's Crossing: Miss Lizzie Harvey has a fine new watch and chain, a present from her uncle, Robert Harvey.

Alex Harvey's folks have retired from milk hauling. Mr. Griffin now takes milk to Wheatland. Fred Shiffer is hauling the Harvey milk route.

Wheatland and Tamarack: James Stewart and wife were in Chicago last week.

John Gray has had a telephone put in his house.

The young men who went to Oklahoma to see the country have returned.

Thursday morning while awaiting his turn at the DuPage creamery, Allan Ferguson tied his team of ponies to the fence and left them. On his return he was shocked to find the black one had in some way cut its foot severely on the barbwire. The team was taken home at once, and the injured pony is doing as well as can be expected.

Yorkville: The great "Corn King," George Phillips, who was the idol of Morris and Grundy county, and part of Kendall, is not the big man he was in local estimation. He worked a "con" game on some of his friends, it is said, and our brother Sackett of the Morris Herald, who lauded Phillips to the seventh heaven in the time the boom was

inflated has seen the error of his way and has this in a recent issue of his paper: "The Phillips deal was the rottenest every known. It was abut like highway robbery from start to finish."

#### The 127<sup>th</sup> Reunion

P.A. Durant wrote a fine account of the reunion of this old regiment for the St. Charles Chronicle and from it we learn that Company A was represented by Frank Young, Sandwich; Barney Lamb, "Cobb" Pearce, George White, George M. Cowdrey, Oswego; M.C. Richards and G.S. Case, Aurora; C.E. Hubbard, South Elgin. John Fay of Millbrook was one of K company present.

Dr. Weld gave a very interesting running account of the service of the regiment. He and "Cobb" Pearce were members of the original regimental band. The speaker afterwards was "mostly handling pills and powders" as a member of the hospital corps. He thought the boys would remember the words fitted to the sick call, "Quinine! Quinine! Dovers powders and calomel, too!" Barney Lamb had too bad a cold to talk, and George Cowdrey was too bashful.

Agents of the publishing firm of George A. Ogle & Co., Chicago, are in Yorkville preparing the drafts for a new atlas of Kendall county, and, if the promises of the promoters are carried out, it will be one of the most comprehensive farm and village maps ever issued for general information concerning our territory. Br. Beebe's wall map issued some years ago was a very useful publication and gave satisfaction, but it is out of print and none can be had. The new atlas should find a purchaser in every family.

Mr. Figge, who went west some months ago from Oswego, writes from North Yokima, Washington, where he wants *The Record* sent him, concerning things there as follows: This is a fine climate. The finest fruit I ever saw grows here. Farming land is very good and the price ranging from \$50 to \$300 per acre, but then they are always sure of a crop in account of irrigation, as there is very little rain here. Peaches are worth 25 cents per bushel; pears, 30 to 40 cents; apples, 15 to 25 cents. These are the prices you pay in the stores.

Specie Grove: Charley Chase of Aurora is staying with the Stansels this week helping with the haying.

The Fred Graham family ha moved from the Parkhurst place to the James Williams farm.

Corn-cutting will now engage the attention of farmers. Not so much will be cut owing to the abundance of hay.

Frosts Friday, Saturday, and Sunday mornings. It is not apparent yet how much damage is done to the corn.

Orson Pearce had such nice oats that he has already sold the most of them for seed at a considerable advance over market prices.

Mr. James Williams and daughter Julia moved to Yorkville last week. The Grove people will miss these sociable folks. The latter has taken an active part in social and Sunday school work.

Sept. 24: The gasoline vapor light is to be the thing for lighting the streets of Oswego.

Leroy Smith and Dick Alexander have merged themselves into a firm of painters.

At J.B. Roberts over the river, her sister and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Ferguson of Tamarack were visitors.

The remodelings of the Presbyterian Church are nearly completed and the resumption of services there will take place next Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. E.Y. Ketchum are contemplating pulling up stakes here and moving to Wisconsin for opening a farm and growing up with a new section of the country there.

Doc Woolley is getting ready for building a residence and barn for himself on the part of his land known as the Vanderlip farm, as his son Lewis will take possession of the homestead. The Richards gang will be the builders.

Ups and downs will follow each other. For a number of weeks the base ball talk here was of the most buoyant and booming sort, when suddenly it was changed into that of abject calamity.

A game of base ball was played here between the Oswego Pirates and the Plainfield Rivals Friday and turned out to be one of those successful games...it was none of your 2 to 3 or other low score games but of 27 to 9 in favor of the Rivals.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Albion Findley is attending the university at Madison, Wisconsin.

School commenced last week in the Wilcox district with Miss Addie Donaldson of Aurora as teacher.

The Wheatland Plowing Match of 1902 has passed into history. The exhibits were up to their usual standard and an immense crowd was present; but there was not as many contestants in the plowing as usual.

Specie Grove: Harry Linn is hauling tile.

Delightful September weather.

Roy Bowers from east of Owego has been cutting corn in this neighborhood.

Ed Schur hauled home several carloads of lumber for his new barn last week.

John Armbruster has bought the Cassem timber lot, paying at the rate of \$30 an acre.

Frank Seely has bought the Ed Sanders place over the river and will move there in the spring.

The John Gowran family will move from the Cliggitt farm to the Squire farm east of Oswego next spring.

Grandma Austin has pieced and quilted an elegant silk quilt during her spare moments. The design is very pretty and the work as good as younger women would do.

A.C. Gabel's new barn is a model of convenience. The cow-stable part has a drop in it made of cement and part of the floor is of the same material, making it durable and cleanly. Mr. Gabel is one of our up-to-date farmers and believes in having everything the best.

Wolf's Crossing: A young man who lives with his uncle near the Hopkins stone quarry was coming home from the plowing match Saturday on a wheel, which all at once he struck a stone, throwing him off his wheel into a ditch. John Richardson was close behind him and seeing he did not move went over to him. His face was cut and he could not ride home, so Mr. Richardson took him home, but before he got there he was unconscious. The doctor was sent for, and as near as the writer can learn, he is doing nicely.

Yorkville: The Oswego Pirates have been humbled by defeat and once again have the Plainfield Rivals played, won, and quit, saying, "With them, here is nothing doing." The game Friday was a poor exhibition, being replete with errors on both sides. This game completed the series of three games, Plainfield having won the first and last games. A large crowd was out to witness the contest and the Oswego schools were closed at 3 o'clock in order to let the teachers and pupils take in the sport. Many were the surprises and eye-openers that the on-lookers were subjected to before the game was over. "Web" Harvey, the fast little third-basemen of the Yorkville Reds, played his old position for the Oswego team and did not look at all natural in the somber black uniform of the Pirates. The weather was cold and bitter, the crowd standing around with winter ragiaus on and their hands in their pockets.

Plainfield went to bat firs, and what they didn't do to Oswego wasn't much. Bang, bang, bang—as fast as Rowsell could send the sphere up to the home plate it was knocked out into the tall weeds for a one or two base hit. We will not give the particulars of the first four innings as the report might embarrass some of the players. Suffice it to say that at the end of the fourth inning, the score was 21-5 in favor of Plainfield. In the last half of the fourth inning, Rowsell retired from the box and Harnley was put in, Young taking his place on third. But in the fifth, Young was selected to do the slab artist's work and Harnley returned to his position. If "Bunnie" had done the twirling from the start, or even after the second inning, the game

would have been a great deal more interesting, if not a final victory of the Oswego club.

Oliver Burkhart started things going for the Pirates in the last of the fifth inning. A strike-out was the sum of his efforts, and Leigh followed him with a long fly to center field. No one thought that Brownson would ever get under it, but he did. Troll got a safe single into right field, but he did not prove to be a good runner and was thrown out by Rhodes to Salisbury in his attempt to steal second. Young got in some more of his good work in the seventh inning and the Plainfield team was prevented from scoring in this inning also. If the field had given Young any support at all in the last part of the game, the champions might have made up a good share of the discouraging lead that Plainfield had got in the first part. Time and again was the ball squarely caught in the hands of an outfielder only to rest there for a minute and then be dropped as if it was a piece of hot iron. But there was a lively time indeed in the last half of the seventh when Oswego came to bat. Born managed to make three vicious swings at the horsehide without hitting it. Young followed and with two errors by the first baseman, got as far as second. C. Burkhart fanned. With two gone, the Pirates rallied and O. Burkhart came to bat with a fly into deep left field that scored Young. "Bollie" stole second and scored on a hit by Leigh, who completed the circuit by the aid of an error, a stolen base, and a hit by Troll. Harnley followed and fanned.

In the Rivals' half of the eighth, they got into Yong for further orders and secured five hits and six runs.

Oswego scored again in the last inning when Bennie Leigh crossed the pan with a run. This made the score sheet read something like 27-9 in favor of Plainfield.

October -- 1902

Oct. 1: John Gowran will occupy the Squires farm.

Bessie and Daisy Pearce have gone back to college at Evanston.

John Martin, the butcher, has moved up stairs in the Shaver building.



Leonard Burkhart leaves Tuesday on the excursion for Campbell, Minn. to look after his farm interests.

Rev. A.C. Gruber has bought the Cheney place, up near the Riverview park, and soon will move there.

Clara Minkler is in Indiana visiting with Mrs. F.W. Long, whose husband has gone to South Dakota on a prospecting tour.

Next excursion to Famous Red River Valley, Tuesday, Oct. 7. Day-light ride both ways. For particulars call on A.C. Burkhart, Oswego.

The acetylene light is being put in the Presbyterian Church. Services were held there Sunday morning in which the Congregationalists joined them.

L.F. Burkhart, H.G. Burkhart, and J.D. Ebinger have closed a deal for a farm or tract of land in Minnesota of 1,108 acres. The considerations being \$45,000. The Burkharths and Mr. Ebinger are conservative men, and were taken with this country on their first visit.

Wolf's Crossing: Willard Lantz and wife of Waterloo, Iowa were guests at John Richardson's last week.

NaAuSay: The church will be finished this week and services will be held Sunday morning.

Tamarack and Wheatland: A steel windmill has been erected on the farm occupied by Joe Elliott.

Specie Grove: The threshing ring store room has been enlarged.

The Armbruster people are having a telephone line run to their home.

Our schools are progressing finely this fall. The attendance is up to the average and the interest good.

The late rains have put the roads in bad condition.

Charley Chase had a bicycle lamp explode near his face Thursday, which marred his handsome countenance considerably.

What has become of our Joliet NaAuSay & Western railway? It would come in awfully handy for some of our young men.

Oct. 8: Hats cheaper at the Oswego Millinery store than elsewhere.

Mr. and Mrs. E.Y. Ketchum departed Monday for their new home to be in Wisconsin.

Charles I. Smith has probably sold his residence to George Bower, a retired farmer of the German settlement.

John D. Russell has bought the Ketchum place and will in the near future become a resident of the village.

Hattie May Leigh will be pleased to meet with any of her friends at McMillan & Boorkman's store in Aurora, where she is engaged.

A.C. Burkhart left Monday night for Minnesota with a party of land-seekers consisting of John Wolf, Fred Mundsinger, Henry Bower, Clarence Shoger, and John and Leonard Burkhart.

J. Albert Schmidt was advanced to the dignity of benedict Saturday evening by being united in marriage with Miss Mary Fedo, who for some time was in the employ of H.H. Goudie.

Dr. Joseph Pogue is one of the Oswego boys that developed into a great man abroad. He went to the far West and finally settled in Washington. While practicing his profession, he acquired much property so that he became a large land and livestock owner and now has become of such prominence as to be nominated to the legislature from his district.

The horrible accident met by Sherman Born was a keen shock to his many friends here. He had become befriended to all who made his acquaintance. He was the efficient catcher of the Oswego baseball team, and the boys sorely deplore his fortuitous death. The remains

were brought Friday evening from Yorkville and were met by his mother, a sister, and a brother-in-law of Rossville, to where they were shipped Saturday. Undertaker Croushorn accompanied them to Chicago to see to the transfer of them.

While the meeting of the anthracite coal magnates and John Mitchell with President Roosevelt fell short of settling anything, it was of value by showing the spirit of arrogance exhibited and the power of wealth manifested. The magnates politely told the President that his business in the matter was to protect them in working their collieries by squelching the irresponsible and illegal union of the mine workers and he was asked if he would do it. According to how matters stand now and have stood heretofore, the magnates had the inside track of the arguments, but the changed conditions of the situation will require a change of policy. Congress should be called in extra session for creating the power to settle this strike by establishing a labor department of the cabinet.

Yorkville: One of the most pitiful accidents that ever happened in our little city occurred here Friday morning, Oct. 3. Sherman Born, a student at Northwestern University was caught by the train and horribly mangled, causing his demise at 15 minutes to three in the afternoon. The young man got on the westbound passenger train at Oswego, getting here about 10:15. When the passenger train arrived here a freight was coming from the opposite direction. The train that Mr. Born was on came down to the depot, unloaded its passengers and express, took on what passengers were going west, and backed east onto the ice-house side track in order to allow the incoming freight get clear of the main track. When the passenger train stopped at the depot, Sherman got off to have a little conversation with his old friend, Charles Jessup, the Yorkville photographer, thinking that he would get on the train when it pulled past the platform to do gown the road. Three or four minutes elapsed before the train was ready to move and Born was in the best of spirits, joking and laughing in his usually hearty manner. The passenger train pulled past the depot. The passenger train pulled past the depot going about eight or ten miles per hours and the brakeman who was leaning out from a car platform seemed to divine the intentions of Born while the train was still quite a ways up the track, and he began to motion to Sherman to stay off. But he

made the attempt and in jumping he lost his hold on the bars and his food slipped off the edge of the platform. He was thrown under the wheels of the coach and both his lower limbs were terribly crushed and mutilated to the knees. His body was dragged and rolled by the train between the track and the platform and a deep crush in his head that fractured his skull, besides his right arm being badly crushed up to about half way between the elbow and shoulder.

President Roosevelt is a true Republican. He believes in the people. His effort to settle the coal strike has been magnanimous and patriotic but the coal bosses are dictatorial and bossy. They should be suppressed.

Frank Skinner had a big fish hanging in front of his store Friday--a carp that weighted 17-1/2 pounds. Frank Piney caught the sluggish fellow near the Yorkville dam with a common hook and a measly little worm.

Specie Grove: The young people have gathered a good many nuts in the groves. They have been quite plentiful this season.

The Leitch people shipped their onions Monday. From an acre and three quarters they raised about 800 bushels. The rainy weather made it difficult to handle them but with plenty of shed room they were able to dry them sufficiently to ship them.

Oct. 15: At Abner Udike's, her father, Mr. Armour of Tamarack, visited last week.

J.A. Herren, J.D. Russell, Mike Fees, and John Hoch made a trip to Wisconsin to buy land.

A restoration to the proper owners of the hats exchanged at the barbershop Saturday evening is desired.

C.I. Smith, who will build a new residence nearer to his ice-houses, will occupy the William Pierce house while doing so.

The making of concrete walks for this year has now been stopped. I will figure up how many miles, of what part of a mile, Oswego now has, for a future item.

Who shall get the credit for settling the great coal strike, or rather how can thereby the prevention of political capital be accomplished, is the most significant question.

Charles Clinton of Cincinnati, and lately returned from Alaska, was here for a few days visiting David Hall and selling his place--the one occupied by C.H. Newman--to J.C. Conway.

Mr. and Mrs. E.Y. Ketchum have returned from Wisconsin where they have contracted for the immediate building of a house and barn to be occupied by them as soon as completed.

Our next excursion to the famous Red River Valley will be on Monday, Oct. 20. If you wish to make the trip, do so now before the cold weather comes on. Cheap rates; fast trains. For further particulars, call on A.C. Burkhart, Oswego.

Miss Lettie Ellen Woolley has resigned her position as bookkeeper with W.L. Fernberg of Aurora and has accepted a position as bookkeeper for the wholesale house of Dessauer & Engle of Chicago. Miss Woolley is the daughter of Charles Woolley of Oswego.

Not knowing what else to do with their money, which by this prosperity has been accumulating on their hands, the farmers hereabouts are investing it in distant lands. The parties gone to Minnesota have returned. John Wolf and Fred Mundsinger are said to have bought a fine improved farm of 480 acres, and John Burkhart and Clarence Shoger 160 acres each

That socialism will be advanced by the great coal miners' strike is frequently mentioned. Indeed, local conventions of the great political parties have resolved in favor of the anthracite coal mines being operated by the government for the benefit of the people. Socialism in some shape probably will become a necessity and gradual evolution of it be taking place. Municipal ownership of gas, light, and street railways has become quite popular.

Specie Grove: Our foot-ball boys [from Yorkville High School] covered themselves all over with glory in their game Saturday with the Plainfield players.

Potato-digging has been engaging the attention of the farmers. The crop is uneven--on high ground, quite good.

We will all have to huddle around the kitchen stove this fall and winter to keep warm as people did in early days. The parlors and sitting rooms can be closed and the home circle made smaller, and there its members come in closer communication and its joys increase. Now that the coal strike has got to be a local affair, we are all interested in the result and are anxious for it to end.

Yorkville: There are people who object to having hunters carry their guns so carelessly in and about the trolley cars. One was accidentally discharged in an Aurora car a few days ago, but fortunately no one was killed.

Oct. 22: The Barnard blacksmith shop has been rubberroofed.

A cousin of here from Canada was visiting at Hebert's.

West Roberts and Bert Richards with their families are camping down in Fox.

George Collins sold some of his fine sheep at a good price to parties of New Mexico.

Will Sutherland has returned from his summer engagement on the road with a show.

By the arrival of a little daughter Saturday, Rev. and Mrs. W.A. Montgomery have been advanced to the parental state, causing great joy.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Edwards will go to California to spend the winter, during which time their residence will be occupied by Mr.

and Mrs. Ketchum, who will delay their removal to Wisconsin till spring.

The Presbyterian people may now well feel proud of their church of which the remodelings were complete for the first time Sunday. The inside is entirely renewed, including the windows, and everything is neat and tasty. It is provided with the acetylene light from a handsome chandelier of ten lights in the center and side lights enough to make 18 altogether.

Married, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. V.D. Andrews in Aurora, Mr. Wallace A. Davis and Mrs. Celia Carney, both well known residents of Oswego.

The wedding took place Monday, Oct. 20. Their future home will be in Oswego.

The Methodist Preachers: A.C. Gruber remains pastor in Oswego and Montgomery and his residence is now at Montgomery, where he bought the big Cheney house near Riverview Park.

Wolf's Crossing: A man in our neighborhood says that he has pumpkins so large that it makes two strong men grunt to lift one in a wagon.

Several of the ladies in this vicinity have been giving the Oswego Prairie church a general overhauling and it no doubt will have a bright appearance.

Specie Grove: Corn-husking has begun.

Ernest Lippold has sold his farm to Ernest Ahrens of Fox, getting \$53 an acre. There are about 175 acres in the farm.

Ed Schur has finished his new double corn crib and has his barn ready for hay.

Thomas Willer struck a strong flow of gas in drilling a tubular well. The gas would burn with a steady bright light until extinguished. In deepening the well, the flow of gas was lost.

The groves are shedding their summer foliage. The process is gradual. The walnuts, hickories, and ashes are already denuded of leaves; the maples and oaks are tinged with gold, while the elms and some other species are still green with life.

Wilkes Barre, Pa., Oct. 21: The mine workers' convention Tuesday accepted by unanimous vote the arbitration proposal, declared the strike off, and agreed to return to work on Thursday morning next.

Oct. 29: George Collins' new barn was raised Thursday.

Supervisor J.D. Russell has moved to town and into his newly-bought residence.

Joseph T. Young has moved here from Chicago and down into the Parkhurst tenant house.

George Boardman and Will Boughton, East Wheatland, were here Saturday to see their aunt, Mrs. Moore.

Scott Cutter will build another palatial residence in the northwest end of town, where he has secured a lot.

E.H. Sodt and Frank Pearce returned Monday from a tour through Tennessee in the interest of land acquisitions.

Doc Woolley is building a tool house and constructing the foundation for his new residence and barn, to be built in the spring.

The Fred Funk buildings, occupied by James Foran, have been painted and one of them supplied with new upper windows, an conspicuous improvement.

George Bower has moved to town, occupying the premises bought of C.I. Smith, who will occupy the William Pearce house until his new residence is completed.

The remains, consisting of bones only, of the Hastings brothers, who together were killed by the gas in a well they were digging in 1854,



were disinterred from the Collins cemetery, where buried, and shipped to relatives in Minnesota.

Ambrose Darby and Mrs. Linda Foster were married Saturday evening at their home upstairs in the west side Will Funk building by Justice Roberts. The ceremony was followed by a fine supper and the cigars were in evidence at Funk & Schultz's store later on.

Edgar Williams of Chicago, whose wife and two children boarded at the old National here during the summer of 1862, and himself would come to stay over Sundays, thus becoming acquainted with some of our people. The other day for the first time since he came on a visit, but the place looked strange to him--everything had changed. Then he began to inquire after acquaintances mentioning about a dozen, but dead, dead, dead was the answer to nearly all of them.

Died at the home of her father, William Cooney near LeRoy, Colo., Oct. 22, Miss Lucinda Cooney, of Bright's disease, at the age of 49 years. Deceased leaves an aged father two sisters, and one brother to mourn her loss. All were present at the bedside at the time of death except Mrs. Meda Boynton of Omaha. Deceased was a resident of Kendall county over 40 years. About nine years ago, she with her two sisters and brother moved to York, Neb. About three years ago, she went to live with her aged father in Colorado, where she died. She was a member of the Congregational church of Oswego.

Specie Grove

Militarism has struck the Minkler school and the teacher has organized a cadet company, to the delight of the big boys.

The new rock crusher was tried one day last week and the commissioners met Saturday to decide if they would buy it.

Yorkville: Esch Brothers & Rabe met with misfortune Sunday morning or last Saturday night when one of their big ice houses at Loon Lake was burned. Have not learned cause of fire. The loss is heavy, but the splendid courage of this company seems to keep them from repining. They will rebuild.

November -- 1902

Nov. 5: Floi Johnston is said to be enjoying the possession of a new piano.

The high school received and put in place its new piano Saturday.

A petition was circulated by the ladies and signed by nearly everybody for the village board to induce Mrs. Thomas Smith to consent to the removal of her old meat market building on Main street, which has become an eyesore.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Knapp and John P Hummel, Oswego's European tourists, have returned in tip-top shape. The former were gone all summer, and the latter two months.

Nov. 12: The Jolly Helpers' oyster supper was fairly well attended.

Information has been received of the death of Mrs. J.V. Perrine, nee Sophie Sutherland, an Oswego girl of the olden times, which occurred at her home in Troy, Ohio.

On and after Monday, Nov. 17, we will open a repair shop in our shoe department in charge of a competent shoemaker. Bring in your shoes or boots and have them repaired or resoled. First-class work guaranteed--prices reasonable. Sodt & Mores, Oswego.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Thomas Stewart is having his residence repaired and new improvements added.

Specie Grove: The rock crusher belonging to the town of Kendall was tried again, but does not work properly and the company selling it wish it returned to be remodeled. The general opinion is that there is not enough material in the town to warrant the outlay for a crusher and that the commissioners have made a mistake in contracting for one. It would seem that if this one is returned and an honorable settlement could be made it would be better to not have this one or another sent back. A small loss now will be better than a greater one later on.

Nov. 19: There is a rumor that Frank Hawley has sold his farm, the former Judson farm, with all the stock, produce, and implements upon it for \$52,000.

Dr. Charles F. Read, who has been on the house staff of the Cook County Hospital, has located for practice at Grand Rapids, Mich. Dr. Read is an Oswego boy, the son of H.B. Read.

Charles Cherry and Edith Rickard were married Sunday afternoon. The groom is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Mose Cherry of NaAuSay and a nephew of Hon. Charles T. Cherry. The bride is the accomplished daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis L. Rickard of Oswego township.

Two Aurora boys, with guns, were down here Saturday on a hunting diversion, which was suddenly brought to an end by one shooting himself through a foot.

Specie Grove. Fred Graham has bought the corn shredder owned by the Shepard-McMurtrie combine.

The prospect for an open winter is now good. Farmers generally would choose a cold rather than a rainy one.

Fred Schale killed a large bald eagle recently. It measured six feet and five inches from tip to tip of wings. He was making a dinner of one of John Wampah's chickens when Fred shot him.

Nov. 26: Oysters at Sodt & Morse's, Oswego.

Irene Newman is nursing a felon on one hand, keeping her out of school.

Over the river at Lippold's, they indulge in strawberry shortcake from the November crop of the berry.

"Chauffing" has become a new word and I might employ it by stating that Werve has been supplied with a tricycle provided with air-pump and blowpipe to be chauffing around with in lighting the street lamps.

About 40 of the young friends went out to C.H. Shoger's on a hayrack and in buggies Friday evening to honor by a surprise visit Miss Carrie Shoger, the teacher in that district and boarding there. Games, refreshments, and lots of other fun was enjoyed.

A new double carriage has been added to the Williams Livery. They are prepared to furnish rigs at the lowest prices. Try them and you will receive the best treatment.

The burial of Charles J. Hawley took place here about noon, Thursday, and the funeral and burial of F.M. Damon in the afternoon of that day. There hadn't been any death in Oswego and vicinity from May 3, to November 18.

Charles Woolley's new house is nearing completion. It is one up to date in style, convenience, and elegance. The handiness in everything about it will make it easy to keep things in order. The fireplace in the parlor, nicely constructed of broken boulders from his farm, is especially ornamental.

Yorkville: The big farm sale of Hon. Charles T. Cherry is scheduled to come off at the homestead in NaAuSay on Wednesday of next week--Dec. 3--beginning at 10 a.m. There will be a great crowd there because it will be a notable sale. Fine lot of live stock, farm machinery, etc. There's no politics in this affair; it is a straight business transaction and the auctioneers and clerks will see everything goes off right.

December -- 1902

Dec. 3: Charles Gray will go to the Soldier's Home.

Cards are said to have been received for two weddings, viz: Allen Woolley and Sophia Parkhurst on the 10th inst., and Dr. Charles F. Read and Ethelwyn Eaton of Beloit, on the 16th.

A meeting of the stockholders of the Oswego Library Association will be held on Saturday evening, Dec. 6, at Mr. George Croushorn's store. Josephine Hall, Secretary.

At the council meeting Monday on petition from some ladies, the name of Taylor street was changed to Judson avenue, and signs with the names of streets crossed by the electric cars were ordered to be placed on the corners so that people will mention the streets instead of saying, "I want to get off at Barnard's or Minkler's," etc. The board also paid the last of the water tank bonds and did so two years before they were due, thereby saving the payment of a year's interest.

The Thanksgiving day here was passed quite delightfully, no shooting match or other cruel or boisterous sport was had; serene quietude was the disposition.

Specie Grove: The snow last week interfered considerably with corn husking, but gave the industrious ones a chance to lay off on Thanksgiving day.

Ed Shepard took some nice pictures Thanksgiving day with his camera. The snow-covered ground helped him considerably in his work. The one were Al VanEmon is apparently laying down the moral law to the other male members of the company, who seem to be very indifferent to what is being said, is especially taking.

Yorkville: One of the greatest surprises to football enthusiasts in Northern Illinois Thanksgiving day was the defeat of East Aurora by their West side opponents. Everybody felt assured that the East side would win, the members of the West side team themselves only figuring to hold the score down to a low one. East side money was going begging a week before the game and when the score of 22 to 0 in favor of the West side was circulated, it was hardly credited by those who did not see the game.

Dec. 10: Postmaster Richards was in Chicago Tuesday.

C.I. Smith has been busy repairing the dam of his reservoir on the Waubonsie for the production of ice.

The cold snap caused but a small turnout at the union [church] meeting Sunday evening.

A few weeks ago, the disposition broke out here that the ordinances in regard to the sale of liquor must be enforced, and three men were hauled up for procuring whiskey for one on the forbidden list, and assessed with a fine. Then John Schickler, a saloon-keeper, was sued for selling liquor to R.R. Van Evra on Sunday, the trial of which was put over first on a change of venue from the police magistrate to Justice Armstrong; second, on a technicality; and lastly, Monday, it came to trial, the attorneys being B.F. Herrington of Yorkville for the prosecution and Aldrich of Aurora, the defense. The first skirmish was about a dismissal, which when overruled was followed by getting a jury, a tedious proceeding, many on the venire acknowledging themselves prejudiced. The accepted were Arthur Rowswell, George White, Will Leigh, Leonard Shoger, Gene Minard, and Mr. Burkhart. The proceedings were as usual in such cases, more or less farcical and the outcome was "not guilty as charged." Get to lawing if you want self-punishment.

NaAuSay: The thermometer registered 6 below zero Monday morning.

Tom Condon's little daughter is very ill with scarlet fever.

Wolf's Crossing: Alex Harvey is putting up a new barn for stalks and hay. Mr. Harvey believes in taking good care of his Jerseys and it pays.

The Enterprise threshing ring has bought a new shredder.

Yorkville: County Clerk Williams has invested in a new type-writer of a high grade, and he is practicing daily to become an expert operator.

It was a shock to the editor of *The Record* about 2 o'clock Friday afternoon when General Welch telephoned this office from Aurora that our long-time friend and brother editor, John H. Hodder, was dead. Ever since this paper was established in 1864, has the *Aurora*

*Beacon* and *The Record* been close neighbors and friends. It's senior editor, O.B. Knickerbocker, died in 1885, and Mr. Hodder took up the work alone and his neighborly acts and friendly words to us and the people of Kendall county always gave evidence of his warm and genial heart.

John H. Hodder was born in 1835 in Dorsetshire, England; came to this country in 1853 and to Aurora in 1854. He was a bookbinder and printer and established the first bindery in Aurora. He worked in the *Beacon* office when owned by Bangs & Knickerbocker and bought Mr. Bangs' interest in 1866 and became one of the publishers, thus remaining until his death.

Specie Grove: It is very cold this morning. Just what farmers are wishing for, as the roads will then be good. The probability is that there will be much teaming done this winter in the way of hauling grain and in roadwork.

John Wampah was down to Peoria recently and bought a new corn sheller. This new machine will knock the socks off anything of this kind in this vicinity. It has the capacity of shelling from five to ten thousand bushels a day. An ordinary job can be shelled out before breakfast on a summer day and it will be no trouble to get all your help home before dinner on even a big job. Fast age we are living in.

Dec. 17: L.L. Thomas is also one that keeps a feed and livery stable.

Scott Cutter has the cellar dug for his new residence and a part of the stone for it.

John T. Wormley has sold his farm, all but six acres, to his nephew, Fred C. Wormley.

Frank Herren is now settled in the C.T. Cherry house. The Cherry family will make Aurora its headquarters for the winter.

The Wedding of Sophia Parkhurst to Allen Woolley was the foremost interesting social event of the week. *The Record* doubtless received a report of it.

Lewis Jones, a former resident here and pursuing his trade, that of tailor, but of later years living in Aurora, died at the hospital there, where he was a kind of employee, at the age of 84 years. The body was brought here for burial Wednesday.

J.C. Conway has moved into the house lately bought and which was vacated by Prof. C.H. Newman, who moved into the house of Sheriff Voss, gone to Yorkville. The H. Bower house, vacated by Conway, will, according to report, be occupied by Jacob Friebele Jr., to be married to a Plainfield lady some time this week.

NaAuSay: The Bronk and McCauley schools will unite in giving an entertainment at the Bronk school house Monday evening, Dec. 22.

Yorkville: Mrs. Charles T. Cherry is now getting *The Record* at 311 Galena street, Aurora. They have not exactly left Kendall county, but the family will make headquarters in Aurora till the close of the coming session of the legislature. Of course, Aurora will now claim Charley as an Aurora resident, thus giving Kane county the three representatives. But the Cherrys will use that city as a kind of winter resort--sort of windy place up there, too.

Sheriff and Mrs. Gus Voss are settled in the brick residence and find the place very comfortable. The sheriff has no boarders at present--Mr. Normandin having taken the young man who had been in the jail so long as practically incompetent, to Plano with him, and he will have a good home.

The coal strike commission is now hearing the testimony of the men who have worked down in the mines. It reveals the darker side of mine management, or rather mismanagement, and as Chairman Gray of the commission said when dismissing one witness, "it is enough."

The public will believe that these miners and their wives--yes, and widows--are telling the truth; the unpleasant pictures they are drawing of life underground will not be considered too highly colored. And the irresistible conclusion will be that the minders had more than enough grounds for demanding a change in certain directions.



## JOSEPH SIERP TO START BUSINESS

### Will Conduct Dry Goods Line in Downer Place Store

Joseph Sierp, formerly interested in the George R. Wilcox dry goods establishment, has decided to go into that business on his own account and will in a few days open a store in the Foster block in Downer place, Aurora. The store room is at 9 Downer Place and is the first one west of the bridge.

Specie Grove: The road commissioners of Kendall township have sent back to the manufacturers the rock-crusher recently tried by them. It did not work as it should. We understand that no other will be bought, which no doubt is good policy with existing conditions. Later on, when we get a new railroad to the Joliet quarries it will be an easy matter to buy crushed rock in large quantities, cheaply and have it dumped at any cross road desired. In the meantime, let's all work for the road and get the old ones in a condition for finishing with stone. In time we expect this vicinity to have the best roads in the county, whereas now it has the worst.

Wolf's Crossing: There was a carload of hard coal at Normantown one day last week and quite a few people got ten hundred pounds, which was the limit.

Dec. 24: Oliver and Daniel Hemm were in Chicago Friday and bought a carload of feeders and yearling steers.

There are to be two or three weddings on Christmas day. Getting married has broken out quite extensively here.

Scott Cutter again made the Shaver building the emporium of the holiday goods. Etta Roberts is the special clerk there.

The Traction Company is very kind to this community by giving it double service for the time being; a chance to go or come from Aurora every 30 minutes.

Paul Dwyre, Tuesday during recess at school, fell or was thrown on the concrete walk, hurting his head so as to be unconscious for about six hours and confining him to bed for several days.

The marriage of Jacob Friebele to Miss Anna Nickels took place Tuesday, the 16th, at the St. Mary's rectory.

The Masons Saturday elected for officers: Charles Roberts, master; L.P. Voss, senior warden; C.H. Newman, junior warden; A.L. Rice, treasurer; T.B. Drew, secretary.

The 81st anniversary of the birth of Mrs. Tirzah Minard, Thursday, was made the occasion of a number of friends visiting her with presents of nice flowers and fruit. Mrs. Minard is one of our aged ladies confined to the house by infirmity.

The "Xmas" fad is nearly played out. Very little was seen of it this season, but another folly, "Kris Kringle," was seen once in a while. Its derivation is said to be from the German, which must be from the word "Christkindchen," meaning Christ babe. There is no such thing as Santa Claus--a jolly old fellow with white beard driving reindeer to a sleigh in Germany.

Tamarack and Wheatland: The Wilcox school will have a two weeks' vacation.

Specie Grove: John Wampah brought his new corn-sheller home Thursday. It's a beauty. The wet weather of late has greatly interfered with the shelling business.

Matthew Campbell finished husking quite a field of corn for Al VanEmon Monday. Matt is not the fastest of huskers, but nothing in the weather line stops him.

The road on the Gates hill is in bad shape and it would seem some repairs should be made before winter sets in for good.

Yorkville: Rockefeller [Rockefeller] has given another million to the Chicago University and has put another cent a gallon on kerosene. Dr. Harper, the Chicago University, and the Standard Oil Company are not far from being oppressors of the people.

Down with the coal trusts and the men who freeze the marrow out of the poor that they may revel in luxury.

Mr. Levi Gorton, so long a resident of the townships of Oswego and Bristol, has gone to Plano to live with his daughter. Mr. Gorton is over 94 years old and has lived in this section of the country about 65 years.

In "A Review of 1902: The most important happenings in all departments of the world's activities briefly noted," *The Record* reported there had 36 lynchings in the U.S. during the year, most involving Southern white mobs hanging or beating to death blacks.

Dec. 31: Henry Kerr, who now is the editor and proprietor of the Little Hustler, a Western Iowa newspaper, was here on a visit.

The marriage of Joseph Atkins to an Aurora lady took place Tuesday.

A new daughter weighing upwards of seven pounds was added to the family of I.H. Edwards Sunday.

A baby boy was born Saturday to Mr. and Mrs. J.C. Conway, but unfortunately died before a whole day old.

If you have a rig at the Williams livery and tie stable to attend dances, parties or entertainments, you can get it any time of night, without extra charge. Our price to one and all is 15c single or 25c double

Rush Walker on his Tuesday rural delivery trip met with a mishap by the breaking of an axle to his vehicle, causing it to tip over, the horses trying to run away, dragging him for some distance, there by considerably bruising one leg and burning the knee, but not enough to disable him from continuing the performance of the service.

One of the prettiest weddings of the season occurred Thursday, Dec. 25, 1902, at high noon, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. M.J. Pogue when their daughter, Nettie Mat, became the wife of Dr. Walter H. Livermore of Evanston.

NaAuSay: Owing to the severe weather Christmas eve, the cantata was poorly attended.

Millington: The year 1902, which is now almost ended, has been to Millington a season of prosperity and improvement. Let us look at some of the progress in business. Early in the spring the American Silica Sand Co. established a plant here. They built an extensive works with machinery of the latest improvement. When everything was completed and ready for business a disastrous fire came and swept away nearly all the buildings. They were, however, immediately rebuilt and put into operation. A few months later the works of the Millington White Sand Co. were also visited by the fire demon. The greater part of the works fell in ashes. Yet from the ruins was erected, for the fourth time, as durable a structure as any preceding it. The new structure contains sufficient apparatus to contend with fire, should it again occur. These works now, under able management, are doing a good business. Later in the summer a cement works was built. It now forms one of our leading industries where the Acme cement plaster is manufactured. In October the J. C. Carr Creamery Co. remodeled the old cheese factory building. They fit it up with required machinery and started in business. This year also gave Millington a place of business long needed, a first-class hardware store. Then the ladies know how much their sex appreciates the two new millinery establishments. We must not forget, either, our new grocery store, which has lately opened. There have also been extensive improvements on residences, quite a number having been entirely remodeled. Thus making them more pleasant and comfortable for the occupants as well as improving the general appearance of the town. Three new residences have also been added. As our population is increasing a greater number could, without difficulty, be occupied if built. Then last, but not least, they say we are to have electric lights. Over sixty have subscribed for electricity. These various improvements all date from 1892. We hope that the general spirit of business may be but the beginning of a progressive era, which shall be for the general good of all concerned.

1903

January

Jan. 7: Sodt & Morse, with their families, ate New Year's dinner at Lew Gaylord's.

Albert H. Switzer of Aurora, an Oswego product, was married to Miss Emma May Hibbard of that city.

Death the past year again dealt quite sparingly with this community, and at one took place after May. The whole number of deaths were 13, of which 6 were males, 7 females; 8 married, 2 single, 3 widowed--the oldest nearly 83 years, the youngest 26; their average age about 82 years; that of the males 58; the females about 65-1/2. There was also one infant. The bodies brought here for burial from abroad numbered 8, the sex being 4 each. The marriage record shows 16 weddings, of which 11 of the grooms and 10 of the brides were married for the first time; 3 of the grooms and 2 of the brides were previously married.

Yorkville: Esch Brothers & Rabe have their plant completed and are ready to begin work when the ice is a little thicker. A few nights' hard freezing would put the ice in good shape for cutting.

Jan. 14: C.I. Smith is harvesting ice from his fine pond.

A seven pound baby girl was born last night to Mr. and Mrs. John T. Martin.

L.L. Thomas is again working at his old trade, blacksmithing, at Young's shop.

Apparently this "unprecedented prosperity" is now hugely enjoyed by some of the coal dealers.

Come out Friday and help the high school pupils pay for their fine new piano. They are always ready to help others.

Forgot to mention last week the new business firm--Foran & Barker--that sprung into existence with the new year. Charles S. Barker is the junior partner.

The town authorities are doing now much graveling, getting the gravel from the bank acquired by the village of Mrs. Thomas Smith right across the bridge of the Waubonsie.

Edson Wheeler, though ailing, died unexpectedly Friday evening at the house of Mrs. Lauriston Walker, where himself and wife were temporarily staying--she taking care of Mrs. Walker, who being sick--the family lately moved here from Aurora. The funeral took place from the Presbyterian church Sunday afternoon. Deceased leaves a widow, who when a girl was Ella Hunt of this neighborhood--and a daughter.

A deplorable accident occurred Saturday at Doc Woolley's, when about finishing corn-shredding, Lewis, the oldest son, was feeding the machine when in an unguarded moment the right hand was caught and drawn in to the elbow. He was released as quickly as possible and doctors from here and Aurora summoned, but all that could be done was to amputate the arm above the elbow. Lew delighted to work with machinery and for several years has been the main man in running a threshing outfit during the season.

NaAuSay: Ray and Minnie Stiefbold of Big Rock were over last week making their farewell visit before moving to Indiana.

Specie Grove: Snug winter weather.

There is some talk of the farmers about Yorkville combining and building a cooperative grain elevator at that place.

Yorkville: The market ice house of Starr & Belden was filled from the river pond Monday with clear, solid ice of about a foot thick.

The Chicago Ice Company has a big force of men on the river pond at Yorkville and they are running a splendid lot of ice in the capacious houses. The ice is clear, solid, and a foot thick. Fred

Young has put electric lights about the plant and they work till six o'clock.

Jan. 21: H.G. Smith in opening oysters in the shell ran the knife into one hand, which he now carries in bandages.

At Schickler's a big hole was made in the rear wall in order to get in the basement a steam boiler for heating purposes.

The bridal couple, Dr. and Mrs. Livermore, had returned here for a few days last week and then went to Polo, their new home.

The people of Oswego are invited to go down to Yorkville next Saturday evening and hear the Thomas Dixon lecture.

Mrs. Lydia K., widow of Lauriston Walker, reached her 85th birthday on the 14th inst., and died Friday. She was a native of Massachusetts and the family came west to this place in 1845, when shortly after they began farming, which occupation was pursued till after the death of her husband in 1888 when she established her residence in town.

The lady who was the first wife of Perez Walker and is now residing in Ohio, having been attending the funeral of her mother in this neighborhood, concluded to come here and make her mother-in-law a visit, but on arrival Saturday found her dead. She remained and also attended the funeral.

The high school basket social was quite successful, both financially--proceeds upwards of \$45--and entertainingly, the program rendered was excellent. The readers were Clara Minkler, Mrs. F.C. Wormley, and Laura Burkhart; the solo singers, Myron Mather, Charles Fullen, and Mrs. Anna Rickard; the duettists, Mrs. Morse and Mrs. Abbey Barnard; the male quartet, L.P. Voss, F.D. Pearce, J.H. Edwards, and C.H. Newman. The pianists, Martha White and Mrs. Newman.

To keep me posted on the prosperity of Kansas, especially that part of Allen county found to be a great gas and oil field and which has made many men immensely rich, Er Parke, a former Oswegoan and landowner there, is sending me local papers of that section with the

booming items about the new gushers of wells, smelters, and other enterprises conspicuously marked. Er is too modest to say anything about himself, but quite likely has become one of the men of wealth.

A base-ball meeting was had Thursday evening in the back room of the barber shop at which J.D. Russell was president; Lou Young secretary; and the financial question the main topic. A little debt due from last season's work was to be got rid of, which after some parleying was agreed to be by giving an exhibition. Clint Burkhart, Rowsell, and Fullen were appointed the executive committee; Joe Richards, L.F. Burkhart, and Lou Young a soliciting committee, and the meting adjourned to next Friday when the object shall be to organize a base-ball association for the moral and financial support of the cause, to which may belong all interested in the game, no matter whether or not they can play or belong to a team.

Yorkville: Mr. Oliver Hemm of Oswego was in Yorkville Wednesday and enjoyed the meetings of the Farmers' Institute. He is somewhat of a pretty good farmer himself.

Specie Grove: The Corner View poultry yard is having an additional building put up.

Jan. 28: A dance Wednesday night was one of the pastimes of the week.

Mr. and Mrs. O. Hebert are some more grandparents because of a daughter at Gardner Read's in Evanston.

The streets intersected by the car line have been marked with their names on tablets put up on the corners--for a better understanding where stopping the cars for alighting. These streets are Van Buren, Tyler, Benton, Rose Hill, and Judson avenue.

Some of the girls working in Aurora and taking the 6:30 car in the morning to get there and who have to spend the time waiting for it shivering in the near-by stairways or around the corner out of the wind, wanted me to give a roasting to the authorities responsible for not having any kind of a waiting room. Now, whose business is it to act in this matter?



Scientists are continually making new discoveries of microbes in things we were fond of eating and drinking, thereby discouraging their use. The latest noticed was that microbes, and lots of them, are in oysters, and they ought to be shunned. Why don't some bacteriologist discover microbes in whiskey, tobacco, vinegar, pepper--thereby discouraging their use.

The Oswego prairie church, with the pastor, George Schwartz, are having a good protracted meeting, which resulted so far in quite a number of converts and in quite a stirring up of the members to greater spiritual activity.

George Switzer sent me a copy of the Chanute Daily Tribune with a supplement containing the whole history of the Kansas and Indian Territory gas and oil means and of the men made rich thereby. Kansas is a great country for enterprise. It always has something for special promotion. When I was there in 1858, the establishing of cities was the all-important aim, especially on the frontier. We had one established on the south side of the Kaw, a few miles below Fort Riley, called Ashland City, with parks, a city hall square, the streets all named with historical appellations, a fine looking place on paper. It was afterwards converted into a farm. Most of the other cities established then are now farms.

Tamarack & Wheatland: Frank McMicken has bought a team of mules for use on the corn sheller.

Miss Jessie Palmer of Aurora has been compelled to resign her position as teacher of the church school on account of poor health; Miss Ellen Bock of Plainfield will take her place.

Wallace Ferguson has been quite ill this week, threatened with typhoid fever. A nurse from Joliet is attending him. Mrs. Ferguson is just able to be around the house after her recent illness.

Yorkville: Been short of coal at the electric light plant and Yorkville was in darkness Sunday night as to street lamps. Jeter & Boston must keep the boys at the plant in coal if it is a possible thing.

All persons residing on the north side, Yorkville, are requested to meet with the village board at their next regular meeting, Tuesday evening, Feb. 3, at Ed Bromley's shop at 7:30 to devise some means of fire protection. Upon investigation, we find it impossible to construct a waterworks.

J.A. Goddard, President.

O.C. Knudson, Clerk

The nights have been exceedingly foggy and dark, and for three of them Yorkville has been short of street lights, except a few down town. And we now wonder how we ever got along without them. Lanterns were in use largely last night. Cause? No coal to make steam to run dynamo. Mr. Young had two carloads due Sunday night, but the railroad company needed fuel and carried the cars home for its own use. Mr. Young received a carload last night. If the railroad company is justified in confiscating coal to keep its trains moving, are not people who live in towns along the road and who are suffering for want of coal justified in holding up coal trains and taking fuel by force--if they pay for it subsequently?

Specie Grove: No school in the Kendall district Thursday and Friday. Miss Graham was given these days to visit other schools.

The difficulty between one of our farmers and a well company has not been settled yet as we previously stated, but is likely to be taken to court.

Raymond Motherhead started Monday for Washington, D.C. where he will make his home. We will all miss Raymond, as he is bright, sociable, and active.

The electric railway made a survey through here last week on nearly the same line previously. Crossing the Oswego and Newark road near the gravel bed, it passes through the Doetschman farm till it reaches the section line between the above place and the Marklein farm, and then south till near Plattville. Their route cuts through but few farms and it will probably be the one finally taken.

February -- 1903

Feb. 4: The ground hog was scared back into his hole Monday.

A new son was added to the family of Elias Darby.

An infant of Arthur White's, over the river, was buried here recently.

The Methodist people made a surprise visit to their pastor, Rev. A.C. Gruber, Wednesday, making some nice presents and having a good social time.

The high school drama proved an extraordinary success; its performance was more than usually well done. Mame Pearce was the star and Clint Burkhart the villain. Miss Clara Minkler was the manager and she had everything done promptly and pleasantly.

Bower-Haag

The wedding of Wesley A. Bower and Miss Lida Haag, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Otto Haag, took place Wednesday at high noon at the home of the bride's parents. Pastor Schwartz performed the ceremony. Mr. and Mrs. Bower left for a trip to Iowa the same evening. They will be at home to their friends March first. Only the immediate relatives of the two families were present.

Thomas Cliggitt

died Wednesday, the funeral occurring Saturday from St. Mary's Catholic church of Aurora, the burial also being there. Deceased was 53 years old, was born in Vermont, brought here with the family when about two years old and then grew up on a farm. He was very studious, taught school for several years, and always kept himself well informed, and while his later life was not exemplary, most all of the harm he did in the world was to himself. The surviving near relatives are four brothers and three sisters. John, Morris, and Maggie because of distance and for other reasons were unable to be present at the funeral. The pall bearers were H.S. Richards, A.P. Walsh, J.H. Edwards, E.E. Lyon, George White, and J.H. Foran.

NaAuSay: The Schlapp brothers have rented Mr. Selah Jessup's farm for the coming year. Mr. and Mrs. Jessup will remain on the place, but will have a sale this month and dispose of their tools and stock.

Yorkville: Mr. Cherry, Kendall county's representative in the legislature, has introduced a bill to make the office of village constable elective, the same as other offices, and there may be merit in the recommendation.

The present law gives the president and village board the power to appoint a constable and he has the same jurisdiction as the township constable elected by the people of the town. The law as proposed would affect the villages of Oswego, Lisbon, Newark, Millington, North Yorkville, and Yorkville in this county.

A detail from the Yorkville Grand Army Post attended the funeral of Dr. Myron Hopkins, a comrade, Thursday afternoon in Aurora.

**Foran & Barker.**

**Special Prices For FRIDAY and SATURDAY . . .**

22 lbs best Granulated Sugar with every \$5 order for . . .	\$1.00	Bushel Baskets, each . . . . .	10c
49-lb sack Pride Flour—every sack warranted . . . . .	95c	8-qt Tin Milk Pail . . . . .	10c
25 lbs New Prunes . . . . .	\$1.00	Best Boston Snag Felt Boots . . .	\$2.15
6 lbs New Prunes . . . . .	25c	10-gallon Milk Cans . . . . .	2.00
7 bars Lenox or Swift's Pride Soap . . . . .	25c	Round Steak . . . . .	10c
XXXX or Arbuckle's Coffee . .	10c	Sirloin and Porterhouse Steak . .	12c
1-lb pail Smoking Tobacco . .	35c	Oyster Shells, for poultry, per hundred . . . . .	75c
		12 boxes Matches . . . . .	5c

We are always ready to pay the Highest Prices for Veal, Hides, Poultry, Butter and Eggs.

**FORAN & BARKER, Oswego, Ill.**

Mr. Barker of the firm of Foran & Barker, Oswego, was in Yorkville Tuesday to advertise their new meat market--and general merchandise. See their announcement on first page. C. Zorn has charge of the meat department.

A number of the telephone poles south of Yorkville were broken down and wires disarranged during the sleet storm last night. Manager Nading is having his force at work making repairs. He

asks patrons to be patient for a few days till he gets things in working order.

CAME TO OTTAWA IN 1824

One of the Earliest Settlers Dies at Amboy, Illinois

*Ottawa Republican*

Died, at the residence of his son in Amboy, Jan. 26, John W. Beresford in the 87th year of his age.

John W. Beresford came with his father, Robert Beresford, and family to Ottawa in 1824 with Elder Walker, under whose auspices a mission school was established among the Indians at Mission Point, now near Sheridan, and was in charge of Mr. Beresford. From there, the family moved to what is now known as Holderman's Grove, and from thence moved back to what is now known as Wedron, where he improved the water power and ran a sawmill for a number of years, as well as the farm now known as the Belrose farm. They lived there during the Black Hawk war at the close of which the eldest son, James, was ambushed and murdered by the so-called friendly Indians. John W., though a boy, took part in the hostilities and during his latter years was in receipt of a government pension. On reaching man's estate, John W. Beresford married and located on what is now known as the Temple farm in Serena, where he lived until 1854. He sold the farm and moved to Amboy and engaged in the mercantile business. He leaves surviving three sons and one daughter, and an only sister, Mrs. William Cullen of Ottawa.

Specie Grove: Frank Seely shipped some Holstein cows to Old Mexico Monday.

The farmers who have not finished corn husking are getting a move on them now since the snow is off. John Gates has five teams in his field Saturday.

There is some talk of a new plan to raise money to build hard roads in Kendall town[ship]. It is to bond the town for enough money to gravel the principal roads across the town--the bonds to run for ten years. This plan, it is thought, will put the roads in a condition where they can be kept in repair by the usual appropriation for that purpose. Let us agitate until something effective is done.

Feb. 11: Mrs. Harvey Keck of Aurora, nee Lillie Troll of this place, is dead.

The Jolly Helpers took a sleighride to Yorkville Monday evening to be entertained at the jail.

Charles Fullen has resigned his position at the depot and intends to return to St. Paul. The new man is a very prepossessing fellow.

Foran & Barker added to their business the selling of meats, Charley Zorn having the charge of it, thus giving Oswego three meat markets.

The masquerade ball Thursday night is said to have been a most pleasurable affair. The prizes were won by Miss Ella Twist of Aurora and Clint Burkhart.

The Edwards acetylene lighting process was put in the residence of M.L. Wormley over the river and also being put in that of John A. Herren's near there.

Arthur Beaupre, an Oswego boy, is now the Minister of the United States to Colombia, receiving a salary of \$10,000 year, and the fees are said to amount to as much more.

Lillie Burkhart entertained a sleighload party, consisting of the senior class of the East Aurora high school at her home Wednesday evening. An oyster supper was served and an enjoyable time spent.

Nice velvet cushions have been provided for the pews of the Presbyterian church, which are making the attendance there as comfortable as one can wish.

The strikes of working men for higher wages now so prevalent may in the long run prove detrimental to them. Higher wages carry with it higher prices for the necessities of life, and while universal ups and downs in prices wouldn't benefit nor hurt anybody, but such don't happen and are not wanted by the dominant and speculating element which aims to invest in property when the same is cheap and sell when high. Good times are made to be due to great demand and rising price of property, work at good wages for all laboring men so that they can have wherewithal to buy for themselves and families good clothing and the means of good living, thereby making business prosperous.

There is a measure before congress now to create a department of commerce. The producing classes should demand that instead of that, or at least together with it, a department of labor should be created--the first duty of which should be to fix maximum and

minimum prices for all labor and products in their normal conditions.

Yorkville: In last week's Record was a call for a mass meeting of the voters of Kendall township to be held at the town hall, Yorkville, on Saturday, Feb. 14, at 1 p.m. to discuss or plan some method by which the public roads of the town, or some of them, may be made passable in all seasons of the year.

The question is a vital one, whether considered from a point of more comfort and convenience, or from the financial standpoint of more profit to farmers who have to haul products to a market and take freight from railway depots. There is no question but what passable highways improve the value of land in a community. When the roads are in a condition that a man can hitch up his team and make a trip in an hour that often takes three or four hours, the financial side is at once seen--time is saved and wear and tear of team and vehicle as well as the temper of the man is kept in place. All acknowledge the necessity, but HOW is the problem.

It is shown by the books at the courthouse that as much as \$25,000 a year is spent in this county every year to work the roads. And "to work the roads" is the proper expression. They are worked, often with out plan, by men who are only interested in getting the road tax worked out. There should be a change in the method. There has been no improvement in methods since the beginning of the road system. Things can be bettered, but it takes harmonious working interest to do it.

Some propose to issue township bonds for a period of, say, 29 years, to raise money to make hard roads, and others want the highway system put in charge of a competent supervisor who shall control all the work--one-man supervision being deemed better than three commissioners and an army of pathmasters.

Foran & Barker advertisement: 49 lb. Sack of flour, 95 cents; 25 lbs. new prunes, \$1; 1 lb. Pail smoking tobacco, 35 cents; round steak, 10 cents a pound; sirloin or porterhouse steak, 12-1/2 cents a pound.

Chris Steafbold, who used to live in Kendall county, has a sale of farm property at Big Rock on the 17th, and will move from there to Indiana.

The “strike” epidemic continues to grow. What will be the outcome of all these disturbances in the labor world is hard to prophesy. It is getting to be distressing. But “capital” has set “labor” the example and if combination is good for one, no objection should be made if the working man wants to participate.

About 25 Yorkville people went up to Aurora Monday night and saw the Royal Lilliputians “in Posterland” at the opera house and returned on a theater car. Does anybody doubt the convenience of the street cars?

The Jolly Helpers came down from Oswego Monday night and had a jolly meeting at the residence of Sheriff Voss and Mrs. Voss treated them just splendidly. Of course, it was a well-behaved crowd of young folks--had it been otherwise, the Sheriff had the means to take care of them. These young people are helpers for the Oswego Congregational church and good ones.

Lots of things going on in Yorkville all the time. Last Thursday, Mr. M.J. Richards, a brother of Mrs. G.H. Voss, and Miss Ida L. Hormann came down from Aurora, stopped at Sheriff Voss’s residence and with the assistance of Rev. S.W. Meek, returned to Aurora as Mr. and Mrs. M.J. Richards. This time they got ahead of the throwers of rice and old shoes.

Specie Grove: Matt Campbell will work for John Gates this season.

John Grate bought a fine span of horses of a Plainfield party recently.

John Simons will manage one of his farms near Oswego in connection with his home farm. He will soon go to Kansas to look after his property interests there.

NaAuSay: Robert and Alfred Lucas of Chicago spent Saturday and Sunday with their parents.

This community was painfully shocked to hear that Mrs. Falkenberg had passed away Wednesday morning. She has been a sufferer from



diabetes for three years, but had been up around the house as usual until Tuesday morning when she complained of a headache and in a few moments became unconscious and remained so until her death. Mrs. Mary Falkenberg, widow of Michael Falkenberg, was born in Württemberg, Germany, March 25, 1830. Her maiden name was Mary Greser; she came to the United States in April 1848; lived in Tonawanda and Buffalo, N.Y. eight years; was married to Michael Falkenberg and came to Kendall county in August 1856; and died in NaAuSay Feb. 4, 1903, leaving five sons and three grandchildren to mourn her loss. The funeral services were held in St. John's Catholic church, Joliet Feb. 6, and her remains were laid to rest in St. John's cemetery by the side of her late husband.

Scott Cutter has invented and had patented a tree insulator for telephone wires, which promises to be a great money getter.

Feb. 18: All the way from 13 to 18 below here this morning, Tuesday.

Henry Bower is said to be soon coming to town and occupying his late purchased house.

Charles Fullen started Monday evening for his home in St. Paul. He took his grandmother, Mrs. Samse, with him.

Herman Young is now one of the number taking the early car for Aurora, where he is engaged in a woodwork establishment.

The Methodist people to the number of 62 had had a sleighing excursion out to Frank Herren's one evening the fore part of the week.

Postmaster Richards attended one evening the reception of his brother, Jay, and the bride at their mother's, Mrs. T.C. Richards in Aurora.

Specie Grove: A.D. Curran visited the Minkler school Friday.

It is rumored that Harry Linn will be interested in the new meat market at Yorkville.

E.W. Lippold shelled corn Monday. He will soon move to Iowa where he has bought a farm.

Farmers of this neighborhood quite generally attended the road meeting at Yorkville Saturday. We are all deeply interested, but don't know just how to act.

Coming the first of March, when he intends to quit, Fred Graham will have hauled milk for 12 years and three months continuously. For the first six years he did not miss a day--neither Sunday nor holiday. Few men have been as faithful. Mr. Graham has been very accommodating in doing little errands for patrons along his routes and all will miss him when he does not make his daily trip.

NaAuSay: Owing to bad weather and roads, there will be no prayer meeting Thursday evenings until further notice.

Wolf's Crossing: The thermometer indicated 18 degrees below zero Tuesday morning.

There was an entertainment at the Harvey school Thursday night and was a grand success, about 30 being in attendance.

Yorkville: Jacob Darfler shipped his household goods to Monticello, Ind. Saturday, near which place he has bought a farm. Jake accompanied the carload of goods, but will be back again to take Mrs. Darfler and the children to their new home.

Feb. 25: Playing marbles, the first sign of spring, has appeared.

Mat. W. Naden of this neighborhood is on moving to Monticello, Ind.

The construction of the basement to Scott Cutter's new residence has been commenced.

J. Newton Pearce is one of the risen Oswego boys. He has been promoted to professor in chemistry of the Northwestern University.

Oswego girls as well as boys have worked themselves up to good positions. A pamphlet was shown me of the extensive business of accident insurance in Colorado compiled from its books by Bessie Armstrong, engaged with it. I had taken a few notes to be mentioned here but they became lost.

Wolf's Crossing: Allen and Charlie Sorg are the owners of a span of Shetland ponies which their father bought at Frank Hawley's sale.

Matthew Nading loaded his goods at the Crossing Monday and expects to leave for Indiana in a few days.

Yorkville: One of the rural carriers out of Plainfield had to give up one day last week because of snow-banks--couldn't get through. He had no worse roads than our Yorkville carriers, and they have never missed making the trip.

Newton Pearce of Oswego, who was known in his champion foot-ball days as "Keg" Pearce, is now one of the professors in the Northwestern University at Evanston. He is a son of Mr. James Pearce, and is an honor to Kendall county, the place of his birth.

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Minard of Oswego were in Yorkville to make a visit with Sheriff and Mrs. Voss. They will move to a farm near Big Rock next week--120 acres that Mr. Minard purchased a year ago. They leave the old home and neighbors with regret, having lived in the one place for 21 years.

Jacob Darfler has moved his family to the new home near Monticello, Ind., and came back for the rest of his things. This week, he drives across the country, some 115 miles, to his farm.

Jeter & Boston got two carloads of soft coal and one of hard coal yesterday, and three grain cars, which eases up the situation gain. They have had the elevator running over with grain and could get no cars to shop product. They expect to have them more regularly now. And this firm has done well in keeping Yorkville and vicinity in coal.

Tamarack & Wheatland: A number of farmers around here have bought their seed oats of Clarence Cherry of NaAuSay, and are hauling this week.

Mr. and Mrs. George Gates are parents of a little daughter, which makes their family consist of two girls and two boys.

Specie Grove: The cold weather of last week kept farmers pretty close at home. It's hoped that it is our last cold snap.

Frank Dunn is loading cars for Minnesota. The Ament family of Fox will move to the Dunn homestead.

E.W. Lippold moves this week to Iowa, where he has bought a farm. The Ahrens family of Fox will take Mr. Lippold's place, having bought it.

March -- 1903

March 4: A son arrived in the family of Mr. Phillips, who will celebrate his birthday with that of the father of his country.

There is to be a hot fight for the nominations of the town officials at the coming Republican caucus. Every place is to be sharply contested.

Nearly every tenant farmer about here is moving; some not far apart are merely exchanging farms. Parties from Earlville are moving on the Hawley farm adjoining the village.

Mrs. James Pearce was called to Evanston by the sickness with typhoid fever of her daughter Daisy, a student in the University there. She is in the hospital and the reports are that she is doing nicely.

Charles Woolley and Henry Bower have moved to town--the one into his fine new residence built, and the other into his lately purchased house. They have come into the village just in time to run for alderman at the next election.

Miss Minnie Friebele was married Wednesday, Feb. 25, to Marvel Foster of Plano. It took place in Aurora where the groom is employed. And on the same day, her brother, John, was married at Plano to a lay of that city--name not learned.

John Roth was a native of Germany, born September 20, 1828; came to this country and this section in 1857; was a soldier in the Civil War, a member of the famous 36th Illinois Infantry; married Mrs. Margaret Burkhart in 1865, and then for upwards of 25 years was farming. Leaving the farm to his son, he moved to town with his wife--the latter dying in 1894. Of late years his daughter, the widow of Leonard Hettrich, kept house for him. He died Thursday, February 26, of Bright's disease with which he had been afflicted for some time, but not acutely up to two weeks ago. The funeral took place from the Evangelical church of which he was a member, Sunday afternoon, and was largely attended...The burial took place in the cemetery of the German settlement. The pall bearers were Henry and John H. Hafenrichter, Leonard Shoger, John Hummel, Henry Helle, and George Cowdrey....He leaves a son and daughter with several grandchildren.

Mrs. Hannah Hinchman, full of the years of human existence on earth--being in her 90th--died Friday, Feb. 27. The funeral occurred Monday afternoon from the Methodist church and was quite largely attended. An Aurora Baptist clergyman assisted by Rev. A.C. Gruber, pastor of the church, rendered the pulpit obsequies. Deceased was born in Corning, N.Y., Nov. 5, 1813; when 19 years old was married to Martin Hinchman. In 1848 the family came west and to this place. In 1875 she became widowed. She was a staunch adherent of the Baptist church. She was the mother of seven children and outlived them all but one--was one of those motherly mothers--but had her share of troubles but was always pleasant. She is survived by a son, ten grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren. Michael Shoger, A.L. Rice, Henry Willis, Oliver Hebert, C.E. Hubbard, and L. Rank were the pall-bearers.

Wolf's Crossing: Henry Bower moved to Oswego Thursday; his son Wesley will occupy the farm.

George Shoger of Wheatland moved on the farm formerly occupied by Henry Rink. Mr. Rink moved on his own farm, which he bought of Abner Updike.

Specie Grove: The Lyons brothers will run the milk wagon that Fred Graham has run so long.

Herman and Will Armbruster will boss the farm this season, having rented it from their grandfather.

Will Rink has bought the farm on which he lives from his father. He will build a new barn this summer.

Myron Hill has sold his farm to an Elgin man. Mr. Hill has moved to Bristol on the farm vacated by George Wagner.

The right-of-way men for the electric road are getting the right from farmers here. It begins to look as if the road would go through. At the road meeting Saturday in Yorkville many expressed themselves as believing that this new line would help greatly in solving the hard roads problems of Kendall town in the furnishing of material.

NaAuSay: Fred Kirchenbauer drove one of Jake Darfler's teams through to Monticello, Ind. last week.

John Vinson left for his new home in Iowa Monday. His wife and children will leave later.

Harry Devereaux has resigned his position as teacher in the Marysville school and Miss Hiney of Try has been hired to finish the year.

J.C. Darfler took a load of household goods to Big Rock Monday for Eugene Minard of Oswego who is moving on a farm that he has recently bought.

Yorkville: The price family have moved from Fox to Star City, Ind. The Hoosier State is taking a good many of our enterprising people away.

Ernest W. Lippold and family said good-bye to Yorkville this morning and started for the new home near Independence, Iowa. This family has many friends in Kendall county who extend good wishes.

Along most of the streets of Yorkville the incandescent small lamp has taken the place of the glaring arc light, for experiment only. Mr. Young of the electric plant is convinced that the method will give more general light through the village. It was laughed at when installed on the north side, but the people there would not change back to the arc-lights. The remark that it is a "cheap-looking light" cuts no figure if the incandescent lights the streets and walks more generally.

#### Old Patterson Homestead Burns

George Dickson is Turned Out Without Warning--Place was Insured  
Fire destroyed by the big frame house owned by Simon Dickson located on the Patterson farm north of Bristol. The fire was discovered shortly after 11 o'clock Wednesday morning and owing to the limited fire service in the neighborhood the entire structure was consumed with its contents. The house was occupied by George Dickson, a son of Simon Dickson. The fire originated from a defective chimney...The loss is estimated at \$3,000, which is covered by insurance.

#### Kendall Township Roads

There was a meeting in the town hall at Yorkville Saturday as per adjournment to hear report of committee as to plan for taxation to raise hard roads money. Nothing definite was decided on. A petition was advised and drawn up asking that the matter be presented for the consideration of voters at the coming town election. Briefly, it proposes that a tax of \$1 on each \$100 assessed valuation, including railroad assessment, to furnish the money to improve roads. The petition is out for signers.

Great stress is laid on "graveling roads," and the query rises, will gravel in the quantities generally used in this town give us good roads in the spring and fall when roads are naturally bad? A farmer in *The Record* office this week said the gravel road that day was harder to drive on than the dirt road--it cut and rolled up so much. Consider it all, gentlemen, and arrive at a wise conclusion.

March 11: Mrs. G.D. Wormley had a tussle with the grip.

The Republican caucus will be pulled off on the 21st.

A.C. Burkhart has returned and reopened his real estate office.

J.D. Russell sold 52 hogs not ten months old, and received \$1,108 for them.

Luella Breed, a former popular teacher here, was up from Princeton and visiting with Clara Minkler.

The appearance of a son at Milton Beck's delayed somewhat the removal of the family down below Yorkville.

Walter Herren is said to have disposed of his interest in the farm to his brother and will go to Minnesota to develop.

Lewis Woolley, who lost an arm a while ago, is said to have received \$500 insurance from the order of Mystic Workers.

Mrs. John Wilder of NaAuSay became sick just on moving to Iowa and was left here by her husband with Mrs. Maggie Schwartz. She was very sick the past week but is now better.

Rev. J.G. Butler would seem to be the most sorely afflicted person of this community. According to report, he has been in a helpless condition from rheumatism all winter. Mrs. Butler was also reported as ailing.

Just now we are very law-abiding and no saloon will be opened Sundays at either end; consequently a lot of thirsty Aurorans were disgusted Sunday afternoon with our goodness and among themselves made expressions derogatory to the candor of our best people and the astuteness of the authorities.

Mrs. John Cherry and Mrs. Blanche Cutter, as committee on village improvement from the Saturday Club, recently interviewed Mr. Faber, the manager for the Elgin, Aurora & Southern electric road



regarding a waiting-room, petitioned for by the citizens of the village of Oswego last fall. Mr. Faber was glad to know the wish of the people and said he would look over the ground at an early date.

At the council meeting Monday evening the allowance of bills was the main business. The petitions--one by men and one by ladies--to keep the saloons closed on Sundays were laid on the table and the marshal instructed to see the ordinances observed in that respect. The secret caucus practice for the nomination of aldermen was brought up and the prevailing opinion was that it would show better to have such open and above board. The village well was ordered to be cleaned out, the pumping operation talked over, etc.

A few farm changes thought of are: What is commonly known as the Cliggitt farm is now occupied by John Knight; the Squires farm by John Gowran; the old Child farm by John King; the William Parker farm by George Scheuring; the Frank Hawley farm, near town, by Elwood & Peshia--who moved here from Earlville; the other Hawley farm by A.L. Phillips; the Charles Woolley farm by Charles Light; the Mrs. T. Minard farm by John Samuelson; the W.H. Smith farm by Fred Walker. George Graver is moving to the Lauriston Walker farm. H.A. Colver has moved to Aurora and his farm will be worked by a Mr. Coon. James Fitzgerald and Gene Minard have become lost to this community--have moved to Sugar Grove.

Roadmaking of late has received much attention in *The Record*...I have no suggestion to make how they should be made, but rather how they should be kept after having been made. Instead of the custom to work the roads once a year and at a time when not much else is to be done and then be through with them for that year, they should be looked after like the railroads at all times and repairs made whenever any part begins to wear out. If I had the control of roads, I would have shapely piles of spare gravel--crushed stone would be better--placed alongside the roads, say half a mile apart, or where likely repairs would be most needed and have a man taking care of them the year ago. He should view them frequently, especially after rains, when with his wheelbarrow and shovel he should go over them and fill up any depression where he finds water standing. A shovelful of gravel in time will in some places save a load of it the next year.

NaAuSay: Dave Whitlock went to St. Louis Saturday to look at farming land.

The incubator season ha commenced in this vicinity--several ladies having started them the past week.

Rod McCauley loaded his [rail] car at Catonville Monday and started that evening for his new home in Iowa.

Charles Johnson and Maggie Walsh were married at the home of the bride Wednesday evening by Rev. M.E. Todd. Only immediate relatives were present. They went to housekeeping Thursday on the farm near Oswego that Mr. Johnson has rented.

Tamarack and Wheatland: James Gilmour has moved back to his farm and Joe Elliot will occupy the farm vacated by George Shoger, who moves to a farm near Wolf's Crossing.

A pretty wedding occurred Wednesday evening at the home of Ira Fouser in Plainfield when his sister, Miss Jessie Fouser, was married to William Anderson. They went immediately to housekeeping on the Gilmour farm west of Tamarack now owned by the groom.

[Kendall County School] Superintendent Curran visited the Wilcox school one day last week and took dinner at A.O. Griffin's.

Mr. and Mrs. James Stewart, who mourn the loss of their infant daughter, have the sympathy of their friends. The mother has been critically ill the past few days, but is slightly improved.

Yorkville: Had our first spring shower sometime early Saturday morning--thunder and lightning accompanied the same.

Elmer Rickard was in Yorkville Saturday. He has been wrestling with the grip for a week or so and don't like that kind of a contest.

The ice went out of the river Saturday without much of a demonstration. Some of the upper part of the dam was denuded of its filling, but not to any serious extent.

The Naperville *Clarion* publishes a picture of the Northwestern College [now North Central College] basket-ball team and we have been trying to guess whether they are boys or girls. It is such a handsome group that they must be girls.

John W. Cherry of Oswego was in Yorkville Monday and had to drive out into Fox township on business. Mr. Cherry is general agent in Illinois for the Home Insurance company--one of the wealthiest fire companies in the world, and he is doing well with the business.

Buy postage stamps from the rural mail carrier for your letters. Don't put pennies in the box. The carrier has a busy time in making the round anyway. The government has stamps put up neatly in little books--costing 25 cents for 12--49 cents for 24, and 97 cents for 48. There is waxed paper between each sheet of stamps so they will not stick together. They are very handy.

To the Editor:

Some three weeks past I circulated a petition requesting the town board of Oswego to close the saloons on Sunday. They have been running wide open for the past two years. I am trying to arouse the corporation voters to make some move to redeem the standing of the town. It has got where it will cause county expense by their neglect of duty. Can you now write up an article that will help wake up the voters of said village a little?

A Citizen

*The Record* might publish articles concerning this matter from now till next January and it would be of about as much use in abating the evil as if the editor should endeavor to increase the volume of Fox river by pouring a dipper of water in it. Such evils are not stopped unless by united effort of those opposing--and it cannot be done without spending some money. *The Record* has heard of all this before, and it has become a noted rumor that the saloons in Oswego disregard the law.

If "A Citizen" wants to stop the [liquor] traffic let him and his co-workers get evidence of illegal sale. Take that evidence before a Kendall county grand jury and trouble for the saloon men will follow. This will take a little money--not much. Raise the money and fight.

Heinz's sour, dill, and sweet midgets at Ohse's.

It took Harry Leifheit, carrier on route 2, two days to make his trip to Plattville and return. Left Yorkville at 7:30 Monday morning and got back at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday. No mail taken out Tuesday--the roads are about impassable.

March 18: There was no school last week.

Arthur Lyon and Sam Herren have exchanged farms.

Lagrippe got the grip on Dick Young so that he was unable to work last week.

Myron Mather is now engaged in the freight office of the CB&Q in Aurora.

Schamp, Rice, Rowsell and Hilderbrand are helping C.I. Smith in completing his new house.

J.B. Wheatly, a relative of the Willis family, moved here from Coal City and into the George Woolley house.

Nate Ketchum was in from NaAuSay helping his brother, Ed, move to Wisconsin. The start was made Tuesday.

The site for a [trolley] waiting room was one of the problems for solution during the week, and presumably isn't solved yet.

J.T. Martin has moved into the Congdon house vacated by L.L. Thomas, who now is occupying the Leigh house.

Charles Johnson--just married to Maggie Walsh--has moved on the Russell farm heretofore occupied by Harry Carrington.

C. Davis has moved here from Aurora and opened a confectionery and tobacco store in the Smith building, corner Main and Washington streets.

Bob Thompson--known here as well as if a resident all his life--not only caused surprise but astonishment. His affairs were the main subject of public talk for the last six days.

"The Dusky Belles of Darktown," a troupe of local minstrels from the XIX Century club, will give a minstrel show at Oswego in Woodman hall, Friday and Saturday nights, March 27 and 28...Don't miss the best thing Oswego has had in years.

Isn't life now being made too strenuous for the good of society? The many suicides and crimes throughout the country would indicate that something isn't all right. American push may be pushed too much. Perhaps it should be better understood that the "get-rich-quick" doings are always accompanied by "get-poor-quicker" results.

Yorkville: DONE IN BY A PLAIN FARMER

"Bob" Thompson Under Cloud as a Forger.

Kendall County's Biggest Sensation--A NaAuSay Resident Proves a Napoleon of Finance--But May Rue the Day

[NaAuSay Township horse dealer A.R. "Bob" Thompson and his brothers, Truman and "Doug" were in deep legal trouble for forging promissory notes and cheating local banks and businessmen out of more than \$25,000. Thompson apparently used the money to speculate in the grain market.]

There was a short-time strike in the Sears factory at Plano Tuesday forenoon, which was soon settled and all went back to work again at 1 o'clock. An increase of ten percent in wages and recognition of the union was the result of the contest.

Mr. and Mrs. A.T. Seely attended the golden wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. William Jessup in NaAuSay Tuesday. "Town" is one of those Orange county men who came West and grew up with the country--but a Kendall county girl suited him--if she did come from Maine.

THOMPSON RETURNS

Arranges to Meet Creditors in Aurora the Forenoon

Rumors That He is Ready to Settle as Best he Can -- That He Was a Speculator on Board of Trade -- The Farms Are Controlled by Sheriff Voss

News came to interested parties in Yorkville this morning that A.R. Thompson, the NaAuSay horse-dealer and financier, would be at the merchants National Bank in Aurora at 10 a.m. to explain.

Attorney John Fitzgerald went up on the nine o'clock [street] car to represent his numerous clients in the matter. We have no definite word as to what Mr. Thompson proposes to do, or whether there will be prosecution. There is a tendency among some to force him into bankruptcy, and this would give each an equal share in the proceeds of his estate--if anything is left after the litigation is concluded.

Sheriff Voss has three men on the two farms in NaAuSay with a housekeeper to look after the home, and it is becoming quite a burden to him to look after so much property and attend to his other official duties. It is expensive, too, and the sooner the matter is arranged the more money there will be for the creditors.

The whole affair has proven the greatest sensation this section of the country has known for years--if ever. The failure of the three banks in the county ten years ago does not approach it. The fact that Mr. Thompson so had the confidence of his neighbors and was such a genial sort of man has made those who know him wonder at his conduct.

March 25: Mrs. Charles Leigh is getting a new barn; Schwartz being the builder.

Henry Bower is having a barn built on his residence premises in town.

Scott Cutter is on having the basement to his new residence constructed.

A number of the old soldiers with their wives went to Aurora Wednesday evening to attend a campfire, and reported a very jolly affair.

The Smith building on the corner has been resingled and painted, but whether or not it is to be used as a waiting room in addition to the business for what it is occupied now, has not been learned.

Don't forget the "Dusky Belles of Darktown" -- the jolly minstrels, with latest songs, funniest jokes, and specialties, at Woodman hall, Friday and Saturday evenings.

The Oswego [Township] Republican caucus, looked forward to with so much apprehension that some thought it would cause the earth to tremble and bring on an earthquake scare, was passed without serious results. It took place in the Helle hall. The first thing after the organization of the caucus was complete was the nomination for supervisor, of which the vote was listed and 232 counted. John D. Russell got the vote over J.R. Walker by about 60 percent. The other nominations followed in succession--A.C. Lake, town clerk over I.H. Edwards, 55 percent; J.A. Herren, commissioner over W.O. Leigh 50.3 percent; G.M. Croushorn, assessor, over D.M. Haight, 83 percent; Evan Edwards over A.L. Rice, 52 percent.

With the election of a new Republican township committee consisting of J.D. Russell, Slade Cutter, and H.S. Richards, the caucus closed.

Just learned that a ticket has been gotten up for a side show with James Pearce for supervisor; George Troll clerk; and Dave Hall, commissioner of highways.

NaAuSay: The angel of death visited the home of Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Kellogg Monday night and took their youngest child, a baby boy of about seven months. Another little son is very ill with scarlet fever.

Wolf's Crossing: The interior of the Harvey schoolhouse has been repainted.

Tamarack & Wheatland: Henry Richardson moved his family and household goods to Aurora last week. Everyone regrets to see them go, and the young people will miss Miss Eliza. Richardson Rance will farm the land this year which Mr. Richardson rented last year.

James Gilmour is building an addition to his house, which is occupied by his son-in-law, George Shoger.

Mr. Arthur Price and Miss Jessie Anderson were married at the parsonage of the NaAuSay Union church by pastor M.E. Todd at 12 o'clock Tuesday, March 17. After a dinner at S.W. Johnson's, where we understand the groom had made his home for a number of years, they went to housekeeping at once on the Bingham farm, rented by the groom in Seward. The bride is the youngest daughter of Mrs. Ann Anderson.

Mr. and Mrs. Tobias Larson of Bristol are now occupying the old Morgan farm at Cowdrey's, and it will keep them busy to care for over 200 acres.

Yorkville: Record front page headline: THOMPSON IS BANKRUPT. Comes Home and Faces his Creditors. Confesses his Financial Misdeeds--Hopes to Pay All If He Lives Long Enough--Was Speculator on Board of Trade--No Prosecution Threatened.

Many of our people regret to learn that the Robert A. Laird family is about to leave Yorkville. He will quit the Fox River creamery April 1 and go to Franks, near Earlville, to conduct a creamery. Mrs. Laird and the children will follow later. There is a falling off of the milk supply here.

We had real March weather this week. Monday morning folks went about without overcoats and stood around in comfort. A rapid storm came in the afternoon, accompanied by blinding snow and at night you wanted overcoats and fur caps. Tuesday morning, it was snowing and the wind blew dismally--a typical winter day.

H.S. Warner, who did a mercantile business in Oswego for a short time, and subsequently went to Elgin and Chicago, is wanted by some parties who shipped produce to Warner as a commission merchant. The gentleman seems to have left the country and his wife has returned to her father's in Oswego. Mr. Warner got mixed up in a business deal with Mr. Edwards of Oswego, who makes acetylene machines, in a settlement of accounts.



## BIG STEAMER ON FOX RIVER

But it Was Fifty Years Ago and Did Not Get Far Up.

March 16, 1849, a large Mississippi river steamer came up the river to Ottawa and turning up the Fox made a landing at the foot of Miss Street near where now stands the new building of the Ottawa Boat Club Co. The name of the steamer has escaped our memory. After unloading immense quantities of sugar and other Southern products, the boat took on 8,000 barrels of pork that had been packed at Ottawa during the winter by Walker & Hickling; then, not deigning to back down to the Illinois, the big steamer turned to the right and though not drawing less than 6 to 8 feet of water, struck across the bottom to the east entering the Illinois about 100 rods above the mouth of the Fox and then sailing majestically down on its way to New Orleans. -- *Ottawa Free Trader*.

April -- 1903

April 1: Burglars visited this town Thursday night. They broke into the Sodt & Morse store by breaking out a light of the side door...they secured there about \$7.50 in money and stamps; the cash register was carried off and found near the elevator. At the post office they cut out a part of a panel of the back door. Rank, who sleeps in a room above, happened to hear them and inquired what they were up to; without answering they abruptly left. They or some other party also got through the basement into the school house where they merely tore up books and rummaged through the desks of teachers.

The street car line via Wolf's Crossing is surely coming--the company having got the right-of-way and expect to go to work as soon as the weather is settled.

Friday last was rainy, disagreeable day, but there was a big crowd in NaAuSay at the sale of the personal property of A.R. Thompson, the bankrupt. It was a cash sale, and the horses sold well, considering this fact...Sheriff Voss is much pleased at the splendid result, as it was feared the horses would not sell well owing to their impoverished condition. The Harvey boys bought three horses at the Thompson sale.

Farmers have begun sowing oats.

April 8: H.C. Cutter has a new gravel roof put on his building in the brick block.

The fellows who shot some of Frank Gates' ducks are known, it is said, and they better quit such fun.

Nothing can be learned as to who shall be the new members of the village board; the ticket is to be of the surprise order; only those who got into so and so's bandwagon can know anything about it.

Rush Walker has had a nice span of colts for which he was offered \$250. Now one of them has had a leg so badly cut in a barbwire fence that probably the killing of it right away would not only be the most humane but the best thing in regard to it. The universal use of these cruelty fences is the worst thing chargeable to the farmers.

April 15: A squad--four ladies and one man--of the Salvation Army have struck Oswego Wednesday and are battling with sin and Satan on the street and at the Methodist church every evening--also some afternoons on the street.

Special Easter Services said to be very interesting, were had Sunday forenoon at the Methodist church, which was fittingly decorated for the occasion. In the evening the Salvation Army held forth there strenuously urging the pursuance of the course to the better life and glorious eternity.

A suitable place for getting on and off the car has been bothering this community for some time. A platform had been placed just below Schickler's, which was objectionable because of the saloon's proximity and of being too much out of the sight. The platform was moved and is now put down around the corner on the west side of the track in the street.

April 22: The interior of the Oswego Prairie Church is being papered and varnished, and other repairs being made.

Village of Oswego election results: There was but one ticket in the field--though there was no reason why others should not name a ticket if they wanted to--and the following are the coming officers: President--George M. Croushorn. Trustees--Charles Roberts, L.R. Inman, J.H. Foran. Clerk--L.P. Voss.

April 29: There is going to be a change in the proprietorship of the saloon, "The Oswego." Morris E. Conway wants to go to Texas for the benefit of his failing health and will quit it with the end of the month--his mother, who kept house for him, moved to Aurora Saturday. Morris has made many friends during his five years in Oswego and aside from being a saloonkeeper, no fault was found in him.

At the council meeting Monday the old board finished its business by allowing bills, including its pay for a full day's work of five men in putting 44 ballots in the box and writing down that many names. The new board then qualified, accepted the bonds offered for three saloon licenses and granted them at the old rate, \$750. Alfred Cole is the name of the new saloonkeeper. All of the appointments were postponed.

Judge Bishop was here Thursday to hear arguments in the Wormley cemetery case--concerning the vacation of the same. The trouble was about the graveyard above Oswego village, in the Wormley neighborhood. One party desired to vacate the same and have it returned to farm land--the other side objected. Aldrich & Worchester were attorneys for the complaints and Senator Hopkins and Bruce Scott represented the defendants. The decision of the Judge was that the matter could not be revived and the vacation stood. *The Record* is not familiar with the matter and could not tell of the contention without using a good deal of space. The complainants in the case--who object to the vacation of the graveyard were Susan C. Lyon and Minerva E. English. The defendants, John T. Wormley and Fred C. Wormley.

When you want fruit trees or small fruit plants, call on W.H. Ferriss at Bristol Station. He has a variety of the best. And drop in and see Mr. Ferriss about that "Iowa hardy peach," which is recommended

by J.F. Brown of What Cheer, Iowa, who was a former resident of Kendall county.

May -- 1903

May 6: Schwartz, with Irvin and Ed Haines is building a new barn for Mrs. Charles Leigh.

L.C. Young and Lew Inman and Dan Minich are building the new residence for Scott Cutter.

Owing to the want of dwelling houses here, people are compelled to move elsewhere for a home.

Mr. and Mrs. E.Y. Ketchum bought one of the Jessup lots and will build a new home for themselves.

The raising of the new barn of Doc Woolley's took place Monday afternoon. The Richards gang are the builders of the same.

E.T. Sutherland was appointed marshal, Ezekiel Davis street commissioner and pumping agent, and J.A. Shoger treasurer of the village, at the council meeting Monday night. The license for pool and Bagatelle tables was fixed at \$10, and that of billiards at \$15. The keeping of the saloons closed on Sundays is to be strictly enforced.

The Oswego Prairie Church is being painted, and a cement walk laid. The interior has been papered and varnished, and the ladies got together and gave it a good cleaning.

May 13: Scott Cutter's house is up and enclosed.

May 20: George Collins is to start on a tour to England tomorrow and when returning intends to bring along with him some of the best blooded stock of horses, cattle, and sheep.

Louis Weller, coming from George Schell's with his horses to a buggy, when near Frank Pearce's was suddenly overtaken by a

bicycle scorcher switching near by which scared the horses, and in trying to hold them the dashboard gave way and he was pulled out, causing his legs to be considerably bruised. Some of the Pearces helped him in straightening out things--the cyclist of course had gone. There should be more care taken to prevent the scaring of horses.

May 27: George Collins had a stallion die for which he was offered \$800.

A phonograph recital will be given in the Woodmen Hall on Saturday evening, June 6, under the auspices of the Ladies' Aid Society of the ME Church, "The Largest Talking Machine in the World."

Miss Mabel Quantock was walking past the telephone during an electrical storm the other day, when suddenly a flash of fire flew from the wire and she received quite a shock; nothing serious resulted.

A number of the ladies of the Oswego prairie church sewed forty-five yards of new carpet for the church, and several men tacked it down. They are also putting in gasoline lights.

June -- 1903

June 3: The pumping engine has become disabled and there may be a scarcity of water for a few days.

The to-be-new doctor is here, looking over the ground. His name is W.E. Kittler, and he is a fine appearing young gentleman.

The restaurant on the corner of Main and Jackson street is now run by Mrs. Shanklin, who makes it a very nice and tony place, serving meals at all hours. Her husband is a carpenter and works in Aurora. They are new-comers.

June 10: Alex Harvey and Robert McLaren have purchased new rubber-tired carriages and Charles LaDew a runabout.

The Walker and McMicken schools held a union picnic on the former's school grounds Saturday. The teachers are Miss Carrie Shoger of Oswego and Miss Jennison of Aurora.

June 17: Hard bricks are distributed around town for the new crosswalks.

A very one-sided game of baseball was played here Friday between the Wheatlands and the [East Oswego] Pirates, the latter about 15 runs ahead.

Dr. and Mrs. A.H. Churchill moved to St. Charles. They were much liked here being that besides of his profession, they were very good in social and church doings.

Oliver Burkhart, who has been attending the Kent College of Law, the law department of Lake Forest University, for three years last past, completed the course Saturday, June 6. He was a member of a class of seventy-five. He was a member of the class of '98 of the Oswego high school and of the class of '00 at East Aurora.

Oswego High School held its graduation for the 15 members of the Class of 1903 on June 1. It was the first time a class contained a colored member; the Negroes were well represented in the audience and Uncle Nathan Hughes was there to see his grandson take this important step. The background of the platform was darkened with foliage and the girls, an exceptionally pretty lot, all dressed in white, sitting against it formed a charming aspect; and then Ferdinand Smith sitting between the two nearest of being blonds brought out his complexion admirably.

Ferdinand Smith, the colored member of the class, had one of the most interesting numbers on the program, "Power to Meet Our Wants" was a strong plea for assistance and help from the white brothers of his race and he paid a flowing compliment to Booker T. Washington. "Why should we not receive the benefits of the free schools of this country? Our race is here and here to stay, not of a voluntary change of habitation, but because we were brought here by the white race. Of course there is a prevalent idea that we will be educated above our sphere, but what is our sphere? Nothing but

that of a loyal American citizen. How are we to become useful citizens of this country without the intellectual and industrial ability to create and assimilate the necessities of our own maintenance? Give us a fair show with no favors; judge our race by the best and not by the worst; do not condemn the whole people for the faults of a few. We know our failings and our weaknesses and with a chance to offset them through a better education we can go a long way toward redeeming the race." He holds the distinction of being the first colored graduate of a Kendall county school and the young fellow is popular with the whole class.

June 24: They have got a new boy, and the first one at that, out to Lew Gaylord's, last Thursday.

Two new and improved phonographs brought to town have kept the business part well supplied with music and oratory.

Ketchum's barn is up and the house well under way. The other building operations are being pushed forward as fast as possible.

An Italian with the construction gang of the CB&Q was hurt near here by being run into by a handcar. He was taken to an Aurora hospital.

A number went to Aurora Wednesday evening to witness Clifford Cherry's graduation from the west side high school of that city. Lillie and Clinton Burkhart and Stella Hemm also graduated from Aurora high schools.

Mrs. Lucia Moore celebrated her 90th birthday Sunday, an age reached by only a few.

*The Vandalia Union*--shown me by Mrs. Helle--contained nearly a two-column account of Mr. and Mrs. H.S. Humphrey's golden wedding, inclusive of biographical sketch, and illustrated with their pictures, which, though showing age, resemble them very much. All there is said about their residing here is "In 1856 Mr. Humphrey established the *Kendall County Record*, which he subsequently named the *Free Press*." My recollection is that Humphrey first came in 1852 or 1853 and established *The Courier*, Oswego's first

newspaper, which did not live long, he going elsewhere when discontinued, and returned here in 1856 establishing the *Free Press*.

Wolf's Crossing: The ball game between Oswego and Wheatland at the Wheatland field day was a close contest, being 6-7 in favor of Wheatland.

Mike Shoger has sold his farm to Bob Jamieson and bought one of Christ Solfisburg.

Aurora: Thursday afternoon, a fire started in the millinery room of Sencenbaugh & Co.'s store on Broadway in Aurora and by night the whole building was in ruins.

Yorkville: The supply of young bass coming from the State fish commissioners arrived yesterday on the ten o'clock train. It was expected from reports that about two million little ones an inch or so long would be sent, but instead only about three or four hundred fish, ranging from three to six inches in length were received. Mayor Reddock distributed them in different parts of the river where it is thought they would best thrive.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Although the rain somewhat marred Field Day, a large crowd was present in the afternoon and watched the athletic sports and ball game between Oswego Pirates and Wheatland, which resulted in a victory for the latter, score 6-7.

July -- 1903

July 1: All the students are now at home for the summer vacation.

The graduated class of '03 were entertained one evening at Prof. Newman's and presented him with a nice desk chair.

Fred Kohlhammer has bought the piece of land across the Waubonsie from a Mr. Van Deventer of Chicago and will improve it.



John Cowdrey, engineer of the fast train between Chicago and Burlington, where he resides, with his family was spending a few days at his brother George's here.

Seventeen was the number stated of the negroes lynched this month up to the 26th. These proceedings will only make the negro worse and the whites less civilized. There is a good deal of animal in all men. The horse and dog will be made vicious by being teased or abused, and the teaser or abuser become more provoking by getting used to the habit. The negroes are a part of the American people; they are not foreigners and their vices and virtues are due to American civilization.

Mrs. Robert Johnston over the river has started out with a marked success so far in the silk producing industry. She received from the Department of Agriculture in a little tin box about 2 inches long, 1 wide, and  $\frac{1}{2}$  deep some eggs which she developed into about a half peck of silk worms spread on paper over two tables, eating Osage orange leaves. They are great eaters until they have grown to the proper size when they will crawl upon a support made of coarse hay and placed for them at the edge of the tables, and upon which they spin themselves into cocoons--a number have done it already and others are doing it. Mrs. Johnston finds the business not an easy task; they require constant care, but she is quite enthusiastic over it.

Wolf's Crossing: While shelling corn at Charles Smith's Monday Thomas Kelly came near being the victim of a serious accident. He got caught in one of the cogs, tearing his sleeve and cutting his arm. Had it not been for his sleeve tearing he might have had his arm taken off.

NaAuSay: Two gentlemen calling themselves Latter Day Saints held services in the Marysville schoolhouse Wednesday night.

Robert Kellogg met with an accident, which might have been very serious Friday night, as he was returning from the sociable. He, in company with Andrew Anderson, was enjoying a little horse race with Richard Vinson when suddenly his vehicle was upset, throwing the occupants out, bruising them badly and completely demolishing the buggy.

Yorkville: The little village of Montgomery had its shooting scrape Saturday night. Two Aurora men got drunk at the local saloon, it is said, and became boisterous. Officer John Byers tried to quiet them and they assaulted the officer. One of the men knocked him down, the other choked him, and Byers seeing was a case of life and death, got out his revolver and shot James Shields in the arm. This stopped the rumpus and Shields is in the hospital.

July 8: The contract for the extension of cement sidewalks has been given to Peterson & Company of Aurora.

Mr. and Mrs. W.H. Winser of Aurora were spending Saturday and Sunday with her sister, Kate Hopkins, here, who will go to Iowa in a few days to spend the summer.

Jacob Herb was born Feb. 16, 1820 in Wurdensburg, Germany, came to this country and neighborhood in 1852; was married to Margaret Gall in 1854; and since has been living in this village. He was a common laborer and his life one of constant industry. Though very disabled from the falling off a load of wood from old age, yet he would be seen within six months hobbling along with saw buck and saw on his way to or from a job of preparing someone's firewood. He is missed by a number for that kind of work and gardening.

The Fourth of July here was passed without any accident. There is always a sort of relief when it is past--even with many who enthusiastically enjoy the noisy performances. The firecrackers and other noise-making devices are continually being improved for louder reports and the more jarring and ear-splitting they are made the greater the desire for them. Here the celebration was desultorily carried on by the small boys a week or more before the proper day, but was commenced in good earnest and great zeal Friday evening and prolonged till late that night, and pretty much all through Saturday, though many had gone to the park and elsewhere. Skyrockets and Roman-candles in a private way were used in the evening, and a dance transpired at the Woodman hall.

The thirteenth annual summer meeting of the Aurora Driving Park Association to be held this year July 14-17 promises to be better and bigger than ever.

Not for 13 years has Aurora been so fortunate as to have claimed dates for the annual races that do not conflict in any way with the surrounding cities. There is not a trotting meeting of any prominence within 200 miles or more during the Aurora races.

July 15: The case of Rev. J.G. Butler is of such long standing that seemingly he has become a confirmed invalid.

Riverview Park has become the fashionable place for picnics and people come from quite a distance to enjoy such there, which not always end agreeably; for instance a number of ladies from NaAuSay, Friday, prolonged theirs too long for getting home before the storm and were patiently waiting in the evening for the rain to stop.

George R. Schamp was born in New Jersey, August 23, 1834; came west and to this place in 1856 and with the exception of a few years when having returned to New Jersey, has since been living here and was one of Oswego's staunch men. He was a finished builder, which trade he followed, has been on the board of village trustees and a school director fore several terms. He was one of the Masonic fraternity and was the master of the local lodge for many years. Religiously he was an adherent of Presbyterian church. The funeral occurred Monday afternoon from the Presbyterian church, which was crowded. Raven lodge of Masons, together with quite a number from Kendall lodge, in a body, were in attendance and following the church services accompanied the remains to the grave, there duly bestowing over them the prescribed Masonic rituals. This whole community regrets the loss of so good a man and a widow and daughter, Mrs. Edith Rowswell, a kind husband and father.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Most of the farmers are done haying or nearly so, and preparing to start harvesting the last of the week.

Yorkville: The new atlas, which has been in preparation for some months, devoted to a description of Kendall county, is completed and is being put into the hands of subscribers.

Under the provisions of a law enacted by the last General Assembly, which will be in force on and after July 1, physicians and midwives are required to report births to the county clerks except in the cities of Chicago and Peoria, in which reports will be made to the commissioner of health. A fee of 25 cents will be paid for each birth reported to the county or city official.

July 22: The new houses of Scott Cutter and E.H. Ketchum are nearing completion.

The southwest part of the town is pretty torn up in preparation for putting down concrete sidewalks.

The new house at the cemetery, located in the east corner and on the road, is nearly completed and is a great improvement.

About 30 young people of the Oswego Prairie church with their friends spent an enjoyable time at Riverview Park Thursday evening.

July 29: George Collins has returned from his trip to Great Britain and brought with him six very fine horses--four mares and two stallions. He has also engaged a lot of sheep to be shipped to him.

Several new buildings have been put up this summer in the Tamarack and Wheatland area. John Gilmour and John Gray have erected new corncribs and P.R. Stewart a new barn.

Among those scheduled to speak at the Riverview Park Chautauqua for 1903 were Wisconsin Gov. Robert "Fighting Bob" LaFollette, Champ Clark of Missouri, and Eugene V. Debs. "Riverview Park, where the meeting will be held, is a beautiful grove south of Aurora on Fox river. The electric railway runs through the park making it easy of access. The river gives a chance of boating. Add to these things a flowing fountain of the finest water which analyzes equal to the famous Waukesha water, a dining pavilion and other necessary accessories to camp life and a popular park and you have Riverview, certainly an ideal place for Chautauqua.

August -- 1903

Aug. 5: The katy-dids were a few days late this year. Heavy rain, thunder and lightning Monday night.

Threshing is now on. The oats are found to be varying and on the whole a somewhat short crop.

Whom will the Democrats nominate for president is the main political question for the time being.

A game of ball between the Pirates and the highschool was won by the former, Saturday, score 11-10.

The new cement sidewalks are completed in front of the C.E. Fowler and William Cliggitt premises.

Mrs. J.B. Roberts over the river is said to have received a paralytic stroke, which rendered her deaf and dumb.

Twenty-six, "the score of us girls," picnicked at the park Tuesday afternoon and were caught in the rain. The most of them remained there and took in the vaudeville in the evening.

Tamarack: No one in this neighborhood will commence threshing before the latter part of the week, as it is thought the grain is too damp.

Aug. 12: Walter McFarlane was here from Waterman on a flying visit.

Mr. William F. Armour and friend of Chicago spent Saturday and Sunday at Abner Updike's. Mr. Armour is a cousin of Mrs. Updike.

Owing to poor health, W. Hayford resigned his clerkship in the Sodt & Morse store and has gone to Minnesota. The vacancy has been filled by Jake Friebele.

Charles O. Gates was born in Tennessee 35 years ago; brought here when a small child and developed into a steady, industrious and in

every way exemplary boy and young man. His most conspicuous peculiarity was his stature, being fully 6 feet and 5 inches tall, with his shoes off. A short time ago he passed through a dangerous ordeal of ailment when his life was despaired of and was for some time in a Chicago hospital but with a strong constitution he pulled through victoriously, soon recovered his former vigor and resumed working in the American Machinery plant in Aurora, where he was killed Thursday forenoon by the bursting of an emery wheel operated 15 feet distant from where he was at work, a piece of which struck him above the left ear, breaking the skull and from which he died in the afternoon without at any time regaining consciousness--he had been taken to the hospital where everything that could be was done for him.

The body was brought to his home here; the funeral took place Sunday afternoon from the Presbyterian church being doubtless the largest attended ever held here--he was a member of the Woodmen and Mystic Workers, and both orders attending it--a special car brought down a full load of shopmates and others from Aurora...The Woodmen took charge of the burial and in line proceeded with the body to the grave where they formed in the shape of a wedge around it and nicely rendered the ritual of the order, omitting the song, in place of which Mrs. Morse sweetly sang that touching ode, with the refrain, "Some time, some time, we'll understand." His grave in the family lot--to which father, mother, and sister had preceded him, was the first in the cemetery provided with a cement vault. Charley was the only son of the late C.F. Gates and is survived by two sisters.

A rather one-sided ball game of the Yorkville Reds with the Pirates, in favor of the latter, was played Wednesday.

When the present job of sidewalks is completed Oswego may boast of having perhaps the greatest amount of them of any village of its size in these parts of the country.

Armstrong & Haight constitute the firm in a new enterprise which may be called "cement coating," being the covering of stone and brick buildings with a layer of cement pointed off into squares thus preserving and making look like cut stone buildings.

Aug. 26: *The Record* advertised the golden anniversary of the Kendall County Fair Association on the full front page. The 1903 fair was to be held Sept. 1-4 at the fairgrounds in Yorkville.

Ferdinand Smith is very sick with fever.

The fine weather for threshing and the Chautauqua at the park made the town rather dull the past week and the items of news scarce.

Charles Shoger died Monday from the injury received in a fracas at a saloon in Aurora a week ago Saturday, from which he had become paralyzed throughout the body except the head.

The Oswego Public School will open Monday, Aug. 31. Superintendent Newman will be in the highschool room Saturday, Aug. 29, to make arrangements with anyone who wishes to enter the school.

This time it was Mrs. Emma Van Deventer what Wednesday afternoon gave one of those highly cherished feminine entertainments where no horrid man is present--usually called receptions but this time a garden party.

September -- 1903

Sept. 2: While Mrs. Tina Suhler was at church Sunday someone got into her residence across the river and stole her money, \$20.

Items and notices for *The Record* in order to be sent by this reporter must be on hand by 9 a.m. Tuesdays; after that send direct to the paper. Don't send such to him with Tuesday's rural delivery, paying 2 cents on it and making him pay another 2 cents to get it to the printer.

The school-bell is again being heard and Young America seen wending its way to the schoolhouse. Mary Prine is missing from the old corps, and the only new teacher is Edna Damon as assistant in

the highschool, at which nine new scholars from outside the district are received.

The funeral of Charles Henry Shoger, late of near Sugar Grove, and who died from the effects of an encounter with a man in Aurora, took place Thursday afternoon from the Evangelical church, which again wasn't large enough for admitting all that had come to attend it. An untimely death, and especially an unnatural one, is always a solemn occasion and this being made the more so from the very large circle of relatives...Rev. W.A. Montgomery rendered the services from the pulpit and at the grave.

The grave was provided with one of the new patent water and air-tight cement vaults. He was 29 years of age and born in Livingston County and is mourned by a wife, father and mother, five brothers and three sisters. His cousins and other relatives were the pall-bearers, viz: C.H. Shoger, Clarence Shoger, L.F. Shoger, Frank Walker, Edwin Gates, and John Darby.

Sept. 9: The cider mills are again in operation.

J.A. Shoger has bought the C.S. Barker farm.

Ferdinand Smith, severely ill with fever, is again convalescent. All the other sick are reported as improving.

C.E. Hubbard, George White, George Cowdrey, and M.B. Lamb, together with their wives, attended the reunion of the 127th, they being members of that regiment.

Several of the 1903 graduates have begun taking a course in the East Aurora highschool; two commenced teaching and nearly all the others contemplate further advance in learning.

The M.E. Sunday school will hold their annual picnic at Riverview Park Saturday, Sept. 12. Meet at the church at 9:30 a.m. Bring money for carfare and your dinners and have a good time.

Dr. Van Deventer and L. Rank went to St. Charles one day to see Ed Richards, a former Oswegoan who is 86 years old, has been blind for a number of years, and is otherwise decrepit, but mentally as fresh



as ever. He wished to be remembered to all his Oswego acquaintances.

The golden anniversary of the Kendall County Fair was doubtless a great success. Presumably the Fair was born in Oswego--one here about 50 years ago held in the courthouse yard is remembered. The change from that to the recent course is very great. There was no charge for admission then, no concessions granted, no horse races or ball games; the people then came together to show each other what they had without wanting any premiums, while now it is held for the money in it. Anything now by which money is taken from the many can only be a success.

Sept. 16: Information of the death of Mrs. Orson Ashley at Wamego, Kan. was received by her friends here.

Doc Woolley has returned from Iowa and reports that Leroy Cooney, though better when he left him, was not yet out of danger. Doc took notice of the country--Kossuth County--while there, from the farmer's view point and says that the land is good and in dry years would be all right. This year they are simply drowned out, that for the lack of sufficient fall, there is no way of tiling the land and that there are farmers there who would take from \$10 to \$15 less per acre for their holdings than they have been offered heretofore. Doc is for sticking to Illinois.

Sept. 23: The George Woolley family is getting ready to move to Aurora.

A lawsuit in dispute about wages between Thomas Pierce and the highway commissioners was tried before justice Roberts and won by the commissioners.

A pretty wedding was that of Miss Emma Sutherland to J.H. Slayton of Aurora occurring Tuesday evening, Sept. 15, at the home of the bride's parents, E.T. Sutherland.

Sept. 30: H.S. Clark has his new barn in town nearly completed.

Henry Schilling has moved his house back and is building on it a new front part.

Quite a part of the sidewalks on Main Street are torn up and being replaced with the concrete.

October -- 1903

Oct. 7: The cement sidewalk construction has been rapidly advanced in the past week.

Was wrong last week about the Henry Schilling house; it is entirely new, quite roomy, of imposing structure and is now inclosed.

A pouring rain here accompanied by sharp lightning and thunder, Saturday evening, made nervous people feel uneasy, but a little telephone damage was all the hurt it did. About five miles east, however, where the storm had become tornadoish, much damage from it is reported. Tom Edwards had a part of the roof taken off from a building on his farm in that neighborhood.

On Sept. 28, 1903, occurred the death of Mrs. A.M. Wiss, who had for many years been a resident of this part of Kendall county. Amanda Malvina Ashley was born April 2d, 1825 in Chautauqua county, New York. She was the eighth in number of a family of ten children--all of whom preceded her to the other side. Her parents were among the pioneers who helped settle this part of Illinois, coming here about 1835 while the country was yet very new. At the age of 18, she was united in marriage to William Wesley Wiss. Their family consisted of three children--Don W., the late Lizzie R. Wiss, and a baby boy dying in infancy. Mrs. Wiss united at an early age with the Methodist church and though not an active member in later years she still adhered to that faith. Of her immediate family, only her son and grand-daughter are left behind to miss one who has long filled a prominent place in the family and neighborhood.

Oct. 14: No lights on the streets for the present.

Scott Cutter is now residing in his new house.

Adam Wallace is now bartender in the saloon, "Oswego."

William F. Armour of Chicago visited at A.G. Updike's on Sunday.

Oct. 21: Will Cliggitt is going to have a new barn built this fall.

All the campers have returned hardy and well seasoned for the winter.

The Friendly Neighbors renewed their meetings for social amusement down at J.N. Wayne's.

The discovery of gas and coal near here is already causing the building of air castles by the speculative.

The Edwards tenant house soon to be vacated by Joe Atkins has been resingled. It will be occupied by Dr. Drew.

Judge Galvin has moved here from Aurora and into the upstairs part of that Schickler block lately vacated by Jacob Meyer.

A nice granite monument was erected in the cemetery for Charles E. Moore. Also, a few weeks ago, one for George R. Schamp.

Through a real estate agency the portion of the Chris Herren land known as the Dick Ferris farm was transferred to A.J. Parkhurst.

Roy Funk is now living in town and in the Edwards house known as the old Lockwood Place. He is engaged in delivering coal for Williams & Son.

The cement work in the village is completed and the constructors are now engaged by Gus Shoger on his farm, the late Barker place, where he intends making extensive improvements both to buildings and grounds.

Oct. 28: Albert Snook, a former Oswegoan, died in Aurora, Sunday, aged 72.

Try us for your next pair of shoes--either for yourself or children.  
Sodt & Morse, Oswego.

Mrs. Margaret young, for awhile on a visit to her daughter, Mrs.  
Dwight E. Smith in Iowa, has returned.

Artists are quite busy here these fine days taking landscapes, of  
which these parts afford the finest, they say.

Dan Minich is laying the foundation for his new residence up in the  
suburb of Troy. He will do much of the work himself.

Charles Sorg picked 30 bushels of fine winter apples from the one  
tree in his orchard and brought a half-bushel of them to the  
postoffice.

The tall darkey boy--7 feet 8 inches and as straight as a string--was  
the object of attention one day wherever seen, while in town.

It should have been mentioned heretofore that Oswego has its  
automobile. A.P Werve bought some of the parts, the rest he made  
himself and he has it now in successful running order.

November -- 1903

Nov. 4: C.L. Smith has been making further improvements to his  
reservoir.

The Pearce Cemetery has been enlarged, the new part nicely graded  
and enclosed with a substantial wire fence. A handsome family  
monument, of that reddish stone, for Riley Beach, has been erected  
by the grave of his wife, who was Ida F. Pearce, and lately died.

At the Oswego Cemetery a handsome family monument was erected  
on the C.F. Gates lot, where father, mother, son, and daughter are  
interred. Another substantial one was erected to commemorate the  
lives of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stevenson of Kendall. Preparations have

also been made for the erection of quite a large one for Mr. and Mrs. Fred Leigh.

Halloween is growing; growing because rowdyism has become a marked characteristic of the people generally.

Scott Cutter has now the toniest residence in the corporation. Painters embellished it with a maroon below and a greenish tint above.

George D. Wormley has opened a fire and life insurance office in the room vacated by A.C. Burkhart and Fred Dibble, who have quit the real estate business here.

The entire family of Mr. John Varner got badly poisoned Wednesday morning. Mr. Varner was not so bad, but Mrs. Varner and the three children were very bad. The heavy death sleep was in the house for a number of hours, but as soon as the medicine had time to act they got better. It is thought that they were poisoned through vegetables that had been Paris-greened in the garden. [Paris Green is a common name for copper(II) acetoarsenite, an extremely toxic blue green chemical mainly used as a blue-green pigment, an animal poison (mostly rodenticide), an insecticide, and blue colorant for fireworks.]

Nov. 18: Michael Sorg is reported to be quite ill.

Thursday and Friday were the visiting days of the teachers and there was no school.

Oswego will again have a bank, which will prove to great advantage to many of us who frequently run short of cash and thus are hampered in our pursuits of happiness. It will be established by men from Plano and Michigan in the corner of the Schickler block--the most eligible location in the village. Now as soon as we shall have a hotel, Oswego may drop out the village and be called city. The partitions made necessary are nearly completed.

NaAuSay: Diphtheria seems to be spreading in Plattville and Newark neighborhoods.

Wolf's Crossing: The Illinois Iowa & Minnesota Railway Company surveyed for a steam railway between Aurora and Catonville last week.

Yorkville: Nading Hotel For Sale

One of the Best Country Houses in Illinois--Landlady and Landlord Want to Take a Rest.

After about 20 years service in the business in Yorkville, Landlord Nading feels that it is time he gave someone else a chance to keep a hotel here.

They want to sell a good and paying property. Ground 76 feet front on Bridge street, with a three-story brick hotel of goodly dimensions and an annex of 25 feet of two stories--a stone ground floor, which brings good rent. Hotel heated with steam throughout--electric lights--city water piped in--bathrooms, lavatory, and all modern conveniences.

Yorkville: NEW ICE HOUSES--REPAIRS ON DAM

The muskrats are building high this fall, the wild ducks are making their flight to warmer climes a little earlier than usual, and everything portends to a cold winter. At least the ice firm of Esch Brothers & Rabe seem to think so and they are enlarging and improving their ice plant here accordingly.

The water in the pond above the dam has been so high during the past summer that they have been prevented from doing anything toward fixing the structure that holds the waters of the Fox and almost at the last minute they have commenced to rebuild and improve the defective parts. About 160 feet of the dam on the south end is being rebuilt and strengthened, the north half being intact, as it was built two years ago and has withstood the spring freshets in good shape. The old chute at the south end has been torn out and a new foundation and timbers put in with filling of stone and gravel. The new icehouses that were rebuilt immediately after the big fire were recently painted and the daubers put on nearly four barrels of paint. There are six of the new houses and now the company has a big force of carpenters at work putting up two more houses at the west end of the big structure. Each house will hold about 13,000 tons of ice. That certainly ought to keep Yorkville cool for a while at least next summer, but the greater part of it is shipped to Chicago.

Nov. 25: The electric car waiting room is now kept regularly open and in order by Thomas J. West.

Mrs. G.R. Schamp with grandson Donald Roswell went to Ottawa to visit friends, but finding the family under quarantine because of diphtheria, immediately returned.

The wedding of Mabel Burkhart to Almon Wolf of Wolf's crossing, which came to pass Nov. 19, 1903, being the 20th birthday of the bride, at the residence of the bride's parents, John Burkhart, was a magnificent affair.

It has been said from the pulpit that Rockefeller and Carnegie would appear in history as the greatest philanthropists the world ever produced, intimating that they do not now get the credit due them. Doubtless their munificent gifts are very beneficial to many, but are they for the greatest good to the greatest number and will it not create greater inequality between the working and scheming classes?

NaAuSay: Two of our young people were married in rather a romantic style some time ago. A.K. Wheeler and Miss Sadie Cherry were married in Wheaton Sept. 29, and kept it very quiet until last week when they announced it to their parents and friends.

#### BANK FOR OSWEGO

Mr. Earl and Byron Joy of Plano  
Interested--Will Start as Private  
Bank, Hoping to Grow.

[Names corrected in next week's edition.]

After two years without a bank, Oswego is about to have another banking institution and a place at home to do the local business. The bulk of the business is now done with Aurora banks and the convenience and apparent safety of these houses has drawn the patronage of Oswego people to such an extent that it will doubtless be difficult to get it back to the Kendall county town. A Record reporter was in Oswego and tried to find someone who was on the inside of affairs and intimately acquainted with the proceedings but it was almost impossible to discover anyone who could say that he knew exactly what was going to be done. An interview with several

business men disclosed the following facts, which seems to be the gist of the public sentiment in our neighboring town:

The bank is to be financed by F.H. Earl and Byron Jay of Plano with two young men from Michigan interested. The bank will be started as a kind of "feeler" and if it promises to pay out, a stock company composed of local farmers and business men will be organized and a State bank inaugurated. There is no local capital interested in the undertaking whatever, and it is the general impression that it will be rather up-hill business owing to the previous experience in Kendall county with private banks.

The new institution will be situated in the Schickler block, where a room 15x20 feet has been partitioned off and the fixtures will be placed in a few days. The walls have been made sound proof, an 8-ton safe will be used instead of a vault, and the promoters expect to commence business on the first of December.

The building has been leased by Mr. Schickler for two years with the privilege of five years, so it looks like business.

December -- 1903

Dec. 2: George Cowdrey has a tussle with the grip.

Doc Woolley and family are now domiciled in their new residence.

All the Oswego students at Evanston, DeKalb, and other places came home to spend the Thanksgiving season.

Two substantial monuments, alike in pattern but different in stone, were put up in the cemetery for Herman Schultz and Herman Bohn, and a new shaft in place of the one broken in shipping was raised on the Charles Clinton monument, which is now the tallest on the grounds.

The school's Thanksgiving exercises doubtless were all very pleasing.

Thanksgiving here passed off very quietly; the church services were attended but moderately and on the part of a choir defaulted, making congregation singing necessary.



An old settler passes beyond

Michael Sorg was born in the kingdom of Bavaria, Germany Dec. 21, 1818; came to this country and to Oswego in 1847; was married to Mary Barbara Krug in 1850; 12 children were born to them, of whom five have died. He was one of the successful farmers of the German settlement a few miles east of this place. About eight or ten years ago he gave over the farm to his son, Charles, bought a place in this village, and since with his wife has been living here. He has been somewhat feeble for several years being confined to his bed about two weeks before his death, which occurred Nov. 27, 1903. The sermons were preached in English and German. The body was taken to the German settlement cemetery for burial. He is survived by a widow, five sons, two daughters, 30 grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Tamarack and Wheatland: The Church school commences this week with Miss Grace Patterson as teacher. Miss Gertie LaDew will resume her duties at the Wynne school in NaAuSay next week.

Yorkville: Mr. F.H. Earl of Plano informs *The Record* that there was an error in the write-up of the new Oswego bank to be established. It is Mr. D.M. Jay and not Byron Jay who is to be interested in the firm. Our reporter was told that it was Mr. Byron Jay, hence the error. Mr. Earl further says that Mr. E.W. Bowman of the Bowman bank, Kalamazoo, Michigan, is to be interested in this new bank, and that Mr. Phelps will have charge of the same.

Dec. 9: Among the late improvements is an artistic vestibule to the southwest door of the Schickler saloon.

The Chicago papers made a great ado about the moving of about \$13,000,000 in gold from one bank vault to another in that city. Gold is the thing worshiped above all else, and yet if all about it could be known and shown up, it likely would be found to have been the cause of more misery on earth than any other one thing.

Wolf's Crossing: Fred Hafenrichter is husking corn for John Richardson.

The Harvey school began Monday with Miss Wilbur as teacher.

Tamarack and Wheatland: The Wilcox school closed last week for an indefinite vacation and the teacher, Miss Ellen Wilbur, returned to her home in Aurora.

Dec. 16: Has it been cold enough for you?

The bank is to open with the new year.

H.G. Smith by a fall on the sidewalk was rendered unconscious or over an hour.

Wolf's Crossing; Several of the farmers will have to wait for the snow to go away before they can finish husking corn.

A man from Chicago came out and set up a corn husker for standing corn at George Shoger's Thursday and Friday the machine was put to the test. Those who saw it say it works fine.

Yorkville: Our first touch of real winter came Saturday. And it was not merely a touch--there was nothing gentle about it. It was a blast--a heavy mid-winter storm--at times seeming the proportions of a genuine western.

Streetcar tracks were drifted so full that the snowplow was called for and even that had a hard time in pushing through the drifts. After the 4 o'clock car came in there was not another till 6:30.

The last car was delayed by the fact that the one ahead of it at Oswego bound for Aurora was off the track--all eight wheels--and a deal of time was consumed in replacing it. The belated passengers aboard had to take refuge in farm houses along the way to keep from freezing as the current could not be obtained for some time and the inside of the car was as cold as the weather outside.

The two telephone companies had their usual amount of repairing to do, although the Northern Illinois company got off easily. A number of wires of the Chicago company were broken owing to the action of the extreme cold on wires that were pulled taut when put up in warm weather. Mr. Lyon at the telegraph office also had the line broken Saturday night.

The temperature had fallen during the night and Sunday morning it was down to 20 below zero, the coldest morning we have had this winter. The sun thawed out the thermometers a little during the day, and by night it had moderated quite a bit--only 12 below; 8 below Monday morning.

Last week the icemen commenced scraping the snow from the fields on the pond above the dam, but the heavy fall of Saturday retarded the work and resulted in a lot of it having to be done over again. Teams and gangs are busy now and the company expects soon to be storing ice.

Dec. 23: Oswego: Mayme Richards attended the Zouave dance in Aurora Wednesday evening.

Considering the weather, the Foran & Barker auction sale Saturday was as well attended as could be expected.

Mrs. Tirzah Minard on Friday, her 82d birthday, was visited by 22 ladies, mostly of the Methodist church.

Many were the merry sleighrides enjoyed by the Oswego young people last week.

The village board at a special meeting Tuesday evening granted a permit to Mr. Merdis of Bushnell to establish a bowling alley in the old rink building. No remarks pro or con were made, but all were unanimously in favor of it.

Bear in mind that the Williams livery feed, and tie stable is the best place in town to leave a team.

The beautiful home of Mr. and Mrs. Will Cliggitt was the scene of a reception given by the Saturday Club.

John Deveny became violently demonstrative by smashing things at his home the fore part of the week and had to be in charge of the mayor and locked up. He was affected with hallucinations; what kind at first was not apparent. Medial aid and attendants were

secured for him and the latter part of the week recovered so rapidly that on Saturday he was allowed to go to his home.

Oswego has been struck with a streak of unusual enterprises. The bank will soon go into operation and about the same time another new institution, a bowling alley. At the one where we can get money and at the other where we can spend it.

NaAuSay: A jolly sleighload of young people came down from Aurora Wednesday night and spent the night with Roy and Grace Gabel.

Dec. 30: Prof. Newman is spending the holiday at home.

Layton Lippold is in Missouri and was lately somewhat hurt in a railroad wreck.

Warner Lake of Michigan is on a visit here to his mother, Mrs. Nancy Dugan, and brother Archie.

The bank is nearly completed; the big safe was received and put in place during the week and the inclosure finished Monday.

The celebration of Christmas here was as extensive as ever, if not more so.

NaAuSay: A merry sleighload of 15 young people from Plattville made Sydney and Belle Stansel's a surprise visit Saturday evening.

Yorkville: There was a mandamus case heard before Judge Brown in Aurora Monday in which the Drainage Commissioners of the town of Bristol were complainants against the Burlington Railroad Company and the judge decided in favor of the township. The commissioners are engaged in perfecting arrangements to drain a large tract of land bordering along the Rob Roy Creek and to do the work property must widen the creek and enlarge the bridges. Application was made to the Burlington people to lengthen the railroad bridge across the creek, and they declined to do so. Legal proceedings were begun with John M. Raymond & Newhall as attorneys for the town Hopkins, Dolph & Scott for the railroad. The decision is for the town

and the company must enlarge the bridge if higher courts maintain Judge Brown in his decision. The case is appealed.

1904

January

Jan. 6: Edition missing from bound volume.

Jan. 13: Mrs. Haight (D.M.) has invaded the field of inventors by having patented a griddle greaser, a device for facilitating the baking of pancakes.

It is said that Rev. W.A. Montgomery has resigned the pastorate of the Presbyterian church.

Oswego suffered a great humiliation by bowling for the championship with Yorkville one evening.

Howard, the little son of F.W. Herren out at the grove, has been very sick. His grandmother, Mrs. C.I. Smith was with him, leaving Charley alone at home to keep house besides tending to his ice harvest.

Floyd Phelps, the banker, is rooming for the present at Mrs. Gaylord's. And by the way, the opening of the bank, which was to take place Monday, had to be postponed because the safe could not be opened; the time-lock for some reason failed to work.

Mrs. Christine J. Hawley opened the new year's death roll here by dying Jan. 5 at the St. Charles hospital in Aurora where she had been taken for treatment a day or two before. The body with the chief mourners was brought in a special car to the Congregational church here Friday where the funeral services were held. The remains with the mourners were returned in the same car to Aurora where the burial took place in Spring Lake cemetery. Deceased was nearly 45 years of age, was a native of Sweden; leaves a daughter and son from her first husband; a brother and other relatives in this vicinity.

Yorkville: Yorkville was in deepest mourning Thursday when the bodies of the wife [Anna] and two daughters [Leah and Edna] of Mr. [Arthur Z.] Dixon arrived on the 10:00 train for burial in Elmwood cemetery. All business houses were closed from 10 to 11 o'clock as a mark of the respect and esteem in which all hold this former resident...Only two or three years ago he laid away in the same cemetery a little son [Ralph] who was killed by the street cars in Chicago and this triple sorrow and these tragic deaths in the horrible holocaust at the Iroquois theater have been a terrible blow to him. [The Iroquois Theater burned on Dec. 30, 1903. The disaster caused passage of a number of enhanced fire safety laws.]

#### THE OSWEGO BOWLING ALLEY

Is It Safe From Fire? Some Objections to the Concern

Two weeks ago a paragraph was included in the Oswego report, which for some reason was not published. As it is considered of interest to the whole village I will in substance repeat it. It is in regard to municipal responsibility. The bowling alley established here was evidently to be sprung unaware upon those most apt to kick against it, and that no kicking was desired. The permit for it was granted towards the last of a special meeting of the village board in less than three minutes after it had been read. Though mentioned previously, but not the place where it was to be, and that is really where the danger comes in.

The old rink building has been regarded a fire-trap from its beginning and no insurance could be had on it or the adjoining buildings for years

The old rink is a big building, lots of lumber in it. It would make a big fire and on a windy day might prove disastrous to the biggest part of the village. For \$25 in the village treasury the board has secured an ugly elephant of which it must take care. Will it inspect the building, see that the paper ceiling is secure from the kind of lights in use, where the gasoline is kept and how things are managed? A chemical fire extinguisher should at once be provided for it. The old saying, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" holds especially good in this case.

OCM, Oswego, Jan. 11, 1904

Jan. 20: The bank is now in full operation.

The Smith pond is now the favorite place for the skaters.

Anyone wishing a mask for Friday night's masquerade will find a full line at Sodt & Morse's store.

Monday night another tussle on the bowling alley took place between Yorkville and Oswego and this time the latter was victorious.

A.P. Werve has nearly completed a new bowling alley to supply the great demand recently sprung up for that sport and to make the saying good, "competition is the life of business." The builders of it were L.C. Young, L.R. Inman, Arthur Roswell, and Erwin [Irvin] Haines.

Booming, booming, that's what Oswego is at. There is the bank; the one bowling alley in flourishing operation and the other almost ready for it; some parties to give it a newspaper, the "*Oswego Herald*," but why such a common name? "Observer" would have been less so, while the "Oswego Lookout" would have been unique. All this except the second bowling alley has been and is being brought about by outside men and capital. Now if only someone would come along and establish a hotel for the place.

Wolf's Crossing: George Shoger finished husking corn last week with his new husking machine. All George had to do was to drive and that machine would go down in the snowbanks and get the ears of corn. The next thing the farmer wants is something to go and milk the cows and let him lay in bed.

Yorkville: FOR PICKLE FACTORY

Yorkville has an opportunity to do Business

The Squire Dingee Company Proposes to Build--Farmers Must Guarantee 100 Acres of Cucumbers--Looks Like a Sure Thing.

Prospects for a new industry for Yorkville and the farmers of the surrounding country are especially bright just at present, and in fact it is an assured thing that in the next few months there will be a home market for a product that was never before cultivated in Kendall county. What is it? Why, it's pickles!

Mr. Gilmore, representing the Squire Dingee company of Chicago, packers and shippers of pickled, who are talking about putting up a packing plant here, has been in town two or three days getting the farmers interested in the growing of cucumbers for the home market.

A pickle factory would be a very acceptable and prosperous industry for our small city and Yorkville citizens and the farmers should push the thing along.

The building will be a one-story structure, 75x150 feet, and the convenience of the railroad and facilities for shipping will be prominent features in the securing of the factory here.

To the Editor: I wish to thank you for the remarks in last week's Record about the Yorkville town hall. If a fire should ever occur when it is filled with an audience, it will prove to be a veritable death trap...Every church in town ought to be provided with doors that swing outward. Not one has them now. As they are, they are a violation of the laws of the State and a source of danger if a panic should ever occur. Now is the time to agitate these measures for public safety. Let them not be forgotten or neglected.

Jan. 27: D.M. Haight was in Chicago one day on patent right business.

Mayme Richards attended a Zouave ball in Aurora Monday night.

Sodt & Morse have a new guilt sign, executed by the Knuth brothers.

A new and tall stove connected with a water heating apparatus was put up in the barbershop Monday.

The *Oswego Herald* made its appearance Wednesday sparkling all over with what Oswego is and does.

Rodney Medus, the bowling alley man, has moved his family here into what is known as the Kessler house.

Ad Armstrong is advancing to the jobbing line in the egg trade, handling them by the carload and through cold storage houses.



James H. Foran and a brother have bought out the Shoger livery stable and farm implement business. Shoger will move on his lately purchased farm--the late Barker place.

The masquerade ball Friday night was a huge success.

Sarah Pearce entertained 50 students of the East Aurora high school, who improved the last of the sleighing and came down in bobs.

James Samse and wife are at H.G. Smith's to help take care of the former's sick mother.

Ever so many carloads of basswood in logs and by cords have been and are being shipped from here, mostly cut in the AuxSable grove. Some is for use in coal mines and some for the manufacture of matches.

A.P. Werve's bowling alley was open for business Tuesday night and has been successfully running. It was hoped that when that got into operation the facilities for bowling would be enough for quitting early nights but this was illusive. The supply is still short of the demand.

Burglars visited the depot and the barber shop Thursday night. They seemed to have been provided with suitable keys as both places were entered by the front doors. At the depot, they wrecked the money drawer, which was empty, and at the other place the money drawer was carried off with about 60 or 70 cents in nickels and pennies.

Wolf's Crossing: Mr. Leonard Wolf is going to Aurora to live, where he runs an implement house. The farm will be run by Allie Wolf, the only son, married to Mr. John Burkhart's daughter.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Seventeen young folks started Tuesday night for Amos Parkhurst's below Oswego to attend a social but owing to the roads thawing, were obliged to turn around before reaching Oswego and return home, which they reached after various adventures, such as two tipovers, getting caught in the rain, the girls walking while the boys helped pull the sleigh over bare gravel roads,

etc. Also, John Harvey lost an overshoe, supposedly near Elliot's corner. Finder please leave at Alex Harvey's and receive suitable reward.

February -- 1904

Feb. 3: Oliver A. Burkhart is about to open a law office here.

Leslie Peshia is spending a few weeks at Earlville in horse training.

Mr. and Mrs. W.M. Gabel are moving into the Emma Wormley house.

The shipping of basswood continues; two carloads were taken away last night.

The John Hoch family, down southeast, has been increased by a little daughter.

E. Woolf of Aurora is said to be enlarging his business by opening a land agency here.

The woodchuck today has already become frightened and now for six weeks' more winter.

G.M. Croushorn spent several days in Chicago attending lectures on embalming and the undertaker's art generally.

Mrs. O.E. Judson died at her home in Sandwich Monday and will be buried here in the family lot Thursday forenoon.

A team of five bowlers again went to play a matched contest with Yorkville Friday evening, in which they were but partly victorious--winning in games but losing in pins.

There is a rumor here this morning that the State veterinarian ordered a horse of Frank McMicken over at NaAuSay killed and the barn burned wherein kept, because of glanders. [Glanders is a highly infectious pneumonia-like disease spread by horses and mules that can also easily jump to humans.]

Tommy Ryan of Chicago is one of the renowned pugilists of the world. Last week he engaged in a mill in Philadelphia. His fame gives some pride to Oswego as one of his fights occurred here.

At the council meeting Monday evening a contract was entered into with an Aurora manufacturing company, there represented, to exchange the gasoline engine of the waterworks for a new one with the proviso that at any time within two years the company will take it back at the price paid for towards furnishing an engine large enough for pumping and also driving an electric lighting plant. It was also ordered that trees in the street cannot be cut down without the consent of the adjacent lot owners or of the council.

Yorkville: Col. Frank O. Lowden's stock as a candidate for governor went up several points today when it became known that Rep. Charles T. Cherry of Kendall county had become a member of his staff at the Great Northern headquarters. Rep. Cherry, who is known from Chicago to Cairo on account of his six feet four in height and his more than 300 pounds of avoirdupois, arrived on an early train this morning and prepared to take charge of the country end of the Lowden campaign.

"Charlie" Cherry's ability to pick a winner is admitted by every Republican politician in the state. While Mr. Cherry does not pretend to speak for Kendall county, nobody doubts that his alignment with the Lowden forces means that Kendall will cast its vote for Col. Lowden.

Feb. 10: Clint Jackson has sold out his harness shop to J.H. Foran.

John Simons of Specie Grove is in a hospital for treatment.

D.M. Haight is denounced as a false prophet for having predicted an open winter.

The ice crop was prolific and if other crops will do as well, we shall have another prosperous year.

John Friebele has bought the Wayne homestead for a residence in town upon his retirement from farming.

A set of bowlers and applauders were down from Aurora Monday evening and won both by games and pins from the Oswegoans.

Abner Updyke went to Aurora Sunday to see his mother, who is said to have a bone broken in a wrist and an ankle sprained by a fall.

A sleighing party of 25 from Aurora was entertained Wednesday evening with an oyster supper, the games of Pit and Flinch, music, etc., at John Gowran's out on the Squires farm.

The ice in the river began breaking up Sunday and forming something of a gorge on the islands, caused the water to dam up and run across the flats, making Jake Meyer to hustle in getting his livestock removed from the slaughter house premises.

To the editor from Oswego: What is the matter? Is it our council or the men hired by them to do the work of keeping our village like others of the size? Sometimes our lamps are lighted long before dark, and sometimes not at all. The worst of all is the disagreeable noise of the engine at the pumping station during the night, most any old time, whenever it is convenient. If this is the fault of the engine or pumping apparatus, let the council look after it and have them in good shape. If it is the fault of the man in charge, let them hire one who will light the lamps at the proper time and run the engine at the pumping station in reasonable hours of the day, as two hours a day is all that is required to keep a good supply of water in the tank.

Our city dads are as good a lot of fellows as has any town--but just wake up a little, boys, and see that things are as they ought to be.  
A Voter

Laura, the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Sorg of the German settlement, became sick last October with inflammatory rheumatism, which eventually developed into dropsy and from which she died Feb. 3, 1904 at only the age of 11 years, 7 months, and 7 days. The funeral took place Saturday afternoon from the Evangelical church in town and the burial in the Oswego cemetery.

DEATH OF A PIONEER

After a brief illness, Mrs. Louisa Judson passed peacefully away on Monday, Feb. 1, 1904.

Mrs. Judson, whose maiden name was Smith, was born in Ashtabula county, Ohio, Oct. 30, 1823. She had two sisters and one brother, all of whom are dead.

The family first came from Ohio to Fort Dearborn in 1835 and a few weeks afterwards to Oswego. Here at an early age she married Orville E. Judson. Here with her family was her home until 1875 when they came to Sandwich. Here her husband died in 1893 and here she had since made her home. There were given to them three children, Ida, Emily wife of Edwin E. Estabrook; and Louisa, who died in 1860. Her near relatives surviving are a half brother, Dr. Dwight E. Smith of Wilton, Kansas; her daughter, Mrs. Estabrook, and her grandsons, C. Willis Estabrook and Arthur J. Estabrook.

The funeral was held from her late residence Thursday. The remains were taken to the family burying round in Oswego.

Tamarack and Wheatland: During the year 1903 in this neighborhood, there were two marriages, two deaths of infants, nine births--seven girls and two boys--including one pair of twins.

## PICKLES

### A Grand Opportunity For Business

The well known firm of Squire Dingee Company, doing business at Chicago, who won and control factories in all the adjoining counties, are going to put up a factory in Yorkville, providing the farmers will come to the front and raise the product they wish--200 acres.

Feb. 17: The new pumping engine is working very satisfactorily.

Some one was here looking the ground over for a pickle factory.

Supervisor Russell has returned from Cairo, where he attended a convention of county officials.

The Fox River Bait Casting Club for the promotion of fishing is the latest organization to be founded.

Clinton Burkhart has returned from the Wisconsin University. He is fitting himself for a physician and will enter a medical college in Chicago.

The Collins school will give an entertainment Friday evening, Feb. 19.

The post office was entered during Wednesday night by burglars who secured only about \$1.35 of change that had been left. They didn't touch the postage stamps. Rank, who sleeps up stairs, heard them and got up and almost as soon as he heard him stir they left. They had pried open the window on the alley. This same night the depot was also again entered, but nothing taken.

Feb. 24: So far, Oswego has developed but one candidate for next fall's election--Oliver A. Burkhart for state's attorney.

This year seemingly will be one of plenty; there has been so far plenty of ice, plenty of snow, and plenty of cold weather.

Will Lamb, an Oswego boy, engaged as fireman on the CB&Q, was married Wednesday to a young lady of Aurora which was quite a surprise to his people.

The marriage of Beatrice Woolley to Archie E. Price of Big Rock is reported as one of the happiest events. It took place at the elegant new house of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. L.M. Woolley Thursday, Feb. 18.

#### The Graveyard Case

The case of George D. Wormley vs. John T. Wormley et al, involving title to the old burial ground on the Oswego road was decided by the supreme court last week in favor of George D. Wormley, the reviewing court reversing the action of the circuit court of Kendall County in sustaining a demurrer and in dismissing the bill for want of equity. The supreme court holds that the bill averred a complete dedication of the ground for burial purposes by John H. Wormley after his father's death, and that equity alone has jurisdiction of the subject matter. The court also holds that none of the technical objections to the bill are tenable and that the court below was not

justified in dismissing the bill on demurrer for want of equity. It will be remembered that the decree in this case was used as a bar to a second bill brought by other parties interested, thus presenting the usual situation of two just complaints being barred by one erroneous decree. The case is remanded to the circuit court where it will doubtless be heard at the April term.

#### What Will The River Do?

Prospects for a regular old tear all along Fox river are especially strong this year owing to the immense amount of snow there is on the ground at present. For many years there has not been so much snow as we have now and should it go off with a warm rain the creeks and smaller streams will bring the waters of the tranquil Fox way above the high water mark.

The ice on the river ranges from 20 to 35, and 40 inches thick and in some places it is said the river is frozen dry, and it is as hard as water can freeze. Oswego people are turning their attention to the trestle work of the electric line across the river at that place. The big wooden piles are set in the flats on the south side of the river, and several times during the memory of residents there the ice has come down over the road and pasture where the trestle is situated in cakes as big as a quarter of a block. Up above Oswego there is a gorge of ice about 12 feet high, at present, which was piled up during the thaw we had in January and when this avalanche once gets started with a river full to running over there is going to be something doing, and the streetcar company is liable to suffer damage.

Plano: The new bridge that the Q system has built across the Little Rock creek east of Plano is nearly completed. The last of the cement work was finished Sunday and all that remains now to do is the drying and cleaning up. It is a marvel of engineering skill and construction and only the second one of its kind ever built.

March -- 1904

March 2: Little Howard Herren has been taken to an Aurora hospital of treatment.

Mr. and Mrs. Archie Price, the bridal couple, move today, Wednesday, to their new home near Big Rock.

A bowling match was again pulled off Monday evening with Aurora and was won by Oswego by 156 pins.

The Williams feed and tie stables are the best in town.

Mrs. Tirzah Minard died at midnight of Friday. She was born in New Hampshire Dec. 13, 1831, was married to Rev. Henry Minard in New York State, came to Oswego township in 1842 and resided there ever since--in the village since the death of her husband. She was the daughter of Cyrus Cass, prominent in public affairs in his days; she had no children and is the last of that family. Mrs. Minard was a loyal Methodist and left most of her property for uses of church organizations. Her home in Oswego goes to the local Methodist church for a parsonage.

The Springfield, Mo. Republican of Feb. 25 announces the death of Maj. Lyman G. Bennett of the old 36th Illinois Wednesday night at his home three miles south of that city, and says he was one of the influential farmers of Greene county, commanding the respect of all. The son-in-law, Mr. Carson Phillips, writes *The Record* that Comrade Bennett had been in poor health for some two years and passed suddenly and peacefully to his last rest. He was about his farm on the day before he died. Mrs. Bennett is in poor health, and the death of her husband has been a severe shock to her.

Lyman G. Bennett began his career in the town Oswego. He was well known by the older people of the county. Served as a Union soldier in the 36th Illinois; was county surveyor here; clerk of the circuit court for Kendall county, and for many years a resident of Yorkville. He was 71 years old. The friends of the family here extend sympathy to the widow, daughter, and son.

Mrs. Honore [Honer] G. [Hawley] Jewell was born in Rhode Island Jan. 1, 1823; came to Oswego with the family in 1844 from New York State; was married to Dr. D.B. [Daniel B.] Jewell in 1847, and died at the home of her niece, Mrs. Belle Kollauf in St. Charles, where last fall she had gone to live, Feb. 24, 1904. The body, with a number of the mourners, a clergyman and pall-bearers, arrived in



Oswego Friday, 2 p.m. by trolley car and the funeral services were held at the Congregational church, of which she was a member. Her brother, William A. Hawley, if alive, is the nearest relative to survive.

Mrs. Mary Keck, widow of the late Daniel Keck, a member of the well known family of that name who have lived so long in the vicinity of Montgomery and Bristol township, died Monday evening, aged 66 years. She was born near Montgomery.

Tamarack and Wheatland: A sleighload of young people from the Wynne district in NaAuSay spent Friday evening at Miss Gertie LaDew's.

Yorkville: In the first campaign between Russia and Japan, the latter seem to have much the best of it. The little brown men are skilled strategists, sharp fighters, lithe and hardy, and are near home--but then, there are only about forty millions of them all told, while Russia counts up nearly one hundred and fifth millions of population.

March 9: Doc Woolley is building a poultry house.

L.R. Lippold, the new proprietor of the Chattle farm over the river, has moved upon it.

Charles Schultz and Minnie Olson surprised their friends by going off and quietly getting married.

Bert Greenawalt is moving from his brother George's, over the river to the Mary Cliggitt house in town.

Fred Ettinger is the new shoemaker here, having established his shop in the rear of the waiting room building.

Henry Minard returned here from Kansas for the first time in 22 years, and came to attend the funeral of his aunt.

Owing to poor health, Susie Croushorn has resigned her teachership. The principal and all connected with the school are sorry for it, as

she was an excellent teacher and did good work, besides being very amiable.

The rink bowling alley has been sold by Rodney Madus to Jacob Knuth. According to talk, it is the best paying property in town and that under the new management will be much improved by lighting it with acetylene gas, carpeting the floor and having the room nicely decorated. Now that the ladies have taken up the healthful exercise of bowling it will become refined; they will want to have things neat and dainty; that instead of the rumbling and clattering noise made, as is the case now, their racked will be dainty, too.

#### SHOT DOWN IN HIS HOME

C.R. Nylén Kills George Pearce Jr.

Jealously Said To Be The Incentive.

Second Homicide in Same Place in Bristol.

Nylén is in Jail--Coroner's Jury Held Him Without Bail.

The funeral of Mrs. Tirzah Minard Wednesday afternoon from the Methodist church as largely attended, the house being filled, the mourners by nephews and nieces comprising quite a number. The floral tokens of love and respect were of the choicest quality. The body was in a casket of the couch pattern, and stood open during the services. The remains were conveyed to the cemetery where years ago in a joint lot with the nearest relatives, the most costly monument in the grounds was erected. The grave there had been provided with a cement vault into which the casket was slowly lowered with the new device while the ritual was read. Her home she cherished and the prosperity of her church was her supreme desire. She had been for years the mainstay of the Methodist church here and its further success will be by her aid.

Wolf's Crossing: Charles Sorg and Alex Harvey are new subscribers for the Chicago phone.

#### Yorkville: HAS JOINED HER HUSBAND

Mrs. Lyman Bennett Dies One Week After the Major's Death

A letter from Carson Phillips informs *The Record* that Mrs. Bennett, his wife's mother, died at her home near Springfield, Mo., March 2, and her departure is much mourned in the community. Among a

large number of friends in Kendall county Mrs. Bennett was known as a woman of superior talent and domestic virtues. The Springfield Republican says: "Mrs. Melissa E. Bennett died Wednesday morning after a week's illness of pneumonia. Just a week ago, Lyman G. Bennett, the deceased's husband, passed away. "Mrs. Bennett was 65 years of age at her death. She and her husband came to Springfield many years ago and they contributed largely to the growth and upbuilding of the city. She leaves two children, Mrs. C.E. Phillips and Edgar A. Bennett."

March 16: Will Leigh shot two wild geese.

A number went to Aurora Monday evening to see Sothern at the theater.

F.A. Bonell of the Chicago Telephone Company spent a couple of days in town.

What is known as the James Cutter farm right below town has been bought by Chris Herren from F.O. Hawley.

In business changes, Jacob Meyer has taken in Rudolph Knapp, lately of Germany, for a partner--Meyer & Knapp now being the firm.

Clarence Smith has bought for his sister an organ of Mr. Putnam, who is here representing the Crown Organ Manufacturing Company of Chicago.

Oh, how splendid to see, Monday morning, this beautiful, beautiful snow, so white and so pure. It gave nearly every able bodies man a chance for shoveling. The robin was about three weeks too early.

Urdike, Sorg, Charles Smith, F. Shoger, and Cole bowled three games with an East Wheatland team, making 1,984 points to the Wheatlanders' 1,173, Tuesday afternoon.

Yorkville: HOMICIDAL HISTORY.  
Period Of 55 Years Covered In Kendall County

Careful Investigation Furnishes the Following List of Killings Within Our Borders--No One Ever Hung in County--But Few Have Been Imprisoned.

The stories of a total of 9 homicides and one suspected homicide were printed.

Advertisement; Foran Brothers, Livery Feed, and Tie Stables, Oswego. We also carry a full line of farm Implements.

March 23: J.D. Russell and Charles A. Clark each shipped a carload of stock to Chicago.

The ice broke up and started down the river without doing any damage Saturday.

Daniel Hemm recently shipped a carload of extra fine steers averaging 1,785 each, for which he received the highest price going.

A big rain here Monday night for which the culverts were inadequate and in places the gravel was washed from of the streets. At Lew Voss's a part of the lawn is covered with gravel.

About 6:30 Friday morning the fire bell sounded an alarm. There proved to be a fire at the residence of George Barnard and in the upper story. The firemen with the hose cart were promptly on hand and being the inside was so filled with smoke, a hole was cut through the roof to get at the fire, which was then soon put out. A defective flue is the supposed cause of the fire. Damage may be between \$300 and \$400. Much of the household goods were damaged by the water.

Yorkville: GAME FISH ARE COMING

Dayton Dam Gone--Fox River Open From Its Mouth to Yorkville  
As a result of the dam at Dayton having been destroyed by the breaking up of the ice in Fox river at that place, sportsmen in this vicinity are entertaining high hopes of some good fishing at Yorkville this year. It is not probable that the Dayton dam will be rebuilt by the State. In fact, it is reported that it will not be and if such is the case then there are good grounds for the belief that

lovers of the hook and line will again be able to entice gamey members of the finny tribe from home waters.

The waters of the lower Fox are well stocked with varieties of fish, which are seldom seen around here, or any place above the Dayton dam. The State structure was supposed to contain open fish chutes so that fish could pass at will up and down the stream, but it is said chutes and holes were so obstructed that it was almost impossible for them to get over the dam. The pickerel are about the first to move in the spring and following these will come the croppies, sheepheads, sand pike, and other game fish, which we do not have here. This ought to make good fishing around the Yorkville dam, which is the only one across the river between here and Dayton, down the stream and between here and Montgomery up the river, as the dam at Oswego has been so destroyed that it does not hold the waters back.

Last year several hundreds of little black bass were put in the river at Yorkville and Sheridan, and very few of them have been caught. They differ from the native black bass in their lighter color of their scales, which are also smaller.

An Oswego correspondent has written as follows about the changes in that village as to business conditions during the past 40 or 50 years, and what he says of Oswego is applicable to many other villages in the state:

Oswego once had in operation a lime kiln, a brick kiln, a grist or flouring mill, two sawmills, a broom factory, two cooperage shops, two wagon shops, a brewery, a cabinet shop, four hotels, a lodge of each of the Sons of Temperance, Odd Fellows, and the Ancient Druids; also one or more private schools, the county seat--all of these things have gone. Furthermore, it had nine stores of general merchandise, now but one; the churches have diminished from six to four, and then it also had frequent Universalist and occasional Episcopalian services--none of which is now. As to saloons, classing them with what used to be groceries, the place held about its own. But by the loss of so many enterprises it must not be taken that Oswego has gone backwards or degenerated. A change of the times has brought it about. Nobody now would wish it back to that situation, but all regard it as having favorably progressed, and which is true. It has now two bowling alleys, two women's clubs, other societies too numerous to mention, waterworks, street lights,

cement sidewalks, streetcars, a curfew bell, and many other good things that formerly were not enjoyed.

#### SEVENTY YEARS HERE

Levi C. Gorton A Pioneer

His Life Spent In The Fox Valley

Levi Case Gorton was born Oct. 20, 1809 near Corning, Steuben county, N.Y. He learned the business of millwright and worked at his trade in New York State and Maryland. [He died March 16, 1904]

In 1833 he resolved to try his fortune in the West. Going as far as Buffalo by canal he then embarked by boat to Detroit, Michigan. He, with two young men, crossed Michigan with teams, arriving at the then unpromising village of Chicago. They had breakfast with Mark Beaubien, who urged them to buy lots in the future city at \$200 each. Mr. Gorton laughed at the idea and continued his search for a desirable location until he arrived at the present town of Montgomery. He bought a partially improved farm, the present site of Riverview Park. He afterward sold this farm and took a claim on the present site of Aurora. After improving this, he traded for another claim, which he sold, investing his money in land near Oswego. Here he bought a gristmill, the first between Aurora and the mouth of the river, and later aided in the construction of the first sawmill in Aurora. For three years he was engaged in the operation of his gristmill.

He lived in the vicinity of Oswego about 30 years when in 1868 he bought the farm in Bristol Township that still bears his name.

He belonged to the first petit jury in Kane county--Judge Ford (later governor) presiding. He also served as a member of the first grand jury convened in Kendall county, soon after its organization, and was the last survivor of that honorable body.

On Jan. 8, 1827 he was united in marriage to Jane Townsend, and six children were born, three of whom survive him--Thomas J. of Bristol; Charlotte Hull, wife of Levi Shults of Plano; and Susan, who has been his devoted attendant through his declining years. June 2, 1901 his wife died at the age of 88 years. In 1897 his eyesight became impaired and since then he has been blind.

He was a great reader while his eyesight permitted and during his later years nothing pleased him more than to have his daughter read to him. During his last illness, the day before he died, he asked

her to read to him about the Japanese war. Had he lived until Oct. 20, 1904, he would have been 95 years old.

Mr. Thomas Gorton and sister Miss Susan Gorton wish to thank those who so kindly assisted during their late bereavement.

Once more the waters of Fox river have had their annual spasm and once more we have a stream the banks of which are lined with big cakes of ice, timbers, rubbish, and fish left high and dry by the receding of the water. The breaking up had been anticipated by the people of the vicinity for nearly three weeks. Here, a hole was worn in the middle of the dam about 40 feet wide. It is difficult to determine the exact extent of the damage but the deep fall of the water is going over the dam would suggest that it had been damaged considerable. The whole top of the structure was ground off by the heavy ice.

March 30: New spring styles at the Oswego millinery store.

John Wolf, out at Wolf's Crossing, an octogenarian, and who has been sick for some time, died Sunday morning.

Sadie Croushorn has become one of the Oswego colony of Aurora, having taken a clerkship in the Joe Sierp store.

George E. Ocken of Polo, a handsome and active young man, is the new subagent at the depot. Bernard Simonson was promoted and sent elsewhere.

From the Westgate, Iowa *Herald*: J.L. Sorg was born June 9, 1852 in Oswego Ill. and came to Iowa in 1876. He was married to Cascilia Heilman, Aurora, Ill. Nov. 7, 1878. Mr. and Mrs. Sorg took up their home in Fayette county, Iowa where they remained. He died March 14.

Specie Grove: Several of our farmers are improving the looks of their farms by having the hedges trimmed.

The Kendall school has received from Superintendent Curran a diploma for the excellent condition of the school grounds, school house furniture, and equipment.

Yorkville: In writing up the recent storms and the breaking up of the ice, the reporters on the Aurora daily papers have been laboring under the delusion that the dam across the river at Yorkville had disappeared from the map, and several times it has appeared in the papers of that city that the ice company here were heavy losers. Instead of the dam having been totally destroyed, it was only partially damaged. A few days ago, Foreman Rabe said he was of the opinion that the hole in the middle of the dam was not a deep one, for if it was the water would have washed away more of the dam. The whole top of the dam was given a hard scraping as a result of the comparatively low water while the ice was moving, but the damage this year is slight to what was expected, as the repairs had not been finished when the gang of men had to discontinue work last fall on account of rising water.

Levi Gates initially owned the land where Riverview Park was built.

In September of 1845, the matter of a permanent location of the county courthouse was submitted to a vote of the people with the following results: Oswego, 456; Oswego Mills, 4; Orange, 18; Lisbon, 3; Mount Vernon, 55; Newark, 108; Bristol, 150; Yorkville, 74. Total of 868 votes, Oswego with a majority of 44.

The county commissioners immediately moved to Oswego and in March of 1847, advertised for bids to build a new courthouse. J.W. Chapman, L.D. Brady, and Samuel Jackson were the commissioners at the time, and M.A. Fenton was clerk.

The plan for the courthouse was drawn by Festus Burr of Oswego. The contract for the building was let to Luke W. Swan for the sum of \$2,535, and John W. Chapman took the contract to seat the building for \$500. The land on which the building was built had previously been owned by Walter Loucks.

The courthouse remained at Oswego for 12 years until a vote was taken at the town meetings on the first Tuesday of April of 1859 at which time the vote was 1,290 for moving the courthouse to Yorkville, and 649 against. After a lengthy battle led by Walter Loucks of Oswego the move was made.

April -- 1904



April 6: George B. Williams has bought the Schram property on Main street.

A new and pretty threshing outfit for Leonard Shoger arrived Monday.

There has been a good deal of telephone expansion in this neighborhood lately.

If you want your garden plowed in proper shape call up the Williams Livery. Both phones.

Frank A. Jessup went to Kankakee county to see how his son Fred had installed himself on his farm there.

George D. Wormley has taken the position of traveling salesman for the Hord, Broadhead Company's flour of the Montgomery Mills.

The nominations made for village officials are: For trustee J.C. Conway, James Pearce, and Oliver Hebert; for clerk, L.P. Voss; for constable, E.T. Sutherland.

The saloon of Funk & Conway changed hands Tuesday. The deal had been pending for several days; the new proprietors are Barbel & Schumacher, Aurora parties.

The recently organized Bait Casting Club at a meeting the other day made arrangements for procuring a carload of black bass and other game fish to be put into Fox river between Aurora and Yorkville.

The Richards boys sold out their interest in the evening paper trade to the Updike boys, the change taking effect with the beginning of the month.

The clipping from a newspaper received reads: "E.R. Parks, an old citizen of Allen county, died at his home in LaHarpe, March 28, at the age of 74 years. Mr. Parks had for many years been a successful farmer. In this connection and in the sale of oil lands, Mr. Parks had accumulated a fortune. He is survived by his wife and two grown

daughters." The name given is incorrect; it should be Er Parke. He was one of the old inhabitants of Oswego, coming here in the middle of the forties.

Wolf's Crossing: Mr. John Wolf of Wolf's Crossing, which place was named after him, died after an illness of several months with Bright's Disease, March 27. Mr. Wolf was born in Bavaria, Germany, May 7, 1823; came to this country in 1852, and always since resided near and at the place where he died. In 1858 he married Miss Margaret Windelheiber and for nearly 52 years they lived together in happy wedlock and had six children born them, of whom four are dead. Mr. Wolf was a successful farmer and leaves quite a fortune to his widow and children.

#### AN OSWEGO WEDDING

The marriage of Miss Catherine Hopkins of Oswego to Mr. Elvert Marshall of Canton Ohio took place at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Victor Mather Wednesday afternoon, March 27 1904.

Mr. and Mrs. Mather occupy the Hopkins homestead and Mrs. Marshall and her three sisters, Mrs. Mather, Mrs. W.H. Winsor of Aurora and Mrs. Aggie Rist of Fairfield, Iowa, were all married in the parlor of the old home. The second marriage of Mrs. Rist was also held there.

Another marriage ceremony of interest to these four sisters, which was performed in the same room, was that of their colored nurse, Mrs. Ann Hillard of Aurora. Mrs. Hillard, when a little Kentucky slave five years of age, was a wedding gift to the mother of the Hopkins girls from her father and she remained with the family until her marriage. Mrs. Hillard was present at the wedding Wednesday.

April 13: Mr. and Mrs. Drew, newcomers, have moved into the Sierp house.

John Conway has been chosen on the U.S. petit jury and went to Chicago Tuesday.

Thomas J. Pigott, formerly of Oswego, died at his home in Aurora Friday. He had been sick for quite a while with consumption.

A.P. Werve, our jeweler, is getting ready to move to Benton Harbor, Mich., where he has accepted a good position with the Searchlight Manufacturing Company.

Four Aurora men in a boat on their way to the club house down the river got shipwrecked--didn't learn just how--and one of them came pretty near being drowned. He was taken to the residence of John Herren, a doctor phoned for, who in a few hours had him so as to be in condition for being taken home.

April 20: The ice went out of the pond April 16, 1881.

The corner restaurant is again kept by J.M. Hinchman.

Joseph Bullus has returned here and is again the blockman of the Funk-Schultz meat market.

Daniel Hemm received a carload of nice feeder steers Thursday.

George Hettrick shipped a carload of cattle and John and Frank Herren together, a carload of hogs.

Clarence Barnard was up from Beardstown to see to the moving of his wife and household goods there.

At the recent school election Frank D. Pearce succeeded himself as the outgoing trustee and L.P. Voss as the outgoing director.

Operations on the new clubhouse down near Will Leigh's by Aurora parties have been commenced. L.C. Young is the builder.

There was after all an issue in the election: It was the marshalship between E.T. Sutherland on the ticket and J.W. Morrison to be written in.

John Wolf, so severely hurt by a fall, was able to be taken to his home Monday after having been kept for a week at G.M. Croushorn's. He is doing nicely.

Frank Gates' milk team ran away one day from near the creamery. The wagon was upset, the milk bottles somewhat scattered, but in dragging the overturned wagon the horses soon timed and were easily stopped by Dave Hall. No material damage was done.

Thomas James, on his return from Cuba, where he went awhile ago prospecting, is stopping over for a visit on his brother, Morris, here. He is said to be disappointed in that island; doesn't want any of it in his, and is going back to Wyoming, where he has been for years.

Frank Hawley's town lots look fine with that nice row of trees all around them; there will be ten houses built there soon.

The vote for village officers follows, the three highest being elected trustees: J.C. Conway, 76; James Pearce, 77; Oliver Hebert, 73; Henry Bower, 27; H.S. Clark, 24; A.E. Van Deventer, 22.

Police Constable--E.T. Sutherland, 61; J.W. Morrison, 43.

Clerk--L.P. Voss, 75, George Troll, 24.

Whole number of votes cast, 112.

Specie Grove: John Grate was reelected as director of the Minkler school Saturday night.

Alonzo Stansel went to Chicago as a delegate for the Farmers' Institute Tuesday.

Yorkville: The Squire Dingee Pickle Company will commence to build their factory in Yorkville inside of two weeks. Tuesday Messrs. Brown and Anderson, president and secretary of the company, were in Yorkville in company with Mr. Gilmore, and ere looking over the site and making arrangements to commence operations immediately.

April 27: Charles Rieger is constructing concrete foundations for a new coal house in his lower yard.

Gus Barbel, one of the new saloonkeepers, is occupying the upper rooms of the Read store for residence.

Floi Johnston and Nettie Rieger, who are taking music lessons in Aurora, will graduate in that science soon.

Foran Brothers of Oswego have a new potato planter and are now prepared to plant potatoes for any who may wish.

Charles Clinton returned to his home in Cincinnati Monday after a few days here seeing old acquaintances and having some cemetery work done.

Fred Kohlhammer has sold his residence to G.S. Williams and is about to commence building himself a new one on his lately bought land across the Waubonsie.

The ladies' bowling team of course let its visitors, a Yorkville team, win the match game between them the other afternoon, an act of social courtesy.

Tamarack and Wheatland: William Anderson has bought a farm near Plainfield of 160 acres the price being \$126 an acre.

May -- 1904

May 4: Both of the Lake boys have the measles.

Little Howard Herren has been taken to his home out at the grove.

The H.D. Huntoon girls have been made glad by getting a new piano.

Scott Cutter received a patent on his tree insulator and extended it also over Canada, France, and Germany.

The Frank Herbert family, for some time living with her mother, Mrs. Julia Inman, has moved into the rooms over J.A. Schmidt's paintshop.

Harper Hopkins came out from Chicago Saturday to spend Sunday with his brother-in-law, George D. Wormley. He was much surprised at Oswego's advancement, having not been here for many years.

Levi L. Thomas was at Odell Thursday to attend the funeral of his father, Lewis R. Thomas, who will be remembered by the older citizens here as operating the Bartlett blacksmith shop for a while and afterwards established one on Washington street, which he disposed of to John Obman. He was 86 years old.

#### THE COUNCIL MEETING

At a special meeting of the council Friday, licenses were granted to the proprietors of the three saloons in operation at the former rate of \$750 each.

The pool table permit was renewed at the old rate to J. Knuth. The wine room question was brought up but although a revised edition of the ordinance had just been secured, it contains nothing about wine rooms and the subject was dropped until Aurora can be consulted as to how they are managed there.

Ezekiel Davis was reelected street commissioner and Clarence Smith pumping engineer with \$3 per month increase in salary.

A wine room ordinance was passed, making both the proprietors and the women who visit them liable to fines of not less than \$5 for each offense.

A block of cement sidewalk on the upper side of Jackson street was ordered to be built.

As to whether or not to have a village attorney was laid on the table.

Oswego is to have the Kendall County Historical Picnic this year, which so auspiciously was started at Plano last year. It is to take the place of the former Old Settlers' picnic. Instead of being localized it is to be held in a different township every year.

Specie Grove: W. Martin and family ride in a new buggy.

Eddie Shepard took pictures of our schools to be exhibited in the [St. Louis] World's fair.

John Wampah went to Aurora Friday to get the cornerstone for the German church, which was laid Sunday.

Yorkville: The delinquent tax list of DuPage county, published last week in the West Chicago Journal, made 22 columns and brought

several hundred dollars to Brother Hamilton, the publisher. The Kendall county list in this week's Record makes less than a column and brings the publisher about \$25. Our people will pay their taxes and beat the printer, but it is a good fault.

May 11: A new invoice of stylish spring hats at the Oswego Millinery store.

The railroad crossing on Washington street is to be provided with a gate, it is thought.

The great Republican contest in Illinois is nearing and Abner Updike is going to help settle it.

Elbert Marshall is engaged in the grocery department of the Sencenbaugh store in Aurora.

The Squires school was visited Wednesday by a former teacher, who is now Mrs. Kidder of Clyde.

The children of Rev. and Mrs. McChesney have the measles--one boy said to have been severely ill.

*The Record-Herald* Wednesday contained the picture of Seldon Bunn of Bloomington, an Oswego boy who rose in the railroad service to the general freight agent of the Peoria and Eastern division of the Big Four road. The display of his picture was because of the convention at Jacksonville of the B.P.O. Elks of Illinois, in which order his is very prominent and was supposed would be elected its president.

Decoration Day will be observed in a generally approved manner, that is, to make it a large and enthusiastic affair.

This is part of the school law of the State of Illinois: Article 7, Section 1. Published by request: No teacher shall be authorized to teach a common school under the provisions of this act who is not of good moral character, at least 18 years of age if a male, and 17 years of age if a female, and who does not possess a certificate of qualification as hereinafter provided for.

Specie Grove: A number of our farmers have commenced planting corn.

James Campbell caught five foxes in the woods near him last week of which four were young ones. He took two of them to Riverview Park for exhibition.

Yorkville: A party of railroad financiers and promoters drove into Yorkville Saturday afternoon from Plano having traveled by train from Aurora to Sandwich and then driving from Sandwich to Kendall's capital. They were looking over the ground for the extension of the electric line from the Yorkville terminal west to Sandwich and Plano.

Wolf's Crossing: Grandma and Grandpa Burkhart have moved to their daughter's home, Mrs. John Hemm.

May 18: The Sodt & Morse store was supplied with a new awning.

The lower bowling alley was taken up and the material taken to the [Star Roller] rink building.

Two thousand black bass were put in the river here for the benefit of fishermen.

Laura Burkhart will be the teacher of the third and fourth grade pupils in the school.

Cob Pearce drew \$12 last week from the Kendall county treasury for the scalps of four young foxes.

Gus Shoger is having made extensive improvements, both artistic and durable to his mansion on the farm.

A.G. Updike, the Oswego delegate to the State convention, has returned without staying to help finish the job.

John Varner has lately moved into the Tom Pierce house across the Waubonsie and Cy Cooney into the Kessler house.



Fred Kohlhammer has completed the excavation for the basement for his barn on his lately acquired land north of the Waubonsie.

The George Barnard folks are about to move into tents put up on the lawn while the extensive improvements to their residence is in progress.

Am requested to say--but all the good it will do--that the small boys must quit throwing stones on the lawns. Some of these boys appear to think that the gravel is put on the streets for the purpose of the practice in hitting a ball.

Hattie Rees, an Oswego girl, has become famous as a teacher of the blind and is now head teacher of the Missouri Institute at St. Louis. According to the Illinois Courier, she has been the recipient of an unusual honor for a woman, viz.: The offer of a free scholarship in the Washington University in recognition of having prepared two blind students for entrance at the law school. She may accept the offer, but does not expect to improve it, as she loves her present occupation.

Yorkville: The street cars are beginning to bring in their summer delegations of visitors, and Sunday the town was full of them, who walked about the streets and enjoyed the pretty scenery. One party seemed quite surprised that we had modern buildings and cement walks and was even skeptical about the old Fox being a river. They must think we live out in the back woods. But we think Yorkville can hold her own with any town of its size.

The Fox River Bait Casting club, which was organized last winter, received a consignment of fish from State Commissioner Bartlett Wednesday. The tanks were supposed to contain 4,000 small black bass and they were planted in the river between Oswego and Yorkville near the Elms at Cowdrey's. Wednesday night a letter from Mr. Bartlett disclosed the fact that instead of placing 4,000 black bass in the river the parties had emptied tanks containing 300,000 wall-eyed pike or jack-salmon. Fred Wells and C.F. Wade of Aurora, members of the club, had charge of the fish and superintended the placing of them in the stream. This ought to make the trolling good

in a few years, but it will take some time for the young fish to become accustomed to the water and begin to grow.

The ground south of the stockyards has been staked out for the new pickle factory building, work on which will soon be commenced. Mr. Gilmore is here to spend the summer and take charge of business matters.

May 25: Scott Cutter's tree insulator, now manufactured, is a nice piece of glasswork.

Frank Smith, now engaged as salesman of a stove company, arrived here Monday.

L. L. Thomas has leased the Pearce sand pit, and will hereafter be the sole seller of the output.

In turning a corner, Smith & Ashley ran their [steam] traction engine in a ditch, with made them some work in getting it out again.

George Nichols was up from Newark and bossed the elevating of the Barnard house. The stonework for its underpinning is now progressing.

The Oswego Standards, a kid baseball club, went to Yorkville Saturday afternoon to play a game with a similar aggregation there. They were followed by a wagon load of their girls for lending encouragement to the boys. All returned radiant with delight, saying that they won the game by a score of 17-15.

A newspaper clipping containing the following was handed me: "Mrs. Sarah Jane Kenney, 78 years old, died this morning at the home of her nephew, D.W. Pell. Mrs. Kenney lived in Santa Barbara, Cal. and came to Kansas City about two weeks ago on a visit." The Kenney family were formerly of Oswego, he for a time one of its merchants.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Mr. and Mrs. Lyman Haven of Chicago are living on the Simons farm. Mrs. Haven, who was formerly Miss Carrie Harshbarger, lived near Tamarack a number of years ago.

Wolf's Crossing: The kind neighbors of William Perkins turned in and gave him a day of work, as he was being very ill.

Yorkville: Plainfield is to have a summer retreat on the DuPage river--a park to be established and kept by the Joliet & Aurora electric road company. It will be a great place for visitors Sundays.

Scott Cutter of Oswego has added a "butinsky" to his family of Oswego pets. Sunday he came to Yorkville and in company with Justus Nading drove to Plano where he purchased a young goat.

The five-mile bridge across the Fox river about a mile south of Plano is undergoing the same kind of repairs that the commissioners intend to put on the Yorkville bridge.

June -- 1904

June 1: By the arrival of a son, Bert Davis has been elevated to a man of family.

The war song concert will be repeated next Monday night. Admission, 10 cents.

The musical and elocutionary recital of the Columbia conservatory was well-attended and much enjoyed by the lovers of those sciences.

Mrs. Nellie Bell was up from Seward for several days to straighten up the household of her father, David Hall.

Among the many here from abroad to observe the decoration were Nellie Armstrong, John Huff, both of Chicago; Henry Hebert of Rochelle, all the T.C. Richards family, and many more from Aurora.

Lavangry Gray was born in Stone Arabia, Montgomery county, N.Y. Aug. 31, 1817. She was married there to Walter Loucks and came together west and to Oswego in 1836. They became at once a prominent family of the village, much of which is situated on land they owned. Her husband died in 1886 and nearly since then she

has been living with her children. She became sick five months ago, turning into dropsy, and died Wednesday evening, May 25, 1904. The remains were taken to Spring Lake cemetery at Aurora to join those of her husband and youngest daughter. The survivors of the family are two daughters, Mrs. Elizabeth Van Evra and Mrs. Alice Welch, and a son, Peter Loucks of Aurora.

At the residence of Mr. and Mrs. John H. Edwards on Wednesday evening, May 25, occurred the marriage of their daughter, Olive Josephine, to Mr. Guy Hollenback LaSuer, formerly of Aurora. The ceremony was performed in the presence of only immediate relatives and friends.

The bride is an accomplished musician and a favorite in Oswego society. Mr. and Mrs. LeSuer left Thursday morning for a few days' visit at Buffalo and Niagara Falls, going from there to their new home in Haverhill, Mass., where the groom is employed as cashier and paymaster of the Rampton Street Railway Company under David Beldon, formerly of Aurora.

Decoration Day was a splendid success and its management may take pride in it. Even the weather, which in the morning appeared adverse, turned about and became ideal for the exercises.

NaAuSay: There was a large gathering at the cemetery Saturday afternoon to attend the memorial services.

Yorkville: When *The Record* went to press last week proceedings in the Nylen murder case had reached the testimony of George Pearce Sr., who had just been called to the stand. After the case was submitted to the jury, they were out a little over half an hour and took four ballots, in which Nylen was declared not guilty on the fourth ballot.

#### THE CATALPA TREE

Valuable For Timber In Many Ways.

Kendall County Farmers Might Find it Profitable to Plant Groves

A.C. Lake and A.G. Updike were among Oswego citizens at court today.

The remains of the late William Boyd, who died at the Soldiers' Home in Leavenworth, Kansas some weeks ago were brought here for burial last week. They had been disinterred at the request of his relatives and buried in the family lot in Elmwood cemetery.

#### THE NYLEN VERDICT

There are two sides to a plank; there are two sides even to a jug; and there are two sides to a law suit.

This is made evident by the remarks made since the trial and acquittal of C.R. Nylen, who shot and killed George Pearce Jr., and set up the plea of "self-defense," and his story of the self-defense was about the flimsiest attempt to make a bravado of a weakminded farmer boy that could be set before a jury. Mr. Nylen told his story to the jury like a man reading from a book, and when he skipped some sentence or phrase in the history he put it in parenthetically. one of his strong effects in his direct story of the shooting of George Pearce was that the young man's eyes "glared" when he came at him at the door. This eye glaring phrase was repeated twice or more. And no wonder; Pearce was evidently scared to death to see Nylen with the pistol shooting at him and as he made for the door his eyes probably "glared" from fright.

That a man of the nature and makeup of Pearce should go to a room and get a razor to attack a man like Nylen is ridiculous. it is more probable that Pearce wanted to get out of the house.

It is now thought that the self-defense story carried the jury. It was too thin. Nuylen owed his acquittal to the stubborn fact that men will condone a killing that is done in defense of family ties. Mrs. Nylen seems to have taken up with Pearce, and Pearce was a party-- Nylen killed the man and the jury's verdict was, "served him right." That's about the whole of it.

Wolf's Crossing: Lewis and Ervin Wolf are owners of new buggies.

June 8: Mrs. Louise Kennedy ha a new porch built to her residence.

The residence of E.H. Sodt has been nicely repainted in a yellowish color.

A new plate glass was put into the Meyer & Knapp meat market Monday.

D.M. Haight has evolved into an artist--the cement veneering of stone walls.

The Hon. John Steward of Chicago will make the principal address at the Historical picnic.

John Friebele has much improved the appearance of his residence by paint and otherwise.

A party of 16 Chicago artists spent a few days here taking landscape views and putting up at George White's.

A curtailed baseball game because of rain at Plainfield between a team of that place and the Pirates stood at 8 to 6 in favor of the latter.

Guy Hopkins and Laura Biesemier, both Oswegoans, were married in Rockford May 16, and where they are making their home, he being engaged in the railroad service there.

Graduates next Friday evening, the '04, are: Ora Woolley, Angie Varner, Emma Martin, Mary Smith, Ethel Kelsey, Pearl Chase, and Karl Young--six girls to one boy.

H.B. Read is having his residence raised to a higher grade. An Aurora man is doing it.

Hugh H. Goudie had his barn struck by lightning on the third day of June. On the fourth day of June he received a check for his insurance, the barn being covered by the Home Insurance Company of New York and the loss adjusted by J.W. Cherry.

John T. Wormley but a few months ago had the appearance of being in the prime of life, but he became affected with some kind of heart trouble and last Friday died within a few weeks of being 62 years old. Deceased was born here; his parents being of the oldest settlers. He was a soldier, one of the Fourth Cavalry boys, became a member of the Aurora GAR Post under whose auspices the burial occurred in the cemetery here, the ritual being impressively rendered.

## OSWEGO'S HISTORICAL PICNIC

In a little more than two weeks, Oswego is expected to furnish the facilities for the second Kendall county historical picnic.

Tourists will go hundreds of miles out of their way to see ruins and places of the Old World have become famous for their ruins. While Oswego has no real ruins, but the next thing to it, viz.: Some more ancient and dilapidated buildings than perhaps any other place in the county and which now are just in order. Here is the one-story frame building on the corner of Washington and Madison streets which has been an eyesore to many of the people for years, and its owner, who is wealthy, has been blamed for letting old ramshackle remain on that corner, but now that building is right in play; it may with pride be pointed out to visitors as having been the home of a United States Senator and millionaire (Senator Foster of Washington) 50 years go. Then there is the old stone barn near the depot, now the property of the CB&Q; it was burned once, leaving but the bare walls standing and again rebuilt. The old broom factory, showing much wear and tear, may be pointed out as formerly a beehive of industry. Oswego is also ahead of all the other places in the county in having had three prize-fights--the last that of Ryan and Howson--is put down in sporting history as a gem; where they have taken place may also be shown.

Wolf's Crossing: Mr. and Mrs. Abner Updike of Oswego visited her sister, Mrs. Henry Rink, Sunday.

## Yorkville: SLAVE AND UNION SOLDIER

Life of Uncle Nat Jones, Who Died in Newark

Nat Jones -- "Uncle Nat," as he was more familiarly known--was born at Petersburg, Dinwiddie county, Virginia August 1, 1836. Here he resided for a number of years when he moved to Vicksburg, Miss., in Warren county. Later he moved to Greenville, Washington county, Miss., residing at that place for some time. From there he journeyed 60 miles south to Issaquena county, where he was united in marriage with Celest Campbell in 1852, where he lived until the [Civil] war broke out. During all this time he was with his master, Dr. D.D. Campbell, as a slave. When the war broke out he, together with his wife, went to Skipper's Landing for protection in the Union army, he joining the Union army as a trooper in the 4th Illinois

Cavalry, and she remaining until the war was over, when they came north. They located at Newark where he and his wife lived peacefully and contentedly until some years ago, when Aunt Celest was called to her rest. Since her death, Uncle Nat has lived alone, being carefully watched and tended by Mrs. Diersen, his neighbor. His last illness, while not attended with great suffering, was one of patient endurance, until he was called to his Maker on Tuesday, May 24, no work of complaint was uttered. Uncle Nat departed as he had lived--quietly and peacefully.

The new building for the Dingee Pickle factory, south of the electric works in Yorkville, is being enclosed. John Quinsey's force is doing the work.

There was a meeting of the blacksmiths of the county called for Saturday night at the hose-house in Yorkville, but owing to the bad roads and weather, Oswego and Yorkville were the only towns represented. There will be another meeting next Saturday night, when it is thought a county organization or union will be formed for the universal adjustment of prices of labor. Something like the doctors' trust, eh?

Tamarack: Mr. and Mrs. George LaDew are the parents of a little daughter, born Saturday, June 4.

Miss Gertrude LaDew closed her school in the Wynne district, NaAuSay, Friday, for the summer vacation.

June 15: Hon. and Mrs. C.T. Cherry are again at home out at the Grove.

Dare say the alumni banquet Monday evening at the Yeoman hall was an enjoyable affair.

Mr. and Mrs. George Boardman and son Robie of East Wheatland were visiting their aunt, Mrs. Moore, Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Schultz were in Chicago Thursday to meet her brother, Frank Olson, from the deaf and dumb asylum at Jacksonville.



Nettie Rieger and Floi Johnston were among the recipients of certificates for the completion of the freshman course at the Columbia Conservatory of Music and Art Monday evening.

There is now a son out at Lew Woolley's. He arrived Friday, just when they all had got ready to attend graduation and witness that of his aunt Ora, all of which they had to forego and wait on this newcomer.

The alarm of fire was raised Monday about 5 p.m. Volunteer firemen were prompt in responding with the hose cart, but the fire had gone out by the time they got there. It was merely the chimney burning out of the George Woolley house, occupied by J.B. Wheatley.

The farmers' picnic out east Thursday was a great success, but one unfortunate hap marred it somewhat; a ball struck the little boy of Charles Sorg in the face and is said broke his nose--during the play of a ball game between East Wheatland and Oswego--the latter winning it by 11 to 10.

Friday the end of the school term of 1904 was reached.

Wolf's Crossing: As Miss Ellen Wilber, who has been teaching the Harvey school, has resigned; Miss Hummel will take her place.

Little Alvin Sorg was hurt while watching the ball game, the ball with great force hitting him directly in the fact. Dr. Drew of Oswego carried him in the house and cared for him.

The Farmers' Picnic

The farmers' fifth annual picnic was a great success, the attendance being larger than ever before.

Yorkville: The Minkler, Kendall, and Union schools held a union picnic at Riverview Park Friday.

BLACKSMITHS ORGANIZE

Form County Union for Raise in Prices of Labor--Elect Officers and Adopt Schedule

At the hose-house in Yorkville Saturday night, Kendall county's new labor organization was formed when the blacksmiths combined and adopted a uniform schedule of prices for blacksmith and wood work, the new rules to go into effect Monday, June 20. Joseph Markel was chosen chairman and W.E. Carter secretary of the meeting. After call to order, the following officers of the county organization were elected: President, Val Hartman, Millington; Vice President, Joseph Markel, Yorkville; Secretary, E.M. Bromley, Yorkville; Treasurer, Geo. Saxton, Yorkville.

For some time past the price of iron and steel, horseshoes, nails, and all raw material that the smithies use in their work have been steadily advancing till conditions were such that the profits on their labor were exceedingly small. The organization is for the protection of the blacksmith, and what one charges for his work the same will be charge any other place in the county. The raise will be more noticeable in the price of shoeing, as that is the more common branch of the work in this county, although there will be a slight advance in prices for repairing farm machinery, etc. The schedule will be almost identical with the one used by the organized blacksmiths on the main line in the towns of Earlville, Sandwich, Somonauk, and other places.

#### SUCCESSFUL SCHOOL WORK

Oswego Trustee Well Pleased with Their Corps of Teachers--Professor Newman's Family Afflicted.

In conversation with a member of the Oswego school board recently, the gentleman said, "When one of our Oswego graduates prepares herself properly for graded school work and applies for a position in our school, she always gets it, if there is a vacancy, in preference to looking for strangers to fill the place."

And to this method is laid the success with which the Oswego school has been conducted the last few years. Everything runs smoothly, and the teachers all know their pupils and the pupils' families and very seldom is there any trouble.

Prof. Newman has just completed his eighth year as head of the institution. He is a popular man in the village and he, with his wife, are always active in the social affairs of the town. At present, Mr. Newman is having some reverses and the whole town sympathizes. Some time ago his 14 year-old son, Kelsey, began to suffer with an affliction of the foot, caused from riding a bicycle that was too long

in reach for him. He was taken to the city hospital in Aurora where an operation was performed and an incision made through the foot large enough to admit a good-sized orange. A lot of decayed tendons and muscular matter was removed from the affected member and it was thought he would improve immediately. But a relapse set in and a second operation was necessary and now it is doubtful if the foot can be saved. To add to this affliction of the family, Mrs. Newman was recently taken ill as a result of worry and over taxation of her ability in staying up with her son and has been confined to the bed for a week or more. The extra work in connection with graduating the class from the high school has begun to tell on the Professor and he is thankful that vacation has come. All the present corps of teachers in the school will be retained for next year's work.

"On and On" is the motto of the Oswego Class of '04.

Oswego's attractive Congregational church was packed Friday night long before the hour for beginning the program of the 18th annual high school commencement.

At 8:30 six young ladies and one lonesome young man filed out of the lobby room and were seated in a semi-circle while Miss Nettie Mae Rieger played the march on the piano.

Salutatorian was Ora D. Woolley. Miss Angie Varner spoke on Martin Luther. Karl Young, the only boy of the class, spoke of "Things Worth Knowing."

Miss Mary A. Smith, the young colored lady of the class of '04, had a strong paper on the "Labor Unions." She is a sister of Ferdinand Smith, the young man who graduated in the Oswego class of 1903 and who has the distinction of being the first colored graduate in the county. Miss Smith has a musical voice and talked in forceful logic on the methods of the unions and combines. It was one of the longest themes on the program and the speaker acquitted herself with honor.

The class history and prophecy is always an amusing and interesting production and this time it was no exception. Miss Pearl M. Chase, who filled his position, produced an article that was rich in local witticism and amusing incidents in the past life of the class, which numbered 26 in the primary grade. "Things that are Worth While," Miss Ethel Kelsey's oration, was full of good thoughts. The graduate who has the farewell of her class to make, who has to bid adieu to

the old school and teachers, surely has a trying position to fill. Miss Emma M. Martin felt the weight of the words she was uttering and with the elation of commencement week, the sorrow of parting was then also evident. For her oration she had "The Modern Octopus," or trust.

June 22: "The Smart Set" is a new club organized here.

Helen Voss closed her school in the Squires district with a picnic in the Pearce woods.

A nice granite monument to Andrew Lang was erected in the cemetery of the German settlement by his sons in law.

A ball game was played here Saturday afternoon between the Pirates and an Aurora team, won by the latter by 10-7.

Miss Edna Damon entertained the graduating class and teachers Tuesday evening and a joyous time was experienced.

The George S. Williams residence has been repainted according to the modern style with the several stories of different colors, the lower of a dark hue with light trimmings.

The new barn of J.A. Shoger, the remodeling of the Read and Barnard residences, the Kohlhammer new barn and house, and other building operations are all progressing nicely.

The Oswego old school mates enjoyed their annual reunion picnic Saturday. It took place at F.O. Hawley's in Aurora.

Main street is partly lighted by electricity.

Chicago a while ago sacrificed 600 by the Iroquois theater fire, and now New York about 1,000 by the burning of a steamer on a Sunday school excursion.

Yorkville: The blacksmiths of the county union met at the hose house Saturday night and ratified the raise in prices and the new

schedule that was printed and posted last week. The new order went into effect Monday morning.

#### To Exterminate the Dandelion

The yellow pest that has bothered so many of our people this season and has developed so rapidly in many of the lawns may be treated in the following manner with a fair show of killing the weed:

Fill a machine can with gasoline and squirt a few drops on the centre of the plant from which the yellow flower stalk projects and the "yellow" peril is done for. The root readily absorbs the fluid, which in a couple of days completely rots it.

Kendall County residents attended the annual reunion of Company H of the 89th Illinois Volunteer Infantry, the Railroad Regiment.

June 29: Ralph Jackson of Aurora is the new sub agent at the depot.

Some of the Republican politicians are already interested in the campaign of 1908 more than the one of this fall.

John Hemm, 88 years old, was down from Aurora to attend the picnic. He is more spry now than he was 20 years ago.

Some of his comrades Tuesday evening took Rev. J.G. Butler to Aurora where he was initiated into the sublime art of the GAR.

The students Bessie and Daisy Pearce from Evanston, Laura Burkhart, DeKalb, and Edith Hebert, Wisconsin, are now at home on vacation.

Meyer & Knapp's unhitched team before their met market Friday evening ran away. In trying to stop the horses they were turned into the rig of Homer Walker, badly damaging his new buggy--being all the damage done.

The Evangelical parsonage property in town is undergoing quite a change this week. Besides a number of needed repairs being made at the house and barn by the trustees, H. Bower, L.H. Shoger, and O. Hem, it is also newly painted.

Kelsey Newman had his foot taken off at the hospital Saturday and is said to have stood the operation well and is now getting on nicely. Kelsey is one of our most promising and best-behaved boys. Lamentable things are continually to happen.

Anna Robinson underwent Wednesday the modern usage of a shower before getting married. It was that of china and graniteware.

The historical picnic is regarded here as a success; it was a grand thing for those who like to fuss. The fireworks in the evening were immense--too much of them for the picnic and a part of the excess may be put on the nomination of Roosevelt and Fairbanks, which took place the same day with plenty yet to spare for the 4th of July.

Old Settlers Meet, Young Settlers Not Barred.

Oswego's Anniversary is Great

Big Crowd, Big Program, Big Time All Around.

Sometime, between 65 and 70 years ago, when Indians roamed at will over the prairies of Illinois and eked out their existence, the first settlers of Oswego took up their abode about forty-five miles southwest of old Fort Dearborn. This epoch in the civilization of Kendall County is one of the mysterious pages of history. It is uncertain just when the pioneers of our neighboring town stopped there. No dates have been preserved that lay claim to the primary settlement of the town.

Notwithstanding the fact, the 70th anniversary of the history of Oswego Township was celebrated Thursday by a county picnic. The management was in the hands of Nineteenth Century Club of Oswego. The historical society was started last year when the 50th anniversary of the founding of Plano was observed in Steward's Park, and the Oswego picnic is the second meeting in the history of the society.

Oswego was dressed in gala day attire, inside and out. Flags and bunting festooned the store buildings, the residences throughout the town were decorated in national colors, and the townspeople were all dressed in the picnic suits to correspond with the hot weather and patriotic environment. Probably the largest crowd ever entertained in Oswego gathered to partake in the doings. The street cars ran every half hour and in the afternoon they were all crowded.

It is conservatively estimated that about 1,500 people visited Oswego, besides the citizens of the village.

It was a great day for all. The old settlers, who have grown gray in the development of the town, who have left their imprint on the manners and customs of the village, and who have played a prominent part in many legends and historic stories with which the village is surrounded, were there to greet an old neighbor of 50 years ago. In the schoolhouse square, in the shade of large trees, the benches and seats had been arranged for their accommodation. It was here that they sat and conversed, rehearsed the stories of Indian strife and prairie breaking, and the many thrilling events of pioneer life. The committees had not forgotten the younger generation in their work. The young folks of the present day enjoyed it all. There were many things to interest them. At times, thoughts of the sweltering rays of the sun were dismissed from the mind.

The *Enterprise* Band of Aurora was on hand early in the morning and had the air filled with music throughout the day. To start the day properly, a program of athletic sports and field events had been prepared. In this, as in all other phases of the celebration Oswego was supremely evident. The only prize that went to an out-of-town athlete was second place in the 200-yard dash by S. Jones of Plano. Antiques.

One of the most interesting and complete details of the day was the exhibition of relics and mementoes in the Hall of Antiquities. The collection was shown in the large Shoger building on the east end of Main Street, which was crowded with visitors who came and looked, went out, and then came back again. In the first room there was a collection of pictures of old settlers of Oswego, belonging to the Kendall County Historical Society, many of which were seen at Plano last year. Prominent among the photographs were the Oswego descendants of Captain and Mrs. Perez Walker, and also of themselves. Mr. and Mrs. Steven Fox, Senator Foster, now of Washington, D.C., and hundreds of others who were connected with the settlement of the county. Almost every conceivable article of agricultural and domestic life in the early history of Illinois was on exhibition. The collection is growing each year, and this year there were many things not seen at Plano. Contributions are always gratefully received and well cared for by the society. Crockery, dishes, quilts, spreads, tablecloths, chairs, tables, newspapers, books

and documents, spinning wheels, churns, firearms adzes, etc., all from 50 to 200 years of age were there to attract attention of the sightseers. One of the interesting exhibitions was the big Indian panel made of arrow points belonging to Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Hafenrichter of Yorkville. Mr. and Mrs. Hafenrichter are enthusiastic collectors of Indian relics and they have a large assortment in their home on the south side. This Indian with the drawn bow is made of arrow points glued to a background of green and is a beautiful and difficult piece of work by Mrs. Hafenrichter. There are hundreds of points of various shapes and colors in the make up of the Indian. They all worked into place as if they had been originally made for that purpose.

An old prairie breaking plow attracted much attention. It was a mammoth piece of farm machinery of oak beams and steel plates. A little blue training coat trimmed with brass buttons and gilt braid, belonging to Henry Wormley, told a silent story of the preparations for strife to maintain our free country. In the list of firearms were many that had done service in the Revolution, French and Indian Wars, War of 1812, and the Civil War. They were curious looking instrument alongside the modern repeater. An old blunderbuss, 200 years old, the property of Mr. King, was still bright and shiny, and despite its age was in a fine state of preservation. Standing on an easel in the second room was a picture of Shabbona, "the friend of the white man" his wife, and his rifle. Who can tell how often a bullet from that old gun had laid low a stealthy Indian as he was about to raid a white settler's cabin. An ancient looking baby cradle, made of oak slabs and bedded with straw and an old comforter the property of Mrs. Simons, had rocked to sleep many of this county's pioneers. A rifle owned by Henry Green Smith had been through French and Indian Wars and the Revolutionary War.

The above are but a few of the many old relics. The reporter could not begin to describe them all for a newspaper article. It would take volumes to tell the stories connected with them, and we are only giving a few of the more prominent ones. The Committee in charge of the antiquities was composed of Mrs. Helen Richards. Mrs. Alice Cliggitt, Mrs. H. B. Read, John Conway and William Cliggitt. Their work in this line was certainly thorough.

#### Dinner, and Then.

When the noon hour came all were ready for the picnic dinner. The visitors had brought their lunch baskets filled with good things, and



the many shady nooks of the village were invaded to furnish a brief respite from the hot sun. In the Yeoman Hall the Nineteenth Century Club ladies were serving dinner. The hall had been decorated, the big windows were wide open, and it was a pleasant place to refresh. The menu would tempt any man who had just been to dinner. It consisted of a big plate of baked beans, chicken sandwiches, salads, coffee, ice cream, cake and other delicacies, which were set before those who had not brought lunch. Those who partook of these items did ample justice to it all, and demonstrated their appreciation of the ladies' efforts by returning for supper. The program for the afternoon was given at the schoolhouse park, where a platform had been erected. Supervisor Russell was President for the day, and in an able address he "delivered the keys of the city" to the visitors, and did it as nicely as Mayor Harrison could have done. Mr. John F. Steward of Chicago who has spent many years in the work of resurrecting the history of this county prior to the coming of any white men here, was on the stand and told the story of the massacre of the Fox Indians on Meramech Hill, near Plano, and the annihilation of that tribe by the French and their allies. Reverend D. T. Robertson of NaAuSay had the address of the day, and it was an able eulogy to the sturdy character of those who had first broke the ground and withstood the attacks of Indians, weather and disease in Kendall County. Honorable George M. Hollenback read a paper on the reminiscences and personalities connected with the changes of the county seat at Oswego and Yorkville, which will be published next week. John R. Marshall gave the dates and publishers of the newspapers that have been printed in the county since its organization.

The double quartet that appeared at Plano last year, dressed in quaint costume of olden days, was present and furnished the music. The old familiar songs and patriotic melodies brought back many memories to the older folks, and the young people enjoyed the harmony and the manner of rendering. Those in the quartet were:

Reverend Frank R. McNamar.

Reverend Francis O. Wyatt.

Miss Clara Burson.

Miss Elva Bradley.

Mr. Warren Mighell.

Mr. Frank Young.

Play Ball.

At 3:15 the ball game was commenced on the diamond on the river flats. Many had expected to see a close game between Oswego and Plano and for the first five innings it looked as if their hopes were to be realized, the score being 3 to 3, but in the sixth, Oswego got started and ran in five scores and five more in the seventh. With one more in the eighth the score finally read 14 to 3. Committees had made big preparations for the evening entertainment. The band gave a concert on the street, and as soon as the shades of evening had been drawn over the tired crowd, the fireworks were started. A big supply of sky rockets, candles, wheels, flower pots and other set-pieces had been procured, and it was after ten o'clock before the last spark had died out and the last cloud of smoke had floated away, satisfied that it had done its part in Oswego's celebration.

#### The Dance.

In the Yeoman Hall, where a few hours before the hungry folks had been fed, the floor was cleared and Schultz's orchestra of five pieces installed on the platform. It was warm, no it was hot, and there was a big crowd in the hall, but who could resist that music. A round dance or two was enjoyed, and then a quadrille was called. And all knew what that meant. "Put" Howard had been see around the hall and there was a scramble to get into the rapidly filling sets. Put's "salute your partners" and the music was demure at first; with the "first four forward and back" the time was slightly increased, and when he got to "grand right and left" the crowd was surely going some. The old boys 25 and 30 years ago began to discard their coats, fans were wielded with vehemence, and with a whoop of fun an encore was demanded. It did not take many of these to send some of the older folks to their seats, and they were content to remain as wall flowers the rest of the evening. It was a great climax to the day. What if it did cost a few stiff joints the next day? Oswego does not have a seventieth anniversary every year, and her loyal sons and daughters were in to enjoy it all from the first.

#### Old Times.

Mr. Avery Noyes Beebe of Yorkville gave a gratifying talk on old times and also gave the names of the citizens of Kendall County who have become prominent in holding important positions in life. They were: United States Senator, Addison G. Foster; Frank Vanderlip, John West Mason, Thomas Finnie, and Henry Sherrill, as members of the Illinois Constitutional Convention; Lewis G. Steward, Member of Congress; John R. Marshall, State Senator; Reuben W. Willett,

member of the State Board of Equalization; L. D. Brady, Orlando H. Haven, S. H. Randall, Robert N. Matthews, Alanson K. Wheeler, John M. Crothers, Valentine Vermilyea, Jacob P. Black, Oliver C. Johnson, William P. Pierce, Ira Coy, Henry Sherrill, George M. Hollenback, Joshua McGrath, Peter S. Lott, Alonzo B. Smith, Andrew Welch, William M. Hanna, Edgar W. Faxon, Reuben W. Willett, Charles T. Cherry, and Edgar L. Henning, members of the Illinois legislature; Theodore DeLand, Fourth Assistant Secretary Treasury; John B. Littlewood, Examiner Patent Office; Thomas G. Steward, Chief Engineer of the Patent Office and George H. VanEmon, Census Bureau.

#### Some Personal Notes.

After the invited speakers had concluded their part of the program, some of the home folks were called. Mr. Rank, ex-postmaster, and for nearly forty years Oswego correspondent for *The Record*, spoke entertainingly and encouragingly. He scouted the notion of hard times for the early settlers, having lived in the vicinity for sixty years and said he always had enough to eat and wear and a good place to sleep.

Mrs. Margaret Young, Mrs. Mary Jeneson, Mr. D. M. Haight and Mr. Adam T. "Ad" Armstrong gave testimony as to the good times the old settlers had, and Mr. Armstrong read a pleasing local poem. Anyone under 70 years of age was considered young. Among the elderly people present was Mr. John Hemm, who is 88 years and 4 months old, who enjoyed visiting with friends. Albert H. Litchfield who is 84 years of age, and bears his age like a boy. Daniel Johnson who was born in 1816 and gives promise of being here in 1916. The Pearce family, who came in 1832, was among the earliest residents of Oswego, and sturdy representatives of the family, Ezekiel, James, Colvin and Frank Pearce were on the grounds Thursday.

Supervisor Russell is a splendid man to preside at public gatherings. He is prompt, decisive, and pitches in little stories and personal allusions that make the meeting lively.

The ladies of Oswego know how to make visitors feel welcome. They took special pains to make visitors feel at home, and *The Record* folks were well taken care of by Mrs. Martha Goudie, Mrs. Elizabeth M. Russell, and Mrs. Susannah Pearce. A little personal attention does help to make a visit enjoyable.

The program committee, with Mrs. Wayne as Chair, made it all a splendid success.

The handsome residences in the portion of Oswego not seen from the trolley line surprised all visitors. It was a revelation to many who know the village only as they ride through on the railways. We dare say no one in Oswego can push a wheelbarrow full of fireworks with the skillful alacrity of Archie Lake.

The vender of the obnoxious "feather duster" did not enjoy a big trade, and soon left town. The celebration was not a "street carnival."

Oswego folks are taking much interest in the youthful baseball battery of Joe Richards and Bennie Biesemier. They are a fast pair, and did effective work against the larger fellows from Plano, striking out eleven Plano batters.

Yorkville: The automobile will soon be known as the "car of Juggernaut." Its mission seems to be to maim and kill.

Hugh R. Marshall was out from Chicago over Sunday to visit his parents.

The Socialists will hold a district convention in Aurora July 4 to nominate candidates for the legislature--senate and house.

Banker Fred Phelps and Dr. Voss of Oswego drive to Yorkville Wednesday evening with the former's light runabout and high-stepper.

Fred Young is installing a new dynamo in the electric light plant to be run with a short belt, and it is thought the arrangement will eliminate the trouble sustained during the thunder storms so frequent in this vicinity. It is a large machine of the same power and voltage as the one now in use.

#### A TRIP TO CANADA

A.G. Updike Writes About Farm Lands

On the evening of the 17th of June we left Aurora, Ill., for a trip to Rosthern, Canada. On the morning of the 18th, we arrived at St. Paul, Minn., where we met Mr. E.H. Kent, the successful manager and secretary of the Canada North Dakota Land Co., and after spending

a day in that city going through the parks and some of the finest buildings in the world, among them being the courthouse, considered the finest courthouse in the United States. We also went through the Guarantee Loan building, went up in the elevator to the top of the tower about 275 feet high, and there secured a grand view of the city.

In the evening we proceeded on our journey provided with a special tourist sleeping car in which was a cook, porter, and plenty of good things to eat. Our pleasant party consisted of 30 men from different points along the line. The next morning we arrived in Winnipeg, Canada, now a city of 80,000 inhabitants. Its growth last year is something remarkable, there being 4,000 new houses built last year. After having our breakfast served on the car the company chartered a street car giving us a two-hours ride through the city, visiting the parks of which they take great pride in showing, having a number of wild animals of all kinds. In the evening we left for our destination--the town of Rosthern, which is not yet three years old but has a population of 1,500 people, seven large elevators, one large grist mill, three banks, a \$20,000 hotel, and everything necessary to make it a busy little city. After spending the night in the city we started for a two days drive over the land which this company has for sale, consisting of about 40,000 acres of good rich soil, some of it open prairie and some of it dotted with small groves; nearly every other section is homestead land, already taken. This part of our trip was much enjoyed and full of business to the land company, as they had sold about 8,000 acres of land at from \$9 to \$11 per acres. Anyone wishing to take a trip, see the country, have a good time and have a chance to buy some good land, don't want to miss one of these excursions. A special car will be run every two or three weeks--the next one on July 5. For further information call phone or write to A.G. Updike, Oswego, Ill.

July -- 1904

July 6: The putting down of cement sidewalks on Monroe and Jackson streets to complete them around block 8 is now underway.

Miss Floi Johnston has gone to Camp Lake, near Lake Geneva, as pianist in an orchestra that will furnish music at that resort for the summer.

Dr. Kittler has the Tom Edwards tenant house on Washington street already prepared to move into, when he and bride return from their wedding trip.

A ball game played here Saturday afternoon by the Pirates with the Aurora YMCA team was won by the latter, 9-4.

The celebration here of the Fourth, though spread over a week or more, including Sunday, was nevertheless most demonstrative and noisy to a late hour Monday night, making the air thick with smoke and sulphurous in smell--a sort of resemblance of sheol. In the afternoon, the town had been pretty well deserted.

The marriage of Dr. W.E. Kittler and Miss Anna Robinson took place at the home of her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. C.K. Robinson, Aurora, June 30, 1904.

Dr. Kittler came to Oswego about a year ago and by his unfailing courtesy and success as a physician has gained the esteem of all. His bride, Miss Anna Robinson, has been a successful teacher in the public school and is a social favorite.

Yorkville: There was a disgraceful fight on the ball ground at Riverview Park Sunday. Sheriff Voss of Kendall county happened to be present on the occasion and helped quell the disturbance.

#### OLD COUNTY HISTORY.

Honorable George M. Hollenback Writes a Valuable Paper.

Reminiscences of Old Oswego Courthouse.

The Old County Officers and Attorneys of Long Ago.

*The following paper was read at the old settlers' gathering in Oswego, Illinois on Thursday, June 23, 1904, on the occasion of the historical picnic, by Honorable George M. Hollenback, who is the first white child born in this part of the Fox River Valley.*

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen:

Your committee has awarded me as a subject "Reminiscences of the Old Courthouse." It is so long since I had an office in the old

courthouse that many reminiscences in connection therewith that would be interesting, have with many fleeting years, passed from my mind and memory. Before entering upon anything of a personal nature it will be well to go back and state a few things in relation to the matter in jurisdiction. It will be remembered that the State of Illinois was known in the latter part of the last century as the "Elinoy Country," and was erected into a county of the Commonwealth of Virginia, which it claimed under its English charter, the whole of what is now included within the boundary of the state, and so remained until the deed of cession in 1788, by which Virginia relinquished to the United States all claim to the Northwest Territory as it was called.

Virginian government, with its several departments, were very early establishments, including the county organization pertaining to the Old State, which continued in force in this State until changed by the constitution of 1848. The first Board of County Commissioners was composed of the following persons: Jeremiah J. Cole, Levi Hills and Reuben Hunt, who organized by electing Marcus A. Fenton, County Clerk. The county commissioners held the court four times a year for the transaction of all county business the same as their successors, the Board of Supervisors, do now.

The Circuit Court exercised the same jurisdiction that it does now, the County Judge appointing his own clerk. A Probate Justice was also provided for by law, exercising the same jurisdiction and powers the County Judge does now in the settlement of guardianship of minors. A Recorder of Deeds was also provided for. The first recorder to fill that office was Almon Ives.

A Board of Commissioners appointed by the State Legislature located the county seat at Yorkville during the summer of 1841, and the first session of the Circuit Court was held in August of that year. The Honorable Thomas Ford, presiding judge, who had previously appointed Alonzo "Bainbridge" (A. B.) Smith Clerk of the Circuit Court. Smith held that office until the constitution of 1848 went into effect.

The County Commissioners' Court provided for the erection of county buildings early in 1847, and sometime in the spring or summer of that year the corner-stone of the courthouse was laid. The work progressed so that the offices were occupied and courts held sometime in the following year. The erection of the courthouse and provision for its payment were about the last duties performed

by the County Commissioners' Court. In 1848 the new constitution provided for the organization of the County Court, consisting of a judge and two associates, and at the election held in November of that year, Joseph W. Helme was elected Judge and Samuel C. Collins and Edward Walker Associate Justices. This court, as organized, became the successor of the County Commissioner's Court. Among other duties performed, were those pertaining to county affairs, until the adoption of township organization in 1850, and a Board of Supervisors became the successor to the County Court regarding county affairs. Thus, in the short space of less than three years, county affairs underwent three different kinds of jurisdiction. George W. Hartwell was elected the first clerk of the County Court in November, 1848, holding the office for years. Chapman and Reynolds had the contract for the erection of the courthouse. It was in appearance, a rather imposing colonial style structure of two stories facing west. It was approached by stone steps leading to a porch, extending the whole width of the building and some 15 or 20 feet wide. Four large columns supporting the roof added much to the appearance of the building. Double doors in front opened upon a spacious hall 10 or 12 feet wide on the right of which was situated the offices of the Clerk of the County and Clerk of the Circuit Court, with fireproof rooms adjoining each in which to keep records and papers. On the left side of the hall was a kind of general office for the accommodation of the County Treasurer and Superintendent of Schools. The Clerk of the County Court always carried the key to this office and the room was occasionally used by him when the County Court or Board of Supervisors was in session. Adjoining this room was the Grand Jury Room and it was also occupied by the Board of Supervisors when in session. At the rear end of the hall was a smaller door than those at the front. The courtroom above was reached by two stairways leading to the vestibule, a wide door opening into the courtroom. Here was a large hall extending to the bar. At the further end of the hall, a large wood stove was set up for warming the courtroom when court was in session in cold weather. The auditorium was situated on either side of the hall. The seats of which would comfortably seat 150 or 200 persons. The seats directly behind the bar were on a level with the floor, the balance of the seats rising as they approached the bar. The bar occupied about one-third of the floor space and was separated from the auditorium by an appropriate railing. The bar was provided with armchairs and



a long table covered with green baize. The bench was situated on an elevation at the west end of the hall facing the bar and was reached by three or four steps. The Clerk's desk was on a level with the floor in front of the bench and was surrounded by a neat rail.

There was a great deal of dissatisfaction in various parts of the county for the location of the county seat at Yorkville. The legislature had its session in the winter of 1845 and provided for a relocation of the county seat by a vote of the legal voters of the county. The first election was held the first Monday of September, 1845. A number of sites were voted for at the election, none of which received a majority of the votes cast. At the second election held a month later it was found that Oswego had won. From then until the seventh of June, 1864, Oswego remained the county seat. At that time the records were again removed to Yorkville and into the new courthouse, which had been erected for their reception pursuant to the vote of the legal voters of the county some three years prior to the move.

My connection with the courthouse, except attending two years as a bailiff, began on the first day of December, 1856, on my 25th birthday, having been elected Clerk of the Circuit Court of Kendall County the preceding November. I continued to hold that position for eight years, having been reelected in November, 1860.

When I entered upon the duties of Clerk of the Circuit Court, Benjamin Ricketson was County Judge, having succeeded Joseph W. Helme in 1852. Jeremiah J. Cole at the same election was elected Clerk of the County Court, succeeding in that office George W. Harwell. Henry M. Day succeeded Mathias Beaupre as Sheriff in 1852, and in turn was succeeded by Jonathan Raymond at the election of 1856.

During the whole of my service as Clerk of the Circuit Court and for some time thereafter the honorable Madison E. Hollister was Judge of the Court. During that period many of the leading lawyers in this part of the State attended its sessions. From Ottawa came the rival firms of Glover, Cook & Campbell, and Gray, Avery & Bushnell and Colonel T. Lyle Dickey and General W. H. L. Wallace. At the first session of the court, Mr. Washington Bushnell was States Attorney. Many members of the Kane County bar, then as now, were much in evidence at sessions of the court, among them William B. Plato, John F. Farnsworth, Gust Herrington. Benjamin Franklin Parks, Charles Wheaton, R. G. Montony, and others whose names I do not now

recall. The home talent of the period consisted of Joseph Warren Helme, A. B. Smith, John Milton Crothers, Benjamin Franklin Fridley, George A. Tucker and Albert Snook of Oswego; Irus Coy and George W. Watson came from Newark; James H. Felch and W. H. Clark came from Yorkville; Lewis Gilbert Steward of Plano was a licensed attorney but did not practice. All of the persons bearing these names have passed from life, except the Honorable Charles Wheaton and the now venerable Judge Montony of Aurora.

This sketch will now be confined to some recollections of the persons connected with the courthouse during the time I had an office therein.

John Milton Crothers was a native of Greenfield, Ohio, and son of the Reverend Samuel Crothers, a Presbyterian minister. He chose the profession of lawyer and came west in 1839 or 1840, settling first at Ottawa. On the organization of the Kendall County in 1841, he in company with Jesse S. Pitzer removed to Oswego and opened a law office. At the November election in 1848 he was elected Clerk of the Circuit Court, holding that office for eight years, having been reelected in 1852. In 1856 he was elected a member of the General Assembly of the State. At the close of the session he resumed the practice of law in Oswego. He had been appointed Master-in-Chancery while yet a clerk, and held that office at the time of his death, which occurred in 1860 at Greenfield, Ohio where he had gone for his health. It was the beginning of Mr. Crothers' first term as Clerk of the Circuit Court that the offices of Recorder and Clerk were united and have so remained.

Joseph Warren Helme was a native of Orange County, New York, born during the latter years of the last century. He was educated at Princeton College in New Jersey, and chose the legal profession. Before coming to Illinois he resided some years at Pulaski, New York, coming to this state about 1836. He was elected County Judge of Kendall County in 1848, holding that office until November 1852. He was an excellent lawyer and was well qualified to discharge the duties of any judicial office from Justice of the Peace to the highest station. He had a judicial mind of the highest order and was well qualified by education in his practice, but unfortunately he often said sharp things in his lawsuits and the ordinary transaction of business, that made him unpopular with some. He was a good conversationalist and a delightful companion to meet socially; a gentleman of the old school.

Jeremiah Jackson Cole was a native of Rhode Island. By instinct and practice a bookkeeper. When I first saw him he was a deputy assessor of Kendall County, in 1843 or 1844. One, Colquhoun Grant had been elected assessor. He did not qualify or for some other reason did not perform the duties of the office. Cole was appointed and performed the duties to the satisfaction of the county authorities. He was member of the first Board of County Commissioners, and in 1848 was elected County Treasurer, and as such assessed the county in 1849. In 1852 he was elected Clerk of the County Court and was twice reelected to that office and died in office in April 1864. At the time of his death he was about 65 years of age. He was an accomplished accountant, accommodating officer and most agreeable companion.

Jonathan Raymond was elected Sheriff in November, 1856, serving in that capacity two years. He was born in Massachusetts in 1806, and came to Illinois in 1834. He was a very agreeable man and took great pride in his office as Sheriff, opening and closing the Circuit Court following the forms and ceremony that he had witnessed in Massachusetts when a younger man. He was a very successful auctioneer, and a good all around citizen and neighbor. He died in Bloomington, Illinois in 1884.

Wright Murphy succeeded Raymond as Sheriff in 1858, serving for two years. He made an excellent Sheriff, and served as a common soldier during the Rebellion. His health was broken during his service, and he died a few years after the War. He was a companionable man and good citizen.

Dwight Ladd succeeded Murphy as Sheriff in 1860, serving two years. He was a most excellent and conscientious officer. He served with credit to himself in the public service and retired to a farm at the expiration of his term and died comparatively young.

Ami D. Newton succeeded Dwight Ladd in 1862, and served two years until December, 1864, he was the first Sheriff to occupy the Sheriff's office and residence in the new courthouse at Yorkville. In subsequent years, he was elected Sheriff for many terms and was respected by all who knew him.

Benjamin Ricketson was born in Northeastern New York of Quaker parentage, and came west in what is now Kendall County sometime during the early 1830's. He was elected County Judge to succeed Joseph W. Helme in 1852, and was subsequently reelected and continuously held that office until 1867. He was succeeded in office

by the honorable Henry S. Hudson. Judge Ricketson was a popular and conscientious officer, and subsequently moved to California, where he died a few years ago.

Upon the removal of the county seat to Yorkville and the erection of the new courthouse it seemed desirable to make a change in the county officers and it was thought the proper thing to do to replace the old servants of the county with those who had borne the heat and burden of the day in the tented field during the Civil War.

Having been succeeded in office of Clerk of the Circuit Clerk December 1, 1864, by Captain Albert M. Hobbs, with some regret I stepped down and out. I was invited by Captain Hobbs to remain with him in the office until the following spring, which I did. My connection with the old courthouse ended of course, when the records were removed to Yorkville, June 7, 1864.

Soon after, by authority of the Board of Supervisors, the courthouse site was sold and the title thereto passed forever from Kendall County.

During the time I was connected with the Clerk's office at Oswego, I was the first public officer, so far as I know, in this part of the State to employ female help in the office as assistants. I found them more reliable and more attentive to business, and did their work just as well, or better, than that done by the other sex. I find, in visiting other counties, most of the employees in the public offices are females.

In conclusion, permit me to say, I feel it a pleasure to respond to the invitation of your committee to appear before you today to make the feeble effort I have made in your hearing. The fleeting years since that morning of December 1, 1856, have borne away the voices and forms of so many that were then living. I can almost number on my finger ends the survivors of that year. I take this opportunity to thank your committee for the honor extended to me by asking me to speak to you on this occasion, and I now bid you farewell.

July 13: The rain was enjoyed here by all, except perhaps some of the campers.

Dr. and Mrs. W.E. Kittler returned from their wedding trip--embracing a voyage on the lakes--Tuesday.

The settlers from Orange county, N.Y. and their descendants, had their annual picnic on the Fourth again at Mrs. Lettie Seely's.

John Mullenix Jr. was here from Iowa to meet with some of his schoolmates and to take a view of the scenes of his boyhood. He had not been here in 20 years.

E.Y. Ketchum returned Friday from several days' trip through central and southern Illinois in the horse interest. He says the corn here looks better than any he saw elsewhere.

Among the several former Oswegoans that turned up within a few days was William Brown, a darkey barber, Saturday. He was here sometime during the sixties running a shop where the waiting room is now.

Robertson B., or Bob Murphy, as he used to be called when an Oswego boy, suddenly appeared Saturday. He is and has been for years a resident of Virginia; has developed into a fine looking gentleman and from photographs shown has an interesting family and is splendidly domiciled.

Eleven carloads of fat steers were shipped from her Wednesday.

Elder Newton Barrett was here from Chicago on a flying visit. He came by trolley as far as the park, where he crossed the river to enjoy a walk once more to town over the course pursued in former years, but on the way was overtaken by a team and requested to ride, which he accepted. For a man nearly 92 years old he is remarkably smart.

As to the building operations, Fred Kohlhammer has his barn completed all but the painting, the excavation of the cellar for the house ready for the mason work and the hen house under way. The Read residence is almost completed and that of George Barnard is near completion.

Kelsey Newman was brought home from the hospital Sunday and is said to be getting on nicely.

Layton Lippold, who lately returned from Missouri has become a partner in the Funk & Schultz store.

The Barker Brothers is the new firm now being created. His brother Fred of Washington, D.C. has bought a share in the establishment of C.S. Barker.

The harness shop has been moved to the stone building opposite the Foran Brothers' livery stable. Clint Jackson, the former owner, is operating it.

A medicine show company commenced an engagement on the Flats Monday evening.

Yorkville: There is a general strike on in the stock yards and packing house districts in Chicago, Kansas City, Omaha, and other like points, and the meat business is paralyzed. There are over 50,000 men out, and shipment of hogs and cattle has ceased. The cause for the strike is a demand for an increase of wages for the laborers--or "unskilled labor." The packers refuse the increment. The prices of meat must certainly increase and there will be a stagnation of business.

The trains on the Fox River line were delayed Monday afternoon and a part of Tuesday by the burning of a bridge across a ravine near Wedron. Rural mail carriers were late in getting out in consequence.

The big ice houses of Esch Bros. & Rabe at Lake Villa, Wisconsin were struck by lightning Monday afternoon and destroyed. They contained about 65,000 tons of ice. This makes three ice houses burned in that region this summer.

A Joliet match and toothpick company have had a gang of men cutting and shipping basswood logs to that city for some weeks past. The logs are being secured from the timber lands south and east of Yorkville; the men are shipping three carloads a week.

Tamarack and Wheatland: The hedges this year are full of raspberries and berry pickers are seen everywhere.

July 20: Nellie and Bessie Armstrong have been attending the St. Louis fair for a week.

Mrs. Isaac Pearce is reported to have died at her home in Woonsocket, S.D. She was formerly of this place.

Our base-ballers are under a cloud of adversity. Saturday, they went to Sugar Grove and got defeated two to one in a game.

The Barbel & Schumacher saloon has been supplied with a new floor and is being otherwise repaired, renovated, and embellished.

Funk & Schultz's smokehouse got on fire Wednesday afternoon. The hose company was called out but its services were not needed.

Old Sol, these last days, made us know that he had lost none of his heating capabilities, as some of the wiseacres were trying to make him on the decline.

Charles Boyle, who works in the Yorkville ice-houses, had a cake of ice fall on his foot, which incapacitates him for pursuing his usual work for the time being.

When suddenly an automobile came around the corner, the horses of a rig said to belong down Lisbon way hitched by the Schickler building Sunday afternoon got scared, jumped on the sidewalk, one getting down and things became much mixed. After straightening affairs some small damage was found to the harness and carriage but going to Williams' livery the rig was fixed up for the party to proceed to their home. In breaking horses, one of the essentials now is to make them acquainted with automobiles. Their intelligence has all to be gained by habit.

A motorman named Pressler, who was on the 7:30 p.m. south-bound Sunday car, got hurt and was taken off here. It appears that when passing the M.J. Wormley place, there was a fight on between two roosters near the track; the man being in the vestibule, leaned out the door to see if they wouldn't get run over, and thereby was struck by a pole and thrown out. Dr. Kittler was phoned to be on

hand and when the car arrived the injured man was taken to the former's office. No fracture of the skull could be ascertained and partial consciousness had returned when on the next north-going car he was taken to Aurora.

Yorkville: Farmers have had a busy week with haying and are now getting ready for the oats harvest. There seems to be a pretty good yield of hay, oats are good, though the straw is short.

Hugh R. Marshall, who has been in the offices of the McCormick Harvester works in Chicago the past two years, has been transferred to the new works of the International Harvester Company at Hamilton, Ontario.

Wolf's Crossing: George Smith has put in the Chicago phone.

July 27: H.B. Read is having a cement cellar floor put in.

New stairs to the E.T. Sutherland residence have been constructed.

A bursted water pipe in front of the Foran store gave the village authorities a job Monday.

The extension of cement sidewalks is now underway on Madison street, from Peter Cooney's southward.

The medicine company completed its two weeks stay here Sunday evening with an illustrated lecture on the life of Jesus.

A ball game was played here Saturday afternoon between the Sugar Grove team and the Pirates. Because of too much wrangling connected with it, it was not regarded as a good game by most of those who witnessed it.

John Schumacker returned Monday with a bride, who was Miss Carrie E. Dean of Aurora, where the marriage took place that morning. It is said they will room at J. Knuth's for the time being and board at George White's.



With the Hon. C.T. Cherry, his son Clifford and another gentleman in the carriage, driving on the west side of the river Saturday afternoon, the horses became frightened by an automobile and ran away. Luckily no one was hurt.

Wolf's Crossing: Mr. Ellis Bill has bought an automobile.

Tamarack and Wheatland: The farmers are busy in the oat fields and threshing machines are expected to start the latter part of the week if nothing happens.

A number of little folks and their mammas were entertained Wednesday afternoon by little Miss Nettie Brown, the occasion being her fifth birthday. After an afternoon spent in games, ice cream and cake were served.

Yorkville: If the socialists worked as hard with the hands and muscles as with the mouth, there would be no poverty to complain of.

There is a project for an electric road from Joliet through Morris to Marseilles. Where is our project for a trolley line from Yorkville to Morris?

Strike! Strike! Strike! That is the leading news in the Chicago papers ever morning and evening. The industrial world seems to be in a chaotic state. But the men of capital showed the way. They made big combinations to control products and the laboring man has learned his lesson from capital.

Manager Gilmore of the local branch of the Squire Dingee Pickle Co. is ready to take in cucumbers and convert them into "midgets" or "giants" or whatever their size will warrant. The building has been completed, the tanks and vats installed, and all that now remains to make it a factory in operation is a few thousand bushels of fresh cucumbers taking their soak in the briny bath.

There are 15 large vats in the east half of the building, which will hold an aggregate of 10,000 bushels of pickles. As soon as the cucumbers are received from the farmers and gardeners, they are dumped into these vats and the proper proportion of salt added

with each installment of the creeping fruit. They remain in this brine about 60 days when they go to the process room, which is being fitted up in the west half of the building. Here they are thoroughly washed and rinsed, passing through several changes of water. After being sorted into the various sizes and grades, they go to the vinegar tubs. Here is where they receive their first real touch of the sour taste, which is the life of all pickles. After the processing is finished, the product is put up in packages ready for shipment in wholesale lots.

August -- 1904

Aug. 3: Attorney John Cliggitt is here from Mason City, Ia. On a visit.

Services will be resumed at the Congregational church next Sunday, Aug. 7.

The Fresh Air children from Chicago--27 in number--arrived all right and were distributed.

Charles Schultz has sold his interest in the store to Will Funk, who is now the sole proprietor. Charley keeps on clerking there.

David Hall has returned from Cincinnati and reports Charles Clinton as fine as silk and Mrs. Clinton much better than she has been.

The Walter Loucks farm was sold; the part south of the road to Abner Updike for \$110 per acre, and that north of the road to Gus Shoger for \$100 per acre. The sale was through McWethy of Aurora.

As Ed and Erwin [Irvin] Haines and Bernie Richards were sitting in the new granary which they had just completed on the farm occupied by Gene Schweinoff down in NaAuSay Wednesday, waiting for the storm of subside it was struck by lightning and Ed, Bernie and two other men there were knocked down. The wind at the same time blew a corncrib over the team hitched outside without causing any injury. The men that were knocked down also came to, but felt the effects for some time.

Aug. 10: Rev. Mr. Townsend, the new Presbyterian minister, commenced the duties at the church Sunday.

Dr. and Mrs. W.E. Kittler have taken an automobile trip to Wisconsin with Dr. and Mrs. Brenecke of Aurora.

Dr. and Mrs. A.H. Churchill were down from St. Charles Friday.

Those that have Fresh Air children are requested to be sure and have them at the depot Friday by 9 a.m. so that they may be returned by that train to Chicago.

Monday afternoon this place was again startled by the ringing of the fire bell. A north-bound freight train had an oats-loaded car on fire; leaving the cars back of it behind, they came with the burning car into town to have the fire put out. The firemen responded promptly and the fire was readily extinguished.

Ryneer R. VanEvra was born May 24, 1831 at Spreakers Basin, N.Y.; came to Oswego in 1857, where subsequently he was married to Elizabeth Loucks. He died after several months of sickness at his home, Aug. 1, 1904 leaving a wife and five children, viz.: Harry, Nellie, and Mrs. Adelaide Lodor of Chicago; Delrose of New York; and Ray of Seattle, Wash. The body was laid to rest in the Oswego cemetery.

#### The Ice-House Fire

The burning of the ice-houses together with eight freight cars that were side tracked there Thursday night was the most sensational event of the week. The houses had stood empty for several years, were very dry, hence burned rapidly and made great heat. The fire started in the south end of them and so gave time enough to chop apart their connection with the tower and chute, thereby saving them and the nearby residence of John Peterson, which was much heated--his tomatoes cooked, apples roasted and other garden stuff ruined. The residence of Ed Haines on the other side was also much blistered but by the energetic use of water applied by buckets kept these houses from being ignited. The cause of the fire is unknown; the burned buildings had become useless as the dam for a pond had been destroyed but still they might have been taken down and some

use made of the lumber. In connection with this I am requested to suggest that the village authorities among other things for fire protection provide a big hook attached to a long pole for the pulling down of buildings. A ladder, too, will be in order.

Charles Weber is said will return here, having bought the milling plant of J.E. Young.

Aug. 17: C.E. Hubbard is at the drug store while the proprietor is away.

The Chautauqua Sunday was well attended from here.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Beaupre of DeKalb and Mr. and Mrs. Will Beaupre of Aurora were visiting Charley and Mrs. Mann Sunday.

The Williams tie stables took care of 63 head of horses Sunday. If you wish to leave your rig at the best place in town, go to the Williams place.

Although Oswego has no regular hotel it has several boarding houses where transients can find accommodations and of which the L.L. Thomas residence has become prominent.

At a village board meeting Monday evening, where a representative of the traction company was present, the agreement was made that the company will put up lights on several blocks of Main Street for a short time to show what the electric lights will do, and that if satisfactory to enter into a contract for lighting the whole village for a specified time.

The Schumacher & Barbel saloon was burglarized during the night Sunday.

Among the freshly painted buildings may be mentioned the residences of L.L. Thomas, Dr. Van Deventer, E.H. Sodt, Charles E. Mann, Dr. W.E. Kittler, Rev. R.C. Townsend--the former Kohlhammer place--the Evangelical parsonage and the offices of Dr. Drew and Dr. Van Deventer. George Barnard is on painting his renewed residence.

Oswego is deficient in dwellings; every available place for such is occupied and persons continually are looking for places to live in and consequently rents are quite high. Apparently a remedy is in the near future; expansion of the village is in the air. The Hawley addition on the south end will be followed by a large addition on the east, and maybe the syndicate will build enough cottages for the supply of dwellings. The expansion of the cement sidewalk system in which Oswego may not be excelled by any village of its size in this region is also in direction of the new dwellings. There is plenty of room here for expansion without fear of "busting."

Aug. 24: School commences Monday.

The Chautauqua monopolized most everything; everybody from here attended it, and a number had season tickets and were there most of the time--don't think that anyone from here camped there.

The Oswego schools will open Monday, Aug. 29. The principal will be in the high school room Saturday, Aug. 27, for the purpose of examining any who wish to enter school.

Expansion of Oswego: is irresistibly marching on, and next year--no matter who is elected president or what strikes may be on--buildings will go up by the score at one and the same time. The lots already sold in the new addition--called "Park Addition," as a park in it will be provided for--number about 30, and many more have been spoken for. According to my notions a mistake was made in the laying out of this village which should have been on a line with the points of the compass and invariably followed by its subsequent additions, thereby straight and uniform streets would have been secured, a better drainage given them, and their ascent and descent made less abrupt. But the road or trail down the river was only taken into consideration, and on a line with it the village of 20 blocks was laid out being nearly from northeast to southwest. This rule was followed when additions were made to it, the roads in the different directions were made the lines of the streets by which three-cornered and other irregular blocks and lots were formed, the streets made to run in many directions with all sorts of angles. The new addition is laid out on a line with the East Wheatland road [Chicago Road and Wolf's Crossing Road], which runs a little north

of east and which will make that part of the village the nearest of any on a line with the points of the compass.

Aug. 31: School commenced Monday all right. The new teachers are Helen Voss taking the primaries in charge and Laura Burkhart in Room 2. The other teachers, Mrs. Fay Hall, Edna Damon, and Superintendent Newman resumed their former stations.

Of the teachers in the neighborhood, Susie Croushorn will teach in the Cutter district, Mary Cutter in the Squires, and Edith Gates in the German.

The newly evolved "shower" practice was bestowed on Dora Pearce Wednesday by 40 of her lady friends.

[Oswego State Bank was organized in 1904 by Leonard F. Burkhart as a private bank and became a State Bank by reorganization on Aug. 1, 1913.]

September -- 1904

Sept. 7: Many nice flower gardens may be seen in this town.

The reunion of the 127th Illinois veterans took place here Tuesday.

Dwight Gowran is now one of the force of the Barker Brothers store.

The piers for the new Adams street Waubonsie Bridge are nearly completed.

Oswego is a noted place to Chicago landscape artists--a number of them were here at work Monday.

No school will be kept in the Walker district; the few pupils there are being sent to the Oswego school.

The Pirates Saturday up in Riverview Park won a game of ball by 4 to 3 from the YMCA team of Aurora.

Bob Johnston over the river has done some double fall plowing; during the first he lost his pocket book containing \$150 in money and other valuables, which made a second plowing necessary to find it, and which luckily was done.

The party--a sort of welcome reception to the new Presbyterian minister and family--at J.D. Russell's Tuesday evening is said to have been well attended and a pleasant affair. The lawn was splendidly illuminated and the Specie Grove Band furnished the outdoor music.

The wedding of Dora Pearce to Alvah E. Cooney was of course an A No. 1 affair...the guests numbered 150.

The new Kohlhammer residence, now all inclosed and much of the inside work done will be a showy and all around good one. The cellar is divided into three apartments and made very convenient; the walls and floor being of cement. The woodwork is all done by himself and is done accurately. The family at present is domiciled in the barn, which was built first.

Now that nearly all the voters of this township have been melted into one party the spouting of politics on sidewalks and in the shops has not only entirely vanished but the coming election is hardly ever mentioned. The forecast of the Oswego vote for it may be put down 36 Republican, 2 Prohibition, and 1 Mugwump, who will so split up his vote among the tickets that it cannot be told which party he preferred.

Forty was the number of the 127th that formed the reunion here.

Sept. 14: A crusade has been made on the slot machines.

A little frost in some places Monday morning hereabouts.

Henry Corneils has become one of the clerks in the Funk store.

The breaking of a bucking broncho to ride, in the street, caused a good deal of savage amusement.

A suit in the police court was had for selling beer to one forbidden to sell to. The verdict was for the plaintiff.

The old Boessenecker building, which stood for a notable landmark, was bought by Frank Schram, torn down, and removed.

The bowling alley racket has broken out again worse than ever. Thursday evening an Aurora bass band caused a variation by adding music to the clatter and rumble.

Charles Weber has been here during the week rearranging the Youngs' feedmill plant, which he bought. He will move his family here and into the Methodist parsonage right away.

D.M. Haight came home from the Fair Thursday pretty sore; he had been run over by a fast driving rig, causing him to be unconscious for half an hour--a hurt leg and a general shaking up.

Charles Schultz and family moved to Aurora Friday with the intention of going into the grocery business there, it is said. The house they vacated and which was recently bought by John Friebele will be occupied by Gus Barbel.

Leroy Samse of the Indiana University and son of Charles Samse formerly of this place, distinguished himself in the Olympic games at the World's Fair stadium by pole vaulting 11 feet and 9 inches and thereby winning the championship.

I am requested by one of the bread eaters of this place to say through *The Record* that the bread sellers mustn't let their bread baskets stand for any length of time on the platform when taken off the car, as the dogs are apt to go and smell at them. Bread, you know, cannot be strained as milk could if similarly exposed.

Alan Miller with Gregg over the main line came to town Sunday to get Miss Cassie Diggins, a relative, and in returning, just at the edge of the village, the 12:30 car came over the trestle scaring the horse which suddenly shied out of the road right below Mrs. Moore's upsetting the buggy.



In a letter dated Sept. 12, a writer signing himself "Oswego" complained that the victory by Plano over the Oswego Pirates at the Kendall County Fair baseball championship was tainted by an imported pitcher. "All the honest people of Plano admit that the pitcher is a stranger, but of baseball fame," the writer charged. "As was stated in your paper, 'he was cutting meat as of yore,' should read 'he landed in Plano Thursday at 4:30 o'clock p.m., the day before the game,' which are the facts of the case. The Oswego Pirates are still champions of Kendall county. If Plano will play strictly Plano men Oswego will play them on neutral grounds for \$50 or more, if they want it on Sept. 14, 1904."

Sept. 21: Alvina C. Shoger commenced teaching in the Schell district Monday.

Otto Lippold, the mail carrier on Route 2, has taken a 30 days' vacation.

See our line of tennis flannels, just received; would be cheap at 12c--our price only 10c--Sodt & Morse.

Attorney C.E. Brown and family of Joliet in their auto recently made a trip here and took dinner with Cob Pearce.

The cider milling industry is now in full swing. John Friebele and J.C. Conway are the bosses of it this year; the apples, however, are not very plentiful.

The *Oswego Herald* has changed proprietors from Bruer & Haines to C.S. Vickery of Leland and the place of issue from Sheridan to Oswego, having moved into the former waiting room, where the cases are put in place and the composing work commenced. The presses are yet at the depot.

Sept. 28: It is said that Charley Turpin got trace of his stolen horse in Indiana.

Pearl Chase has engaged herself in Aurora to learn the art of dressmaking.

The rink building is being improved by the removal of the porch in front, and in painting it.

A repair party of the telephone is here and they say that the burning of that cable box was not caused by lightning but by an over-energetic wire.

The funeral of Miss Alice Fuller took place Wednesday at Aurora and the burial in the Mt. Olivet cemetery. She was 21 years old.

Cassie Diggins has gone to her home in Marengo to engage in school work. In place of her, Iola Surdam is now assisting Mrs. Gaylord in the hello business of the phone here, which just now may be badly crippled.

In putting down new rails the CB&Q has a force of 30 Italians to work and had their boarding cars moved up to dwellings as near as could be, much to the annoyance of their occupants. Later, the cars were moved further down the side track.

Sunday evening another severe rain and electrical storm transpired. About 11 o'clock the fire bell rang the alarm; the fire proved to be the cable box ablaze near the residence of Mrs. Mary Gaylord, where the central of the telephone is located. It looked somewhat odd to see a fire up on a tall pole. The firemen with the hose cart were promptly on hand and put it out in short order.

In the storm Sunday night, lightning struck R.H. Johnston's residence and in sashaying around the house threw Rob out of bed. No material damage done.

A new barn is being built on the McLaren farm on which A. Funk is the tenant and a number of the neighbors assisted in raising it Thursday.

October -- 1904

Oct. 5: Lou Young and gang are shingling the Seely barn.

A new son has been added to the family of John Norris.

The new iron bridge over the Waubonsie has been completed.

Clinton Burkhart has entered the College of Physicians and Surgeons in Chicago for a full course.

The Foran Brothers sale Saturday afternoon was well attended and made the town quite animated.

The putting in by the traction company of the operation for electric street lights is now under way.

Teacher Mrs. Fay Hall was ailing Monday and unable to take her station at school. Irene Newman supplied it.

G.M. Croushorn says that the saloons of Oswego were assessed for all the property on hand under the head of merchandise.

Sadie Croushorn and her associate clerks of the Joe Sierp store were down from Aurora one evening and entertained at G.M. Croushorn's.

Mame and Lida Pearce, Floi Johnston, Iola Surdam, and Irene Newman are said to have formed a syndicate for supplying music at social doings.

Mrs. Helen Voss is up from Yorkville and staying with her son, Lew, while Gus and wife are at the St. Louis Fair. Charles Roberts is for the time being the acting sheriff.

Mayme Richards is now at the St. Louis Fair, realizing the benefit of her triumph of the out-of-town young ladies over her competitors in the *Aurora News* contest a while ago.

L.F. Burkhart returned Saturday from a five weeks' sojourn in the Red River Valley, Minnesota, attending to his farming interests there, which were not up to anticipation, the wheat having been damaged by rust.

A.L. Rice met with a sore mishap Monday. He was building a new house for Robert Garner down the river and fell off some part of it 18 feet to the ground breaking three ribs and having a shoulder hurt--being left in a condition to prevent his being brought home.

Some will remember that Tom Beebe was Oswego's first station agent, the now-tool house being the depot. With him was living Miss Rena Sangster, a young lady, his wife's sister, who now has been securing through the postmaster here the picture of the house they lived in--where Myer resides. She has developed into an authoress on the line of drink habit reform and sent her latest production, a temperance song entitled "The Drunkard's Bank," neatly gotten up and illustrated. She resides in Buffalo, N.Y.

Mrs. Louise Millard has become afflicted with a stomach complaint of which she died Wednesday. The funeral took place Thursday afternoon. After a prayer at the home, which being rather small, the spiritual services were adjourned to the grave in the cemetery. The casket was opened for viewing the remains. Deceased was 43 years of age and was a native of Oswego, being one of the younger Alexander Dano's daughters, and is survived by a husband, three daughters, a son, a mother, and a brother.

The installation of Rev. R.C. Townsend as pastor of the Presbyterian church Wednesday evening was an interesting and enjoyable event.

*The Jackson Daily Citizen* of the 16 the inst. was shown me containing a picture and a one and one-half column article of John Boyle, who enlisted here with the other boys in the 127th Illinois, forming Company A, of which he was the lieutenant. After the war, he became identified with the city of Jackson, Mich., in which 25 years ago he entered the police service, soon afterwards became a captain in it, and for the last eight years has been its chief. A magnificent celebration in honor to him for these services was gotten up at the Elk's temple, where he was conveyed and presented with a \$300 diamond stud, a finely upholstered leather rocker, and a number of minor presents from business houses and individuals.

Yorkville: John Gilmore, who has been the local manager for the branch plant of the Squire Dingee Pickle Co. here is to be promoted

to a traveling inspector with headquarters in Chicago. He has been with the company for a number of years and has proved an efficient and capable manager, instituting in the last year the two factories--one at Hinckley and one at Yorkville. His place here will be taken by a Mr. Powers.

And still Yorkville is obliged to ship in the "Murphies." The reason why is obvious. We eat more potatoes in a year than we grow in a few months.

Wolf's Crossing: Frank Phillips is hauling lumber from Wolf's Crossing for his new house and barn, soon to be erected on the farm he recently purchased.

Mrs. Rance has returned from Scotland where she has been visiting her father.

Oct. 12: James Pearce is now sojourning in Iowa, attending to his farming interests there.

Charles Willis was quite ill and threatened with the typhoid, but rallied out of it and is again up and about.

Bessie Hemm, who has been employed at the general offices of the CB&Q in Chicago for the past year, has resigned her position and is at home.

The arrival of a baby girl has raised Charley and Mrs. Edith Cherry, down the river, to the proud position of parents.

Mr. and Mrs. James Goudie have returned from the Louisiana Purchase Exposition and a trip over a large portion of that territory and the Pacific coast states.

Mesdames F.A. Phelps, T.B. Drew, B. Barnard, L.R. Inman, and a Miss Brown of Joliet enjoyed a chicken fry up in the woods on the Waubonsie Tuesday afternoon.

Abner Updike, John Russell, Frank Shoger, Harry Carrington and Chris Anderson were on a land exploring trip up in Canada. They

were much pleased with the country and brought with them excellent samples of wheat.

Mayme Richards returned Saturday from the St. Louis fair very tired but highly pleased with its grandeur and of having had the privilege of witnessing such a world's renowned event.

On Monday. A.L. Rice fell off the scaffold on the new Garner house down the river which caused his death a few days afterwards and Thursday following Garner himself and Bernie Richards fell off the roof of it--the former sustaining a fracture of a leg and the latter a sprained ankle.

Ashel L. Rice was born at Rutland, Vermont June 22, 1830, came west and settled in Will County in 1844 and has been living in this vicinity ever since, following several pursuits including farming, keeping livery stable, and carpentering--the latter steady of late years. He was married to Miss Susan L. Smith April 21, 1853, who with two daughters, Mrs. W.S. Dwyre of this place and Mrs. C.A. Davis of Freeport--survive him. He died Oct. 7 at his home from injuries received in falling off a scaffold when at work at his trade. The funeral occurred Sunday afternoon under the auspices of the Masonic lodge here of which he was a worthy member and the treasurer for many years.

Death came to Mrs. Lucinda Samse at Oswego Saturday noon. She had been in poor health for more than a year. Her daughters, Mrs. Helen Huyck of Sheridan, N.Y., Mrs. Emma Fullen of St. Paul, Minn., and Mrs. Josie Smith of Oswego were with her at the time of her death. Besides these she leaves two sons, Charles of Kokomo, Ind. and James of Chicago. Mrs. Samse was born at Hanover, Germany, coming to America when eight years old, settling in Little Falls, N.Y. where she lived until 1852, during which time she met and married Charles W. Samse, they moved to Oswego, where they made their home till death took them. The funeral occurred from the home of Mrs. H.G. Smith Tuesday.

Great Opportunities are Offered at Oswego, Illinois.

The syndicate that bought the Walter Loucks farm had it plotted off in Town Lots and are now offering it for sale at \$150 per lot. This

land will also be sold in blocks from one to five acres. It is one of the finest building sites along Fox River as the land is slightly elevated from the present town site. Anyone desiring further information address Russell, Herren & Updike, Oswego, Illinois.

Oct. 19: Layton Lippold has moved to town and into what is known as the Sierp house.

A class for musical instruction has been organized by a young lady professor of Aurora.

Among the deaths of last week was that of John Barbel of Aurora, father of Gus Barbel of this place.

Mrs. Jacke, the mother of Mrs. R.C. Townsend, was brought here a few weeks ago an invalid and Saturday she died. The body was taken to Lawrence, Kan. for burial.

C.I. Smith Monday morning found 42 of his nice chickens dead with their throats cut and the blood sucked out of them. The deed is laid to minks.

A thrice-tried lawsuit between Frank Schram and Dr. Kittler was inflicted on this community; the last time Monday afternoon and evening in which a verdict for the defendant was reached.

Mercy Elizabeth Tidball was born in Millersburg, Ohio, Nov. 28, 1829, died after a lingering illness in Oswego, Illinois at the home of her son-in-law, Rev. R.C. Townsend, Oct. 15, 1904, aged nearly 75 years. Deceased came to Indiana with her parents when about 16 years of age, making her home in Wabash county till Aug. 20, 1857 when she was married to Rev. Andrew D. Jacke. With him she went as a missionary to Africa. In about two years she was stricken down with a severe attack of African fever, which nearly took her life. She has brought back to America that she might fully recover and for years cherished the hope of returning to her chosen field of labor, but no physician would consent to it.

Since her husband's death nearly 11 years ago, she has made her home with her daughter, Mrs. Townsend. Of her five children, two died in infancy, one daughter at the age of 14, and a son in early

manhood just 20 years ago. She leaves to mourn her loss a sister, Mrs. H.M. Chinworth of Roann, Ind., one daughter, Mrs. Townsend; five grandchildren; and hosts of friends.

Funeral services were conducted by Rev. D.T. Robertson at the home of her son-in-law in Oswego Oct. 17; also at Lawrence, Kan. Oct. 18, where she was interred.

#### A SOLDIER'S FUNERAL

Anton Miller, was born in Grasshuzochthum, Baden, Germany May 10, 1833 and died Oct. 22, 1904 at Compton, Illinois, thus making his age 71 years, 5 months, 9 days. He came to America September 1851 and worked in the flour mill at Lockport until 1856 at which time he went to Oswego, Ill. and took charge of a flour mill on the Fox river. On Aug. 10, 1861 he enlisted in Co. I, 36th Illinois Infantry, serving three years, then enlisted in Co. B, 5th Veteran Reserve Corps and received an honorable discharge on Nov. 12, 1865. Deceased was a member of Thompson Post 308, GAR, located at Paw Paw. After the close of the war he returned to Oswego and resumed his mill work. On Sept. 19, 1867 he was married to Hanna Louisa Peters. To this union seven children were born, six of whom are living. Those surviving their father are: J.G. Miller, Two Harbors, Minn.; J.H. Miller, Aurora; M.I. Miller, Joliet; Margaret Pearce, Hebron, Ind.; Jennie Welton and Caroline Williams, Compton. Mr. Miller was engaged in the mercantile business in Oswego from 1868 until December 1898 when he sold out and came to make his home with his daughter, Mrs. U.V. Welton in Compton. A short service was held at the home in this city Friday after which the remains were taken to Oswego, where they were interred by those of his wife, who died in 1881.

Oct. 26: John Wald returned from a several months visit to his native country, Luxemburg.

429 names were put on the list as voters the first day of registration. No women registered.

A.C. Lake is being the first to build on the Park addition lately acquired. The making of the cellar is under way.



A second crop of raspberries was raised at Charles Reiger's, which in quality were just as good as the first crop.

Mrs. Eagan of Aurora, the youngest of the Alfred Wormley girls, was visiting her grandmother, Mrs. Elizabeth Wormley, and other relatives here Sunday.

Quite a number of the most zealous Republicans went to the Yorkville rally on Monday evening and came back much enthused, which gives them a happy topic to relate this morning.

Mr. Rance, from over Tamarack way, was getting a load of lumber here Saturday and when ready to start for home a freight train was quietly standing on the track with the rear end near the crossing. He probably thought that if the train should start it would be in the direction it was headed and so drove on the crossing but just then the train backed, catching the hind part of the wagon, completely demolishing it and scattering the lumber along the track. Himself and horses were not injured.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Mr. and Mrs. Colton of DeKalb and Mrs. G. Billings of Wisconsin were down this way to see about removing the bodies of their mother and brother from the old burying ground on the James Collins farm. While here, the ladies paid a visit to their old home--the Wilcox farm. Although they had not seen it since they day they left--March 1869--they declared it looked familiar. They also visited the schoolhouse which was new when they left. Their father was the late C.A. Smith, who was elder of the Adventist Church in Aurora until two years ago. They will be remembered by the older inhabitants here as Nellie and Nancy Smith.

Wolf's Crossing: Five men--Messrs. Runkle, Lewis, Schark, Roth, and Frank Phillips, have purchased a new shredder and a Case [steam] engine.

Yorkville: Kendall county farmers are rejoicing over the large crop of corn this fall, but at the same time are regretting the fact that they cannot get enough hands to harvest the product. The crop is heavy but seems to be uneven--that is, in some places the frost came a little too soon for its good health--and it did not ripen alike all

over. Some of the farmers in the southern part of Kendall township have imported corn pickers, but by next year it will doubtless be largely done by the new corn harvester.

The first appearance of the "snowy fleeciness" was seen here Friday morning.

#### The Little Boy Translated

Elbert Mathew, the little son of Mr. and Mrs. William Campbell, died Friday night, Oct. 21 of spinal meningitis, at their home three and one-half miles east of Yorkville after a two weeks' illness, aged 7 months and 26 days. The funeral was held from the home Sunday. Burial was at Oswego.

November -- 1904

Nov. 2: The lighting of the streets by electricity was begun Tuesday night.

Uncle Nathan Hughes was seen in town Thursday.

The Squires farm, containing 297 acres, is reported to have been sold to Frank Pearce at \$110.

Edith Hebert, accompanied by two schoolmates of the DeKalb Normal school, came home to spend Saturday and Sunday.

Mrs. Louise Kennedy and Lizzie Moore attended, Saturday at East Wheatland, the funeral of Mrs. Mina Boardman, who died at Streator.

A team of Yorkville bowlers came up Thursday evening and played the usual treble match game with five of our bowlers who just were ill-mannered enough to beat the visitors by 39 pins.

Some of the farmers of this neighborhood are for trying the newly invented corn husker.

The new Methodist minister is an elderly man but is full of vigor.

The Republican rally to be pulled off here Thursday is all superfluous. The prevailing quietude about the coming election would have made no material difference in the turnout as everybody was glorious in voting for President. Young men want to talk about it in after years; middle-aged men would not raise it for anything; and old men speculate on how many more chances, if any, they may have the opportunity. The opposition to the Republicans here is next to nothing.

The Hallowe'en festival at A.J. Parkhurst's under the auspices of the Presbyterian ladies, Monday, is said to have been a pleasing and successful affair.

Alice Updike Monday evening made a leap year or Hallowe'en party to her circle at her home.

Prof. Newman and his zoology class made a visit to Field Museum in Chicago Friday and Saturday attended a school institute in Aurora.

The CB&Q has a new delivery cart principally for conveying the mail from the depot to the post office which makes Joe Hardnett the runner of it smile.

Woman's Employment exchange is opened at the Oswego Millinery store Wednesdays and Saturdays.

Yorkville: Last week the Illinois Supreme Court handed down a decision sustaining a decision of Judge Brown of the Kendall County Circuit Court which means much to farmers and landowners in Bristol Township, Kendall County and the western part of Kane County. About two years ago the landowners in the Rob Roy basin filed a petition with the commissioners of highways for the construction of a drainage canal situation and dimensions as follows: Width 28 feet at top, 12 feet at bottom, average depth 6-1/2 feet; said ditch beginning at the north line of the town of Bristol and extending across said township to where said Rob Roy ditch or creek flows into the town of Little Rock near the Fox River, said proposed ditch being about four miles long. The Burlington railroad refused to build a larger bridge to accommodate the canal and refused to

allow the commissioners to build such a canal under their bridge. Accordingly a petition was filed in the circuit court for a mandamus to compel the railroad company to come to terms. The writ was granted by Judge Brown and then the company took an appeal to the supreme court where the popular judge's decision was affirmed. The canal will not be built, the waste land reclaimed, and then other landowners and farmers who have been watching the outcome of the suit will file similar petitions in adjoining regions where now large swamps make the land untellable. [The railroad subsequently appealed the decision all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court. On March 5, 1906 in *Chicago, B. & Q. Ry. Co. v. Drainage Commissioners*, 200 U.S. 561, the court ruled in favor of the drainage district, ordering the railroad to build the new bridge at their own expense. Associate Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. wrote a concurring opinion for himself as well as justices Edward Douglass White and Joseph McKenna. Justice David Josiah Brewer wrote the dissent.]

Tomorrow night the big rally comes off at Oswego. It is urgently desired that the Yorkville Republican club and Republicans all over the county, will turn out and help swell the crowd to welcome Judge Brown. Get out your badge and take the seven o'clock car with the Yorkville crowd.

The top of the courthouse is a popular resort for camera enthusiasts. It makes a pretty view to look down over the town from this elevation.

Plainfield citizens and neighboring farmers who will be fortunate enough to have the mains laid in their territory will soon be reading their daily papers by the light of a gas jet and frying their steaks on a stove heated by gas. The gas-famous Col. Copley has asked for a franchise to enter the city, Mr. Mottinger has been engaged to secure the right of way, and the piping will soon be commenced from Joliet through Plainfield to Aurora and Naperville.

Thursday of last week a peculiar wedding was celebrated in Streator. Miss Katie K. Whitney and Joseph E. Kleiber were the contracting parties and both are deaf mutes. The ceremony was performed by

signs by a deaf mute clergyman from Chicago. But the knot is tied just as hard as if the affirming "yes" was verbal.

The ice firm of Esch Bros. & Rabe have about completed the repairs on the dam across the river at Yorkville and now that structure is in better condition than it has been for many years. This year the company has strengthened the construction with large aprons or supports on the lower side. These supports are made by sinking great cribs of hard oak filled with stones. They are thus a dead weight against which the structure of the dam is supported when the pressure becomes so great against it during the freshets in the spring. It is hoped that the dam will withstand the angry waters and the crushing ice next spring, as the company has had many grave misfortunes to contend with the past three years, not only at Yorkville, but at other places in the north where they have ice plants. Our people want to see this institution live and prosper.

The new state institution, the house for delinquent boys at St. Charles, is nearly ready for occupancy and will open about the first of December with accommodations for a hundred incorrigibles.

One of the greatest surprises in the football world of recent years came Saturday afternoon when the Illini played Chicago University to a standstill on Marshall field. It was one of the best games played in Chicago for years.

Nov. 9: Herman Schultz is clerking at his brother's store in Aurora.

Fred Schell returned Monday night after two months in North Dakota.

Arthur Pearce, engaged in the CB&Q office in Chicago, made his folks a brief visit.

Rush Walker is running on R.D. 1 a handsome new wagon especially constructed for the business.

The bowling alley building has been supplied with a second coat of paint, nicely trimmed, and looks quite tony.

Mrs. Charles Leigh is building a handsome house on the old Hertfelder farm for the residence of her son, Been, who will carry it on.

A.C. Lake and Attorney Galvin exchanged residences Wednesday, Lake moving into the upper rooms of the Schickler block and Galvin into what is known as the Jewell house, which it is said he has bought.

Clint Burkhart, Dr. Kittler, A. Updike, Otto Lippold, and Ben Leigh with Jake Knuth, the alley keeper, went to Batavia one evening to roll a bowling match with a team there, in which Oswego on the three games and the contest by 241 pins.

General Apathy retired from the political campaign about a week ago and General Activity has been since in full command. The Republican rally of Thursday is held to be of immense value. It is proposed to secure today 425 votes of the 436 names on the register, and of which over 80 percent shall be Republican.

Yorkville: CALL IT UNANIMOUS

Republican Victory Beyond All Expectations

Roosevelt and Fairbanks have Biggest Plurality Yet Known

Even a deaf man can hear what the people spoke on Tuesday. The vote for Roosevelt and Fairbanks, for Deneen and the Illinois Republican ticket in Nation and State was so immense that it has surprised the most ambitious party man. Everything is Republican save the Solid South, and that don't matter.

In Kendall County, Roosevelt won 2,121 to 410 over his Democratic opponent.

After several years of agitation and three or four months of actual preparations, remodeling and building, the Methodist denomination of Yorkville are now the proud possessors of a church generally conceded to be the most beautifully finished house of worship in the county. Standing on the summit of the south side hill overlooking the valley of the Fox river as it flows through its different currents around the many islands and between the two villages it is a structure of which Yorkville is justly proud. Its graceful lines of architecture, its attractive tower and belfry, and its

large leaded glass windows of many colors mark it as a modern church home wherein a progressive people go for their Sunday worship.

Daniel Hemm was down from Oswego to attend the dedication services of the new Methodist church Sunday morning. He has just returned from a trip to the big fair at St. Louis and is much impressed by the wonderful display of American ingenuity.

Wolf's Crossing: Mrs. Leigh of Oswego was the guest of her sister, Mrs. George Schell.

Nov. 16: The millinery store has been painted.

Carpenter work has commenced on A.C. Lake's new house.

The arrival of a daughter in the family of Will H. Palmer has gladdened that household.

John Schmidt is now the proprietor of "The Oswego" saloon having bought out Al Cole. Barney Michels is the bartender.

Mrs. Sadie Weir and baby spent a week at her brother's--H.S. Richards, here--and Monday took their departure for their new home at Worcester, Mass.

Adam Armstrong and family have gone to Chicago to spend the winter, which curtails Oswego's judicial authorities, and there is no one left to talk science with for the time being.

Now that the election is over, let somebody that knows please tell us ignoramuses what the Continental party stood for. Furthermore, let the Democratic party surrender its charter and die of decrepitude.

Roy Smith, who was quietly married to a lady from East Wheatland way, Nov. 2, and then enjoyed a wedding diversion aboard, including a visit at the St. Louis fair, has returned with his bride and together have settled down on the realities of life.

The protracted meeting in the Prairie church, which was postponed for a few weeks on account of the business of the people husking corn, will be continued Nov. 24 and in connection with it the quarterly meeting will be held.

The town churches will observe Thanksgiving day by a union service held in the Presbyterian church at 10 a.m. and it is much desired by the pastors that the people may prove their loyalty to their country and their gratitude to God by heeding the request of our President to assemble once on that day in their respective places of worship to render thanks to God for his goodness.

At a special council meeting Monday evening the losing of business houses on Sunday and the abatement of some of the other nuisances was the main subject under consideration. The turning off of the electric light current at low twelve was also a perplexing thing before the board.

Wolf's Crossing: Edward Hovey Sr. is building a large implement shed for Tom Lewis.

Yorkville: The Chicago Telephone Company, through Manager [Justus] Nading and his assistants, made it easy for our people to get the election news on the night of the 8th. Bulletins were displayed in the [Nading] hotel windows as they came and every half hour the results were announced from the central phones to patrons over the county so that all having a Chicago phone got election news in their own homes--if they put the receiver to their ears on the hours and half hour up till midnight.

#### CONCERNS OSWEGO FAMILY

No One Believes Any Scandal Attaches to Miss Damon

For some months there has been a domestic war between M.C. Chapman of the Aurora Well Works and his wife in divorce proceedings and possession of property. It is in the Chicago courts now, and the latest phase appeared Tuesday, when the attack of a detective witness was made on Miss Jessie Damon, who belongs to a much-respected family in Oswego. The *Chicago Evening Post* of Nov. 15 published this:



“Sensational scenes were enacted in Jude Windes’ court today when the hearing of the Chapman divorce case was resumed. More detective evidence was offered in behalf of Mrs. Helen Leet Chapman to further her charges of infidelity against Matthew T. Chapman, her wealthy husband.

“Henry G. Griffin, a prize-fighter, was the witness whose testimony carried a surprise into the camp of the defense. He was on the stand all morning.

“With Griffin’s testimony, another woman entered the case. Rising in his seat the witness calmly looked over the crowd in the courtroom and at last pointed at Miss Jessie Damon of Oswego, Ill., as the young woman who had accompanied Chapman on a long ride in a buggy one evening last June. She is a niece of the defendant.

“Griffin said he shadowed Chapman for two weeks, saw him trying to attract the attention of women on street cars, heard him tell one he needed a wife, and finally saw him take two women from the Damon residence for a buggy ride. One of these, he said, was driving and the other, who he asserted was Miss Jessie Damon, sat on Chapman’s knees.”

The corps of expert seiners who have been working in Fox river between Yorkville and Oswego have taken many thousands of pounds of carp from the river under the watchful eye of Game Warden Gene Manley. The seines used in the process are about 500 feet long and it has furnished amusement for many people the past week. It is rather a difficult undertaking as these big logy mud-fish bury themselves in the soft river bottom when they are frightened and they seem to know just how to elude the net.

Banker Phelps was down from Oswego Tuesday night with Yorkville friends. Mrs. Phelps is visiting with her folks in Michigan for several weeks.

Nov. 23: The upholster's shop has been moved two doors north into the Shoger block.

Garfield A Todd has moved across the Waubonsie into the Tom Pierce house.

Charles Zorn has established himself in the meat market business in Montgomery.

The Barnard shop has been supplied with a gasoline engine to help them along in their work.

H.G. Smith was informed Monday by his daughter Nellie in Chicago that she was married on the 16th to F.L. Horton of that city.

Improvements in the Park addition are under way. The Lake residence is being set up and some of the streets are being plowed.

Eugene Moyer has moved his residence to what is known as the old Dodge house in the south part of the town, owned by Gus Shoger.

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Burkhart--the old people--were moved to town and into the house at the north end of Main street Thursday by their children.

Nov. 30: Al Cole moved his household goods to Aurora Wednesday.

Charles Weber says Oswego is the best place to get your feet on the ground.

Charles Weber sells grain and feed at the feed mill and will deliver to any part of the village.

Considerable street grading has been accomplished in the Park addition; a traction engine was used for it.

Foran Brothers keep on monopolizing the business of this town; they now have bought the Will Cliggitt coal trade.

The funeral of the little boy of Ed Hovey out east took place Sunday. The burial was in the Spring Lake cemetery, Aurora.

Herman Barnard entered the matrimonial state last week. The bride is Miss Daisy Lee of Aurora and where it all happened.

The body of Mr. Riddell, the father of James Riddell, was brought from Aurora for burial in the Cowdrey cemetery; he was 99 years and 4 days of age.

The Williams Livery has the largest and best tie stable in the town. Rigs to let at very low prices. We do all kinds of teaming. If you deal with us you deal with honest people. Give us a call.

Another pioneer of this county has passed away in the person of Henry Riddell. He was one of the older settlers of the county. Mr. Henry Riddell was born Nov. 27, 1805 in the city of Frankfurt, Hessen, Darmstadt, Germany. In 1833 he was married to Miss Elizabeth Washburn, who preceded him in death 23 years ago. Mr. Riddell came to this county in 1850 and lived about two miles southwest of Oswego till he made his home a few years ago with one of his grandsons, Mr. Lyon, near Batavia, Ill., where he died Nov. 21, having reached the old age of 99 years and 6 days, and was buried in the Cowdrey cemetery, where a short funeral service was held at the grave by Rev. George Schwartz.

Mr. Riddell leaves six children--R.W. Riddell, Oswego; Mrs. Maria Lyon, Oswego; Mrs. Sarah E. Lyon, Yorkville; James Riddell, Oswego; Mrs. Frank Plumb, Riverton, Neb., and Mrs. Samuel Lindsey of Red Cloud, Neb. He also leaves 20 grandchildren and 39 great grandchildren.

December -- 1904

Dec. 7: The Old Fools Club has resumed its weekly meetings.

Yorkville and Oswego bowlers had another contest for championship Wednesday evening, which by 111 pins was won again by the latter.

Dec. 14: Lauriston Walker has come from Iowa on a visit.

Whooping cough is somewhat prevalent.

Foran Brothers have put in platform scales near the front of their livery stable.

Rodney Medus, the establisher of the bowling alley made the town a visit Friday.

Barbel & Schumacher's saloon and the bowling alley at Oswego were broken into Tuesday night and about \$150 worth of property stolen besides damage to the furnishings.

Dec. 21: The arrest of Charley Reed and Dick Alexander for burglarizing Barbel & Schumacher's saloon and the bowling alley was a great surprise to this community, as those young men were regarded as perfectly straight. The event has caused much talk and as usual extreme views taken of it.

Dec. 28: Myron Wormley had two colts killed by a trolley car Wednesday.

The Werve bowling alley was sold to a party at Manhattan and Lou Young with a man went down to put it up.

Ear corn ground fine and quickly any day at Weber's mill, Oswego.

Barbel & Schumacher dissolved partnership; the saloon is now carried on by Barbel alone and John Testin is said to be the bartender.

Mary Cutter with her pupils of the Squires school carried out a nice program.

The end of 1904 will soon be here and with it let us quit our meanness. Let us begin the new year with practicing the golden rule as near as possible.

1905

January

Jan. 4: Ad Armstrong is here on a visit from Chicago.

From the Aurora papers it was learned that Mrs. Ella M. Congdon and Oscar J. Graham were married in that city Wednesday.

Another of the series of dances under the management of the Bunch was had Saturday evening, being a dancing out of the old year.

The departed 1904 was on the whole a good year so far as its natural qualities were concerned. Think the temperature never reached the zero point on a conservative thermometer. If the people, or rather the governments, had behaved better, it would be called an excellent year, but Japan and Russia have made it one of immense misery and destruction.

The death record for this community for 1904 shows 14 adults, six males and eight females, the oldest being nearly 87 years of age, the youngest 12, their average about 64; that of the males 74 and the females 56. The marriage record for the past year shows 16 couples, 13 of the brides and 9 of the grooms were of this vicinity.

James Lyon was born Jan. 1, 1828 in Ontario county, N.Y.; died Dec. 18, 1894. Deceased came to Kendall county about 45 years ago; was married to Miss Maria Riddell March 4, 1861. To them eight children, seven sons, and one daughter, were born. Mr. Lyon enlisted in Company H. 89th Illinois Infantry Aug. 9, 1862, to serve three years but was transferred to the veteran reserve corps Feb. 11, 1864 and was honorably discharged from service. From that time until his death his health was poor. About four years ago he united with the Oswego Presbyterian Church. Funeral services were Dec. 21 and the body was laid to rest in the Cowdrey Cemetery.

Jan. 11: H.G. Smith is indisposed and J.M. Hinchman is among the ailing.

Mrs. Grace Deveney is said to be quite sick.

Mayor Croushorn is around again but looks rather the worse of it in his tussle with a carbuncle.

The grip is somewhat prevalent.

A.W. Darnell & Co. will close out their farm machinery at cost in Millbrook.

Another of the series of matches between the married and single Oswego bowler was rolled off Wednesday evening resulting in the singles winning by 111 pins.

A.T. Gregg, Monday afternoon as driving onto the track near Solfisburg's was run into from behind by an electric car. He was thrown out of the wagon and picked up and brought to town by the car for surgical aid, having received quite a large scalp wound requiring several stitches.

Jan. 18: The ice interest is again enjoying prosperity. C.I. Smith has filled his houses and much to spare.

O.A. Burkhart is now Oswego's banker. F.A. Phelps, according to report, will move away early in the spring, which is regretted by his community as both he and his wife were much liked.

Jan. 25: The sidewalks were quite slippery and there has been some sudden laying down on them--even some young ladies practiced it.

Rudolph Knapp and Bona Kirsch were married Saturday. It occurred at Aurora. The bride but recently came from Germany. She was the "girl he had left behind" when he came.

Isaac Pearce died at his daughter's home in South Dakota Jan. 14. "Ike," as he was called for short, was one of the several sons of the whilom Daniel Pearce and was one of the best built and nimblest boys of this region. He was one of the 4th Cavalry soldiers that went from here.

A fellow getting full, then breaking a saloon window and being put in the calaboose towards evening Saturday and the leaving his watch as security for his coming to town some other time to get fined was the only thing of a frenzied nature that has happened here.

George Watkins, an 18 years old colored boy engaged down in Specie Grove where he became sick was brought here and placed with his aunt, Mrs. Emma Long, where a brother who is at work here was to take care of him but he died shortly afterwards Friday. The funeral took place from the house Monday afternoon; a colored clergyman from Aurora officiated. John Watkins, father of the deceased, was here attending it. The burial was in the Cowdrey cemetery.

Mrs. Barbara Sorg, nee Krug, was born Dec. 29, 1824 at Anspach, Bavaria, Germany. In early life she came to this country and was married to Michael Sorg in 1850, and reared a family of 12 children. Her husband died about 14 months ago; also six of her children preceded her in death. Mrs. Sorg died Jan. 19, 1905 having lived to be 80 years and 21 days old and leaves six children: Henry and Fred Sorg of Hawkeye, Ia., Mrs. Minnie Shoger of Oswego; Julius Sorg and Mrs. Julia Eberle of Aurora, and Charles Sorg on the homestead four miles east of Oswego; 30 grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; one sister, Mrs. George Bower of Oswego.

February -- 1905

Feb. 1: Frank Collins has returned from a four years' sojourn in California and New Mexico following his profession, dentistry, and he shows prosperity.

Hamlin Cowdrey and Miss Elizabeth Breckenridge of Chicago were a bridal couple for two months without it being known here.

Charles Clinton of Cincinnati and who was for a while identified with Oswego about 50 years ago, being married here is visiting his friend, Dave Hall, and seeing the few acquaintances he made that are left from that time.

Feb. 8: Stella Suhler received a piano as a present from her mother.

Clarence Shoger attended a party in Aurora given by the clerks of the Sencenbaugh store.

Mr. and Mrs. Allen Woolley lost their infant girl by death.

Feb. 15: There will be no rural delivery service the 22nd, and the post office will only be open a short time after mail arrivals.

The cold just now is in the ascendancy of the talk. The thermometers here showed it all the way from 22 to 32 below zero Monday morning.

About 7 Tuesday evening Oswego experienced a fire scare when Funk's smokehouse was afire again. It is in a hazardous locality and created a great smoke. The volunteer firemen with the hosecart had it soon extinguished.

Feb. 22: H.G. Burkhart shipped two carloads of fat steers to Chicago last week and was well pleased with the market.

This is the year of the 17 year locusts. They will be in ascendancy during June.

March -- 1905

March 1: Watts Cutter shipped two carloads of pressed hay.

Jake Friebele has moved to town and into his house out on Wheatland avenue.

John G. Bower has moved to town and into the old Sierp house he bought a while ago.

Desiring to go out of business, I will sell my entire stock of goods at the Oswego Millinery Store very reasonably. A fine chance for anyone wishing to go into business.

March 8: The Batavia bowlers were down one evening and enjoyed one of the three games trial with a team of our boys.

The *Oswego Herald* has again changed proprietors. Mr. Vickery sold it to Rev. J.V. Willis, moved here from Tonica and into the house on



Main Street lately bought by Jake Friebele. Mr. Willis may prove a valuable addition to Oswego society. He assisted in the services Sunday at the Presbyterian church and in the evening preached an interesting sermon.

Mr. Ezekiel Davis was born April 3, 1825 in Canada. From there he moved to Steuben County, N.Y. and from there to Illinois. In 1846 he was married to Miss Nancy Stickler, to whom were born ten children of whom five preceded him in death. His sickness was Bright's Disease, which caused his death March 3, 1905 at Oswego at the ripe old age of 79 years and 11 months. Left to mourn his loss are a bereaved widow; two sons, Ezekiel and Edward; three daughters, Emma Hagerman of Champaign, Matilda Lyons near Oswego, and Delia Foss of Oswego; 25 grandchildren and many friends.

Christina Lippold was married to Mr. John Friedlein on March 1.

Roscoe E. Pearson, a brakeman on eastbound freight No. 86, was accidentally killed at the switch yards in Yorkville Monday night while on duty.

March 15: The Frank Pearce family moved into its new residence, the Squires house, after having fitted it up with the acetylene lighting apparatus and otherwise improved it.

Mr. and Mrs. Colvin Pearce are about to move to town and into the Mary Cliggitt house. The farm will be occupied by E.A. Cooney.

One of the things the village council might take up for consideration is the numbering of houses. Let the vacant lots be numbered so that in erecting buildings later, they will have their proper numbers.

March 22: Well now we have again the sun on our side of the line for about 27 weeks.

The marriage of Eugene Hinchman and Miss Bertha Roberts of Hinsdale occurred last week Wednesday at Yorkville.

For some cause Miss Main the new teacher was released Saturday from her engagement at the school and Kate Cliggitt is again supplying the vacant position.

In Chicago a portion of the people have become dissatisfied with the workings of the street car service but such service they must have and so now in the approaching city election they stand for the municipal ownership of the same. In Oswego a portion of the people have become dissatisfied with the workings of the liquor business, but the liquor they must have, and why not follow the example of Chicago and be standing in the approaching village election for the corporate ownership of the business? The two cases are parallel. If Chicago is not afraid to manage a street car service independent of private corporations, Oswego ought not to be in that of its liquor business independent of private parties.

Grace Deveney, nee Fox, was born in St. Johnsville, N.Y. Jan. 21, 1848; came to this state with her parents by way of the lakes, Oct. 11, 1848, and resided here ever since. Dec. 4, 1888 she was married to John Deveney. Her disease was consumption; she died March 16 1905 in Oswego at the age of 57 years, 1 month, and 23 days leaving to mourn her departure a bereaved husband, one brother, three sisters and many friends.

March 29: Will Sutherland is now the boss of the corner restaurant.

Dr. W.E. Kittler has moved his office to his residence, formerly the J.A. Shoger home.

Another couple, Dr. and Mrs. Kittler were raised to the dignity of parents Monday by a girl. Hurrah for the girls!

Our horsemen were made proud last week when Jay Updike sold his handsome span for \$800 spot cash, to New York parties, as it is a push to the reputation of Kendall county horses.

April -- 1905

April 5: The big willows on the old Loucks place are being cut down.

The Barker Brothers have bought the Meyer & Knapp meat market to which place they have moved their own. By the concentration of the business they mean to curtail expenses and thus can sell cheaper meat to the patrons.

Oliver Burkhart has an automobile.

J.H. Edwards was born in Wales, Dec. 10, 1851; came with his parents to this country and these parts in 1857; married Josephine Moore in 1875; was engaged in farming up to 1885 when he moved to town and since was engaged in the hardware business. He was a village trustee for several terms and a school trustee at the time of his death.

Tamarack and Wheatland: The newest fad of the Aurora girls is to take a ride on the street cars in the evening to some station where they are met by their young gentlemen friends who give them a buggy ride back home.

James Stewart took a carload of cattle to Chicago for himself and neighbors last week.

Yorkville: FRANK VANDERLIP IN EUROPE

Mr. Vanderlip has been writing some interesting papers for Schribner's Magazine on political problems of Europe as they interest Americans. [Vanderlip was an Oswego native, New York newspaper columnist, an assistant treasury secretary.]

April 12: C.E. Fowler has sold his fine residence to Myron L. Wormley for \$7,000 cash.

T. Otto Fisk placed a monument recently for Mrs. Van Evra and for Mrs. Harb

Otto Haag Saturday was reelected school trustee and E.A. Smith to fill the vacancy caused by the death of J.H. Edwards.

Nettie Rieger, Edna Burkhart and Watts Cutter, the Oswego scholars of the East Aurora high school, resumed going after a week's vacation.

M.J. Pogue died Tuesday night at 9 o'clock. Oswego's best men are passing away; as Edwards was the main pillar of the Congregational church, so Pogue was of the Presbyterian.

Mrs. Catharine McCarthy Russell died Friday, April 7, 1905 of pneumonia at her home in Chicago. She was born in the county of Mayo, Ireland, Aug. 9, 1823 and came to America when five years of age; lived at Burlington, Vermont till 1847 when she was married to Michael Russell and immediately came West, residing one year in Chicago and coming to Oswego in the spring of 1848, locating on the farm still occupied by her son, John D, and on which she lived for 40 years. In the spring of 1888 she again moved to Chicago where since she resided with her daughters. The survivors of the family are six children: Eliza M., Julia, Mrs. Catherine Judd of Chicago, Mrs. James Goudie of NaAuSay, and John D. of this place.

#### HARDWARE BUSINESS FOR SALE

Owing to the death of Mr. John H. Edwards, Oswego, the old established hardware business of deceased in the village of Oswego is offered by the administrators, Charles Roberts and E.A. Smith, at private sale. this is a splendid opportunity to get into a good business. Mr. Edwards was the patentee of improvements on acetylene gas plants and was doing a good trade in this line, which will go to his successor.

April 19: Cyrus Pogue was here from Kansas to attend the funeral of his brother. All his relatives within an enable distance were present.

In giving the names of the surviving children of Mrs. Russell last week, that of Ella M. of Chicago was inadvertently omitted.

The baseballists of the high school went to Aurora Thursday and played a game with a team of the east side high school there, winning it by 18 to 8, which of course made them feel proud of themselves.

Strenuosity in large chunks is to enter into the election today, but there is no real issue as to policy. Both tickets are for license, the revenue therefrom has become indispensable. Personality seems to be the only thing in the contest. Why couldn't we have an expression of the sentiments of the voters on certain matters pertaining to the village.

The election for school director, Saturday, was the most sharply contested ever had here for that office. L.F. Burkhart and Dr. T.B. Drew were the candidates and the former was reelected by a majority of 24 out of 262 cast; the woman's vote was 120. It is thought that winning side gained much advantage by the employment of an automobile--that the ladies in being taken to and from the polls in an auto is what raised havoc with the Doc's chances.

#### WAS OVER FIFTY YEARS IN OSWEGO

Good Business Man and Useful Citizen

Leaves Heritage of Upright Living

Matthew James Pogue was born near Hillsboro, Ohio June 4, 1832; died April 11, 1905, aged 72 years, 10 months and 7 days. He was the oldest of a family of eight children, five of whom are still living. Jan. 21, 1857 he was married to Miss Sarah E. Gibson of Hillsboro, Ohio. There were born to them six children--James B. Pogue of Hinckley, Ill; Robert Pogue of Paw Paw, Ill.; Mrs. Nettie Livermore of Plattville, Ill. The other three children died in childhood.

Mr. Pogue came to Illinois with his parents in 1853 and settled on a farm a mile and a half east of Oswego He there knew something of the hardships of live in a comparatively new country. In 1872 he moved to Oswego and purchased the lumber and coal business on the northeast end of Main street. A year later he purchased the lumber and coal yard where it is now located, where he continued the business until 1900, at which date he retired from the business and resided in his late residence where he died.

He united with the Presbyterian church of Oswego in 1870 and remained a faithful member until the time of his death having served as trustee and treasurer for many years.

#### Municipal Elections

In Oswego there was a fight all along the line. Scott Cutter was elected president by a vote of 90 to 71 for A.G. Updike. Both tickets were for license. Trustees, James Foran Charles Roberts, C. Hubbard; clerk, L.P. Voss, police magistrate, Col. Clark.

April 26: Ferdinand Smith was up from Bloomington and with his folks Sunday.

Mrs. Van Era is getting her residence painted; Hubbard & Mann are the artists doing it.

The C. S. Barker house excavation near the old Loucks house is underway.

Miss Catharine McLaren of Aurora is the new telephone operator for the Northern at Mrs. Gaylord's.

The new house for Mrs. Charles Leigh on the grove road is up and sheathed. The H.S. Richards gang is building it.

Updike & Gaylord, meaning Abner and Lew, are the new business firm here. They having bought the stock of hardware and other interests pertaining thereto of the late J.H. Edwards, and opened the store again Saturday.

A.C. Lake is the first settler on the Park addition. The next probably will be Rev. Mr. Werner of Montgomery whose house is up and sheathed. It is being built under the direction of C.H. Shoger by Lou Young and gang.

The new village administration was inaugurated Monday evening. It was thought that the election last week could be of little interest, but it was made as strenuous as could be. Every voter was called out, and the winning side ratifying it at night as having accomplished a most signal victory. A pole was raised in the center of the village and around it piled a heap of barrels, and the biggest bonfire made ever had in town--the ringing of the fire bell was one of the excesses. It disturbed all who heard it and scared the nervous. Temperance in celebrating as well as in drinking should be observed.

May -- 1905

May 3: Martha Main is now teaching the Russell School.

The swallows arrived about the middle of last week but still it keeps cold.

Mr. and Mrs. G. Schwartz went to a sanitarium in Wisconsin Thursday where he remained for treatment of his malady.

Laura Walker, G.M. Croushorn and Roy Treman made application for the resigned rural route No. 1, and underwent examination.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Clinton are about to change their residence from Cincinnati to Oswego, where life can be enjoyed better than anywhere else.

Three baseball games, all of high schools, were played on the Oswego diamond. One Thursday between the Oswego and East Aurora, the latter winning. Two Saturday, one between Plainfield and East Aurora and the other between Plainfield and Oswego, both won by Plainfield. The Oswego boys were not much in them, but they didn't get white-washed any.

At a special meeting of the village council, licenses were granted to the three saloons at the old rate, \$750. One changed proprietors: Gus Barbel and Adam Wallace changed positions from saloonkeeper to bartender and the latter is now the proprietor. At the regular meeting Monday evening, Zeke Dais was elected for both street commissioner and pumping engineer, Oliver Burkhart for treasurer. The election of a marshal was deferred; various subjects were discussed.

#### THE OSWEGO PHILOSOPHER

Record Reporter Makes a Call on Brother Rank

A visit to the bachelor quarters of Mr. Rank, in Oswego, *The Record's* faithful correspondent and reporter, reminds one of the descriptions of Dickens' Old Curiosity Shop.

Mr. Rank is getting well along in years, but still his mind is quick and active; he is fluently conversant on topics of the present day and no less able to discuss topics of interest and incidents that happened a decade ago.

"That's a gray old wall you have to look at out there every morning, Mr. Rank," said *The Record* man.

"Yes," said Mr. Rank, without a moment's hesitation, "that wall has been there just 38 years," referring to the west side of the Charles Knapp building in Oswego in which the Cutter drug store is located. Mr. Rank's quarters are in the second story of the post office building. A wide stairway leads up to the suite of rooms, which are only two in number. On the right side of the hall is his library and writing room, furnished with a long table that reaches almost across the room, a chair, a stool, a file case filled with musty old documents, and a little stove. Here he puts in his time writing his correspondences...Mr. Rank is thoroughly alive to the present age. He writes each week a long newsy letter besides attending to duties in the post office and his own personal matters. Truly he is a man who has seen much of life and made use of what he has seen.

May 10: The concrete foundation of George Troll's new house is finished. L.C. Young and gang will be the builders.

The household goods of Mr. and Mrs. Clinton have been received here, and David Hall is taking care of them while the owners are absent.

Farmers take notice: Don't let me come on your farm and find Canada thistles growing. I shall take charge of them. J.W. Morrison, commissioner.

May 17: The baseball interest of the week was again dull for Oswego.

The putting in of the new concrete foundation to the C.S. Barker new residence is now under way.

The drug store interior and the front have been neatly painted; the front of the Read store is being painted.



Mayme Richards, besides running the post office and sewing and singing, is also cultivating a bed of nasturtiums back of the office.

NaAuSay: Damp, damper, dam(p), damp is the way some of those who are anxious to plant can compare the adjective that expresses the condition of the soil at the present writing.

Yorkville: Monday morning the assistants at the Armbruster & Needham hardware and implement house in Yorkville began unloading a car on the sidetracks, which was filled with the swellest bunch of buggies, runabouts, surries, and carriages you ever saw. The full day was employed in setting up the vehicles for display in the big repository on VanEmon street, and now there is a strikingly handsome aggregation of these vehicles lined up in two long rows in the big building.

May 24: Supervisor Russell and family have moved back on the farm.

Telephone repairs were a part of the industry here last week.

Tom Pierce lately returned from a four months' visit to Ireland and brought a bride with him.

Charles Clinton arrived Wednesday by his overland journey from Cincinnati, and his wife two or three days afterwards.

Building operations are being pushed. The Werner house is in the hands of the plasterers; the Leigh house is inclosed; that of George Troll is up and sheathed; and foundation is ready for the carpenters to commence the C.S. Barker house; George D. Wormley is getting ready to have his residence raised and remodeled.

The Baltimore American and the Richmond Times-Dispatch of recent dates had full accounts of Miss Martha Charlotte Murphy's wedding at Front Royal, Va., to which several Oswegoans had invitations, and which those papers said was "a wedding of unusual interest to the society people of Baltimore, Washington and Richmond." The groom, C.A. Macatee Jr., is a graduate of several colleges and both he and his father are railroad officials. The bride's father here,

where born and brought up, was plain Bob Murphy, but he was one of the Oswego boys who rose in the world and is where he resides Col. Robinson Barr Murphy.

May 31: The cicadas have made their appearance.

The circus Thursday was well patronized by Oswegoans.

The new mail carrier, G.M. Croushorn, on route No. 1, will commence the service Thursday.

Clinton Jackson has quit the harness making business here and will move to Sandwich. We hate to lose Clint.

John Herren has begun the building of a house on the Park addition; has excavated the cellar and hauled concrete blocks.

Charles Knapp is again on a voyage to Germany by accompanying home Miss Hedgwig Knapp, a sister of Rudolph Knapp, and who came over with the latter's wife.

H.B. Read had his residence painted in orange color with light trimming; Victor Mathre, his lately bought house in light color with dark trimming; the residence of Mrs. Schamp is being painted in green with light trimming.

Right east of the village on the north side of the Waubonsie creek there is now a pretty park, having been made so by the owner, Gus Shoger, in nicely trimming the patch of second growth oaks. A baseball diamond could be had by clearing land adjoining it, now used for a pasture.

June -- 1905

June 7: At Jay Young's they have a new piano.

The question is, "Can the average man be made to behave decently without being subjected to the strenuous life?"

Charles Rieger has got his cement block-making machine in place, a lot of gravel on hand, the water ready for use, and will commence operations right away.

O.A. Burkhart, cashier of the Oswego Banking Company, announces that they do a general banking business and responsibility is stated to be \$75,000. They pay three percent interest on time deposits of one dollar upward. Collections a specialty. The bank is centrally located in the village of Oswego.

June 14: Dr. Kittler attended a banquet in Chicago.

The high school class was entertained at Prof. Newman's Friday evening.

Harvey Keck is moving here and into the Methodist parsonage. This is supposed to mean the opening of a new furniture store.

Morton Richards, one of the graduates, is said to have gone to school for ten years and never was tardy nor absent unless when sick.

James Robson, after 31 years when doing supply depot work here, came back to make the town a visit and was struck with its advancements. he lives in Chicago.

A competent shoemaker will be at W.J. Morse's store, Oswego, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday of each week. Bing in your shoes and have them put in good wearing shape.

Two carloads of extra fine fat steers were shipped Tuesday by George Hettrich and the Hemm brothers.

No outdoor gathering for amusement would be complete without a bass game, and such was the main attraction of the farmers' annual picnic out east, Wednesday, between the Oswego Pirates and a team from East Wheatland. The Pirates are out of practice, and though beaten yet held the Wheatlanders down to a score of but 6--the difference between them.

The Old Schoolmates' picnic has become one of the annual pleasant social events and is getting more interesting with every recurrence. It took place Saturday at the pleasant home of Mrs. Van Deventer, where attendance was 40 or over.

The Nineteenth annual commencement of the Oswego high school was held before a large audience in the Oswego congregational church last night when seven young ladies and two young men gave their orations as the culminating speech of their high school careers and the valedictorian bade adieu to teachers and school officers. First honors fell to Miss Alice Updike, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A.G. Updike. Margaret Gray, adopted daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Gay, had a rousing oration on "The American Spirit." The topic appropriately fitted for the scholar was "Music" by Miss Floi Johnston, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Johnston. Guy White, son of Mr. and Mrs. George White and president of his class, had the political oration, "Civic Federation."

Iola Suydam delivered one of the best orations of the evening, "The Right Hand of Man." "Success--If we Will" was given by Miss Lillian, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C.F. Shoger.

The class history was given by Morton Richards, son of Postmaster and Mrs. Harley Richards. Miss Jessie Terry's oration was on the "Stars Above." Then came the class song by the entire class followed by the oration and valedictory by Miss Irene Newman, daughter of Supt. and Mrs. C.H. Newman.

Oswego may well be proud of the Class of '05. It is a bright class of young people and every part of the program was rendered without a hitch of any character.

In presenting the members of the class their diplomas, Prof.

Bardwell of Aurora said he had been in contact with many pupils as they came from the Oswego high school and always found them admirably fitted to take up the advanced work.

Superintendent Newman is assisted in the high school by Miss Edna Damon, a graduate of Yorkville in the class of '02; in the grammar room by Miss Laura Burkhart, an Oswego graduate of three years ago; in the second room by Miss Kate Cliggitt; and in the first room by Miss Helen Voss, another home teacher, daughter of Dr. L.P. Voss. This system of retaining the home girls has proved most beneficial and the teachers are all capable and effective in their work.

June 21: The marriage of Charles Reed and Libbie Woolley occurred last week In Aurora.

A number of the telephones were put out of use by the thunder storm Saturday, which made work for the management Sunday.

A team from the Wilcox Manufacturing Company was down from Aurora Saturday to play ball with the Pirates, but the thunder storm and heavy rain prevented it.

John Varner, while at soldering on the roof of the George Wormley house, the firepot exploded, burning his left arm quite severely and singeing his face and neck, causing his disability to work for the time being, and came near setting the house on fire.

The people on the Earth have been brought into such close intercourse by telegraph and cable lines, railroad and steamship service that what occurs anywhere can be made known everywhere else in the same day. It should be as easy as possible to carry on this intercourse, and the two most essential things for it are a universal monetary system and language.

The supervisors are wrestling with the question of "the paupers." Kendall county has adopted about the worst way in regard to them, confining their support to townships, as narrow a division as could be had. Unfortunate families and weaklings liable to become a town charge are to be watched from gaining a residence. At Yorkville, the river is the division line; half the place may not want certain persons from the other half to move across to their side one way or the other. At Lisbon the crossing of a street is a change from one township into another. At Millington the west end of it may have to be watched against undesirable characters from LaSalle county. This is a handicap to such people getting along through this strenuous life. The righteous economic system would obviate all such trouble; the paupers would be taken care of, and whoever did it be paid for at nobody's expense.

Tamarack and Wheatland: The strawberry season is about over; cherries are now ripe and very plentiful.

Thomas Stewart and family are much concerned over the condition of his nephew, Graeme Stewart, who has been at the point of death from paralysis, home in Chicago, for several weeks. A telephone message from his daughter to the relatives here Saturday stated he had suffered another light stroke and was very low. His illness was caused from worry over the strike, which affected his business--that of a wholesale grocer.

June 28: John G. Bower is building an addition to his house.

Charles Rieger is rebuilding a string of his coal houses and is putting solid concrete foundations under them.

H.B. Read is having an outside chimney built to his residence, requisite to a furnace and fireplace to be put in.

The new C.S. Barker residence is up and sheathed; those of Werner, Mrs. Leigh, George Troll, and George Wormley are near to completion.

An umbrella mender with two helpers came to town Wednesday and met with three other tourists. The six decided upon a picnic. A keg of beer, etc. were procured for it. About one o'clock at night, Mr. Ness was awakened by the barking of his dog; looking out he saw two men enter his chicken house, which had been left open and he quietly went out and locked them in, then calling his neighbor, Biesemeier for help but before he with his son arrived they had forced themselves out and got in a fight with Ness, where which he got a cheek somewhat cut. In overpowering them, the fighting one received an ugly bruise on the forehead of his head. They proved to be the umbrella man and one of his helpers, the other was found asleep near the railroad toolhouse and included in the arrest when delivered over to the marshal. As the chicken house was open, nor anything taken, and they claiming they were drunk and had been merely looking for place to lay down and sleep, which was not disproved and as neither of them had any money, they were found guilty of vagrancy and sentenced to leave the town immediately. The fighting one, who had made threats to shoot Ness was also put under a peace bond. The prosecuting witness was dissatisfied with the outcome.

Tamarack and Wheatland: In response to invitations about 60 relatives and intimate friends gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Amos Smith near Plainfield Wednesday evening, June 21, to witness the marriage of their daughter, Olive, to John G. Anderson.

July -- 1905

July 5: R.D. Route No. 1 has a new delivery wagon.

Several improved the opportunity of the excursion to the Juliet penitentiary Saturday.

Laws should be made as comprehensive, as automatic, as easy for being carried out and as inexpensive as possible. Our new primary law is just the opposite of these.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Graeme Stewart, whose death occurred in Chicago last week, was a nephew of Thomas Stewart.

July 12: Harvey Keck has had his store renovated and painted.

Andrew Shoger had two horses killed by lightning in Tuesday evening's storm.

Ferdinand Smith has returned home from Bloomington, where he has been engaged the past year.

The Fourth of July is passed--a relief to many people. The day held as the most glorious for Americans, yet is threatened by many of them. Here it was passed without any accident. The better element celebrated it by social and family gatherings.

A ball game of Pirates against Pirates, those of this place and a team of Aurora of like title, was played here on the Fourth in the forenoon. The Oswegos appeared in very becoming light grey new suits. The score was 8-5 in favor of Oswego.

Fourteen carloads of fat cattle were shipped from this station Monday probably being its largest shipment at one time ever made. The shippers were James and Hugh Goudie, John Jessup, Clarence Cherry, the Schlapp brothers, Robert Schlapp, J.D. Russell, A.J. Parkhurst, Oliver Hem and Perry Wilder.

Gertrude Maria Carkhuff was born near Centerville, New Jersey, Oct. 8, 1809; was married in due time to John D. Hall and lived in that state till 1852 when the family moved west and came to Oswego, living about a year in town, in the meantime securing a farm upon which they became one of the prominent families of this vicinity. About 1879 they left the farm and moved to their newly built house in town, which has been her residence ever since. She died apparently of heart failure July 5, at the age of 95 years, 8 months, and 27 days.

The deceased was one of the old time motherly women. The survivors of the family are three sons and four daughters, all but one present at the funeral; two, Asher B. and Mrs. Libbie Putt, preceded her to the cemetery.

Wolf's Crossing: A number of people from here went to Electric Park at Plainfield on the Fourth.

July 19: John C. Conway was spending a few days at home.

It is said that the E.H. Sodt family will move from here to Ohio in the near future.

George Schell out east was being helped in haying by L. Weller and while on the top of a load which became upset, Mr. W. sustained a fracture of the hip bone.

Charles Clinton bought a handsome new boat with a gasoline engine to propel it, which arrived while he was on a visit in Chicago. During his absence Scott Cutter apparently was to take charge of it and he was unloading it at the depot from a car and had it half way out the door towards the train track when a freight train there at the same time backed up and struck it, damaging it more or less. The accident called forth some profane exclamations, which didn't mend the matter.



There were complaints about the condition in which the lower part of Washington street is left resulting from a washout several months ago. And by the way, it would seem that by a little pick and shovel work the water could be confined to the ditch under the trestle and thereby the street preserved. Also that the sidewalk at the outskirts of the village is so overlapped by the sweet clover one cannot walk over it without rubbing against it, which the ladies that way don't like in wet weather. They are taxpayers out there and want equal consideration. A hole big enough to step through in the sidewalk to the bridge needs to be mended. perhaps the sidewalk matter has been mended.

July 26: The new furniture store is open for business.

Mrs. John Minich has gone to Iowa to visit her daughter, Mrs. E.S. Fuller.

Dr. Drew is on a tour through Wyoming and probably will take in the Yellowstone Park and other parts.

Leroy Samse, who has evolved into a professional athlete, was making a brief visit at his uncle's, H.G. Smith.

Edward Friebele was married to Miss Louise Reichenbacher of Aurora Wednesday.

Wolf's Crossing: Mr. Bill is the owner of a new automobile. [Oh nooo!]

August -- 1905

Aug. 2: A number went to have a picnic in the Plainfield Electric park.

The new Leigh house out on the Grove road is undergoing the finishing up work.

The John Herren house is up in the Park addition. Kohlhammer and Haines are the builders.

By 5-4 the Oswegos won a game of base ball from the Aurora Pictorials Saturday at Riverview park.

The George Troll house in the south part of the town is all done but the inside finishing and the adjoining one of his mother is nearly ready for lathing and plastering.

The meat trade has again undergone a change. Will Funk and Rudolph Knapp apparently are the proprietors of the meat market proper and the Barker brothers have connected one with their store.

E.H. Sodt loaded a car with their household goods Monday and the family will leave for their new home in Ohio. Their departure is generally regretted; they had become well adjusted to Oswego society and were very popular.

Harvey Keck got the front of his store nicely painted, making it a very neat place both in and outside and now that we have two furniture stores and undertaking concerns it would be in order for our young people to hurry up and get married and get at housekeeping and for us old folks to die so as to make business for them.

The annual Aurora Chautauqua was set to be held in Riverview park Aug. 10-20.

Aug. 9: A.G. Updike has gone to South Dakota.

E.H. Sodt and family have taken their departure for Vanwert, Ohio.

The cigar factory hasn't got into operation yet. The approach to it in the gap of the buildings is being provided with a concrete floor.

The corps of teachers for the Oswego school is full, and there will be two new ones, Miss Murphy of Aurora, who will take Edna Damon's place and Miss Eger, or similar name, of Ohio will teach the third and fourth grades.

The allowance of bills, contracting for the extension of water mains to the Park addition, laying on the table of petitions for extending the water to the trans-Waubonsie side and of concrete sidewalks on Wheatland avenue, talking about repairing a bridge on Tyler street, the washout on Washington street, the collection of the water tax--neighbors must not be allowed to supply each other with the village water--the leakage of the water tank, the better system that should have been kept, etc. were the doings of the Oswego council. Trustees Roberts and Hebert were absent.

Aug. 16: Eugene Hinchman has left the farm and moved to a Chicago suburb.

The rain reached this section Sunday night and gave it a fine drenching.

A nice family monument was erected on the lot of John T. Wormley in the cemetery.

Sunday afternoon for the first time in a long while Oswego had the appearance of an old-fashioned Sunday with no stir and deserted streets. The Chautauqua caused it.

Dr. and Mrs. Samuel Schneider of Chicago were here Saturday for a trolley ride in the country and he wishing to take a look at the place where 31 years ago he had been clerking in the store of D.M. Haight.

The projected tour in his automobile of Oliver Burkhart with George Gannon of Aurora to Portland, Oregon apparently has on some hitch, fallen through, and Oswego will lose the fame that would have resulted therefrom.

Doc Woolley in starting out threshing for the season immediately broke an important part of the machine. He telegraphed for a new duplicate which on receipt was horridly put in place, the machine started, and on throwing in the first bundle it also broke just as the old part had been, which was very vexatious to Doc and his gang.

NaAuSay: Three-fourths of the families of NaAuSay were represented at Riverview Park Sunday to attend the Chautauqua.

Aug. 23: Morton Richards is engaged in the Fox River butter Company's office at Aurora.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Wollenweber have moved here, his native place, from Duluth, Minnesota.

The Riverview Chautauqua is taken as having made this part of the world much healthier and better.

Won't the Panama Canal cut some figure in the presidential elections during the ensuing decade or two?

Charles Clinton has bought the Mann premises, all but the house, which will be removed, containing four lots, for \$2,000. He intends to build a nice residence on that corner.

Four men appeared on the street Monday evening and had religious exercises by singing, praying and expounding the scriptures according to the views of the Latter Day Saints. The book of Mormon was also briefly explained.

The funeral of Mrs. Henry Perry of Aurora occurred Monday forenoon from the homestead of Colvin Pearce, she being a relative of Mrs. Pearce. The Pearce cemetery was made her final abode. She was 37 years old and is mourned by a husband, who is a motorman of the street car service. The couple had no children and at one time were residents of Oswego.

Work is now in progress on the Yorkville and Morris electric road.

Aug. 30: Edna Burkhart was the hello girl ad interim during the outing of Martha White.

Mrs. A.G. Updike was visiting some of her former neighbors about Wolf's Crossing.

Angie Varner is the substitute cashier at Funk's store during Florence White's vacation.

Fred Miller of Leland is the new tinner and all around useful man at the hardware store.

Guy White, Walter Burkhardt, and Watts Cutter Jr. started Monday on a boat voyage down Fox river and the Illinois; just now far had not been settled.

The excavation for the cellar of the Presbyterian parsonage near the church is now under way and thus another new edifice will be added to Oswego.

New industries have spring up and are springing up here. Charles Reiger is making cement blocks. The Schickler cigar factory is now in operation. A rug factory is promised and also a tannery and dye works.

JAPANESE-RUSSIAN WAR IS OVER!

The dove of peace that has been hovering over the conference at Portsmouth, New Hampshire, alighted yesterday and war between Russia and Japan came to an end. President Roosevelt is the hero of the day. It is due to his efforts that peace has been declared.

September -- 1905

Sept. 6: The Van Deventer house vacated by Sodt is now occupied by the Harvey Keck family.

The bowling alley is being removed to another town, which ought to make some of the horses here smile. [The bowling alley was located in the old Star Roller Skating Rink, 60 Main Street.]

The opening of the dance pavilion in the Electric park at Plainfield was attended by the TWB boys.

Fannie Gregg is teaching the Wormley school, which has become much enlarged. At one time there was but one scholar who took his baby sister to school with him for company.

It is the outskirts of the village that become the most attractive, the John Herren house in the Park addition and the C.S. Barker house on the edge of it that are nearing completion will be the most elegant houses of the place supplied with all modern conveniences. The two new Troll houses of similar quality will be a boost to the town when fully completed in the south end. Building improvements are being made all over town; the remodeling of the G.D. Wormley house was almost a renewal of it. M.M. James has built a nice porch to his house and otherwise improved it. John Bower has built an addition to his house, put new siding on the old part, and otherwise improved it.

Sept. 13: Guy White and Roy Norris are taking a course of study in the business college in Aurora.

The upper rooms of the Oswego Saloon are now occupied by the Fitz Lindenmeier family.

A phrenologist was in town Saturday examining heads. We had no idea of having so many and such big liars among us.

Urdike & Gaylord bought the harness shop of the Foran Brothers and engaged Frank Movach, or some such name, to operate it.

School commenced Monday and Young America in fresh and tidy condition was from all directions again wending its way to the schoolhouse.

A little after 12 o'clock Monday night the fire alarm bell was heard and the north most building of the Knapp slaughterhouse burned to the ground. The origin is supposed was due to fire kept there during the day.

Jonathan Andrews was born in St. Johnsville, N.Y. Sept. 20, 1820; came west and to these parts in 1856; was residing in this village for upwards of 40 years. Lately he began ailing and several weeks ago

went with his daughter to her home at South Bend, Ind., where he died Sept. 3, 1905.

Sept. 20: The cider making industry is now under way but the apples are not very plentiful.

The George D. Wormley residence is completed and the family is about to move into it.

The basement of the Presbyterian church parsonage is completed and the grounds about it leveled up.

Ed Haines ran a nail into his hand, which makes him carry the arm in a sling and disables him from work.

The Wheatland plowing match was quite well attended from here and is reported a larger affair than ever before.

At the school everything is running lovely; the senior class is the largest ever had; additional seats were provided.

A special board meeting was had Monday evening for the purpose of voting the tax levy, which was made an even \$1,000.

C.E. Fowler loaded a car with his household goods Monday for removal to Chicago. Their departure is regretted, especially by the society people.

Public auction at the residence of A. Armstrong, Oswego, Saturday, Sept. 23 of household furniture, Cayuga Chief mower, open buggy and top buggy.

The body of Erastus Treman of Aurora was brought here Tuesday for burial. He died suddenly on a cot in a livery stable of heart failure. He was one of the old Treman family east of here.

J.D. Ebinger returned Monday from the Red River country in Minnesota where he and Leonard Burkhart were seeing to the harvesting and threshing of their wheat. The latter remained to finish up the business.

Sept. 27: R.H. Johnston was in Chicago and contracted for two carloads of bulls.

The moving of the Mann house to the east end of Benton street will take place Tuesday. [The Mann house was located on the current site of the McKeown-Dunn Funeral Home, and was removed to make way for construction of that building, which was being built by Capt. Charles Clinton.]

The Dan Minich family has moved into the upper rooms of the Foran brothers' storage house.

The excavation by scraper for the basement of the Clinton residence is progressing and got well along.

Dr. Van Deventer has bought the Mrs. Collins tenant house on Plainfield avenue and thus the property being concentrated in the hands of a few is going on.

The newly married couple, Charles Turpin and Carrie Shoger, have returned to Oswego.

Skipped to mention last week that Frank Walker had quite an experience with a traction engine by its sudden start of backing, he being caught in the belt and flung in the air some distance away. His lucky outcome was due to the breaking of the belt.

Yorkville: Thursday a deal was completed in Yorkville, which transfers the hotel business here operated by Justus Nading for over 20 years to C.B. Dursey of Hinsdale, possession to be given the first of October.

Justus Nading came to America from Germany in June 1883 traveling direct to Yorkville the day after he landed in New York. He was, and is yet, a jolly German hotel man and in March 1884 he bought out the business operated by Ira Lozier, who is remembered by the older inhabitants as having conducted a bakery and hotel in the same place where the modern three-story brick building now stands. The building then constituting the hotel was an old frame structure with a few sleeping rooms and a dining room and kitchen.



No vestige of the old landmark is now left on the Nading corner. Three weeks after Mr. Nading started in the hotel business the smallpox broke out in Yorkville and the place right next door was a hotbed of infection. Justus thought it was all up with him, but fortunately he tided over till next year when he moved into the old Beck hotel, which used to stand on the site of the present residence of Mrs. Hage and daughter on Main street. The following spring Mr. Nading bought the real estate in the old locality near the bridge and moved back, and for these many years Hotel Nading has been known far and wide. It was the stopping place for all drummers and social visitors. Today it is the rendezvous of every automobilist from Bloomington to Chicago.

Mr. Nading will retain his position as local manager of the Chicago Telephone Company and the office will remain in the building.

Mr. Dursey is a Frenchman and has been operating a hotel at Hinsdale for some time, which he recently sold.

October -- 1905

Oct. 4: Alice Updike is teaching the Russell school.

The foundation for the Clinton building has been begun.

The Clinton and Scott Cutter boat has been launched into the river and navigating the Fox here by gasoline power is now an established fact.

Rev. Mr. Harris of Brighton has, according to report, accepted the pastorate of the Presbyterian church and will move this week into the Mrs. Pogue house.

The Methodist parsonage is now occupied by Fred Miller and family and the Williams tenant house vacated by Rev. Townsend, by J. Ferner the new harnessmaker, moved here from Leland. There's a scarcity of available dwellings here from which relief may be expected when the unfinished new houses will be ready for occupancy.

The new houses on the Park addition are progressing finely; the Barker house is undergoing painting. The cellar for the old Loucks house to be moved over is ready. The south part of the town has been much improved. The George Troll house is completed and he is about moving into it; it is neatly painted, the upper part in dark green and the lower in ottoman red. The other Troll house is also near completion. The Jay residence there was recently beautified by paint. And Mr. Peshia has commenced excavating for a residence.

NaAuSay: Marysville and McCauley schools indulged in a ball game Saturday afternoon, which resulted in a score of 16-8 in favor of Marysville.

Yorkville: *The Record* has received a notice from the State Board of Pardons at Springfield announcing that application has been made for the pardon of George Mears, who so brutally killed the son of Mr. Gorge Wormley of Oswego and wounded his wife with revolver shots. It was a cowardly crime, and Mears deserved the gallows, but was let of with prison for life, and prison for life is just as long as the criminal keeps quite and his friends work the pardon board and Governor for release.

The Board of Parsons meets in Springfield Oct. 10. If you have anything to say why Mears should be pardoned or why he should not be, write the board or go in person and make your protest.

Oct. 11: Dr. L.P Voss attended the Masonic Grand Loge meeting in Chicago.

The rheumatic condition of J.G. Butler is said to be again of the severe order.

A sort of a squabble is said to have been had at one of the saloons Saturday night.

Will Funk is materially improving his lately acquired property, the old Schram place.

The *Oswego Herald* has again changed publishers; the new one is Mrs. Boyd of Indiana.

Dr. Van Deventer has bought what is known as the old Kiesslinger premises on Plainfield avenue.

A draw football game was played here between the high school boys and a team from the Aurora west side school, the outcome being 5-5.

Among those who went to the Naperville horse market Saturday were E.Y. Ketchum, J.H. Foran, Charles Woolley, John Herren, Leonard Burkhardt, and John Devany.

Rush Walker returned Saturday from a two weeks' sojourn in Minnesota, during which he fell in love with her so much as to buy a 240-acre improved farm in the southern part of it.

This nation has become money crazy; everybody that handles any money is trying to make some money out of it. The making money out of money is the great economical question of the age.

Oct. 18: A copious rain here Monday night.

The Barker house is undergoing its finishing up job.

The Will Funk house, Schram's heretofore, is being repainted.

The getting in of the foundation for the Clinton house is progressing.

Some of the building operations were retarded by the scarcity of cement.

L.C. Young and gang have the Presbyterian parsonage up and nearly sheathed.

Three Chicago artists have been engaged in sketching autumn scenery hereabouts.

There are two new carriers' applications for the new (No. 3) rural delivery route.

Dwight Young recently enjoyed a visit from his friend, Neff Lehman of Millington.

Charles Mann has his house done all but repainting and that will be put over till spring.

The Dr. Drew office is being remodeled and generally renovated; Layton Lippold is doing it.

Joe Foss and Ed Haines are at putting in the underpinning to the removed old Loucks house.

The school library was augmented by some nice books being presented from Mrs. C.T. Cherry.

Adam Solfisberg up the river has commenced the building of a new house. H.S. Richards is the architect and contractor.

There will be a production of life moving pictures of the Passion Play the Prodigal Son, illustrated songs, etc., at the M.E. church Wednesday evening, Oct. 25. Admission 25 cents; children 15 cents.

NaAuSay: The Kendall Post office, which has been so faithfully conducted for so many years by Miss Hattie Vickery, closed Saturday.

Wolf's Crossing: Several from here attended the Eola Fair, Friday, where the East Oswego ball team played Eola, the score being 10-2 in favor of Oswego.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Supt. Curran visited the Wilcox school Monday; reported the work progressing nicely.

The potato crop in this part of the country, taken as a whole, is poor, although a few report a good yield. Those who can are storing in cellars in expectation of high prices next spring.

Yorkville: By order of the Postmaster General the post office called Kendall, in NaAuSay, has been discontinued, and Saturday, the deputy postmaster, Miss Hattie S. Vickery, delivered the stamps, etc.

on hand to the postmaster at Yorkville and the books and returns were all in first class shape.

Mr. James Vinson has been the postmaster de jure since the office was given up by the late Edmund Seely, but his sister in law has been the P.M. de facto all the time, and for 11 years and six months Miss Vickery has not been away from home but one night, showing faithful service to a public duty. At last the monotony of the thing became too much and they notified the Washington authorities that they must find someone else to run the office, as that could not be done, it was abandoned, and patrons will be served by rural carriers. Miss Vickery has been a model official.

C.B. Shaw of Chicago, one of the financiers reported to be backing the progress of the Yorkville-Morris electric road, was in town last week, possibly loaded down with money with which to pay off the men. Most all the real hard work on this end of the line has been completed and the builders expect to be laying the ties inside of two weeks or possibly ten days so that ready connection may be made with the Q, and all material hauled from this end just as it is used. All the bridges have been completed out as far as the Waite property.

Oct. 25: Charles Gray is here from the Milwaukee Soldiers' Home on a visit.

The Van Deventer house, known as the Murdock place, has been repainted in a bright orange color.

The milk wagon team one day undertook to enjoy a diversion by running away; no material damage was done.

Doc Woolley came to town Saturday evening with a lot of mammoth radishes, averaging about 6 pounds, which he distributed among his friends.

A football game was played here between the East side Aurora and Oswego high schools in which the latter were not in it to any numerable expression.

Prosperity abounds more than ever before. Updike & Gaylord have their hands full in putting furnaces in houses. Gus Shoger, John Herren, Elmer Rickard, George Barnard, Harry Morey of Aurora are some that had or are having them put in.

The return of good weather has again set in motion the outside building operations. The Presbyterian parsonage is undergoing shingling; the foundation of the Clinton house is completed; the Peshia barn is all inclosed, and the cellar to the house done; the Solfisberg house up the river only just begun is being vigorously pushed; the other new structures are getting the inside work done.

November -- 1905

Nov. 1: Clarence Shoger is operating his shredding apparatus in and about Naperville.

An 11-pound boy has come to make his abode in the family of Albert Woolley.

Dr. L. P. Voss's office is now in the Lester building, which brings all the doctors' offices into the same block.

A 10-pound girl put in an appearance out at Lewis Gaylord's Monday night.

Hoodlumism had full and free scope here Tuesday night--vehicles and other movable things were scattered--some outhouses overturned, one moved and set up onto the car platform for a burlesque waiting room, which especially was regarded as a cute prank. Seemingly lots of enjoyment was in it, the young in the performance of the mischief and the old--those not touched--are around this morning grinning at what has been done.

Charles Knapp has returned from his all summer visit in Germany.

Nov. 8: Mrs. Dan Minich is or was being visited by a sister from Iowa, whom she hadn't seen for some years.

The material for the extension of the water system is on the ground and presumably the job of laying the mains will be commenced right away.

Bernie Pearce has opened an apothecary section in the Croushorn furniture store.

The *Oswego Herald* has changed publishers again; now is C. E. Lane of Yorkville, and Friday moved into the Helle (old rink) building.

For the want of a quorum the regular council meeting Monday evening was nit. Let's try next election to get some men in not so forgetful of the duties.

NaAuSay: Frank Johnson and Eliza Wheeler were married in Geneva Wednesday, Nov. 1. They went to housekeeping on the Johnson farm, which the groom has been working for the past two years.

Nov. 15: L.N Hall is out and around again.

Charles Weber is changing the motor of his mill from the steam to the gasoline engine.

Harding Edwards is now engaged as a solicitor with the Standard Oil Company at Aurora.

She who was Myra McConnell when an Oswego girl was recently on a visit here to her aunt's, Mrs. Clinton.

John Norris is said to have bought a farm near Eau Clair, Wisconsin, and one and a half sections elsewhere for a sheep farm.

The Oswego high school athletic association will give a basket social Friday night, Nov. 21, in the Nineteenth Century Club's hall.

After a long and severe struggle for life, Mrs. Will Funk died Saturday. This is one of the most deplorable deaths, as she was the mother of six little boys, the oldest but 10 years, and the youngest two.

A good looking elderly gentleman was in town one day inquiring for old settlers. He was directed to this yahoo , and on meeting me he said, "how ju do, Lawrence, now who am I?" "Demphino," I replied. "Father built a cement house for Lawyer Randall when first we came here," said he. "That happened before my time; the house was there when I arrived in '47, and I never learned who built it," said I. "What became of it?" he asked. "It is there yet," I answered. "I've been to school here to Ed Mudgett in the square brick building down on the flats and also in the schoolhouse up town" he went on. "Remember all about Mudgett keeping school in that house, but what has this to do with who you are?" I observed. "Don't you remember the boy, Zim Supplee?" "Yes, yes; I remember Zim all right." "Well, that's I." Then he went on to ask what had become of Parke, Jim Hubbard, Fenton, Crothers, Loucks, Clark the pursy man, Coffin, Dr. Jewell, Fowler, Judson, Paul Hawley, Chapman, Briggs, Murphy, and a number of others. "Dead, dead, all dead!" I answered. Only two or three I didn't know what had become of, as Jim Scott and Charles Townsend, he inquired after.

Died in Chicago: Nellie Pearce Burwell of Madison, Wis. Mrs. Burwell will be remembered as the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Pearce, formerly of Oswego.

The 41st annual convention of the Kendall County Sunday School association was held in Oswego last week. Delegates were present from all the 26 schools of the county during the five sessions in Thursday and Friday. The convention opened Thursday morning in the German Evangelical church, one of the prettiest churches in Kendall County and the German folks did a neighborly act in opening their doors to the delegates. Dinners were served in the basement of the Congregational church on Main street. George Collins, the importer of fancy blooded stock in Oswego received a shipment of steers Saturday morning from Chicago which he says are positively the finest critters ever shipped into Oswego or Kendall County.

There is another drug store and pharmacy in the thriving little village up the river and behind the counter and prescription case is one of Oswego's own daughters, following her profession in her home town. Miss Bernice Pearce, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Colvin



Pearce, who for the past four years operated a pharmacy in Plattville in connection with Dr. Field's practice, has embarked in the business in her home village. Along the east side of the Croushorn furniture store, Miss Pearce has an attractive array of display cases containing high class confectionaries, stationary, patent medicines, and a case that will catch the men's eyes and hold their trade--a case of good cigars. Everything in the drug line will be carried by this lady practitioner as soon as suitable arrangements can be made and the combination of operating a pharmacy in an up to date furniture store will doubtless prove a popular one in Oswego.

Few people have realized the value of the little invention recently put on the market by Scott C. Cutter of Oswego, the ingenious manager of the Oswego exchange of the Chicago Telephone Company. The only reason people have not realized its value is because they never knew that under the familiar cap that Scott wears all seasons of the year there was such an inventive combination of human brains. The invention is an insulator, made of glass, in such a way that it may be conveniently wired to trees and the telephone wires strung through two holes made of that purpose. The model was duly patented some months ago and since, it has been on the market it has met with widespread popularity among telephone men and now there are over 87,000 of them in use and the orders are coming in so fast that they cannot be filled. Scott promises to astonish the pole climbers and wire pullers again in a short time with a new invention on which he is now working, entirely different from his first one--a sort of wire clamp which he claims will be a great improvement over anything of the kind now in use.

Oswego is soon to have a Citizens Club for the advancement of the village and to promote the social intercourse of its members.

Sheriff Voss was called to Oswego Sunday night to arrest Gus Sandin, who lives about three miles from the village and who it is alleged had made threats against Gus Shoger. The accused was secured and a rapid drive made back to Oswego in time to catch the next car for Yorkville. The accused man was lodged in the county Jail, and Monday afternoon a hearing was held before Judge Thompson. The

prisoner was released on the payment of costs and the agreement to leave the county.

Nov. 22: The old Strossman cooper shop is no more, it having been torn down.

Capt. Charles Clinton is on a visit to Cincinnati, his former place of residence.

The job of laying the water mains in the Park addition is nearly completed.

D.M. Haight spent three days in Chicago in the family of Adam Armstrong and reports them highly prospering though Jennie is yet ailing. They have bought two houses there.

There was a football game played here Friday afternoon between a bunch of the Plano school athletes and the Oswego high school boys. As Chappell, *The Record's* all-round promoting man was there that day he will probably took in the game and will give an account of it.

Wall street is in trouble; there is a scarcity of money there, caused by the millionaires to be split up into factions. Uncle Sam is called upon for relief, and for the benefit of which faction is what makes the trouble. A money system for the good of the people instead of the speculators would not involve such occurrences.

The funeral of Mrs. Will Funk last week Wednesday afternoon from the Evangelical church was one of the most beautiful and largest attended ever had here. The pastor took the words of Jesus for the text of an impressive sermon, delivered partly in German and English. Elizabeth Burghart was born in Oswego March 31 1876; married to William Funk Jan. 15, 1894, and died Nov. 11, 1905. Being the mother of six lively boys, her short career was confined to keeping the home. She is being mourned by a husband, six children, one brother, and five sisters.

Oswego has kept up with the procession in other parts of the country the past summer in the line of putting up new houses. The building contractors in the village have not finished their season's

work and there were about ten new houses in Oswego and the immediate vicinity constructed besides all the remodeling and repairing. It has been a great year for building despite the present high prices for material and all over Kendall county new homes and new public buildings have been going up. Four of the new houses in Oswego were put in the new Park addition in the eastern part of the village.

The Oswego post office will soon have in operation a third mail route delivering mail to the farmers throughout the adjacent vicinity. This route will cross the river at Oswego and go down the river road as far as Mr. Lew Rickard's, then across country to the Baseline road taking in two miles of Kane county, crossing the river at Montgomery and back to the post office by way of the Squires road from the southeast. It will be a long route serving about 110 families. Charles Cherry Jr., son-in-law of Lew Rickard, is to be the carrier and he begins operations Dec. 1.

Contractor Healy, the man who laid the new water mains for the village of Yorkville, has a force of men in Oswego laying 60 rods of iron water pipes to furnish houses in the new addition with city water. They are four-inch mains and will furnish all of the present five houses in the addition besides the others as they are constructed. When the ditch, which is five feet deep, was dug around to the turn in the new addition where the course of the pipes again assumes the north and south direction, the men began to get into a strata of solid rock. No wedges or drills had been brought along by the foreman and the men were up against it. The rock begins to show up at a depth of about three and a half feet and as solid as a cement wall, making the completion of the ditch extremely difficult. The cellar under Town Clerk Archie Lake's new house is furnished with the natural bottom of solid rock as his dwelling is only a couple of rods from the ditch line, while 12 rods to the west will take one into a strata of sand and loose gravel such as was encountered in digging the basement for the Oswego school house. The job of laying the new pipes will mean an outlay of about \$700 for the village and it is anticipated it will be completed in about 10 days. The new addition is a beautiful building spot and one lot is as good as another throughout the whole section, the land

rising gradually to a prominent elevation in the southeast, the top of which would make a capital site for a big suburban home.

Scott Cutter “dry-docked” the *Belle of the Fox*, Saturday, putting the graceful little craft out of the water and weather till next season. She has covered several hundred miles of travel since she was put in the river, being in almost constant use since the day of launching.

#### Plano-Oswego Football Game

Friday afternoon the second team of the Plano high school drove to Yorkville in a hayrack and took the two o'clock [interurban trolley] car for Oswego, where they met the Oswego high school football team in a gridiron battle out in the new [Park] addition. [The Park Addition includes Park, Garfield, and Grant streets and was then a new subdivision. Original plans were for a park there--thus the name of the addition. It's likely the game was played on what was planned to be the park, which was never built.] Plano kicked off to Oswego about 3:40 and run the ball down to Oswego's 15 yard line, where it was downed. The game for the first half was almost entire in Oswego territory but the home boys pluckily held their heavier opponents and played an aggressive game from the start. No scores were made in the first half.

The second half started with the change of goals and on a fumbled catch by Plano's end, the Oswego lads were able to stop the ball on the 20 yard line, keeping the play in Plano territory the first of the half. Finally Plano sent the full back over the Oswego line for two or three long hurdles and at the latter end of the half Plano had the ball on Oswego's five yard line.

The Oswego backs got up to the line and the local warriors gritted their teeth together with determination to hold against the battering-ram formations of the Plano backs--and they held. The ball went over on Plano failing to gain the required five yards and Oswego commenced bucking the line in order to get the ball out for a field punt. With a seven yard gain through Plano's line the ball was tossed back for a kick. There was a fumble, a scuffle, and general mix-up and when the writing mass of humanity had picked itself up it was found that Plano had the ball. Plano secured a couple of yards gain toward the coveted goal. This time Plano crossed Oswego's goal and the victory was won. Goal was kicked after time was called making the score 6-0 in favor of Plano.

Nov. 29: Two carloads of the pressed brick for the Clinton residence have been received from Indiana.

Abner Updike and family moved into the house vacated by C.S. Barker--the Mather house--Friday.

Charles Weber has nearly completed the conversion of his mill power and will soon be ready to go at grinding again.

Charles S. Barker and family moved into their new and up to date constructed and furnished residence Thursday.

Remember Thanksgiving day and keep it proper. Let's have a respectable turnout for the services at the Methodist church.

This place has been very dull the past week; no reports whatever from it were in the Aurora papers, on which more or less I rely for personals and society doings.

Updike and Gaylord have bought of F. O. Hawley the building in which is their store, of which the upstairs rooms are now being converted into the hall for the new Oswego Citizens Club.

Rob Johnston brought over Saturday 61 head of feeders for development in his new possessions, an excellent yard for such purpose on the Waubonsie and including the former Loucks barn building.

A slip of newspaper was handed me containing eight pictures of citrus fruit growers of Southern California and short accounts of their goings; a part of one is as follows: "Redlands claims the banner for sending out the car of oranges that brought the highest figure of all, \$2,700--it is believed to have touched the very pinnacle of pricedom. The shipper was Nathan Loucks. Notwithstanding the fact that he is nearly 72 years old, Mr. Loucks personally superintends the care of nearly 80 acres of some of the best groves in the district and has a high reputation as a grower." From this Nate's friends here should be enthused with pride of him. If his picture is anyways correct, we wouldn't know him if we should meet him.

Tamarack and Wheatland: A number of farmers met at the Harvey school house Monday evening and formed an organization for protection against hunters. It is planned to include all the farmers in the eastern part of Oswego township and strenuous measures will be taken to prevent hunters from coming out from town and shooting game which belongs by right to the farmers, who like sport as well as city men.

Col. Charles Clinton has begun the erection of a magnificent home in Oswego about a block east of the Presbyterian church, to cost somewhere between \$6,000 and \$7,000. It is to be of brick with solid cement foundation; interior finish in mahogany and rosewood, with all the latest improvements in the way of water and sewer service, the fittings all to be of copper. Mr. Clinton is endeavoring to secure four of the columns from the old Cook county building in Chicago which is now being torn down. The columns weigh about eight tons apiece and Mr. Clinton wants them for pilasters to adorn the front of his Oswego mansion.

If it is a pain in the heel, in the stomach, in the tooth or top of the head that afflicts you when you step off a car in Oswego there is no excuse for your continuing to be afflicted. Right in one block, only a few steps from the landing, are all the MD's and DDS's in the village. On the east side of the block are the offices of Dr. Voss, dentist; and W.E. Kittler, MD. On the south side of the block is the office of Van Deventer, MD, and on the north side of the block looking you right square in the face as you get off the car is the office of T.B. Drew, MD.

A visit to the home of Mrs. Van Deventer in Oswego brings one into the atmosphere of a typical literary lady's environments. To the casual caller there is a slight tinge of apprehension almost bordering on fear when the door is opened and the visitor is greeted by the barking and snapping of no less than seven spitz poodledogs, all of whom are so anxious to shake hands with the caller by nipping the bottom of his trousers that they all scrap "inter see" and tumble over each other and sometimes come near upsetting the caller himself. But they are perfectly harmless, the hostess informs you, and with this assurance of safety and easy chair is immediately

occupied next to a big table heaped with magazines, books, and literary material. The pets soon become quiet, except for one little rascal, who is generally busy untying your shoestring, and you hardly know whether to persuade him to stop or maintain a safe side of the proposition by letting him have your whole shoe. Mrs. Van Deventer, writing under the fictitious name of Lawrence L. Lynch, has become *La femme litteraire* of Kendall county. She is now working on her 21st book, some of the advance sheets of which are now in the hands of the publishers and will soon be ready for the public, besides preparing a serial for *Munsey's* magazine entitled "On the Knees of the Gods." Her books have mostly been stories of adventure--the sensational novel--which is so much in demand today both by magazine and book publishers, because there is such a constant cry for them on the market. For many years past, Mrs. Van Deventer had all her foreign publishing done in London by Ward, Lock & Company, and to consider the manipulations of the foreign copyright laws convinces one that even for the author herself *La critique est etsee, et l'art est difficile*. Her books of past years including such as *The Anger Line*, *High Stakes*, *Under Fate's Wheel*, *The Woman Who Dared*, etc. have all been translated into the German and French tongues and it was only a short while ago that Mrs. Van became aware that a big income was being derived from her works in foreign fields. Before she quits the literary profession, Mrs. Van Deventer proposes to write a story depicting the various phases of village life in Illinois, the plot of which will be laid in Oswego with prominent Oswego people making up the personnel of the character cast. It is difficult for her to get out of the line of writing in which she is now engaged as the orders for these stories come in faster than she can write them.

December -- 1905

Dec. 6: L.L Thomas took a load of the Presbyterian people down to NaAuSay to help surprising Rev. D.T. Robertson and family with a good-bye visit.

Last Sunday morning dawned bright and beautiful and with it came the 40th anniversary of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Shoger.

Thanksgiving Day was passed here in the usual way. The union meeting of the four churches wasn't any large than their denomination meetings usually are; let us try for the evening for it next year.

NaAuSay: Several of our farmers who received 40 cents for their corn are shelling it this week.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Mrs. John McLaren and son Louie were up from Joliet to spend a few days with her aged mother, Mrs. Mary Barber.

Dec. 13: Charles Weber has completed the changes of his mill and resumed grinding again.

Oswego now has a new waiting room for the electric line passengers. It is very neatly fitted up, supplied with a tempting stock of fresh confectionery, fruits, etc.; warm luncheons will also be served there. Its permanency will more or less depend on the patronage given it. Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Ferner are the operators of it.

Zim Supplee was in town again the other day. He remembers more about Oswego as it was in the latter part of the 40s and early 50s than those of us who were here then and remained here nearly ever since. He is in the soliciting business of a Chicago chinaware house and when he comes again intends to look up Oliver Hebert, Col. Clark, and others of that time who may be found.

The body of W.H. Smith which took place at Antigo, Wis., arrived here on the 10 o'clock train Wednesday and was taken to the residence of his wife, Mrs. Livina Smith, from where the funeral took place in the afternoon. The deceased was 71 years of age and a native of the state of New York. He was married here to Miss Lavina Briggs in 1856 when she was but 16 years old. The survivors of the family are a widow, three sons, and four daughters, all of whom but a son were present at the funeral.



And now, after so long, Mr. and Mrs. L.R. Inman have been boosted up to the parental dignity by the appearance of a 10-pound boy Tuesday.

#### HAS HER LIBERTY

Miss Obman of Oswego is Happy to be Home

Miss Jennie Obman, the 18 year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Obman of Oswego was paroled out of the Industrial Home for Girls at Geneva by an order of the Kendall county court after spending about three years in that institution.

April 3, 1902, during the incumbency of Hon. Henry S. Hudson as county judge of Kendall county, a trial was held at the courthouse in Yorkville when the young lady, then about 15 years of age, was charged with disobedience of parents and unruliness. A jury of six men consisting of G.N. Ruby, D.S. Hamilton, Fred Ahrens, James MacMurtrie and C.M. Hill, heard the case and decided that Miss Obman should be committed to the industrial home for girls. The commitment was entirely in accord with the will of the girl's parents, who thought it the best thing they could do for her. During the past three years, Mr. Obman has met with favorable conditions of life; he has become quite a prosperous cement contractor and they and they now feel that they are better able to care for their daughter at home than they were before and accordingly Mrs. Obman entered a petition that the daughter be released from the institution....The trial for release was held before Judge Hill in the county court Thursday afternoon, without a jury. During the hearing it developed that Miss Obman had been paroled out to families as assistant in the manner customary in such cases and that she had returned to the institution each time., Mrs. Amig, as superintendent, stating that it was her opinion that the best thing for the young lady would be to remain in the home. Postmaster Richards, Harding Edwards, J.H. Foran, William Dwyre, and Mrs. Davis of Oswego were on the witness stand as former friends and acquaintances of the petitioner, and testified that the family were in much better circumstances now than three years ago and much better able to care for their daughter. After hearing the evidence in the case, Judge Hill granted the prayer of the petitioner. It is said Judge Hudson supposed he was sending Miss Obman to a training school in Chicago.

## Yorkville: PICKLERS VAMOOSSED

The Long Season of Work at Local Plant at End--Company Will Doubtless Build Large Addition in Spring

Business at the [Squire Dingee] pickle factory has been suspended till next season, all the pickles with the exception of some 100 casks of gherkins having been processed and shipped to Chicago. It has been a successful year for the company and for the growers. About 15,000 bushels were received at the plant involving an outlay of about \$5,000, which has been paid to farmers and growers--money that would not have been in circulation in this territory otherwise. It has made a valuable industry for little patches of unoccupied land and those who "stuck" to see it through have profited nicely by the planting and picking of cucumbers.

The company is satisfied--so much so that they are anticipating increasing the capacity and making it a processing plant for the other nine factories in the state. It is the most convenient pickle factory the company owns, being equipped with steam, and electric lights and situated right on the railroad. In all other factories the company makes their own steam, while in Yorkville the steam is piped right across the alley from the electric light plant.

The ice on the pond above the dam is about seven inches thick and the skaters have been having a glorious time. It is clear ice and the forecast for a big crop is favorable. The company will soon begin storing it away in the big houses. Every cake of last year's immense crop has been shipped away, the last house being emptied a few weeks ago.

Dec. 20: Get your ear corn ground at Weber's mill, Oswego.

The slaughter house that burnt down a while ago has been rebuilt.

Pearl Chase is in the employ of the Interstate Telephone Company in Aurora.

A. Swanson, assistant cigar maker, has moved into the little house of Victor Mathre's, vacated by Mrs. Luch Potter.

Amusement has become one of the greatest essentials of society, and its expenses one of the main items for a modern respectable life.

Oswego, though having lost its bowling alley, is making up for it in more nobler games. It has now five billiard and three pool tables.

The hardware store has been undergoing further improvements. It is now heated by a furnace, which likewise extends to the hall of the Oswego Citizens club above. A new acetylene gas generator has been set up which supplies the light of that hall and the Masonic hall in the next building.

Dec. 27: The incoming cars Monday forenoon unloaded scores and scores of visitors.

The fat stock show and the Federal court for getting jurymen on the beef trust case drew many to Chicago from here.

Lew Gaylord moved to town Thursday and into the Mrs. Troll house. The farm he vacated is being occupied by Leonard Seidelman.

George Troll resigned his place in H.B. Read's store and went to work for the Fox River Butter Company in Aurora. Charles E. Mann is supplying his place at the store for the present.

1906

January

Jan. 3: By a cold and complications, Rank has become quite dilapidated.

The Knapp hall is now in charge of A.C. Lake, who will attend to all concerning it.

Dr. T.B. Drew has bought the new and elegant house built by John Herren in the Park addition and moved his family into it.

School resumed active operation Tuesday with improved facilities as all the rooms have been provided with the dustless floor oil dressing.

1905 was a good year so far as nature had to do with the making of it. Old earth, by the assistance of enough to develop her resources, has brought forth more than sufficient for all.

Yorkville: Matwawiski, the only living child of the Indian chief Shabbona, known in this region years ago as “the friend of the whites,” came all the way from the reservation at Holt, Kansas to Morris to see the \$40,000 monument she had been led to believe marked the resting place of the old Pottawatomi leader. She was accompanied by her daughter, and the Morris papers state it was a keen disappointment to her when she saw the big “niggerhead” at the head of her father’s grave instead of a handsome monolith. Her present name is Mrs. Kackac, and she left for her Kansas home immediately after viewing the grave.

Jan. 10: In a sort of squabble between two men a \$20 plate glass was broken out of the door of the hardware store Saturday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Josef Cscsmanyi have moved here and into the upper rooms of the Oswego Saloon. He is the new butcher of the upper meat market.

The Fox river between Oswego and Yorkville resembles an over-anxious spring caught in the tight grip of a stubborn winter. The warm rains last week melted the ice; it became honeycombed and broke up just above “Gooseberry Island.” It has piled up in places, black, muddy, and repulsive looking and reminds one of the jams during the spring freshets. The ice in the pond above the Yorkville dam has remained intact, however, and with a few more days of cold weather the company will begin the annual harvest. They are anxious to finish up here so they can get in their crop from the northern lakes.

The post office force in Oswego are puzzling their heads over the pronunciation of the name of a new patron who came in the other day and subscribed for a post office box. On being asked to write her name the lady took her pencil, a piece of paper and wrote, “Mrs. L. Cscsmanyi,” and she pronounced it, too, but she is the only one in

the village so far who has pronounced it aright. It is a Hungarian name.

Mr. O.R. Holbrook, the Chicago telephone man who woke up Kendall county some time ago with his articles on the general usefulness of the telephone, and especially the Chicago telephone, dropped into Oswego Friday morning to look after matters and see that his Oswego people were getting along all right.

George Pedersen, the Yorkville merchant, had some business in Oswego Friday morning and after completing it he went up to the Oswego club rooms to play a game of billiards with President Updike. The Oswego club is now running along smoothly. They have a nice, large room, well lighted, with a sky light and ventilator in the center of the high ceiling.

Jan. 17: Mayme Richards has taken a vacation from postoffice duties for the rest of this week, which she will spend in Aurora.

Yorkville: The Esch Bros. & Rabe Company, it is stated, will not begin cutting ice here till the mercury goes down to zero. Last year they began on the 12th of January and got a bounteous harvest.

It is stated that by the first of March the trolley company will be running large cars down to Yorkville, similar to the ones now in use on the Joliet and Elgin lines. The old cars in use here now will be relegated to the back woods.

Jan. 31: February plowing or a February ice crop, which?

At George M. Bower's out east his Sunday school class of the prairie church was treated to an oyster supper.

Down south in Mexico people are reported of having frozen to death recently and up here in Northern Illinois they have been seeking the street corners to catch a breeze to cool off.

Postmaster Richards, while recently at Vandalia attending the burial of his uncle, was invited to call at H.S. Humphrey's, which he did and found them very nicely situated. They wanted to know all about

Oswego, Mrs. H. especially was making inquiries about nearly everybody living here 42 years ago when they moved away, in which were included all those of that time that are living here still.

Will S. Richards was born in Oswego in 1846. As soon as old enough he went to learn the printers trade with H.S. Humphrey who then was publishing the *Free Press* there and remained with him upon his removal to Vandalia where in the course of time he became a partner in the paper started by Humphrey, the *Vandalia Union*. For about the last 20 years he was following the undertaking business at Ramsey and the 19th inst. he died.

Yorkville: The ice houses here are now under the control of the Knickerbocker trust. The sale of the property has been confirmed, and it is evident they will not retire the plant at least this year. The outlook for a crop is mighty dubious. Even if the weather should become cold enough to make good ice, there will be much difficulty in securing crop as the ice now in the river is in such wretched condition--broken, gorged and crumbled, with the exception of the immediate pond above the dam. An attempt was made last week to dynamite the ice and start it over the dam, but the attempt was successful in dislodging only a small portion of it near the overflow of the dam.

February -- 1906

Feb. 7: Oswego experienced an innocuous week.

A representative of a Chicago orphan asylum met wit the churches before Sunday soliciting aid.

G.M. Croushorn is attending a post-graduate school in Chicago for the sanitary science of embalming.

The information on the death of Mrs. Julia Bennett was a shock to many of her friends here where she was brought up.

Gustav Welz is the successor of Otto Lippold, who resigned the mail carrier service on RD No. 2, and commenced operations Thursday.

George White is now doing the most cash business in town in the collection of the taxes. Mondays he attends to it in Aurora at Wolf & Parker's store.

H.H. Haaff, one of the notable whilom teachers of the Oswego school and who later, if not the inventor at least became the great promoter of dehorning cattle, died recently in Chicago.

Elizabeth McConnell was born in New Castle, Pas. Dec. 11, 1841; came with her parents to Illinois in 1862; was married to J.B. Roberts Jan. 1, 1866; and died Jan. 28, 1906, leaving behind a husband and daughter, three sisters and a brother to mourn her demise.

She was a member of the Presbyterian church and Rev. Mrs. Crosby, minister of a UP church in Aurora, an old acquaintance, with the assistance of Rev. E. Harris, performed the spiritual obsequies, which took place from her home Tuesday.

Gottfried Schwartz, aged about 60 years, died Tuesday morning at Oswego after a long illness. He leaves a widow to mourn his loss. No children survive him. For some time, Mrs. Schwartz's mind was affected and for a while he took treatment in the sanatorium at Lake Geneva, Wis. He was somewhat relieved, but never entirely recovered.

Mrs. Schwartz was one of the best-known contractors and builders in Kendall county. He superintended and constructed all the ice houses at Oswego for Esch Bros. & Rabe and many of the homes in Oswego and in locality are of his construction.

Yorkville: C.I. Smith was down from Oswego Thursday. He had the good fortune to house a fine lot of ice from the Waubonsie, and Oswego folks can have ice cream sodas all summer. He might send some of down this way unless the ice crop on the looks more promising.

Feb. 14: Fred and Gus Esch and Mr. Rabe were here from Chicago to attend Mr. Schwartz's funeral.

Rush Walker and family are getting ready to move to Minnesota.

The Methodist church is mourning the loss of their beloved pastor, the Rev. J.D. Smith.

Friday morning a little after one o'clock a freight train in town made an unusual whistling, broken into toot, toot, toots, some heard it but were still thinking it was for railroad affairs and remained in their comfortable beds, but when the fire bell chimed in with its clang they began to hustle. The Tom Pierce house on the north of the Waubonsie was found to be in flames; it had far advanced when awakened and both Mr. and Mrs. P. were much stupefied by the smoke. Some of the household goods were got out by the neighbors, of which Andrew Pierce, the last in the house, had to make his exit through a window.

Gottfried Schwartz was a native of Wurttemberg, Germany; born July 2, 1845; came to these parts in 1869; was married to Margaret Rieger June 23, 1877, and died February 5, 1906.

Friday night at Knapp's hall the ghosts and hobgoblins, the funny men and women, and characters of all kinds will be waltzing around in the midst of the big masquerade ball. The function is under the management of a number of the leading men of Oswego.

The play given by the pupils of the Oswego high school assisted by some of the alumni association for the benefit of the high school athletic association, Friday and Saturday nights, drew full houses each night.

Feb. 21: O.W. Beebe of Yorkville called on his sick brother-in-law, H.G. Smith Sunday.

The information of the death of John Varner at Duluth, Minn. was received by his folks here Monday. The body will be brought here for burial.

A Pure Food Bill has been talked about and been before Congress for a good while and it would seem that there should be no objection to it except by those engaged in the adulteration and disposition of impure food for profit, yet so far no attempt was made to pass it.



Yorkville: The ice question in Yorkville is assuming alarming phases and there promises to be quite an ice famine here when the mercury goes up to a hundred of more in the shade. The ice company was unable to do anything about it Monday morning when a small force of ten men began operations. The individual consumers have taken pains to store away what they could get from the Blackberry pond. Messrs. Starr and Skinner have their supply on hand, and last week Mr. Morton and Mr. Leverich chucked about 150 tons more into the Skinner houses for use in the soda fountains.

It seems the fates have decreed that there shall be no ice harvest here this winter. The ice company put a gang of men to work Monday morning getting the chutes and slides ready to begin cutting. One horse went through Monday afternoon and came near pulling Andreas Weber in with him. The animal was rescued. Tuesday morning, all was in readiness as far as the company was concerned, but the weather began to moderate and we have had real spring weather--rain, mud, and slush. Very little could be accomplished on the ice field. Tuesday morning, three horses went through the ice but all were taken out with only a chilly bath to discommode them.

Feb. 28: Quite a number went to the theater in Aurora Monday night.

A club of colored ladies from Aurora met with Mrs. Arthur White one day.

The T. W. B. Club is now occupying the headquarters of the Hawley building, which was heretofore the millinery shop.

The new Methodist minister is a young man, a good speaker and very energetic.

John G. Varner was born in Oswego May 20, 1870; was married to Miss Mattie Moore May 17, 1898 and died Fe. 17, 1906 in Minnesota. His death was caused in being crushed by the falling of a tree in a lumber camp 26 miles from Duluth, to where the body was taken and to where his brother-in-law, Charles Lindenmeier, went to

bring it home. He leaves to mourn his loss a wife, two children-- Harry and Hazel--father, mother, and a sister.

March -- 1906

March 7: Mary Cutter came home for a few days from the DeKalb institute.

Henry J. Hafenrichter and Jennie Wormley were married last week. They immediately moved to Sugar Grove.

Yorkville: THE DRAINAGE COMMISSION WINS

The famous drainage case instituted by the highway commissioners of Bristol township some years ago against the Burlington railroad company to compel that company to enlarge its bridge over Rob Roy creek in Bristol township and thus furnish a waterway sufficient to carry the water from two thousand acres of swamp land, has finally been settled against the company by a decision handed down by the United States Supreme Court at Washington Monday.

Lieutenant General John M. Schofield died at St. Augustine Sunday night aged 74 years. He was one of the Civil War's great commanders; for a short time was secretary of war and was retired as a lieutenant general.

General Schofield is of some local interest. His father was a Baptist clergyman and was living in Kendall county along about 1845. Going away, he returned to Yorkville some 30 or more years ago and lived for some months in the house on the north side owned and recently occupied by Lorenzo Stansen. The Rev. Mr. Schofield's wife was a daughter of the late Dr. [Townsend] Seely of NaAuSay and a sister of the late John S. and Edmond Seely.

March 14: Hain't you glad you are in politics?

Rush Walker departed for his new home in Minnesota Monday.

The senior class of the school will have an oratorical exercise Friday afternoon to which the public is invited.

There were special council meetings Thursday and Friday evenings, mainly for the consideration of setting a new water tank and of what kind; that of steel was selected. Kottoe & Bros. of Aurora, manufacturers of such, were present.

On account of the active work of the board of trustees mapped out for the village this spring, village politics are little discussed. There is a general air of satisfaction with the present make-up of the village board and it is believed that there will be no contests for seats in the council chamber. The three members whose terms expire this spring are Oliver Hibbard, John Conway, and Charles Hubbard.

The good roads proposition as it is today in Kendall county is a purely business proposition and the worth of good roads at any and all times of the years is no better demonstrated than it has been the past few weeks in Oswego. Oswego township is fortunate in its roads.

The rural carriers in Oswego are having a good time with fairly good roads while their fellow servants in Kendall are plowing through the mud knee-deep. The carriers in Oswego get back to the office about 3;30 in the afternoon, while in Yorkville they don't get in till four or five hours later. Mr. Croushorn is the only Oswego carrier who has had any difficulty at all in delivering his mail.

Mayor Scott Cutter and his board of aldermen have already started on an active campaign for the spring improvements to be installed in the village. Last year the village laid a lot of cement walks and about half a mile of iron water mains out in the new Park addition, which is rapidly building up. This year the board of trustees will lay another half mile of cement and nearly complete the needs of the village in this line. Besides this, a new steel tank will be erected for fire protection and general water supply. About ten or 12 years ago the old basswood tank was erected on the street that leads to the Plainfield Road. The tank has seen its better day and for the last year has been in a decrepit condition Friday night at a special meeting of the board, Mayor Cutter gaveled through a motion to erect a new one, which is sorely needed and likewise gaveled through another movement which saved the village about \$300 for unnecessary cement walk into a section of the village where there

are only one or two houses. This new tank is to be of 5-16 soft steel, 18 feet in diameter and 30 feet high. It will be set on the old substructure, which is now supporting the old wooden tank, and the additional height and smaller diameter will give about 10 pounds more pressure downtown. It will have a total height of 125 feet, with a capacity of 65,000 gallons of water. A manhole will be made in the side on a level with the floor of the tank instead of in the top as is the case with the old one, thus facilitating cleaning operations. The old tank was 20 feet in diameter and 24 feet high.

Yorkville: There was a big crowd of cold, shivering passengers waiting around on our street Sunday evening, waiting for cars which did not show up. Leverich's pharmacy was the only warm place on the street, which was open and the women and children in the crowd took refuge in there, while any who wished to get away on the five and six o'clock cars turned back to the places where they were visiting and stayed all night. The car that leaves here at four o'clock ran off the rails at the sandpit just around the curve from Cowdrey's crossing. It bumped and jolted over the ties about twice the length of the car and gave the passengers a thorough shaking up. The wrecker was sent for and it was a quarter to seven before the next car reached Yorkville. passengers coming this way got off and walked the rest of the distance to town, and those who were waiting had a cold time of it without a waiting station for their convenience.

Snow fell all Sunday forenoon, Monday morning mercury was 10 above zero with rough roads. Snowed nearly all day Tuesday--winter still here.

The electrical blower for the Yorkville Congregational church has been installed and will probably be used next Sunday, much to the relief of the blower boys and the organist. Will cost about \$100. Operated by a half-horse power motor.

Game Commissioner Manley has received another shipment of quail from the state department to be set at liberty in this neighborhood. The state department seems so well satisfied with Kendall county's location and the care which wild birds receive from the farmers and commissioner that they have sent on this second covey of 25 pairs.

March 21: The Tom West family has moved to Aurora.

It is said that we are going to have a new barber shop here.

The making of improvements has been going on in the hardware store. A section of the shelves has been converted into little drawers. Lou Young did it.

Joe Richards, who is with the Chicago Telephone Company and whose engagements heretofore were at Aurora, has been transferred to Minooka, where he will be the general repair man.

The Smith-Parkhurst wedding Wednesday evening was the uppermost society event of the season.

Rev. M.C. Werner was a native of Europe; was brought to his country when three years old and raised in Wisconsin. At 2 years he entered the ministry of the Evangelical church in which he served as long as able; for two years, in 1893 and 1894, was the pastor of the Oswego church of that denomination and was highly esteemed by the whole community. He returned to Wisconsin and about two years ago became subject to paralysis, which disabled him for further service. To be near to a married daughter the family returned her about a year ago. His condition became worse and of late he had been made entirely helpless by recurring strokes and the last, of March 11, caused his death.

The funeral took place March 14, being his 58th birthday. The services were at the Evangelical church. The pall bearers were Henry Bower, L.F. Burkhart, J.D. Ebinger, Oliver Hem, Fred Mundsinger, and L.H. Shoger. Burial was in the Oswego cemetery. A widow, six sons, and three daughters survive.

Soon after one o'clock Sunday the telephones in Kendall county began to tell the sad news that Mrs. Charles T. Cherry had died at the Hotel Bishop, the winter home in Aurora, after a long illness. She was a leader in the Oswego woman's clubs as well as in Aurora clubs. Born and brought up in the town of NaAuSay, where her parents were early settlers, she married a neighbor's son--also belonging to a pioneer family--who after going through the routine of the farm

entered politics and became a factor in the Republican party of Illinois, the Hon. Charles T. Cherry. They have one son, Clifford Allen Cherry, a graduate of an Aurora high school, now a student at the Illinois University.

Mrs. Cherry was a daughter of Henry A. Clark, one of the earlier settlers of AuxSable Grove. She was born in 1858 and married Charles T. Cherry Dec. 31, 1879. Beside the husband, she leaves her son Clifford, who is about 21 years of age; a sister, Mrs. Mary Clark Sherman; brothers H.S. Clark of Oswego and F.W. Clark of Milwaukee. Burial will be in the NaAuSay cemetery. Members of the legislature with Mr. Cherry will be pall bearers, the Hons. W.E. Trautman of East St. Louis, Guy Bush of Downers Grove, J. Bert Castle of Sandwich Israel Dudgeon of Morris, Horace Russell of Milford, and Charles Backus of Kane county.

The residence of Mr. and Mrs. Amos J. Parkhurst in Oswego township about three miles above Yorkville on the car line was a center of interest on Wednesday night March 14, on the occasion of the marriage of their daughter, Miss Amy Parkhurst, to Mr. Royce Smith.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith will live on the old Smith homestead after settling.

Yorkville: The troubles of the Morris-Yorkville electric road are not yet at an end, nor are they liable to be until a man with a few millions come along to take it up and push it through to a finish. Some months ago creditors began to file claims against the company, which was composed of Mr. Pearce of Oswego and N.S. Evans, Pearce the monied man and Mr. Evans the man with experience...Colvin Pearce is one of the prominent and well to do farmers of Oswego township, one of the numerous family of Pearces who own and control and great portion of the Oswegoland. When the road was begun Mr. Pearce was sufficiently impressed with its prospects to invest \$5,000. It was claimed all the time that the company was further strengthened by the support of a Chicago financier. but the fact of the matter is that Mr. Pearce's \$5,000 was spent during operations and that is about all. He has paid out more than \$1,000 additional for deferred claims since the men quit working on this end of the line.

Three aliens were made citizens of the United States in the county court this week. Final papers being issued to Lewis Nelson, Charles Johnson, and David Johnson, all of them showing good proofs that they had been on this side of the big water the requisite number of years. All natives of Norway.

There was excitement in Aurora Sunday when fire broke out in the roof of the old stone seminary of historic note and damaged the structure to the amount of \$10,000, caught from a defective chimney flue. The building has been occupied for some years by the Deaconess organization of the Methodist church for a young woman's school and belongs to the Rock River conference. It is said that it will be repaired and placed in modern condition and the school resumed.

March 28: Abner Updike spent Friday on business in Chicago.

Candidate for Sheriff Donovan was in Oswego, prospecting.

The Rev. J.G. Butler's 69th birthday was celebrated at his home Tuesday.

Mrs. A.B. Lester is being visited by her niece, Miss Elizabeth Nettleton of Ashton.

Charles Boyle returned from the ice harvest in which he was engaged near Madison, Wis.

Will the strike strike us? is still the question and which wants it the most, the miners or the mine owners.

J.H. Foran is said to have bought the Gus Pearson house, known as Shepard's, which he will move to one of his vacant lots.

The Rush Walker family started for their new home in Minnesota, Thursday. Their departure is regretted.

Jay E. Young has sold out his business plant to two Swedes and it is said that he will move to Michigan to go into fruit farming.

H.G. Smith returned from Indiana apparently without receiving any benefit from the mud bath treatment and remains still one of the ailing.

Mr. and Mrs. John Minich were visited Sunday by their daughters, Mrs. J.T. Pearce of Joliet and Mrs. T.J. Pigott and daughter of Aurora.

April -- 1906

April 4: A dance at the Knapp hall transpired Tuesday night.

The new barbershop at Foran's establishment is now a reality.

Levi S. Young has moved his quarters to the upper rooms of the Shaver building.

Some of the children of John Hoch out in the country are afflicted with diphtheria.

John Pierce had an iron rail drop on one of his feet, by which he is now disabled from work.

O.L. Wormley has sold his place near South Elgin and with his family returned to Oswego. There is no place like it.

Tom Pierce, who was burnt out of house and home a while ago, has bought a house in Aurora and has moved there.

Notwithstanding the inclement weather Friday evening, the school athletes' basket picnic is said to have been a success.

H.G. Smith is said to be better one day and then worse again the next, but Monday afternoon he came down town to show himself to be better.

Adam Wallace has sold his residence to Dr. Van Deventer and with his wife will emigrate to Michigan as soon as he disposes of his saloon, for which negotiations are pending.



Dr. Fred Lester will return here to reside, occupying the house of his sister, Mrs. Lizzie Smith of Chicago, which causes G.M. Cowdrey to be vacating it and moving to the Tom Edwards house, corner Jackson and Madison streets.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Mrs. John McLaren and son Louis of Joliet visited a few days with her mother, Mrs. Mary Barber.

#### THE TOWN ELECTIONS

Oswego township: These were elected: A.C. Lake, town clerk; Charles Roberts, assessor; George White, collector; William Leigh, highway commissioner.

April 11: H.G. Smith is reported as gradually failing.

Obman & Stevenson is the new firm owning now the Adam Wallace saloon.

Dr. Fred Lester was down from Aurora Wednesday looking over the premises he is to occupy.

Roy Croushorn has engaged himself to Hirsch & Hermann, clothiers, Aurora, commencing this Wednesday.

All the old force at Morse's store, except Del Richards when not in school, has quit and John T. Martin is now the head clerk.

At the Oswego Post office always may be found a variety of ladies' gloves, mostly for the right hand, that were picked up and brought there for the losers to get.

The village election is approaching and by it the saloons will not be voted down; the license money is too much needed for the increased expenses of getting a new water tank and large demand for new sidewalks.

Adam Wallace, after selling his saloon to Harry Obman and partner, moved with his wife to Michigan. By the removal of Mrs. Wallace, the Methodist church here has lost one of its most devoted

members. A car with their household goods and livestock, accompanied by Ambrose Darby, went from here Monday.

Fred Tuttle of NaAuSay has applied for a patent on improvements in a broadcast seeder.

NaAuSay: Several of the farmers began sowing oats last week.

Wolf's Crossing: The friends of Clara Cheney and Ray Woolley were much surprised when they learned they were married last week Tuesday at the home of the bride's mother in Aurora.

Pupils of the Harvey school who have been neither absent nor tardy during the month of March are Herbert Haag, Alvin Sorg, Irva Smith, Elva Rink, Elvera Shoger, Rhoda Smith, Carl Sorg, and Courtney Smith. Amanda Hummell, teacher.

#### April 18: MUSTERED OUT

Henry G. Smith was born in Vermont nearly 64 years ago, came with the family to Illinois when a small boy, was a soldier in the Civil War serving in a Wisconsin cavalry regiment; belonged in the Masonic fraternity; came to Oswego 26 years ago and since then was the station agent, quitting the work at the depot Feb. 15. Since then he was vibrating between getting better and then again being worse and Thursday April 12, 1906 he died. The funeral took place Sunday afternoon from the house, it being one of a large attendance so that the major portion had to stay outside of the house and couldn't hear or see anything of it. The Aurora Post of the GAR rendered the final ritual of the order there in the most impressive manner, being assisted by some ladies in reciting a fine poetical production and in the use of a silken flag. After the viewing of the remains of the old friend and comrade, the mourners with the body proceeded to the Elmwood cemetery, Yorkville, where burial took place.

Deceased will be much missed here as he was greatly included to sociability. A widow, two daughters of his first wife, several brothers, and one or more sisters are left to mourn his demise. Members of the GAR were the pall-bearers.

J.H. Foran was in Chicago Thursday and secured an automobile.

Frank Boughton of Wheatland was a caller at Mrs. Moore's Thursday.

Alice Updike commenced Monday to be primary assistant in the Montgomery school.

Mrs. Votaw, out east of here died Tuesday night. She is Mrs. Abner Updike's sister.

The Henry Burkhart family was increased Wednesday by the appearance of a little daughter of 10-1/2 pounds.

Dr. Fred Lester has returned here to help take care of the health of this community and to trot the ground of his boyhood.

Charles Clinton is in Cincinnati procuring some of the materials for his new building. A carload of dressed stone was received for it about a week ago.

The Bushnell-Parkhurst wedding took place Wednesday evening at the home of the bride in Watervliet, Mich., April 11. The groom, a son of Mr. and Mrs. A.J. Parkhurst, is well known throughout the community. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Bushnell, who formerly lived in Lisbon. The happy couple will make their home on a farm near Oswego.

John Deveny was one of the ailing but was about the most of the time. Sunday he was found dead by William Dillon; both were living in what is called the town house. An inquest was held on him Monday forenoon, the jury being L.N. Gaylord, A.C. Lake, E.T. Sutherland, P. Cooney, J.M. Hinchman, and Charles Roberts and the verdict found was that the death was due to heart disease caused by rheumatism. He was buried under the direction of the coroner Monday afternoon.

April 25: A.G. Updike and E.A. Smith were in Chicago Monday.

Kate Cliggitt was elected school director Saturday without opposition.

Get your feed ground at the Oswego Feed mill. Oats ground fine.  
Grind every day. C. Weber.

The stone quarry over the river is undergoing development; a number of carloads of stone from it have been shipped to Chicago.

Assessor Roberts is now busy prying into people's affairs to find out what they got. Why not do away with this vexatious taxation, which easily could be done.

Charles Rieger has resumed the making of cement blocks, and is about to receive a motor by which the most of the hardest of the handwork is to be saved.

Guy White has quit the switchboard business and taken the position of bookkeeper in the CB&Q office at Aurora. He has now started up on the road to distinction.

Harvey Keck has returned from a couple of weeks on the road drumming for some business and the business at home was conducted by Mrs. Keck.

The baseball season opened here Friday afternoon by an Aurora west side high school team playing a game with our high school players, who wore new suits--with white stockings and caps--so they looked very trim and neat and they started out rather extravagantly, beating the Aurorans 28 to 2.

The body of Mrs. Lottie Sanders was brought here from Aurora Friday for burial by the side of her husband, who preceded her to the grave nearly 12 years ago. She was 46 years old and had been brought up near here, having been one of William Parker's daughters.

A part of last week's report was overlooked in being sent. It contained some of the Easter doings, and the election of E.A. Smith school trustee, the new lady clerk at Morse's store.

The lesson to be learned from the California earthquake apparently will be made that it was one of those blessings in disguise, that it

will make labor for a great many people, cause an enormous development of the resources.

Wolf's Crossing: Malcolm Rance and Robert Harvey shipped a carload of sheep last Monday night.

Yorkville: The most appalling calamity of modern times is that happening in San Francisco and along the coast of California which began on Wednesday morning, April 18, at about 5:25 o'clock. The country and the world has been astounded by the magnitude of the disaster, and the ruin and suffering cannot be comprehended even after reading the complete history of the awful affair that has filled the city papers the last week.

May -- 1906

May 2: F.E. Hoard died Tuesday about 1 p.m.

Housecleaning is on and the swallows are here.

Dr. L.P. Voss and C.E. Mann had their residences repainted.

A new barber named Frank Wettifeld has taken the place of Emil Weirich at the barbershop.

L.R. Inman has been critically ill. A trained nurse from Chicago has been procured for him.

A hard hail and thunder storm struck Oswego about 7:30 Tuesday evening. No material damage was done.

L.L. Thomas has accepted the management of a large farm for its owner down in Kankakee county and will move there shortly.

Charles Gray came down from the Milwaukee Soldiers' Home on a visit. He talked about changing his abode from there to Danville.

The Oswego high school base ballists went to Yorkville Saturday to contest for superiority in a game with the high school team there, but

it wasn't their day for success. The stars were against them and their efforts proved abortive. [The final score was 17-4]

Mr. and Mrs. Martin Ashley of Norwich, Kansas are here on a visit-- he hadn't been here since they went away 28 years ago. Mrs. Ashley was Ella Judson of this place.

When you meet the rural mail carriers on the road, please pull out to one side. By a recent ruling of the Postmaster General, rural carriers have the right-of-way on country roads and all other carriages and conveyances must surrender the right-of-way to them. A fine will be charged to all who in any way interfere with the speedy delivery of the rural mail.

Yorkville: With this issue closes my 42 years of service as editor and Publisher of *The Record*. I settled in Yorkville in April 1864 and issued the first number of *The Record* the last of the month, dating it May 7.

May 9: Decoration Day is next in order.

Floi Johnston has developed into an expert colt breaker.

Emil Weirich has started up the barber business at the Foran plant.

Kelsey Newman has taken the position of switchboard operator at the Chicago telephone office here.

The council Tuesday evening elected J.W. Morrison marshal and night watch, the business houses to stand a part of the pay voluntarily for the night service.

The Hemm brothers have bought three acres of the Haag farm for a new outlet from their place; the old had become a matter of dispute and all is now satisfactorily arranged.

The funeral of F.E. Hoard took place Thursday from the house. The deceased was born a little over 81 years ago at Antwerp, N.Y., came to these parts in 1868, and with the exception of a few years in

South Dakota, has resided here. The survivors are a widow, a son Charles H., and daughter, Mrs. Christie Breese, both of Plano.

The first barefoot boy of the season put in his appearance in Oswego Saturday morning but he stepped along at a lively pace when he struck the cold cement walks on the south side of the street where the sun had not warmed things up since the afternoon of the day before. It's a little early yet, and like Hugh Fullerton, the youngster's bare legs were "clad only in goose pimples."

The hailstorm of a week ago yesterday raised "Hail, Columby" with the asparagus beds in Oswego says uncle Dave Hall.

The new elevated water tank for Oswego village is in process of construction at the shops and will soon be shipped to Oswego to be raised. It will take about three weeks to get it in shape to fill with water, then the village will have one of the best-equipped fire protection plants in this vicinity. It is to be entirely of steel, situated on the site of the present wooden tank and supported by the same substructure, which is in first class condition.

The new barber shop in Oswego located in the Gus Shoger building is in one of the historical structures of Kendall County. The building was put up in 1845 by W.O Park, who afterwards became the second postmaster of Oswego village. He kept store there for a number of years and conducted the post office in connection with it. Oswego first had a post office in 1837, and during the long lapse of years between then and now it has been changed to several different places.

May 16: The body of Joseph Pearce arrived here with the mourners from Wittemore, Iowa on the train Saturday and was taken to the home of Colvin Pearce where funeral services took place in the afternoon. The burial was in the Pearce cemetery, which by the way, has become a very nice place being very neatly kept. Deceased was nearly 77 years of age; was one of the numerous Pearce family, brought to this place when a small boy in 1833, and lived here till after his marriage, when he lived for some years near Shabbona, afterwards moved to Iowa where he spent the rest of his life. He leaves a widow, four daughters and one son.

Charles Gaylord was over from Plainfield in his new and first class automobile. He is one in the swim of prosperity.

The basement part of the Clinton brick mansion is completed.

Eggs are being shipped from here by the carload.

A.G. Updike has engaged the Leigh house for a residence as soon as vacated by L.L. Thomas.

George Rabe and family has moved here from Chicago and into the Hardy Edwards house.

Wolf's Crossing: The office at the Wolf's Crossing Elevator is having a new coat of paint.

Ed Hovey Sr. and Ed Hovey Jr. will commence building on Cap Fischer's house this week.

Tamarack and Wheatland: The old Scotch church, which has stood and done good service for something like fifty-five years will be replaced by a new structure costing about \$5,000, of which nearly \$4,500 has been subscribed.

A.G. Griffin was out from Aurora Tuesday to get hay and grain for his team for the summer.

May 23: A.L.B [Alfred L. Browne], besides his sketches last week of Newark of yore, mentioned also the joint discussion between Lincoln and Douglas at Ottawa in 1858 and some Newarkites yet live that were present. This Yahoo was there, too, heard the speeches, and at the close of them saw some men carry off Mr. Lincoln on their shoulders--not a very dignified proceeding, he having such long legs. One personal incident that occurred previous to the speaking shall be remembered with regret, and at the same time with a sort of humor, to the very last. It was the making of a fellow most awfully mad, and he would have justifiably punched my noodle, if nothing worse, had there been any room for it. Ottawa had made great preparations for the event. An extensive stand with a roof of it had



been erected, in the center of it a table was placed, behind which the speeches were to be made and on either side of it were placed many chairs for the notables to sit. I had gone there to hear the speeches and so was one of the first on the ground to preempt an eligible spot for it. The crowd gathered and soon became very great. Near the time of commencing, a manager appeared on the stand saying, "Owing to the wind blowing quite strong from the way it does, the speaking will be off that end (pointing to it) where it will be the better heard by such a large crowd." Then the struggle commenced. A solid mass of humanity was swaying a few inches at a time to and fro; some halloed, "don't move, don't move. It is a ruse to get us out of here so they may take the place!" And during the crush I became lifted up a little and didn't touch the ground for some time and distance, and it was then when this incident occurred. I was wedged in a little askant behind a fellow with a freckled neck and coarse, bushy, sorrel hair and it was he whom I made so awfully mad. I can see him yet turn his head around as far as possible, showing the whites of his eyes and swearing dire vengeance on me. As soon as I became a little loosened I backed out from there, and as luck would have it secured as good a place as the one first chosen. The cause of the fellow's madness need not appear in print--I have since quit the filthy habit.

The bricklaying of the Clinton mansion is well under way.

Crow hunts are not tending towards the evolution of the finer feelings.

H.B. Read said that he received the novel order for a dog Monday and turned it over to Frank Schram.

Morton Richards had a two weeks' vacation from duties in the office of the Fox River Butter factory at Aurora, which he mostly spent with his folks at home.

Mrs. Joseph Pearce and children, who were here to attend the funeral of their husband and father, returned to their respective homes in Iowa and Missouri.

The dues of the XIX Century Club must be paid before June 1. Please send to secretary or bring to business meeting Thursday, May 24:  
Helen Richards, Sec.

L.L. Thomas returned here from Kankakee county for the purpose of removing his wife and the household goods there. he likes it well there, but thinks that Mrs. T. will feel somewhat lonesome, as there are no near neighbors. Monday evening the couple were treated to a surprise good-bye visit by friends. Some mementoes were left with them.

#### DECORATION DAY AT OSWEGO

The day will be observed with appropriate ceremonies and the people of the village and vicinity are expected to assist. Rev. Mr. MacAuley of Streator will deliver a patriotic address; Huen's band from Aurora will furnish music and the usual decoration of graves will be performed.

NaAuSay: Nellie Howell and Myrtle Kellogg will close their schools Friday and visit other schools.

Supervisor Murley will attend the encampment of the GAR at Galesburg this week.

Wolf's Crossing: Corn shelling is now the rage. Among the ones shelling and hauling of the Wolf's Crossing elevator are Charles Sorg, George Roth, John Richards, Lewis Woolley, and George Smith.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Eyre were with relatives in NaAuSay Sunday.

Wolf's Crossing markets, May 22: Yellow corn, 45-1/2 cents; White corn, 45-1/2 cents; Mixed corn, 45 cents; Oats, 31-1/2 cents.

Yorkville: The Kendall county crow hunt has been postponed two weeks and will take place sure on Monday, May 28. All men and boys over 15 years of age are urged to take part in the sport and should send their names at once to W.W. Church, Yorkville. All those engaging in the contest are urged to conduct themselves as becomes good sportsmen, and are asked to tear down no fences and to destroy no property.

May 30: Sunday was acceptably kept; nobody went fishing; no automobiles came to town; there was no practicing of ball playing; people kept quite generally indoors--the weather.

Sam Foster, a merchant here some time in the fifties, now a United States official in the Indian territory, was seen in town Monday. He, together with his wife and son and wife are making a tour of visits to relatives and are now at his cousin's, S.E. Walker's.

#### Yorkville: THE CROW SLAUGHTER

The Kendall county crow hunt, which took place Monday, surpassed expectations in the number of crows and hawks killed; when the count was taken it showed 538 crows killed and about a dozen hawks.

June -- 1906

June 6: John Reiger was born in Württemberg, Germany March 30, 1854; was brought to America and this section when four years old and was raised in this township. He was married to Miss Anna Lippold in 1881, and some time afterwards moved to Nebraska. About six years ago they changed their residence to Iowa, where he died May 28, of what was supposed to be Bright's disease, with which he had been affected for about a year. The body, on its arrival Thursday, was taken to the residence of Ludwig Lippold, over the river, the widow's father, where the funeral took place the next day. Burial was in the NaAuSay cemetery. The widow's brothers and brothers-in-law acted as the pall-bearers. There were no children in the family, only an adopted daughter. The widow a sister, and two brothers are the nearest relatives.

The WCTU meeting at the Methodist church [now the Little White School Museum] Sunday evening was one of the best ever had. There was a full house, extra prepared singing, and Miss Brehm is not only as expert in speaking but also in singing.

The opening at Riverview Park was taken in by a number from here.

Prof. and Mrs. Newton Pearce are here from Baltimore on a vacation. His sister, Bessie, was also home over Decoration.

Twenty-seven votes were cast at the judicial election Monday and it required six able bodied men all ay to accomplish it.

Another native Oswegoan, Charles Samse of Kokomo, Indiana, has made himself famous by beating the world's record 4 inches in pole vaulting.

The Oswego high school baseballists lost a game by 4 to 3 to Wheatland in the forenoon on Decoration day; won by 3 to 2 from Yorkville after noon and lost to Plainfield Saturday by a score of 3 to 1

James B. Lockwood of Helena, Montana wants to have said through the local papers that his father, a former resident of Oswego, died at Canseraga, New York, May 24, and was temporarily buried there, but will later be brought here and laid by the side of his wife.

#### Yorkville: Decoration Day

In Oswego, there was a typical 1906 observance of the day. A band furnished music for the crowd of folks in town; two ball games were played on the flats during the day; long line of march went to the cemetery and everybody within radius of five miles attended Perhaps the ball game in the afternoon between the Yorkville and Oswego teams accounts for the absence of so many of the younger male folks from the observance in Yorkville. In the forenoon, the Oswego boys played Wheatland. They were looking for an easier game with the team from the east and reserved their strongest men for the Yorkville game in the afternoon. Wheatland was victorious by a score of 4 to 2.

The Yorkville team went on the field clad in brand new uniforms of gray and blue--certainly very appropriate for the day--and the unfamiliarity with the new togs may have created an embarrassment that lost the game for the visitors. A game of 3 to 2 is a hard one to lose, but the Yorkville boys stood the defeat in good humor.

Don't die this year! A coffin trust has been organized and funeral operations are all higher. Live till the trust is busted.

#### A FRENCH AND INDIAN RELIC

William Smith of Yorkville got off the three o'clock car Saturday afternoon armed with a great long rifle that looked like the wicked weapons used by the Turks. The barrel of the gun is over five feet in length and is rifled, it shooting a ball from a bore as large as a 14-gauge shotgun. On being asked what he was doing with such an evident 16th century firearm, he told an interesting story of its origin.

The rifle was ordered made by Phineas Smith, Mr. William Smith's great-grandfather, for the former's son, Phineas, way back some time prior to the French and Indian war. It is handmade throughout, the peculiar curve in the stock giving it the appearance of the Turkish firearm. When it was first made it was a flintlock, ignition being obtained by the striking hammer throwing a spark from the piece of flint. The grandfather of Mr. Smith used the gun in the French and Indian war, and Mr. Smith says it laid low many a redskin. Later, the barrel was cut down to its present length, and the cap-fire arrangement was put on instead of the flintlock, with the little horizontal cylinder that is seldom seen on old guns of this character. It has been a family heirloom for many years and was in the possession of the late Henry G. Smith of Oswego when he died a short time ago. Mr. William Smith procured it from the widow, and brought it to Yorkville, where it will doubtless pass from Mr. Smith's hands to those of his son, and thence down through the coming generations.

There was an election in Kendall county Monday. Some may not believe this statement, but it is a fact. The lassitude which marked the election was caused by the fact that there was only one name on the ticket, that only one party had a candidate, and that the election was for a judge of the Supreme Court of the State of Illinois. As a general rule, judicial elections do not call out a large vote. Judge Cartwright of Rockford was re-elected.

For a small vote the election was a record breaker. Only 185 votes were cast in Kendall county, at a cost to the county of about \$1.94 per vote.

NaAuSay: The Falkenberg and Marvin children are having the whooping cough.

Erma Wald of Specie Grove received the prize for improving the most in writing during the past year in the Cutter school.

Tamarack and Wheatland: A committee from the U.P. church went down near Kankakee and inspected a church there preparatory to letting the contract for an edifice here.

Wolf's Crossing: The first commencement exercises of the Harvey school were held Friday evening at the schoolhouse. Two graduates, Herbert Haag and Agnes Burkhart, did excellent work. Mr. Arthur Schark furnished music during the evening on the graphophone.

The Farmers Picnic arranged by the Good times Club will be held at George W. Smith's Saturday, June 9. All kinds of foot races, horse races are on the program. Two good ball games will be played-- Oswego high school vs. Yorkville high school and Oswego Pirates vs. Wheatland Colts. The picnic grounds are only  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile from the electric line Joliet-Plainfield-Aurora, 4 miles south of Aurora and 3-1/2 miles east of Oswego Cars arrive every hour. Officers of the day are George W. Smith, president; Charles Sorg, vice president; Fred Schell, secretary-treasurer; Thomas Kelley, marshal; T. Parker, Aurora, starter.

June 13: The Updike family is occupying the Leigh house for its residence.

Susie Croushorn closed a successful term of the Cutter school with a picnic at Riverview Park.

Oswego loses one of its business houses. Harvey Keck is moving his effects of the store to Aurora for storage.

Oswego came out second best, 11 to 14, in a ball game played with a team from Wheatland at the East Oswego picnic Saturday.

A.G. Updike, C.H. Shoger, and Frank Foran of Minooka returned Saturday from a successful trip to South Dakota in the land interest.

The oldest child, a girl 7 years old, of the Silvius family, formerly residing here but now near Aurora, died last week. The body was brought here for burial, the funeral taking place from the Presbyterian church after the morning services. The departed was a granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Martin.

Coroner Drew was called Sunday to hold an inquest on Mrs. Anna Olson, who was killed by a train on the main line over at the crossing. The Record probably has an account of it; and again Monday he was called to Seward to hold another. So within eight days he held four inquests; condition seemingly to make a deputy coroner necessary.

To die suddenly and without previous sickness is doubtless the best end of life to all concerned; such was the death of Mrs. F.M. Damon at her home over the river Friday afternoon, but as it took place when entirely alone at home, extra sadness to the family attaches to her demise. Her daughters live at home. Jessie was at work in Aurora and Edna is a teacher at Maywood, boarding at home, who when arriving in the afternoon found the dead mother in her bed room. Coroner Drew held an inquest in the evening, the verdict of the jury being that the death was due to heart failure. The funeral took place from Sunday afternoon from the house and was largely attended. Burial was in the cemetery here by the side of her husband, who preceded her a few years ago. Her age was 63 years. The survivors of the family are three daughters and three sons: Mrs. De Etta Bates of Princeton and the Misses Jessie and Edna at home; DeForest Damon of California, Lewis and George of this neighborhood. Her maiden name was Sperry and she is also survived by two brothers and a sister, the latter of Aurora.

Wolf's Crossing: Myron Haag and Milton Hemm attended the track meet at Electric Park Saturday.

The person who went in the barn at Geo. Smith's place Saturday during the picnic and took the line from the single harness had better return it as the party if known.

Yorkville: Since the exposure of Chicago packing houses by a federal report to Congress, Mayor Dunne and his inspectors are getting

busy regulating the stockyards and the packing houses. If the Illinois and city authorities had taken hold of this matter when the packers first came under fire, much scandal would have been avoided and much money saved. But too many feared to antagonize the Armours, the Swifts, the Morrisses, and other leading financiers who have been allowed too long to do as they pleased in the matter of meat products. President Roosevelt has brought things to a head in spite of the favor shown the packers by a federal judge. The people are going to rule in these matters despite the strength of corporations in high places.

Mrs. Evor Olson, for nearly half a century a resident of this section, was run down and killed by an eastbound work engine on the main line of the Burlington road in Bristol township Sunday morning, her body being thrown 75 feet by the force of the impact. Mrs. Olson was in her 79th year.

Toasted Corn-flakos at A.P. Hill's.

NaAuSay: John Winn raised a large barn last week.

The Green and Bethel schools closed with a picnic at Electric Park Friday.

June 20: Another little daughter has made her abode in the Dr. Kittler family.

Mrs. Greenawalt and baby son have come home from a Chicago hospital.

Will Behr, head clerk at Funk's store, is sick at his home in Montgomery.

Dora Culver closed her term of the Squires school with a picnic in the Pearce woods Friday.

A man named McMann was here looking for the house he was born in some 40 years ago.



A show under canvass of the Microbean Medicine Company is now on evenings and is largely attended.

The league ball game Thursday, the first in which the Oswego team was engaged, was lost to Yorkville by 4 to 1.

A goodbye picnic at Riverview park in behalf of the departing Willis family was got up by some of the young folks.

The brick work of the Clinton house is near completion. The carpenter work is being done by Erwin [Irvin] Haines and gang.

The new residence of John P. Hummel, 2-1/2 miles east of town is rapidly progressing. The Richards gang is doing the job.

Updike and Gaylord are spreading their business, occupying now the next north vacated by Keck for their harness and carriage repository.

George Rabe and family are now residents of Oswego--moved here from Chicago and are occupying the tenant part of the Harding Edwards house.

Mr. and Mrs. Cassius H. Durand of Chicago were here Sunday to see to their lot in the cemetery and to call on a few of their friends, especially Charles Roberts, to whom she is related.

The demolition of the old water tank is now under way and the pumping of the water is directly in the mains, which has been done at intervals. The users of it should keep some in store in order to be always supplied.

The school term is drawing to a close and the doings of the commencement graduation are now waited for with anxious expectancy; the event will take place Friday evening; the invitations out for it are very handsome. The class numbers seven--four boys and three girls--the first time in the history of the high school that the boys out-numbered the girls.

Charles Bennett moved west from this neighborhood 35 years ago; he is now in Aurora on a visit, and Sunday came down here to see some of his old acquaintances. He has developed into a stout gentleman and resides in Springfield, Missouri, but also has interests in the Indian Territory. And by the way, there are now but four left of that numerous family when living here.

Yorkville: Only Chris Herren's safe hit over shortstop Thursday afternoon prevented Oswego from suffering a clean shut-out at the hands of the Yorkville boys in the first league game Oswego has played. The game was straight baseball from the start, the score remaining 2-0 in favor of Yorkville from the third inning till the eighth.

The Burlington company is preparing to build the bridge on the new drainage ditch in Bristol, which has been in controversy so long. they have given up contention and the road commissioners are glad. It is to be finished by the middle of July.

Friday was a great day in Yorkville for the followers of Isaac Walton, and it is estimated that up to noon, Friday, about 400 black bass, pickerel, and bluegills ere taken from the Fox river. At 12 o'clock midnight Thursday, the law prohibiting fishing within 400 feet of the dam expired and as early as 2 o'clock in the morning the banks in the region of the Yorkville dam were lined with fishermen's lanterns an from a distance Chief Habel said it looked like a regiment encamped with the bivouac fires burning.

NaAuSay: The Mottinger brothers of Plainfield are painting Sherman Kellogg's new house.

Tamarack and Wheatland: The Tamarack School closed last week Monday and the Wilcox Wednesday.

Wolf's Crossing: A great many from around here attended the Wheatland Field Day held at James Clow's Saturday.

June 27: A carload of the new tank material is received.

Edith Hebert returned to DeKalb for taking in the summer course of the Normal school there.

Teacher Elva Downing went to her home in Iowa, but will return here to resume her station at the school for the next term.

The building recently bought by J. H. Foran, known as the old Shepard house, is on the move to the Park addition to make room for a new modern house for Gus Pearson. An Aurora man is doing the moving.

Success is usually made the subject entering more or less into the graduation exercises and was so in that of the Oswego high school class of 1906 at the Congregational church Friday evening. Its commencement was a marked success; it brought together a packed house of a well-dressed and well-behaved audience, of which femininity was largely predominating, whose white and clean apparel made an enchanting aspect.

Yorkville: it is said the congress just now closing its session makes appropriations that call for \$900,000,000 of the people's money. As we grow great we grow extravagant--and reckless.

The picture of the Yorkville dam and fishermen printed on the sixth page of his paper was taken from a photo made by C.E. Jessup, the Yorkville artist. The morning was hazy and a mist was prevailing when the scene was depicted on the camera, causing it to look a bit blurred. Mr. Jessup is doing good work at his studio.

Some pretty views of Yorkville and Fox river scenery have been placed on postal cards by photographic methods by Miss Louise Hill and are in great demand by visitors and residents who want to send a souvenir of his vicinity to friends. They are on exhibition and for sale at Hill's drug store, Yorkville. Everyone thinks they are just the thing.

Oswego Schools Close in Harmonious Gathering

The schools of Oswego are about the last in Kendall county to close this year. The course in all the grades has been successfully completed.

Oswego village needs a coliseum or auditorium annex. It is a remarkable place for large turnouts, and Friday night when the exercises were held in the pretty Congregational church about half the people who wanted to hear were able to get inside.

Over the front of the rostrum was suspended the gold-lettered motto of the class, "Duty Done is Honor Won.," affixed to a black background. The class flower is the red rose and great bunches of beauties were placed about the platform, backed up with banks of palms and potted foliage plants.

After the invocation by Rev. Edwin Harris of the Presbyterian church, Miss Allie M. Wald delivered the salutatory and her theme. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Wald, living on a farm three miles from Oswego and outdoor life has made her a vivacious girl. Louis Young, son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Young, according to the class prophet, is to be a farmer and his oration on "Agriculture" clearly demonstrated that he has a fund of knowledge which will make a capital working basis for the fundamental principles of this 20th century science. Louis has made a name for himself with the assistance of his big brother, "Bunnie" Young, on the baseball diamond.

"Chicago has been called the Negroes' paradise; in Chicago the negro has become a successful politician, holding more well-paying political positions than in any other calling." With this opening shot, Miss Frances Smith, the successful colored member of the class began her oration on "Afro-American Progress." Miss Smith is the third one of her family to graduate from the Oswego high school. She is a bright student and her people and town friends are proud of her accomplishments. In the course of her oration, Miss Smith paid a compliment to their beloved poet, the late Paul Laurence Dunbar, who has raised the negro dialect to a beautiful sentiment and whose early death is mourned by all his people in this country. "Booker T. Washington," she said, "Could adjourn school tomorrow and go into the forest with his 2,000 students and in a short space of time erect a magic city with every line of life represented." It was all a masterly effort and Miss Smith won spontaneous applause from all.

The class history and prophecy was combined for the production of Miss Elsie M. Collins, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Collins, who lives on the farm a few miles from Oswego.

"Our National Spirit," the sentiment that all men are born free and equal, was the leading thought in Cass Figge's theme, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lew Figge.

Oscar Shoger, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Shoger, recalled the typical class-day stunts--"Action Masters All." "The wise man," he said, "Is not the one who never makes a mistake, but he who never makes the same mistake twice." The Shogers are a numerous family in Oswego and Oar upheld the prestige of the family name.

On the farm with his father, William Condon had given the valedictorian, Jon Condon, a splendid opportunity to work out his introductory remarks on "Mechanical Power." John is a mechanic by natural tendencies and we predict that this will be his life work.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Friends of Miss Bessie Clow will be pleased to learn she is improving from her recent operation for appendicitis and is now home from Chicago.

Wolf's Crossing: Master Albert Updike from Oswego is spending this week with Masters Alvin and Carl Sorg.

July -- 1906

July 4: The Clinton mansion is having its roof under construction.

The putting up of the new water tank is commenced.

Fred Figge was seen in town Wednesday. He is now engaged in the nursery business.

Several trees around town, window shutters, shingles, etc. were blown down by the big blow Friday.

Ten carloads of fat steers were shipped from here Wednesday by the Goudies and Schlapps and perhaps others of Na-au-say farmers.

The C.E. Fowler family have returned here and are occupying the VanDeventer house, corner Washington and Madison streets. Their return is hailed with delight.

To Allie Wald was voted the diamond ring at the last medicine show Saturday evening. The company is now gone; they were pretty nice people and well liked by the folks here.

The alumni meeting of the O.H.S. is said to have been a very pleasant affair. Ethel Kelsey of White Willow was attending it, and afterwards visited with Alice Updike for a few days.

Mrs. James Pearce died Thursday, June 28, 1906, the funeral occurring Saturday afternoon from the house.

As to the biography, most of what is said here is of the writer's own memory. He had known her when a slender little girl--afterwards, however, developed into a stout matron, being of a modest yet lively and pleasant disposition.

Her maiden name was Mary Gannon, being the eldest daughter of James Gannon family, and was born in New York City about 53-1/2 years ago. When of proper age she married to James Pearce and sometime afterwards they moved to Plymouth county, Iowa, where they resided for a number of years. After returning here, they made the house she died in their homestead.

#### In Memoriam

Mary Catherine Gannon was born in New York City, Nov. 28, 1852, the family afterwards moving to Illinois. She was married to James T. Pearce Feb. 20, 1873. The young couple moved to Le Mars, Iowa in 1877 where they lived seven years and then returned to Illinois. Of this union were born eight children, Newton, Grace, Lyman, Bessie, Daisy, Mamie, Clara, and Beulah, all of whom, with the husband, are now living.

On the morning of June 28, 1906, after an illness of three years, she passed from this life and entered into her rest.

NaAuSay: Several from here attended the circus at Aurora Friday and all arrived home safely with the exception of getting a thorough drenching.

Tamarack and Wheatland: The farmers will commence haying this week, but the crop is very light--the recent rains being a little too late to help any.

A great many from here were at the circus Friday and fortunately none from here were injured although in some cases clothes were damaged and ruined.

Yorkville: Was it a cyclone? No, not exactly, but the storm that swooped down upon Yorkville and the surrounding country Friday afternoon displayed many of the characteristics of a genuine whirlwind.

There was a circus on at Aurora and the storm wrecked the great tent and did much damage. Two lives were lost, Matthew Bury of Aurora being struck by a tent-pole and his head crushed; the excitement caused the death of William Cress of Geneva from heart failure. Several were severely injured. The trolley car due here at 5 o'clock was half an hour late caused by a large tree falling across the track near Montgomery. The ladies and children arriving here on that car were water-soaked by the rain. It was fortunate that no more damage was done, but the employees in the circus were well drilled and took care that the crowd should have attention and safety.

One man and a team of horses were killed and three spans of the Illinois river bridge were totally destroyed on the afternoon of June 26 by a severe wind and rain storm which visited Utica about 3 o'clock. The man killed was a farmer by the name of Kelly, who was crossing the bridge at the time the hurricane struck and with his team was precipitated to the river and drowned.

July 11: We Oswegoans were all along congratulating ourselves for enjoying such excellent water: Water that was so pure and free of any taste or smells. We were happy in being blessed with such good and healthful water. When it came to the taking down of the old tank recently it was found there was a heap of dead and decaying sparrows in it; it caused some of us copious water drinkers to almost gag when we heard of it; the beer trade doubtless was considerably increased by it. Let the new water tank be made sparrow proof.

Alice Updike accompanied Mrs. Reuben Parkhurst on a visit to her folks in Michigan.

The Oswego nine was in third place in the Kendall County baseball standings with a record of 2 and 2. Plano was the league leader, followed by Yorkville, Oswego, and Bristol.

July 18: Clara Minkler was up from Kewanee on a flying visit.

Hon. CT. and Clifford Cherry are now rusticating on the farm and occasionally come to town.

Robt. H Johnston harvested 50 acres of wheat last week, and he feels jubilant over the quality of it.

She who, when an Oswego girl was Kate Lester, was met Sunday in town together with her husband, Dr. Palmer--if name is remembered correctly.

Sheriff Voss, H.M. Richards, and Mayor Cutter, with an Aurora automobile and chauffeur, made a trip all over Kendall county and a part of Grundy Wednesday.

The information of the death at the age of 77 years of James R. Cutter in Boston July 8 was received here. He was a former Oswegoan; was married here to Miss Tillie Jolly, and partly raised his family here.

The riveting together of the steel plates for the new water tank has caused much hammering during the week, which could be heard all over town. This is a job where some of us fellows didn't sit by and make suggestions how it might be done differently from the way it is. Two sections of the tank are now in place.

Tamarack and Wheatland: The cornerstone of the church will be laid this Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock with appropriate ceremonies.

NaAuSay: The Schlapp Brothers were in Chicago last week with another carload of cattle and report a good market.

The Plainfield creamery has closed and the farmers' wives through here are making butter.



Walter Vickery is building two additions onto his home, one on the west side for himself and wife and the other for his son Earnest and family. Mr. Vickery is a lover of the old farm and home and does not believe in spending his last days in the city.

Yorkville: The pickle factory opened for business Monday morning. Frantz Boston will have charge of the receiving end of the business for a while. Not many growers in this section this year, but there will be plenty for the Squire Dingee folks. They have made concessions to growers and those who have planted and are raising cucumbers for the market will receive good prices this year.

July 25: To begin to institute a sewerage system of Oswego is one of the municipal questions evolved for solution.

The water tank, the Clinton mansion, and all other building operations in and about town are progressing nicely.

The circus arrived this morning: A small boy handled the three elephants in fine style. Rieger's horse became badly scared by them.

From Wolf's Crossing: The farmers around here have mostly finished cutting oats.

August -- 1906

August 1: Professor Newman is again devoting his vacation to the interest of the Mystic Workers.

Mrs. Elizabeth Wormley is ailing, apparently from a mild stroke of apoplexy, mostly affecting her speech.

Adam Armstrong and daughter Bessie came out from Chicago Saturday for a few days' visit. The Armstrongs enjoy great prosperity there.

Roy Smith has returned here from Naperville and engaged himself for a salesman in the Funk store.

Lizzie Pearce has returned from Nevada on a visit, her health not being very good. She reports the mining interests there excellent and the company highly prosperous.

Ray Ness has engaged himself as sub-agent at the Somonauk depot.

Attorney and Mrs. E. Gilon of New York City are said to be moving here. Their furniture has arrived for storage. Mrs. G. was Ella Van Drieson.

A.G. Updike and John Herron are up in Canada in the real estate interest.

O.L Wormley and family have moved into the Minkler house.

Did anybody see a large meteor or other luminous body pass across the sky Friday night?

The Katydids commenced their concert Monday evening.

E.S.G. Earls, formerly a farmer near Wolf's Crossing but of late years residing with his son, Frank, at Gilroy, Calif., was killed by the cars near his home Friday morning, July 20. He was 85 years of age and will be remembered by the older residents here. He leaves a son, Frank, and a daughter, Flora, in California, and a son, Grover, living near Minooka.

The meeting of the WCTU will be held at Mrs. Oliver Hebert's Friday afternoon at 1:30. Topic for study: Lady Henry Somerset.

Yorkville: Why is it parties in an automobile look so superciliously on persons along the street or in carriages? The auto seems to impart a lordly air as the riders look about and say to themselves: "Don't you wish you had one?" A large auto passed up Bridge street in Yorkville Friday at the rate of 20 miles an hour, making more noise than a Burlington engine on the Fox river road, but the autoists didn't care, nothing but a shotgun would have stopped them. No wonder farmers get mad. An auto is a nice thing to have,

even if you have a mortgage on it, but the driver should consider that others have rights, whether on foot or on horseback.

NaAuSay: The Chautauqua at Electric Park [in Plainfield] is the attraction for all of our young people and some of the older ones just now.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Threshing commences in these parts this week.

August 8: Roy Croushorn was having a vacation, and together with Karl Young enjoyed a visit to Electric Park.

G. H. Shoger is said to have bought the livery stable and implement interest from J. H. Foran.

Morse & Fowler is now the firm of the store of general merchandise, corner main and Washington streets.

Clinton Burkhart and bride of North Dakota are here to enjoy a part of their honeymoon among the scenes of his boyhood.

One of the tank men got full and a-fighting while downtown Monday. He was assessed \$3 and costs by the police court for it.

The body of Mildred Westover, a girl 17 years of age, was brought from Aurora here for burial in the Pearce cemetery Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Cass Gaylord are here from California on a visit. Cass is in splendid trim in both body and spirit, and presumably his wife, also.

The body of Kinkead Hopkins was brought up from his home in Kendall Saturday for burial in the Oswego cemetery by the side of his wife, who preceded him there 50 years ago.

Dr. Kittler and family will move to Michigan where besides the medical practice he will carry on a fruit farm, and he will be succeeded here by his predecessor, Dr. Churchill of St. Charles, according to report.

The primary election in Oswego was passed quietly. The very first man offering to vote was asked what ticket he wanted to vote; he said he wanted to vote for Scott Cutter; he was asked then if he was a Republican, which he thought was none of their business to know and went away in disgust. There were 213 votes cast, 7 of them were Democratic.

*The Record* of last week said 'It is the solemn duty of every voter in Kendall county to vote next Saturday.' But how could an Independent or Socialist or Prohibitionist vote with out declaring himself to be owned by the Republican or Democratic party and even though he wanted to vote for candidates of these parties? Monopoly in politics should be eschewed as much as monopoly in business. In fact more so, as it is the business of all the people.

Scott Cutter in his duties as mayor of this village and in matters generally, wants things to be acted upon business principles. It is hoped that he will be counted in for the legislature, as there, business principles have been sorely lacking, the opposite to them seemed to have been the rule--going about things the most indirect and roundabout way, making them as copious, as ambiguous, and as costly as possible. The primary law is in point; it should be made the political grave of Deneen and those responsible for it, and Saturday's election should be the last as well as the first under it.

Yorkville: The Milwaukee Avenue State Bank in Chicago, which has more than \$3,000.000 in savings deposits, is closed. The state bank examiner is in possession. A large force of police struggled to keep an excited mob of depositors--nearly all foreigners and many of them women--in order.

The system of drainage in the small district up the electric line, just east of the sand pit, will be one of the most intricate systems in this section. The fall of one inch to the hundred feet is so slight that a great deal more tiling is needed than would be if there was more fall, the drains running about east and west and connecting with a large north and south tile, which empties into the river. The land in the district belongs to the Leigh brothers, Mr. Skeen, Joseph Wayne,

and one or two others and the land, when reclaimed, will be some of the finest.

O.W. Beebe, prohibition candidate for sheriff, wishes it stated that there is no foundation for the rumor that if he is elected sheriff of Kendall county he will appoint Major Donovan as deputy. Mr. Beebe will occupy the sheriff's residence himself if elected.

The rain not only stopped the threshing machines in the county, but it also caused a discontinuance of work on the cement sidewalks in Yorkville.

#### AURORA CHAUTAUQUA

Begins At Riverview Park Tomorrow.

The Aurora Chautauqua Assembly this season is to be held as usual in Riverview Park August 9 to 19 inclusive and those familiar with talent will recognize that the speakers educators and entertainers that have been secured to bring to the patrons of the Assembly the nuggets of new thought.

#### A PIONEER CALLED

William Kinkead Hopkins

One by one the All-wise Father is pronouncing the completion of labors here and calling to new fields those Old Settlers, as we so reverently call them, who braved the then new West, transplanted civilization and husbanded it to the greatness of today. They pass, and almost daily the reward anew is bestowed--William Kinkead Hopkins has been called.

William Kinkead Hopkins, second son of Gordon Hopkins and Ann Kinkead of Brown county, Ohio, was born Oct. 5, 1892; was married to Mary Jane Baird of Brown county, Ohio, Oct. 14, 1847; departed this live Aug. 2, 1906, aged 83 years, 9 months, and 27 days.

In Ohio where he grew to manhood, Mr. Hopkins became owner and operated a woolen mill until the fall of 1855 when he moved with the family by wagon to Kendall county, locating in Kendall township on the site that was a remained his farm and home. During the following summer, the beloved wife was called to rest on the 12th of June, 1856, leaving the blessing of their union, three children--Drusilla Frances, Cornelia Arabella, and Robert Marcellus--the two latter now deceased--to the care of the father.

The constancy and loyalty to the memory of a departed loved one and helpmeet was one of the most beautiful characteristics in his life, she having preceded him 50 years lat June was nevertheless constantly with him in spirit and remembrance.

He was a member of the Oswego Presbyterian church at the time of his demise, and had from his youth affiliated with that denomination, placing his trust in the Creator of the universe and ever and anon expressing a desire to depart and join those who had gone before.

Mr. Hopkins was of the peculiar disposition that sought no publicity, called forth no ambition for official honors, only expressing his right as a citizen in his voice at the polls. Like all good men, he had his friends and those who were averse to his ideas and contentions. A kind neighbor, ever ready to proffer the helping hand to the suffering and distressed.

The immediate family who remain are a daughter, Mrs. Drusilla Clark; a sister and a brother, Mrs. Ellen Wagner of York, Neb., and Carey A. Hopkins of Aurora; five grandchildren, Winfield Clark of Hydro, Okla., Harry Clark of Kendall, Mrs. Lotta Stevenson and John Hopkins of Los Angeles, Calif., and Harry W. Kerr of Little Sioux, Ia. Rev. Edwin Harris of Oswego conducted the funeral services from the home. Interment at the Oswego cemetery.

August 15: Floi Johnston has returned from her prolonged visit in Wisconsin.

James Pearce returned from a prolonged sojourn in Plymouth county, Iowa.

Arthur Pearce returned from a three months' sojourn on a ranch in Montana.

A 10-pound boy was born to Prof. and Mrs. Herman Barnard at the home of his parents here Saturday.

Harper Hopkins of Chicago came to Oswego to spend a quiet Sunday, which he did at G.D. Wormley's.

James Galvin and family moved to Ottawa Thursday. Oswego is too orderly a place for the prosperity of an attorney.

The sisters Melva and Margie Livermore, the former a returned missionary from India, were visitors at Mrs. Pogue's where their mother is staying.

There was a dance Friday night at the Knapp hall. The chief promoters of it were Oliver Burkhart, Mort Richards, Roy Croushorn, and Watts Cutter.

A.G. Updike, John Herren and a Sugar Grove man returned from a 15 days' prospecting tour through Alberta and Assiniboine of the Dominion of Canada.

Mrs. William F. Elliott died about 11 a.m. Monday. The remaining sick are said to be improving. Mrs. H.B. Read is now getting on finely. Mrs. Elizabeth Wormley has regained some of her mobility and is sitting up some. Kelsey Newsam, though very emaciated and weak, is somewhat eased in his lung troubles. A trip west is planned for him as soon as he is strong enough for it.

This scribbler owes an apology to the old schoolmates for not mentioning last week the excellent picnic they had. He had it all mapped out in his head what to say and it was to be the finest production he ever put out. Having had frequent intercourse with them when going to school, he wanted to say what a nice lot of well-behaved children they were, how pretty and sweet the girls, and all that sort of thing. But when he came to write up things, he forgot all about it. It was too bad for anything.

NaAuSay: NaAuSay was well represented at the Chautauqua at Riverview Park Sunday.

One of the Schlapp brothers had a bad runaway in Oswego Saturday afternoon. While unloading a trunk at the transfer station, the horses started. Mr. Schlapp had hold of the lines, but the bit broke and then he had no control of them. They ran through the main street and tipped Mr. Winn's buggy over that was hitched in the street, then ran up the Burkhart road where caught near Mr. Mather's in a field by Frank Foran. The rig and harness were badly demolished but the horses and driver were not hurt.

## Yorkville: COUNTY CONVENTIONS

The Democrats and Republicans Meet.

Yorkville threw open her doors to the county Thursday on the occasion of holding two county convention for the first time under the new primary law. The town was filled with politicians from all over the county, both Republican and Democratic parties having good representations here.

The Republican delegates from the different towns began to gather at the courthouse immediately after dinner

No opposition was developed to the regular ticket with the exception of sheriff. William Hill of Bristol, Clarence S. Williams of Yorkville, Ed Budd Jr. of Millbrook and A.D. Curran of Bristol were unanimously nominated for the offices of county judge, county clerk, county treasurer, and superintendent of schools, respectively.

For sheriff, Mr. Normandin carried the convention, he receiving 98 votes and Mr. Charles F. Johnston of Newark 8.

At the same time and place the Democratic party men gathered to hold their county convention.

Following are the candidates the Democrats will vote on at the November election:

For county judge: G.S. Steward, Plano.

For county clerk, Joe Williams, Lisbon.

For county treasurer, A.J. Whitfield, Millbrook.

For sheriff, Henry Stahlle, Plano.

For superintendent of county schools, Miss Kate Cliggitt, Oswego.

Postmaster Harley Richards was here from Oswego Thursday--not a delegate but just dropping in to renew acquaintances and see the convention. He's feeling good over Mr. Culver's magnificent victory. And so is the whole town of Oswego.

The breaking of a trolley wire at Riverview Park Thursday night delayed traffic for a couple of hours and the eight o'clock car to Yorkville arrived about 10. It is hoped by our people that inasmuch as we furnish a big patronage to the Aurora Chautauqua each year they will give a little better service on the line during the present assembly.



Farmers all over the county are threshing. The season is on in full blast, prolonged a trifle, it is true, by the frequent rains, but all are thankful for the showers and everything was in readiness for the machines, and the rain did not spoil any of the crop. As soon as things dried out, the gangs were at it again.

Sheriff Voss was a visitor in Aurora Friday.

Capt. Little with a couple of Chicago financiers were in Yorkville Saturday, and the gentlemen drove from here to Morris to look over the electric road. It is claimed that a million-dollar syndicate is now behind a new movement to push operations and complete the road. It's a bunch of hope, anyway.

There was a crowd to hear Sam Jones at Riverview Park Tuesday. Some he pleased and some he disgusted. If a preacher should stand in a Yorkville pulpit and make such vulgar allusions to people and things, the congregation would all him down.

The question of postal savings banks is coming to the front since the disastrous failure in Chicago. Statesmen and politicians should put aside the wants of bankers and politicians who selfishly oppose postal savings and get a law passed to give the laboring man a safe place for his money.

#### AT THE COURTHOUSE

The first Socialist party delegate credentials ever issued in Kendall county were given out last week by county Clerk Williams to Adam Koos of Yorkville as a delegate from the Bristol delegate district. Mr. Koos went to the polls and voted for himself as a delegate to the Socialist convention to be held in Chicago and he will be entitled to a seat in the convention. He says if he had been sure of another socialist in the county he would have voted for someone else.

#### A Clean Shut-Out

Oswego Shows No Mercy--Plays All Around  
Yorkville and Hits Thurber Hard.

Since the termination of the July schedule of the county baseball league, the Oswego Pirates have been anticipating a victory over the Yorkville team. The Oswego boys are faithful at practice and their

work Saturday, when they came to Yorkville to play, showed the result.

From the first inning to the eighth, it was a pretty game with only one error for Yorkville and none for Oswego. Both pitchers were given excellent support, the outfield for Oswego being strengthened by the Burkhart brothers--and nothing got away from them.

Yorkville's infield was in especially good trim, and not an error out of the five chances to the outfield was recorded. Oswego took a lead of two runs in the early part of the game and maintained it, preventing Yorkville from sending in a single man around the circuit. Both pitchers were hit liberally, the Oswego boys getting some long flies off of Thurber--but they all dropped into fielders' hands. "Bunnie" Young let the Yorkville boys hit frequently, but the hits were scattering, came at inopportune times, and nothing availed.

In the ninth inning, Oswego jumped on to Thurber's twisters in great shape and began landing great long ones outside the outfield. Three safe hits and three runs were counted up for them in the first half of the ninth inning--and Yorkville went out like a candle in the last half. Score 5 to 0 for Oswego.

August 22: The new steel water tank is completed and is being tested.

The George White residence has been nicely repainted a light slate color by Hubbard & Mann.

The cement sidewalks are to be largely extended and graveling of them in the Park addition is now underway.

In the ball game played Saturday between teams of Yorkville and Oswego, that of the latter wasn't in it to a great extent.

The Park addition is growing: Two new dwelling houses are under construction and two old ones were moved upon it.

The pride to have a son of Illinois raised to the Presidency, the highest dignity of American distinction, has, of course, great influence, yet so far the people here are more Rooseveltish than Canonical.

The Clinton building, which will be by far the grandest and most complete structure Oswego ever expected to have is going forward with plumbers in the basement, carpenters in different parts of it, and slaters on the roof.

Will Varner has a lemon tree with lemons on it of different sizes and maturity; those most ripe are much larger than the ordinary size, while some that just began to grow are no larger than a pea. Also has two orange trees.

A copy of the Richmond, Va. Times-dispatch received contains the description of a great work down there, viz: the building of the Tidewater railroad, by which a large number of Greeks, Italians, and Negroes are employed, divided off into camps requiring an immense amount of supplies, all of which is carried under the superintendency of Charles Teller, one of the Oswego boys abroad.

The call came Monday morning to Mrs. William F. Elliott to lay down the burden here and go up higher to the land of rest and perfect peace. She had been down but little more than a week, but there was no sign of improvement. Sarah K. Andrews was born Feb. 28, 1831 in Bath, Greene county, Ohio. When very young, she removed with her parents to Bellefontaine, Ohio. In 1852 she came to Oswego, Ill. For several years she was a most successful teacher, winning the lasting esteem and regard of all her pupils. She was married to William F. Elliott Oct. 16, 1859. All her married life was spent on the farm east of Oswego. She died Aug. 18, 1906, aged 75 years. Four children were born, one of whom, Mrs. Belle Bloss, preceded her mother in death. She is survived by her husband, two daughters, and one son.

The funeral service was held at the home Aug. 15 and was attended by an unusually large number of citizens, friends, and neighbors. Rev. Edwin Harris, pastor of the Presbyterian church, of which Mrs. Elliott was a most consistent and faithful member, conducted the service.

Elizabeth Van Fleet was born June 21, 1818 near Whitehouse, N.J. When very young, her family moved to Watkins Glen, N.Y. When 15 years of age, she, her mother and brothers came west by wagon,

settling near North Aurora, where her mother and brothers took up a large tract of land. She married William M. Wormley April 16, 1835. They celebrated their golden wedding at the home of their son, George D. Wormley, April 16, 1885. They lived on their farm, which William M. Wormley had taken up from the government in 1834 and now owned by John Herren, moving from there in 1856 to the farm now owned by George D. Wormley.

In 1882 they moved to the village of Oswego where William M. Wormley died March 19, 1891, aged 86 years. Elizabeth Wormley lived three years with her daughter, Suzie M. Hopkins, in Chicago, since which time she has lived with the family of her son, George D. For the past six years she has suffered from a cancer and on the 26th of July was stricken with paralysis, since which time she has failed rapidly, passing away early Tuesday morning, Aug. 21, aged 88 years and two months.

She was the mother of eight children, three of whom are living-- Abraham U. of Harwood, Mo.; Alfred M. of Fay, Neb.; and George D. of Oswego. Thirteen grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren are living. One brother survives her, living in Bishop, Calif. Her only brother-in-law, O.H. Hopkins, resides in Chicago. Funeral will be held Thursday afternoon from the Methodist church. Burial in the Wormley cemetery.

Aug. 29: Helen Voss returned from a week's outing down the river.

Charles Knapp is again able to come up town but on crutches.

J.D. Russell, James Goudie, Lew Gaylord, J.H. and James Foran returned Sunday from a week's touring in South Dakota.

D.M. Haight Friday attended the funeral of his older brother, Attorney John Haight of Naperville, who was accidentally drowned.

School will begin Tuesday, Sept. 4. The new teachers will be Miss Kathryn Eccles of Yorkville and Miss Maud Morse of Dundee, a cousin of W.J. Morse.

Nellie Heath, the lady clerk in the Morse & Fowler store, became, on the 18th inst., Mrs. W.L. Breese of Aurora. She still, however, maintains her position in the store.

Mayme Richards has taken a vacation from the postal service, but not for a rest, for she intends during it and while in camp with her Aurora folks down the river in the Rickard grove, to develop a freckled and sunburned face and arms, become an accomplished rower, an expert swimmer, and a good fisher.

Yorkville: The case of the drainage district which comes up for action in the special session of the circuit court next Monday will be the first case of the kind to be tried in Kendall county, at least within the last 30 years. It comes under the law of eminent domain, whereby the drainage district brings suit condemning property the same as a railway company does in extending its lines. Damages are ascertained by the jury and the benefits to be derived from the drainage are also taken into consideration. Charles Bower and Frank Phillips of Oswego township, and Jacob Solfisberg of Kendall county are defendants in this first case. The jurymen in the case must all be freeholders.

Miss Helen Voss of Oswego has secured a position in the Aurora schools, and this week is attending the county institute in the courthouse at Geneva, and will commence her active school duties next Monday.

The Chicago Chronicle of Tuesday has a picture of the federal grand jury that found indictments against the Standard Oil monopolists, and among them you recognize Fred Baker of Yorkville and Tom Scoggin of Millington. It is a good looking jury.

A disgraceful slugging match took place Sunday afternoon at Riverview Park, during the playing of the Elgin-Aurora baseball game when, it is alleged, the umpire was unmercifully beaten over the head with clubs and umbrellas. It is not the first time that these disgraceful scenes have occurred at the Kendall county park. Sheriff Voss is investigating the matter and Sunday baseball at Riverview is liable to be stopped.

Sunday at Riverview Park

An Aurora paper gives the following occurrence at last Sunday's ball game at Riverview Park in Kendall county:

“At the umpire’s decision, and indignant cry went up and with a rush, several hundred angry fans ran onto the field and the umpire was the center of an angry, gesticulating mob, protesting against the decision. There were cries from the bleachers but the umpire refused to change his decision. In the excitement, McNerney ran home. Realizing that this tied the game and perhaps meant defeat, one excitable individual struck Hart over the head with an umbrella, breaking the rain stick and in a minute he was struck several blows in the face. With blood gushing from a cut in his head, he succeeded in getting to the Elgin bench, being protected by members of both ball nines and Manager Olinger.

To escape from the howling mob, Hart was conducted from the grounds and made a hurried getaway on a street car. Catching a car, he got up town and out of the city.”

Wolf’s Crossing: The Collins school started Monday with Miss Irene Stolp as teacher.

September -- 1906

Sept. 5: Roy Smith is moving into the Williams--old Bartlett--house.

A.G. Updike made again a hurried trip to South Dakota with some land buyers.

Everett Foster of Washington, D.C., residing here when a boy, was making his cousin Ed Walker a visit.

The children, in clean clothes and with brushed hair, began wending their way again to the schoolhouse this Tuesday morning.

The Misses Pearce returned to the school in which they were teaching last year, Bessie at West Chicago and Daisy at Savanna.

Irene Newman is teaching the Squires school; Fannie Gregg the Russell school; Nellie Bushnell, a sister to Mrs. Reuben Parkhurst, the Cutter school.

The allowances of bills, which were many and one above \$1,000 and the ordering of additional sidewalk on Madison street were the counsel proceedings Monday evening.

Teddy Updike celebrated his sixth birthday Tuesday by making a party to his young companions and in like manner Wednesday, Margaret Pierce her seventh.

Yorkville: Miss Kathryn Eccles began her duties in the Oswego schools yesterday morning, the Oswego people waiting till after Labor Day to open the school house doors. Miss Eccles will have charge of the grammar room, seventh and eighth grades, and will be a competent teacher, going and coming on the street cars.

Mr. Harvey Keck, the furniture man who formerly conducted a furniture store and undertaking rooms in Oswego, was in Yorkville yesterday on business matters.

At the Court-House

George S. Williams bought of John D. Russell of Oswego blocks 12 and 13 in the new Park addition to Oswego for \$2,000.

George Seidelman of Oswego was granted his final naturalization papers last week and is now a citizen of the United States with full right of franchise.

Catherine Callan of Oswego has sold her holdings in the Park addition to L.S. Young for \$150, it being lot 9 in block 10.

NaAuSay: The rural schools will begin Monday. Harry Devereaux will teach the Wynne school, Myrtle Kellogg the Marysville, and Miss Worsley the Union school.

Howard Kellogg, Clarence Wheeler, and Robert and Elsie Hall will attend the East Aurora high school the coming year, also Lewis Georgi and Winnie Wheeler.

Base-Line Road: Threshing is all through and Phillips and Goodenforf have housed their machine till another fall.

A number of our energetic farmers are fall plowing already and otherwise getting in shape for winter.

The Keck schoolhouse has been cleaned and the yard trimmed up preparatory to the opening of school.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Robert LaDew went to South Dakota with the Updike party from Oswego.

Mr. and Mrs. William Brown, P.R. Stewart, Lachlan McLaren, and E.J. Fraser have gone to Canada to inspect land there. Mr. and Mrs. Richard Rance go this week to make improvements on their farm there.

Sept. 12: Kelsey Newman was born at Lisbon March 6, 1890. He was a promising and well-behaved boy, was very active and persevering and enjoyed a happy life up to about two and one half years ago when ill luck caused a change. Luck, however may have had nothing to do in the matter, but that his misfortunes were due to a cause. About that time he became afflicted with a sore foot which was said to have been directly traceable to a long bicycle ride on a wheel not rightly adjusted for one of his size. He was taken for treatment to an Aurora hospital where after several operations the foot was amputated. After that his getting around was by crutches and later on buy an artificial leg with which he could walk quite nicely and he had engaged himself in the Chicago telephone office here as a switchboard attendant. he became sick about three months ago with a lung affection. All that was thought best for him was done; a tent was put up to keep hi in fresh air day and night, but Saturday morning at 2 o'clock he died.

The funeral took place from his home Sunday afternoon.

The painting of the bridge is now under way.

Fred Mundsinger is in Minnesota prospecting in landed interest.

Nellie Leigh is engaged in the McWethy Bros. office at Aurora.

Alva Cooney took an excursion to South Dakota in the land-seeking interest.



Mr. L. Rank is authorized by the publisher to receive subscriptions for *The Record*.

Mary Cutter returned to DeKalb for completing the course of study at the institute there.

L.F. Burkhart has gone to western Minnesota where he is attending to the threshing of 975 acres of wheat.

Lake's orchestra of five pieces will furnish the music for the Mystic Workers' picnic at the Electric park Wednesday.

Mayme Richards has returned to the postoffice quite freckled and bronzed from a two weeks' outing down the river, but feeling very buoyant and resolute.

George White and C.E. Hubbard attended the reunion of the 127th regiment at St. Charles Thursday. The members of it present had dwindled down to 27.

Tamarack and Wheatland: The schools have commenced the year's work. Mrs. Brown of Joliet teaches the Tamarack and Miss. Shear of Plano the McMicken. Miss Elsie Collins commences her teaching at the Walker school and Miss Grace McMicken begins her school year at the Wilcox school.

It is said that 15,000 bushels of corn was sold at Normantown for 43 or 44 cents a bushel, corn which could have been sold for 50 cents or more at times the past summer. Considerable shelling will be done this week and next.

NaAuSay: The farmers were kept busy the past week attending the fairs at Plainfield and at Yorkville, as both were in session the same week.

Yorkville: The steam dredge on the Rob Roy creek is now fairly started, beginning about 100 feet from the Baseline road which divides Kane and Kendall counties. The dredge has a capacity for throwing out a square yard every minute. A new iron bridge is being constructed, also on the old Galena road. It was at that crossing the

stream was given the name it now bears. In the early 1830s a traveler crossed it when it was considered impassable owing to heavy rains. He was riding a fine horse by the name of Rob Roy, which he said, would carry him safely over--and it did. From that date, the stream was known by the name of Rob Roy. At that time it was Chicago, then Dixon and Galena. Aurora was of no account. When the dredging is completed it will be a great thing for the surrounding country, as it will be deep enough for an outlet for any tiling that is carried to it.

There will be a picnic at House's Grove Wednesday, Sept. 19, under the auspices of the Seward Cornet Band.

Sept. 19: Watts Cutter Jr. went to Champaign to attend the university.

Mr. and Mrs. L.N. Hall were on a visit to relatives in Milwaukee.

Lida Pearce was substitute for Irene Newman at the Squires school for a few days.

While hauling gravel Wednesday a nice five year old horse of Charles Payne's was taken sick in the pit and died before anything could be done for it.

A strike, and the first one ever had evolved Monday morning. The sidewalk gang struck for shorter day and larger pay--the village itself is having the work done.

Elmer Updike and Harry Clark are making a trip to Springfield by wagon and on the way are stopping at Warrensburg for a visit with the Rev. J.V. Willis family.

The Sandwich Fair was pretty well patronized. Among those that did were Lew Gaylord, Guy White, Fred Miller, Karl young, Ray Croushorn, Christie Herren, Arthur Pearce, Harry Carrington, A.G. Updike, Zeke Pearce and Lillian, Laura, Oliver, and Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Burkhart.

James M. Hill, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carson hill, was born at Plano Feb. 13, 1881; died at the Elizabeth hospital, Dayton, Ohio, Sept. 13, 1906. The body arrived here Sunday, the funeral taking place in the afternoon from the residence of his parents. Rev. Edwin Harris was the officiating clergyman. The burial was in the Oswego cemetery.

NaAuSay: The Gray Bros. of Plainfield have just finished drilling a well on the Satterly farm, drilled 170 feet.

Harry Schlapp has sold his farm to his brothers and has bought the Ferdinand Shoger near Oswego.

Wolf's Crossing: Ed Hovey Jr. had a new windmill raised Monday.

Hardy Shoger started Tuesday for Texas in hopes of buying land.

Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Bill took an auto ride Sunday and went through the towns of Yorkville, Oswego, and Aurora.

Work has been commenced on the building of George Haag's barn. Fred Sweetwood of Plainfield is doing the work.

Yorkville: Hon. C.T. Cherry left the home farm in NaAuSay yesterday to take up his work as bank receiver in Guthrie, Okla. Mr. Cherry says he doesn't like any country with bad water. Kendall county is good enough for him.

Lawrence Hafenrichter had all the Isaac Waltons in town looking sidewise Monday evening when he came home from a hour's fishing at the Yorkville dam trailing a mammoth 10-pound pickerel. And Lawrence was still perspiring with the excitement of the 15 minutes of scraping which it took to land the big fellow. The fish had a mouth like the top of a water pail and Lawrence could put both his fists into it. Mr. Pickerel exhausted the line on the reel six times before he was tired enough to give up and be landed like all good fish should.

John H. Page sends word to *The Record* of the death of Oscar Allen, at Marshalltown, Ia., who was born in Oswego in March 1840. He

went to Iowa in 1869 and was one of the prominent merchants in that city, holding several public offices.

Sept. 26: L.F. Shoger and George Woolley went to Texas for land expansion purposes.

Harry Craidler and his mother have moved into the rooms above the Read store.

Guy White has engaged himself with a steel firm in Chicago for doing stenographic work.

Some people have moved into the old Jewell house. They are Austrians from the city of Vienna and named Mayer and Sona.

A circus, Saturday, didn't come to town but materialized right in it. The procession of it appeared in the streets about 2 p.m. and consisted of about eight or ten small wagons and carts with cages on them made of laths, one containing a cat with two kittens, another a rooster, another a sparrow, another two rabbits, etc. The boys themselves acted the horses for drawing the wagons; one very fantastically dressed as the clown brought up the rear. The performances took place in the Hinchman yard and are said to have been very fine. It was an affair of the small boys.

Wolf's Crossing: Mrs. A. Armour and Miss Belle Darling spent several days of last week with Mrs. Darling Hall at Aurora.

The Joliet, Plainfield & Aurora cars have changed time in their service. Instead of meeting at Bell's on heretofore they meet at Wolf's on the hour. Notice the change.

Yorkville: People in Millington have discovered a bonanza it appears, in the old Fox river, after all these years, that the stream has taken its silent way through the county. Millington is all excited over the great pearl fishing industry, which promises to become a regular occupation down there. it is said the river banks are lined with piles of clam shells which have been opened in the quest for clam pearls. Quite a few large pearls have been found by some of the most diligent hunters and taken to Chicago, where they were

disposed of at a good price. Clam pearls are not so good a quality as those found in the deep waters--oyster pearls--but it is claimed that the Millington gems are exceptionally large and are bringing good prices. Some one will be starting it here next. About Saturday will see a bunch of the school youngsters digging up the bottom of the river.

At the Court-House

October Divorce Court

Ethel C. Shoger vs. Frank Shoger, Oswego, cruelty.

A warranty deed has been filed conveying the west half of lot 1 and the west half of lot 4, block 1, Loucks and Judson's addition to Oswego from Annie Wallace to Emily Murdock Van Deventer.

NaAuSay: A new house is being built on the Rollin Wheeler farm, and the Schlapp Bros. are building one on the farm that they bought of Alvin Cooney. Time will tell who will occupy these new houses in the spring.

Tamarack and Wheatland

The Collins house is nearly finished, most of the inside work being done.

October -- 1906

Oct. 3: The painting of the bridge is nearly done.

The relations between Will Funk and Miss Grace Stoss were changed Sunday from employer and bookkeeper to those of husband and wife.

Mary Cutter was home from DeKalb over Sunday.

Dr. Kittler is on packing up for removal to Michigan.

The Van Deventer house, where Gargrave resides, is being reshungled.

The schools east of here were visited by Superintendent Curran Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. J.N. Wayne have gone to Canada, expecting to remain two weeks.

A meeting with the Meramech club with invited guests is to occur at the Masonic hall this Tuesday evening.

Fred Willis is here from Warrensburg visiting friends. He came with Updike and Harry Clark on their return trip from Springfield.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Woolley with their little boy Oakley have gone to Battle Creek, Mich., for the treatment of the latter by a specialist.

The relations between Will Funk and Miss Grace Stoss were changed Sunday from employer and bookkeeper to those of husband and wife. It occurred in Aurora and the bridal couple went from there to Chicago and it is said will visit friends in several states before their return.

Miss Hobson, an elder sister of Mrs. D.M. Haight, with whom she has been staying for years, a helpless invalid from paralysis, I believe, died Saturday morning. The absence of her relatives now, no data of her life could be obtained, but she was perhaps the best school educated person that has ever been here, having been a teacher, and away back in the '60s when visiting would attend our literary meetings and spelling schools in which she would show her excellence.

It appears now that the freedom of Cuba was subject much to "that depends." Its case is very similar to that of the United States in 1861. It has a president, whom a part of the people don't want and they have come out against him, and so had we a president whom a part of the people didn't want and they rose up against him. We wouldn't have liked it at all if the European powers had been sending warships over, steaming them up the Chesapeake bay and anchoring them as near Washington as they could and sending some big men to dictate peace terms. We at least might have waited with

our intervention till one of the contending parties there had got a scratch by their warfare.

#### Yorkville: MERAMECH CLUB MET IN OSWEGO

If anybody ever had any skepticism about the goodfellowship of Oswego village and the ability of Oswego citizens to royally receive and entertain a company of men at a stag dinner, it was all obliterated last night when the Meramech club gathered in Oswego for one of its regular monthly meetings. About 15 members and friends from Yorkville boarded the 7 o'clock car here, others coming from Newark, Plano, and Bristol. At Oswego, many of the Plano members had come over in automobiles, and when the entire company met with the Oswego members and guests in the masonic hall there were just about a hundred--laughing, talking everything from race horse to politics, and all smoking.

When Eugene Claude, a young man about 25 years of age appeared in Circuit Clerk Beebe's office Saturday morning and declared his intention of relinquishing all obligations to Emperor William of Germany and of becoming a full-fledged American citizen, he not only took the first steps for his own naturalization as a citizen under the flag of Uncle Sam, but he actually touched the button that started the wheels of this section of national life in Kendall county. He was the first applicant for naturalization papers in Kendall county under the new law, which went into effect last Thursday--the law which requires yards of red tape, much technical work, and the approbation of the circuit court to complete.

A couple of weeks ago *The Record* gave a concise statement of the construction of this new naturalization law showing how it will have a tendency to naturalize only the better class of foreigners who come to our shores, eliminating all possibility of naturalizing ignorant men in bunches to satisfy the workings of unscrupulous politicians. No more can the bosses drive in these strange people by hundreds and have them naturalized legalized to vote in a day. In the first place, the naturalization law removes the proceedings from the duties of the county clerk to that of the circuit clerk and recorder. Under the old law, the probate court naturalized foreigners and it was the county and probate clerk who made out all the papers. By enlisting the proceedings under the duties of the circuit clerk, it puts the matter into a court of unlimited jurisdiction

and requires the approval of a higher tribunal. Mr. Claude is a resident of Oswego township and a native of Breitman, Germany, having come to this country in April 1902. He did not apply for first papers when he first came, as he could have done, but started in to learn the ways and language of this people. He is a bright young German and his three signatures displayed good penmanship. All questions propounded were answered by him concisely and immediately, and Circuit Clerk Beebe is satisfied that his first applicant is one of the best.

County Clerk Williams has just completed the annual statement which in detail shows the full and assessed value of all real estate and personal property in Kendall county.

In Kendall county there are 202,226 acres of improved lands and 2,894 improved lots. The total assessed value of the farm lands is \$2,633,447, or five times that amount for their full value, which is \$13,167,235, giving an average per acre of \$13.02--assessed value--or \$65.10 its full value, which is considered above the ordinary. The fair cash value of the village and city lots is \$245,743, or an average per acre of \$84.90.

In the county there are 8,594 horses worth \$123,984, or an average of \$14.40 per head. There are 14,922 neat cattle worth \$69,924 or an average of \$4.60 per head. There are only 97 mules and asses, but they are fine ones, evidently, for they are worth \$1,498, or an average of \$15.40 per head, a dollar more than horses. Sheep aren't worth much--3,307 of them being worth only \$3,206 or three cents less than a dollar each--assessed value, of course. Pork is higher than mutton, so our 11,119 porkers are worth \$19,751 or \$1.77 each.

We have 92 steam engines and boilers in the county worth \$30,300 full value. We have only 12 figure and burglar proof safes. The report says that we have "14" pool, billiard and other tables in the county and that Kendall township has "one" of these. We wonder which one that is! Let's see--there are three in the businessmen's club rooms in Yorkville then there are--well, you can hear the ivory balls clicking, anyway, when you go by Johnson's or Fasmer's--so there must be about five or six in Yorkville instead of only one.

Wolf's Crossing; Superintendent Curran of Bristol made a visit at the Harvey school Monday afternoon.



Mr. and Mrs. Fred Schell are the proud parents of a son, born Sept. 25, weighing 12 pounds.

NaAuSay: Mr. and Mrs. Bert Dano are the parents of a little daughter.

Mary Boucher went to Chicago Saturday to take the three years' course in nurses training at the Mercy hospital.

Oct. 10: J.P. Schickler is expected to return from a visit at Cincinnati.

L.P. Voss attended the Masonic Grand lodge meeting in Chicago.

Susie Croushorn is cashier in the Joe Sierp west side store in Aurora.

O.L. Wormley had a load of potatoes run over one of his feet Saturday.

A 10-pound boy now receives the most attention at the home of Harry Carrington.

Professor Newman and family have moved into the Lizzie Smith house on Washington street.

While working on the Wayne farm on which he is going to move, Charles Turpin was severely kicked in the stomach by a horse. At first, fatal results were feared, but now he is said to be recovering nicely.

Oct. 10, *The Oswego Herald*: Paper read before the Reminiscences of Early Days in Oswego by Mrs. Margaret Young

If I had time and the ability to write an article on it, the third person would perhaps be more enjoyable; as it is, you must bear the affliction of I saw, I heard. I know you will kindly bear it. The more so because you know it is only a little while now until I shall be with those of whom I speak.

Two years ago I spoke to the Kendall county people on "Oswego in 1841" as seen by a child. Today I purpose to speak of some of the people who were here at that time.

First, I wish to defer a question to you. Are there some people who are made of finer clay than others? I am leaning to the affirmative, as science tells us that as yet we hardly know the first letters of the mystery called matter.

There were three women who lived in our village in the early forties who impressed me as being quite above ordinary humanity - Mrs. Decolia Towle, Mrs. John M. Crothers, and my own beautiful young mother, Margaret David Phillips.

Mrs. Towle was here when we came. She had come in the thirties and built a tavern on the Indian trail we now call Main street. That it was built before the village was platted is proved by it not being set on a street, but square with the world, facing south. It stood just where the trail circles down to the fords across the creek and river, as you know Main street when named ends abruptly in a building. The Bartlett house was built in the same way, facing east; that was as near as they could come to striking the trail. One could tell many incidents occurring in the historic buildings, but today we are speaking of people, not events.

Mrs. Towle was a beautiful, sensitive and delicate lady, and must have found it very hard to meet the rough, pioneer men she would be obliged to, living in a public place. Conditions were better when we came, but we heard of horsethieves and blacklegs (whatever they were). I supposed they were some kind of gamblers that infested the Fox river valley, but as I never saw any suspicious characters, or did not know them if I did, I felt very safe, but it is a noticeable thing that women and girls are very safe in a new community. Whatever the shortcomings of pioneers, they always reverence women.

In '41 Mr. Towle rented the tavern and built a home, which is now the Hinchman house. There I met Mrs. Towle. I loved to look at her as at a beautiful picture, and often wondered if she knew my scrutiny was admiration or thought it impertinence. I saw her every day the first summer we lived here, for I had to carry the water for housekeeping from that place to the west side of Main street, where we lived and as I was allowed only a five quart tin bucket I made many trips. I do not remember her talking much, but she was very pleasant, and as she was alone a good deal, there being no children, my resting at that end of the route might not have been so unpleasant for her. I used to fancy that she had just come down from heaven to show what it was like. She only lived a few months after and then went back to the place from which I fancied she

came. Mr. Towle must have sold his property after she was gone, for I do not remember seeing him for a long time. When he came back he married Miss Wilder of Aurora and moved into the Dr. Jewell house. There their daughter was born, now Mrs. Kinney of Chicago. I made Miss Towle's acquaintance very early, as I made it a point to call on all the babies that came.

Mrs. Crothers came later in '44, soon after my mother had joined Mrs. Towle in the better home. Many families came that year and as there were few houses, there was little room for them. We had given up the larger house and moved into a little building of two rooms and a tiny attic, standing where this building stands (Cutter's drug store). When Mr. Crothers came there was no room for them so we vacated our larger room for them. I think it was their wedding tour. They brought nothing but several large trunks with them. I suspect one contained his law library, and when these were arranged on one side of the 12 x 13 foot space and they had got a bed, a splint-bottomed rocker, a screen, a stove, some dishes and a table, they were ready for housekeeping. As yet it was a picnic for her. She came from the \* \* and had never known the need of caring for her own person, to say nothing of caring for a house. Oh, but she was brave and so ambitious to help her noble husband. I think they were abolitionists, as she did not bring a maid, and it was quite safe to bring slaves into Illinois at that time. She found it very hard to work before the practical housekeepers who came to see her. We soon moved into another \_\_\_ place and let them have the two rooms. The next year they built an artistic little house and lived so beautifully and happily. There were children came to them, but like their ethereal mother they could not be nourished on this crude prairie soil and soon passed into the more perfect home. The loss of her children changed her. We saw her slowly fading - she wanted to go home. Her husband took her home and buried her, I knew how much she was to him, the inspiration, the hope, the all she was from the first. After a time she took her rightful place in his life. He married again, a noble woman, came back, built a home and took up the work for our village that he had begun at first. I think no individual did so much for Oswego as John M. Crothers. The last time I visited in his home there were two sons and I had two daughters, I do not know if both of the children lived, but Samuel Crothers came to our village when he began his life-work and preached a sermon from the pulpit where I had heard his

grandfather preach years before. He is now and has been for some time a minister at Harvard university. We say Oswego is a hard place to rear boys. Perhaps the best are only born, not bred here, but there are many of whom we may be proud.

My own mother was not so beautiful in face or form but she had a very engaging presence. There was always quiet and strength pervading the atmosphere where she moved and her influence was as wide as her acquaintance. I was so well governed that I did not know how bad I was until I was left to govern myself. I have always thanked God for such a mother. Without her early teaching I fear that I should never have loved virtue, honor or truth and made them my watchword. Dr. Jewel used to say, "You will never be the woman your mother was." I told him I knew it, as my mother was a lady of French descent, while I bred back to the old Holland stock, people who could bear hard knocks and give them too.

This same year, Mr. VanDuzer moved his family from Little Rock into a little building next to ours. This whole block had on it only little one-story buildings - only one had a second half-story. When we moved Mrs. VanDuzer became an angel of goodness to me. She brought her baby, but left her little girls with her father. I loved her baby - now Dr. VanDuzer of Chicago - and took care of him. When I would get ready to churn, forget and go to play and let the cream spoil, she would come in, give me the baby, and herself make the butter. She often told in after years that I kept her in milk and butter all summer. Esther Pearce was a daughter of Elijah Pearce, and she had four sisters - Mrs. Elliott, Mrs. Ellis, Mrs. I. B. Chattle and Sarah, who died while still a young woman. Mr. VanDuzer went to the Mexican war and died. She married Mr. Ferris and lived in our village all of the rest of her life. She used to tell me of the early days and I am indebted to Elizabeth VanFleet Wormley and Esther Pearce Ferris for much of the early history of our village prior to the forties.

She told me much of Shabbona, the white man's friend. When the Indians took the warpath Elijah Pearce was living near Naperville. When the alarm came Esther; then a young girl, ran with others all the way to Fort Dearborn for Safety. Shabbona, who, had he been a white man would have been hung or shot for betraying his people and country, but being an Indian he was only driven out from his tribe and lived an outcast the rest of his life. "This he bore for us." He was welcomed to the home of those whom he had saved, but so

far as I know there has never been an effort to perpetuate his memory.

Illinoi reared a marble shaft on the shore of Lake Michigan for Stephen A. Douglas. For why ? Because he was an orator and had led them by the gift of eloquence. They claimed him a son of Illinois. Why not Shabbona a son of Illinois ? They never remembered it was Douglas' hand that made the crevice in the dike that deluged our country with blood. There are two kinds of people in the world - those for peace and those for war. In this case it was not the savage for war, but the educated, polished gentleman who did the deed that made war imperative. The difference in these men was that Shabbona had listened to the voice of the Great Mystery until he had learned the sacredness of human life. Douglas saw a chance to make money, and by his eloquence and trickery fostered the crime of slavery on our territories, which took the sacrifice of the blood of thousands of our best sons to wash away the stain. To which is the shaft of honor most due - Douglas or Shabbona ?

My children were privileged to honor Shabbona's daughter when she made her last visit to our village, a few days before the assassin's knife ended a life passed away from kindred and friends, among an alien race who despised her because she was an Indian.

Yorkville: Automobiles were as thick as bees around a lump of sugar Sunday in Yorkville. The beautiful weather brought out the chauffeurs with their cars fill of people and they kicked up all kinds of dust.

The White Sox won the first game in the world's championship series yesterday--score 2-1. And as a result, many of the Cubs' followers out this way lay it to the cold weather.

The swift punishment of banker Paul O. Stensland, as meted out by the state's attorney, affords interesting reflections when compared with the cases of other prominent Chicago bankers who went wrong. During the last ten years, Chicago financiers have been tried and convicted of stealing an aggregate of nearly \$5,000,000, yet the total time served in the penitentiary by all these bankers is about 12 or 15 years, an average of a little more than a year apiece.

Oswego Township native and Yorkville resident Orville W. Beebe announced his independent candidacy for sheriff of Kendall County. Beebe was a U.S. Navy veteran of the Civil War, and owned a farm near Yorkville. "He is a man of the best character, competent, willing, of good physique, and in every way qualified," his campaign advertisement contended. Beebe's opponent in the November general election was Republican Sam Normandin of Plano.

NaAuSay: Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lucas and baby of DeKalb spent Saturday and Sunday at Edmund Lucas's.

Base-Line Road: A wagonload of young people from Oswego passed up our road Sunday on their way to the timber.

George Yates has gone to Dakota for a couple of weeks to look after his land interests.

Oct. 17: The happy event of the marriage of Miss Clara S. Hills to Dr. Edgar R. Weart of Dwight took place Wednesday evening, Oct. 10, 1906 at her father's residence.

Clara was a graduate of the East Aurora high school, an active member of the First Congregational church and choir, and of the Woman's Amateur chorus there. Dr. Weart is a dentist with a good practice at Dwight, where will be their home. Their departure for Buffalo and New York was under a big shower of rice.

Henry Burkhart was in Missouri for buying feeders and brought with him 25 extra fine steers, already fat.

L.F. Burkhart returned Saturday from a nearly six weeks' attendance to his farming interests in western Minnesota.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Edwards concluded to again spend the winter in southern California. Their residence will be occupied in their absence by Mr. and Mrs. W.L. Breese.

Several of the new houses here and in the vicinity are completed, others nearly so, and some just being started. Of these Abner Updike commenced on in the Park addition and on the highest point in the corporation.

Capt. Charles Clinton has adopted a seven year old boy from some instituted boys' home for helping to make up a household for the occupancy of his new residence when completed. He will have to adopt quite a number more to make the occupancy adequate to the room for it.

Dr. W.E. Kittler loaded a car with his household goods Monday for moving it to their future residence in Michigan and both he and his family have departed. Dr. Churchill and his effects arrived here from St. Charles Monday to occupy the premises and position vacated by Dr. Kittler.

Yorkville: AT THE COURT-HOUSE

Eight divorce cases already grace the October docket and there will be an extensive baring of marital trouble before the eight decrees are received.

CAPTAIN WM. WALKER

An Oswego Man with a History--

Patriot Soldier--Odd Genius--

An Old Kendall County Politician

William Walker, about 50 years ago, was quite a noted person in Oswego. A newspaper clipping was handed me containing a notice of his death at Scandia, Kan., and over a column of biography, which in a condensed form, is that he was born in New York State in 1833, brought at an early age to Illinois; in 1849 joined a party of gold seekers to go to California; on the North Platte they had their horses stolen, when all of the party of 24 turned back except him and one Thatcher, who alone pushed on afoot through the wilderness to Salt Lake City, where they found employment, but when it was found out that they were from Illinois, against which the Mormons were much incensed, they had to leave the colony and took refuge among the Digger Indians, where they suffered the most severe hardships, being reduced to the living on snakes, roots, and mountain berries; but pressing forward they crossed the desert alone with little to eat and nearly naked, finally reaching the Golden Gate more dead than alive.

In California he pursued mining, the mercantile business, was a member of the vigilant committee and took part in the perilous

engagements of clearing California of outlaws. He had amassed a comfortable fortune but lost it through a bank failure. He returned to the States by the Cape Horn route, was married at Oswego, Ill. to Miss Philetta Kimball, two sons were born to them, one died, the other is a conductor on the Rock Island railroad. Mrs. W. died about two years ago

He immediately responded to the call for aid of the country in 1861, became lieutenant in the 36th Illinois and 23d Veteran Reserve Corps, and a captain in the 127th; was wounded in the head by a fragment of a shell and in a leg by a hand to hand combat with a confederate officer; remained in the service nearly two years after the war, stationed most of the time in St. Louis, where, having charge of the ordinance stores, he had much to do with the buildings erected.

Later, the family moved to West Liberty, Ia., and in 1877 to Beloit, Kan., where he went into the grain business, building, in 1881, the first elevator at Scandia; was the postmaster there under both Cleveland's administrations, was mayor of the city and active in the building of the city hall and the boring of the famous coal hole, was a genius, produced several inventions of merit that should have made him a fortune but were failures. He was positive in his opinions and erratic in the methods of their support, strongly Democratic and prominent in the councils of his party; always found plenty of opposition and thrived upon it. Enjoying life to the full, he liked to see others happy and many were gladdened by his unobtrusive acts of kindness; was incorruptibly honest, it is not believed that a tainted dollar ever passed through his hands. Intensely religious by nature, he studied the scriptures with ardor and persistency, but looked not for the light in them; passed the beauties of the Ecclesiastes and dwelt upon Solomon's Song, made a mountain of David's sins but missed the Sermon on the Mount. A free-thinker by profession, he strove to maintain his position by arguments with others. The article concludes with: "His heart was big and open and intensely warm, especially toward little children and these will miss him most. He was steadfast in his friendships but bitter in his enmity toward those who had offended."

Rank

NaAuSay: Harry Schlapp is moving his family this week on the Shoger farm near Oswego that he recently purchased.



Wolf's Crossing: A. Armour visited Friday with his daughter, Mrs. Abner Updike at Oswego.

Misses Emma and Elsie Hafenrichter accompanied by their brother Fred have gone to Texas to spend the winter on a ranch.

Tamarack and Wheatland

Joe Holderman of Oswego was round in this neighborhood Monday looking for hogs.

Next Sunday, Oct. 21, the new U.P. church will be dedicated. Rev. Mr. Givens of Chicago will preach at the morning service at 11 o'clock. In the afternoon at 1:30 will be the dedication ceremony.

On Sunday last there passed away one of the most respected and oldest settlers in this community--Thomas Stewart. Although his last illness was short he had been in poor health for two years and his death was not unexpected. A complication of kidney disease and heart trouble was the ailment.

The funeral was held Tuesday afternoon from the late home.

The deceased was born in Ayrshire, Scotland and came to America when but 19 years of age. Arriving at Chicago, he walked to Plainfield. This was in the year 1847, and his first night in Will county was spent in a tavern there.

Mr. Stewart was supervisor from Wheatland for two terms, but politics was not to his liking and he stepped down.

Fifty-one years ago he married Miss Elizabeth Harvey and to them six children were born, who now live on farms surrounding the Stewart homestead. They are Misses Sarah and Jane Stewart, who reside at home; Mrs. John B. Clow, Thomas Stewart Jr., James H. and Prichard R Stewart. His wife and two sisters, Mrs. Jane McCredie of Hinsdale and Mrs. Dykes of Aurora also survive him.

Yorkville: The purchase of the Yorkville elevator by Jeter & Boston, last week and the proposed new changes in the structure and plan to begin early in the spring, will be matters of considerable interest to farming people who deliver grain here and likewise to Yorkville folks who will see a market increase in business circles. In fact, the

increase has already begun with the establishing of a uniform and more fair freight rate by the Burlington railroad company. The Yorkville elevator is an old landmark in Yorkville. Many years ago it was originally built by Thurber & Godard.

Oct. 24: A family of newcomers has moved into the Sorg house.

Dr. Churchill and family have themselves re-established here.

Not all the concrete sidewalks will be built that were to be.

Station agent Pahaly is taking a month's vacation; W.R. Whiting is the relief agent.

Several showers of the linen or chinaware kind have occurred here, that of Freeda Biesemeier was one of them.

Mr. and Mrs. C.G. Doud of Winona, Minn. are visiting relatives and friends in these parts and were in Oswego Wednesday. Mr. Doud is 84 years old and is as active and full of business energy as ever.

The body of Isaac S. Bartlett of Plano was brought here for burial Sunday afternoon. It was accompanied by mourners and a squad of the GAR of that city, who, with impressive solemnity, performed the burial services at the grave. The national flag together with the flowers was spread upon the casket. The deceased was raised in this town, was a member of the 127th regiment, was married here, and was about 70 years of age.

A representative of the manufacturers of steel ranges was here pushing their sales. A banner was stretched across the street to attract attention, one was set up in the harness store of Updike & Gaylord and a lady employed to bake biscuits and make coffee in it and anybody could get a cup of coffee and a biscuit whenever wanted. Also, a silver set was given to the nearest guesser of a jar of beans of different kinds, Saturday evening, which was won by Frank Isleman of the grove, guessing within 17 of the number, 3,424.

One of the prettiest of the local October weddings was that of Miss Edith Gates and Mr. Gilbert Collins, which occurred at the bride's home near Oswego Wednesday evening, Oct. 17, 1906.

After the dinner was over and the numerous gifts admired, all hands felt interested in the plans the couple had made as to their trip. About 11, a suitcase was smuggled out through the kitchen, and then the bride disappeared, soon followed by the groom, then a faint "hoo! hoo!" was heard up the road toward Oswego and they were gone. They spent the night at M.J. Wormley's and proceeded thence Saturday on a trip to the groom's relatives in the southern part of the state. When they return, they will spend a short time among friends until their new farm home is completed and ready for their occupancy.

Oct. 24, *The Oswego Herald*: "Early History of Oswego," a paper read by Mrs. M. E. Jeneson at the last meeting of the Nineteenth Century Club

I read that it is history which fixes the seal of immortality upon actions truly great and sets a mark of infamy on vices which no after age can obliterate. And also that the laws of history are Truth of Matter, Method and Clearness of Expression. "Truth," said Dryden, "is required as the foundation of history to inform us, disposition and perspicuity as the manner to inform us plainly." In view of all all this it is well for me and for my co-workers that the history required from our pens is of no more importance than for the amusement of the XIXth Century Club, and to recall pleasing memories to the few who participated in the enjoyments of a time that is passed. I warn you in this chapter there will be neither comma nor semi-colon, and the only period will be when the history is ended.

My introduction to prairie life was like getting into paradise. No words of mine could convey to you the vastness, the grandeur and beauty of the natural prairie. It was in the fall of 1850 that the Jolly family left their old home and friends at Hillsboro, Highland county, Ohio, and traveled west by team, destined for Oswego, then the county seat of Kendall county, Illinois. The trip was made in two weeks, staying over Saturday and Sunday at Marion, Indiana, with relatives. Arrived without accident at Oswego on Saturday morning and found the hotels full to overflowing. The old National hotel on Main street was kept by Mr. Briggs, the Kendall House was in charge

of Curtis M. Butler, assisted in the management by Mrs. Lydia Race, who was a woman much esteemed by all. We put up at the Kendall House, but after a time rented a shanty of two rooms which belonged to L. B. Judson and stood near the spot where Scott Cutter's residence is now. Mr. Judson was a man of influence and energy. He contracted to build us a house in a part of his orchard and to have it ready for occupancy at the end of six weeks. This house of six rooms was built by the Dunham brothers. All the material used in its construction was hauled by team from Chicago, there being no railroad. This, my first home is now owned by John Conway. The house has been remodeled since first built.

The inhabitants were mostly Eastern people, but even then there was a sprinkling of Germans. John Hem, Leonard Burkhart and others had found homes here. Many well remember John M. Crothers, who was very courteous to strangers. He was said to be the only strictly honest man in Kendall county. Whether this was true or false, it is a fact that he would not allow a foreigner, nor one ignorant of the laws of the State, to be imposed upon. In many instances those he assisted in getting homes with proper titles have prospered and are law-abiding citizens.

There was but one church. It was owned by the Congregational society. The Baptists occupied it each alternate Sunday and the same choir served both societies, but Reuben Parkhurst led the choir on Baptist day, while C. M. Butler was chorister for the Congregational society, and the strife between the two gentlemen caused much amusement among the singers and also the congregations.

There was but one newspaper published in Oswego in 1850 - the Kendall County Courier. It was edited by one Humphrey.

We had been informed that this town had been called "Hell's Half Acre," and that the country was full of sharpers, etc., but I had been accustomed to horse thieves among the hills at home and didn't fear the rascals as much as I did prairie snakes so contrary to the expectation of all concerned I fell in love with the town and, though I am proud of Ohio - my native state - and though my bright sky has had its clouds, my love for Oswego has never diminished.

The stores were more in number than now, and they were good ones. Blair & Warner, Henry A. Clark, John Chapman, W. O. Park and Fred Coffin kept dry good and groceries. I don't know much about the saloons in those days, but whiskey was plenty; good for the chills, you know, which we had in plenty, too.

There were many resident lawyers, viz: Boyd, Smith, Fridley, Crothers and Hawley. The resident judges were Helm and Randall. Charles Murdock and George Hartwell were neighbors. Both were pretty well known men. Hartwell being county clerk. The lawyers traveled the circuit in those days and there were lively times at the county seat during the sitting of the court. "Court is now in session. We have forty lawyers present, twenty of whom are resident. About 490 civil cases, 45 criminal, 70 chancery, with 80 petitions and summons." - Extract from old letter

Judge T. Lyle Dickey of Ottawa was a friend of our family. We were soon introduced and became acquainted with many of the prominent members of the bar, as well as the judges. Efforts were made to entertain the notable personages during their leisure. Oswego was fond of music then, as now. Many of the lawyers could sing, this, added to conversational abilities, anecdotes, criticisms, etc. rendered the evenings delightful. The hours sped fast, and all too soon the court would remove elsewhere and with it vanished the wit, the song and story.

Major William W. Davis (*William N. Davis*) was the one nabob in the country. He owned more acres than most men. He was an aristocrat and was considered also an autocrat. Colonel Cowdrey was the Chesterfield and one of the most hospitable men in the near vicinity of Oswego. Mrs. Cowdrey was the only lady in Illinois that I saw wear a lace cap; this she discarded after a time. She was pleasant and fond of company. Mrs. Lewis Rickard was the one woman who always met one with a smile. She was also hospitable and fond of dancing. Mrs. B. F. Fridley was the prettiest woman in Oswego, and also very affable. There were many others who, I assure you, were good to look at; but time is limited. Mrs. Darwin Bradley was the only woman - so said my very precise Yankee brother-in-law, who kept the blinds straight on the windows. But this was before the invention of rollers and when the blind was raised by a string. Mr. and Mrs. Walter Loucks was there then and lived many years at the home called "The Willows." Mr. Loucks did much for the church and for the town, Lawrence Rank was here at an early day. Everyone knows Rank - the good citizen, good correspondent, postmaster, etc; but I must add, also, a good friend to Crothers.

I am sure you are anxious to hear who held the line when society drove for pleasure, but I will say to you as some mediums do when consulted - wait, wait. This I will say: You may have your cooking

schools, and talk domestic science till you are tired, but there will never be nicer housekeepers, nor better cooks than Oswego could boast of in that good old time, when everybody danced and everybody went to church. Yes, and every girl had her beau.

Wolf's Crossing: A great many from here attended the services and dedication exercise at the U.P. church at Tamarack Sunday.

Yorkville: *The Record* didn't think much of all the people carrying concealed weapons in Chicago. In a story headlined "Beer and Revolvers: Why there is so much crime in Chicago," *The Record* quoted the Chicago Chronicle as saying "Following the indiscriminate carrying of revolvers by boys all over the city, a 13 year old child last night fell a victim to the popular juvenile mania for handling firearms. It is said both the victim and his slayer were drunk with beer sold them by an accommodating saloon keeper."

A happy party of young ladies spent a few days at the Love cottage, The Elms, last week from Friday afternoon till Sunday evening, where they enjoyed the autumn loveliness in the woods. The cottage is nicely furnished and with the group of young ladies and the attentive bunch of fellows who were constantly calling there, together with the fancy dishes concocted by the devotees of domestic science, there was something doing all the time. Those who made up the party were Misses Hazel Crofoot of Sandwich, Helen Voss of Oswego, Adele Newton, Lauradel Lyon, Lepha McCleary, Daisy Weed, Clara Taylor, Bessie Dunn, and Rachel Goebel of Yorkville.

Among the out of town guests at The Elms Sunday were Miss Edith Scott and Henry Plum of Aurora. Scott Cutter was down from Oswego with his gasoline launch and took some of the young folks out for a ride. They were all pretty cold on the return to the cottage but the big fireplace was piled high with large logs so they were not long in getting warm and indulging in toasted chestnuts and marshmallows.

NaAuSay: Most of our good farmers are engaged in corn husking.

NaAuSay does not propose to be destitute of a club. A ladies' club is being organized, which I to meet Saturday afternoons.

James Campbell and family, Mr. and Mrs. J.C. Darfler, and the Schlapp Bros. attended the dedicatory services at the new church in the Scotch settlement Sunday.

Edmund Lucas's house got on fire Sunday afternoon--gave them a great fright, but by the help of their neighbors, the flames were extinguished. The fire started in a closet up stairs from some unknown cause and burned three good suits of men's clothing, besides a great deal of damage done by water.

Tamarack and Wheatland: The new Wheatland United Presbyterian Church was dedicated Sunday in the presence of large crowds--nearly three hundred being present in the afternoon, coming from Aurora, Oswego, Plainfield and the surrounding country--and all pronounced it a most beautiful as well as practical structure. Space will not permit a full description but the main floor includes a large auditorium seating probably 175 or 200, the seats being arranged in circular fashion facing the north, although the church faces the west. On the north is an ell containing the choir loft, which is in the center of the north side of the church and the pastor's study to the right. On the south is another large ell in which is a hall and a large lecture room. From this one descends into the basement which has a cement floor and includes a large assembly or dining-room, a kitchen, a furnace, and a stairway leading up to an outer door. The entire building is lighted by gasoline. The wood work is of cypress finished in the natural color and the walls and ceiling art tinted. The carpet is of cork, dark green in color, and a new organ, costing nearly \$200 was given by a member. The entire cost is estimated at \$7,000, and nearly six hundred dollars was raised at the services Sunday, leaving it practically free from debt and paid for. The ceremonies as planned were carried out with few exceptions, visiting pastors taking the places of those on the program unable to be present. Rev. H.F. Given of Chicago preached the dedicatory sermon in the forenoon and Rev. A.E. Beddoes of Plainfield in the evening. The old church was built in 1848, nearly sixth years ago, but soon will be torn down, Mrs. Margaret Rance having bought it.

Oct. 31: Capt. and Mrs. Clinton are being visited by their son-in-law, Mr. Banning of Cincinnati.

C.H. Shoger and family have moved to town and into the Russell house vacated by Hills.

The marriage of miss Freda Biesemeier to Frank Smith was quietly consummated Tuesday evening of last week.

To rid himself of some wealth, Andrew Carnegie formed institutes for the advancement of different purposes among which is a commission for rewarding deeds of valor, which recently distributed medals and \$13,000 in cash to 16 heroes and heroines, the most from Chicago and vicinity in saving lives from drowning. Oswego, too, has a heroine; a former school ma-am, who in the spring of the year went with her pupils to the woods to pick flowers and study botany and while crossing a short railroad bridge were suddenly overtaken by a train; in order to save the children she had some toes on one foot cut off, maiming her for life. She should have put her claim in for recognition at the next distribution.

NaAuSay: Julius Schlapp was in Chicago Saturday on business pertaining to the material for the new house, which is progressing rapidly.

Base-Line Road: Corn huskers are at a premium in this vicinity and a great many of the farmers are husking alone.

Yorkville: it would seem that even Fortune is pitted against George Mears in the Joliet penitentiary for a life sentence for the murder of the young son of Mr. and Mrs. Wormley of Oswego several years ago in his attempt to receive a pardon at the hands of the pardon board of the state. The case first began to attract attention two years ago when legal publication was made that the board would be petitioned for his release. A petition was circulated by Mr. Wormley in Kendall county and he received the signature of every citizen to whom he presented it, a petition against the effort to release the murderer. The matter was to have come up again this fall at the next meeting of the board but the sudden affliction of E.A. Snively of Springfield, who was taken last week with paralysis, has again stopped the proceedings of the board. Kendall County people do not want



George Mears released. His act was one of cowardly cruelty and he fully deserves to spend his remaining years behind the prison bars.

November -- 1906

Nov. 7: John Pahaly, the station agent, has returned from vacation.

Wells Brown, an Oswego boy of the long ago, residing in one of the Dakotas was calling acquaintances here.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Woolley with their son Oakley have returned from Battle Creek, Mich., and report encouragement in the treatment of Oakley, and Charles himself took treatment and declares that he almost is made a new man.

Two men from Chicago and Aurora came here Friday afternoon, got out handbills stating that they would address a meeting at the XIX Century club hall, which they had engaged on the local option issue. When the owner of the hall heard of it he objected to the club subletting his hall for that purpose; and as he was also the owner of the other eligible hall, the power of Monopoly was to some extent made manifest--the meeting had to take place on the street.

The so-called Halloween pranks were quite manifest Thursday morning in parts of the village, mainly the outskirts, and as usually were enjoyed, not only by the young but by most of the old folks that hadn't been molested or very little so.

Nov. 7, *The Oswego Herald*: Paper read by Mrs. O. Hebert at the last meeting of the Nineteenth Century Club.

I came here in 1847 with my father, brothers, sisters, and their families, making a party of thirty-six in all.

I shall tell you a little of my experience in coming here as I have not much to tell about the early history of Oswego, for I was very young when I first came. I did not go out and get acquainted, and then; besides, I could not speak a word in English, so I just stayed at home.

We arrived in Chicago on Sunday night, and all that we could see was a very small town of a few low buildings and muddy streets.

We stayed there a few days and then our party separated, some went directly to Oswego, but I and several others went with my father. A Chicago teamster drove us in lumber wagons to a place called Bourbonnais. It was too great a distance to drive in one day, so we slept on the open prairie. We stayed in Bourbonnais a couple of days with a Frenchman we had known in Canada, and then a man drove us to Iroquois in a big lumber wagon with a yoke of oxen. I felt safe when the man was walking beside them, but when we came to what is now known as the Kankakee river and he had to jump into the wagon while we forded it, I felt pretty shaky. All that he could guide them with was a long whip and his voice, and if they had taken it into their heads to run downstream he would have been powerless. However, they crossed all right and I am still living to tell the tale.

We stopped just the other side of the river in a grove, and took up a piece of land, where there were no houses at all. Luckily father was a carpenter and so he built us a log cabin. We had brought but one bedstead with us and father very cleverly managed to make three out of it. He would take the corner of a room and bore holes in the logs on each side of the corner. Then he would put a bedpost in the middle of the floor and run slats between them, using but one post for a whole bed. He also made trundle-beds for the children out of round sticks, and built a clay oven out of doors.

But we soon tired of this kind of life for it was too wild and lonesome, and came to join the rest of the folks in Oswego in the fall. Oswego was then a very small town but larger than Aurora was, and had more trade. There were no saloons in the town but there were places as bad as saloons. A man by the name of Waterfall kept a barber shop where he had a gambling table and sold liquors and his wife served meals in the next room. There were two hotels, and I have been to parties at both of them lots of times. One was the National Hotel owned by a Mr. Briggs, and the other the Kendall House kept by a Mr. Butler. A Mr. Warner had a grocery store where Mr. Sutherland is now, and there was a dry goods and grocery store on the corner where Mr. Haight's building now is, which I think was kept by Mr. John Chapman.

The county court house was on the present school grounds. There were no churches in the town, but a minister would come every two or three weeks and preach in the court house. Not long after we came the Congregational church was built and my father worked on

it. He also worked on the Crother house where Mrs. Jeneson now lives, and on the Methodist church.

My folks lived in a small house where Scott Cutter now lives, and it was there I first met my husband. He was working in a wagon shop for Mr. Hose. It seems queer that we both came from the same place the same spring and never met until we came here.

When I was in Chicago last week and saw all the trains and automobiles, it did not seem possible that this great change could have taken place in little over half a century.

Nov. 21, *The Oswego Herald*: Paper by Helen McKinney Pogue at the last meeting of the Nineteenth Century Club.

History has been defined in its broadest sense to include all that goes to make the development of any region, along economic, social, political, scientific and artistic lines, and I might add that one needs considerable time to properly present historic events.

I have been told that a long time ago the Waubonsie creek was filled with snails, and the name that the geologists gave them I would defy anyone to spell, much less pronounce. It is a sort of double name, making up in length, I suppose, what the snails lacked in size. The name spells Oswego and more letters added to it, and on account of these snails being so numerous in Waubonsie creek, the town was given this name in 1838, which was first called Hudson, possibly because the scenery up and down Fox river reminded someone of the Hudson river in old York state. (How thankful we ought to be that the entire name of the geologists' was not used.)

#### Hollenback Was First

In 1829 Mr. Clark Hollenback and Mr. George Hollenback came to Illinois and the first claim in this vicinity was staked off by the latter which includes a portion of the old Daniel Pearce estate, and on December 1, 1831, Mr. George M. Hollenback was born. He is our own Judge Hollenback, of Aurora who is today one of the most esteemed and valued citizens of the vicinity, who has the distinction of being the first white child born in Kendall county, and had I the time, I could give you many interesting experiences of his parents, one of them being at the time in 1831, when the peace chief, Shabbona, found he could not control the council for war, and that his own people were breaking away from his influence, he acted at

once in an effort to save the white settlers; this happened in the middle of the afternoon, and he knew that when darkness came the struggle would also come. He had a nephew named Peppers, and Shabbona at once dispatched him, telling him to go by way of George Hollenback's (Judge's father). Shabbona waited until the assembly broke up, then rode as fast as he could south, to spread the alarm, and in this way many lives were saved. No white person was killed in Kendall county, but all the houses were burned except that of George Hollenback.

In 1830 glowing accounts of the fertile prairies of Illinois began to spread more extensively through the older states, and immigration increased. Most of the people, however, settled farther south than Kendall county. The same year is noted as the time that Abraham Lincoln came with his parents to the state.

#### There Were Indians In Those Days

And still another item of interest is that the land where Chicago now is was platted in town lots that year. It was ordered so by the canal commissioners, and a good many lots were sold at that time; the north side of the river was solid timber, and John Kinzie cleared a patch of his cow pasture for the lots. What is now Court House Square was then covered with a pond. Indians were daily visitors, as a number of the chiefs of the different tribes were not very far from there. Waubonsie was the Pottawatomie war chief, with headquarters at Aurora, and a smaller and favorite camping-ground at the mouth of the Waubonsie creek at Oswego. His big wigwam here covered a quarter of an acre and in a hollow stump outside his tent squaws ground his corn with a sweep and a pestle.

He claimed to have eight hundred ponies and a large number of dogs which were part wolf. This Indian encampment was a novel, yet dirty sight. This chief is said to be well described as a giant in size and a devil in nature, as strong as a grizzly bear and as ignorant and barbarous as the dogs that followed him. Whiskey was his favorite beverage, which made him very ugly, and he often beat and even murdered his wives.

A couple of years later, in September, about 7,000 Pottawatomies were assembled in tents in the timber on the north bank of the Chicago river, and there the government made a treaty with them, by which they gave up all their remaining territory east of the Mississippi river, and also a good deal west of it. They continued to

visit their old haunts for several years, and would come and go in squads.

#### Old Shabbona

Shabbona still lingered near his old familiar camps and his white friends, for he was beloved by them for having saved so many lives, and they recognized in him a grand character. The business men of Oswego made a banquet for him during the early sixties, and there was speech making and all that goes to do honor to the man. At one time, Mr. William Hoze coaxed him to sit for his picture, and many pictures that we see are from that one. 'Tis said that there is a full length portrait of him in one of the Chicago libraries. He is buried at Morris, a very appropriate place, sleeping so near those he had saved. Several of his family are buried beside him. In the year 1833 immigrants began pouring in. The Easterners heard much about this prairie land where they thought they might be able to raise all kinds of grains, as well as stock, much better than in the rocky, hilly East, and with farsightedness saw something of what the county was destined to be.

#### The Pearces Came

Daniel Pearce came from Ohio, near Urbana. He reached here June 1, 1833. He walked most of the way, and when he reached Waubonsie creek his feet were so sore that his wife carried him across the creek upon her back. In those days, prior to '45, the Methodists had their circuit riders, and held services in the log cabins. They first had a class at Mr. Pearce's in '34, and the Rev. William Royal was the first preacher. One day Mrs. Pearce, thinking the cabins rather dark, sawed out a log to make a window before the next meeting. Mr. Pearce settled upon what was known as the Daniel Pearce estate, where he spent his life, surrounded by his children, eight sons and four daughters. Mr. Ezekiel Pearce of LaSalle street, Aurora, and Messrs. James and Calvin Pearce are his sons and the late Mrs. Nancy Sanders was his daughter. Our chairman of this afternoon's program, Miss Bernice Pearce, is his granddaughter. In 1833 John and Walter Pearce and William Wilson and their families came from Mad River, Ohio, driving their cattle and sheep before them. It was a long, tedious journey. and when they arrived at Fort Dearborn (now Chicago) the prospect was anything but

inviting on account of the quaking swamps, but they journeyed on until they came to the Fox river at Aurora (though there was not a solitary cabin to mark the spot where Aurora now is) and then passed on down to Oswego. Mr. Wilson drove a stake on one side and the Pearces crossed over and made their claim on the other side, thus making Oswego by a few months the oldest inhabited town in Kendall county. Mr. Wilson settled at this time on the Walter Louck place, where the Barker family now live.

Samuel Devoe settled that year where Myron Wormley lives; also John and William Wormley came at the same time. They traveled on foot from New York state with nothing but their rifles and a change of clothing, averaging thirty-six miles a day. They built the first dam at Aurora. Levi and Darwin Gorton came then and they built the first grist mill here. Joel Warner, Truman Mudgett and David Carpenter also came about that time.

#### The Stars Fall

The night of November 13 of that year, '33, was one never to be forgotten by those who saw it. It was the scene of the falling stars, when all the heavens seemed like mighty fireworks, and it was witnessed with awe and admiration by the entire community, and many thought that the day of judgment had come. Levi Arnold came about this time. He opened the first store and was the first postmaster, the postoffice being established in 1837; up to that time the village was called Hudson. Walter Loucks and L. B. Judson came in the early thirties. They were both influential and progressive men and did much for the place. Mr. Judson gave the ground upon which the Congregational church was built, and contributed towards the building; he drove to Chicago for the old bell (it was burned) which was said to be one of the finest and, I believe, the first bell cast in Chicago. Mr. Judson was a progressive man, and accumulated considerable property after going to Aurora, where he moved in the early seventies. Our promoter, Mrs. Julia Judson Bennett, whom we all knew and loved, was one of his daughters.

#### Great Wolf Hunt

In the year 1833 a great wolf hunt took place in which 18 wolves and 24 deer were killed. In '36 a stage coach line was started from Chicago to Galena, crossing Fox river at Oswego, which was then called Hudson.

The last event of public importance was in '39 when the land was put upon the market for sale in November. It was a time of much stir, for it was now, or never, with every settler who wished to keep his land. Money was hard to get and the \$200 with which to pay for 160 acres was hard to raise. Many a man was obliged to make great sacrifices in order to raise the money. Speculators, like birds of prey, were eagerly watching for opportunities to pick up improved lands at government prices, and resell them to advantage, or turn the settlers out of their homes.

#### See Off the Land

Two men were chosen to bid off the land, and loaded with strong boxes to hold the silver and a picked squad of men for guard, they toiled through the sloughs and mud to Chicago. The bidding had formerly been done on the corner of Clark and Randolph streets, but the ground was so soft and muddy that as the crowd increased they actually sank into the mud. They then adjourned to a building where there was quite a flight of stairs. One man stood at the foot of the stairs with a stout cane and another at the top, and no one was allowed to pass up except on legitimate business. If occasionally a tract of land was passed to the wrong bidder he was kept from going up with his money until such a time had elapsed as to make the sale void.

Kendall county was named from Amos Kendall, who was postmaster general under President Jackson and the county was organized in the year 1841, Oswego was laid out by Walter Loucks in '42 and was not incorporated till 1852 with the following men for trustee: John M. Crothers, president; J. M. Chapman, Fred Coffin, L. B. Judson and Walter Loucks.

#### First School House

The first school ever held here was in a log house and Adaline Warner, mother of our esteemed club president, Mrs. A. J. Parkhurst, was the teacher. Sometime during 1838 a frame building was put up where Oliver Hebert's shop is now, here school was kept 8 or 10 years and then the old stone school house was built in the 50's. Mrs. Dorcas Schram and her sister, Adaline Hopkins, were teachers. All together, Mrs. Schram taught over 50 terms. My mother, Harriet Walker, was also one of the early teachers.

### First Court Held

The first court that was ever held was in the National Hotel, Judge Caton presiding, and the first tavern was built in '37 by Decolia Towle and stood where the Swartz house now stands. Wright Murphy came from Bangor, Maine, in '40 and was the proprietor of the National hotel, where his oldest daughter was born. Mr. Murphy kept the house until he built the Kendall House living there until '52 when Curtis M. Butler assumed control of the house. Then after a year or two, Mr. Beaupre, father of Eben and W. S. Beaupre of Aurora, moved from Newark into the Kendall house. Mr. Beaupre was county sheriff at the time, and the county seat being here he took charge of the prisoners, who were kept upon the upper floor of the house. This room was afterwards converted into a ball room, and my friend Mrs. Elizabeth Keeling of Aurora and myself took our first lessons here. The Kendall house was divided into two buildings, one where George Cowdrey lives now and Mrs. Minard's home was the other part. Mr. Beaupre afterward moved into the National hotel.

The first manufacturing ever done here was by Merritt Clark, who made chairs; also the go around thrashing machine by Jake Metzgar. Ezra Smith opened the first shoe store and he was also a manufacturer of drums, and was a fine performer on the tenor drum. Many of us remember Uncle Ezra's fife and drum orchestra and have marched to its music more than once. All of his family are gone now, except Dr. D. E. Smith of Wilton, Iowa, who is the son-in-law of our pioneer friend, Mrs. Margaret Young.

### In the Forties

Among those who came along in the early(?) forties were (?) Henry A. ....r., C. B. Chapin, Sam and Henry Hopkins, Fred Coffin, Festus Burr, Martin Hinchman, A. S. Reynolds and John M. Chapman. Nathaniel Hawley came also about this time, Charles and George Avery and Dr. Jewell. If Dr. Jewell were here today he would say, "Well, let me see, girls, how old are you?" And Maggie Phillips Young would probably say, "Well, Doctor, were have arrived at that age of womanhood when we don't have to tell."

### Move the County Seat

I must tell you about the exciting time that occurred when the county seat was removed from Yorkville to Oswego in '45. In



January, a petition of 175 names was sent of the legislature praying for a removal, and in a few days the number was increased to 360, and it was then allowed to go before the people. The election was held the first Monday in August, which was a busy time, but all left the harvest fields to vote. A free dinner was served and 50 teams were kept running all day. The excitement and rivalry was so spirited that the election was contested and they had to hold another election and Oswego won the day. The county seat remained here until 1864, when it was removed to Yorkville, the county records being taken there in June.

My grandfather, Orland Walker, came with a colony of people from Smyrna, Chenango county, New York, in 1843. They came around the great lakes. Among the company were Daniel and Edwin Hunt, William and Dwight Ladd, C. A. Townsend, Thomas Lamb and their families. Also Henry McKinney and Dwight Ladd, When they arrived in Chicago, the men left their families there while they went on ahead to find a suitable place to locate, and they decided upon Oswego.

Yorkville: Republican ticket wins in every race, the hottest contest being for sheriff, O.W. Beebe carrying the six towns of Bristol, Oswego, Kendall, NaAuSay, Lisbon and Seward, over the Republican candidate, Mr. Normandin of Plano. Little Rock, Big Grove, and Fox gave Normandin a plurality in the county of 306 votes. Close vote for a Republican candidate showing that in the townships which got out of the bandwagon the vote was not to be controlled by party managers of the Republican party and that Mr. Beebe's personal canvass had developed great results.

Comrade Samuel Hagerman received several nice pictures and a cane from the comrades who attended the dedication of the regimental markers at Vicksburg a couple of weeks ago. Comrade DeWitt Eilson was among those who attended.

This week Wednesday and Thursday the Independent Corn harvester may be seen at work on the LF. Burkhart farm in Oswego township and may be inspected any time at the company's plant in Plano. Over 200 of the prominent farmers of Kendall county are stockholders in this company. Monday of this week the machine

harvested 120 rows of corn 100 rods long without stopping for the least trouble.

The huge project to drain the Rob Roy Slough through an enlarged, dredged Rob Roy Creek to the Fox River was detailed in a nearly full-page Record article that included a photo of the giant steam dredge being used for the project. The project, located along Rob Roy Creek in Bristol Township, was financed by the Rob Roy Drainage District. According to the article, the project had begun eight weeks prior to the publication of the article. According to the article: "For the first time in the history of Kendall county, a fact which is being appreciated as denoted by the number of visitors who have taken in the sight, a veritable drainage canal is being constructed within its borders by an outfit of machinery, floating cook cabins, and living cabin weighing hundreds of tons and converting some of the land of Kendall, now valueless, into the most fertile fields and pastures in this part of the great state of Illinois. It is well worth a person's effort to visit the great drainage ditch being dug through district No. 2, in the township of Bristol."

Wolf's Crossing: Pupils of the Harvey school who have been neither absent nor tardy during the month of October: Clifford Loucks, Rhada Smith, Courtney Smith, Irva Smith, Elva Rink, Elvira Shoger, Myrtle Bland. Amanda Hummell, teacher.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Mr. and Mrs. William King of Normantown are the parents of a little son, born Wednesday, Oct. 31.

NaAuSay: Mrs. Emma Lucas and daughter of Aurora and Miss Emma Lewis of Mendota were guests at Edmund Lucas's Sunday.

The following pupils of the Minkler school have been neither absent nor tardy during the month of October: Fern Gates, Harold Graham, Avery Garner, Ralph Holdiman, Charles Gates, Mary Garner, Lewis Garner.

Mrs. Loretta Wheeler died Monday morning her home in NaAuSay after an illness of over a year. Mrs. Wheeler was one of the pioneers of Kendall county. She was born in NaAuSay, where she died, in

March 1839, and has always lived there. She leaves two children, Mrs. Swift of North Dakota and A.K. Wheeler of NaAuSay. Funeral services were held Tuesday afternoon at the home.

Nov. 14: His relatives are joyful over that Jay Richards of Aurora as become the dad of a little boy.

Dr. W.E. Kittler returned here for a day or two and was full of enthusiasm for his new home in Michigan.

The funeral of Frank Kanaka's mother down at the Elms took place Tuesday of last week and her burial was in the Oswego cemetery. She was 80 years of age.

The prohibs hereabout were really in evidence at last week's election.

The Plano corn husker is exhibiting its work on the farm of L.F. Burkhart is much praised by those who have seen it.

Lew Gaylord, George Croushorn and Bob Johnston have gone to Wisconsin to have two weeks of fun shooting deer and also to visit the John Norris and James Fitzgerald families.

Some farmers have finished husking and the majority will be through next week. Shredding will be next, some "rings" have already started.

Wolf's Crossing: The Harvey Shredding Ring commenced to shred last Monday noon for Mr. August Kuhl.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Some farmers have finished husking and the majority will be through next week. Shredding will be next; some "rings" having already started.

The body of Mrs. Janette Stevenson of Chicago was brought here for burial last Sunday. The deceased was a cousin of Thomas King Sr., and was also distantly related to other families in the neighborhood. Years ago she lived with her husband on the Findlay farm, now

occupied by Richard Rance. About 30 years ago she moved to Aurora, later going to Chicago. Her age was given as about 97.

NaAuSay:: Eugene Cooney is building a new corn crib and Ed Bundy is also building one.

The young Tonnell boy who was accidentally shot by Harry Countryman last week died in the Joliet hospital Sunday. The Tonnell family live just over the NaAuSay line near the Plainfield tile factory.

Nov. 21: Died at His Work

Mr. Frank Hebert, son of Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Hebert of Oswego, who had been employed in the Burlington shops at Aurora for the past eight years, died suddenly Monday afternoon while at his work, from heart disease, aged 49 years. The superintendent of the shops speaks highly of deceased as a man and as a workman; he was not married, but lived with his parents in Oswego.

The cow of Mrs. Thomas Smith got on the covering of a well about 16 feet deep, broke through and fell in. A lot of fellows immediately responded and worked hard to get her out; she was not materially injured.

By the collapse of a scaffold on the new house that is being built by the Richards gang of carpenters for the Schlapp Brothers out in NaAuSay, Albert Johnson was somewhat hurt in the back and Herman Schilling in one arm.

Yorkville: The determination of one of the leading automobile manufacturers to test its new six-ton truck by running it with its own power fully loaded from Cleveland to New York, is uncommonly interesting in view of the fact that freighting by motor is being tried experimentally in England.

AT THE COURT-HOUSE

Marriage Licenses.

Nov. 8--Richard Irving and Blanch long, both of Oswego.

Nov. 28: Notwithstanding the inclemency out doors Wednesday of last week, Frank Hebert's funeral indoors was well attended. The Hebert's residence, where it took place, is quite roomy and afforded sufficient space for the proper production of the services of both the church and the Masonic order--the latter's usual services at the grave were performed in the house. It was a laudable act of the Q to allow its shop wherein the deceased worked, to be closed so that his shopmates could attend the funeral. With the exception of the clergyman, which was Rev. Edwin Harris, Aurora contributed all pertaining thereto; the male quartet furnished the singing. The Masonic ceremonies by the Aurora lodge were impressively performed; the speaking was by a man that knew how to put in the pathos to make it impressive; he is an orator.

His near relatives are father and mother, four brothers, and a sister. All were present at the funeral except Charles, a brother who is in California.

A.G. Updike went to Lockport Monday.

M.L. Wormley had a furnace put in to his residence.

All of the Hebert children that had not remained, returned here to spend the Sunday with their parents.

A girl born to Mr. and Mrs. A.G. Arneson of Aurora boosted George Cowdrey up to the grandpaship.

The deer hunters have returned from the Wisconsin woods. Did not learn why they wouldn't buy any venison to bring home with them.

Wolf's Crossing: Everyone ought to go to the football game at Aurora Thanksgiving day, between East and West Aurora.

Tamarack and Wheatland: A gentleman by the name of Smith and his wife are here from Iowa visiting. A pathetic incident connected with his visit is that over 50 years ago, Mr. Smith, when a boy, worked for the late Thomas Stewart and came back here to have a visit with him to renew old times only to find him passed away. He finds many changes since he left here in the '50s, notably the new

church--the old one being in the process of construction when he left.

Yorkville: In the supplement page of this issue of *The Record* is published the admirable paper read by Mrs. Helene McKinney Pogue giving the early history of Oswego and some incidents in the pioneer times of Kendall county. It is a well-told story and should be placed in the scrapbook or laid among the relics of the family for future generations.

Circuit Clerk Beebe received a letter from Antoinette Funk, a Chicago lawyer--presumably a woman--who is making some inquiries about the Kendall county bar and our terms of court. It was odd to Mr. Beebe, in his reply, to address an attorney as "Dear Madam," but there are a good many woman attorneys.

George Starr has a market full of good things for Thanksgiving dinner or for any other day--turkeys, ducks, chickens, beef, pork, veal, smoked meat, sausage, and it makes one hungry to see the display.

December -- 1906

Dec. 5: Teacher Maud Morse went to her home at Dundee to spend the few days of school vacation.

A bunch of fast Aurorans were in town Monday. Their sport had to be interfered with. They were sent home.

Her relatives here received the information that Della Van Evra, for a number of years engaged in stenography in New York City, was married there.

Leslie Peshia and Angie Young were married Wednesday evening. They are quite a young couple.

Only just now it was learned that months ago Miss Myrtle Smith was changed into Mrs. W.L. Hendricks. Her husband is from Naperville

and employed in the depot at Sterling, where they will make their residence, according to report.

At a meeting of the Friendly Neighbors and Old Folks Club held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J.N. Wayne on Friday evening, Nov. 16, Mrs. Wayne was unanimously chosen president for the coming year.

Thanksgiving Day was passed in the usual manner--socially, very fully; religiously, quite slimly.

Base-Line Road: W.C. Killian is improving his place by putting up a nice new roadside fence.

Miss Edith Hebert, teacher in the Bertram district, spent Thanksgiving with her people in Oswego.

The late Hiram Casselman was laid to rest beside his first wife in the Keck cemetery Wednesday afternoon.

Wolf's Crossing: The Harvey shredding ring finished shredding Monday afternoon at Robert Harvey's.

Several of the people around here attended the great game Thursday and witnessed good football.

Yorkville: Sheriff and Mrs. Voss moved their last load of household effects from the county residence Friday afternoon and the new sheriff's things began coming right in. A number of the farmer friends of the out-going official from the Oswego neighborhood came down with big hayracks and took everything in one trip. Mr. and Mrs. Voss have thoroughly enjoyed their four years of life in Yorkville and while they are pleased to go back to the old home town, still there is a reluctance to leave the new friends--but Oswego is not so far away as it used to be before the street cars were running. Sam Normandin will move in just as if he were returning from a long visit abroad. He has lived with Yorkville people for four years and everybody knows Sam and his good family.

When the one o'clock car pulled out of Yorkville after [Thanksgiving] dinner it was loaded full with people who were going

to the East-West Side game in Aurora. Many people from Plattville way were among the enthusiasts, doubtless drawn thitherward by the active work of Robert Barron as an Aurora football warrior. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. William Barron of Plattville, and a husky tower of strength on the gridiron. When the car got to Oswego, it took on another load of human freight bound for the football game and from there up to Aurora the crew kept packing them in. Despite all prognostications that had been made by the wise ones to the contrary, West Aurora beat the east side and played a game of straight football and gritty defense such as seldom seen in this part of the country. It was an open, clean game--no one hurt--plenty of kicking and open work to keep it interesting and a final score of 12-10 for the west side, and then the west side went wild.

NaAuSay: There were no services Sunday at the Union church and there will be none until further notice as the pastor's family is in quarantine for scarlet fever.

Dec. 12: Lew Gaylord was up in Fairchild, Wis., the most of last week to set up a furnace for the John Norris family.

Thomas Mullenix of Chicago, an Oswego boy of the long ago, was in town Friday calling on acquaintances.

Invitations are out for the wedding of Lillian Burkhart to Ezekiel Pearce Jr. on the evening of Dec. 20.

Quite a number of Oswegoans took in the Chicago fat stock show,

Dec. 12, *The Oswego Herald*: Early History of Oswego, A Paper by Mrs. Margaret Young at the last meeting of the Nineteenth Century Club

If I were younger and in good health, I would ask to be on the educational committee, because "Knowledge is Power." We are told that education is not filling one's brains with facts but rather being trained to know what one wants and where to find it. Dr. Nathaniel Butler says education is "social efficiency." Social efficiency is what Mrs. Pogue has in such large measure. She was able to give you a grand historical paper.



Mrs. Hebert and I can only tell stories of our early experience, but in the naming of our village my memory for once, is better than the books. There is no record to show that our village was ever called Hudson. In 1835 Oswego township was a part of Kane county and the county commissioners used to divide the county into election precincts and give them names which they changed whenever the circumstances required. In 1841 Oswego township was called Garry. That it had been called Hudson, I know.

Our people came to Kane county in the 30's. My father soon followed them, leaving his family in New York state. He bought property in the village, also a land claim. He was so disappointed when the name was changed that he wrote to mother about it. The city of Hudson below Albany was his birthplace.. It had been the home of the Phillips family since revolutionary days and I don't know how long before. My great grandfather was an officer in the revolutionary army. The name was Philip, the "s" was not added until the next generation. It was \_\_\_\_\_ see some of the descendants now use two.

There was a geological survey of Illinois under A. H. Werthen by Henry M. Bannister in 1869. Prior to this, in the 50's Dr. Mordecai Davis, a practicing physician in the village, pursued the study of geology as a pastime, he then found a specimen that Mrs. Pogue calls a "snail." Not being able to classify it he took it to Prof. Wilbur, then living in Aurora. He could not name it. They then sent it to Washington, D.C. It was found to be entirely new to the scientists, and they named it *Tentaculites Oswegoensis*, so instead of being name for snails Oswego, Illinois, has the geological honor of a world-wide reputation as being the home of the *Tentaculites Oswegoensis*. I suspect our sister cities think we resemble a snail, but we shall get where we started for in time; all good things grow slowly.

In going back in our history to the 30's we wonder why every one did not make a fortune, but at this time we cannot understand conditions prevailing then. We know that all that was needful was to turn over the soil and plant a crop, it could not help growing. Then if the wolves didn't kill the stock or the wild fowl take too large a share of the grain, one might get rewarded. Wild fowl multiplied till the country was over-run. Then after a crop was raised there was no storage of market, and things which had become necessities to eastern people were so dear that it took the price of an acre of land to buy a pound of tea or a calico gown. Mrs. Samuel Bartlett did

housework all winter in her best black silk because it was cheaper than to buy prints.

In the 30's the Illinois and Michigan canal was constructed, which made the state bankrupt. Money depreciated until it was almost worthless. Bank notes were called "wildcat money." John Pearce would have none of it, and when he sold his land and moved west he had an iron pot full of specie hid under his log house which house stood just below the west end of the river bridge. Samuel Roberts built in the 40's. Of course the high water soon took that away.

It was no wonder that people were discouraged and were willing to sell. Those who came later and those who braved the hardships until conditions changed made fortunes, but in the 30's and 40's when grain and pork were carted to Chicago, the market was poor because the transportation season was so short before railroads were built. Butter and eggs were a drug on the market, five cents for eggs and ten cents for butter was the highest price ever paid. You can imagine what a basketful of eggs you would need to buy a pound of tea.

Sugar was so high that a dollar would buy only enough to sweeten a very little of the wild fruit, but it was a blessing we had the wild plums, crab-apples and goose-berries or we should have died for want of acid. Vines grew and we made whiskey pickles. That was all the vinegar we had. In the 40's we began getting a little more fruit and sugar, brought up the Illinois river. Railroads were not quite at the stage that aerial navigation is at present. In the 50's I heard a gentleman talk nearly all day about how we would have balloon traveling. We were traveling by stage coach in Ulster and Sullivan counties, New York, I said I wished the time had arrived, for we had driven over more stone that day than I had ever seen in my life.

I wanted to talk of the people today, especially those who were here when I came in '42, but I have been requested to talk of the village as it then was. In block two there were two houses - Mr. Towle's home and Mr. Pierson's on the site where Mr. Shoger now lives. In block three stood the Towle tavern, kept by Samuel DeVoe. In block six Geo. Wormley had a store building, rented for dwellings, and the house where Widow Smith lived. Uncle \_\_\_\_ lived with her most of the time unless they were sick at his brother Ezra's, when he was always the good angel to help. He was one of those noble and useful members of society; not physically strong but brave and helpful. Perhaps his own sufferings had taught him how to nurse the sick

and do housework when needful. Mrs. Cha. Robert, sr., knew very little of house-work, was almost a child herself, although a mother. She was having a hard time and there was no domestic help procurable. When her father-in-law [Samuel Roberts] came out he said he would find some one if he had to go out of the state. He came over the river and some one told him if he could get Uncle Ben he could teach and help her. She told me in after years of very many things she had learned of Uncle Ben, and at the time she told of them she was one of the best housekeepers in the county.

In the same block 6 was a small house, rented, also Mrs. Pease's tavern. Mrs. Pease was the mother of L. B. and Orville Judson. She stayed only a short time, then her house was rented, usually to two families. On the corner where the bank is stood C. B. Chapin's blacksmith shop. The second floor was a wagon shop, afterwards used for machinery also.

In block 11 stood a house which Dr. Jewell bought and lived and died in; Ezra Smith's shop where he sold and made shoes, Albert Marshall's home, now Dr. Drew's office. John Cornefix's home was in the same block. On Adams street William Meeker and Ezra Smith had homes. The father off these Smith families had a government patent for a large part of Chicago. Aldine Square and Douglas monument are on his farm, but the sons, thinking this place better, moved on and Ezra built his home overlooking the river.

William Phillips built a house, which was burned down, a few years ago, in block 6. Mr. Carr had his home by the big spring below the elevator. In block 14 Samuel Bartlett had a house and a blacksmith shop. In block 15 was a house Mr. Dano moved and made a home on this place. In the same block on lot one was the school house. Across the street on block ten was the house where Mrs. Long lives. Dr. Jewell lived in it. He moved here from Georgetown, now Newark. A house on the corner was moved away, when Andrew Gray bought the lot. House where Mr. Olson lives, house where Mrs. Danforth lived, foundation for store, were in this block. Mr. Danforth started the building, then went east for a stock of goods and was never heard of after. They were young and enthusiastic. He thought he could make a fortune in this land of opportunity and rear his family in affluence. He bade his wife and babies a hopeful and loving good-bye, got into the wagon, and dropped out of their lives forever. We came on the last boat up the lakes that season. She had been looking for him, thinking illness or something detained him. I shall never

forget her sorrow after waiting and hoping to the last. No one who knew them believed it was desertion. He had money and evidently some one got it and then put him where he could tell no tales. He was a brother to Drs. Willis and Addison Danforth. Mrs. Danforth taught a school in her house, and a class of young ladies rented rooms in the Olson house and boarded as a club to get the benefit of her teaching.

Across Washington street, in block 7, there was a little building standing partly in the street, William Orr's shoe shop, John Chapman's store, a house of two or three rooms rented for two families. The house on the corner was sometimes a store and then when the proprietor sold all he had was rented for a dwelling.

Across the alley was our first large building, the Eagle Hotel, built by Samuel and Thomas Hopkins. It was soon rented to Wright Murphy, who carried on the hotel business some years in this house and then built a house of his own, calling it the Kendall House. The north end of the Eagle hotel was finished for a store and there W. O. Parke had the first dry goods store. What we had before were more like sutlers' wagons, a very little of many thing - surely a barrel of sugar and a barrel of whiskey. Mr. Rank says they used the latter for chills.

Mr. Park built a stone house in block 3, corner of Main and Jackson streets. After he moved his business the rooms in the hotel were finished for J. J. Cole, who boarded at the hotel a long time, through its changes of name and proprietors.

In block 7 in Washington street were the home of John Chapman<sup>1</sup> and John Fletcher's home, torn down two years ago. In block 10 on Washington street, part of Mrs. Lester's home. In block 8 was the home of Levi Arnold. He had his justice's office also the post-office in the home. After offices were moved down town the room was used for a private school by a Miss Lake of Aurora.

Then we had L. B. Judson's log house on the site where William Cliggitt now lives, Mr. Stafford's farmhouse, the John Andrews house; a little house standing in the street; Mrs. Mentor, Mrs. Stafford's mother and sister, lived in. Electa Mentor was a tailoress, I think the only one who could make men's clothing until '41-'42, when so many people came there were tailors galore. It became the most thriving business in the village, all hand-sewing.

Then we had Walter Loucks' new house, and log house across the street which he rented. Walter Loucks was the father of our village and one of its best citizens, for many years.

I must not forget to mention the sawmill on Waubonsie creek, built by the Hopkins brother. It was sold or rented to Horace Winchell. He made lumber there many years and it was a favorite play-ground for us children. He let us ride on the carrier. And there being no cisterns in the place and not many wells the women had a place to wash under the trees at the creek. If there came a shower they would seek shelter in the mill.

Across Waubonsie creek, on the highest ground around the village was the mission house of Chief Waubonsie's Indian village. The Jesuit priests built it, but after the Indians were gone it was still used by the people for schools and funerals. There were five grave near.....

1. Margin note; author unknown: "where Pearl lived block 6."
2. Margin note; author unknown: "Benasha Smith Uncle of Dwight Smith. His mother was Naomi Bryant."

NaAuSay: Mr. and Mrs. Seth Wheeler are the happy parents of a young son, who arrived last week after the NaAuSay items had been send to *The Record* office.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Shredding corn fodder has proceeded rather slowly for the past ten days.

Yorkville: Winter came on us for sure Thursday night and Friday morning thermometers indicated from four to ten above zero.

Dec. 19: The inside of the hardware store is being painted.

Scott Cutter's Santa Claus store is in the Shoger building this year.

Charles Sorg is the possessor of a new graphaphone, recently purchased while on a visit to Chicago.

M.E. Simons and family departed from here, their destination was not learned.

A.O. Wilson and family with their household goods departed from this neighborhood for South Dakota.

Tamarack and Wheatland: The U.P. Sunday school is planning to have a Christmas tree and entertainment.

NaAuSay: The scarlet fever danger has entirely passed and the church will be again opened for services next Sunday morning.

Wolf's Crossing: Charles Sorg is the possessor of a new graphophone, recently purchased while on a visit at Chicago.

John Hummel's people are busy this week moving and settling into their new place. They will enjoy it very well as it is right up to date.

The Joliet and Aurora cars were delayed for over an hour Friday when 300 feet of trolley wire broke between the EJ&E derail and Bell's Station. It was some time before it was fixed so as to give good service.

Dec. 26: Mrs. Maggie Schwartz went to spend Christmas in the family of her former neighbor here, A.P. Werve.

Christmas was passed here according to modern conventionalism; most all would enjoy a sumptuous dinner either at home or elsewhere; be a host or guest.

Three hunters were arrested Sunday for violation of law, and fined, Monday, \$7.50 each, and the one with a quail in possession \$25 extra. They also had a killed turkey with them.

The wedding of Lillian Burkhart to Ezekiel Pearce at the home of the bride's parents, John Burkhart, Thursday evening, is reported to have been a most happy event.

1907

January

Jan. 2: Oswego Statistics. 1906 is passed; it was to Oswego a year of luck and with being escaping earthquakes, tornadoes, fires or any

other calamity; a year of recognized great prosperity, there being a large demand for work, much building, and a general development of the resources. It has also retained its repute of a healthy place, there being little sickness. The death rate of Oswego and vicinity was 15, of whom seven were males and eight females, the oldest of them being 88 years, the youngest 16; their average was about 63--that of the males 54, the females 72, eight were married, four widowed, and three single. Nine were brought here from elsewhere for burial, six males and three females; the average of the males was about 58 years, the females 23; the oldest being nearly 84 years, the youngest 7. There was also an infant. The marriage record shows 22 couples, an unusually large showing--16 of the brides and 13 of the grooms being from here and vicinity.

Bennie Biesemeier came down from Rockford to spend the holidays.

Skating on the Smith pond formed a large part of the holiday sport of the young.

Henry Burkhart shipped a carload of fine fat steers for which he received almost the top price.

Charles H. Shoger is said to have bought the James Foran house in the Park addition.

Louis Schell emigrated to North Dakota a few years ago; he has acquired 1,100 acres of land, all of which he is renting, the following some other business than farming. Christmas he got married and now with his bride is on a honeymoon visit to his relatives and friends of these parts including Louis Weller of this village.

Jan. 9: Two Aurora hunters were arrested for trespassing on forbidden grounds. They were fined lightly, as they professed probable excuse for it. As now, the majority of men, when having a vacation from work want to take a gun and go out to kill or maim anything that isn't watched. The prevailing evolution is towards cruelty and destructiveness. Men engage in hunting and fishing for sport; the small boy now with his Christmas present of an air gun

does not care about shooting at a mark, but finds fun in shooting at sparrows or at any other living thing.

The scarlet fever has broken out in the German settlement.

Charles H. Shoger is said to have bought the James Foran house in the Park addition.

Louis Schilling and Lizzie Wald were married on New Year's day. It took place in Chicago.

Four carloads of stock were shipped from here Monday evening, three being by Knapp & Dwyre.

Those that went to southern California and Florida for the enjoyment of mild weather made a mistake this winter. The small boys here now would be enjoying the pleasure of barefootedness out of doors if their mothers would only let them

At the Farmers' Institute Friday evening at Oswego, Dr. W.F. Weese will show stereopticon views illustrating many rare equine subjects. The pictures have been taken in different parts of the world--Russia, England, Scotland France, Brazil, and the United States have contributed to the collection.

Yorkville: Mr. Helle, the veteran shoe repairer of Oswego, was in Yorkville Monday attending court. He says the old cobblers are rapidly passing away and expressed much sympathy for the illness of his old friend, Mr. Remmers.

The big drainage ditch over in Bristol township is nearing completion. The diggers crossed the railroad track in the course of dredging the Rob Roy a week ago Sunday and are progressing at the rate of about 350 feet per day. It has been a good winter for the dredgers with no extremely hard freeze-ups--the ground staying in such a condition that the big shovel could easily work it out.

The Tirzah Minard estate is to be closed. 206 acres of land for sale in 40 50, and 116 acre lots or as a whole. Inquire of W.M. Mercer attorney, Aurora or L.N. Hall, executor, Oswego.



The ice on the river pond has had a hard time to attain any great thickness owing to the repeated thaws of the past week, but the cold weather of the past few days has begun to make strides in producing ice, and it is thought that as soon as it gets to be ten inches thick the ice trust will put it up. A general overseer has been here all winter keeping an eye on the pant, which as he sates, is too valuable to close up.

Jan. 16: Feed grinding done on short notice at the Oswego feed mill.

Judge Galvin, a former townsman, but now of Ottawa was seen here Saturday.

Arthur Riemenschneider of Yorkville is now the night helloer of the Chicago Telephone here.

G.H. Voss starts today for Oklahoma to view that famous country and to be for a while company to the Hon. C.T. Cherry, who at present is in those parts.

The report of the death of George Bristol out in the State of Washington was received by relatives here. He was one of the noted men of this township, residing on his nice farm in the eastern part of it and held the office of justice of the peace for many years.

The funeral of Miss Emma Hafenrichter, who died in Colorado, where she had gone for relief of consumption, took place Thursday. Burial was in the cemetery of the German settlement.

The Farmers' Institute was the great event of the week.

Yorkville: Tonight at Oswego occurs the annual mask ball, which is one of the prettiest parties in the social course of Oswego's winter season.

Jan. 23: Sunday was one of the days for remembrance, as to the weather.

John Schickler was in Chicago and bought for his family a new piano.

Scott Cutter has his inventions on exhibition at an electrical display in Chicago.

The LaMott Comedy company showed here Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings. Apparently they met with small prosperity.

Undertaker Croushorn was again called upon Monday to attend to the burial of one of the McLains in the NaAuSay cemetery, who formerly lived in that neighborhood.

Olson & Frederickson's shop was broken into and some tools carried off. The saloon of Obman & Stevens was forcibly entered and things were much disturbed, registers and machines broken open, from \$8 to \$10 of money and some cigars and liquor appropriated. A trial was made to enter the post office by cutting through the back door, but scared off Wednesday morning.

Jan. 23, *The Oswego Herald*: Written by Mrs. Helen McKinney Pogue; read by Miss Bernice Pearce at the last meeting of the Nineteenth Century Club.

In continuing the subject of Early History of Oswego, have heard the older people speak of the terrible cold winter of '56, when the thermometer stood thirty degrees below zero for days, and when the ice went out in the spring, took the bridge and did much damage all along Fox river. It also damaged the Parker saw-mill a great deal.

After the bridge was carried away, people had to cross the river on a ferry, for it was quite a while before another bridge was built. The evening before the bridge went out there was a dancing party clown at the home of Lewis Rickard, sr., where they used to have many dances. The party did not break up until morning, and coming home had just crossed the bridge when it went down, and a narrow escape they had from being thrown into the raging stream.

The people say, "Why don't you speak of such and such families?" If those of us who have tried to say something of the earlier days of this town can have the time and space, will see what we can do along that line and now that "we have buried the Indians and snails," and even erected lasting monuments in memory of them, we

can proceed to this more pleasant, yet more difficult, task, and if the name of any family shall be missing, you may be sure that the curtain was drawn before we finished our subject, and you may be sure that if we can have our wishes granted "every name shall be written there," and not one left out. But do you realize what it means to do this? For my own part, have felt that I could not do justice to any paper, and have consented to go on with it because of the earnest wishes of the committee of this afternoon.

Of the pioneer settlers, Marsh Richards, Sr. was one who came around by the lakes at the time the colony came that was spoken of in my previous paper (quite likely there are more of them but I cannot tell who they are). I am going to give you just a few of the names of the earliest settlers, possibly not all pioneers but who can be counted among the earlier ones, but cannot give them all, or the dates of their coming, for that would indeed be a herculean task. I will simply give those I can remember and also those I have heard mentioned. John M. Denton was an early carpenter; S. W. Randall, Jesse Pitzgar, A. R. Dodge, W. P. Boyd and Judge Helm were among the early lawyers, Judge Hudson of Yorkville, also; tailer shops were carried on by Azariah Nellis and C. L. Murdock and shoemaking by Stafford Brothers.

During the Mexican war a company of fifty was raised with A. R. Dodge for captain. John Sanders and David Carpenter were among them, both coming back and living here many years; both were fine citizens, too. Have heard people speak of the many years that J. J. Cole boarded at the National hotel; also J. D. Kennedy, Lawrence Rank and A.B. Hall; the latter kept a general merchandise store, which he gave up when he afterwards became lieutenant of company "C" in the Fourth Illinois cavalry. Mr. Cole bought the Fridley place where Mr. Calvin Pearce now lives. Many amusing stories are told of the shrewdness and wit of B. F. Fridley, who came here in '34 and afterwards became state's attorney, his district extending from Galena to Peoria, and was associated with all the leading members of the profession in northern Illinois. "He was a picturesque character, and it is doubtful if any member of the early bar in northern Illinois left behind him a larger fund of interesting reminiscences that are entertaining and witty." One story is that in the early times he and Lemuel Gordon were breaking the prairie with an ox team, and when they left their cabin in the morning they arranged the latch in such a way that no one could possibly get in

without going down the chimney, They had a few quiet, peaceful neighbors, among them being a Miller family which had some daughters who were very religious. They had nothing to fear from these neighbors of course, but sometimes the Indians would make raids upon the cabins and leave the people destitute of provisions. One day Mr. Fridley and this man came home very tired and hungry, and Fridley sent the man ahead to crawl down the chimney, which he had to do - couldn't get in any other way. In the meantime Mr. Fridley unyoked and fed the oxen, while the man was to get supper. Mr. Fridley was busy with the oxen, when down rushed the man to say that something terrible had happened.

"Why, what is the trouble?" Mr. Fridley asked. "Have the Indians been in and stolen all our grub?"

"No," said Lem, "something worse than that has happened."

"Why, what on earth could be worse than that?"

"Why," said Lem, "some one has left a religious tract under the door."

It will interest you to know that Ralph Waldo Trine, the author of the popular "In Tune with the Infinite," is a nephew of Mr. Fridley, and resembles him very much.

Among the early families are those of Messrs. Sutherland, Strossman, Stoutemeyer, Forbes, Captain Mann, L. Briggs, T. Mullenix, and also Adam Armstrong. The latter conducted a broom factory for years, and was a fine player of the dulcimer. Many a dancing party was held at which Adam and the dulcimer furnished the music. Other families were John Andrews, Peter Dano, Elias Darby, Jake Hearp, Mrs. Lamon. Of the Sutherland family, wish to speak of their family of four children. William, Henry, Sophia and Mary who were all progressive young people and, being musical, contributed much to the social life of the village. The writer remembers when a child of going to the old Congregational church and seeing the Sutherlands with others, seated in the choir. The choir occupied the choir-loft, which was in the back part of the church, and when the congregation arose to sing, they would turn their backs to the minister and "face the music," How in the world us youngsters ever saw anything with the hats we wore then is more than I can tell, They were large, broad hats, tied in the center with a ribbon, and we would have to peek out at one side, but expect our mothers wanted us to be fashionable, like they did a few years later when they wore the hoop-skirts, which must have been made for the

sole purpose of helping the manufacturers and merchants, and to adorn attics later on. You have heard of William. He was a great practical joker, and at one time when Elder Estee was a minister here in the Baptist church, Mr. Hoze invited him to a dancing party that was to be held in one of the hotels, and Mr. Estee said he would surely go if he was alive. The evening and the party came, but not Rev. Estee, so the next day, bright and early, Mr. Hoze got the key of the Congregational church and commenced tolling the bell. It was the custom then to toll ten times for every ten years. Someone came hurrying in to hear who was dead.

"Why," said Hoze, "Mr. Estee is dead."

"Why, no," said the other, "that cannot be. I saw him a little while ago."

"Can't help that," said Hoze; "he said he would come to the dance if he was alive, and as he didn't come, he surely must be dead."

The Stoutemeyer family were among the first, Mrs. Clinton being one of them. One of the boys of '61 has told me that "Henry Hudson and Newt Stoutemeyer, two of Oswego's brightest young men, enlisted in the army and did good service for their country during those dark days in the sixties, and after the war was over settled in New Orleans with the expectation of making the south their home." They became editors of a newspaper which had great influence in bringing once more good feeling and fellowship between the people of the North and South, and we all know in looking back to those times that it was no easy task to reconcile the people of the South and make them believe that they still had good friends among those who had been instrumental in bringing about their defeat.

Some of you remember Mrs. Foster and her interesting family. "Aunt Mary Foster," as she was commonly called, was beloved by every one, and we always considered it a great treat to meet her. She came here to live when her daughter, "Little Mary Foster," was scarcely five years old, and was a schoolgirl here with some of the members of this club. Mary Foster and Clara Hawley were the prettiest girls in all the town. Mary now lives at Owatonna, Minnesota near her daughter, May Chapin Kenyon, of whom most of you have heard, as she used to visit her frequently. The oldest brother of little Mary Foster, Col. E. W. Foster, now of Washington, D.C., was at one time a schoolteacher in the Gaylord as well as the Pearce district. It was in the time of spelling matches and Everett had some famous spellers

among his pupils, who generally went to the head for spelling. Will speak of Addison Foster later on.

Among the earlier comers may be counted Cyrus Baker, Mr. Grooms, Mr. Varner, L. Bartlett, Mrs. Minard of Main Street, her house having been used as a schoolhouse, Annie McKinney being one of the first teachers here, and as we have heard Mrs. Jeneson also taught here. Rev. McKinney was one of the best loved men in the vicinity, so I have been told.

Other families were those of Nick Congdon, Dr. Van Deventer, Charles Hubbard, G. Voss, T. Richards, Mr. Edson, Charles Shaffer, John Lockwood, Mr. Morrison, David Jeneson, Elder Minard, Mrs. Burr, Edward Haines, the Inmans, Culvers, Greenfield, Alfred Wormley, James Chapman, Dr. G. B. Lester, Mr. Sanse, H. G. Smith, James Sheppard, Thomas Miller, John Andrews, Mrs. Irene Billings, A. Rice, William Dwyre, G. Schuman, F. Sierp, Jim Andrews, H. and J. Young, L. Van Driesen, C. Severance, August Kell, G. Lippold, Charles Knapp, Mr. Woollenweber (Wollenweber), Mr. Dorm, Jake Hearp (Heap ?), L. Briggs, Mr. Boert, L. Bartlett, Mrs. Kenyon.

Every one knew Henry Ricker, the jeweler, and every one liked him. Poor fellow, he had the one fault and through this he met his death. Henry Helle kept a boot and shoe store for years, also Mr.

Sutherland sold boots and shoes. Mr. Failing, Andrew Gray, Mrs. Van Doozer Ferris, of whom Mrs. Young has told you, Elijah Hopkins, Leonard Burkhart, George Squires, Mr. Head, Charles Bennett, William and George Parker, John Seely, Charles Roberts, Louis Richard, Sr., also Dr. Davis, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Sanderson, and Albert Snook, the lawyer. Most of you know his son, Albert Snook, the editor of the Aurora Daily News, and you may well be proud of him. Charles Danforth kept a cooper shop, which was an old landmark, and this industry was one of the chief ones before the war. This shop and John Bartlett's blacksmith shop were favorite places for the boys to congregate. Uncle Johnnie Moore's place was also an old landmark. The old stone building on the west side of the river near the river was an old tavern.

The families of Burkharts, Irving Shoger, Hemms and Hafenrichters, Treman and Whitman, are among the first settlers. Every one knows David Hall, the auctioneer, and many remember his old friends and neighbors, the D. T. Wayne family. Mr. Wayne and son Joe ran a grain elevator for years, also a cider press and Charles Murdock was a neighbor. Mr. and Mrs. Murdock were neighbors of mine for years

and mighty good ones, too. M. J. Pogue kept a lumber yard for years, buying out Mr. Bunn.

In my other paper I told you of the marriage of my parents, which was the culmination of a courtship that began at a garden party in the state of New York. The raising of hops for market was quite an industry with the people there at that time, and to get them picked for market in due season, made parties to which the young people were invited, and would then have supper and a dance in the evening, and it was at one of these parties that my parents first met. And afterwards they all came West, and like Jacob of old, my father worked and waited seven years for his bride. In their home in Locust Lane (so called on account of the lane leading to the house being filled with locust trees. The trees are now dead and the main road is where the lane was) they were surrounded by the following families: Seth and Lauriston Walker, Dexter Shaw, Henry Whiting, Nathan Loucks, Grandfather Cass, Elder Minard, Gilbert Gaylord, Immanuel Cooney, L. Gaylord, also Messrs. Robinson, Shumway, Mason, Woolley, Marques (whose place was afterward occupied by Frank Vanderlip's parents), Collins, Edwards, also Deacon Smith, Mr. Elliott McClaine, Philip Boesenecker, O. E. Judson, William Ladd, and across in the AuSable Grove wer the families of the Clarks, Cherry, Goudies, Wagner, Chase, Hunt, Hickey, Townsend, and Major Davis.

It is fixed in memory as a child my first visit to the Cherry homestead. What a fine place it was, and a grand old couple surrounded by their stalwart sons and handsome daughters. We we not in the midst of a fine people ? Across the slough were to be found, with the others, the following people: Smith Minkler, of whom a whole volume of interesting things could be written; also J. D. Hall, Stevenson, Hopkins, Cliggitts, Simons, H. G. Pogue, Winns, Charles Doud, and coming up the river road were Parkhursts, Budlongs, Leighs, Fox, Rees, Childs and Cutters.

It has been suggested that this paper should give a few recollections of girlhood days, and I comply somewhat reluctantly, for following those excellent papers of my predecessors on this "Early History" program, may prove of little interest to you.

It has been said that everyone danced, old and young, parents often taking the older children with them, and what jolly times they had. Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Loucks had the distinction of being the best dancers in our immediate vicinity. Mrs. Charles Doud and Mrs. William Wormley were also fine dancers. Mrs. Ladd, now of Omaha,

of whom many of you have heard, if not already acquainted with, writes: "Every one of those papers goes straight to my heart, even to being stuck in the mud, for that was my plight when I first landed in front of the National hotel in 1853." She then also adds: "I, too, like yourself, took my first dancing lessons in the Kendall house, for I was brought up in a staid New England town where it was considered almost crime to take even quick step. As has been said, everybody danced and everybody went to church. I had always done the latter, and doing as the Romans did, was soon in the whirl." I do not think that we need any further testimony concerning dancing for Mrs. Ladd was among New England's choicest gifts to Oswego.

Among the first teachers that I recall were: George Walker, George Moore, Tryphena Hopkins, Serena Fosgate, Amanda Hazelip, Lizzie Moore, Anna Mason, and Libbie Murphy. The thing that impressed me most was when the later was my teacher was the reading of the Psalms. All the home instruction and Sunday school teaching somehow never impressed me like those old songs of David read by my youthful teacher in the little red schoolhouse, and although we danced when out of school we honored and loved the old book which says "There is a time to dance," and that time was then. The people all went to church in those days, and a few words regarding some of those in the old Congregational church-the church that I remember most about. Mr. John Seely was one of the strongest supporters of the church for years. He and his family were always present at church, and always, rain or shine, would Dwight Ladd's family be present at church services. Mrs. Ladd taught a Sabbath school class for years, and she sang, as well as her sister, Mrs. Bunn, in the choir. Mr. and Mrs. Farley were faithful workers and supporters, also the Teller and Durand families, the Bunn family, Mr. and Mrs. David Carpenter, Mr. and Mrs. Whipple, Mr. and Mrs. John Lockwood, Dr. and Mrs. Jewell, James Morrison family, Deacon Smith, Deacon Reed, J. B. Hunt and family. William Ladd, Mrs. Emily Hawley, the Loucks family. Mrs. Lettie Seely gave years of service as an organist. At one time Mr. Farley and Mr. Haight read sermons when the church was without a pastor. Miss Eliza Kennedy took upon herself the responsibility of raising the salary by subscriptions to pay the pastor. She raised the funds and Rev. George Hill was called, and a grand man he proved for the place. As a neighbor and friend we find few like Miss Kennedy. In



those sad days which followed my father's death she was like a ministering angel in our family, and the recollections of the time when I was called home from school in Chicago because of the serious illness of my baby sister are fresh in memory, and the sister would have died but for her faithful and constant service in administering to her. In after years she proved a wise counsellor, and if we heeded not her advice we came to grief.

Mrs. Eliza Avery, who was a relative of James Russell Lowell, the poet, was one of the faithful ones. Had Charles Dickens ever met Mrs. Avery his fame would be greater than it is, for she was a typical Dickens character. Mrs. Margaret Young taught a Sabbath school class for years. Mrs. Teller, who lived next to the church, where Charles Roberts now lives, did much for the church. She kept open house most of the time for church doings, and her parlors were constantly used for church parlors, but this house went down in ashes the same sad memorable night that the old church was burned, both reduced to ashes and ruins in a few short hours. (I cannot give the correct date, '94 I think) and Oswego was robbed of two of its most interesting buildings--its first church and one of the first residences. To me, aside from our home, the Congregational church and the National hotel are the most interesting buildings. The school girls in town of about my own age were the following, with others: Clara Hawley, Ella Loucks, Mary Foster, Kate Chapman, Martha Murphy, Maggie Bunn, Ella Newton Lettie, Bessie and Emma Richards, Ella Judson, Emma Murdock, Mattie Farley, Lettie, Teller, Josie Forbes, Anna Reed, Lizzie Lester, Helen Schram, Anna Jolly, Ella Rickerson, Pauline Wayne, Mary Ella Congdon, Julia Hoze, Etta Harris.

Among those in a more advanced class were Lizzie and Lucia Moore, Mary Marquis, Mary McClain, Minerva Chapman, Mary Shibley, Mary and Janette Kimball, Anna Mason, Julia Judson, Libbie Murphy, Alice and Lizzie Coffin, Libbie and Alice Loucks, Lucinda Rickard, Susie and Lottie Gordon, Fannie Porter, Libbie Winn, Hattie and Lavina Hall, Sallie Wagner, Sara Beaupre, Stoutemeyer girls, Fridley girls, Amanda Pogue, Anna Hopkins. Nancy Helm, Sadie Baker, Sarah, Mary and Ella Hunt, Lizzie and Julia Russell.

In 1861 A. B. Smith and Paul Hawley were the lawyers here, also Albert Snook. Mr. Newton was justice of the peace. M. J. Richards was proprietor of the National hotel, who with his genial wife and

musical daughters entertained the younger as well as the older people very pleasantly.

A stage made two or three trips daily between the town and the old Oswego station, two and one-half miles west from here. Mr. Durand was station agent at that time and Mr. Bunn kept the lumber yard. Some of you remember that Cassius Durand married Maggie Bunn. They live in Chicago.

Oswego's big fire occurred on February 9th, 1867. It started in the William W. Hawley store in a brick building and spread southward, burning John Lockwood's harness shop and Helm & Smith's law office (then next to Henry Ricker's jewelry shop), Mrs. Lydia Gates' dressmaking establishment, upstairs in one of the store buildings, the store occupied by Thomas Greenfield, next Fred Sierp's shoe shop, Richards & Son's hardware store, L. N. Hall's drug store, the National hotel, kept by M. Richards, and thus were two of the oldest and most interesting buildings burned, the National hotel at the time and the old church a quarter of a century later.

Yorkville: The directors, officers and others interested in the maintenance of the Kendall County Fair Association have been playing with firebrands for the past few years. Fairs have been held each fall, apparently everybody enjoyed themselves, but when it came time to pay the bills and meet expenses a shortage of receipts from \$200 to \$500 always stared the officers in the face. It was a slippery proposition and sliding over a little trifle like \$500 was an easy matter. Notes were drawn up and signed by the directors. The crisis has come. The limit has been reached when the substantial men who have had charge of the fair association's business have realized the import of the difficulty. Saturday afternoon there was a meeting of the stockholders of the association at the courthouse. The old fair cannot be allowed to die bankrupt.

Families in the low country south of Joliet were ousted from their homes by the heavy rainfall and cloudburst which took place over there in connection with the storm of Saturday. The whistles were blown in Aurora at 12 o'clock Saturday night to wake the people and put them on guard, and those in Yorkville who were awake at that time of night say there was a sudden roaring, high above the strong wind, which rushed over the tops of the houses making the folks shudder as they thought of cyclone clouds.

Tamarack and Wheatland: If the weather remains cold, considerable shelling will be done, although the price of corn is advancing slowly.

The smokestack of the elevator at Normantown was damaged by the high wind Sunday and the old church was blown down.

Jan. 30: Anna Margaretha Brunenmeyer was born 80 years and seven months ago in Bavaria Germany, came to America in 1844, was married to Leonard Burkhart in 1848 and died Jan. 25, 1907. She leaves behind a husband, who was too feeble to attend the funeral, four sons, and four daughters, all being present at the funeral.

Lloyd Wormley had a celebration of his eighth birthday.

Seven carloads of fat cattle were shipped from here Tuesday night.

Ed Walker this Tuesday was informed by telegraph of the death of his brother, Jason at San Jose, Calif.

Capt. Charles Clinton has moved into his new residence, perhaps the most complete and costliest in Kendall county.

Yorkville: David Hall, the Oswego auctioneer, was in Yorkville Friday and says he made the sale of his life when he cried of the big horses at George Collins's sale. There were 11 head of horses, blooded stock, sold and the price paid for the bunch was \$3,476.50, averaging about \$316 each.

A large number of our citizens decorated themselves yesterday with the pink carnation, the favorite flower of the martyred President William McKinley in honor of his birthday.

The first beekeeper's convention to be held in Kendall County will be called to order at the town hall this afternoon.

February -- 1907

Feb. 6: John Burkhart, who lives a mile east of town, will have a sale of his livestock and farm implements on Feb. 20.

Nettie Sanders attended the funeral of her mother-in-law, Mrs. William Parker in Aurora Monday.

Not only his shadow, but also the cold wind Saturday must have impressed the ground hog to remain in his hole for a long time to come.

The funeral of Mrs. Daniel E. Lyon--nee Ida Herren--who died in an Aurora hospital--occurred Monday afternoon.

Yorkville: A thaw Friday night threatened to put a stop to the ice business and prevent two or three from getting their houses filled, but Saturday morning found another February change had taken place and things were in the tight grip of winter again.

The ice men in Yorkville Thursday began what appeared to be an endless job--cutting out the muddy sluggish ice on the river pond and shoving it over the dam in great chunks and cakes. It was a formidable undertaking, and from the river bridges looked like the task might last till spring came and finished it.

Feb. 13: A number of the business houses Monday had new lighting plants put in.

Oswego friends received letters from Gus Voss which give his views of the Southwestern country in substantially the following terse sentences: "I'm going to leave this forsaken country next Sunday; it's a fright; no companions here but a lot of darkies and Mexicans and none of them can play billiards or euchre, not even checkers, like they do up in Barker's store in the old home town....Hurrah for Illinois! She's enough for me--Oklyhomy or Texas in mine."

Feb. 20: A.G. Updike and Lewis Gaylord attended the convention of hardware men in Chicago.

The whole of the J.G. Butler family were more or less under the weather during the past week.

Orma Young gave a party to some of her young friends Thursday evening.

The scarlet fever broke out here Thursday though apparently not of the virulent kind. Immediately everything was done to keep it from spreading. The houses in which any appearance of it was had were quarantined; the school was closed; no Sunday school nor other church services were held Sunday. The location is thickly supplied with children; it includes three adjoining blocks forming an L. The families affected are E. Obman, Will Palmer, and Abner Updike.

Feb. 27: Teacher Elva Downing was visiting at Ohio, Ill. During scarlet vacation. Likewise teacher Edna Murphy in Aurora.

Mail carrier Cherry is taking a vacation and substitute Ernst Kueller is supplying the R.D. No. 3 route service.

The horse-taming exhibition at the Aurora coliseum is being well attended from here.

Frank Hinchman and Mabel Wright, who has been with the Will Cliggitt family, have taken the advance step to enter the matrimonial state; it took place in Aurora Feb. 20, 1907.

The scarlet fever scare has subsided; church services resumed Sunday and the school re-opened Monday.

Helen Davis of Oswego, daughter of a former village marshal, and her beau, Richard Alexander of Montgomery, eloped. Miss Davis was only 17 years old. The couple fled via the interurban trolley and were married in Chicago.

March -- 1907

March 6: Roy Croushorn has returned to the Morse & Fowler store clerking.

A big coon dinner Thursday was one of the festive indulgences of the season at the Main and Jackson streets saloon.

The allowance of bills and some talk about certain sidewalks was all that was done at the council meeting Monday.

March 6, *The Oswego Herald*: Flight From the Indians. Written by Hon. G. M. Hollenback.

My excuse for appearing before you again so soon is that I have been asked to be voice for one whose voice (so far as to our present development), is silenced forever.

I knew Mrs. Boyd when I was a young girl and respected her greatly. A woman whose beautiful life was an inspiration and a model for every pure minded young woman who desired not only to have, but to be. I do not believe a human voice will ever depict her character or relate her biography, but the angel who writes in God's book of remembrance has reserved it for our future reading. This is also a journey, not so amusing or delightful as the ones we have listened to at our late meetings, but as it is good for us to take the bitter with the sweet and helpful to the young to awaken their sympathy and reverence, I am glad to read it for you .

Margaret Young

To the ladies of the Nineteenth Century club of Oswego:

A committee of your club has extended an invitation to me to appear before you this evening, and give you a talk on the early history of Oswego, if not able to give you something in regard to your town, to say something in regard to the early history of Kendall county, and if not able to be personally present, to prepare a paper in regard to early events, to be read on this occasion.

Inasmuch as my health has been an uncertain quantity for some months, as well as the weather is somewhat an uncertain quantity, at this season of the year, I have concluded to send you a paper to be read, on the Indian out-break of May, 1832. A number of published accounts are so wide of the actual occurrences connected therewith -- some of them wholly false, I have thought best to introduce one who was present and passed through some of the scenes that came under her observation as a competent witness.

On June 28, 1893, Mr. Edward Well, a relative, spent the day with my sister, Mrs. Sarah A. Boyd, at her home in Bristol; at that visit Mr.

Well requested her to give her recollections of the outbreak of the Indians belonging to Black Hawk's band, in 1832, by which all the early settlers were driven from their homes. Mr. Well took pretty full notes of her statement and last summer sent them to me, with the request that I edit them, and make corrections if necessary. This statement is substantially as follows:

I am the third child of George Hollenback and Sophia Sidle, born in Muskingum county, Ohio , April 27, 1822. Moved with the family to Indiana in 1829, when in my eighth year ; were six weeks and three days on the road to Gopher Hill, Ind.; left there in April, 1830, and lived a year in LaSalle county, across the Illinois river from Peru; moved to Hollenback's Grove, now Kendall county in April, 1831. Father entered a section of land there. Early in April we saw Indians pass over the hills to the south. In the spring of 1832, two strange Indians came to the house and saw the twin babies in the cradle and seemed very much pleased. We could not understand what they said about the "papooses," and we did not apprehend any danger. Early in the spring we saw some strange Indians crossing to the northeast: saw the shining of the sun on their guns, thought they were going to Canada, for their blankets and annuities, we afterwards thought they were Black Hawk's Indians.

We now come to the date of the outbreak, May 16, 1832. On that day Shabbona, very truthfully called "the friend of the white man," started a member of his family to inform my father's family that an Indian outbreak was to occur that night, soon after dark he missed the way, and struck my uncle, Clark Hollenback's house, four miles to the southwest, getting there a little while before sunset. Happily uncle was away from home, had he been at home he would not have believed the story, and would not have taken any means of escaping. His son, Thomas, a young man of seventeen or eighteen years of age, procured a pony of a half breed Frenchman name "Wash" Beaubien, and rode immediately to our house. He arrived just about the going down of the sun; his first salutation was -- "if you don't all get out of this immediately you will all be killed tonight by the Indians."

Father was out, not far away burning log heaps, preparing to set out an orchard; supper was just ready on the table. A young man name Peter Bolinger was living with us. We did not stop to eat. Father and Bolinger, with mother's help, got a box on the wagon, and ordered a bed and other necessary articles to be placed therein, then the

family to get in and to drive out east over the ridge, or rise of ground out of sight of the house, while he would go and alarm the families of Ezra Ackley and William Harris, our near neighbors, the farthest not over a half mile away, and then he would join us in a few minutes. He said in starting: Be sure and throw the bars down and let the cows and calves together, and be careful and put out every spark of fire," and then we were to drive along the fence up the hill, over the rise of ground, and then northeast over the prairie.

Father went to Ackley's first and in about twenty minutes they were at the wagon, Ackley and his wife and two young daughters. Then he went on to Mr. Harris'. Mr. Harris' horses had strayed and were somewhere at large on the prairie; he and two of his sons were absent in quest of them, and it was uncertain as to their return. The women, Mrs. Harris and Mrs. Harris' old mother and the younger children of the family, and Mrs. Harris' father he found at the house. The old gentleman, Mr. Combs, was bed-ridden, suffering from an attack of inflammatory rheumatism, unable to move. They were all greatly distressed by the news of the expected outbreak, and began to shed tears and wring their hands, and could hardly be prevailed upon to do anything. There was no time to argue the matter with them, so father snatched up the little girl, Mary Margaret Harris. and said: "If you want your scalps taken, I will save this little girl." They immediately acted upon his suggestion, old Mrs. Combs, Mrs. Harris and her children followed his lead, leaving old Mr. Combs to his fate, as it was impossible to move him (he immediately consented to his abandonment \_\_\_\_\_ short time to live anyway, and that he would not embarrass others who were fleeing for their lives, and endanger their chances of escaping.

A very short time after my father and the women and children of Mr. Harris' family left the house, the Indians arrived. They did no violence to Mr. Combs, they furnished him with food and water for some days, until a few nights later, Peter Bolinger, a Mr. Cooper and a young man from Hickory Creek, whose name is not remembered, visited Mr. Harris' cabin, and bore the old man in safety to Walker's settlement, joining Mr. Harris and his family. When father and Mr. Harris' women and children reached the wagon, which they soon did, it was found that the load and wagon were too heavy for one span of horses. Father suggested that he would go back to the house and secure a "stretcher," a kind of chain, that was lying on a shaving



horse, just over the fence in the yard a few rods from the house, the object of securing this implement was to hitch a third horse to the tongue of the heavy loaded wagon.

He informed us if he encountered any Indians he would return to us by a different route, and would helloo to us so that we might be informed of his peril, and that then we must take the shortest route toward Walker's settlement (now Plainfield). He had left us only a few minutes, when we saw a light in the direction of the house and wondered if father had to have a light to find "the stretcher;" the light grew larger and soon we heard a call; mother said, "that's George;" then we all started for the northeast, the children, brother David, the twin babies, old Mrs. Combs, little brother Philip, mother, Mrs. Harris and her grown-up daughter, Mary Margaret, and myself were in the wagon, while brothers John and Clark, well grown-up boys, and Mrs. Harris' younger son followed the wagon on foot, the man, Peter Bolinger, driving the wagon; about two and a half miles from home the wagon got mired down in a slough, which made it necessary to remain right there until morning. A little after daylight we most unexpectedly encountered Mr. Harris and his two sons, Hiram and Blexion. They had slept all night on the prairie wholly unconscious that the remainder of the family were fugitives trying to escape from the savages. It was a providential meeting for the Harris family, who lost everything but the clothing upon their bodies, and but for the accidental meeting that lonely morning, Mr. Harris and his sons would in all probability have been murdered in a few hours. Mr. Harris saved a valuable rifle he happened to be carrying with him.

Thomas Hollenback, who kept with us all night, trying as best he could to render much needed assistance, now concluded to try and search for his family, whose home was near where the village of Newark is situated; his venture in trying to do so will be mentioned further on. We will now return to father. After leaving the wagon and his arrival in the vicinity of his cabin, he felt provoked, as he afterwards said, to think that his order to put out the fire in the house had not been complied with, for through cracks in the Puncheon door he saw a bright light in the house; as he approached nearer he heard movements, as of cattle walking, and at this moment was about within reach of the much needed "stretcher." Just at this juncture the door of the cabin opened and two Indians came out, one carrying a lighted torch, and to his astonishment

could see twenty or thirty Indians in the house yard, some of them almost within reaching distance of him. It was either instant and successful flight for him or death, and he started at the top of his speed. He was in the very prime of his life, and once had had a reputation as being foremost in all athletic exercises requiring activity, skill and strength; two Indians pursued him; they tried his "bottom," as a sportsman would express it, to its utmost, and were almost within reach of him a number of times. Father thought, as they neared the small stream dividing the farm of the late Thomas Atherton, if his pursuers were strangers he would clear the stream at a bound, while they, being unacquainted, would run into it, which would give him a slight advantage; as he conjectured, he cleared the water with ease that surprised him, while they floundered through it, and for the first time found himself gaining ground. He had yet the best part of a mile before him and the outcome of the race was yet in doubt. His shoes were coarse and heavy and his physical forces were fast ebbing away. He kept on, and his pursuers were not far behind. In hurrying down a steep place to a slight ravine on the Highland farm, years afterward owned by the late Dr. A. J. Cook, he tripped and fell into a ditch at the bottom of the ravine. The view of his person at the moment of his falling was evidently lost to his pursuers, he said himself, that in his mind he had now given up the race as lost - his dark clothing and the darker ditch had saved him - his pursuers ran by him, near enough for him to have touched them had he been disposed to do so; they passed him by some rods, giving him a much needed opportunity to move on his hands and knees up the ditch, and out of sight of his pursuers, and had the satisfaction of seeing them double on the track by which they had pursued him for more than a mile and a half.

He rested for some little time in order to collect his thought and get his breath, for he was well nigh exhausted. If he had known the fact, he was much less than a mile from his team and family. The almost super-human exertions he had just made must have told fearfully on his physical, as well as his mental condition, else he could have joined his family and friends in a few minutes - it was not to be - he was lost, and tramped much of what remained of the night in order to find them. Some time after midnight he found himself among trees thickly standing, being very tired, he sat down under one low and bushy tree, and soon fell asleep - awakening, it was broad daylight of another day. A low hanging fog soon lifted,

then he climbed into the tree under which he slept to take his bearings - found that he was at the northwest edge of "Big Grove," and within sight of his own cabin, three or four miles away, as well as in plain view of his brother, Clark Hollenback's cabin, less than two miles off. He immediately concluded to reconnoiter the situation in the vicinity of his brother's house, a very dangerous proposition indeed, - and instantly proceeded cautiously in that direction. He approached the cabin from the southeast - looking behind him toward the south, he saw three men approaching on horseback, moving towards the house, it occurred to him he would lie down and see the outcome of their visit, he did lie down, and they passed within a few rods of him. He knew them all very well, and proved to be Holdermans, Kellogg and a man by the name of Cummings. They had heard some rumors of the intended outbreak among the Indians, and had ridden over to find out about it, - in a few moments they found out all about it! When they had passed by nearly to the cabin one of the men on horseback called out loudly "Hello," which was answered by some one from the cabin, or in its direction, with a like salutation. There was an immediate discharge of many rifles, fifty or more, at the men at very short range, from the trees, house and from a new "sod fence" surrounding it, and running in an easterly direction from it. Strange as it may appear, only one of the shots had any effect, that in the neck of Mr. Cumming's horse just under the mane and not at all to the injury of the animal, he soon recovered his seat on the saddle and all three made good their escape. The Indians left their coverts and pursued the horsemen for some distance, a portion of them keeping pretty well up with the horses, expecting no doubt, to see either Mr. Cummings or his horse fall. The Indians to the number of twenty-five or thirty stopped pretty near where father was lying. Again, his dark clothing was his salvation, for the present at any rate. The prairie grass had lately been burned off leaving the ground very black. The Indians seemed very much interested in the race, too much to look in father's direction only twenty five steps, as it seemed to him, they loaded their empty guns after which they gave a little whoop and ran back to the house. If he had been standing, father could have been plainly seen from the house, but he lay low and rolled on the ground and when he could stand erect and be out of view from the house, he hurried as fast as his weary limbs would carry him.

We turn for a little time to Cousin Thomas Hollenback, as stated above, he started to visit h\_\_\_\_\_ 's house to see if the family \_\_\_\_\_ their escape in safety. (As he approached) the house he saw the approach of the three men already referred to and they reportedly \_\_\_by him as the ones who called out "Hello" as is also reported. Tommy came back in hot haste and reported that the Indians had fired at him as well as at Holderman, Kellogg and Cummings. The Frenchman's gray \_\_\_ was hard to get away and it took all the boy's urging together with the vigorous use of the ram rod \_\_\_ This gun to get him started on the \_\_ck track which he did after losing his rifle and hat; when he rode up to the wagon he was white as a sheet. He called out in a loud voice to my mother: "Aunt, all the folk are killed. Uncle George, too, but I am bullet proof," adding his own exclamation considerable profanity. He seemed highly elated at his providential escape - it did not appear that he had been gone from us much over an hour - we were in the slough when he left us and we were still in that condition on his return. On making his report, we all got out of the wagon and the men pushed and lifted and the horses got it out of the mire.

We started at once about north and came to Edward Aments', about four miles from the slough. We stopped there long enough for him to hitch his own horses ahead of our team; our wagon was one of the old Pennsylvania kind, with enough iron and wood in its construction for several modern wagons. Mr. Aments' family was himself and wife, his mother and sister and little brother. They were a newly married couple. We then went to the home of two old bachelors, a Frenchman and a Yankee, [copy missing] Peter Specie as he was called by the early settlers, whose real name was Basil Lampsett. The other man \_\_\_\_\_ horses and hitching \_\_\_\_\_ to our wagon - s\_\_\_ rode the horses.

About half way between our last stopping place and Walker's settlement, we saw five fires. The Indians had set fire to the settlers' cabins. The houses from which we saw the smoke were my uncle Clark Hollenback's his son George's, Patrick Cunningham's the Rev. Mr. Payne, also Mr. Ackley's.

In a little while after that we saw a man coming, running, our party stopped, but the newcomer motioned for us to go on. I said "I believe that is father!" Mother said, "Yes, that is George!" We still kept going on. It was about ten o'clock in the forenoon when he reached us.

We approached Walker's settlement about two o'clock in the afternoon. The men went to work and tore down a log house, smokehouse, and a corn crib, and made a pretty good block house or fort with a good well inside; brought in all the provisions in the settlement and toward night we had something to eat, the first we had eaten since the day before at noon.

Here we stayed about two weeks and then went to Chicago. Captain Joe Naper's company came out and guarded us to our home in Fort Dearborn, where we stayed until about the middle of July when General Scott came with his army from down the lakes, bringing the cholera. Not long after the war ended.

This substantially ends Mrs. Boyd's narrative. I thought it might be interesting to add a short resume or sequel to her story as follows: Immediately after completing the temporary stockade a military company was organized with Chester Smith as captain and George Hollenback as lieutenant, with guard mounting in regular military usage. Upon the removal of the people to Fort Dearborn later the company was reorganized with James Walker as captain, Chester Smith and George Hollenback as lieutenants. The reorganized company was mustered into the United States service June 25, 1832, as a Cook county company and did good service according to Steven's history of the Black Hawk war, and was mustered out of the service August 12, 1832.

A copy of the roster of this company lies before me while I write these lines containing the names of twenty-five men, officers and privates thereof. Less than half a dozen are now known to the living residents of this locality. Nearly seventy-five years have come and gone since the stirring events here narrated occurred, the last survivor of the little company years ago descended to the final resting place of the living, as well as the no less heroic and daring women, who shared with the men all the privations, discomforts and hardships incidental to the early homes, camps and fields.

----- George M. Hollenback

March 13: George Rabe loaded a car with his household goods for removal to Wisconsin.

Mrs. Stacy Pigott and son of Aurora were visiting grandmother Mrs. John Minich.

Mary Cutter commenced to teach the school of the Parker district in NaAuSay Monday.

The funeral of the wife of Fred Shiffer out at Tamarack took place Tuesday. She was a sister of the several Andersons of that neighborhood.

Laura Lindemeyer was one of the healthiest looking girls around here. She followed nursing, by which she probably contracted the disease, Typhoid fever, from which she died Saturday at the city hospital in Aurora, where she had been taken about a week before.

The Chicago telephone central here has undergone an entire reconstruction; it has been moved from the drug store into the adjoining building, above the H.B. Read store, where there is plenty of room for its more advantageous procedure. Hilda Biesemeier has been made the sub-hello girl, and Arthur Riemenschneider continues the night attendant.

For a few days last week there was a gang of cable men in Oswego, another gang of wire cutters, and the usual office force which had been detailed to Oswego from Chicago to oversee the job of moving the central office of the Chicago Telephone Company from the rear of Cutter's pharmacy to the rooms above, owned by Mr. Cutter. The new situation has been let to the Chicago company on a ten year lease, and will make a fine place for telephone headquarters.

Since the closing of the Yorkville elevator for remodeling and rebuilding purposes a lot of the grain that usually comes to Yorkville has been going to Oswego. The presence of so many Yorkville patrons on the streets of Oswego and the sight of the familiar horses and vehicles make a Yorkville visitor feel at home.

The Colonial mansion recently built by Col. Clinton is now occupied by the family, and is one of the most imposing residences in Kendall County, entirely of a beautiful building brick, with a mammoth porch in front and nearly three stories high. The Colonel is now building a barn near the house and from all appearances his horse will be about as comfortable as any equine can wish to be.

Gus Pearson is one of the Oswego people who will add to the beauty of the village's architecture this spring. Mr. Pearson is at present on his farm but intends to retire next year after Contractor Richards has put up a fine house for him. The town home will be erected on what is known as the "Shepard property," near the village water tower, and the structure will estimate between five thousand and six thousand dollars.

March 20: Floi Johnston is now employed at the Giles' music store in Aurora.

Mrs. Sarah Schamp had her cousin, Ellis Minkler of Aurora, make her a visit Saturday.

Fred Kohlhammer is having a well drilled by the Montgomery operator in that line of work.

Nearly a billion of dollars of the wealth of the United States had been lost in two days of last week, according to report, though all the property and money was still in their possession. A rebound was effected by Uncle Sam coming out for relief and the loss was pretty much made up in one day. Wealth apparently can be made and lost very fast.

Gus Pearson is getting ready to commence his residence on upper Washington street, and in the same block, Mrs. Luella Hettrich will have her house moved to an adjoining lot and build a modern one on the old site [southeast corner of Washington and Monroe streets], which is one of the choicest in town.

March 27: A.G. Updike, A.E. Cooney, and another man have gone to South Dakota for land investigation.

The Williams livery will sell all their livery horses, buggies and harness at public sale Saturday, April 18.

The burial here of Mrs. Harry Warner, who died at her home in Aurora of scarlet fever, took place Wednesday.

Both the Denney and Updike families are getting ready to move into their new residences in the Park addition.

J.E. Young is awaiting a car for the shipment of his household goods to Michigan.

Will Funk is said to have bought out the store of Charles Schultz at Montgomery and that Will Behr will be the manager of it.

R.H. Johnston will commence right away the building of a fine residence in town; the digging of the cellar to it is nearly completed.

H.A. Cotton of Missouri is the new proprietor of the *Oswego Herald* and will take possession of it on April 1; in the meantime he will move his family here having rented what is known as the William Wormley house for a residence; apparently he is a hustler. The change is quite generally regretted; C.E. Lane was much liked; the only fault found with him was that he neglected to become an Oswegoan by changing his residence.

April -- 1907

April 3: Gustav Weiz, the mail carrier on R. D. 2, is taking a vacation and is now moving into the Watts Cutter tenant house down on the river road. His substitute, Ernst Kueller, is supplying the service.

The Merry Go Around club was delightfully entertained by Grace Pearce one evening. There were about 30 guests enjoyed a sumptuous three-course dinner, card playing and a good time generally.

Nacella Collins, the six-year-old daughter of Harry Warner of Aurora died of scarlet fever last week. Her mother had died of the same disease the week before, though the daughter contracted it first.

Thursday evening a little after 8, quite a sharp blow of about a half-minute's duration took place here. The large plate glass of "The Oswego" saloon was not blown in, but sucked out; the Seely windmill blown over, and a few loose things a little moved; but we didn't



know what it was a cyclone, and what havoc it had created and how scared we were until we saw it in the *Aurora News* of the next day simply to be reminded of "you mustn't believe all you see in a newspaper."

Mrs. F.A. Pearce died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. L.P. Voss.

Lottie Belle Lumbard who married Frank Woolley in 1892 died in Chicago March 28, 1907.

April 10: Mrs. Frances A. Pearce died March 31, 1907. She was born Frances Ann Harrison in Yorkshire England July 15, 1837.

The second funeral Wednesday was that of Christopher Burghart, a native of Baden, Germany; aged 82 years and 3 months.

Fannie Gregg is now the assistant of Mrs. Mary Gaylord in running the central here of the Northern Illinois telephone.

The family consisting of wife, son, and daughter of H.A. Cotton, the new publisher of the *Herald*, has arrived and been domiciled.

All the Williams livery stock will be sold at auction Saturday, April 13, in Oswego. Extra good horses, buggies, and harness.

The body of Mrs. Asabel Newton of Aurora, a former resident of his place was brought here Tuesday for burial at the side of her husband, who, 19 years ago, preceded her to the cemetery.

Theron Richards, a native Oswegoan, and for some time engaged with Rice & Son of Aurora in the picture framing business, has now started out in the same line on his own hook and opened a shop at No. 2, Downer Place in that city.

The village politics here is confined to a small coterie whose caucuses are in secret; frequently they agree on one ticket and then make the election a farce, but this year they split and made two tickets; on the one headed by Scott Cutter for president are C. Rieger, C. Knapp, and L.R. Inman; on the other by Updike are Henry Bower, H.S. Clark, and C. Roberts. As to license, both are pro. License

has become a necessity for revenue; temperance sentiments to the contrary notwithstanding.

April 17: Will Funk has built a new slaughter house on the river.

Nine carloads of fat steers and one of hogs were shipped from here last night.

The hardware store has changed proprietors, from Updike & Gaylord to W.H. Miller, heretofore from Plano.

The Williams auction sale of their livery stable outfit Saturday was satisfactorily accomplished. The handsome sorrels, winning first prize at last Kendall County Fair, went to C.S. Barker for \$300.

A.G. Updike and family were visited in their elegant new home on the choicest site of the village into which they had just moved by his mother, Mrs. Updike and sister, Mrs. Bristol, both of Aurora Friday.

"Updike 4 Mayor" in large letters was found Monday morning displayed on a banner stretched from a telephone pole to and electric road pole on the west corner of Main and Washington streets. It was taken down some time afterwards.

It is now believed that the backbone of the winter is broken but still those of this region who went last fall to California and Florida to escape it had better stay a while yet where they are and make sure of not undergoing a freeze. In March, when the thermometer ran up to 90, they would have been here all right.

Saturday was the first time in many years when there was any kind of contest in the election of school trustee; about a dozen votes that were gotten by request of the election board would accomplish it, but this year it took 58 and Slade F. Cutter won by one plurality. The other two trustees are Otto Haag and E.A. Smith.

Bob Smith, the colored janitor of the schoolhouse, had some grave humor out of the school Monday. He raised the flag on the schoolhouse at half mast; all wanted to know what it meant, but he told them they must guess it. Finally the principal came along and

he too wanted to know what Bob meant by it, and then Bob replied that the day was the anniversary of the death of Lincoln and that it was appropriate for a negro to show his mournfulness.

The foundation for the Gus Pearson residence is completed. The cellar of the Luella Hettrich, for the old house to be moved over to make room for the new, is dug and the stays for the concrete are fixed. The barn of John Burkhart is up and the excavation for the house nearly completed. The excavation for the new home of Mrs. Minnie Shoger is all done. The foundation for the Robert H. Johnston house [northeast corner of Madison Street--Route 25--and Chicago Road] is also completed. Several more houses are to be built here this summer and builders and common laborers are in great demand.

April 24: Mrs. Karlina Fuhrman Kieber died very suddenly at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Herman Schulz Wednesday, April 17.

G.H. Voss is making a Springfield visit.

G.H. Voss has his barn moved to the read of the lot for the sake of appearances.

John G. Bower has bought Tom Miller's barn and moved it across the street to his lot.

Henry Dorer and Mary Reich were married last week.

The Oswego High School alumni will give a basket social at the ladies club room Friday evening April 26.

Not much gallantry was shown by our male voters in the school directors' election Saturday. Mrs. C.S. Barker received but 46 votes but she becoming a candidate only two hours before the opening of the polls of course detracted from her support. Arthur Rowsell received 140 votes and L.P. Voss 1.

Updike & Gaylord, the former hardware firm of Oswego, who sold out the business to the Millers of Plano, went to Missouri last week to look after the purchasing of Missouri lands. Oswego farmers are

enthusiastic over buying farms in other states and some nice margins have been cleared up by some of them.

Gus Voss returned to Oswego Saturday after spending a couple days at the state capital. Mr. Voss is on the pay roll of the state, having secured an appointment with a pleasant remuneration of about \$3 per day, and the clerk of a legislative committee is now a pondersome office when it comes to actual work.

The local improvement fever has struck Oswego strong. It is a continuance of the building boom that started when the new park addition was opened for lots and streets two years ago. The village is in first class shape with water works steel mains, stand pipe, cement walks, etc, and while it is in debt to some extent, still the people are receiving the benefit of the modern improvements.

Individually there are many places in Oswego showing distinct signs of these improvements. Among these are the post office. There has been installed there new desks with pigeon hole tops for use of the rural mail carrier who cover the adjoining vicinity on the three routes from the local office.

The local office of the Chicago Telephone company is one of the nicest in the village. The switchboards and booths are established in the second story of Mr. Cutter's building on the main business street, with large rooms with desks, easy chairs, boards, booths, etc.

May -- 1907

May 1: A while ago Oswego was extensively written up on its bright side by individuals residing here and others, that went out from here to reside elsewhere. The memories of the writers were strained to think of as many as possible, yet some of them were skipped; for instance, Bob Murphy, who was honored by the bestowal of a Congress medal for bravery in the Civil War by leading two regiments to where they were sorely needed when he was but an orderly and only 15 years of age. Oswego may have never had a hero but it has a heroine and though she was seen almost daily going about in a limping condition on account of her heroism yet no mention was made of her. She became a heroine when with her pupils of the primary department they were in the woods gathering

flowers in crossing one of the railroad bridges they were overtaken by a train when she had only time to snatch one from almost under it and hold him away from it by which she had the toes of one of her own feet cut off maiming her for life.

The mother of John Schickler died in Aurora.

The Joliet State prison is to be moved. Oswego could give a good site for it.

Abner Updike and Harley Richards spent Thursday and Friday at Hannibal, Mo.

Jim Supples of Chicago was in town the other day and inquired after those that were living here prior to 1852, when he went away from here and was then a boy. His father, a stone mason, helped in building many of the old houses here.

The cry of fire and the clanging of the fire bell was heard Wednesday evening after a heavy clap of thunder during a storm passing over this place. It proved that Gus Shoger's new barn up in Troy had been struck by lightning and rapidly became enveloped in flames.

Yorkville: Yorkville's new elevator has been in the course of erection for about two months, during which time the gang of 20 men have torn down the old landmark, destroyed every vestige of the former building, erected a new one from basement to the skies, the foundation pillars being solid cement, three feet square at the base and 11 feet high, the building rising to a height of 85 feet, one of the tallest structures we have in town. [Much more detail is available in the long story.]

May 8: Arrangements for decoration day are under way.

When you drive to Oswego leave your rig at the Williams tie and feed stable and it will receive the best of care.

The weather was the main talk of the Nail Keg club at its meeting; all declared they had never seen such a cold April before and some

wondered what effect it would have on the potatoes they had planted in March.

The Fourth of July celebrations have become so loud and expansive that in some places they are regulated by the municipal government. Oswego would seem to be in need of it. And now would be the time to move in the matter before the merchants lay in their supply of the explosives.

Though the weather was bad during the most of last week, the building operations progressed. The Pearson house was set up and partly enclosed; the foundations to the Burkhart, Shoger, and Johnston houses were completed; the Hettrick house was moved half-way to its new location; the Clinton barn was enclosed and partly shingled; whatever the Captain has done is done thoroughly so this barn is being covered with shingles painted in green.

At the regular meeting of the village board Monday J.W. Morrison was reelected for Marshall, Zeke Davis street commissioner, L.F. Burkhart treasurer and Charles Reed was made the pumper. The indebtedness of the corporation was renewed for another year. A petition of a lot of ladies was presented asking in behalf of beautifying and sanitizing the village that certain eyesores pointed out be obliterated; the spitting and the running of bicycles on the sidewalks be prohibited; that the hens are to be confined; that the dogs be tagged and a string of other abuses be corrected. It was referred to a committee. A petition for a sidewalk, the painting of the water tank, and several other matters were referred.

John Cherry came home from his duties on the road last week a very sick man, and was taken to his farm home in the country, where he was confined to the bed with a severe attack of pneumonia.

Mayor Updike left Oswego Friday night for another trip to Hannibal, Mo., where he has a big land deal under way. He had returned a few days previous from Missouri with his former partner, Lew Gaylord, the two having been away for a week or two.

When the Oswego schools close this year it is quite probable that Prof. Charles Newman will have another position after 12 years of service in Oswego. He has given Oswego a good school; the district is smaller than the Yorkville or Plano districts and the opportunity to have a fully accredited school is not so bright as it is in those two places.

May 15: Oswego's water supply is now nearly all from one well, which had to be deepened once to make the supply sufficient. Sixty years ago water was found almost anywhere. Then there were many springs coming out of the bluffs up the Waubonsie and down on the river, which have either disappeared or are now running with a greatly reduced flow. It is generally admitted that this decrease of the water is due to the tiling of the land; now is there not such a thing as the reclamation of the waste lands being overdone, that some of it will prove suicidal as other enterprises of the enterprising age. What effect will the drainage of the big slough have on the water supply of Oswego?

Swallows were seen for the first time May 8.

The interior of the Schickler saloon underwent decoration.

Florence Foster has become a hello girl, commencing with the Chicago Telephone company at Aurora.

George Nichols of Big Gove was kept busy here last week moving buildings, the main job being the residence of Mrs. Luella Hettrich; a barn for John Herren was moved for nearly two miles out on the prairie with a traction engine. Nichols used to have the bad habit when things didn't right to get mad like and use profane expression, but he has quit that. When one of his help was persistently doing things wrong it is said that Nichols spoke to him pleasantly: "you'll surely go to heaven; there would be no use for you in hell for you are altogether too green to burn."

May 22: Sixty years ago (1847) the village of Oswego had three hotels, seven stores of general merchandise, two groceries, several blacksmith shops, the wagon shop, the cooper shop, the cabinet shop, two tailor shops, two shoe shops, a sawmill, a brewery

underway, the burning of bricks and lime and other industries, besides carrying on the courthouse business.

A.G. Updike and D.E. Lyon returned from a visit to Hannibal, Mo. Monday morning.

His folks here received the information that Enos Briggs died in Nashville, Tenn. He was about 21 years of age.

The German threshing ring enjoyed a good dinner and a spell of conviviality after a business meeting at Otto Haag's.

A game of ball between the high schools of Oswego and East Aurora Thursday was played here and won by the latter, 7-5.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Considerable improvements are being planned for the cemetery adjoining the Scotch church. It will be enlarged, enclosed with an iron fence, and the lots kept in first class condition. Part of the committee, which is composed of James Stewart, John McMicken, S. Findlay, and John Harvey, were in Chicago last week buying the fencing.

May 29: Frank H. Gates, yet in the prime of life, being born in NaAuSay April 26, 1849 passed away Friday at the St. Charles hospital in Aurora, a malady said to have been cancer of the liver.

Mrs. Ann Gentensberg was a native of Germany and was a few months over 67 years of age. Natural causes were assigned by the inquest for her sudden death.

A new son was added to the family of H.D. Huntoon.

Gus Shoger is pushing the reconstruction of his barn destroyed by fire from lightning a short time ago.

New tenants are occupying the Lizzie Smith house. They are said to be Mrs. J.C. Monkton, an authoress and her daughters.



A beautiful monument was erected Monday by the grave of the last Mrs. William Funk. Other monuments lately erected in the cemetery are for Mrs. W.F. Elliott, A.L. Rice, and John T. Wormley.

George Croushorn, the Oswego undertaker, furniture man, and rural mail carrier, was raised to the master Mason's degree last week by Raven Lodge.

A nice river boat was received at the Oswego depot last week for Charles Milligan, the Chicago millionaire who recently bought the Walker place on the river road, but when the boat was ready for delivery it was found that several bad breaks had been made in the sides by the rough handling of the freight crews.

Scott Cutter has taken the Belle of the Fox from her winter quarters and is having it scraped and re-varnished and the inside of the boat redecorated, getting it ready to launch for the summer season on the river. The little gasoline craft furnishes a great deal of pleasure for its owners, Cutter and Clinton, and many people up and down the river have enjoyed trips aboard the launch.

Manager Scott Cutter of the Oswego telephone exchange, the local Thomas A. Edison, is working on a couple more inventions which he expects soon to have patented and on the market. His tree insulator, and his latest invention, the test clamp, are now in use by the big telephone companies of the country, and now Mr. Cutter is perfecting a test clamp for iron wire, which is said to be a much needed article in the telephone business. Another item Mr. Cutter has recently improved is known in telephone circles as the "fuse box," which he has simplified and made more serviceable as well as cutting down the expense of manufacture by a little idea of his own, which has developed into a money maker for him. Another invention in the nucleus is a lightning arrester with which he will soon be experimenting on his long-distance farm lines. Mr. Cutter now has a large income from his inventions, and expects to increase it in the next two or three years to about five times as much.

Owing to the fact that this is the first year when the four-year curriculum has been in vogue in the high school at Oswego, there will be no graduation there this year. The first graduation under the

new plan will be held next year. The first graduation under the new plan will be held next year when the class of seven, now comprising the highest class of the school, will receive their diplomas. Their names are Orma Young, Carrie Schilling, Elva Ness, Lois Chase, Harold Russell, Milton Hemm, and Elmer Coyle. This is the first year in the history of the school when a class has not been graduated from the institution, but the directors are working for a higher standard for the local school and next year the first four year class will have teachers and schoolmates to make their own way in the world.

Yorkville: Exhilarated beyond the limits of discretion by the fascinating sensation of fast riding in automobiles, the "auto set" of Aurora, containing some of the best known members of society in that city, has been whirled into a condition of fast living that has already disrupted the circle and broken up some of the most prominent homes and threatens to reach other families, according to revelations following the granting of a divorce last Wednesday to Mrs. William H. Holmes.

Those involved are principally young married couples. It is a story of wild auto rides to Chicago, of wine and festivities wherein the husband and the wife were not always in the same party.

June -- 1907

June 5: Decoration Day was passed quite agreeably.

The Passion Play by stereopticon views was given at the Presbyterian Church Monday evening.

Charles Zorn, off and on a resident of Oswego for many years, but of late engaged in Montgomery, where he died last week and was buried there Monday. He was a single man, a butcher by trade in which he was very proficient and a good fellow, but by his affiliation with King Alcohol he was kept from making a success of life.

C.H. Shandklin of Aurora was brought down from Riverview Park in a special car Sunday about 6:30 p.m. and delivered over to the marshal for disorderly conduct there. At the police trial Monday he

plead guilty to the charges, which Justice Haight considered of grave nature and fined him \$50.

A number of men sold their corn at Normantown for 50 cents Saturday to be delivered in 30 days.

The new automobile law will go into effect the first of July and with it many changes in regulations will be noticed. The law regulates the speed to six miles while going around corners, ten miles on business streets and 15 miles an hour in the resident district. In the country 20 miles an hour is permitted but the law further provides that such speed shall not be maintained if the congestion on the thoroughfare does not warrant it or if any circumstances make such speed seem unreasonable.

June 12: Gertie Wormley had a celebration of her seventh birthday.

Cob Pearce has nearly completed a new barn. Henry Bower is doing it.

Clarence Foran has become one of the dinner carrier brigade that depart on the 6:30 car mornings; he works in the Montgomery factory.

A.G. Updike made his folks a brief visit Saturday. He is now spending more time in Hannibal, Mo. than at Oswego, and whether or not this will effect his mayoralty here, this deponent saith not.

The Lizzie Smith house, corner of Monroe and Washington street has been purchased by Myron Cowdrey.

Theodore R. Minkler, an old resident of Morris died Monday night in the hospital. Theodore Rollins Minkler was born in New York Jan. 12, 1832. In 1833 his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Minkler, with eight children of whom Theodore was the youngest, moved to Illinois and settled in Specie Grove, Kendall county, where they took up a large tract of land. After a few years, they sold out and moved to Ogle county, where the father died in 1881 at the age of 93.

Theodore Minkler came to Grundy county when a young man, engaging in the farming business until 1860 when he entered the

agricultural implement business in Morris. He was first married in Saratoga township in 1853, to Sarah A. Conklin, who died in 1856 leaving one son, Henry. In 1857 he married his first wife's sister, Elizabeth Conklin, who died in 1874. Sarah and Elizabeth Conklin were aunts of Jessie Bartlett Davis, the singer.

June 19: Ezekiel Pearce passed away at his home in Aurora June 14, 1907, and was buried here Sunday afternoon in the Pearce cemetery by the side of his first wife. He was presumably the last of the oldest settlers of this part of the country, being brought here in 1833 when five years of age and with the exception of about two years in California has resided here successively, pursuing farming, from which he retired some years ago by turning over the farm to his son, Fred, and since that time has resided in Aurora.

The annual picnic of the old schoolmates came to pass with Mrs. Bessie Hord of Aurora, Saturday.

The Alumni ball and banquet Thursday night is said to have been the pleasantest social event of the season.

The green bugs appeared in Rob Johnston's wheat over two weeks ago. He thinks they will do little or no harm.

Irene Newman closed the Squires school with a quiet picnic. She has been reengaged for the next term.

Updike & Gaylord have sold to Missouri party their harness business and their store building in which the hardware store is kept.

June 26: A special meeting of the village council was had Monday for the adoption of a sidewalk ordinance.

Mr. Keithly, the new proprietor of the harness shop, is closing out the business and Oswego will once again be minus that industry.

The fourth of July celebration here has been more or less under way here for a week or so.

Mrs. Chris Herren and M.M. James' cat, together, killed a snake three and a half feet long.

C.H. Bucks, a former principal of the school here was in town one day calling on friends.

Thursday noon the company of Aurora cadets, in uniforms, carrying guns with flags unfurled and under the music of the bass drum came marching into town on their way to the Cutter grove for a camp. They broke ranks for arrest on the doorsteps of the stores. Captain Clinton happened to come along and treated them to an ice cream at the drug store, which they appreciated after their six miles tramp.

July -- 1907

July 3: Though an invalid for a long while, Mrs. Alexander Dano died unexpectedly Saturday at the age of 74 years. The burial was in the Oswego cemetery by the side of her husband who preceded her 25 years ago.

Thomas Fletcher has ideas of his own about Roosevelt's goodness and dares to express them.

At the meeting of the village board Monday evening the contract for building sidewalks was let to Peterson & co. of Aurora. Six bids had been received, four from Aurora and one each from DeKalb and Sullivan. Attorney Herrington of Yorkville was present and presented to the board the complaint of Henry Helle against Will Funk's rendering plant.

If there be no catch in proceedings, Kendall county is again to hear the chug-chug of the steam shovels, the swish-swash of the floating tons of machinery, derricks, etc.; and the hoots and hollers of the operators as they pull the levers and turn the screws to guide the delivery of thousands of pounds of soggy dirt, stones, and clay from the creek bottom to make a drainage canal in order to reclaim hundreds of acres of swamp land and convert it into valuable cultivated soil. The Morgan Creek Drainage District, comprising

property owners in Oswego, Kendall, and NaAuSay townships is now so near a certainty that preparations are already under way for the beginning of operations.

July 10: The Fourth here was passed without any casualty, though there were lots of the jarring cannon firecrackers and the noisemaking products consumed.

July 17: The widow of Newton Stoutemyer and daughter of St. Louis presumably are visitors at Charles Clinton's.

Fritz Burghart and family of Aurora are having their annual camping in the woods below here.

Seven carloads of the finest kind of fat steers were shipped from here the other night, three each by James and Hugh Goudie and one by Rob Schlapp.

Tamarack and Wheatland: The colored people of the neighborhood will give an entertainment in the church next Friday night to which all are cordially invited.

July 24: Rob Johnston is cutting his fine field of wheat.

You must not believe all you see in a newspaper.

Lyman Pearce treated himself to a nice new rubber-tired buggy.

Will Pearce has returned to Nevada to attend to his mining interests there.

Tamarack and Wheatland: The entertainment at the church Friday evening was well attended. Several colored people of the neighborhood, assisted by some from Aurora, nine in all, gave an interesting program of hymns, songs, etc. A collection was taken and given to the missionary, Ms. Smith.

July 31: Wayne Denney celebrated his fourth birthday by having an entertainment given to his playmates.

Frank Cole of DeKalb, the new principal of the school, was here one day and rented Charles Cherry's lately bought house in the Park addition. He is a wide awake and good looking fellow.

The latest change in business affairs is the transfer of the C.S. Barker store to the Foran Brothers (Frank and Theodore). Barker will go at farming again, having rented the Roberts farm over the river.

The tonsorial industry is quite lively here at the present; four chairs are being in operation at the barber shop a part of the time. Winfield Clark is the additional artist engaged, and he is not required to tiptoe it when getting over a fellow to shave his chin. By the way, why is there no modern improvement on shaving? A shaving machine is a desideratum; the invention of one would be a colossal fortune. Oswego's inventors should get busy.

After paying strict attention to the testimony of witnesses for and against the construction of the proposed Morgan Creek drainage canal, Monday, Judge Hill of the Kendall county court declared the district established and the owners of land bordering or affected by said ditch subject to the assessments necessary to so construct and maintain the canal.

The new drainage canal thus authorized will cost the district about \$20,000 and will convert at least 1,000 acres of swamp LAN into the richest black loam in the country.

August -- 1907

Aug. 7: Oswego is now minus a grocery store and meat market. Will Funk has bought out the Foran Brothers and that establishment is closed.

N. Burrell has moved here and into what is known as the Murdock house and established a shoemaker shop in one of the Gus Shoger office rooms on Main street.

A.C. Lake and family have moved to their new home, LaGrange. The place he vacated at the barber shop is filled by a handsome young man named Thomas Kane.

Charles Reed is said to have engaged with the Chicago Telephone Company.

Will Denney has quit the Read store. Charles Roberts and Bennie Biesemeier are running it for the time being.

A humane and laudable act is the making of the waste water of the drinking fountain to run into a tin basin so that the dogs may slake their thirst. The sparrows also take advantage of it.

The Wild West show at Aurora Monday was largely attended by Oswegoans.

Aug. 14: Will Denney is now engaged in the Funk store.

Mrs. Van Driesen passed away Tuesday afternoon.

Everybody is spending more or less time at the Chautauqua.

Erving [Irvin] Haines had the end of a finger sawed off with a buzz-saw.

A large gang of men from Aurora are now engaged on the sidewalk job.

H.B. Read was at his store for an hour or two Monday for the first time since his affliction with a sore foot.

A number of carloads of cinders were imported for the filling in for sidewalks where required. The cement work on them is about being commenced.

A balky auto is worse than a balky horse. One balked on some fellows just on reaching the town from the bridge Saturday and it took them the biggest part of an hour's fussing to make it go. If it had been a horse, one might have given them advice how to change its mind, but who can tell anything about the mind of an auto?



This town was struck by a wave of white flying insects a little after eight Monday evening. They would go for the brightest lights and there fill the air till they made it appear as a big snowstorm, and dropping to the sidewalk where they became a wriggling mass nearly an inch deep. It was sweeping flies and washing sidewalks at some places where they had been trampled on this morning.

Gus Voss has sold his pretty bay mare to a Juliet horseman for a fancy price and now his only family pet is "Bob" the Scotch collie.

H.B. Read was somewhat put out of business last week by an attack of illness and Mayor Updike was confined to his home with a threatened attack of malaria, believed to have been contracted while in his travels to the prospecting states on land deals.

Levi Young has sold his lot in the new Park addition to Lew Rickard Jr. The new addition is rapidly building up and will be about the finest residence district in Oswego with excellent facilities for drainage resulting from the natural and gradual slope of the land.

Oswego people have been attending the Riverview Chautauqua in large numbers, and nearly every car out of town has taken a load of citizens to the pleasure and entertainment grounds. The midway town gets good service from the streetcar people with a waiting room and extra cars and with the fare of only a nickel it makes an inexpensive and profitable trip.

The village administration this year under Mayor Updike is building about 15,000 feet of cement walk, and like Yorkville, this year's job will almost complete the cement work. The sidewalk on the north side of Main street will be completed, beginning at the Sutherland restaurant and running north, thence down the hill to the Burlington Depot. On Main street, a step will be made in the walk to accommodate the low buildings, but it is largely owing to the fact that a cement gutter and tie posts are already in, which conform to the contour of the ground and were not constructed on a straight line. The gutter was put in several years ago beside the present flagstone walk, and if the walk was built on a level, this gutter would have to be broken up and rebuilt. Another long stretch of walk will extend from the schoolhouse corner, out past the new [Park]

addition to the James Pearce residence, which is on the Aurora road about half a mile east of town. More cement will be laid in the new addition and the whole mob will be a great improvement to the village.

White Willow: Sunday was a roaster and no one could find a really cool place. The humidity was almost unbearable for a while. Just at evening a terrific thunderstorm came up and the thunderbolts struck sharp and thick. There were four fires in sight at once from burning buildings, to say nothing of oat shocks, etc.

Jens Johnson's big barn, 40 tons of hay, his crib with 800 bushels of corn, and big outfit of tools were burned and lighted up the sky for miles around.

One neighbor declared he could read the word "Goodhue" on the windmill from a distance of over 2-1/2 miles, but it seems the fire must have addled his judgment or stimulated his eyesight to an alarming degree. This fire was on the historic old "Patrick Stand." Dave Crook's big sheep shed was also struck during the same storm and this structure with its contents was burned. All his outfit of tools except corn planter and drag were burned. His tools were practically all new, causing quite a loss.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Monday morning occurred the death of an old settler of this community. Mrs. Marian Burnett passed away at the home of her son-in-law, John Anderson after months of suffering. She has been a sufferer for years from diabetes and suffered a stroke last winter. Marian Wylie was born in Stewartson, Ayrshire, Scotland, April 9, 1826, came to Connecticut in 1840, who died in 1891. In 1852 thy moved here and in this immediate vicinity she lived until a few years ago. Since then she has lived in Monmouth and in Sterling, Kansas. In April she was brought here so that the two remaining daughters, Mrs. Frank McMicken and Mrs. Anderson could assist in caring for their aged mother.

September

Aug. 21: Threshing by the farmers is now vigorously pushed.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Schilling have returned to Oswego

H.B. Read has again resumed his position in the sore, or at least part of the time.

In one of the storms, the Seely house over the river was struck by lightning, which was carried off by the rod without doing damage.

Theron C Richards and Miss Edith Johnson of Aurora, he a former Oswego boy will be married Wednesday at the home of the bride's parents at Dixon. The couple will make their home in Indianapolis.

The Chautauqua is passed without any mishap to Oswegoans. The next event presumably will be "home coming."

The body of James G. Andrews was accompanied by the mourners, arrived here from Plainfield Monday about 5 p.m. for burial. He was the last of the charter members of the Raven lodge of Masons here. Mr. Andrews was one of the Civil War veterans and had the reputation of having been one of the best soldiers. He is mourned by a widow, two daughters, and a son.

The funeral of Mrs. A.J. Van Driesen occurred Thursday from the Evangelical church. The burial was in the Oswego cemetery by the side of he husband, who preceded her there nearly 18 years ago. The deceased was a native of the state of New York and was married there. The family came to Oswego 40 years ago and with the exception of a temporary stay with a daughter at Austin during her sickness, has been living here and in the house in which she died ever since. The survivors of the family are four daughters and two sons, Chloe A. Brownell of Oklahoma; Ella Gilon, New York City; Alvira C. Todd, Austin; Lilly V. Herren, Oswego; Duane, Texas; Alviron, Pennsylvania.

Yorkville: TOWN OF KOLLMAN

Plat is Made of German Settlement around Lutheran Church

The plat of a new county village has just been completed by County Surveyor Ivan L. Smith of Plano, the new town to be named Kollman and situated about three miles south of Yorkville.

Kollman, Ill. is named after William Kollman Sr., the head of the progressive family of Kollmans, who are a numerous and prosperous family of farmers and the mainstay of the German Lutheran

Evangelical church of which Rev. John Rabe is pastor. Mr. Kollman came to America a poor boy, and like many of his other countrymen who came here early, has accumulated a competency and is the owner of extensive land tracts south of Yorkville. His sons are located on their own farms in the southern part of Kendall township.

The new town is five or six blocks wide and about the same in length, on both sides of the north and south road, as well as the east and west road, which join at the four corners near the Lutheran church. The church is situated in about the center of the village and with the schoolhouse and the parsonage makes a suitable nucleus for the prospective village.

Names of the streets are in honor of some of the residents of the community: Kollman street, named after Mr. Kollman Sr.; Sophia street, named after Mrs. Kollman; Rabe street, named after the pastor, etc. Other streets are named in honor of prominent German statesmen and one street will be called Bismarck street, in honor of Bismarck the Great of Germany.

The plat of the new village has not yet been filed with the recorder at the courthouse, and as this proceeding is necessary before any lots can be sold, it is still difficult to tell how many sites will be disposed of. The proposed new railroad east and west will be along the site of the proposed village, but it is probable no junction will be made here as the road now building between Lisbon and Yorkville runs east of Kollman.

August 28: Home coming is declared off, so don't come.

Scott and Slade Cutter with their families enjoyed a lake voyage to Waukegan Thursday.

Charles I. Smith is being visited by his brother Henry from Iowa who hadn't been here in 16 years.

Susie Croushorn has engaged herself to teach in a Batavia school and is attending the Geneva institute this week.

The sidewalks on Wheatland avenue out to James Pearce's are completed and the folks on that road doubtless are very glad of it.

George Lane of Yorkville Sunday afternoon exercised his arm muscles by rowing a boat up from there with two girl passengers.

Ezekiel Dais is now the pumping operator, succeeding Charles Reed, who engaged himself with the Aurora Rockford and DeKalb electric line company.

Charles Rieger has had a large amount of painting done and everything about his premises is neat and trim. The firm of Hubbard & Mann performed the work.

Tom and John Kelly of Hastings, Nebr., who were boys of this vicinity years ago, are visiting here for a while. They were very prosperous and now have rented their farm to enjoy some traveling.

The *Oswego Herald* is about to change editors again. Rev. H.A. Cotton had a call from a church, which he accepted. He has been a very energetic conductor of the paper and during the time he had charge of it made himself many friends.

Henry Sutherland died at his home in Spokane, Wash., Aug. 23 after one day's sickness, at the age of 73 years.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Two new threshers in the neighborhood recently. One, an 11 pound son at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Reder Monday, Aug. 19. The other, a son born Monday, Aug. 26, to Mr. and Mrs. Royce Smith.

September -- 1907

September 4: School re-opened Tuesday under an entirely new corps of teachers, and all but one strangers. Neglected to get their names.

Rev. J.V. Willis was called here from Warrensburg Thursday to take charge of the printing office vacated by H.A. Cotton, who was about to move to Godfrey to become the pastor of a church.

The Presbyterian church will be re-opened next Sunday. The interior of the church has been thoroughly renovated and redecorated and will present a very neat appearance.

An untimely demise: The *Oswego Herald* suddenly passed away Thursday at the age of 3 years, 7 months and 9 days to be with its predecessors--the *Courier*, *Free Press*, *Bald Hornet*, *Vidette*, and maybe others--a thing of the past. It had, during its brief existence quite a number of editors, all good fellows and active men but it failed to become a bumper paper of this prosperous period; the lack of local support is probably most to blame for its non-success. If half the investments in Aurora papers had been turned to the *Herald* it would be now a booming affair, but it was another of the neglects of home supports. The consumption of newspapers by Oswego must be far above the average. The supply of newspapers is one of the overdone things.

Sept. 11: Charles Shoger has his lately bought residence repainted.

Mrs. A.C. Lake and sons have been here from LaGrange for a few days.

The Misses Alice Updike and Ella Miller are now clerking in the Sencenbaugh store in Aurora.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Loucks of Aurora were visiting his sisters, Mrs. Elizabeth Van Evra and Mrs. Alice Welch here.

The sisters Bessie and Daisy Pearce have returned to their former schools as teachers, respectively West Chicago and Savanna.

George Collins and Cob Pearce returned Monday from a tour through a part of Wisconsin in the vicinity of Fairchild; they have big stories about potatoes, apples, tobacco, and fish to tell.

H.B. Read is nearly all right again and Mrs. Read, who had gone to visit their son's family in Geneva, became quite ill there, but has got nearly well.

Mrs. Joe Holderman and daughter, in coming to town Tuesday, are said to have been run into by a trolley car near Slade Cutter's by which the buggy was nearly demolished, but the occupants sustained only slight bruises.

The new corps of teachers is: F.W. Cole of DeKalb, principal; Miss Sara Marty of Chicago, assistant; Miss Kate Rood of Plano, grammar department; Miss Irene Stolp of Chicago, intermediate; Miss Nellie Bushnell of Watervliet, Mich. primary.

The last of the series of summer Sunday evening union meetings took place at the Presbyterian church, which as been entirely renovated and newly decorated on the murisco proceeds, having now a very fine and neat appearance.

NaAuSay: John Bronk has rented his farm for next year but has reserved the buildings, as Mr. and Mrs. Bonk prefer country life to the city.

Mr. Leopard's hired man got his foot caught in the separator of the threshing machine last week, and hurt it severely resulting in the large toes having to be amputated.

Yorkville: Praise be! The traction company has installed, furnished, and lighted the new waiting room on the northwest corner of Bridge and VanEmon streets, and no longer will the traveler by trolley have to sit on Skinner's bench or cool his heels in the street. Friday afternoon the workmen came--put up a pretty sign; electric bulbs over it--put in come good seats and it is all in running order.

## OSWEGO SCHOOLS

### IN NEW REGIME

Entire Change of Teachers in  
Force of Neighboring District

With F.M. Cole at the head of the high school and superintendent of the entire building, the board of education of the Oswego schools this year begin the curriculum with an entire new force of teachers and while radical changes in the program are not expected, still the standard of the school will be maintained and satisfaction is expected by every patron of the institution. Mr. Cole is a graduate of

DeKalb Normal and he has had seven years experience in instruction work in McHenry and Kane counties, coming to Oswego with the highest recommendations and with every qualification to enable him to fill his position. The other instructors are Miss Sarah Marty of Chicago, principal, graduate of Mt. Holyoke; Miss Kate Rood of Plano, grammar room; Miss Irene Stolp, Chicago, intermediary; Miss Nellie Bushnell, Watervliet, Mich., primary room. Miss Bushnell is a Kendall county girl, having been born and raised in the Lisbon vicinity, and moving to Michigan with her parents several years ago.

There are 45 pupils in the high school; 42 in the grammar grades; 31 in the intermediary; and 38 in the primary room, thus the Oswego schools have their full quota of membership the first two weeks of school, the studies having begun Tuesday, Sept. 3.

The Oswego high school department now has a four-year course, as it will be remembered that last year the graduating exercises were dispensed with in order to give the class of '07 an opportunity to complete the fourth year of study, which had been added. In the spring of '08, Oswego will graduate her first class from a four-year course in the high school and the work will now be done up to the university freshman year.

Miss Kate Cliggitt, a teacher of experience in the Yorkville and Oswego schools, and now a member of the Oswego board of education, said Saturday that the people of the Oswego district did not expect to see any great changes from the usual course of events this season. The district is smaller than the Kendall-Bristol district, and there are not so many patrons to support the school, but she felt that an excellent instruction corps had been secured by the board, and that as soon as the first week or so of getting acquainted and established had passed they would be doing excellent work. The Oswego board is now made up of Miss Cliggitt, L.F. Burkhart and Arthur E. Rowsell.

Sept. 18: A few weeks ago the death of Henry Sutherland was briefly mentioned but it should be said about Henry that he was one of the Oswego boys who went out from here and made a success of life. First he went to Michigan and engaged in the milling business; shortly afterward he drifted to the northwestern part of Minnesota, settled down at Detroit, a new place on a new railroad, the Northern Pacific. He built the first warehouse in that place and went into the



forwarding business, was married to an excellent lady was elected probate judge of Becker county, which position he held for a number of terms, also carried on a handle factory and being a very energetic Republican, was appointed the Indian agent of the White Earth Indians, among the half-breeds of whom he met some whose father had also been an Oswego boy. Afterwards with his wife he made this place a visit of several weeks. Since then little has been heard of him.

Mr. and Mrs. James Goudie departed Wednesday for a tour of the West.

Lewis Gaylord is now employed as salesman by a Chicago furnace company.

L.F. Burkhart is up in western Minnesota in behalf of his farming interests there.

The six new residences on building here have all reached the finishing process, and some of them are almost through with it, especially that of Gus Pearson.

The sidewalk work, which had been suspended for a few weeks, was again in full operation during the past week and is now under way on the west side of the street from Sutherland's to Helle's.

The small boy of Oswego is immune against all law and order; he does whatever he pleases. Would it not be well to have him restricted at least in the matter of charivari, in which he seems entirely out of place? If at all permissible, the charivariers should be of the circle of the parties charivaried.

Yorkville: Some time in the early morning of Tuesday, Sept. 17, burglars broke into the cellar under the post office at Yorkville, went to the west end where the stairs are, went up, cut a hole near the latch and removed the fastenings, then entering the office, proceeded to get the money. A hole was drilled in the safe door just above the combination knob, explosive was placed in and the thing was touched off, forcing off the lock and allowing them to open the

door. The loss to the post office is about \$125 in money and some \$200 in stamps.

Sept. 25: Mrs. Elizabeth J. Gregg was born Sept. 20, 1822 in Nicholasville, Ky., died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Cassie Diggins at Marengo, where she was on a visit, Sept. 17, 1907, and was buried in the Oswego cemetery Friday, her 85th birthday, the funeral from the Congregational church. The deceased is mourned by two sons and two daughters, A.T Gregg of North Aurora, Samuel M. of Rantoul, Mrs. Cassie Diggins of Marengo and Mrs. Fannie Roberts of Oswego. The family came to Illinois in 1865 after passing through the experiences incident to a residence in a border state during the Civil War. For 11 years her home has been with her daughter, Mrs. Roberts of Oswego.

To *Herald* subscribers: The publisher of *The Record* made no arrangement with the late publisher of the *Oswego Herald* to fill out unexpired subscriptions to that paper. He merely took over the subscription list of *The Herald* hoping to game some new subscribers for his paper, and is under no obligations to Mr. Cotton.

The Oswego post office, after the first of October, will be closed at 7:30 p.m.

Clifford Cherry, Watts Cutter and Harry Rickard have returned to Champaign in their pursuit of knowledge.

Re. S.C. Schaeffer is said to have resigned his pastorship of the Congregational church, which doubtless is a great disappointment to that people.

Toomley, a cheerful Irishman who lived here before the war, was in town one day inquiring about acquaintances, especially the Wormleys, who almost all were dead.

Mr. and Mrs. Adam Armstrong were here from Chicago for several days to mingle with their former neighbors and townspeople.

Byron Shibley was met one day and Jim was in town Saturday. These former Oswego boys have evolved into men of prominence in

Chicago. Their brother Charles is in an Aurora hospital, which called them to these parts.

The wife of Hiram Willis is being brought here for burial.

Old Oswego boys occasionally made their appearance: Sam and Everett Foster, respectively of Indian Territory and Washington, D.C. were met Monday in the best of health and spirits. They are on a visit to their cousin Ed Walker and were living here with their parents during the middle of the fifties.

Yorkville: Following the death of Mrs. Dyer, Julia (Hermiston) Dyer, Clement J. moved to Chicago to live with his daughters Misses Nettie E. and Ida C. Dyer. At this time the house was sold to Captain John C. Raleigh of Specie Grove. Captain Raleigh expected to remain on his farm until at least the following summer. In the meantime he rented the former Dyer cottage to Fred Parr.

NaAuSay: Several of the farmers are shelling corn and many are getting 60 cents per bushel.

Master Hugh Goudie fell from a chair Wednesday and broke his collar bone; is doing as well as possible.

Those who arose early Sunday morning witnessed quite a heavy frost, which did but very little damage to the corn in this part of the country.

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Goudie came nearly being burned out of house and home a few nights ago. Considerable damage was done to the kitchen doors and cupboards. The fire broke out in the night after all had retired, but luckily they were awakened in time to save the house and perhaps their lives.

Tamarack and Wheatland: The 1907 Wheatland plowing match held on the farm of Almon Wolf Saturday was a success in every particular. The weather man was kind and in consequence large crowds came from Aurora, Joliet, Naperville, Bristol, Big Rock and the surrounding country by the thousands, the estimate running from eight to 12,000. No accident marred the day and it will go

down in history as the largest and most successful plowing match ever held, at least up to this date.

#### FEMALE ANARCHIST BARRED

Chicago's anarchist group is a pretty disgusted lot. In spite of their intellectual acumen, they have sent Emma Goldman, their Joan of Arc, straight into a trap, which will probably bar her forever from the United States, says the *Chicago Evening Post*. According to dispatches from Ellis Island the immigration authorities have concluded to deny Miss Goldman admission to this country when she attempts to return, as she probably will in a week or so, from the international anarchist gathering in Amsterdam, who which her Chicago comrades sent her.

October -- 1907

Oct. 2: Harold and Ruth Russell have gone to attend school in Evanston.

Frank Pearce bought two carloads of steers in Chicago for winter feeding.

Chauncey Shibley was in town Saturday. His brother Charles was buried that day in Aurora.

Mr. and Mrs. John Ferner have moved to Aurora where he is engaged in the Esser harness shop.

The Bloom family, living in the Lizzie Moore tenant house, have moved to Montgomery.

Chauncey Shibley was in town Saturday. His brother Charles was buried that day in Aurora.

The colored family living in one of the Van Deventer tenant houses was persuaded to return to Aurora.

Oswego for the present has no waiting room for the electric line. The room is there all right, but no one to run it.

The Gargrave family have moved to Aurora and were treated to a farewell visit by their friends prior to the departure.

Dr. Fred Lester now of Wisconsin was in town one day. He is in rather poor health, having recently suffered a stroke of paralysis.

William Vest of West Grossdale is the interim section boss here while Ness is having a month's vacation.

The great question is, but it is neither spoken nor printed, could the mass of the people be kept within the limits of propriety if not compelled to hustle for a living?

There were two burials in the Oswego cemetery Wednesday, one right after the other; that of Mrs. Wolf from here and that of Mrs. Hiram Willis of Chicago, in which the funeral services took place at the home of the husband's mother in Aurora.

Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Wolf died in Oswego Sept. 23, after a long and painful illness. Mrs. Wolf was born in Clarion county, Penn., 68 years ago and has lived in Illinois about 40 years. Two of her four children are living, Milton Beck and Jean Beck. Funeral services were held at her late residence and she was buried at the Oswego cemetery.

NaAuSay: Harold Cherry, Doc Kellison and Orin Gates attended the entertainment at Oswego Thursday night.

Isaac Tripp shot an eagle last week on his farm that measured over five feet from the tips of its wings.

Mr. Rollin M. Wheeler celebrated his 86th birthday at his old home a few days ago and is still a bright and active man.

Mrs. Belle Kellogg and Mrs. Lucas attended the WCTU convention at Oswego Thursday as delegates from the Kendall union.

Yorkville: Gus Voss was down from Oswego Friday and spent in the evening with his former Yorkville cronies at the club house.

James Scofield, writing from New York State, says: "They have beautiful scenery here, but that's all they have got. Can't find level land enough to set a hen without using a guy rope."

Fox River has been exceptionally high all summer owing to the many heavy rains and old residents say they can't remember a year when the water stayed at so high a mark all during the hot months. From Thursday morning till Friday noon of last week an inch and a half of rain had fallen and it didn't seem an unusually hard rain, either.

William Kollman Sr., the founder of the Kendall county Kollman family, has about decided that he is old enough to quit the hard work of the farm and recently has been looking for a purchasable home in Yorkville.

Fresh oysters at Ohse's, Yorkville.

The store of Joseph Sierp on Fox street, Aurora, is still growing and if it keeps on the lot will have to be extended. He has had a balcony built in the rear of the store where he has his office and cashier stand, and it is a much longed-for improvement. Mr. Sierp can now show his patrons one of the best dry goods stores in the city.

Mississippi River fish, channel cat, sunfish, croppies, and perch at F.R. Skinner's, Yorkville.

Oct. 9: Gus Shoger's new mansion, the first building here of which the lower story is of cement blocks is enclosed, on Wheatland avenue.

According to report, A.G. Updike has sold his fine new residence on the choicest site of this village to Fred Falk.

Among the developments of Oswego in progress is that of a mustache on the upper lip of the Kendall county coroner.

Rev. J.G. Butler was seen downtown for the first time in a long while. He looked exceedingly well and prosperous.

Prior to beginning work at Bristol station, to which place he was transferred, Ray Ness enjoyed a few days vacation.

H.S. Richards is enlarging his residence by an addition to it and otherwise extensively remodeling it for the modern conveniences.

Mrs. Minnie Shoger has moved into her fine new residence on Wheatland avenue. The old home she vacated is being occupied by the Nels Olson family.

Mrs. Anna B. Lester was a delegate to the Methodist Laymen's Association of the Rock River Conference in Chicago. She represented the Montgomery and Oswego Methodist churches.

L.F. Burkhart and J.D. Ebinger returned from their several weeks' attendance to their farming affairs in Western Minnesota. They report excellent success, both as to the quality of the grains and the prices received for them.

In the revival of the club life now, the Nail Keg club was about ready to resume its daily--except Sunday--sessions; but the other cool evening when the members arrived, lo, and behold, the nail kegs had been removed, the club was virtually locked out, yea, busted. The members now each having to pursue his own course, some may stay at home and spend the evenings in reading good literature and be company to their families; some may go to the saloons and be thankful that there are yet these places left open to them for passing the long winter evenings. Inasmuch as all that happens is for the best, may this lockout tend to the higher evolution.

Yorkville: In the Probate Court

Dr. Drew of Oswego was allowed a claim of \$98.75 against the estate of the late Frank Gates.

New York, Oct. 2. --Their tragic record written in hundreds of murders, suicides, riots, race wars, and other "cases" that were set down on the police "blotters" in the last two years, more than 5,000 revolvers, daggers, slungshots, stilettos, bowie knives, and other weapons were taken out to sea in the police boat Patrol by Police Commissioner Bingham and sunk far apart in deep water.

Some of the automatic revolvers in the collection were worth at least \$28 each and where were a few that were gold-mounted and had pearl trimmings, while one or two had filigree work. Hundreds of the weapons had been taken from Italians at the time of the crusade against "pistol toters," and were used in the tong fights in Chinatown.

#### October 16: OSWEGO'S MAYOR DESERTS FAMILY

Abner Updike Leaves Home Mysteriously

Sends Letter Enclosing \$20 from Chicago--Says 'Don't Look for Me'--  
Seen in El Paso, Texas, by Sugar Grove Citizen

The village of Oswego is the center of interest in one of the most talked-of disappearances that has occurred in Kendall county for many years, owing to the departure last week of Abner Updike, mayor of the town, president of the Citizens' Club, former president of the Kendall County Fair Association, and at one time a prospective candidate for sheriff of Kendall County, leaving an excellent family--a wife and eight children ranging from nine months to 18 years of age.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Updike come from prominent families and have long been connected with the progressive element of Oswego township, moving in the best of social and commercial circles and enjoying the utmost confidence of their fellow townsmen. Mrs. Updike is a member of the prominent Armour family from the Wheatland neighborhood, her mother being a Gilmore before her marriage. A well-improved farm was left to Mr. Updike by inheritance, and in a few years he disposed of the property to satisfy a few claims and moved to Oswego organizing the firm of Updike & Gaylord, hardware dealers.

Misfortune or mismanagement seemed to follow him here and after investing in a farm in Missouri with Mr. Gaylord and some swamp land in Wisconsin, which he bought alone, the hardware business was closed out and the partnership dissolved. He was a member of the firm of Russell, Updike & Herren, which opened up and plotted the new Park addition to Oswego and figured in many real estate deals in Oswego village and township. Last year he erected a fine new residence in Oswego costing in the neighborhood of \$4,000. The home was sold a couple weeks ago, and creditors who had claims for material against the property were satisfied having about \$250 from the sale of the home.



[According to the story, it was found that Updike was deeply in debt. Although his letter to his wife was postmarked Chicago, it appeared he had fled to El Paso, Texas, where Sugar Grove resident Robert Findley reported meeting him on the street. He borrowed \$15 from Findlay. And Updike's letter to his wife explaining he had fled was marked postage-due, forcing her to pay to receive it.]

Mrs. Bert Davis is sick with typhoid fever.

Some of the girls here will attend dancing school in Aurora during the winter.

Doc Woolley, Charles Mann, George Race, together with George Keeling of Aurora took in the corn show in Chicago Friday.

Heard Mayme Richards say that she became an aunt for the 11th time by the appearance of a ten-pound girl in the family of her brother Will at Ottawa.

An extensive extension of the village water system, in the Park addition, is now in progress: A man from Chicago in regard to the supplies met with the council Monday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. George Cowdrey have moved back to their former residence, which lately they bought, and the house they vacated is now being occupied by Roy Smith and family. Mrs. Mouchin, who vacated the Cowdrey house, has moved into the so-called Schram house.

Captain Frank Huyck of York state was quite well known in this community, having married Helen Samse, an Oswego girl, which brought him frequently here on a visit. The sinking of the steamer Cypress on the upper lakes was seen in the papers Saturday and on Monday Frank Huyck was given as the captain of it; that but a mate had saved his life; that all the bodies had been picked up except that of the captain and another man, leaving a bare possibility of his being alive yet; that his wife and two sons had been on the boat but got off to visit relatives at St. Paul. This community was shocked by this report.

Yorkville: HIT WITH AN AX;  
ROBBED OF \$300

John Schmidt, Oswego Saloon-Keeper,  
Knocked Unconscious Last Night.

John "Shorty" Schmidt, one of the Oswego saloonkeepers, was going home last night from his place of business about 11 o'clock when he was attacked from ambush, hit on the head with an ax, and relieved of a roll of bills amounting to \$800.

Mr. Schmidt lives in one of the small cottages along the railroad track below the village hall and it is his custom to go around the end of the town house, taking a shortcut to his own rear door. At the end of the village building is a clump of bushes and as he was passing those bushes he was suddenly felled to the ground with a heavy blow on the head. He was unconscious for about 15 minutes, and while he was senseless the hold-up men took his money. He is confined to his home this morning with a deep gash on the back of his head, which came near being a fractured skull.

HORSE KILLED BY  
RECKLESS HUNTER

Charles Payne of Oswego Township  
Loses Valuable Animal--Cow Also Shot.

another case of recklessness on the part of hunters is recorded in the loss of a \$150 horse which was shot while in the field about 50 rods from the home of his owner, Charles A. Payne, who lives on the former Van Fleet farm in Oswego township, now owned by ex-supervisor Cutter of Oswego. The shooting was done on a Sunday afternoon about 4 o'clock, the horse being in the pasture with other livestock and while the family is half inclined to think it a piece of spite work on the part of someone, still they are stronger inclined to the theory that the horse was killed by hunters, as one of their cows in another part of the field was shot on the same afternoon, the bullet striking the cow in the fleshy part of the hip.

The horse was shot with a large caliber rifle, the ball striking in the eye and death was almost instantaneous. The animal was a heavy, sound horse, fully worth \$150 and Mr. Payne feels the loss keenly. An effort is being made to locate the guilty parties, but it is a difficult proposition as hunters are so numerous on Sundays, coming down on the [interurban trolley] cars from Aurora in great numbers.

The incident will but invigorate the anti-hunters' association, which has recently been formed in the vicinity of Oswego, and trespassers will doubtless receive a hard jolt at the hands of the law when caught hunting on forbidden property.

Jesse Green was born in Newark, Ohio in 1817. He came to Dayton in 1829. Father and son were long identified with the growth of the country in many ways. The elder Green built the first mill at Dayton, the first flour being ground there on July 4, 1830. A sawmill was also run in connection, and it furnished the lumber to build the first frame house in Ottawa in 1831.

In 1840 they built the first woolen mill with power looms in the state. This ran very successfully until the close of the [Civil] war. In the early '70s, they met with a series of reverses, but Jesse Green bought in the property and ran it until 1882 when it was sold to Williams & Hess. They organized a stock company for the manufacture of pressed brick.

In 1849 Jesse Green was one of an adventurous party of about 50 who made the overland trip to California. After remaining in the West two years he returned to LaSalle county to make his home until his death Saturday evening, Oct. 12, 1907.

He was married June 22, 1848 to Isabella Trumbo, daughter of Mathias and Rebecca Trumbo. His first wife died Dec. 1, 1854. Mr. Green subsequently married Hanna Rhoades, a native of Brownsville, Pa. In politics Mr. Green was a Democrat. He was a Universalist in religious faith. He has served three years as [township] supervisor, two terms as justice of the peace, and about six years as postmaster at Dayton.

Sterling, Ill., Oct. 11--Formal opening of the Illinois and Mississippi Canal, generally known as the Hennepin Canal, was celebrated at Sterling and Rock Falls today. Although this city is not on the main line of the channel, which extends from a point on the Illinois River near Hennepin to the Mississippi about three miles below Rock Island, it is at the head of the feeder which taps the Rock River here at the main channel at Sheffield. The feeder is navigable and as large as the main channel. Good results are expected from it in cheapening freight tariffs for northern Illinois and Iowa.

LeRoy Young was down from Oswego last week; he is now traveling for the Smith-Weddles company.

The frost of Sunday morning, Oct. 3, played havoc with flower gardens and truck patches and the freeze of Sunday night finished up any killing that had been neglected by the first frost--but everyone was ready for it.

Mrs. Ellen Platt has sold her residence on the north side to Charles Shepard of Specie Grove and she will move to Plainfield where she has purchased a residence.

Some monster black bass have been taken from the river at Yorkville the past few days and especially on Sunday the luck of fishermen seemed to be extra good. Pickerel seem to be biting exceptionally good also this fall weather.

Captain Raleigh intends to build a barn on his newly acquired property, the Dyer house in Yorkville, before he moves to town this spring.

Panama, Oct. 11. --Professor David Todd, who spent four months in Chile with the expedition sent from the United States to observe Mars, has arrived here on his way home. During the observations more than 7,000 photographs were taken, including 20 of the double canals on mars. In commenting on his observations, Professor Todd said: "It is reasonably certain that Mars has been inhabited in the past and is inhabited now."

October 23: What next? Oswego seemingly has struck the sensation segment of its cycle. It began with the Updike desertion, becoming known about two weeks ago, which was closely followed by the sinking of the steamer Cyprus on Lake Superior which though far off yet inasmuch as Frank Huyck, its captain who went down with the boat, was closely identified with Oswego, it caused a general sensation and whether or not his boy has been recovered is still the anxious question frequently asked. And next came what is called the hold-up, but was a knock-down with an ax of John Schmidt, who was robbed of about \$275. He had two large scalp wounds seemingly

made by glancing strokes the skull being uninjured. He is getting along all right, being around with his head tied up.

Just learned the body of Captain Frank Huyck was found.

Elmer Updike who came home to be with his folks for a while has returned to DeKalb where he is working for an uncle.

There's no reason why the Oswego husbands shouldn't be at home early in the evenings. The Citizens' Club, of which the wandering Abner Updike was president, has been closed and a final meting of the members Monday night made a disposal of the goods and chattels in the club room over the former Updike & Gaylord hardware store. When the Citizens' Club of Oswego was organized two years ago, some 50 members signed to the roll. Dues were placed at a low figure, the club expecting to derive sufficient income from the use of billiard tables to assist in maintaining the institution along the same lines that other clubs are maintained. The room was large and spacious and well furnished, but about two years was the end of the club. Cue experts in Oswego now have no place to try their "draws" and "mass" on temperance tables.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Johnston and daughter are preparing to move into their fine new home, across the street from Charles Barker.

A petition in bankruptcy has been filed in the district court of the United States for the Northern District for the bankruptcy proceedings of the dissolved firm of Updike & Gaylord, of which Mr. Updike was the senior member. The unexpected extent of claims against the missing man's finances had made the petition a matter of necessity. It is astonishing to note the number of creditors of Mr. Updike in Oswego and Aurora. Great amounts of money have been loaned to him and there seems to be little chance of ever getting any of it back. Some of the most prominent men of the village and farmers of the township were taken in on the grand haul, and after his departure found themselves the sole owner of a worthless note. Even some of the buggies and harnesses sold by him during the last few months of his business career must be collected and brought back to town to satisfy the demands of the manufacturers who were never paid for their shipments.

The board of village trustees of Oswego wish it understood by parents and their children that any violation of law, destruction of property, or disorderly conduct, which has been so common for a few years past on Hallowe'en will be vigorously prosecuted.

Yorkville: A trial trip as far as Oswego was made with the new street cars Friday afternoon which the traction company will place on the Aurora-Yorkville run. They are handsome cars, elaborately finished both inside and out, equipped with smoker and toilet apartments, and will be received with joy by the many patrons of the line in the Kendall county towns.

A gang of men is working on the Burlington tracks at Oswego removing some of the old rails and replacing them with new ones. There are four or five cars in the construction train in which the men eat and sleep. About 30 in the gang--mostly Italians and Hungarians.

Possibly the decamping of the mayor of Oswego was felt more keenly in the disposal of village business matters than in any other individual circle of Oswego, and although Alderman Rieger has been the efficient acting mayor for some months, owing to the fact that Mr. Updike was absent so much of the time, still, since the departure of the latter there are many things which are demanding the time and attention of the board. It will be remembered that Updike was elected mayor in one of the hottest municipal campaigns ever conducted in a Kendall county town. His opponent was former mayor Scott C. Cutter, who had instituted a campaign of village progress and improvement in his former term and who wanted to be reelected. Even his political enemies admitted he was one of the best mayors the town ever had.

Mr. Updike was present at about three or four meetings of the board during the year, then Mr. Rieger, the coal and lumber man of Oswego, was gradually shifted into the president's chair pro tem, and village matters progressed. At present the village is indebted for nearly its five percent legal limit. The standpipe has been erected, blocks of new cement walk have been laid, water mains extended to the new addition, and other expensive improvements put in, which cost lots of money. Considerable money was borrowed on notes,

signed by Mayor Cutter and his clerk, Dr. Voss. When Mr. Updike was installed as president of the board the notes were renewed with the signatures of the new president and clerk, Dr. Voss holding over. With the business in this condition the board is now discussing the policy of bonding the village for the amount of its indebtedness and exchanging the bonds for the notes in the hands of creditors. Nearly every progressive village in the state is paying interest and coupons on bonds for borrowed money to inaugurate needed improvements.

Complete story of Capt. F.B. Huyck and the sinking of the *Cypress* in Lake Superior during a storm while carrying a full load of iron ore.

New York, Oct. 22. --The Knickerbocker Trust Company stopped paying money to depositors at 12:30 o'clock today. The statement was made that currency could not be obtained rapidly enough to meet the demands on the institution. Before this action was taken, \$8,000,000 in cash had been paid out. The company, who holds above \$60,000,000 in deposits, in the emergency found it necessary to take advantage of the rule under which it reserves the right to require five days' notice of withdrawals.

#### HENNEPIN CANAL OPENS THURSDAY

Illinois Waterway Built by Government in 15 Years

Sterling and Rock Falls are ready to celebrate in fitting fashion the realization of a 43 year old dream. Thursday will see the opening of the giant sluice gate between the two towns that will let the water into the great feeder of the Hennepin canal, and the "zenith cities" of the Illinois prairies are prepared to observe the occasion with jubilation.

The canal, which is 104 miles in length, comprising the main channel and the feeder, has been built at a cost of \$7.5 million by the United States Government.

Oct. 30: The cement workers have returned to finish their job of laying sidewalks.

The Hebert building is being provided with a corrugated galvanized iron roof.

Mrs. Tina Suhler is getting ready to move into her new residence in the Hawley addition.

The Salvation Army will conduct services in the Methodist church on Friday evening.

Mrs. Robert R. Smith and the two daughters were visiting the E.H. [Edmund Henry] Lucas family down in NaAuSay.

Mrs. A.P. Werve of Michigan made a brief visit to friends here accompanied by her children and mother.

The financial flurry has been stilled, confidence restored, the matter patched up to get along for a while in the old way of speculation. Confidence is the all-important item in our science of finance.

The elegant new residence of J.A. Shoger, being built on Wheatland avenue, has been provided with a roof of a new material, the name of it has not been learned. The siding also is something new. Gus keeps always in advance of the new improvements.

Yorkville: OSWEGO CLUB WILL RE-OPEN

Members of Men's Club Vote to Maintain the Organization.

The citizen's Club of Oswego will not dispose of its property and close the doors as has been reported for at a meeting of the members last week it was decided to keep up the organization and sustain the club.

The club has a larger membership than the Yorkville Club and has a pleasant location on the section floor on Main street, over the hardware store. It is run quietly and a game of billiards or whist is enjoyed there by members.

The front motor of the 8 o'clock car Monday night set fire to the woodwork of the 17th Century vehicle. The only regrettable feature of the fire is that it was discovered in time to save the car from burning up.

An attractive feature of a street car ride for city people who come out this way is the sight of some 80,000 sheep grazing on the hills



across the river from Riverview Park, a shipment received at the Montgomery yards last week from the ranches in Montana.

Mr. Kanaka, who lives in the residence cottage at The Elms, began seining the river for the fall carp of carp Monday. For the past three or four years the river in this locality has been seined and thousands of pounds of carp taken out, which are shipped to New York, and there converted into red salmon and some other costly fish dishes.

Joliet is growing alarmed over the proximity of two large store buildings near the city which contain thousands of pounds of dynamite, exploders and fuses, property of the DuPont Powder company, which owned the plant at Fontenat, Indiana. It will be remembered the Indiana plant blew up a few days ago, costing many lives.

The famous Detroit Tigers, winner of the pennant in the American baseball league and defeated by the Chicago Cubs of the National league in the championship of the world, played in Aurora Thursday afternoon on their barn-storming trip, defeating the local team by a score of 2-0.

November -- 1907

Nov. 6: Vivian Woolley is clerking in a store in Aurora.

Will Funk has bought the old creamery premises.

Robert Johnston returned from Wisconsin with a carload of shoats he bought there.

The meeting of the Salvation Army was delayed on account of the rain Friday night.

At the council meeting Monday the contract for the supplies of the extension of the water system was let to a supply company of Chicago.

The man from Chicago here awhile ago to shoot his wife appeared again Sunday. He was kept overnight in the calaboose and on Monday, after solemnly agreeing not to come here again, was allowed to return to Chicago.

Roy Kennedy, Sid Cooney, and John Sutherland were arrested Saturday by Aurora authorities for knocking down and robbing one Morris Haley of \$2 at Montgomery Friday night. According to report, they confessed and are being held to the grand jury. They blame whisky for their action.

Yorkville: What a good many conservative men have been expecting has come to pass. The reckless speculation and inflation of prices has brought the legitimate result. The financiers in the larger cities have been passing through a crisis and men who were supposed to be worth millions of dollars find that their wealth is as nothing when measured against the solid agricultural wealth of the nation. The decline in values in the speculative money centers has been enormous, but the solid wealth of the people is not disturbed. The stock gamblers in Wall street and in LaSalle street have lost heavily but the loss does not reach the common people except so much as it causes a closing in on currency.

There has been a partial suspension of the business of banks. They have a certain amount of cash on hand but are now in condition to stand a general demand from all depositors. Banks do not keep all the money deposited in their vaults on call; they have to loan it to parties needing it, on good security, in order that the bank may make a profit on which to do business.

For some days, our banks have been virtually out of business. The bank officer has not had much enjoyment concerning the situation, but the people have been wonderfully considerate and have accepted the situation with becoming grace. There has been no flurry in Kendall county. Our people have thousands of dollars in the banks but have not been pressing for payment.

#### Labor Stands by Banks

The Chicago Federation of Labor refused to lend its support yesterday to an attack on the banks. A resolution asking that the federation call the attention of the federal authorities to the banks

that held funds of various local unions and declined to cash checks on the accounts, received only two votes and another asking the federation to start proceedings against such banks was buried under a general outburst of disapproval.

#### Conditions at Home

##### Financial Situation is Brightening

##### Grain Markets are Improving

There is no demand for grain at the Yorkville elevator. In fact, it is the advice to farmers to keep their grain in the bins for a few days yet. The drop from the extreme high price to extreme low in corn was 12 cents; in oats, 15 cents. The bottom went out of the market in less than two days.

Comparison of conditions existing this morning in Yorkville with those existing a week ago today shows a great improvement and no need whatsoever for the people to become alarmed.

The first shock which reached Yorkville financial centers came last Wednesday when work was received by the Yorkville National Bank that no money could be secured from the Aurora National. Mr. Beaupre gave as his reason that the Aurora bank had \$100,000 on deposit with the First National of Chicago and that the larger city bank had refused to forward \$10,000 in currency on it. The Yorkville bank tided the wave successfully.

A meeting of the directors was called, explanations of the situation were offered by President Newton and the trustees, and home people were considerate in their demands. Chicago drafts, home drafts, checks, certificates, etc., were issued but the bank officials held a grip on which currency they had on hand and as a result this morning the situation is much easier, while it is still advisable to maintain as much money as possible in the bank vaults.

In grain centers as well as livestock, dealers are advising their patrons to keep their property awhile. A load of oats was received at the Yorkville elevator yesterday but there is no steady delivery of grain at this season anyway, except a few loads of oats. It is expected that in a few days matters will attain their normal condition as the eastern exchange is rapidly becoming settled. The country has passed through a crisis with a record-breaking coolness, which only sustains the reputation characteristic of the American people in accepting strained circumstances with a great deal more sense than they did years ago.

In the mercantile circles there has been no noticeable decline in business. Merchants have paid their bills the same as usual and those who had amounts of currency on hand at once deposited it with the bank and thus helped out the situation instead of foolishly demanding every dollar of the currency they had on deposit.

#### OSWEGO YOUNG MEN IN SERIOUS FIX

Jack Sutherland, Roy Kennedy, and Sidney Cooney, born and bred in Oswego and constituting a trio of youths whom the police admit are a "hard bunch," were captured Friday night and Saturday morning after they had completed a severe beating and robbery of Henry Hale, an elderly workman who had been in Oswego township working on a ditch. The trio have signed written confessions to the Montgomery job.

Severe bruises on Mr. Hale's body show where he was knocked down, kicked in the side and back, and otherwise maltreated, and the hold-up men secured a little over a dollar for their trouble. They did not see Mr. Hale leave his \$20 with John Schmidt, the Oswego saloon keeper, just before he went out of the place.

Sheriff Normandin of Kendall county has been doing some delicate detective work the past few weeks on the case of landing the man who did the Schmidt job in Oswego three weeks ago. He has had a warrant for the arrest of Sutherland for about ten days in connection with the assault and robbery of John Schmidt, but sufficient evidence to indict was lacking.

After confessing to the hold up of Hale, Chief Michels made an attempt to get a confession of the robbery of John Schmidt at Oswego.

Later reports from Aurora headquarters are to the effect that all efforts to connect the men in Friday night's escapade with the hold-up men of Mr. Schmidt of Oswego three weeks ago have failed. A consistent grilling was administered by Chief of Police Michels Saturday and Sunday and all three of the men deny any complicity or any knowledge of the Oswego affair.

Nov. 12: Mrs. Della Shoger of Oswego has accepted a position at Joseph Sierp's dry goods store where she will be pleased meet her many friends.

Some are bragging on Clarence Cherry's new corn husker, with which he has husked 1,800 bushels in a little less than five days, and did it as clean as if done by hand.

Rev. Samuel Crothers of Boston was here Tuesday to take a look at his native place and to make a brief visit to relatives. He has become one of the leading lights in theology.

The Business Men's club held their annual election of officers Monday evening. The following were chosen: President, L.C. Young; vice president, F.H. Falk; secretary, Charles Roberts; treasurer, L.F. Burkhart. The old board of directors were all elected and W.J. Morse was made chairman of the board.

Tamarack and Wheatland: The farmers are very busy either husking or shredding.

Yorkville: A marriage license was issued by Deputy County Clerk Nelson Morley last Friday to Martin Sorenson and Miss Louise Hill, both of Oswego. The groom is a Chicago baker, working for Fisher of Aurora and living in Oswego.

The first new storm of the winter came Sunday afternoon and evening, when for more than an hour the flakes came large, thick, and fast, whitening the earth and giving a quite winterfied appearance to the landscape on Monday morning.

An electrician from the Roth company of Chicago was busy in Yorkville one day last week putting in a new  $\frac{1}{2}$  horse power motor in *The Record* office. it is a "baby" machine beside some of the big motors, and will be used to run the typesetter alone. This makes two motors in the office and enough other machinery to "run a battleship."

Nov. 20: Mrs. Tina Suhler has moved into her new residence in the Hawley addition.

W.O. Leigh is taking in the hunting season in Michigan.

Mrs. Josie Smith has returned here from her long sojourn in St. Paul, and will now go to stay awhile with her sister Helen at Sheridan, N.Y., whose husband Capt. Huyck, went down with the ill-fated freight steamer Cyprus on Lake Superior.

H.D. Huntoon is in a precarious condition from a sore leg. He was taken to an Aurora hospital Monday to have it taken off.

The ditch for the extension of the waterworks has been completed for a week or more and now would be a fine time to lay the pipes.

Mrs. John Meyer received a check for \$5 from a Chicago paper for guessing a conundrum correctly.

Yorkville: Bryan Visits the President

Washington, Nov. 23. --President Roosevelt and William J. Bryan were in conference for half an hour in the President's private office at the White House today.

Mr. Bryan was not willing to discuss the details of his interview, but was free to add details to the financial plan he proposed a few days ago. In reviewing every measure of relief which had come to his notice, Mr. Bryan said nothing seemed to be designed to meet the situation as effectively and as simply as the plan he had suggested. This plan, he said, was to have the government insure depositors in national banks against loss by reason of the failure of the banks. It was not intended, he said, to have the government collect a fund for this purpose to be kept on hand. Whenever a national bank should be required to pay its depositors, it would be the duty of the government to make an assessment on all national banks to meet the loss by reason of the failure. This assessment, he said, would be infinitesimal.

Opposition to this plan, Mr. Bryan conceded, might be offered by state banks, which would be left out. The answer to this, he said, was that the states should take up the idea individually and stand as guarantors against loss to depositors in state institutions.

Nov. 27: Lucia Boardman was born at Colchester, Vermont the 21st of June, 1813; married Horatio Nelson Moore January 1831, came to Illinois Oct. 31, 1838, moved to Oswego in 1843; and died Nov. 20, 1907 aged 94 years and 6 months, lacking one day. She was the

mother of six children of whom three daughters are left to mourn the loss of a kind, patient, and Christian mother. She was laid to rest by the side of her husband, who preceded her there 51 years ago. Deceased had the honor of being the oldest person in the township for not quite two years. Who is to the front now?

The stores here close now at 7:30 except Saturdays.

Prof. C.H. Bucks, one of the former principals of the school here, was in town Saturday.

George Martin who is said to have been the best football player here, has gone to Battle Creek, Mich.

Harry Carrington had his blanket and whip taken from his rig while hitched in the street one night.

H.D. Huntoon was taken to the Aurora City hospital and had a foot amputated. He is reported to be still in a precarious condition.

Burglars entered the residence of C.E. Fowler Sunday night by prying open a dining room window and carried off Mrs. Fowler's sealskin sack, his overcoat, Miss Mildred's money, which was in a handbag and pocketbook, both of which were left. They then helped themselves to pie and cake; all done very deliberately; no discovery of it was made till morning; the loss was nearly \$400.

Yorkville: Beginning Sept. 6, 1907 to lay the foundation for the brick chimney just completed for the Yorkville light and power plant, from one to 14 men working daily, have rolled up a total of 449 days' work required to complete the job, exclusive of the time put in by Walter McOwan, the genius at the plant who devised and planned the undertaking and build the solid concrete foundation himself. The foundation is a genuine cement block, 14-1/2 feet deep sunk into the ground and resting on solid bedrock. At the bottom of this cement block is 13 feet square and at the top it is 12 feet square. 300 sacks of concrete were used in constructing the foundation alone.

Above the foundation, the chimney rises to a height of 101 feet. 82,000 red bricks have been united together in this great pile, and

3,300 fire brick have been added to the chimney, the latter forming a lining of the inner wall.

December -- 1907

Dec. 4: Thanksgiving here may be said to have been more fully observed in all its parts than theretofore.

The day was in town very quiet; a large part of the sportive element had gone to Aurora to see the football game; the store business was closed; everybody well enough enjoyed a big dinner; there are no poor here who could not afford it.

Congress met and doubtless there will be many remedies presented for the cure of the money trouble, and most all of no good. No additional money is wanted, but that what we have should be made stable, should be kept from depreciating, from continually losing purchasing power; the people should learn that the dollar is an uncertain quantity and is manipulated for the benefit of certain interests. The bankers are not the right element for shaping the finances; they doubtless are for more money to be given them so that they may have more to lend on interest

Margaret Brodie of Millington was visiting at her h=old home here for a few days.

Of those what had gone to other states to hunt, Will Leigh returned with a large number of ducks and George Collins with a nice deer.

G. Voss and H.S. Richards were in Chicago to see the hon. C.T. Cherry in a sanitarium there.

Four hunters were taken in Sunday for trespassing, kept overnight in the calaboose, and Monday fined by Magistrate Rowsell \$8 and costs, each. Being independently poor, they were taken to jail to board it out.

The item in last week's Record stating that there was a new boy in the Clarence Shoger family was incorrect, as we are informed by



telephone. Some reporter got the names mixed. *The Record* makes an apology for the error.

Yorkville: A thick coating of ice has formed across the river pond above the Yorkville dam, and if this weather keeps up, the Ice Trust may expect to harvest a big crop at the Yorkville plant. This is one of the trusts' best plants, and one they can hardly afford to "buy just to close up." There will be business here this winter if the season is favorable.

Don't miss the moving pictures, the illustrated songs, and good entertainment given each Saturday night in the Yorkville town hall by Fred F. Schuler, the unique entertainer.

At Hotel Nading, Thanksgiving noon the pretty dining room was filled with home people who had preferred to take dinner of Mrs. Nading's cooking rather than have so much work at home.

Dec. 11: The laying of the water mains in the Park addition is progressing.

A new daughter was added to the family of Allen Woolley a few days ago.

Robert H. Johnston and family are moving into their elegant new residence in town.

The infant, about a week old, of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hinchman was buried last week Tuesday.

The announcement of the approaching marriage of Ray Parkhurst and Eva Woolley is mentioned in an Aurora paper.

Mrs. Updike of Aurora, in jumping across the water pipe ditch in the Park addition, caved in with some of the earth and was injured so as to be laid up for a few days.

Edna Burkhart spent several days of last week with friends in Aurora, and while there attended the organ recital and dedication of the pipe organ at the Presbyterian church.

Friends are still skeptical over the condition of Hon. Charles T. Cherry, who is in a sanitarium in Chicago. The ex-representative is able to be in his chair in his room and the fact that he is not confined to his bed causes some to believe he does not realize the seriousness of his own condition.

Yorkville: H.D. Huntoon of Oswego, who was operated on in an Aurora hospital a short time ago for the amputation of a foot, was brought to Oswego Saturday afternoon, and his condition is improving. The affliction had its beginning with a fever sore, which developed into gangrene and the amputation was necessitated.

The interest of Oswego farmers Saturday afternoon centered in the sale of stock and farm machinery held by Gus Shoger. Farm machinery brought good prices under the crying of Auctioneer Dave Hall, and bidding was lively on several Wilco colts, which caught the eye of Oswego horse fanciers.

#### UNCLE SAM'S BIG WAR FLEET

Next Monday there will move from Hampton Roads, Virginia the largest fleet of battleships that ever floated under the Stars and Stripes. It is the favorite idea of President Roosevelt to send the flag around Cape Horn and up the Pacific to San Francisco, and 16 battleships, under the command of Admiral Bob Evans start on the journey Dec. 16, expecting to arrive in San Francisco by May 1. It is an expensive journey, the coal bill will amount to a million and a half dollars, but "the jackies" must be trained. Accompanying the big boats will be a fleet of transports, colliers, and torpedo boat destroyers.

Dec. 18: Mrs. Luella Hettrich has moved into her elegant new residence [southeast corner of Washington and Monroe streets].

Robert Johnston and family are much pleased with their new home in town [northeast corner of "Five Corners"].

Will somebody that knows please give the pronunciation of the word Xmas?

Thomas James has returned here from his home in Wyoming to spend a while with his brother, Morris.

The death of T.A. Watkins, who moved from this neighborhood to Wichita, Kansas about 25 years ago, is reported here.

The American armada has taken its departure. The significance of it is what?

John Pahaly resigned his position as station agent here for the reason of being refused a helper and departed Monday. John was very much liked here. The new agent is said to be from Earlville.

The report of the death last week of Mrs. Alice Coffin Van Dorston at Vandalia was received here. She was one of the Oswego girls of the '50s. Her sister here, Mrs. Lizzie Davis, went to the funeral.

Yorkville: It is the statement of local merchants in the different towns of Kendall county that less money is going abroad this season for Christmas goods. The money stringency has taught many people a lesson. It has taught them to trade at home and patronize home merchants who have bought heavily for their accommodation.

Up in Kane county, farmers began having the same sort of trouble with their hogs, which started in Kendall county a few weeks ago, and generally regarded as hog cholera.

Saturday morning's snow storm brought a full realization of the Christmas season. The snow was six or eight inches deep, sleigh bells were jingling, and it was indeed the beginning of the holiday weeks.

There is a growing feeling that the recent money stringency and banking troubles was caused by some high financiers who took this method to discourage the methods of President Roosevelt in his endeavors to give the people a square deal.

Tamarack and Wheatland: A double wedding occurred last Thursday at 1:30 at the parsonage when Rev. William Cochran united in marriage Miss Florence Whitehead of Aurora and William Muir and the latter's sister, Miss Lizzie Muir and William Glasgow of Plainfield.

After the ceremony the two couples returned to the Muir home where a wedding supper was served, after which they departed on short trips, the destination of which we did not learn. The first named bride has been employed in the Chicago Telephone office in Aurora for some time. Mr. Muir and Mrs. Glasgow are the son and daughter of Thomas Muir, have spent their lives here, and have many friends who wish them and their life-partners much joy and prosperity. Mr. and Mrs. Muir will reside in Aurora and Mr. and Mrs. Glasgow in Plainfield.

Dec. 25: Merry Christmas to you all!

The high school show was excellent and an all-around success.

There was a school controversy about an unruly boy having been sent home.

Lida Pearce is an assistant clerk in the Sencenbaugh store of Aurora during the holiday rush.

The 78th birthday celebration of David Hall was observed at his home by a number of his relatives and friends.

George Greenawalt and family have gone for a visit during the winter to relatives in Alabama. Clifford Fitzgerald has taken charge of the farm and will run it during their absence.

Accompanied by a large number of mourners, the officiating, minister, and the undertaker, the body of Mrs. Libbie Murphy Keeling of Aurora was brought here by car Saturday afternoon for burial by the side of her parents in the Oswego cemetery. The deceased was about 63 years of age, born and brought up in this town.

Yorkville: Newark is getting decidedly sporty. Now we have the roller skate craze. The opera house serves as the rink. Bean and Tendall are the promoters.

NaAuSay: Two corn-shelling outfits have been sold recently in this neighborhood one to the Wheeler and Falkenberg ring and the other to the Kellogg and Ringberg ring.

The past week has been a great harvest time for blacksmiths. The hard, slippery roads have brought the farmers to town to get new shoes, sharp corks, and “never-slips” put on their horses’ feet, and the smithies have hardly had time to eat and sleep.

At the Court-House

In the Probate Court

Estate of Tirzah Minard, deceased, L.N. Hall, executor. In matter of final report. Certificate of publications in Kendall County Record and Aurora Beacon filed; affidavit of mailing notices to heirs filed; appearance of Tina Worthing and Lulu Worthing, filed by John Fitzgerald, their attorney, and further hearing continued till January 18 at 10 o’clock a.m.

Amended report of the assessment roll of James Scofield, W.D. Cutter and James Campbell, commissioners of the Morgan Creek Drainage District, filed and ordered approved. This makes the way clear for the commissioners to proceed with the work of the big ditch. They have advertised for sealed bids to remove the 150,000 cubic yards of dirt and operations will doubtless soon be commenced.

1908

January

Jan. 1: J.W. Morrison is ready to saw wood.

William F. Elliott and son Arthur departed last week for their new home at Udell, Ia.

The body of Mrs. Sophia Allison arrived here from State Center, Ia., and was taken to her brother’s, Amos J. Parkhurst, Monday evening.

A number of proud people are around this morning, caused by the appearance of an eight pound boy and the first one in the family of M.J. Wormley over the river.

It is hoped that those of us who resolved to reform and quit bad habits will stick to it; not go back on the resolutions though it may bother them.

Jennie Alice Gray was taken to an Aurora hospital for treatment, having shot herself accidentally while fussing with a loaded revolver Friday. The wound, through a hand and a leg, are said to be not of a serious nature.

An attempt was made again Monday night to get into the post office by breaking out a window light to remove the fastening. There was no further hindrance from getting inside and something must have scared them. A monkey wrench was left behind.

Christmas here was observed the usual way. The usual family reunions and company dinners formed the celebration of the day; no effort was made to gather such occurrences.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Santa Claus was rather busy as he helped distribute presents at the Wilcox, Tamarack, and McMicken schools in the afternoon, each school having a tree and appropriate exercises.

Yorkville: The 19 year-old son of "Laddy" Gillam of Oswego, a former resident of Yorkville, held a whole posse of citizens at bay in Oswego last week when he armed himself with a big club and knocked down two husky men before he was taken in charge by the village constable. A trial was held before Justice Rowsell, and the defendant was fined \$60 and costs.

Captain Raleigh starts the new year by moving from the Specie Grove farm to his cottage in Yorkville.

Another car was derailed Monday night, stopping all traffic for Yorkville after the six o'clock car pulled out. The roadbed is in very poor condition and it would be a wise plan to have it inspected and

repaired before any cars are taken off and the trip made in faster time.

### Faulty Financiering

#### Halts Prosperity's Chariot

Opinions differ about the causes of the money pain and industrial depression of 1907 but no one disputes the fact. There was a breakdown in the existing system of finance. It happened right after the attempted Heinze copper corner. Morgan, Rockefeller, and Uncle Sam came to the rescue of the big banks with cash. Gold was imported to stop the gap after the Knickerbocker Trust company had gone under. Clearing house certificates and labor checks were used everywhere as banks suspended cash payments.

Railroads and all the big industries curtailed. Thousands were thrown out of work. Extensive strikes were those of the San Francisco Iron and street car men, New York dockmen, Minnesota miners, commercial telegraphers. Arbitration averted western railroad general strike. The Manufacturers' association voted \$500,000 for three successive years with which to oppose the closed shop and the Federation of labor took up the gage of battle.

Caton Farm stock and machinery at public sale, Wednesday, Jan 10. Conveyances will meet cars from Aurora and Joliet at Plainfield every half hour and lunch served. 40 horses, 80 pigs, 15 tons hay, plows, threshing machine, engines, corn planters, harrows, binders, hay press and every other article used on the farm.

The 19-year-old son of "Laddy" Gillam of Oswego, a former resident of Yorkville, held a whole posse of citizens at bay in Oswego last week when he armed himself with a big club and knocked down two husky men before he was taken in charge by the village constable. A trial was held before Justice Rowsell and the defendant was fined \$60 and costs.

It is reported that beginning with today or tomorrow the street car company will reduce the service on the Yorkville-Aurora line, part of the day running an hourly service as in vogue now, and the remainder of the day doing the business of the entire line with just one car--making one trip every hour and a half. It is also reported that the late cars at night will doubtless be taken off, the last car to

reach Yorkville being at 10:45. The changes will not meet the approbation of Kendall county patrons, who have had to fight for every convenience they ever received from the company.

Jan. 8: Minnie Boyle was married to Hugo Cargo, a streetcar conductor of Aurora, a week ago Saturday.

The deaths above one year old of this community the past year were 17, 4 males and 13 females; the oldest 94 years and 5 months; the youngest 14 months; 4 were males of the average of about 53 years and 9 females a little over 66 years. Brought here from elsewhere for burial were 11, the oldest 91 years, the youngest nearly 7; males 2, both married; females, 9, of whom 4 were married. The marriage record shows 13 couples, of whom 8 of the brides and 7 of the grooms appear to have been of this community.

Mrs. Sophia Amanda Allison was born Dec. 25, 1839 near Oswego and passed to her reward from State Center, Ia., Dec. 28, 1907, being aged 68 years and 3 days. She was the daughter of Mr. Nathum A. and Mrs. Roxanna Parkhurst, and was one of five children, three daughters and two sons. Her school days were spent in the public schools of Oswego and Lisbon. Having qualified herself, she was employed for several terms as a public school teacher. On June 6, 1860, she was married to Mr. James Allison and went with him at once to live at Vienna, Ill, but soon afterward moved to Carthage, Mo. In 1872 they moved to State Center, Ia., where she has continued to reside. Of her near relatives she leaves her two children, Miss Mary Allison and James P. Allison; and her brother, Amos Parkhurst of Oswego.

Yorkville: A vigilance committee or a law and order league in Oswego with a number of citizens doing police duty each night might serve to catch some of the young crop of criminals springing up there. The better element of Oswego citizens are highly indignant at the number of attempts at robbery and the actual committal of petty thievery that has been going on. It is a matter of serious consideration with Oswego and something of the kind will surely be developed to head off some of the mischief.

Petty thievery



pesters Oswego

A wave of malicious mischief, which is interpreted by law as petty larceny, burglary and robbery has been sweeping over Oswego. Doors and windows are kept closely locked and neighborly calls of only a few moments are arranged and consummated only after the bolts have been shoved into place and the key turned in the door.

#### Change in Schedule

Beginning at 6 o'clock this morning, Wednesday, the hour and a half service went into effect on the Aurora-Yorkville electric line, and patrons must now go about an hour earlier or wait three quarters of an hour later when they wish to travel.

For a while, the change in schedule will make considerable inconvenience, especially to passengers who work in Aurora and take the 7 o'clock car on the old schedule, which will now be a thing of the past.

#### GOVERNOR DENEEN SPEAKS IN OSWEGO

Governor Deneen's itinerary on his stumping expedition throughout the state brings him once more into Kendall county to make an appeal for votes and the approval of his administration policies. It is understood that the governor will be in Oswego tomorrow afternoon, probably about 2 o'clock, although exact arrangements could not be made as the correspondence did not take place till a late hour.

Dr. Drew of Oswego, Kendall county's coroner, has had considerable business at the courthouse the past week. For the first time in the history of the county, the coroner "arrested" the sheriff in a replevin suit. The matter occurred last week when some cattle held by Sheriff Normandin on a chattel mortgage in favor of the Ottawa City National Bank were replevined for Samuel Naden of Big Grove. The papers were served by Dr. Drew, the only officer who can arrest or serve papers on the sheriff. It was an interesting bit of legal procedure.

Monday, the board of commissioners of the Morgan Creek Drainage District met at the courthouse and opened the sealed bids receive on the work of removing the dirt from the proposed ditch. Five bids in all had been received.

Four of the bids were within a fraction of a cent of each other, ranging from about 13 cents per cubic yard for the work. There are about 150,000 cubic yards of dirt to be moved in the district. One bid, however, that of George Wormley of Oswego in which F.O. Hawley of Aurora and John A. Brudaugh of Elkhart, Ind., were interested was for 9.40 cents per cubic yard--a difference of several thousand dollars on the job. Mr. Brudaugh is a man of experience in this line--he is an expert dredger and dispatches to several states where his machines have been and are at work received prompt and favorable replies as to his responsibility. It will make the ditch cost about \$14,000 besides the extra amount of work that will be necessitated.

Jan. 15: Gov. Deneen's appearance and speech at the [Farmers'] institute were much praised by all that saw and heard him, and almost everybody fell in love with him.

Charles Busby, a representative of a beet sugar concern of Chicago is in town in behalf of that interest. The object is to make the sugar beet one of the crops of the farmers in these parts.

The Farmers' Institute was a success, if the attendance of it cuts any figure as it was largely attended the most of the time and was the great event here of the week.

Tamarack and Wheatland: There was no service on the J.P. & A.R.R. Monday as the first car going to Aurora in the morning slipped off the track at Normantown, barely missing William Brown's house and the company's employees were unable to get it back until night. It was also rumored that the other two cars slipped the tracks between Plainfield and Joliet; however that may have been, there was no service between Plainfield and Aurora.

NaAuSay: Owing to the severe snow storm Sunday, there were no services [at the AuSable Presbyterian Church] Sunday morning or evening.

The Chicago Telephone company saw fit to remove the switchboard at Frank Fiddymen's and at Will Falkenberg's. A toll line has been built direct from Oswego to Plainfield, which the patrons may use by

paying 5 cents. This switch line will be greatly missed as it has been in operation for six or seven years.

Our Indian summer weather was brought to a preemptory close Saturday night when a stiff nor'easter started and bringing with it a heavy fall of snow. Sunday the snow continued falling all day and Sunday night the temperature dropped with a thud and Sunday morning everything was frozen tight--typical January weather. Street cars had their troubles Sunday. The rails were slippery, the trolley wire was covered with sleet and snow, and crews were behind time nearly every trip. With all this, they had the new fast schedule to contend with and nobody got wrathful at the crews--but some sassy things were said about the management. The waiting station in Yorkville was looked to by many women and children Sunday who expected to get in out of the cold but here also they ran up against the tactics of the company--no stove, no heat; in fact the interior of the sitting room is worse than outdoors.

Yorkville: Governor Deneen  
in Little Kendall

Knapp's hall in Oswego was too half large enough to hold the crowd of people who came to hear and see the Hon. Charles S. Deneen, governor of Illinois, as he addressed his second Kendall county audience Thursday afternoon. The governor was met in Aurora by a delegation of Kendall county friends and by special car the trip was made to Oswego where dinner was served in the XIX Century club's rooms by the ladies of the Congregational church, who served dinners throughout the institute.

Jan. 22: Alice Gray returned from the hospital in Aurora Saturday.

Mrs. Anna Mather is about to depart for Indian Territory on a visit to relatives; her husband to follow her later on.

The taxpayers can now be accommodated in exchanging their surplus money for a strip of paper called a tax receipt. Will Leigh was the first to improve the opportunity.

There was no school Friday; the teachers were attending an institute. This gave the boys a fine chance of coasting, which was then at its best, and they fully improved that day and Saturday.

The bankers now feel themselves entitled to much credit for having averted a panic with their clearing house certificates, outside of any law, and hence want to absorb all the confidence regarding the money into themselves.

Mrs. Bohn, a native of the Prussian province Pomerania, died at the age of 79 years, Jan. 17, 1908 at the home of her son. Her funeral took place Sunday afternoon from the Evangelical church, where the church choir performed the singing and the pastor the spiritual services, which were mostly in the German language.

The funeral of Hiram D. Huntoon took place Friday afternoon from the Presbyterian church. The burial was in the Oswego cemetery. The demise was a deplorable event; the family left are a widow and 11 children, almost all minors; his married life was but 24 years. He was a native of the state of Maine.

Yorkville: Fred Mundsinger was down from Oswego Thursday and called at *The Record* office to renew for another year's subscription to the county paper. He lives on the old Big Rock road just above Oswego village and he often looks for the happenings of his road in the paper, and thinks it would be a good place for a live correspondent to take up the work.

The white oak and the meadow violet have been chosen as the state tree and state flower of Illinois by the vote of about 95,000 school children throughout Illinois. Both the tree and the flower are native to the state, both are typical Illinois products, and most appropriate emblems.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Harvey and little daughter from Tamarack way were in Yorkville Friday, having spent the day with her brother, James Campbell and family, on the farm south of town.

Skating on the Fox river pond at Yorkville has been at its best for the past few days. Saturday, the ice was about 7 inches thick, and if

the cold snap continues, there are hopes of a good ice harvest this year.

The engagement is announced of Miss Helen Green of Plainfield and Mr. William Clow of Wheatland--two prominent young people in that section.

Jan. 29: C.I. Smith commenced to cut ice Tuesday morning.

John Burkhart and family have moved into their fine new residence in the Park addition.

The groundhog is about to stretch himself, roll over on the other side, and be ready to come out next Sunday.

The arrival last week of a little boy raised Mr. and Mrs. Louis Schilling to the dignity of parents and that of Johnny Wald, granddad.

The machinery for the drainage of the big slough has arrived and several men with it. It made four carloads and the freight on it from Minnesota here was \$606. It made work for the teamsters to get it out on the ground.

Yorkville: Mr. and Mrs. James H. Goudie of NaAuSay left Saturday afternoon for Daytona, Florida, where they expect to spend a couple of months. It is a popular resort with Kendall county people. Mr. Goudie says we needn't be surprised to hear of him heading the list in an auto race down the famous Ormond beach.

The cold snap last week allowed many of the farmers of Kendall township to shell their corn, and Friday over 60 loads were received at the Yorkville elevator. Four or five shellers were in operation in the vicinity of the county seat during the week, and the grain was being turned out as fast as possible.

Monday afternoon operations were begun on the pond above the dam at Yorkville, and the sight of the men working on the ice looked good to Yorkville people, who have withstood something of an ice famine for a couple of years. There has been ice for sale, but very

little harvested at home. A force of about 20 men started the work of marking out the big fields. The boarding house has been put in shape for the gangs of men which will soon be here from Chicago if the cold continues.

This morning's mercury bulb made the ice man smile. It was the coldest of the winter so far, some thermometers registering 2 and 4 degrees below zero. The ice on the river is about 10 inches thick and of good quality.

February -- 1908

Feb. 5: C.I. Smith secured a splendid crop of ice and in good time.

L. F. Burkhart has bought the Smith corner on Main and Washington streets for the building of the bank, etc.

Matthew Jefferson was born in Yorkshire, England Dec. 3, 1825, came to America in 1882, and settled in Wisconsin. In 1888 he moved to Aurora, where he resided until three years ago when he moved to this place and where he died at his home Jan. 31, 1908, being the first to die in a family of eight, the survivors being a widow and six children, viz., Mmes. B. Schaffer of Superior, Wis.; J.B. Banker, Frank Wollenweber of Aurora; Eugene Moyer, R.C. Wagner, and William of Oswego. All but one were present at the funeral. The burial was in the Oswego cemetery.

Tamarack and Wheatland: No cars ran on the A.P. & J.R.R. Sunday until nearly night.

Considerable shelling was done in this neighborhood last week, most of the corn grading No. 4.

Yorkville The streetcars were off the track three different times on Thursday. Cars were late all day; patrons missed connections at both ends of the line. It was no better on Friday.

What there are left of the groundhog family in Kendall county came out Sunday and saw their shadows. If the snow did not plug the

holes up, they doubtless returned. For six weeks more of winter and slumber.

“Mr. Chairman, I move that the board of directors sell the grounds and buildings of the association and that the president, Mr. Elbrecht, the clerk, Mr. Church, and C.S. Williams, be a committee to arrange for and advertise the sale.”

Thus was the death knell of the old Kendall County Fair Association sounded at a meeting of the board of directors held in the county clerk's office Friday morning, Jan. 31, 1908, the last day of the month closing the existence of the association as an active agricultural and display organization of Kendall county, where it has been one of the leading institutions of the county and state for 55 years.

A typical northern spell of winter, direct from Medicine Hat, with the greatest drop of the mercury recorded this year, visited this section the latter part of last week, and a general tie-up of transportation the electric [interurban trolley] line affected nearly all branches of business, inconvenienced travelers and for the first time compelled people to stay at home by the side of a cheery fire. A gang of a hundred men were put to work shoveling their way to Yorkville on the electric line and at five minutes to three Sunday afternoon the first car pulled in at the terminal.

The ice men working on the river fields were entirely at the mercy of the gale, which swept up the clear space from the west with a biting bitterness. The gangs were kept at work until 11 Saturday morning when it was necessary to allow the men to quit. The exposure became dangerous and the foremen took off their men until Sunday morning.

Rural mail carriers, milk-haulers, doctors and others who were compelled to be out in the storm report it about the worst for many years.

The street car company has installed an electric heater in the waiting room in Yorkville. The waiting station is perfectly habitable, good seats, clean, fresh paint, paper, etc., and the heat puts on the finishing touches. No need for patrons to convert the stores into waiting rooms.

Feb. 12: Charles Rieger is attending a lumbermen's convention in Chicago.

Oswego is to have a harness shop again. Irwin Wagner will establish it.

Thomas James departed from here for a visit to Texas and then returning to his home in Wyoming.

Andrew Pierce, who worked at the ice houses at Yorkville, came home sick Friday and is so yet.

Died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. George A. Shoger, Mrs. Anna Mary Weber, who was born in Germany, April 27, 1829. The burial took place Monday at Bristol by the side of her late husband, Henry Weber. Five children are left to mourn her loss, viz.: Mrs. Mina Barr of Chicago, Mrs. James McMahon of Las Vegas, New Mexico, Mrs. George A. Shoger and Charles Weber of Oswego; and P.C. Weber of Manhattan, Kansas. Deceased spent a large part of her life in Yorkville.

Just heard from the Philippines by a letter of 18 pages foolscap size, closely typewritten, dated Dec. 29, from Charles B. Teller, who is there engaged in the building of railroads, and was then on the island of Cebu overseeing the construction of one. Charley, as he was called here, is a great observer and withal has evolved the regular up to date business spirit, seeing not only the condition in things but also the commercial value in them. He is very enthusiastic over the Philippines and the improvements they have undergone, and hopes that they never will be given up, seeing immense riches to Americans in them His long letter contains a succinct account of his trip from Chicago, July 20, via the Canadian Pacific, the most picturesque of the Pacific railroads, to Vancouver; from there by steamer to Japan, visiting the principal cities; then going over to China and through a part of it, leaving it at Hong Kong for the Philippines, reaching Manila Aug. 27.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Little Graham Stewart is recovering from an attack of tonsillitis.



A most shocking event occurred last week in the death of Miss Belle Gilmour. For a number of years she has lived alone, and recently a sister, Mrs. Ann Anderson, was appointed conservator. Going to the house Saturday about 10 o'clock accompanied by her son-in-law, Arthur Price, Mrs. Anderson was greatly shocked to find the body of her sister lying in the sitting room, cold in death. The coroner of Kendall county, Dr. Drew, was at once notified and a jury was empanelled, and an inquest was held at 1 o'clock. According to the testimony, it was found that last Wednesday, a nephew of the deceased, Albert Anderson, was at the house and found her as usual, but after that no one saw her alive. Deceased was of a peculiar disposition and testimony developed the facts that she slept on a lounge in the room where she was found, never having cared to sleep in a bed, also that she always slept clothed the way she was found. The jury brought in the verdict "Death from natural causes." The jury was mostly of the opinion that she had been dead from 12 to 24 hours. Deceased was the daughter of the late John Gilmour and a sister of Mmes. Andrew Armour and Ann Anderson, and James and John Gilmour, the latter of Aurora. She was born in Scotland 68 years ago last July. She came to Illinois when a young girl, spending the remainder of her life in two homes, one the house where she died and the other the old Gilmour homestead across the road. She had amassed considerable property, being of a saving disposition, partly in money and mortgages and also in 240 acres of land.

The funeral was held Monday at the U.P. church and burial was in the cemetery beside her father and mother.

Yorkville: The wolf on which a bounty was paid here recently got out of a cage at Riverview park. Some gallant hunter got the prize.

Fred H. Falk was down from Oswego Friday on business. He expects to do something in the real estate line when he gets settled in the village; he now has a good farm for sale, as advertised.

The Plainfield *Enterprise* makes the point that without saloons there would not be so many internal fires to extinguish so it thinks it a good plan to enlist the town in the local fire fight next spring, despite the fact that last year a double action pump had to be

purchased to keep up the water supply, the extra expense being partially met by the license money.

Many of the Chicago men employed here by the ice company left Yorkville Thursday morning for the Big city of the unemployed. Work was suspended Thursday on account of the heavy coating of slush ice on the pond. The six houses were not half filled when operations were stopped. It seems to an onlooker that the Knickerbocker people don't know how to put up ice. In the first place, they split the cakes once more than the Esch company did, and instead of running up two double cakes, making four square ones at a time, the Knickerbocker company runs only one square cake, sometimes two, at a time up the slides. This means that the work is progressing about half to a quarter as fast as under the Esch Bros. & Rabe regime. If Mr. Fred Esch were here to see how slow the ice was up he'd have a big headache. He was a hustler to keep the men working and the ice moving.

There has been an attempt for some time to foist the responsibility of losing the old county fair on the businessmen of Yorkville, claiming that they are the only ones who derive any benefit from it and as such should make the special effort to maintain it as a purely Yorkville institution. The pushing of this theory is actually what killed the fair. Attendance fell off from the districts where this agitation was started, and those who did attend went in on complimentary tickets.

A canvass of the business men in Yorkville some time ago showed that none of them wanted to maintain the fair as a Yorkville institution. They were money out of pocket every year in the month of September. People did not come to Yorkville to buy goods when they came to the fair. They went through town to the grounds and stayed all day; came back in the evening, and went straight through to their homes. The only ones benefited by the expenditure of money by the crowds were the saloons and even their profits were small and not to be considered in the matter of maintaining the fair. Yorkville made no "great fight" to maintain the old fair. It was a county institution and Yorkville had no more to do with its dissolution than any other village or city in the county. The notion that it was a great boon to the county seat in a financial way is all a

mistake, and this notion should be stricken from the minds of those who have entertained it.

About 20 more of the Chicago icemen left town Monday night at 6 o'clock for Chicago. Yesterday morning, four new foremen were put on duty and there was considerable kicking on the part of some of the men who were in the houses. The force now is composed largely of local workmen who have served on the ice gangs for many years in Yorkville and some of them say they don't like the idea of being bossed around by the Chicago unemployed who know little about the ice business. The warmer temperatures of Monday and Tuesday have made it quite difficult to harvest the ice in quick time. Most of last week the gangs were shifted and operations kept up till midnight with the aid of big electric arcs on the pond and in the houses.

New York, Feb. 6 -- Search for Charles W. Morse, the banker and promoter and organizer of the American Ice Company and the \$120,000,000 Consolidated Steamship Company, was continued today. Mr. Morse was at his handsome home at 728 Fifth Avenue yesterday and he is not known to have been in the city since Monday.

With a judgment for \$155,753 against him, a suit for \$243,321 brought by the receiver of the National Bank of North America, his home mortgage, and in addition attached his accounts in several New York banks, the Consolidated Steamship Company in the hands of receivers, his holdings of bank stock greatly depreciated, and two grand juries investigating his relations with the banks, Mr. Morse is in a condition which might have appalled any man.

Feb. 19: The Gus Shoger family is getting ready to move into its new residence.

Mr. and Mrs. L.L. Thomas will return here, having rented a house already, it is said.

Henry Burkhardt in examining a meat cutter in the market, cut the tip of one of his fingers off.

Andrew Pierce was taken to the St. Charles hospital at Aurora. His case is a severe attack of pneumonia.

The ice broke up Thursday and for a short time the flats were covered with water and ice and the road was made impassable.

Zim Supplee of Chicago was in town Monday calling on a few of the few left with whom he became acquainted during the early 50s.

Should the money of the country be under the control of a class, the bankers, or that of the government, the people in general? That really is the paramount question.

Joe Moore of Champaign made a call on his relatives here on his way home from the ceramic convention at Columbus, Ohio in which his special topic was "The influxes and non-fluxes upon the changes in the specific gravity of some clays." Joe has become one of the great scientists.

The report of the death of Charles G. Dowd at his home in Winona, Minn., was received here. He was one of the old settlers of this part of the country and 61 years ago was one of the Oswego merchants, keeping a general store in a one-story frame building on the side where the drug store is now. He was a man of great activity and indomitable energy and was square with everybody.

Drusilla Frances Hopkins, the eldest child of William Kinkead and Mary J. Hopkins, was born at Red Oak, Brown county, Ohio, Oct. 11, 1828. The family moved to Kendall county in the fall of 1855. She was married to F.W. Clark Aug. 10, 1880 and shortly afterwards moved to Nebraska. Three children were born to them, Cornelia Stella, deceased; William Winfield and Harry Hopkins, who were with her at the time of her passing away at her home Feb. 13, 1908. Mrs. Clark was a member of the Presbyterian church of Oswego. The funeral service was held Feb. 16 from her late home. Burial took place in the Oswego cemetery.

Advertisement: HARNESS REPAIR SHOP!

I have started a Harness Repair Shop at Oswego, in Miller's Hardware Store, so bring your repairs in early and avoid the spring rush.

Yours truly,  
I.C. WAGNER,  
Oswego, ILL.

The personal property of the late Belle Gilmour was appraised last Thursday and a private sale held Saturday.

Yorkville: Last week it began to look like an early spring freshet. The water in the river came up to the high water marks, overflowed the island between the Yorkville bridges, and forced the icemen to stop operations on the pond above the dam. At Oswego, a big gorge of ice was reported, about 300 feet below the dam, and the overflow was flooding the adjacent territory. The river at Yorkville was raised about two and a half feet.

Sixty-four marriage licenses were issued from the Kendall county clerk's office in 1907, and 31 of the grooms were farmers. The greatest difference in the ages of bride and groom was that of Mr. Lorenzo W. Reynolds of Plano, whose age at his next birthday was given as 40 years; and his bride, Miss Maggie L. Jamieson, whose age at next birthday was given as 19 years.

#### FAIR GROUND SALE

By a unanimous vote of the board of directors of the Kendall County Fair Association the Kendall County Fair Grounds, consisting of 31.50 acres of land and all the buildings, including the 8-foot high board fence around said property, will be sold at public auction on Thursday, Feb. 27, 1908.

The buildings and land will be offered for sale separately and as a whole, said sale subject to the approval of the board of directors. The following buildings are located on the said grounds: Floral Hall--Octagon shape, 150 feet around, 20 feet high, 8,000 feet of lumber. Eating House--Four parts to building, each 20 feet square, 6,000 feet of lumber.

Amphitheater--216 feet long, 30000 feet of good lumber.

Cattle Barn--33x112x12 feet high, 12,000 feet of lumber.

Chicken House--20x50x10 feet high, 3,000 feet of lumber.

Hog Shed--24x120, 8,000 feet of lumber.

Horse Barn--26x72, 5,400 feet of lumber.

Engine House--8x10.

Machinery Barn--28x72, 5,000 feet of lumber.

Starter's Stand--500 feet of lumber.

82 Box Stalls--10x11, 52,000 feet of lumber.

Box office and other building; sprinkler and truck; one raised water tank; one surface water tank; one engine.

#### WORST BLIZZARD THIS YEAR

Beginning with a light fall of snow yesterday morning, the worst storm of the winter developed during the day and by noon great gusts of fine snow were being hurled with the wind, going 60 miles an hour, direct from the northwest.

The afternoon cars yesterday were all late, the 6 o'clock car pulling in to Yorkville at 11 p.m., five hours behind schedule time, having more than two hours making the run from Oswego.

Dr. Roy Hoadley was compelled to abandon his buggy about three miles out in the country and walk into town driving his horse. He reported three or four vehicles abandoned in the place where he left his.

#### FEAST OF BRISMELA

##### BY LOCAL HEBREWS

Many Yorkville people were interested in the observance of one of the ancient Jewish customs, which was observed for the first time in Yorkville last Sunday by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Rubenstein, the local tailor in honor of their young son, born Friday, Feb. 7. Sunday, Mr. and Mrs. Rubenstein entertained about 40 guests from Aurora, Chicago, Milwaukee and Rockford and great preparations had been made for their pleasure.

#### LAWSUIT OVER

##### PEARL FISHERIES

Contest for Ownership of a \$200 Pearl Brings Crowd to Newark--

While Township Seems to be Packed into Odd Fellows' Hall

One of the greatest crowd since the days of the old Fowler Reunion gathered in Newark last Friday, drawn thither by the interest manifested in the hunting of pearls in fox river, the direct cause of the gathering being a contest before Justice Riordan between Mrs. Annie Sampson, plaintiff, and Mr. Severt Charlson, defendant, in which the former placed a claim on a pearl found on the third of September, 1907 in the Fox river near Millington.

At least \$1,000 worth of pearls were disposed of last year by Big Grove pearl hunters who had searched the bottom of the river for the lucky clams. Among the fortunate ones to open clams and find pearls were the parties to the suit of last Friday. The case was heard in Newark, and the hall was packed all day.

On the morning of Sept. 3, 1907, Mrs. Sampson decided to go hunting for pearls in the afternoon. She left her home in Newark and was invited to dinner by the defendant, Mr. Charlson. After dinner Mrs. Sampson remained to help Miss Bertha Severtson with the dishes and Mr. Charlson proceeded to the river, secured a boat, and put off in company with Martin Wicks, both of whom waded in the water and placed their clams in separate piles in the boat. Mrs. Sampson and Miss Severtson, who was the assistant at the home of Mrs. Sampson's mother, went to the river, the latter dressed for wading. The two ladies called to the men to come and get them in the boat. While the ladies were seated in the boat they began opening the clams and while opening the clams fished up by Mr. Charlson, Mrs. Sampson discovered a pearl of extraordinary size and of especially beautiful luster. She held it in her hand and exclaimed with delight to Mr. Charlson, calling him to the boat to see what she had found. Mr. Charlson examined the pearl and put it in a bottle in his pocket, returning to his labors of fishing up clam after showing the prize to other fishers in the river. Mrs. Sampson remarked at the time in a pleasant way that Mr. Charlson ought to give her 50 cents for opening that lucky clam.

Not long after the expedition of the 3d of September, the pearl was sent to Ottawa to the Trask jewelry firm, and it was disposed of for \$200. The jewelry firm charged a 10 percent commission, so that Mr. Charlson received \$180 for one of the most perfect pearls ever taken from Fox river.

Mrs. Sampson was her own chief witness, she being the plaintiff in the case. Realizing that the pearl was of great value and believing that she should have a share of the selling price, the suit was instigated.

Following the introduction of Mrs. Sampson's testimony, the defense, through Attorney Carl Barnard, made its opening statement, outlining the points it would attempt to prove.

The jurymen assembled around the table and began the discussion, and contrary to all expectations the first ballot showed 5-1 in favor of the plaintiff, and the second ballot was unanimous. The only

point on which any discussion was had was the fixing of the costs. The amount of the pearl was divided in half, thus exceeding the expectations of the plaintiff in bringing suit.

After the verdict was reported, about town, the case was retried in several places; the defendant held a short consultation with his attorneys and it has been decided to appeal the case to the circuit court. [The \$200 pearl would be worth \$4,500 in 2009 dollars.]

Feb. 26: Andrew Shoger has bought the Van Driesen premises.

Watts Cutter was up from the Champaign university to spend a day or two at home.

The burial here of a colored girl from Chicago, a niece of Mrs. Long, took place Tuesday.

Old Folks' Concert at the Presbyterian church Friday evening, March 6. Admission 15 cents.

It was suggested to me that I say through *The Record* that there is nothing in the world that reveals the goodness of people more than the clearing of the snow from the sidewalks of their premises; and that Marshal Morrison should go around and tell those negligent in the matter what injury such neglect is to their reputation and persuade them to reform and be well thought of.

The prohibition people had become quite sanguine in the success of their cause; they began to think that they had it all their own way but the liquor federation has now come out and promises a most determined fight for its side. That prohibition will not stimulate good will among men is quite likely.

Several carloads of hogs were shipped from Oswego last week by Charles Knapp, the livestock buyer. Most of the hauling was done on sleds, the heavy snow of the first of the week making fairly good sleighing and poor wheeling.

Local option advocates in Oswego township have already had several speakers in the home field, and they are making a vigorous



appeal for the votes of the people in favor of anti-saloon territory within the boundaries of the township.

On the other hand, the saloon men naturally will contest every step of the way. Friday afternoon, John P. Schickler began the circulation of the petition in conformity with the local option law, which must have been filed 60 days before the regular spring election in order to take a vote on the saloon question in the village in case the township goes against creating anti-saloon territory.

In other words, if the saloons carry the day in the township contest, then they must hold another election in the village before they can get a license.

Yorkville: WAS OSWEGO FARMER

Charles G. Doud Dies at Age of 86

From the Winona, Minn., Independent, Feb. 14:

Yesterday morning, Charles G. Doud was called to his long home. Charles Giles Doud was born 86 years ago in Jefferson county, N.Y., of parents who themselves were long-lived, his father living 79 years and his mother 86.

He moved to Michigan with his parents when quite a young man. They lived near Port Huron, where they cleared a farm. After a few years they moved to a prairie farm near Oswego, Ill. From there they moved to Chicago where he clerked in a general store, afterwards owning and conducting such a store himself. But his health failing, he moved back to a farm in 1855 where he remained until he came to Winona in 1875, living here ever since. In 1847 he was married to Maria Devoe and then began three score and one year of wedded life, which has seemed like one long honeymoon.

Three children have been born to them, and all in Oswego: Eugene, who died when but a baby; Carrie, who has been 28 years in the Better land; and Charles Adrian, who survives his father and who is engaged in business in La Crosse.

March -- 1908

March 4: The changes of farm tenants was quite large in this vicinity.

Dell Lockwood turned up here last week for a visit to the scenes of his boyhood.

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh McConnell, former Oswegoans, were here from Chicago Wednesday to see his sick brother-in-law, John Roberts, and her sister, Mrs. Charles Clinton.

The fine residence of Charles Woolley was struck by lightning during Saturday evening's storm, entering by the cupola and going through a large portion of the house.

Yorkville: The finishing touches have all been put on the old fairgrounds property of Kendall county, which will make the old association but a memory. Last Thursday, at the public sale held on the grounds, all the buildings were disposed of, the sale being auctioneered by Mr. William Jeter of Little Rock. Even the high board fence about the grounds was disposed of in sections, and the work of razing the buildings will soon be commenced by the new owners. Many of the buildings are being torn down now, and carted away to be converted into farm buildings, sheds, pens, etc. The old floral hall, used since the erection of the octagon floral hall as a dining place, was sold in four sections, each wing of the big building being sold separately.

The bids for the real estate made Thursday were not high enough to warrant the directors in letting the land go. Only \$72 per acre was bid on the grounds, though since Thursday the directors have received bids from two different parties for \$90 per acre. This will just about pay off the indebtedness, and it is believed that in a few days the deed will be transferred.

March 11: A new firm dealing in farm implements is projected.

N. Knuth has changed his residence to the so-called Albert Hawley house.

Mrs. Charles Clinton is said to have been much troubled with a heart complaint.

The Fred Falk family has moved to town and into the house formerly owned by J.E. Young.

Clauson, who was on the Martin farm at the grove, shipped his household goods to Chicago Monday.

Mrs. Herman Bohn, who for the past year was living over the river, moved into her own house in town Monday.

John Mork, a hanger around "The Oswego" saloon, where he was lodging, got up one night, got all the money he could find, about \$23, and vamoosed. He was found at Naperville, a part of the money recovered, plead guilty before the police magistrate was fined \$35 and taken to the Yorkville jail to board it out.

Yorkville: The papers of Wednesday evening contained the horrifying news that a large schoolhouse near Cleveland, Ohio had taken fire that day with over 300 pupils in it. Of these, nearly 200 perished in the flames. All of the victims were between 6 and 15 years. The schoolhouse was of brick, two stories and an attic in height. The number of pupils was more than normally large, and the smaller children had been placed in the upper part of the building. There was but one fire escape, and that was in the rear of the building. There were two stairways, one leading to a door in front, and the other to a door in the rear.

Tamarack and Wheatland: There will be an entertainment and leap year box social at the Walker schoolhouse Tuesday evening, March 17, for the benefit of the Wilcox and Walker schools. An interesting program of graphophone music and readings by young people of Oswego and vicinity will be given.

Passengers on the electric line had another tough time Thursday evening when the heavy rain of the afternoon formed a regular river under the EJ&E bridge [on River Street in Aurora]. The cars were run as far as the Aurora side of the viaduct, then the passengers had to get out and wade through the mud and water to another car which was waiting on the other side of the mud hole. This place is always a trouble spot for the electric company, but the corporation simply lets its passengers have the disagreeable part, and they do nothing towards bettering conditions.

Joseph Sierp, Aurora's progressive dry goods man, says he has great results from his weekly advertisements in *The Record*. He is very well pleased with his Kendall county trade.

After the ice went out last week it left the usual small puddles and streams along the banks, in which the unlucky fish sought to take refuge, but where they remained only to be picked up and finally served on somebody's dinner table. There were many fine strings gathered by Yorkville people the day following the breaking up of the ice.

#### ICE GOES OUT

The annual spring freshet occurred Friday, March 6. Following the heavy rainfall of the day previous, creeks and rivers were full to their limit, swelling the water in the old Fox till it reached the high water mark and put the islands out of site. The ice broke about 11:30 in the forenoon, coming over the dam in great cakes and tearing down the stream on its way to the Illinois.

A small portion of the dam on the north end was taken out in the rush of the ice, and excepting this and the flooding of fields and low pastures near the river not much damage was done this year.

March 18: W.S. Dwyre is having added a story to the kitchen part of his house.

The Oswego saloon was provided with a new coat of tar on its roof Monday.

Florence Foster is now engaged with the Northwestern Telephone company as the chief of the night service.

The demolition of the Smith building, corner of Main and Washington streets, an old landmark, is under way.

The driving side of the bridge over the river has been provided with a new floor, and that of the other side substantially improved.

Prof. C.W. Rolfe of the Illinois university was the guest at J.W. Cherry's Sunday. It appears that he is investing largely in Oswego real estate.

Anarchism was made the theme of Rev. N.M. Stokes' sermon Sunday evening at the Methodist church. It should have been heard by a full house though perhaps many would not have liked it because being too tame--the prevailing desire being for hearing sharp and crushing declarations against anarchy, the stamping of it out, etc. Ever since the Shippy affair the Chicago papers have kept this part of the country in a frenzy, and a frenzied person cannot appreciate reason. One day when the papers were most frenzied about the Russian Jews they also contained the lynching of three negroes down south that had been arrested for setting fire to a building upon which no comments were made, treated only as an ordinary item of news. What makes anarchists so dangerous and lynchers so harmless?

The new baseball rule forbidding the pitcher to rub a ball in the dirt should please the ladies, who never liked to see a newly laundered ball soiled before being thrown to the man at the bat.

Yorkville: The high school roster is the largest in the history of the school and all lower grades are above their former averages. Up to last night, Tuesday, \$901.41 had been paid to the clerk of the board of education and by him turned over to the school treasurer in tuition fees--money paid in for pupils attending school at Yorkville who live outside the district. This is a record-breaker reaching nearly a thousand dollars, and constitutes tuition money for only the first two terms, as the tuition fees for the spring term are not all in. This showing of finances is highly pleasing to the district.

March 25: Clifford Fitzgerald, with his family, has returned to Wisconsin.

Harold and Ruth Russell were home from Evanston over Sunday.

Will Lumbard was in town Monday, all there is of him, 205 pounds.

M.J. Wormley was in Chicago, where he secured several horses.

L.F. Burkhart spent a few days of last week on federal jury duty in Chicago.

G.M. Croushorn will spend the most of this week in Chicago in the interest of the undertaking science.

Mrs. Clinton is reported as precariously ill. Mr. L.G. Banning of Cincinnati, her son-in-law, was there for two days last week; her sister, Mrs. Lydia McConnell of Chicago, spent Sunday with her, and a lady cousin from Aurora is there all of the time.

In hunting for eggs, Milton the younger of the Oliver Hem sons, met with a fall by which he had a shoulder dislocated.

Nellie Van Evra was here from Chicago to visit her mother and together they were in Aurora to see their brother and uncle, Peter Loucks, who is ill.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Shoger of Naperville had a little daughter added to the family; she was visited Tuesday by her grandparents and aunts, Mr. and Mrs. L.H. Shoger and daughters from here.

After the close of the meeting Sunday evening at the Congregational church, Charles Roberts, who acts as janitor, with a lighted lamp went down to the basement to see that all was right, when all at once a flame flashed up over the acetylene machine. He tried to put it out, but failed. His wife then ran for assistance to a few of the neighbors, and the flame was extinguished with a few pails of water.

To a bystander, the Republican caucus Saturday was a unanimous affair. J.D Russell for president; L.P. Voss for secretary and the tellers were so chosen. On motion it was agreed that where there is but one nomination the vote is to be by acclamation, and L.R. Inman for town clerk, Charles Roberts, assessor, George White, collector, and Dave Hall, justice of the peace were so nominated. The only contest was over the commissioner of highways for which Frank Collins received 61 votes and Doc Woolley 56.

Yorkville: PUBLISHER'S NOTICE

The Last Call

When this issue of The Record is printed and mailed, I will begin the final revision of the subscription list to comply with the new order

of the postoffice department--that all a year or more in arrears must be dropped, or the publisher must place a one-cent stamp on every paper mailed that is amenable to this order.

#### ALL BUBBLES WILL BURST

Sheriff Normandin Gets Writ to

Sell the Yorkville-Lisbon Railroad

Damages for Nearly \$9,000 to be Recovered

By authority of a writ issued from the municipal court of Chicago, Sheriff Normandin will offer for public auction Wednesday, April 1, all the property and chattels of the Illinois & ox River Central Railroad Company, "still building," at Yorkville to settle a judgment of nearly \$9,000.

The action is the bursting of another air bubble in the railroad world. Progress had advanced along the line of construction until the cedar ties had been strung on the ground and the steel rails laid on them for about a mile, including the curve put in by the Burlington company. The right-of-way of the so-called Yorkville-Lisbon road is covered with loosely spiked rails, bent and twisted in almost any old direction, and there is a question if a car could ever have been run over the rails without dumping.

#### FAIRGROUNDS TO PRIVATE OWNERS

Saturday forenoon the transfer was made where by the old Kendall county fair property is turned into private real estate. George Mewhirter, the local real estate man, completing the deal selling the 16 acres north of the old amphitheater site to Charles Tallmadge and most of the picnic grounds to S.N. Darnell of Yorkville.

The price paid for the land by Mr. Mewhirter was \$2,727 and figures out nearly \$90 per acre, there being about 30-1/x acres in the tract.

As soon as the transfer was completed Saturday morning, the local sportsmen began formulating plans to maintain the track and ball park. It is planned to rent the 16 acres on the north, paying for it by individual contributions among those who have horses to speed and by a certain levy on receipts at ball games, etc.

#### Death of Mr. Perry Tripp

News reached Yorkville this morning telling of the death of Comrade Perry Tripp at the Elgin Asylum Tuesday evening about 7 o'clock.

Mr. Tripp was taken to the state institution about two years ago. Mr. Tripp was born in New York state 90 years ago the 10<sup>th</sup> of next June. He moved with his folks to Little Rock at an early day and thence to Pavilion south of Yorkville, where the greater part of his life was spent. He enlisted in the Civil War in the 13<sup>th</sup> Illinois regiment and did faithful service.

It is expected that the funeral will be held tomorrow, Thursday, interment being made at the Pavilion cemetery at 12 o'clock.

Base-Line Road: Mr. Miller, living on the Crimmin farm, has been hauling hay from the Nicholson place all the past week.

John Even and James Windett helped Leander Keck in Montgomery Tuesday to run a number of cords of wood up to the buzz saw.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Charles LaDew and family have moved from the Stewart farm to their new home, which they built in Montgomery. It is quite a change, as they have lived on the Stewart farm 16 years and in this neighborhood about 22 years. Robert LaDew is taking his father's place on the farm, which he vacated.

The entertainment given by the teachers of the Wilcox and Walker schools at the latter schoolhouse was well attended. A program of readings and graphophone music was given, after which the baskets brought by the gentlemen were auctioned off to the ladies by Fred Walker. There being more baskets than ladies, the men purchased some and the baskets went quite cheap. Over \$7 was realized.

April -- 1908

April 1: A paragraph about myself. I have been expecting for the past several years to be notified by *The Record* that my services were no longer wanted. I never was an adept for the business, lacked altogether the "prying in" faculty of a reporter, and now, because of age, have become entirely unfit for it. My memory and eyesight have been failing me so much that many people from out of town whom I see would be pleased to be mentioned but are not because I either had forgotten who they were or did not recognize them. Assuredly *The Record's* subscription list of Oswego would be



materially increased by a change to a live and up to date reporter, and why it was not done is a puzzle, but the idea struck me that because of my long engagement with the paper, Marshall may think it would hurt my feelings to be bounced; such will not be the case. I am ready and willing to step down and out at any time, and the sooner my dismissal the better I shall like it. Probably I would like occasionally to write a brief piece on political economy and science to *The Record*, which could be thrown into the waste basket if not approved.

John Peterson was a native of Sweden, nearly 60 years of age, and had been resident in Troy, the Oswego suburb, for many years. Friday afternoon he is said to have been downtown and towards evening returned to his home. Saturday, by a coroner's inquest held over him, the jury gave the verdict that he came to his death by Paris green administered by his own hand. The funeral took place Sunday and the burial was in the Pearce cemetery where a son had been buried. He is survived by the widow and two sons and one daughter.

The Barnard shop has been supplied with a triphammer for a power force.

Ella Hebert received a nice Steinway piano, a present from her uncle Alfred.

The new firm of Johnson & Smith has been stocking up with a supply of implements.

The body of the infant of Albert Snook of Aurora was brought here Friday for burial.

Frank Shoger in shelling corn had a finger pinched, requiring the tip of it to be amputated.

The infant of Charles Dieter, over the river, died last week and the body was brought here for burial Saturday, on which day the funeral services had taken place in the home.

Charles Weber has moved to the old Bartlett house now belonging to the G.S. Williams estate.

The funeral of John Book of Naperville brought a number of former German residents of this vicinity here, namely Andrew Burkhart of Dwight, Leonard Bower, Mr. and Mrs. Homan, Mr. and Mrs. William Burkhart, and Mr. and Mrs. Ganger, all of Mazon way.

Bristol: A.D. Curran attended the funeral of Comrade Perry G. Tripp at Pavilion Thursday. The veterans of the Civil War are going from us and not many years will pass before the Grand Army of the Republic will live only in the memory and, we trust, the hearts of the people.

Base-Line Road: Ed Phillips had a large consignment of asparagus crates shipped him this week.

Avery Van Sickle will farm alone this year, his former hired man having gone to Canada to live.

Farmers here are fanning up their seed oats and making other necessary preparations for the season's work.

Walter English will farm the Phillips place again this year, although the most of it is now owned by the railroad company.

Pavilion: Mrs. Tripp was here calling on friends Monday before going back to Mendota.

Fox: Edgar Tripp, who is working on the elevated railroad in Chicago, was home Thursday to visit with his mother, Mrs. Libbie Tripp and family.

Yorkville: Oswego village is to have a new bank and office building. It will be a brick block, situated on the corner where the electric cars turn to cross the trestle on the site formerly occupied by the waiting station. The old building has been torn down and with its razing one of the oldest landmarks of the village passes away. The new structure is being built by L.F. Burkhart, the Oswego banker; and the

bank will be located in it, and the rest of the building will consist of offices for the professional men of Oswego.

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh R. Marshall and little son, John R. Marshall, arrived in Yorkville Saturday evening from Hamilton, Canada, where they have lived nearly four years. They will occupy the house just opposite Dr. McClelland's, on Heustis street as soon as repairs on same are completed. Mr. Marshall will be in charge of the business end of *The Record* office as soon as he gets acquainted with the routine. For six years, he has been employed with the International Harvester Company, going to Canada four years ago from the Chicago plant, when the large works were established in Hamilton. He left there and comes to Yorkville at the solicitation of his father, to take up the work of *The Record*.

#### Funeral of Comrade Tripp

Remains of the late Perry Tripp were brought to Yorkville Thursday afternoon from Elgin on the electric cars and were met at the Yorkville terminal by a detachment of the GAR post, which conducted the funeral services in accordance with the rites of the veterans' order. At the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Matlock, old-time neighbors and friends of Mr. Tripp, a brief service was held, Pastor Smith of the Baptist church making a brief address and the music being furnished by the choir of the Pavilion Baptist church. The bearers were former neighbors--William Ford, William Inscho, Oscar Moulton and Charles Hill--and the remains were taken to the Pavilion cemetery where they were laid to rest.

Mrs. Tripp and children wish to express their sincere thanks to the Post and Relief Corps, and to the friends who have been so kind in their assistance during the affliction and death of the husband and father.

#### OBITUARY

Perry G. Tripp was born in Chenango county, New York, June 15, 1819 and died March 24, 1908, aged 88 years, 9 months, and 9 days. Mr. Tripp came to Little Rock, Ill. in an early day and was married to Philona Ives Nov. 29, 1851. This union was blessed with 11 children, seven of whom preceded him to the better world. Those living are Mrs. C.M. Thurber, Grant City, Mo. (not present); Mrs.

Louise Harding of Chicago; Mrs. W.H. Foss of Mendota, Ill.; and Mrs. Fred Rose of Yorkville.

In 1883, Mr. and Mrs. Tripp moved to Pavilion, where they have since made their home. Besides the sorrowing widow and four children, Mr. Tripp leaves 21 grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, and many friends. He served in the Florida war and later enlisted as a volunteer serving during the Civil War as a member of Co. E., 13<sup>th</sup> Illinois Infantry. He was a member of the GAR at Yorkville.

Mr. Tripp united with the Pavilion Baptist church in the year 1885 and has remained a faithful member.

April 8: Frank Pearce shipped three carloads of baled hay to Chicago.

Robert Pogue of Paw Paw, in his automobile, was in town Saturday.

The votes rolled in thick and fast, more than 50 were in by half-past eight.

Mrs. Anna Mather, who spent about half of the winter in Texas, returned Saturday improved in health.

Mr. and Mrs. Jams Goudie returned Friday from their extensive southern tour, including Cuba and James feels very enthusiastic over it.

Winfield Clark and Lottie Holderman were married Saturday evening. Rev. E. Harris performed the ceremony at the Presbyterian parsonage.

The campaign for what is commonly known as the town meeting became more exciting here and called forth greater efforts than one for a presidential election in war times. The battles were mainly led by outsiders in which Aurora predominated, and they all on the side of the dries. The Rev. Hepburn and Rood from there addressed a meeting at the Methodist church Thursday evening, and both made spicy speeches. Saturday evening at the Knapp hall, attorneys Gunsul of Aurora and Herrington of Yorkville made telling addresses on the option issue, the latter backing up his arguments with

documentary evidence. But it wasn't until Sunday evening at the usual monthly WCTU meeting at the Evangelical church when the climax was reached. The church was packed; the ladies chorus had prepared with an extra fine song service and Edna Burkhart sang a solo which was very nobly done for one just starting out in that line of accomplishments. Rev. F. Theiss was the moderator, Rev. Mr. Schaeffer the reader of the lesson and Rev. N.M. Stokes made the prayer. The address was by Rev. R.B. McCain of NaAuSay, who started out with some remarks about Oswego audiences having listened to ministers and lawyers from the city, and address from a farmer out in the country may prove disappointing; he skipped personal liberty and the corn and sidewalk points, and said he would confine himself to the moral and religious issues involved in the subject and on this line made a strong and excellent address that held the attention of the crowd to the very last.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Oat sowing is now progressing very swiftly on account of the unsettled weather. The majority of farmers started last week.

Albert Anderson was operated on for appendicitis at the St. Charles hospital in Aurora last Friday. He is getting along as well as could be expected. His mother, Mrs. Ann Anderson, is staying in Aurora at present.

Base-Line Road: All the farmers in this vicinity are sowing oats and preparing for early potato culture.

The asparagus gardeners on our road are getting their beds up in fine shape for the season's cutting.

Yorkville: Kendall County as a whole voted for the abolishment of saloons yesterday by a net majority of 414 votes. The votes were not, however, divided in the way that would make the county entirely anti-saloon. Of the nine townships, seven went "dry" and Little Rock and Oswego voted to continue the sale of liquor. Oswego Township voted 166 to 180 not to become an anti-saloon territory. Township officials elected included Lew R. Inman, town clerk; Charles Roberts, assessor; George White, collector; F.E. Collins, commissioner of highways; and David Hall, justice of the peace.

Comrade Nathan Hughes from NaAuSay was in town Saturday. The ex-soldier is quite feeble.

April 15: The excavation for the basement of C.E. Fowler's new residence in the Park addition is under way.

W.J. Morse has bought the house in which he is living.

The threshing company of the German settlement had their annual business meeting at John Burkhart's Wednesday evening.

Among the many from other places that attended the Dave Hall funeral was the clerk of the appellate court, C.C. Duffy of Ottawa, and he is the same Chris he was when living here fore than a quarter century ago, only he has got to be quite white. Judge Hill and Judge Hudson of Yorkville, James Shepard and George Kimball of Aurora, and many others from those and other places.

Doubtless it would have richly paid Oswego in a general way if 40 years ago it had taxed itself and built a hotel and then given it to somebody free of rent to run it. A town without a hotel cannot be considered of much consequence by outsiders. To be sure, there are private houses here where people can find board and lodging, but they are not hotels, public houses. The matter entered somewhat into the issue of the recent political campaign. "What have we got to put in place of the saloons? Where could anybody in waiting for a while find a place to do it?" were the questions.

Not for a great while has this community experienced such a sensation as it did by the demise of David Hall, he having been so hale and hardy making such a thing so unexpected. The funeral took place Monday from the Presbyterian church. The Masons led the procession to the cemetery and at the grave quite solemnly bestowed the ritual of the order. He is survived by a daughter, two brothers, and four sisters.

In speaking of the sudden death of Mr. David Hall, one of Oswego's oldest settlers remarked, "Well that is the same way his father

went." Mr. Hall's father also died very suddenly, passing away while sitting in church in Oswego.

Many village folks in Oswego have visited the scene of activity in Morgan creek, west of town, where the new drainage ditch is being dug in the course of the creek. Operations were begun last week with a force of seven men and the completion of the ditch will be pushed rapidly. The steam shovel is an interesting sight to watch while working, followed by the floating living house, where the helpers eat and sleep.

Dr. T.B. Drew of Oswego will be a candidate for reelection to the office of coroner on the Republican ticket at the regular fall election.

#### April 22: VILLAGE ELECTION

There was no opposition at all in Oswego and the wets carried the village by a large majority.

Shall this village become anti-saloon territory: Yes, 19; No, 92.

Following officers elected:

President, Charles Rieger.

Village clerk, Charles Roberts.

Trustees, full term, W.J. Morse, C.H. Shoger, J.C. Conway.

Trustee, one year, Charles Barker.

Police Magistrate, D.M. Haight.

Total vote cast, 226; 5 not voting on question.

Archie Lake Jr. from LaGrange, who was here visiting his grandmother, returned home last week.

An investigation of the condition of Nettie Sanders was had Monday and yesterday she was taken to the insane hospital at Elgin.

Clarence Schickler, who attends school at Notre Dame, Ind., was home to spend Easter and on returning Monday was accompanied by his mother as far as Chicago.

In the election for school director Saturday afternoon, considerable interest was manifested. 172 votes were cast and W.J. Morse was elected by 24 votes over Dr. Churchill.

Oswego will not be without an auctioneer. Arthur Rowsell will take up the profession. He has had a little practice in the "do I hear any more" crying, and will make another good one.

Mrs. Charles Rieger and daughter, Nettie May, will depart tomorrow for a visit to the hold home of the former in Germany and of touring Europe quite extensively. It would seem that Oswego's well to do people are beginning to follow the custom of spending the summers in Europe; Charles Knapp has done so several times, and it is said he is contemplating it again.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Miss Margaret Rance expects to move into her new house in the near future, and a number of ladies planned a surprise on her as a sort of farewell meeting in the hold home.

April 29: The establishment of a peanut roaster has been added to the business here.

Will Sutherland, who has been with a circus company for a long time, is here now and is at work in Aurora.

Frank Pearce and Henry Burkhart were shippers of fat cattle to Chicago.

The interior appearance of the Morse & Fowler store has been materially improved by being repainted in a light color.

The big slough is quite a place for a diversion to go to see the big machine at work in the drainage of it. Last Wednesday, extra interest was created by the shoveling out some bones of a mastodon; they were big ones; teeth 14 inches long and 7 inches wide; must have belonged to a sockdolager of an animal. Some of the bones were brought to town and kept on exhibition at the drug store.

Sanford Chase in returning to his home between 9 and 10 o'clock one night and within a few steps of the door was struck down, by what he is unable to say, as he saw nobody. His girls got him into the house and worked on him for some time before he became conscious. One eye was somewhat cut, but as the back of his head



felt very sore the next day and as a dollar bill he had in his pocket was gone, he thinks he was sandbagged from behind and robbed.

As things look now, Oswego will be the only village in Kendall County with saloons. The village council for two or three years have spent lots of money in improvements. The village is heavily bonded; and the tax levy is nearly up to the limit. About \$4,000 represents the total indebtedness of the municipality, money which was borrowed in order to carry on the work of completing improvements in the water system, new sidewalks in the Park addition, etc.

The comprehension of this financial condition is what led to the overwhelming vote by which the village of Oswego voted against the local option question on the 21st, when the question was downed by a vote of 92 to 19. Citizens were given to understand that the license money was actually needed to meet expenses and pay coupons on bonds, and from a financial standpoint it was needed, sorely. Heretofore, that village has received only \$750 annually from each of its three saloons. Last night the village board met and organized and whopped the license up to \$1,000 per year. This will mean a total of \$3,000 for the village, which will be applied on current expenses and present indebtedness.

Another feature that has complicated matters in Oswego was the election of Mr. Updike last year as president of the board. His inability attend to the business of the village left most of the responsibility in the hands of Alderman Charles Rieger, who, as president pro tem, has made an excellent official. He has been elected president, and three new members with him, Charles Shoger, and Will Morse for two years and John Conway for one year. Henry Bower and Lew Inman are the hold-over aldermen and Charles Roberts the new clerk. It is conceded that this makes Oswego one of the strongest village councils it has had for many years and each and every member expresses himself as determined to see that the saloons are run as nearly according to the letter of the law as possible.

The fact that Oswego is the only wet town in the county is expected to be the cause of considerable trouble during the summer months if stringent rules are not upheld and the new mayor says he will do police duty himself if necessary to keep things running right.

## MASTODON'S BONES OF CENTURIES AGO

Remains of Pre-Historic Animal  
Found in Course of the Morgan  
Creek Drainage Canal

Accompanied by all the mystery and conjecture of the way back days when Kendall county was the roaming place of wild beasts of extinct species, the finding of huge teeth, femur bones, and numerous smaller bones in the Morgan Creek Drainage district east of Yorkville has aroused the interest of the people of this vicinity, many of whom have walked or driven out to the James Campbell farm, where the bones were found, to see the specimens. The first discovery was made the middle of last week, when two monstrous teeth, weighing 20 pounds each, and covered with ivory about two inches thick, were recovered when the huge steam dredge brought them to the surface from about 12 feet below in the bed of Morgan Creek. These first specimens are on exhibition in the Cutter store in Oswego.

Friday and Saturday more bones were found and discoveries made by James Campbell, one of the commissioners of the drainage district, perhaps throw more light on the character of the great beast than of the other bones. He was fortunate enough to find another tooth in his digging--and he worked nearly three days shoveling and spading up the ground to get the tooth. This one is a smaller molar, weighing only about five pounds. A portion of the jawbone was also recovered, and the place where the missing tooth was imbedded in the bone is large enough to allow a husky farmer man to lay his whole fist in, thus showing the size of the roots of the teeth. Portions of great ivory tusks were also found, and judging from the diameter of the different parts recovered, the tusks must have been 12 or 14 feet long, the different sections tapering from 12 inches in diameter to about 3 inches. Unfortunately, as soon as the tusks are brought to the air they begin to crumble and scale away with handling. The ivory does not seem to be so well preserved as the bones, Hundreds of small bones with joints have been found on the spot, and no one has been able so far to guess what part of the ancient mastodon's anatomy the small bones belong to, unless it was his ancient highness's pedal extremities.

May -- 1908

May 6: The coal dealers' business was quite brisk again last week.

Frank Pearce and John Herren received a carload of time from Ottawa.

Wesley Bower sold his span of nice sorrel horses to the fire department of Aurora.

Hugh Goudie shipped three carloads and Gus Isleman one of cattle, one evening.

At the village council meeting Monday evening, J.W. Morrison was elected marshal, street commissioner and pumper; Joe Foss, IC. Wagner and Lew Gaylord were his competitors for same office.

J.B. Pogue and family of Hinckley spent Sunday here with his mother. They came in their auto as far as Myron Wormley's, when something about the machine gave out. The rest of the way was made by electric car.

May 13: The arrangements for Decoration Day are said to be all complete.

Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Burkhart have arrived here from St. Paul. It is said that they will make this their permanent residence.

The population of Oswego was increased Sunday by the appearance of a son in the family of Dr. Churchill and a daughter in that of Roy Smith.

Mrs. John Peterson, who recently was taken to the Joliet infirmary to be cared for, died there. One of her sons with Undertaker Croushorn went there and brought the remains here. The funeral took place from the Methodist church Sunday. The burial was in the Pearce cemetery by the side of her husband, who preceded her there but a few weeks. She was a Scandinavian, 67 years of age, and is survived by two sons.

Now let the village board take its plat of the village, find all the streets in the new additions not yet named and name them--calling the irregular places and very short streets "Places"--then number the whole of the lots fronting on the streets and places except the business part, where each lot is occupied by three buildings. The use of street numbers would be advantageous in many ways. Another thing needful is the repairing of the road between the village and the bridge; the automobiles now have to be twisting about very much to keep out of the mudholes. Presumably if the road were raised a foot at its lowest point the water running over it and washing out at high water time would be prevented, but of course, that would cost considerable.

Updike and Gaylord, Bankrupts.

All unpaid accounts of above firm are in the hands of Arthur Rowswell, J.P., Oswego, for collection or adjustment. These must be settled at once, as instructions have been given Mr. Rowswell to sue if not paid. For the present the books may be found at the Oswego Bank.

John Fitzgerald  
Trustee in Bankruptcy.

May 20: Mrs. Hannah T. Stoutemyer--nee Paul--was born Sept. 4, 1816 in New Carlisle, Ohio, which was her home until she was married in 1835. She was the mother of six children: John B., Harriet P., Mary H., I. Newton, Amanda A., and Lydia A. All reached the age of maturity but three preceded her to the grave. In 1854--her husband having previously died--she with the children moved to this place where the family soon become one of the most prominent in town. She died at the home of W.H. McConnell, that of her youngest daughter, at Grand Crossing near Chicago. The body and mourners arrived here Friday and for an hour the body was at Capt. Charles Clinton's, the home of the eldest daughter.

The most talked about here is the weather.

Charles Knapp started on his journey for a summer's sojourn in Europe Saturday

Pearl Bartlett was down from Aurora spending a part of a week's vacation with her schoolmates.

Two cistern cleaners were doing work here Saturday and by investing the proceeds in wet goods they became entangled with the village authorities and fetched up at the calaboose. They pleaded guilty to drunk and disorderly before the police court Monday and were fined \$20 and costs each. Having no money to pay it and no friends to help them, I believe they settled it by scrubbing the floors of the cage and the council room.

The Wilcox school closed for the summer with a picnic dinner at the schoolhouse Saturday.

Policeman James Morrison has made no arrests in Oswego since the first of April and the authorities say that the saloon men are being "real good" closing promptly at 10 o'clock every night. An hour extra is granted on Saturday nights and the saloons are allowed to keep open till 11 o'clock.

Clinton Burkhart has returned to Oswego after an absence of several years and will take the place of his sister, Miss Laura Burkhart, as cashier in the Oswego bank, Miss Burkhart having decided to remain closer to her mother.

Mayor Reiger says that little will be done in Oswego this year in the way of improvements. The steel [water] mains have been laid, and there will be no extension of pipes this spring and about the only cement walk needed is along the Presbyterian church. This walk will be laid and possibly a few more places will be fixed up, but otherwise the village board feels that the town is in good shape. A good share of the corporate indebtedness will be lifted in the next year or so.

Some building is being done in Oswego this year, up in the new Park addition. The foundation for Charles Fowler's new house is completed and the carpenters began work on it Monday. A cellar and foundation is being prepared for the new home of Levi Hall--Mr. Fowler and Mr. Hall building side by side in the new territory.

### Off for Germany

Saturday morning a party of Kendall County folks left Oswego bound for Hoboken, N.Y. where they sailed yesterday morning on the *Kronprinz William* of the North German Lloyd Line for Germany. In the party were Charles Knapp, the Oswego stock buyer; Mrs. Herman Borneman of Oswego Township; and Mrs. Fred Myers of Kendall Township. The party expects to land at Bremen, Germany on May 26. Mr. Knapp is in the habit of making a return visit to the old home about once every two years.

### Fastest Road to Chicago:

The telephone toll lines. Messages travel instantly. No wrecks or delays. Rush past clerks and office boys. Reach your party. Your words for his ear his words for your ear. And you remain attentive to your own business. Use the toll lines. It pays. Chicago Telephone Company.

Illinois Superintendent of Schools F.G. Blair wrote a letter to the editor of *The Record* decrying a recent action by the General Assembly that modified the language of the law that required local school districts to pay the tuition of students to attend high school when no local four year high school option was available. The new language substituted read: "The tuition in such cases where the parent or guardian is unable to pay the tuition shall be paid by the school board of the district in which such pupils reside from the funds of the district." Blair complained the new language made the law unworkable by placing an unbearable burden on local school boards to determine whether or not families could afford high school tuition. "I think it is clear that the proviso in question is invalid and that it is the duty of the school directors of the home district to pay the tuition, if they have funds, to the credit of the district applicable to its payment and that the high school chosen should admit such non-resident pupils if it can be done without prejudice to the resident pupils of the district."

### DREDGE IS SUNK IN 12-FOOT LAKE

Workmen on the Morgan Creek Canal Delayed by Accident--Hard Job to Raise Machinery.

An accident to the machinery and dredge employed in excavating the Morgan Creek Drainage District canal last week has put a

quietus on operations and affected a condition of affairs which will knock considerable off the profits of the job for the contractors. The recent heavy rains of the past two weeks so acted on the already soft and swampy land in the vicinity of the ditch that there seemed to no bottom to the "big slough" where the canal is being dug. Last week the men worked through sunshine and rain, making rapid progress, two miles of the ditch having already been completed. The monster shovel was swung down in its routine of daily work and forced through the soft earth eight or ten feet below the surface by the powerful engine in the floating boat, and filled with clay and stone. As the derrick was brought into play, swinging the shovel around to dump on the side bank, there was a creak and a groan, and one corner of the engine house began to sink--the post had given way in the soft dirt. Water began to rush in on the floor of the engine boat and in a few minutes the entire engine house had sunk to the bottom--engine, tools, and all.

The accident is doubly deplorable, owing to the almost impossible prospects of elevating the tons of machinery. Acres of land surround the machinery, too soft on which to plant a hoisting machine of any kind to raise the deluged craft. The rainy season has made the swamp so soft that it will hardly bear the weight of a person and to the uninitiated it looks like the dredge is sunk for good. Chairman Scofield of the board of drainage commissioners was included to feel a trifle blue about the accident. The big machine will have to be dug out of its present predicament by holding the water back while an outlet is made to carry off the contents of the miniature lake; then it is probable the machinery will be found buried in the mud to such an extent that considerable more time will be required to put it in working order.

Yorkville: This year's crop of dandelions is the heaviest in the memory of our old residents, and nearly every fine lawn in Yorkville is pestered with this yellow carpeting. Perhaps if they required planting and transplanting in order to secure the beautiful golden blossoms they would not be considered such a pest.

May 27: Beginning June 1, Miss Bernice Pearce will take over the Oswego business of *The Record* and will attend the correspondence and business at her pharmacy. This change was brought about by the continued efforts of our present incumbent, Mr. Rank, who has

so long and faithfully carried on the business of *The Record* in Oswego to resign. We are loath to part with Mr. Rank. He has been a tireless man in his care for the interests of the paper. He is getting old, however, and feels that it is time that he gave the duties over to younger blood. He will not stop writing entirely, however, as he has been requested to continue his contributions on matters of politics and general interest.

The raising of Fowler's new residence was nearly completed Monday.

The old schoolmates that have spent their pupilage in the old stone schoolhouse are getting ready for their annual come together.

The surroundings of the C.S. Barker residence are artistic and have been made very beautiful. A cement sidewalk on Jefferson street, the southern line of the grounds, has been constructed.

As to the increase of business, a Mr. C.H. Bailey has established a shop for the repairing of clocks, watches and other things of that nature. This is a general jewelry shop, in the former Schwartz shop on Jefferson street.

Oswego is to be congratulated for being hereafter represented in *The Record* by an up to date correspondent; one that will give all the good news, and in a proper and pleasing style. This report is to be the last from the ancient and obsolete--so good-bye to all.

Oswego is to have an ice cream parlor, Mr. Funk being engaged in repairing his building on the west end of Main street, next to the Charles Barker store for that purpose. Mr. Funk will thoroughly remodel and decorate the interior and make an attractive place for a refreshment parlor.

Nearly all the towns in the county have felt the effect of the busy season with the farmer, and Oswego merchants, as well as merchants in other towns, have remarked about the horseless tie posts and the depopulated sidewalks. After the corn is planted, however there will be the usual brisk interchange for produce, supplies, and cash.



The dredge that sank in the right-of-way of the Morgan drainage ditch has been raised and is now in operation again. The undertaking was a hard one, and it took lots of work to put the machine in working order again. Efforts will be made to make up some of the time that was lost while the dredge was submerged and it will be an interesting place to visit.

June -- 1908

June 3: Raymond Ness has charge of the ice cream parlor recently started by William Funk.

Joseph Ebinger and Wesley Bower shipped three carloads of hay to Chicago last week.

Miss Amanda Hummel will teach the Squires school and Miss Grace Williams the Rickard school next year.

A large crowd attended the Decoration Day services at the Congregational Church. After the exercises the procession headed by the band marched to the cemetery and the school children decorated the graves. Only 14 of the old soldiers were able to march.

June 10: Drs. Churchill and Drew attended the meeting of the American Medical Association in Chicago.

Invitations are out for the Alumni reunion to be held in Knapp's Hall Thursday evening, June 11.

June 17: Arch Lake was calling on Oswego friends the first of the week.

Clarence Schickler has returned from his school duties at Notre Dame.

Miss Cyrilla Cooney of Montgomery has been assisting Mrs. Updike during her removal to the house owned by Harper Hopkins.

“Everything come to him who waits” is a true saying, therefore the residents of the new addition extend a vote of thanks to our board of aldermen for filling the water main ditch, which has been open since last November.

Died at her home in Oswego on June 15, Mrs. Andrew Gray. Miss Phoebe Ann Failing was born in Montgomery county, N.Y. Feb. 14, 1838; came to Illinois in 1839; was married to Andrew Gray Sept. 4, 1860. She is survived by her husband and two grandsons, children of her deceased daughter, Mrs. Martha Hildebrand.

Tamarack and Wheatland: The marriage of Miss Mary Marshall and Malcolm Rance was solemnized at 8 o'clock June 4. The bride has lived here about two years, coming from Wisconsin and during her stay here has made many warm friends. The groom is the son of Mrs. Margaret Rance and has spent his entire life here, and many friends with him and his bride a long and happy life. Mr. and Mrs. Rance will live with his mother in the new house until the old one is remodeled for their occupancy.

A great many from here attended the graduating exercises at Plainfield Thursday and Friday evenings. Frank McMicken, son of John McMicken, was one of the graduates. This young man is the third in the family to graduate from that school, his sister and brother having graduated four and two years ago, and the youngest son is expected to graduate in three years. Among his presents was a gold watch and gold fob.

Yorkville: The light frost of Tuesday morning affected the corn in some fields between Yorkville and Oswego and caused consternation among some of the farmers. However, they claim that it did no permanent damage, other than to retard the growth of the young sprouts for a few days.

#### 200 FISHERMEN IN YORKVILLE MONDAY

Anglers from Different Parts of the  
State Camp on River Bank till Midnight

As early as Saturday afternoon fishermen from Chicago, Aurora, and other parts of northern Illinois began to arrive in Yorkville, laden

with poles, minnow buckets, bait cans, blankets, extra coats, and other paraphernalia, prepared to camp on the spot till midnight, Sunday night, when the law expired which permitted them to fish within 400 feet of the Fox river and Blackberry creek dams. Since the 15th of April, no fishing has been done within this limit of the two dams, and the protective season of two months each year has allowed the bluegills, black and rock bass, pickerel, and sand pike to multiply until the Fox river has become famous for its fish stories, and for its actual catches of these game species.

Saturday evening and all day Sunday the anglers kept getting off the cars at Yorkville and when Monday morning broke cold and chill, it found about 200 of the Isaac Waltons along the bank and out in boats, some wading with boots and some without boots near the two dams. At the mill dam on the river some fine strings of bluegills and rock bass were caught, the local fishermen seeming to have the best luck, and on the north side under the falls of the Blackberry dam, fishermen were so thick that there were more baits than fish in the water. It was a lucky spot, however, and some fine members of the fish family were pulled out of the pools under the falls.

The cold weather, high water, and general dirty condition of the river resulting from the recent heavy rains prevented the landing of any such strings as were taken last year on the morning of the 15th of June.

June 24: A.J. Parkhurst is building an addition to his home.

Miss Irene Newman and her pupils picnicked in the Pearce Woods Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Cliggitt, formerly of Oswego, now living in Kentucky, are rejoicing over the arrival of a 10 pound daughter.

Mr. C.E. Beaupre, an early resident of Oswego, died at his home in DeKalb. Mr. Beaupre was one of the 4th Cavalry boys who went out from Oswego in the early '60s.

NaAuSay: Clarence Davis has purchased a new auto with room for two.

Yorkville: NARROWLY AVERTS DROWNING

In plain sight of about 30 fishermen, but beyond their reach, Merrill Crimmin, younger son of Mr. and Mrs. William Crimmin, created a sensation at the Yorkville dam Saturday afternoon which came near proving the lad's last appearance on earth. He was wading on the top of the dam, over which the water from the whole Fox river above rushes with great force when he slipped on the smooth surface and was washed over the edge of the dam into the swirling water below. The first time he came to the surface he was about four feet from the edge of the dam, but the fearful undercurrent drew him under and back towards the falls. The second time he was thrown up about ten feet from the edge of the dam and this time he was able to keep his progress downstream, and landed on one of the small islands where it took him about a quarter of an hour to regain his self-control.

July -- 1908

July 1: Mrs. Anna Lester entertained her niece from Ashton several days last week.

Miss Mary Cliggitt is moving into the Wayne house with Mrs. Ode.

Rob and Harry Schlapp, James and Hough Goudie, and John Murley shipped eight carloads of cattle to Chicago Tuesday night.

Winfield Clark and Miss Mary Staley have purchased lots on Garfield avenue in the new addition and will erect houses this summer. Carpenters are busily at work on the new residence for L.N. Hall.

Yorkville: Princeton, N.J., June 24.--Grover Cleveland is dead. The last remaining ex-President of the republic has joined the long line of his predecessors.

Death came suddenly this morning at 8:40 o'clock as Mr. Cleveland lay in his room at Westland, his Princeton home. With him were his wife and his physicians. He was elected president of the United States in 1884. Majority in the electoral college, 37. He broke all records by vetoing 115 out of 987 bills. He married Frances Folsom in the White House June 2, 1886. He was defeated in his campaign

for reelection in 1888. Cleveland engaged in the practice of law in New York. He was elected President of the United States in 1892.

#### WAS KNOWN IN OSWEGO

Charles E. Beaupre of DeKalb--Leaves Pathetic Message to Family.  
DeKalb Chronicle, June 22.

Another old soldier answered "taps" Saturday afternoon at 4:25 o'clock, Charles Beaupre succumbing to an attack of pneumonia after an illness of but a few days. The funeral will be held at the house, 123 West Main street, Tuesday afternoon and will be conducted under the auspices of the Masonic fraternity according to the wishes of the deceased.

Mr. Beaupre was stricken with paralysis 24 years ago, his left side becoming useless, in consequence of which he has been numbered among the shut-in people for all these years. He has not been among the unknown, however, for Charles Beaupre had many friends who have been faithful making many hours of happiness for their soldier friend....He was an indefatigable collector of postage stamps from every country on the globe, which is of very great value.

He made known his wishes as to his funeral arrangements, which are copied from the leaflet he left.

"That the services be conducted at my home by the Masonic order, the pallbearers be selected from my comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic; that my friend W.H. Miller have charge of all arrangements," and following is this short obituary:--

"Charles E. Beaupre, born at Wilmington, Ill. March 4, 1840. Enlisted as private, Co. C., 4th Illinois Cavalry, Aug. 23, 1861, to serve three years or during the war of the rebellion. Discharged from the army as sergeant, Nov. 4, 1864. Married to Sarah Klock of DeKalb Jan. 23, 1866. The wife and two daughters, Mrs. Anna Hamilton and Mrs. Elva Garner, survive."

Added to this was this note: "As I believe a good Mason is a true Christian, would be pleased if some minister belonging to the order would read the services which I have written."

Three brothers survive the deceased. They are: Arthur Beaupre, Minister to the Netherlands; William Beaupre of Aurora; and Eben Beaupre, also of Aurora. Six grandchildren mourn their beloved grandfather.

Yorkville: DOUBLE DROWNING ENDS AN EVENING'S PLEASURE.

Israel Blume and Louis Spink Drowned at Yorkville Sunday Afternoon--Were Out Boating with Joseph Rubenstein and Boat Goes Over Dam in the Dark--Rubenstein Climbs Dam and Saves His Life. Again, the old story of ignorance of the currents, inability to swim, and darkness of the night aided by the undertow of the waters has claimed its victims in Yorkville and as a result, Israel Blume, a man of about 27 years and Louis Spink, a land of 18, are dead from drowning. Liquor had no part in this sad ending of a summer evening's outing. All three men are said to have been good swimmers. Several Jewish friends of the families came down from Aurora Monday morning and arrangements were immediately made for the funeral. The bodies were shipped to Chicago on the morning train Tuesday where they were buried in the Jewish burial ground after the last rights had been complied with according to the Jewish customs.

Last week, the \$1,000 auto purchased in New York by Oliver Burkhart was stolen from the freight house after it reached Chicago and has not been heard of since. The machine was a big one, and while it was second-hand, the purchaser says he virtually got a new machine for a second-hand price. Burkhart has made several trips to Chicago in an endeavor to locate the big car, but it has been in vain. Employees about the freight house seem to remember the day when the car disappeared, as they were working in the room at the time when an automobile driver came in and went up to the car, slipped in a spark plug which he took from his pocket, and backed the machine out of the freight house. On being asked where the car was going, the driver replied, "It is going East." This seemed to satisfy the employees until Burkhart appeared with his bill of lading and wanted to run the car home. The car was to be the property of Oliver Burkhart and his brother-in-law, Glenn Gabel, the latter receiving his share as a present from his father.

July 8: Mrs. John Bell of Seward bought the house owned by Miss Nettie Sanders, deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Bell will move here in the fall and live in the Sanders house.

Mrs. Abe Wormley loaded her car of household goods Thursday and left for her home in Missouri Saturday.

Charles R. Weber spent his vacation visiting his father, Charles Weber. Mr. Weber is an Iowa traveling man with headquarters in Des Moines.

Yorkville: Oliver Burkhardt and Ed Hahnenstein spent a couple of days in Chicago last week again endeavoring to "get a line" on the stolen automobile which was taken from the Burlington freight rooms. It is said that the company detectives have been working on a promising clew and couple of days but so far very little of material interest has developed and it is probable the car is a long distance from Chicago.

Two more summer cottages have been started by W.T. Boston, F.G. Hill and Justus Nading on the sough river front just east of Yorkville. These cottages will be for rent to transients and have one of the nicest locations around the town. There will be a station on the electric at this place and several names have been suggested for the stop. "Nadena" and Nadillton" seem to be popular.

July 15: Oliver A. Burkhardt of Oswego is a candidate for the Republican nomination for the office of State's Attorney for Kendall County. Mr. Burkhardt is a young man of 26 years and has practiced law in Illinois for five years.

Lightning struck the Anton Miller building, now owned by Gus Shoger. L. Voorhees and family occupy the second floor, No damage done.

The Sandwich Chautauqua was set to open July 17 for its run through July 26. Gov. J. Frank Hanley of Indiana was to be the main speaker.

After three weeks searching on the part of railroad detectives and the owners of the car, the machine belonging to Glenn Gabel and Oliver Burkhardt was recovered last week from an automobile garage in Chicago, where it had been taken for repairs by the man who stole it from the freight room in Chicago. The managers of the garage said a man had run the machine into the shop for repairs saying that "an officer would probably call for it." The officer called for it, all right, and the owners in Yorkville were notified of its

recovery. The machine had been run about in Chicago since being taken and was sadly in need of repairs. About \$300 damage is claimed by the owners--three of the heavy tires were ruined and many other parts of the machine badly damaged in the short space of time. It was fixed up in the garage and is now on the Gabel farm south of Yorkville and in daily use by the young fellows and their friends.

July 22: Will Denney, Harding Edwards, and Leslie Peshia took the civil service examination for rural mail carrier at the county seat Saturday.

Robert [Robinson B.] Murphy of Front Royal, Va., was in town Saturday calling on old friends. Mr. Murphy is eastern manager for the National Sewing Machine company of Belvidere, Ill, and was west on a business trip. "Bob" was the drummer boy of the old 127th and was the youngest soldier who served three years in the Civil War.

July 29: Friday afternoon, Misses Edith Burkhart and Myrtle Croushorn entertained several girl friends at Riverview park.

#### Rowdy Conduct at Riverview Park

The *Aurora News* of Monday publishes the following: Charles Dyer of Yorkville and another man by the name of Gilliam of Oswego got full of old rye while in Aurora Saturday afternoon and started out looking for trouble of which they got plenty before they had finished. This morning they were tried before magistrate Klees who fined Dyer \$15 and costs and Gilliam \$25 and costs as an example for others to take heed. After procuring a regular holiday "bun" Saturday afternoon the men boarded the car for Oswego in a drunken condition and became disorderly. After being asked by Conductor Banker, who was in charge of the car, to stop smoking and spitting on the floor, the two became ugly. Near the stove works the conductor stopped the car to put them off when Gilliam struck him in the face, which was badly swollen when the conductor appeared in court this morning. Several similar cases have happened before but the offenders have managed to escape. The foul language used by the men was disgraceful and as many women on the car were forced to sit and listen to it, the men escaped with



only what they deserved. Dyer was not fined so heavily as Gilliam as the latter provoked the trouble.

Seth Shaffer, proprietor of the candy kitchen at Riverview Park, made an example of a young man at that place Saturday who made some insulting remarks to the young woman who is employed at the stand. The fellow was slightly intoxicated but according to some of the witnesses to the whipping the fellow got a good trimming such as he deserved. Mr. Shaffer is not a large man but he knows something about the art of self-defense.

Lysander Hawley, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank O. Hawley of South Lake Street was brutally slugged without warning last night at Riverview Park. The guilty person was arrested this afternoon on a warrant charging assault and held at the police station...he was arrested at the Northwestern depot while waiting for a train for Chicago.

August -- 1908

Aug. 5: William Dwyre sold his fine driving team to a man in Oak Park and drove there with them Friday night.

Misses Ruth and Doris Denney are the proud possessors of a new piano, which they received last Friday.

Charles Schultz is the new proprietor of the hardware store, having purchased the store from Will Miller. Mr. Miller has secured the office building occupied by Dr. Drew.

The only contest in the primary in the county on Saturday, Aug. 8, is for the office of state's attorney--Oliver Burkhart of Oswego against A.M. Sweetland of Newark. Every loyal voter from Oswego should support Mr. Burkhart for we feel confident he is well qualified to fill the office in a credible manner.

Aug. 12: Lou Inman was hit by a board on Monday and had a rib broken. He was working on a barn for George Schering.

I wonder why the village of Oswego lays water mains past one man's property and tells another property owner to lay his own mains. I wonder why the village of Oswego pays a constable that can't be

found when a crowd of young men destroy property at a wedding. I wonder why the village of Oswego replaces good street crossings with brick when they haven't money to build new sidewalks. I wonder why the dogs go unmuzzled in Oswego when there is an ordinance stating that they shall be muzzled from May 1 to Oct. 1 or the owner fined from \$1 to \$20 for violating the ordinance. I wonder why the mayor is not in favor of improvements in the new addition when he is the only lumber dealer in town. I wonder why the village of Oswego built a cement sidewalk where it was not really needed and compelled other property owners to walk in the mud.

Rudolph Knapp has purchased Miss Kate Cliggitt's house and Miss Mary Cliggitt has sold her house to Frank Walker.

Clarence Parkhurst and Lissian Shoger married by Rev. Mr. Youstler of Coal City.

Tamarack and Wheatland: The end of this week will see most of the threshing done in this part. The Gray threshing ring finishes the first of this week, having threshed the 16 jobs in 11 days. The average yield was from 25 to 28 bushels per acre of a fair quality.

Aug. 19: Delbert Richards is assisting Ben Biesemeier in Read's during the absence of Mr. and Mrs. Read at Mackinac.

Fred Miller and family have moved into the Schram house recently purchased by Will Miller. Mr. and Mrs. Friebele will return to town and live in the house recently occupied by the Millers.

Charles Rieger left Saturday morning for a trip to New York city. Mrs. Rieger and Miss Nettie will arrive from Europe about the 20th and with Mr. Rieger will visit some cousins in the city for a few days. Mr. Rieger expects to be gone two weeks. Charles Roberts is manager at the lumber yard during his absence.

## ILLINOIS MUST STAND FIRM

The Race Riot at Springfield a Disgrace to the State.

[In a front page article, *The Record* expressed horror at the savage race riot in Springfield. The city was under martial law following the

riot, where many blacks were killed and blocks of homes and businesses burned by rioting whites.]

there is little purpose in deploring the shocking race murders at Springfield from the standpoint of mere historic sentiment. Nothing is to be gained by simple wonderment that such things can be in the state of Lovejoy, the martyr, and in the city of Lincoln, the emancipator.

For the negro question was not settled in the days of Lincoln and Lovejoy. It is not a tradition but a fact of the living present and it must be met by the men of the present with direct and resolute regard to things as they are today.

Illinois must recognize this. our whole community must shake itself free from the comfortable illusions of the past and admit that there is now, among a reckless minority of us, an undercurrent of talk as cruel as the pro-slavery passions of 1860. This sentiment does not show in the press or pulpit. No man in the state would dare get up and publicly acknowledge it. Yet it is here.

Aug. 26: James Pearce went to O'Leary, Iowa Thursday to look after his farming interests there.

George Collins returned Friday from a three months trip through the British Isles.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Reiger and Miss Nettie returned Saturday evening from their delightful trip in Europe.

School opens Monday morning, Aug. 31 with Mr. Cole as principal, Miss Lowry high school assistant, Miss Fellows in Room 3, Miss Williams in Room 2, and Miss Bushnell in Room 1.

Rudolph Knapp is building a barn on his place recently purchased from Miss Cliggitt. Henry Bower is the carpenter.

The death of Fred Schell of Grand Forks, North Dakota has been reported here. Mr. Schell was a former resident of Oswego and has relatives here.

Alva Cooney got 22 loads of oats off 27 acres. Pretty good for a farm under cultivation since 1833.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Two little "fresh air" boys from Chicago are spending a couple of weeks at John McMicken's.

A great many from here have been in attendance at the Riverview Chautauqua.

Threshing was finished in these parts last week--about two weeks earlier than usual.

Yorkville: Workmen have finished the job of building the cement gutter, tie-posts, and curb along the west side of the courthouse square and the new cement work makes a noticeable improvement in that street. The Yorkville authorities are now grading up the street to meet the lines of the new gutter. Cement blocks were also built in front of the reading room, sheriff's residence, and the broken ones repaired near the town hall by Harry Hiskey's gang of men.

September -- 1908

Sept. 2: Lyle and Irene Jolly of Chicago visited their aunt, Mrs. Jeneson, last week.

Mmes. Charles Hubbard, Charles Barker, Rob Johnston, and Miss Brown enjoyed an automobile trip to Starved Rock Thursday. Mr. D.W. Gromer of Aurora took them in his machine.

Layton Lippold and Richie Schultz are to open a grocery store in part of the store room now occupied by Schultz's hardware store.

John Martin is to return to Oswego and take charge of the meat market for Will Funk. Will Denny began work there September. 1.

Miss Mary Cutter began teaching in the Marysville school on Monday.

Professor Rolfe of Champaign was in town the first of the week. He is building a barn and having some tiling done on his farm south of town.

Yorkville: For the past two years pearl fishing has been an industry of the Fox River, especially from the Millington bridge down through Sheridan to Ottawa and many precious pearls, ranging in value from \$5 to \$250 have been found. The industry, or pastime, has been slow in gaining a foothold in Yorkville, until a couple of weeks ago when "Tucker" Knight found a couple of pearls in the clams dug up near the Knight farm, and since then there have been many in the river looking for the lucky clams.

Plainfield: Mr. and Mrs. Albert Tuttle, who have been keeping a boarding house on Lockport street, have decided to move on a farm Oct. 1. Mr. and Mrs. Tuttle have given splendid satisfaction to all their patrons and they will be missed in our midst.

Mrs. P.W. Spangler had cause this week to be frightened. In preparing for washing clothes, as was her custom, she put gasoline into the hot water in the washing machine and closed it up. Just as she began to work the machine, two loud reports quickly following each other startled her and instantly the bottom was blown out of the machine and the hoops burst. You can imagine how the good woman looked and what she did.

Sept. 9: Mr. and Mrs. Fowler moved into their new home last week. Professor and Mrs. Cole moved Monday into the house vacated by the Fowlers.

Rudolph Knapp has recently moved into his house, recently purchased of Miss Cliggitt.

As David Hall is gone, A.E. Rowsell is taking up the business of auctioneering and will work along the same honest lines as his predecessor.

The Northern Illinois Telephone Company are moving their switchboard into a room in the Shoger block. Misses Anna Young and Floi Johnston have charge of the board. Mrs. Mary Gaylord, who

has served the company and patrons so well and for several years, will spend the winter on the Pacific coast.

#### CANAL IS BLOWN UP

##### Part of Illinois and Michigan Canal Destroyed

At an early hour Wednesday the west bank of the Illinois and Michigan canal at the lower end of wide water just above Channahon was dynamited. A breach was made that let the water out of the entire section of the canal between Jackson street dam and Channahon dam. This resulted in stranding all canal boats, pleasure launches, and the Rock Run flotilla, leaving them in the mud at the bottom of the channel. It also caused the closing down of the oatmeal mills of the Great Western Cereal company, which depended upon the canal for its power. This threw out of employment for the present time some 40 hands.

The dynamiting of the canal comes as the climax of the bitter fight between the Illinois and Michigan canal authorities and the state of Illinois on one side and the farmers and taxpayers of Troy and Channahon on the other.

As nearly as can be learned the blowing up of the bank took place about 3 o'clock in the morning. Farmer Williams, living within 300 feet of where the breach in the bank has been made, heard no noise of any kind. In fact, he didn't wake up until long after sunrise, and was greatly surprised when he saw where the canal had suddenly disappeared.

The story of the fight over the state canal bridge question is a long one. When the canal was built through this section, there were a number of roadways in existence and the canal cut through them. The state at that time built bridges over the canal at those points. The farmers and property owners claimed that the state was in duty bound to maintain those bridges. For years in the early history of the canal this was done. The canal was doing a big business and was paying and there was money on hand for the purpose. But since the use of the canal has decreased and it has been unable to earn enough to keep up its own existence and maintain the bridges, the authorities have held that the cost must be borne by the towns [townships].

Yorkville: Glen Park has changed hands and is now to be managed by Joseph Gulano, the Ottawa musician. P.G. Southwick of Sandwich sold his controlling interest in the pleasure ground last week.

Several more pearls were found by lucky Yorkville hunters Sunday when a score of local residents waded in the water up to their belts and others only over their shoe tops in search for clams. The party of campers at The Elms above Yorkville are reported to have found some of the most valuable pearls Sunday. It is becoming an industry here after all.

Sept. 16: Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Inman and Edward spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. J.P. Lantz in Wheatland.

Tuesday afternoon, several of the M.D.'s went pearl hunting in the Fox near Watts Cutter's. Mrs. Helen Richards found three and Miss Brown two.

Clarence Schickler has gone to Notre Dame, Ind., to attend school this year.

Several from here attended the fair at Sandwich last week.

Charles T. Cherry Jr. is building a barn on his property in the new addition. Mr. and Mrs. Cherry expect to move to Oswego this fall.

About 20 people enjoyed a picnic dinner down near the dredge last Saturday.

Yorkville: During the past two weeks Fox river below McHenry has been the lowest in its history of the past 20 years, and many people have wondered as to the cause. It is owing to the coffer dams at McHenry, which were constructed to hold back the waters while the McHenry dam was being repaired, the latter having been partially destroyed in the spring. Some people have questioned the right of a construction company to retard the progress of water to such an extent that the river bed becomes a nuisance to the health of a community.

Frank McCarthy, living over the ridge in NaAuSay, is nursing a shattered hand as the result of careless handling of a gun. The charge was meant for a night hawk, but the index finger of his left hand got it instead, as he was crawling through a fence.

The pearl fishers in this vicinity are still plying their business and many small pearls have been found, although no large ones, such as were taken from the river at Millington last year. The pearls found have been disposed of through the Chicago jewelry houses.

Comrade Nathan Hughes of Specie Grove--the colored member of Yorkville Post--is said to be in a serious condition from paralysis. A loyal man and a good citizen.

Sept. 23: Ralph Norris, who has been working for M.J. Wormley this season, has rented a half-section of land near Redfield, S.D., and left for that place Wednesday.

Mr. Egbert Marshall was home from his duties at the Q freight house a few days, nursing an injured foot caused by a casting falling on it.

C.T. Cherry Jr. and Dr. Drew have put in concrete walks.

Mr. James Ervin of Big Rock, Mrs. Gage and Miss Ives of Bloomington were in town Tuesday looking up old settlers. The ladies lived here over 40 years ago, their home being where Dr. Van Deventer now lives.

John Burkhart has bought the McClelland farm near Yorkville and Frank Friebele has bought the Skeen farm formerly owned by George Cowdrey.

Tamarack and Wheatland: The Wheatland plowing match and ladies' fair Saturday was a success in every particular. People came from miles around eight auto loads coming from Ottawa. Two steam plows competed for honors. At noon, over 700 were fed in the dining hall, the ladies being compelled to use some of the exhibits in the cookery line to help feed the large crowd. In the afternoon, a band and two ball games occupied the attention of those present. A



shower at 3:30 drove a great many home, but those who stayed saw the second ball game.

## THE WHEATLAND COUNTRY FAIR

Great Attendance and Fine Program

--Citizens and Politicians Mingle

Saturday was a great day on the east side of Kendall County when the annual plowing match and country fair took place on the A.F. Hafenrichter farm near Wolf's Crossing. It was an intermingling of country people, city people, those on pleasure bent, and those with axes to grind. The post graduate prize, which carries the world's championship, was awarded to Alvin Stark, who scored 97-3/4 points, with Will Fairweather second, 97-3/4, and Cyrus Stark, third, with a score of 96.

Alvin Stark provide somewhat of a "sensation" with a plow equipped with a combination beam and frame hitch, his own invention, which is given much credit for pulling down the honors.

Of course, Uncle James Patterson was there. The affair would hardly have been a success without him, for he is the man who promoted the venture in 1877 and with 11 others formed the nucleus of the present thriving body, which includes every progressive man in the township of Wheatland.

## THE WATERWAY MEETING

Wednesday afternoon last, there was a fairly good audience at the town hall, Yorkville, to listen to the explanation of why the people of Illinois were expected to vote for \$20,000,000 in bonds to complete a deep-waterway through the drainage canal, the old Illinois canal and the Illinois river, to the Mississippi and beyond.

The vote on these bonds will be at the general election in November.

*The Record* has not knowledge enough to give its readers any intelligent advice as to what is the best to do, but we believe the voters will hesitate to vote an indebtedness of \$20 million on the State to be paid by a prospective income from the waterway for power.

Sept. 30: Dr. L.P. Voss is remodeling his house.

Mr. and Mrs. McCullom have moved from their summer home on the J. Darfler place to Aurora.

Mr. and Mrs. J.P. Lantz expect to move into their new home Thursday [October 1].

Chickenpox has made its appearance in the primary room and many of the little folks are absent from school.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Walker and daughters Harriet and Edna have moved to Aurora. We are sorry to lose this family--they are old settlers and no one can fill the place made vacant by their removal.

Mr. and Mrs. Doc Woolley attended the Big Rock plowing match Saturday. Their grandson, Lloyd Price, took the blue ribbon, not in the plowing class, but for being the prettiest baby under two years old.

Mrs. Charles Bohn died at the St. Charles hospital Sunday morning. She had been sick for several months. She was about 65 years old. She leaves a husband and three sons. The funeral was held from the German church, interment in the Oswego cemetery.

NaAuSay: One of the most disastrous fires that has ever occurred in Oswego township was the one at John Wald's Saturday night. The fire was first observed in the barn. The wind was blowing a strong gale and the barn was soon covered with the flames. The adjoining buildings, including the tool-house, corn crib, chicken house, and everything but the dwelling house were burned to the ground. His hay and straw were entirely destroyed leaving Mr. Wald in very bad shape just as fall weather is approaching. Mr. Wald carried an insurance with McWethy Bros., but nothing like sufficient to cover this great loss.

Several from here drove to Specie Grove Sunday to see the ruins of the big fire at John Wald's.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Mr. and Mrs. Thomas King have returned from a tour of Scotland. They report a very rough voyage homeward and were glad to reach Normantown.

Frost was plainly visible Tuesday morning. The most of the corn is past the danger point now.

The grader has been quite busy in these parts lately. Frank Collins and Louis Woolley have used the engine instead of horses with very good success.

#### Quick Settlement

I wish to make known to my friends that McWethy Brothers paid the full amount of my insurance while the ruins were still burning and while this did not cover fully my loss, which amounted to more than \$4,000, I am very grateful for the prompt and liberal adjustment of my claim.

JOHN WALD

Yorkville: In the show windows of F.A. Leverich, Yorkville, is displayed a number of scenes in and about this village which make us think we live in the prettiest place in the world. The cards are printed in colors--the big bridge and river, the Reddock cottage and landscape, the courthouse, the Methodist church, all very attractive and showy. A great many of them pass through the post office to friends away.

October -- 1908

Oct. 7: Dan Minich has moved into the Sorg house and the McDaniel's family into the Edwards house.

Mr. J.C. Conway has been appointed manager of the Chicago Telephone company in Aurora and will move to that city Nov. 1.

Several landseekers left for Dakota Tuesday evening, Mr. James Goudie and Mr. Leonard Burkhart being of the number.

The regular business meeting of the Business Men's club will be held at the club room Monday evening, Oct. 12.

The Library Committee of the XIX Century club has received two trunks of books containing 140 volumes. These books are sent out by the state federation of women's clubs and are for the use of the general public free of charge.

#### Advertised Letters

List of unclaimed matter remaining uncalled for at the Oswego, Ill., postoffice for the month ending Sept. 30, 1908:

Brown, W.H., letter; Bumpus, Mrs. E., card; Basterdes, Mrs. Lena, letter; Clement, Mr. J.D., letter; Condon, Mr. C.M., letter; Clayton, Mr. C.B., letter; Jenkins, Miss Frances, letter; Lantz, Miss Mabel, letter; Pusateri, Mr. Mario (foreign), letter; Smith, Mr. John D., letter; Wheeler, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Hickox, letter.

H.S. Richards, Postmaster

Yorkville: M.B. Pogue, "Milt" as the folks here call him up Oswego way, was here for several days coming home to attend the reunion of his old regiment, the 4th Illinois cavalry. Mr. Pogue has lived in Kansas 25 years, and is recognized as one of the early settlers. He says he and one other was the number of Company C that met at the reunion.

The prayer by several of the property owners around the Big Slough near Newark was granted by Judge Hill Monday and steps will at once be taken to bring about the results sought. The ditch to be built embraces an old ditch, which now runs from the corner of the county on C.C. Hoge's property in section 33 near Grundy county. The cut runs northwest to Lee Redfield's farm, about a mile southeast of Newark, where it will empty into a creek and thence to the Fox river.

Oct. 14: Nimrod Keck of Montgomery called at C.I. Smith's Sunday.

Miss Pearl Chase spent several days in Chicago last week, the guest of friends.

The county Christian Endeavor convention will be held at the Presbyterian church Oct. 23-24.

Monday evening several of the gentlemen spent the evening at G.M. Croushorn's, helping him celebrate his birthday.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Andrew Ferguson, one of the oldest settlers of this community, passed away Sunday afternoon at his home. The funeral, which was private, was held Tuesday at 1 o'clock.

Yorkville: Yesterday the township authorities in Kendall county completed the voting lists of the several towns and will post same in some public place for inspection. Is your name on the list? Look it over, and if your name is omitted, notify your supervisor or appear before the board on Tuesday, Oct. 27, and have your name registered.

You can vote in the county even if you are not registered, but you would have to swear in your vote and to be on the resister saves trouble to the election board.

At the Courthouse

In the matter of a petition for organization of Big Slough Drainage in Big Grove township--in matter of appointment of commissioners--Walter Finnie and Samuel Naden of Kendall county and Ami Marcus of Grundy county were appointed.

Oct. 21: Mrs. Huntoon is building a house in Hawley's addition in Oswego. Charles Schultz has purchased two lots from the Williams estate in the new addition.

John Wald has begun work on a new barn to replace the one destroyed by fire a few weeks ago.

Charles Barker had several sheep killed by dogs last week.

Charles Turpin loaded his car Monday for his new home in Halbrite, Saskatchewan.

Charles Schultz has purchased two lots of the Williams estate in the new addition.

Mrs. Lucy Hartrath, an artist from Chicago who has been spending the summer at George White's, returned home Monday.

Mrs. Lydia Gorton died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Charles Chapman, in Earlville Saturday morning, Oct. 10, after an illness of three days. Her name was Lydia Shaw, and she lived in this vicinity of Oswego in the 40s.

Several from here attended the wedding of Miss Emily Hawley and Mr. Walter Knapp Sherman in Aurora Monday. Miss Hawley is a former Oswego girl, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F.O. Hawley. Mr. and Mrs. Sherman will live in Manchester, N.H.

Mrs. S.S. Collins died at her home Oct. 17. She had been ill for several weeks with hemorrhage of the brain. Lovira Amsden Collins was born in Chautauqua county, N.Y., Dec. 12, 1829; married Sidney S. Collins May 27, 1862 at Belvidere, Ill., moved to Oswego from Ottawa in 1884 and has resided here ever since. She is the last of seven children. She leaves a daughter, Mrs. Lillie C. Richards and two grandchildren, Ethel and Edward Richards. Burial at the Oswego cemetery by the side of her husband, who died several years ago.

Wednesday evening, Oct. 14, Miss Daisy Irene Pearce of Oswego was united in marriage to Mr. John Wesley Holland of Chicago at the home of the bride's father, Mr. James Pearce.

Amid a shower of rice and good wishes and other things the bride and groom left for a few days' visit to the groom's parents at Milton, Ia., going later to New York from which point they sail on Thursday for Culebra, Panama, where Mr. Holland is to be United States' chaplain.

Tamarack and Wheatland: A great many farmers are busy husking corn now, which they find hard to husk being down quite badly.

Andrew Ferguson was born in Ayrshire, Scotland in 1823 and came to America in 1849, settling in Homer township, where he lived for seven years, moving in 1856 to Wheatland where he spent the rest of his life. In 1852 he was married to Miss Agnes Harvey, who, with five children, survive him--Harvey, John, Wallace, Mrs. John Gray, and Mrs. William Caldwell. He had been in poor health for some

years and death came as a welcome relief on Sunday. Oct. 1, 1908. The funeral, which was private, was held at the house Tuesday and interment was in the cemetery adjoining the U.P. church.

Yorkville: It is estimated that more than 200 people from Yorkville and vicinity called at the Charles Clayton home on the north side [of Yorkville] on Saturday evening and Sunday to see the recovered head, teeth, and tusk of one of the prehistoric mastodons, which Mr. Clayton dug up while he was ditching on the George Mewhirter farm, recently the Henry Hopkins property, in southern Kendall Township.

He had rather been on the lookout for just such a find as he discovered when the dirt was washed off and he was not entirely surprised to see that he had become the possessor of one of the most perfect specimens of the prehistoric mammalia found in this county. Pursuing his digging after getting up the head out of the hole, he recovered a part of one of the tusks and the whole collection, weighing in the neighborhood of 500 pounds, was brought to Yorkville and place on exhibition in his barn.

An interesting portion of the collection is the great tusk. About seven feet, in two pieces, was recovered and this is supposed to be a trifle more than half of the original. The sockets in the skull, in which the tusks originally grew, are about ten inches in diameter.

Oct. 28: Oswego Republican workers suffered a keen disappointment when they were notified that Lieutenant Governor Lawrence Y. Sherman would not be able to attend the rally planned for Saturday night. However, a large crowd was present in Oswego and the hall on Main street was filled to its limit when the bugle corps from Aurora finished its martial music.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Schlapp are the happy parents of a little daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. Flagg from Plainfield are moving into the Shoger tenant house. Mr. Flagg runs the pool hall opened here.

Saturday morning the basket ball team from the Sandwich high school played the girls from our school. The morning was rainy and the field slippery. Perhaps under other conditions our girls would

have scored higher but Sandwich has a fine team. Score: Sandwich 20, Oswego, 3.

Saturday night the Republicans of Oswego held a rally at Knapp's hall. Addresses were given by Messrs. Shepherd and Price of Elgin and Judge Miller of Waukegan. Music was furnished by a drum corps from Aurora and the ladies trio of Oswego.

Yorkville: Next Tuesday night the Yorkville Business Men's club rooms will be open to the public and members of all political parties are invited to make themselves at home in the club, where the returns from the election will be received. The club has made arrangements with the Chicago Telephone company, through the efforts of Manager Nading, to have a special wire run to the club house and the quickest possible figures of the election will be received and bulletined in the pleasant club rooms.

#### SNOWBALL STANDS MORE CHANCE THAN DEMOCRATS WITH FARMERS

The great prosperity that has come to the farmers of the country under the policies of Republican legislation and administration will cause them to stand like a stone wall against Democratic appeals and sophistry.

November -- 1908

Nov. 4: Miss Bernice Pearce is the Oswego correspondent of *The Record* and will attend to the business of this paper at her pharmacy.

Mrs. Harris and the girls left last Saturday morning for their new home in Woodson, Ill.

Mrs. Charles Turpin left Tuesday for her new home in Halbrite, Canada.

Yorkville: The country went overwhelmingly Republican at the election yesterday and when the figures are all in it is possible that



William Howard Taft will equal the immense electoral vote that was received by President Roosevelt.

NaAuSay: The farmers are busy husking corn, getting more bushels per acre than they anticipated in the summer.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Word has been received from Scotland, from Mrs. Margaret Rance, that her aged father, Andrew Malcolm, has passed away, dying Oct. 19. Mr. Malcolm will be remembered by the older inhabitants here as having at one time kept a small store at Tamarack. About 27 years ago he returned to his native heath, near Dundee, and there to pass his remaining days. He was nearly 85 at the time of his death. Mrs. Rance was called to his bedside two months ago, being the only one of the immediate family living; the wife, a son, and another daughter having passed away before. Mrs. Rance does not yet know when she will return home.

Nov. 11: For a good job get your feed ground at the Oswego feed mill; can shell corn or grind cobs and all.

Nov. 18: Ellis Minkler of Aurora is visiting Oswego friends.

Dr. L.P. Voss is serving as foreman on the Grand Jury in Chicago and Peter Cooney is one of the jurors.

Leonard Burkhardt Sr., one of the early settlers of Kendall county, is seriously ill and a trained nurse is attending.

Leonard Burkhardt Sr., one of the old residents of Oswego, died Monday night. The funeral will be held from the Oswego German Methodist church Thursday afternoon. burial in the German cemetery by the side of his wife, who died about two years ago. Mr. Burkhardt leaves eight children: Leonard Jr., John and Henry of Oswego; Fred of Hawkeye, Ia., Mrs. John Hemm of Aurora; and Mrs. Leonard Shoger, Mrs. Henry Bower, and Mrs. Joseph Ebinger of Oswego.

NaAuSay: The farmers are nearly all through husking corn and report a much better yield than they expected.

Nov. 25: H.R. Marshall of Yorkville was an Oswego caller Thursday.

Fred Falk is improving his property in the new addition by the erection of a barn.

The drama "Out in the Streets" will be given at Knapp's hall Friday evening, Dec. 4, under the auspices of the C.E. society; admission 10 and 20 cents.

Charles Knapp received word last Monday of the death of his brother, John Knapp, a resident of one of the western states. Mr. Knapp was a former resident of Oswego, but has lived in the West several years.

Sunday, Nov. 29 is Temperance day in the United States and will be observed in Oswego.

Leonard Burkhart was born in Bavaria, Germany May 1, 1824 and died Nov. 17, 1908, aged 84 years, 6 months, and 16 days. He came to America in 1844 and settled on a farm at Oswego Prairie. He engaged in active farm work many years and prospered. He was united in marriage with Anna Margaret Brunnemeyer Dec. 25, 1848. Their union was blessed with eight children, four sons and four daughters, all of whom were present at the funeral. He is survived by two brothers, 38 grandchildren, and eight great grandchildren.

Yorkville; Two pearl buyers came from new York City to see John M. Johnson, who has nearly \$2,000 worth of high grade pearls. About three weeks ago, Mr. Johnson shipped nearly \$1,000 worth of pearls to a company in that city to be examined and immediately they sent two men out here to consult with him. Many of the pearls were perfect, and one, weighing 33-1/3 grains, was valued at about \$600.  
-- Leland Times

Goose Lake, a piece of water covering 500 acres in Grundy county, is to be drained, and with this work done 1,500 acres of slough land will be reclaimed. It has been a great place for duck hunters-- Chicago and Joliet parties maintaining club houses there.

December -- 1908

Dec. 2: Someone made a call on J. Wormley Saturday night and stole over \$100 worth of clover seed.

Mrs. Charles Barker and Mrs. Robert Richards attended the stock show Tuesday.

Harry Rickard of the university of Illinois; Lida Pearce, Harold and Ruth Russell of Northwestern University spent their Thanksgiving actions at home.

Dr. Charles F. Read of Geneva who recently passed the civil service examination , has been appointed on the staff at the Kankakee hospital for the insane. He beings work Jan. 1.

Charles Hunt and Dr. Fosgate of Chicago were in town Tuesday. Mr. Hunt came to arrange for the burial of his daughter, Harriet who died Monday. The little girl was sick 58 days with typhoid fever. The remains will arrive here Thursday morning, burial in the Oswego cemetery. Deceased was the only child of Charles and Carrie McKinney Hunt, former residents of Oswego.

Dec. 9: Five horses and seven cows were burned to death in a fire which destroyed the barn and corn crib on the farm of William Westphal, one half mile east of Wolf's Crossing Dec. 6. It is believed the fire started from sparks from a water tank heater located about ten feet from the barn door.

A number from here went to see the stock show in Chicago.

Dec. 16: Superintendent Curran of Bristol visited school here last week.

Eugene Moyer has accepted a position in DeKalb and his family will soon move there.

Mrs. Roy Bower has issued invitations to linen shower in honor of Miss Lettie Bower on Saturday afternoon. Miss Bower is to be married on Dec. 22 to Mr. Fred Willis of Aurora.

Another attempt was made last week to hold up John Schmidt, the saloonkeeper who was knocked down with an ax and robbed of about \$200 several months ago. Just as he was leaving his place of business at about 10:30 p.m. he opened his door and his dog went out ahead of him. Just as the dog was well outside the door he stopped short, and Schmidt, anticipating that there was something wrong, looked up and saw two colored men standing ready to throw a sack over his head and gag him. He jumped back into the building and got his revolver, but when he returned the thugs were gone. Albert White was arrested the next day on suspicion, but Schmidt had not secured sufficient evidence to make a case and White was discharged. Tuesday, Will White, was arrested, also on suspicion and will be given a hearing soon.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Mrs. Elizabeth Harvey Stewart passed away at 3 o'clock Friday morning, Dec. 11, 1908 at the family home in Wheatland township, after an illness of less than 48 hours. She had been in good health but was taken ill Wednesday forenoon. Mrs. Stewart was a native of Scotland and was born Oct. 9, 1836, coming to America when young and settling with her parents in Oswego township, where she was united in marriage over 50 years ago to the late Thomas Stewart, who died in 1906 at the family homestead, where their entire married life was spent. Mrs. Stewart was a woman of great domestic tastes, rarely leaving her home, seeming happier there than elsewhere. Nevertheless, her influence extended far beyond her home.

She leaves to mourn her loss six children: Mrs. John Clow, Misses Sarah and Jane Stewart, Thomas Jr., James, and Pritchard, all being near or at home.

There are also eight grandchildren. Three brothers and one sister survive her: John Harvey of Morgan Park, Alexander and Robert of Oswego township, and Mrs. Agnes Ferguson of Wheatland.

The funeral was held at the late home. Pastor Cochran of the U.P. church officiated and interment was made in the cemetery adjoining the church.

Dec. 23: Miss Zoe Kinnamon made her first appearance as a violin soloist at a recital given by the Columbia Conservatory on Friday evening.

Mrs. Jennie Hubbard Wormley is clerk at the post office this week. Miss Mame Richards and Miss Bernice Pearce are assisting at the Aurora office during the Christmas rush.

Plano: WOMAN KILLS HER  
DAUGHTER AND SELF

A Racial Union in Plano That Was Unfortunate

Mrs. Ahng, White Wife of a Chinaman, Murders Baby Girl, Attempts to poison Two Boys, Then Commits Suicide. Plano Much Excited.

Yorkville: A sensational elopement culminated in Morris Thursday when Stephen D. Balliet and Miss Helen Duffy both of Ottawa were made man and wife. The bride is the daughter of C.C. Duffy, clerk of the appellate court and none of the family knew of the elopement. [Duffy was a former resident of Oswego where he was principal at the Old Stone School, and was subsequently elected county school superintendent of Kendall County]

The farmers of LaSalle county have purchased 150 automobiles during the past year. The farmers are the fellows who can afford to buy.

Dec. 30: Carl Hawley had the misfortune to have a toe crushed by a horse stepping on it at M.J. Wormley's sale.

Mr. and Mrs. August Bohn are the parents of a son, born Dec. 21.

Twenty eight couples attended the dance at Knapp's hall Saturday evening. Music was furnished by the Shults orchestra.

The rural mail carrier on Route 1 wishes to thank the patrons who so kindly remembered him with gifts at Christmas.

Christmas passed off pleasantly at the churches. A well filled three gladdened the hearts of the little ones at the Methodist and Presbyterian churches.

The household goods of Mr. and Mrs. John Bell were brought to town Tuesday and the family will soon be residents of our village.

The marriage of Miss Lettie Bower to Mr. Fred Willis occurred Tuesday, Dec. 22, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Bower. After a short visit to the home of the groom's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Willis will return to Oswego and make their home at Mr. Bower's.

1909

January

Jan. 6: Jim Foran will soon open a department store in the Fred Funk building.

The household goods of Rev. and Mrs. Hood arrived here Thursday morning and the family came later. They are gradually getting settled in their new home.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Willis have returned home from their wedding trip and were guests of Mrs. Aaron Hafenrichter last week.

Skating is the order of the day at present and merry crows fill Mr. Smith's ice pond ever afternoon and evening.

Jim Foran will soon open a department store in the Fred Funk building.

Mr. William Varner was exhibiting a home grown lemon on Tuesday. It measured 12 inches around and tipped the scales at one pound.

Miss Edna Miller has resigned her position at the Morse & Fowler store and returned to her home in Plano.

In a recap of the year 1908, Edwin S. Potter, editor of Universal News Analysis reported that "Despite the depression, Republicans retain control....one incontestable conclusion forces itself on the open mind. It is that a majority of the people became convinced in one way or another that it is 'better to bear the evils that they have than to fly to others that then know not of.'"

Mrs. R.D. Gates of Oswego is spending a couple of weeks with her daughter, Mrs. Gilbert Collins, and getting acquainted with the little granddaughter, Gretchen Endora.

Jan. 13: Letters from Charles Turpin of Halbrite, Sask., report the thermometer registering 55 below zero.

Louis Young of Pipestone, Minn., is here visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Young.

The Oswego high school will present the comedy-drama, "Mr. Bob," in the Woodman hall Friday evening, Jan. 22.

C.I. Smith is filling his ice-houses this week on Waubonsie Creek at Oswego.

Yorkville: The Yorkville Electric Light company has the agency for the 1900 Electric Washer, which they would be glad to show and demonstrate. Their agents will call at your home for the demonstration if you are interested.

Jan. 20: Miss Bernice Pearce is the Oswego correspondent of *The Record* and will attend to the business of this paper at her pharmacy.

Mrs. E.M. Van Deventer recently received a letter from her London publishers asking permission to have her first two books translated into Spanish. Her books have been published in French and German for several years and no doubt a request for her the translation of her later books to Spanish will soon follow. She has just completed a book and is engaged upon another for a New York firm.

Oswego High School was getting ready to present their mid-winter play, "Mr. Bob." Cast members included Myrtle Croushorn, George T. Pearce, Helen Dwyre, Adelbert Richards, Bessie Miller, Dwight Young, and Edith Burkhart.

Amos D. Curran, Kendall County Superintendent of Schools, announced plans for county schools to observe the 100th

anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birth. "Do not fail to do something to commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of Lincoln's birthday and impress upon the minds and hearts of your pupils the great lesson of his life," he urged the teachers, school officers, parents, and pupils of the county. "The Lincoln Centennial pamphlet prepared by the State Superintendent has been forwarded to all the teachers. It will be helpful in your preparation for appropriate exercises.

Jan. 27: About 35 children from rooms 1 and 2 are sick with the measles.

John Schickler entertained about 30 friends at a turkey dinner last Thursday night.

Little Kendall carried off some of the honors at the National Corn Show held in Omaha last December. Frank Herren entered four ears of White Dent corn and received the fourth prize.

An inspector from the post office department was in town Tuesday morning and found everything at the post office and on the rural routes in a very satisfactory condition.

Several gentlemen from Oswego and vicinity accompanied Fred Falk and Mayor Rieger to Texas last week. They expect to be gone about three weeks.

Newark: A destructive fire broke out at an early hour Friday morning, destroying a row of frame buildings on the south side of Front street occupied, respectively, as post office, restaurant and billiard parlor by Bean & Tendall; shoe shop and residence by James Newberry, and a small building used by M.S. Fries as a store room. Only a mass of smoldering ruin marks the spot, which formerly was active with business life.

February -- 1909

Feb. 3: Ed Gates moved Monday onto the John Hemm farm vacated by Harry Carrington.



The Lincoln Centennial, a union meeting of all the churches, will be held at the Evangelical church [Church of the Good Shepherd] Sunday evening, February 7. Several short addresses will be given and good music is being prepared...The several grades in our public school are arranging a Lincoln program to be given on his birthday.

Mr. L. Rank received an invitation to the wedding of Miss Grace Agnes, Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M.L. Ashley, formerly of this place, Feb. 3, at the home of the parents of the bride in Norwich, Kansas.

Feb. 10: Grant Whitlock has bought a farm near Middleville, Mich., and will move there the last of the month.

Charles Rieger and Fred Falk returned from Texas Wednesday. They were much pleased with the country.

Will Funk's team made a dash up through the street Monday afternoon, smashing a wheel and the wagon tongue. No one was injured by the runaway.

Charles H. Kiehl received a letter from his boyhood friend, Frank A. Vanderlip, now president of the National City Bank of New York.

Mr. and Mrs. Simpson and family have moved into their new home, the George D. Wormley farm. Mr. Simpson makes a specialty of raising Shetland ponies, has over 50 of the little animals at present.

Last Wednesday afternoon Miss Edna, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Burkhart, became the wife of Mr. Irwin Wolf, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Wolf.

The happy couple left on Thursday for points in Iowa. Upon their return they will go to housekeeping on a farm east of town owned by Mr. Burkhart, the bride's former home.

Yorkville: That such a state as Nevada should exist in these United States is a shame. With a population of about 50,000 they have two United States senators and one representative in the House. There should be some way by which this aggregation of rock and mountains could be dissolved.

Feb. 17: Frank Friebele recently purchased the Cowdrey farm.

Isaac Tripp and Roy Bower were initiated into the mysteries of Woodcraft Thursday evening.

Chris Herren Jr. will move to the farm lately vacated by B. Skeen, the Cowdrey farm, recently purchased by Frank Friebele.

Al Arneson of Aurora and M.J. Wormley have purchased a shoe store in Rochelle, and will take possession this week.

Oswego friends were shocked on Saturday morning upon hearing of the death of Mrs. Charles Clinton.

Hattie Porter Stoutemyer was born in Ohio June 18, 1837. She came to Oswego with her parents when a young lady, their home being the house now owned by J.C. Conway. In November 1857 she was married to Mr. Clinton and went to St. Louis where she resided during the war. While there, her only son, a little fellow about three years of age, was killed by the cars. Afterward they removed to New Orleans where they lived for 20 years. Later they removed to Cincinnati, expecting to live with their only daughter, but she died, and about five years ago they came to Oswego. Mrs. Clinton is survived by her husband, a sister in Seattle, Wash., and a sister, Mrs. Hugh McConnell of Chicago. The burial took remains being laid to rest by the side of her little son.

Joseph Hinchman was born in Corning, Steuben county, N.Y., in May 1844 and died in Oswego Thursday, Feb. 11, 1909, aged 64 years, 9 months, and 11 days. He came west with his parents when 4 years of age. He was married to Miss Jane Severance April 25, 1867. There are seven children living, Mrs. Robert Spain of Missouri, Eugene of Hinsdale, Hubert of Chicago, Loren of Wheatland, Mrs. Frank Swanson of Aurora, Mrs. Charles Friebele and Frank of Oswego; also several grandchildren.

Mr. and Mrs. Hinchman have lived in the old home for 32 years. Mr. Hinchman was in the Civil War, serving in Company C. 4th Illinois Cavalry for three years.

Married in the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. G.M. Croushorn Wednesday at high noon, Miss Sarah Croushorn and Mr. Ralph Norris.

Feb. 24: Henry Bower has bought two lots on Park avenue in the new addition.

Mrs. Huntoon has moved into her new house in Hawley's addition to Oswego.

West Roberts and family are now mourning the loss of their old white horse, which died Thursday night. She had been a faithful member of the family for more than 20 years.

Walter Heath, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank heath, was buried in the Oswego cemetery Tuesday afternoon. He was born on June 27, 1906 and died Feb. 21, 1909. The little fellow had had the measles, then pneumonia, and peritonitis followed.

March -- 1909

March 3: A nephew, Mr. Cameron, and his family have moved from Cincinnati to make their home with Mr. Clinton.

G.H. Voss was in Streator Thursday. He has leased the opera house there for the summer and will install a five-cent theater in it.

Dr. A.H. Churchill and family left the first of the week for their new home in Libertyville. Sorry to lose them. Success in their new home.

The supervisors and the highway commissioners met Tuesday and let the contract to the Joliet Bridge & Iron Co. for a new bridge over the drainage ditch near the Cliggitt farm.

John Schickler has lost the ledger from his place of business and is anxious to have it returned. Will the finder please leave it with Chas. Roberts and receive a liberal reward--no questions asked.

Fire was discovered in the Funk grocery store about 3 o'clock Friday morning by Mr. Haight...The fire was found near Mr. Funk's desk and luckily was discovered in time to permit the firemen to put out the blaze before a great deal of damage had been done to the building.

The Cowdrey Cemetery association last week purchased about one and one-fifth acre of land from Frank Friebele, which will be enclosed in the boundary of the association's burial plot east of Yorkville, and when contemplated improvements are completed it will be one of the prettiest bits of scenery on the Aurora and Yorkville line. The cemetery is situated in a field near the old Cowdrey farm, and consisted of about half an acre of land prior to the purchase last week. The place will be thoroughly cleaned up, new driveways and walks laid out, and a more convenient entrance effected from the highway by the opening of an approach, which is included in the property recently acquired. Trees and shrubs will be planted and the place given a general new appearance.

March 10: Miss Ella Fowler is the guest of her brother, Charles Fowler and wife.

Miss Mildred Fowler went to Chicago Monday where she has accepted a position.

Friday evening the members of the high school surprised George Pearce. Refreshments were served.

Wednesday was the 83rd birthday of Mrs. Elijah Hopkins and her friends remembered her with postal cards. She received 63 cards sent from many different states. Mr. and Mrs. William Winsor of Aurora and Mr. and Mrs. Victor Mather spent the day with her.

Tamarack and Wheatland: George and Robert LaDew and families drove to Montgomery Tuesday to see their aunt, Mrs. Burton Still, and her granddaughter, Loraine Taylor of Chicago, where visiting at the home of her sister, Mrs. Charles LaDew.

Miss Fern Gates of Oswego spent Saturday and Sunday with her sister, Mrs. Gilbert Collins.

Yorkville: R.C. Bibbins of the Newark post office was in Yorkville last week on his way home after being in Aurora to see the architect who has the plans in charge for the rebuilding of the Bibbins block in Newark to take the place of the frame structure, which was destroyed a month or so ago by fire. Mr. Bibbins says that almost all of the fire territory will be rebuilt. The fire was on the main business street of the town and the sites are the most valuable in the village. Mr. Bibbins's building will be of brick, two stories high, and thoroughly modern.

March 17: Albert Woolley is one of the Texas land seekers this week.

School is closed this week, and the teachers and pupils are enjoying a vacation.

Leonard Shoger Jr. has returned from Texas much pleased with the country.

Mr. Tom Collins was married last week to Miss Dollie Gowran of Sugar Grove. Both bride and groom are popular young people and the good wishes of their many friends go with them to their new home in Sugar Grove.

Miss Mary Hunt, a former Oswego girl, is publishing a book, the "Universal Bible. History and Her-story." Miss Hunt has made a study of science and scripture and in her book the two are harmonized, restated, and reinterpreted. Miss Hunt has lived in Aurora for several years past but is now making her home with her brother, Walter Hunt, and family.

Last Tuesday evening when Mr. W.J. Morse got home from his store, he found his home had been taken possession of by a merry group of people, mostly women. After much guessing on Mr. Morse's part, the guests unmasked and he found that each of the gentlemen had borrowed his wife's clothes for the evening.

The audience that witnessed the sleight of hand performance of Mr. Iliff Friday evening thoroughly enjoyed it. The whistling by Miss Maud Hume of Naperville was an unusual treat and she readily

responded to encores. The treasury of the XIX Century club will be enriched by nearly \$15, the proceeds of the entertainment.

Charles A. Payne died in Oswego on Sunday morning, March 14 after a lingering illness aged 35 years. He was born in Porter, Ind., Feb. 5, 1874. He leaves a wife and two children, Olga, 8 years and Harold, 5 years old. His mother is yet living, also a sister in California. Mr. Payne was a careful, industrious man devoted to his family and respected by his neighbors; this was shown by the large number of men at his funeral. Services were held in the Methodist church on Monday and the remains laid to rest in the Oswego cemetery.

Yorkville: Billy Sunday seems to be wonderfully familiar with the Lord God Almighty. To many who read and hear his epigrams, it sounds like blasphemy.

There is but one way to keep the Illinois legislature in session during the session--that is to take from them all railroad passes. If members had to pay fare to their homes every week, they would remain in Springfield. As it is, they not only use their passes to get home, but to visit other cities and different parts of the state as well, thus losing interest in the work of the state.

NaAuSay: Several from this neighborhood attended the funeral of Charles Payne in Oswego Monday.

March 24: Mrs. John Varner has accepted a position at the Rookery restaurant in Aurora.

Miss Gertrude Williams was sick and not able to teach the first of the week. Miss Orma Young taught for her.

Irvin Haines returned from his western trip a week ago and since then has been quite ill. He is still in a serious condition.

Charles Fowler is taking a two weeks' vacation from his store duties. Mr. Skeen is acting as assistant in the store during his absence.

Rudolph Knapp had the misfortune to lose the ends of two fingers on his left hand last Wednesday. He caught them in the sausage grinder.

Dr. and Mrs. Diddy arrived last week and are settled in their new home, recently vacated by Dr. Churchill.

Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Peshia will soon leave for their new home in Minnesota, so their friends are making them a farewell visit this evening.

Married at the parsonage by the Rev. G.C. Gasser on March 18, Mr. Otto Lippold of Bristol township and Miss Alma Johnson of Oswego. The young people will reside on the farm owned by Mrs. Frank Gates.

The body of Mrs. Ella Gibbons Goldstine of Chicago was brought here for burial Tuesday morning. She was a resident of Oswego when a girl, but had lived in Chicago for several years. Her grandfather, Mr. McNeill, ran the first daguerreotype gallery in Oswego. Mrs. Goldstine is survived by her husband, a son, her mother, and an aunt, Mrs. Henry Hopkins, all of Chicago.

March 31: William Funk has purchased the stock of dry goods owned by Jas. Foran.

Arthur Rowsell has finished his auctioneering course and came home from Chicago Saturday.

Harding Edwards has charge of the harness shop moved from the Johnston store in the Helle building.

Mrs. Anna Lester is quite ill and is staying with friends in Aurora.

Miss Allie Wald is the new clerk at the post office in place of Miss Richards, who is in the Aurora office.

Mr. Will Williams and Miss Margaret Lindemeier were married last week at the home of the bride's mother and are keeping house in the Williams house recently vacated by Orv Wormley.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Archie Price have recovered from the scarlet fever and the Doc Woolley family are out of quarantine. Mr. Price is home from the hospital and they are getting settled on the Tom Condon farm.

Mrs. Clarence Barnard has returned to her new home in Kirby, Wyo. Mr. Barnard has left the CB&Q R.R. where he was an auditor for several years and has accepted a much better position with a coal company at Kirby.

Miss Phoebe E. Boyd and Mr. Clarence Lyons were married Saturday afternoon. The bride has made her home with Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Darfler for several years. The groom is the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Lyons.

Rev. J.G. Butler had a birthday anniversary recently and his many friends and neighbors from far and near sent him beautiful reminders of their greetings and good will. Mr. Butler is sorely crippled from rheumatism, being unable to walk, but enjoys the bright days out doors in his wheeled chair.

Having sold out my business in Oswego I have 4 Oliver gang plows, 1 Oliver sulky plow and 2 walking plows that I will sell at wholesale price. These plows just arrived from the factory last week and can be seen at Shoger's livery barn.

April -- 1909

April 7: Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Gaylord and family and Miss Annie Gates moved to Montgomery this week.

Prof. Frank Cole signed a contract Friday to teach in Naperville next year.

Tom Dwyre and Miss Mary Lindemeier were married a few days ago and are making their home with the bride's mother.



Charles Woolley died Sunday night after a short illness from pneumonia. Mr. Woolley leaves a large circle of friends in Oswego, where he has spent his life, being born on the Woolley homestead out southeast of town on March 3, 1847. He was twice married. Four children of the first marriage survive him: Edward of Aurora, Walter and Raymond of Chicago, and Miss Lettie Allen Woolley of Chicago. In Nov. 1890, he married Miss Margaret Rees, who with a son, Oakley aged 15 years, are left to regret his loss. A daughter, Frances Vera, died in infancy. He leaves also two brothers, George of Aurora and L.M. of Oswego.

In yesterday's township elections, the straight Republican ticket carried the day with no opposition, with a total vote of 59. Officers are Supervisor, M.L. Wormley; town clerk, L.R. Inman; Assessor, Charles Roberts; collector, George White; for highway commissioner, W.W. Leigh; justice of the peace, Victor Mathers; constable, Frank Kanaka.

NaAuSay: Henry Hopkins is anticipating putting the hot water system of heat in his residence this spring.

April 14: John Cherry has improved his residence by the addition of a large porch.

A.E. Cooney caught the forefinger of his left hand in the seeder Saturday and had to have it amputated between the first and second joints.

NaAuSay: The wind storm that visited this section last Tuesday afternoon did a great deal of damage, such as destroying trees and blowing down sheds. Much damage was done to the sheds and corn cribs at Sherman Kellogg's.

Specie Grove: Henry Hopkins was in Sugar Grove Wednesday looking after his interests. The storm of Tuesday afternoon did considerable damage to the buildings on his farm there.

Aurora: John Anderson, whose mind had been affected, became violent today and armed himself with two pistols, a shotgun and three bombs, which he fastened to himself by means of a harness.

He started out to kill the residents of a city block in which he said malicious gossip concerning him had been circulated. He killed one woman, narrowly missed slaying her husband, wounded another woman, and then committed suicide.

April 21: Henry Rabe is on the sick list.

Charles Gray was up from the soldiers' home at Quincy last week.

The friends of Mrs. Anna Brown Lester were shocked to hear of her death, which occurred Sunday morning at the St. Charles hospital. Death resulted from a weakened heart caused by pneumonia. Mrs. Lester will be remembered by the early settlers of Kendall county as Anna Brown, a school teacher who served efficiently in the schools of Fox, Plano, and Oswego. While she was teaching in Oswego, Mrs. Lester won the title of The Oswego Heroine by saving one of her pupils from death on the railroad track. At the risk of her own life she got the child, unharmed, from the track but was injured herself, and suffered from the injury the rest of her life.

She was married to Dr. G.B. Lester about 18 years ago, and since his death has lived along in her late home. She became a member of the Methodist church in 1896, and has been a teacher in the Sunday school and was secretary of the WCTU of Oswego.

Mrs. Lester was about 70 years of age. She is survived by several brothers, sisters, nieces, and nephews. Funeral services were held at her late home, interment being in the Aurora cemetery.

In the spring municipal election, Charles Rieger was elected village president. Trustees elected included Charles Barker, Lewis Inman, Henry Bower, and Robert Johnston.

April 28: Dr. A.E. Van Deventer has purchased the Andrew Gray house occupied by Mr. Pehling.

Will those having books which belong to the traveling libraries return them. We want to exchange these trunks for new ones.

ANNA BROWN LESTER

Sketch of Her Life and Death--Was a  
Woman of Prominence in Kendall County

Mrs. Anna Brown Lester was born in Canada Nov. 1, 1841 and came with her parents to Kendall county in 1843, where she grew to maturity. In her youth she attended the Fowler Institute a Newark and became a teacher. She taught country schools in various parts of Kendall county and in DeKalb county, and later she taught in Plano, Oswego, Sandwich, Ashton in Lee county, and LaGrange in Cook county.

May 1, 1877 while teaching in Oswego, she took her pupils down the river for a May Day party in the woods. When returning to town they crossed a railroad bridge. Some of the pupils lingered behind. Jeff Carpenter's little boy was behind all the others. He stood upon the bridge. A train was approaching. Teacher and pupils called to the boy, but he became confused and stood still. The teacher rushed upon the bridge and rescued him by drawing him off, but she herself was struck by the engine. One of her feet was badly crushed, and she was hurled from the bridge, sustaining injuries from which she never recovered.

In July 1893 she married Dr. G.B. Lester of Oswego, who died in March 1895. Mrs. Lester lived in Oswego from the date of her widowhood and was prominent in church and society in that town. Sunday, March 28, she became sick at her Oswego home and on the following Tuesday went to Aurora to the G.W. Haskins family, who for years had been her special friends. While there, she called a doctor who said it was a case of pneumonia. She appeared to recover from this difficulty and gained for a few days, but was still very weak. Complications followed. On Thursday, the 15th, she was taken to the St. Charles hospital and died there Sunday, April 18, 1909 at 7:15 a.m. The end came peacefully and without a struggle. She retained consciousness almost to the last. From five to seven minutes before the spirit passed away from earth she said to Sister Delphina, "I have had a good rest and will take a good breakfast this morning."

Funeral services were held at her late residence, Oswego on Wednesday. At her request Rev. Mr. Nye, a Presbyterian minister, formerly of Sandwich, officiated, assisted by the Methodist pastor, N.M. Stokes of Oswego. She was buried in the West Aurora cemetery.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Stewart are the parents of a daughter, born on Tuesday, April 20.

Specie Grove: Walter Cornell from the Minkler school took his eighth grade examination at the courthouse Saturday and then took dinner with his teacher, Miss Estelle Atherton.

Joseph Holderman and R.D. Gates are putting up new windmills.

Yorkville: Oliver Burkhart and Glenn Gabel went to Chicago Saturday and drove home the latter's new automobile.

Andrew Brown was in Yorkville on Monday morning on his way to Oswego, where he is assisting Mrs. Nettleton of Ashton in taking care of their sister's, Mrs. Lester's, effects.

The Illinois Supreme Court handed down a decision Friday that reversed the Morgan Creek drainage case and found for the defendant, F.O. Hawley. The commission, represented by Raymond & Newhall, had won the case in the Kendall county court, in the appellate court, and in the supreme court last December. Attorney Switzer, for the defendant, asked a rehearing in the supreme court and won it with the result above. This decision will likely throw the whole litigation back to the county court for retrial unless Raymond is able to get a second rehearing in the supreme court.

F.O. Hawley, in the origin of the case, had refused to pay his assessment levied by the commission, and has fought it hard. The contention has raised a great deal of interest among the farmers interested in similar drainage cases.

May -- 1909

May 5: Winfield Clark is manager of the Voss barber shop. Mr. Voss will be away most of the summer looking after his theater interests.

Dr. Will Lester of Onalaska, Wis., was here on business the first of the week.

The warm spring day Tuesday was instrumental in making a good attendance at the Congregational dinner.

Charles Turpin of Halbrite, Canada was here the first of the week to see his mother.

Thuro Carlson, lately of the U.S. Navy, has been a visitor at Gus Pearson's.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Parkhurst are mourning the death of their infant child. The little one was buried in the Cowdrey cemetery Tuesday afternoon.

Mrs. George Troll has been enjoying a visit from her brother, Arnold Ryan. He is first-class fireman on the USS Virginia and has been granted a furlough to visit his relatives here. In August, the Virginia with four other battleships will leave Hampton Roads to join the squadron on the Pacific Coast.

NaAuSay: James C. Vinson, son of William and Mary Vinson, was born at Prince Edward Island on Aug. 14, 1841 and departed this life April 23, 1909, aged 67 years 8 months and 9 days. When a small boy he came with his parents to Kendall County in `844, where he spent the remainder of his life, the Angel of Death calling his mother home when he was only four years old. He was united in marriage to Mary Ellen Vickery Feb. 3, 1864. To this union were born eight children, six of whom are still living and with his loving wife, her sister, Miss Hattie Vickery, and brother Edward were all gathered around him at the time of his death, except his eldest son, John W. of Elam, Kansas. Besides these to mourn his loss he leaves a sister, Mrs. Ann Wills of Elyria, Ohio; a brother, Joe Vinson of San Antonio, Tex.; and 18 grandchildren. He was a constant attendant at the Aux Sable Grove Presbyterian church until last October when he was taken ill with heart trouble and dropsy. The funeral was held at the NaAuSay church Tuesday forenoon.

Tamarack and Wheatland; The storms of last week did considerable damage to the telephone service, and many are entirely cut off and will be for some time as so many poles were broken off, particularly near Plainfield, where the storm seemed worse.

Yorkville: April 1909 has set a record for rainfall in this part of the country that will be hard to beat. Beside the amount of water the

fall, the month has been remarkable for the wind storms. The one of April 6 caused a great amount of damage to farm buildings and telephones. Thursday night, April 29, was another day of wind. Early in the evening there was a big storm of wind and rain coming from the south and west that nearly duplicated the damage of the earlier storm. The street car company suffered severely and the schedule was broken, some passengers were from 9 o'clock till after midnight getting home from Aurora.

Joseph Rubenstein has rented the store at 16 Downer Place, Aurora, next to Pederson & Holslag's, and will run a tailor shop where he will do all kinds of tailoring for ladies and gentlemen. He asks all his Yorkville patrons to call and see him at his new place of business. Mr. Rubenstein has been in Yorkville two or three years and has given satisfaction with his work.

"Thor. The Motorcycle Supreme."

Call or write me for prices and catalogs. F.A. Leverich, agent for Kendall County.

May 12: Charles Schultz has rented the Peshia house and will again become a resident of our town.

Miss Fannie Gregg closed her school in the Walker district Friday with a picnic in the school yard.

Miss Clara Minkler of Lake City, Ia., formerly of Oswego, was married to Mr. Edward Finch May 9. Mr. and Mrs. Finch will live in Aurora.

George R. Minkler, a former resident of Oswego, died at the home of his son, Will, in Lake City, Ia., Tuesday, May 4. He was ill but one week. Mr. Minkler was 88 years of age. He leaves a widow, four daughters, and three sons to mourn his loss.

Yorkville: The Aurora, Elgin & Chicago railroad company have asked the Yorkville board of trustees to permit them to carry freight and express to and from Yorkville in connection with their regular passenger service.

This request by the railroad company is at the instigation of Fred G. Young, of the Yorkville creamery and electric light plant. He wishes

a better outlet for the products of the creamery that he may build up a larger business. At present, it is said, Mr. Young is holding up some important contracts until he finds whether he will be permitted to use the electric line.

A short time ago, a party of the railroad officials were in Yorkville and upon the agreement of Mr. Young to furnish the land, they said they would run a spur to the creamery and build a freight shed, where all incoming and outgoing freight could be left for the special freight car, which would be put in service that the passengers might not be discommoded. This would do away with the unsightly piles of ice cream tubs and bread baskets, which are now left standing at the corner of Bridge and Van Emon streets.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Farmers are busy in the corn fields these days.

Yorkville: Sheriff Normandin and his assistants are fixing up the new fireproof vault in the basement of the courthouse with a lot of shelving on which to store many old books and records that are lumbering up the rooms of the clerks above. The sheriff is a master hand with almost any kind of work. It was not possible to get carpenters at this time to make the shelves.

May 19: Miss Mary Cutter leaves Thursday for Champaign to attend the Interscholastic Athletic Meet. She will be the guest of her brother Watts Cutter Jr.

Misses Bushnell, Fellows, and Lowry have been reelected to teach in their respective rooms in the Oswego school next year.

The number of voters in Oswego has recently been increased by the arrival of a son at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Woolley and a son at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hinchman. If woman's suffrage wins in Illinois, the little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Woolley may cast her vote with the boys.

Fred Hoch, the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. John Hoch, died at the St. Charles hospital Sunday night. He, with his younger brother, was shooting gophers Sunday afternoon and in getting through a hedge, the gun was accidentally discharged, the charge striking Fred,

severing an artery at the knee. The brother ran a half mile to the house and gasped the facts to his father and fell exhausted to the floor. Mr. Hoch immediately started to get Fred but was unable to find him for some time. Dr. Drew was called and the lad was taken to the St. Charles hospital where a temporary operation was performed but the boy died at 3 o'clock from shock and loss of blood. The funeral was held at the German church this afternoon, the burial taking place in the Oswego cemetery.

Yorkville: Highway commissioner Smith of Oswego was in Yorkville the other day and said that the new bridge across the drainage ditch in his town will soon be in place. It is to be something of a novelty here--will be a span of 45 feet, resting on the abutments running across level--not the usual arch concrete bridge. It will be reinforced with steel rods, and the state engineer says it will be firm and safe. The Joliet Bridge Company has the contract.

May 26: Mrs. Nancy Danforth of Milwaukee is the guest of Mrs. Louise Kennedy.

Andrew Burkhart of Dwight, a brother of Leonard Burkhart Sr., died at his home Tuesday, May 25.

Oswego and NaAuSay teams will play ball in Oswego the afternoon of Decoration Day.

Miss Pearl Chase has resigned her position with the Northwestern Telephone Company and is enjoying a vacation at home.

Fred M. Hock, son of John and Fredericka Hoch, was born at Oswego March 16, 1894 and died from the effects of an accidental gunshot wound in the hospital at Aurora on May 17, 1909. He leaves to mourn his departure his sorrow stricken parents, four brothers, three sisters, three uncles, three aunts, and numerous other friends and relatives.

Yorkville: EARTHQUAKE IN KENDALL

Yorkville and vicinity was visited by an earthquake shock this morning about 9 o'clock that brought everyone to their doors with a start. The feeling was as of an immense explosion and the buildings



were rocked throughout the village. The quake visited all the country surrounding, Chicago, Aurora, Joliet, Oswego, Newark, in fact all of Kendall county and surrounding country was shocked. No one was hurt, so far as can be learned, but it is said that glass was broken and chimneys shaken down in some localities.

June -- 1909

June 2: The Hoard place has been sold to Mr. McDaniels.

The weather man sent a much-needed rain on the WCTU and rather spoiled the institute held here last week.

The earthquakes of last Wednesday and Friday mornings furnished the topic for conversation this past week. No damage was reported on either day.

Decoration Day was observed here Saturday afternoon, services being held at the Congregational church. After the exercises, Marshall George White formed the old soldiers, Woodmen, and school children into line and they marched to the cemetery, keeping step to the inspiring music of the *Enterprise* band of Aurora. Flowers were placed on each soldier's grave by the school children.

June 9: Mr. and Mrs. H.B. Read saw the watercolor exhibit at the Art Institute in Chicago Wednesday.

Captain Clinton has returned from a trip to Cincinnati.

The annual meeting of the alumni of Oswego high school will be held June 18.

Miss Grace Pearce will teach sixth grade in the South Evanston school next year.

Rev. J.T. Hood gave a fine address to the members of the graduating class Sunday evening.

Commencement Exercises will be held at the Congregational church Thursday evening, June 10: Program: instrumental solo, Myrtle Croushorn; chorus, "Flower Song;" salutatory, Agnes L Condon; duet, "Merry June," Bernice Hem and Beulah Pearce; address, "The Abundant Life," N.D. Gilbert; instrumental solo, Gretchen Cutter; valedictory, Edith Z. Burkhart; chorus, "Away to the Fields, Away;" presentation of diplomas, Supt. F.W. Cole.

June 16: Mr. and Mrs. J.D. Russell attended the commencement exercises of the Northwestern academy at Evanston. Their daughter, Ruth, was one of the graduates. Harold and Ruth are home for the summer vacation.

Rudolph Knapp and Charles Weber have purchased new automobiles.

Miss Frances Lane closed her school in the Cutter district Friday and on Saturday pupils and parents picnicked at Mrs. Fritz Lindemeier's. Miss Mary Cutter will teach the school next year.

Clarence Schickler has returned from school at Notre Dame.

The 22 annual meeting of the alumni will be held in the club room Friday evening, June 18.

Fred Willis received word Monday of the death of his mother at her home in the southern part of the state. Rev. and Mrs. Willis lived here some time ago when Mr. Willis published the *Oswego Herald*.

The 21st annual commencement of the Oswego high school was held in the Congregational church. Of the many boys who ought to have been in the class of 1909, but one was left, Adelbert Richards, to sail with the girls out of the harbor into life's sea. Agnes L. Condon, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Will Condon gave the salutary; Edith Z Burkhart, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Burkhart, gave the valedictory. Esther Hill, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carson Hill; Adelbert Richards, son of Mr. and Mrs. H.S. Richards; and Helen Dwyre, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Dwyre, were the other graduates.

The tenth annual gathering of the F.F. club, composing a few of the schoolmates of the 'old stone school house days," was entertained Saturday June 12, at the home of their president, Josie Forbes Hall. Nineteen girls were invited to the first gathering in 1900. During the intervening time there have been the names of 39 school girls in attendance. After the first year, the school boys were also invited, seven joining the girls that one day of the year and enjoying it equally with the girls. Thirty, counting the husbands of some of the girls, were present on Saturday.

Tamarack and Wheatland: The Wilcox school closed Friday with a picnic at the school house Miss Elsie Collins, who finishes her second year there, will teach the McMicken school next year. Miss Irena Young of Oswego will teach the Wilcox school next year.

June 23: Myron Wormley entertained Mr. Charles Bennett over Sunday. Mr. Bennett once owned the Levi Gorton place but is now one of the York State folks.

Frank Woolley is learning the barber's trade at Voss's shop and is staying at Winfield Clark's.

Mrs. Danforth and daughter of South Bend, Ind., are spending several weeks with her cousins, Mr. and Mrs. Drew.

John Seely has finished his course in the University of Illinois and is home for the summer.

One of Oswego's old and respected citizens, died Tuesday night Mr. Michael Shoger, aged 78 years. The funeral will be held from the house Friday and at the German Evangelical church. Deceased leaves two daughters, Mrs. Fred Mundsinger and Miss Carrie Shoger.

Yorkville: The state legislature at its last session adopted a bill presented by Rep. Scanlan authorizing the appointment of a committee to investigate the adaptability of Starved Rock and other regions for state park purposes. The bill has been signed by Gov. Deneen, and it is to be hoped that the efforts of the preservation of Starved Rock will not have been in vain.

June 30: The marriage of Miss Odessa Hayes of Chicago to Albert White took place Wednesday, June 23. The ceremony was performed at the home of the groom's brother, Arthur White, Rev. D. Daniels of Aurora officiating. The young couple will make their home in Oswego.

Henry Sanders is in town on business regarding the settling of his sister's estate.

Cards have been received announcing the marriage of Miss Belle Wormley, a former Oswego girl, to Mr. George Hartgrove at Salt lake City, June 27. The young couple will reside at Gold springs, Utah.

John Michael Shoger

The funeral of John Michael Shoger was held June 25 at the German Evangelical church.

He was born on March 8, 1831 in Wirtenberg, Germany and departed this earthly life June 22, 1909 at Oswego at the age of 78 years, 3 months, 14 days. He immediate cause of his death was pneumonia.

In 1856 he came to America and located in the vicinity of Oswego, thus residing in or near Oswego for over 50 years or unto the end of his days.

July 3, 1858 he was married to Margaretha Weiskopf at Oswego. This union was blessed with four children, Michael Shoger of Wheatland, Mrs. Fred Mundsinger of Oswego, and Miss Carrie Shoger of Oswego. One daughter and his life companion preceded him in the world beyond.

July -- 1909

July 7: Charles Shoger is the owner of a new auto.

Charles Knapp entertained a nephew from Nebraska last week.

Miss Mary Cutter attended the picnic of the Fox River Dentists at Powatomie park Wednesday.

Oliver Leigh is numbered with the sick. Charles Rieger was under the care of a physician the last of the week.

NaAuSay: The stork visited three homes here the past week and left a little girl at Julius Schlapp's, a young son at Lawrence Testin's, and a little girl at Mr. Gylispie's.

Irma Walk died Monday morning, July 5 after a severe illness of three weeks. Early in the spring she had an attack of tonsillitis, which left her in a weakened condition, this, later on, developed into inflammatory rheumatism and heart trouble. She was the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Wald of Specie Grove and was 15 years of age. She was a pupil of the Oswego high school and had she lived would have been in the junior class next year. A father, mother, two sisters, and two young brothers are left to mourn. Her schoolmates of the Cutter school and of the Oswego high school are the pall-bearers and 12 girl friends will carry flowers. She will be laid to rest in the Oswego cemetery.

Yorkville: Among those who attended the celebration at Riverview park Monday evening were Lucille Armbruster, Jean McOwan, Maggie Gooch, and Dorothy Morrison; William Hill, Charlie Schumacher, and Everett and Lyle Morrison.

There will be a public barn dance at the farm of Charles L. Gates on Thursday evening, July 8. Everybody invited.

#### CATCHING CLAMS FOR PEARL BUTTONS

A New Industry in Yorkville that Promises to Grow. Rake Clams and Sell Shells to Factory.

Fox river is being raked in the neighborhood and is giving up its wealth of clam shells to the manufacturers of the pearl button.

About a month ago two young men, Milo Smith and Harry Rogers of Muscatine, Iowa, came to Yorkville and began to prospect for clams. Last week they shipped their first carload of shells and already there are two more parties of men interested. The river is rich in shells of the class that is required for the industry. Smith and Rogers, were about some time before they began active operations, but are now employing five or six men in the business. The raker goes out in a boat and scoops the clams out of the water and throws them in a

pile. They are then taken to the shore where the raker is paid for them by the hundred pounds. Then they are steamed until the shells are opened and the clam is taken out and the shell is ready for shipment to the factory. Here they are cut into the size of the button required and finished, the polish being one of the delicate parts of the operation. Lawrence Hafenrichter has been working with them for some weeks and he has added much to his stock of river pearls. Friday of last week the men loaded a car and shipped it to the factory at Muscatine. It is possible, should the supply of clams continue, that this nucleus may grow into a full fledged button factory in Yorkville.

July 14: The patrons of H.B. Read have grown accustomed to seeing a familiar face which has been missing in the store since Wednesday night. The black and white cat, Tom, who has made his home there for 12 years, was run over by a carriage and had to be chloroformed

Charles Knapp is putting new plate glass windows in Knapp's market and Croushorn's furniture store.

George White is night operator at the Chicago Telephone central during the action of Arthur Riemenschneider.

Henry Hafenrichter of Wheatland has bought the Peshia House.

Frank Kenyon has moved from Aurora into the Mather house.

Perhaps no other town of this size in the state has so few fires as does Oswego. So we were startled on Tuesday morning when the fire bell rang. A quick run was made with the hose cart toward Mrs. Jensen's where the summer kitchen had caught fire. The flames were extinguished by neighbors before the hose company reached the house and but a little damage was done.

Emery Ellsworth Wormley was born in Oswego June 23, 1861; was the youngest child of George and Hannah Wormley. He resided at Oswego till he was about two years of age when he came to Shabbona to live with his sister, Mrs. Jacob Heldebrant, where he made his home until 1884. Feb. 16, 1884 he was married to Miss Caroline Buck. To this union three sons were born--Harry Ellsworth,

Emery Austin, and Orville LeRoy--who are all at home with their mother.

Irma Emma Wald, the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Wald, was born at Oswego April 23, 1894 and passed away July 5, 1909. The cause of her death was inflammatory rheumatism and neuralgia of the heart.

NaAuSay: A baby girl arrived at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Wheeler last week.

Mrs. Gertie Johnson entertained the Soap club one afternoon last week.

Irene Powers, who has been ill for several weeks, died Wednesday and was buried Friday at the Catholic cemetery in Joliet. She was a very sweet, intelligent girl, aged 19, and a great favorite with the young people. She had been suffering with goiter for several months which poisoned her system causing her death. She was to have been married very soon, which makes her death doubly sad. A father, mother, and three brothers are left to mourn. The funeral services were held at the Catholic church at Plainfield Friday morning.

Yorkville: Miss Nannie L. Hill spent Thursday at The Elms with an Aurora party camping there at present.

It is said that there has been a man in the vicinity of Yorkville the past week taking orders for whisky. This is against the local option law.

July 21: Robert [Robinson B.] Murphy of Front Royal, Va. and his sister, Mrs. Fannie Holyoke of Topeka, Kan. were calling on friends here the last of the week.

Mr. Adam Armstrong was out from Chicago over Sunday.

Mrs. Scott Cutter is hostess to the Wigwam club this afternoon.

Ice cream and home made cake, "like mother used to make," at the social at Gus Welz's Saturday evening. Generous dishes of cream and

delicious cake for 10-cents. Think of it! Served by the ladies of the Methodist church at Gus Welz's.

Miss Hilda Biesemeier has resigned her position with the Chicago Telephone company.

Mr. and Mrs. W.J. Morse and family went to Dundee last Saturday and attended the wedding of their sister, Miss Luella Morse, to Mr. John McMurtrie. After a short wedding trip, they leave here for their new home in Tucumcari, N. Mex.

The funeral of Mrs. Mary Olson, wife of Nels A. Olson, was held on Sunday afternoon from the Presbyterian church. Mrs. Olson had been a patient sufferer for several months, being afflicted with dropsy. The end came Friday evening. She leaves to mourn her loss her husband, two sons—Albin and Carl—and a brother—George Benson of Moline. The Tirzah Rebecca lodge of Aurora, of which she was a member, has charge of the services. The Nordens Soner of Aurora also attended in a body. She was laid to rest in the Oswego cemetery.

NaAuSay: Mr. and Mrs. George Kahle are rejoicing over the arrival of a baby girl at their home last week.

Yorkville: Comrade Nathan Hughes was in on Thursday. He bears his age well and is enjoying good health.

Harvester whips, 25 cents at L.W. Mason's, Yorkville.

July 28: Reuben and Clarence Parkhurst have joined the ranks of autoists, having each bought a new machine.

Mr. and Mrs. Amos Parkhurst and Mrs. Royce Smith and son left on Friday for an outing at Lake Chautauqua, N.Y.

George Greenawalt has bought the Tom Hunt farm east of Aurora taking possession the first of March.

Tom Sheffield went to Oklahoma last week where he will practice his profession of veterinary surgeon.



Dr. J. Newton Pearce of Iowa City, Iowa is visiting his father, Mr. James Pearce.

Miss Pearl Chase is the operator at the office of the Inter-State telephone company during the absence of Miss Johnston.

Miss Orma Young has resigned her position as relief operator at the Inter-State telephone office.

Mr. John Herren Sr. died Saturday morning after an illness of several months duration. He was born at Muchlenberg, Canton Berne, Switzerland April 10 1833. He came to America in 1854 and located near Oswego. In 1869 he married Miss Anna Magdalena Beck at Joliet. Six children were born to them--four sons and two daughters, the wife and two sons preceding him to the world beyond. Mr. Herren was reared in the Lutheran faith. A brother in Canada and a sister and brother in Plainfield; four children, a son John in Chicago, Charles and Miss Ella in Aurora, and Miss Mary, who cared for him survive him. The funeral was held from his late home Monday. Interment was at Plainfield by the side of his wife, whose death preceded his by seven years.

Yorkville: It is to laugh. There's a tappin' on the wall. Listen. Mr. Mewhirter won because about 900 men thought he was the best man in the field. Mr. George Mewhirter, Democrat, was elected county judge of Little Kendall—on a Democratic ticket. No subterfuge.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Mildred and Florence LaDew have returned from a three weeks' visit at the home of their grandparents in Montgomery. Their brother, Clarence, spent the same time at the home of his uncle, Robert LaDew. Their mother, Mrs. George LaDew, has returned home after two weeks spent in a hospital in Aurora where she underwent an operation July 7.

Farmers were so busy last week in putting up hay and commencing oat harvest that news is rather scarce.

NaAuSay: The Howell, Seely, and Vickery families accompanied the automobilists from Plattville and Seward to Starved Rock one day last week.

Several from here attended the tent show at Plainfield Saturday evening. The troupe played Uncle Tom's Cabin.

August -- 1909

Aug. 4: Mr. and Mrs. H.B. Read left this morning for a two weeks vacation on the Island of Mackinac.

Miss Alice Updike and her brother Albert visited their mother in Elgin Thursday.

The wind of Thursday night blew down several large trees and broke limbs off many more. The worst damage was done on the schoolhouse grounds. At Leonard Burkhart's a tree was blown onto the kitchen roof knocking the chimney through the attic, some of the bricks falling into the kitchen below.

The cornerstone for the new Zion Evangelical Church of Oswego Prairie will be laid Sunday, Aug. 8.

Aug. 11: Charles Fowler has sold his interest in the store to W.J. Morse.

The Williams stable has been rented to the Huntoon Bros.

Mrs. Mary Gaylord has accepted a position as night operator for the Chicago telephone company in Aurora.

Clement Morrison has bought the Sanders house from Mrs. John Bell and will move it to a lot near James Morrison's.

Kendall County Day at the Aurora Chautauqua was poorly attended, according to *The Record*, due to the heat. "There are still four good days for one to attend the Chautauqua," *The Record* reported.

Aug. 18: Henry Bower has a new five-passenger automobile.

Considerable excitement was aroused in the new addition Thursday morning with a Scotch Collie puppy owned by Winfield Clark suddenly went mad. Several men soon arrived on the scene and the dog was shot.

The remains of Mr. George A. Race of San Antonio, Tex. were brought here Monday morning for burial. Mr. Race was born in Dundee, Ill. June 18, 1834. When a small child he came with his mother to Oswego where he lived for many years. He served during the Civil War in the 10th Illinois Infantry attaining the rank of Major. After the war he resided here until about 40 years ago when he moved to Houston, Tex. Interment took place in the Oswego cemetery by the side of his mother who died here 26 years ago. His old regimental flag was placed over the casket and buried with him.

Yorkville: For two weeks the laborers of the street car company have been busy raising the tracks of the company on Van Emmon Street to the street level and as soon as this work is completed the street will be filled in. This raising of the level will cause the relaying of the brick walk on the south side of the street and the raising or going away with the old water tank that has been a place of pleasant memory to all horses for years.

Aug. 25: William Dwyre is able to get down town but is still very sore from the injuries received in the automobile accident.

Mrs. Kate Austin and children returned to their home in Washington, D.C. last week.

Oswego was well represented on each day at the Chautauqua.

Yorkville: Can't we revive the Old Settlers' Reunion for Kendall County Our people, especially the older ones, are anxious for an old time gathering where they can swap yarns. We are growing stagnant socially and losing our one-time enthusiasm for our own home folks.

The oat yield this season was immense and the corn crop bids fair to be a record-breaker. There is no prettier or better country on earth in which to live, and "little old Kendall" is good enough for anyone.

It is 50 years ago this month that kerosene, which had theretofore been in vogue only as a remedial agent, began to be noted by the papers as coming into use for illuminating purposes in place of "camphene" and "burning fluid." [Camphine is also called oil of turpentine. Burning fluid was a mixture of alcohol and camphene. According to Wikipedia, burning fluid's use as a lighting fuel "was limited by its explosiveness."]

September -- 1909

Sept. 1: School opened Monday morning and a happy lot of pupils wended their way to the schoolhouse to begin another year's work. The various rooms have been redecorated, the roof has been repaired and painted, and various other improvements about the building have been made during the summer.

Leonard Burkhart has been in Minnesota several days looking after his farming interests.

Surveyors are busily at work on the new drainage ditch along the Waubonsie creek. This ditch will reclaim many acres of land in the Binder slough and along the many curves of the creek. The outlet of the ditch will be on the farm owned by Fred Pearce.

Pearl fishing, the craze now, can be made very sportive if you know how. A party, including the mayor, went out on the river in a boat to engage in it. Spying a clam, he showed how it may be secured by getting all the sport out of it that is in the business. The sport was all with the other fellows; the mayor had to go home for a change of clothes.

The marriage of Miss Mabel Lantz to William Holzhueter occurred in Aurora at St. Paul's church Thursday afternoon at four o'clock. A wedding reception was held at the home of the bride's parents in

the evening. The young people are taking an extended western trip, after which they will reside in Aurora.

Post office inspector Mahin visited the Oswego post office Monday and seemed to be well pleased with the service here, especially the RFD service. He was somewhat surprised to see Mr. Croushorn, carried No. 1, turn into the post office at 12 o'clock from serving a route of 24 miles with an automobile, and Mr. Cherry next with a good team of horses at 1:30 o'clock from a 24 mile route, and Mr. Welz next with a 25-1/2 mile route at 2 o'clock. Mr. Mahin thinks it will not be long before all rural carriers in northern Illinois will be using automobiles.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Weber went over to Plainfield in their auto on Sunday.

Oswego people who were in town Friday seeing had the pleasure of seeing William Jennings Bryan. Mr. Bryan was enroute from Ottawa to Elgin and stopped here for a few minutes.

Now what do you know about that? There has been more or less pearl hunting near here for several months, but since the lucky find made by Raymond Ness on Saturday--woe be unto the few remaining in clams. Saturday afternoon, Ness opened a small shell and out rolled a pearl that weighed 32 grains. It is nearly round and a pink pearl. Monday, William Strokmeier of Muscatine, Iowa came to town and gave Ness \$725 for it. Trask & Plain and other Aurora jewelers had given offers on it but not so much as the Iowa buyer gave. [\$750 in 1909 would be worth \$17,100 in 2009 dollars.]

Sept. 8: The first entertainment of the lecture course will be given at the Presbyterian church Thursday evening, Oct. 21. The evening's program will be furnished by the Welsh singers.

Sept. 15: Embury & Co. began work on the cement walks in the new [Park] addition Monday.

Miss Ruth Schickler is attending St. Mary's school in Aurora.

Mr. Burrell, the shoe cobbler, has returned after a vacation trip to Chicago and Cincinnati where he visited his children.

The cellar and foundation of the new house being built by Mrs. John Bell are completed and carpenters will begin work this week.

Charles Schultz is excavating for a new house to be erected in the Hawley edition.

The pretty bungalow being built by Mrs. Lida Matthews is nearing completion.

Tuesday morning some men prepared to erect a signboard on the Jewell property now owned by F.O. Hawley. Posts had been set and the framework begun when Mr. Hawley appeared on the 9:30 street car and ordered them to stop work. He said he would not have the town made hideous by signboards. Although a resident of Wheaton, Mr. Hawley still has an affection for his old home.

Huntoon Bros. have bought the livery business of Charles Shoger,

Sept. 22: Dr. T.B. Drew and family now ride in a five passenger auto.

Mrs. H.G. Smith returned last week from nearly a two years' residence with her sister, Mrs. Frank Huyck, at Sheridan, N.Y. After a visit with friends here she will go to St. Paul and spend the winter with her sister, Mrs. Frank Fullen.

John Russell went to Chicago last week and purchased a five passenger automobile.

Messrs. J.A. Manning and Ed Bundy, accompanied by a party of Aurora men, left for the Saskatchewan country last night.

The large barn on the Martin farm burned down last week and several head of cattle burned with it.

Oswego was well represented at the [Wheatland] plowing match Saturday.

Tamarack and Wheatland: A great many attended the Plainfield fair last week and reported good crowds and fine exhibits.

The Wheatland plowing match passed off very nicely last Saturday with nice weather, large crowd, and many exhibits, many coming to the Lombard farm from a distance in automobiles.

Yorkville: Henning C. Rehbehn and Miss Emma Stoleman were married at Geneva yesterday. The groom is employed in the clam shell industry in Yorkville, and the bride is from Muscatine, Iowa. A short time ago the elder brother of the groom was married to a Muscatine young lady and Tuesday the younger man followed his example.

Sept. 29: Word has been received here of the birth of a little son to Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Burkhart at St. Paul, Minn.

J.A. Manning, Ed Bundy, and a party from Aurora returned Sunday from Saskatchewan, Canada. They were highly pleased with the country. The crops are in and plenty of coal can be had at the mines at \$1.75 per ton. Mr. Manning has a fine quality of land to show and would be pleased to talk with anyone interested in the country. He will personally conduct anyone to the Northwest who wishes to go.

Rev. H.J. Soltau of Grove Lake, Minn., and Miss Edna K. Hummel of Oswego were united in marriage on Sept. 24 at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Hummel. Mr. Soltau is the acceptable pastor of the Methodist church at Grove Lake and the bride is the very accomplished and respected daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Hummel of Oswego. She is thoroughly qualified to assume the duties of a pastor's wife.

Yorkville: The frost on Monday morning was not so serious as was anticipated. Only a few of the more tender plants were injured, and that only in spots.

The ground north of the Yorkville railroad station belongs to the Knickerbocker Ice Company. It is an eyesore to the people of the village and displeasing to those who travel on trains because they would like to see a pretty river scene when the trains stops here.

Yorkville has no park--has no convenience if they would take a spot where our folks can conveniently reach the river shore. It would be a pleasure if we had a nice place along the river front, reaching from the dam to the old City hotel. Why not?

The Yorkville photographer, Charles E. Jessup, has received the appointment from Washington as rural mail carrier on Route 3 out of Yorkville. Charlie has been impelled to take outdoor work on account of his health--the confinement of the studio has impaired his strength.

October -- 1909

Oct. 6: Charles Bohn has sold his property, the old Parker grist mill, and will go to Milwaukee to reside near his son Charles.

The motorman on the Aurora car going up at half past three Monday noticed some planks smoldering in the middle of the bridge. He stopped the car the conductor got the fire extinguisher and extinguished the blaze. The fire probably started from a cigar or blazing match. Pretty dry these days and every one should be careful.

Double trading stamps given with ever cash purchase made on Saturday, Oct. 9--\$2 in stamps for every \$1 purchase. Morse & Fowler, Oswego.

Yorkville: Comrade Frank Pinney, commander of Yorkville Post G. A. R., has received a letter from C. F. Fairbanks, Assistant Adjunct General of the Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Grand Army of the Republic, making some inquiries as to the death of the late comrade Tripp of this place. As the letter is interesting to many of our people, *The Record* publishes it as follows:

Frank W. Pinney Commander  
Post No. 522, Yorkville, Ill.

Dear Comrade: -I have just been looking over the Journal of Proceedings of the Encampment of Illinois held at Aurora, and in looking over the mortuary list I found the name of Perry G. Tripp of your post, he having died March 24th the year not given. Perry and



myself have marched many a day side by side. He was a member of my Company E, 13th Illinois Infantry.

I have been living in Georgia ever since the war, and while I have kept up with many of the boys, I have not with Perry Tripp. I have often wondered what had become of him, and knowing that he was the oldest man in the company when we enlisted I naturally supposed that he had passed away long ago. I should like very much to know the year he died and his age at the time of his death and any other facts about him that may be of interest to one of his old comrades. I have the names of the original muster roll of Company E and am trying to keep up with all old boys, although there is but a corporal's squad left now of the 100 whom started out together on May 24, 1861. I had one of the old boys with me for a few months last winter that was then 75, but if I am not mistaken Perry was near 90. Our company was made up at Sandwich. I enlisted, however, from Chicago. My former home was at Beloit, Wis.

Perry Tripp was one of the most faithful and reliable soldiers in our company. He was always in his place and ready for duty, and one of the first to reach camp after a hard days march. Peace to his ashes.

Hoping to hear from you at no distant day. I remain,

Yours in F. C. and L,

C. F. Fairbanks

The section men on the Fox River road working from Yorkville are having it pretty nice. No more do they pump the old hand car; the company has furnished the men with a flat car driven by a gasoline engine and they go to and from their work with the ease of the high-rollers on the road. It is much better and saves time.

Oct. 13: Henry Burkhart has bought the old German Prairie church and is moving it to his farm.

Miss Maude Pearce is operator at the Northern Illinois Telephone in place of Miss Pearl Chase who resigned.

Rev. E.J. Laird, who has been appointed pastor of the Methodist church of Oswego is a member of the Des Moines, Iowa conference but for the present is taking a course of special study at Evanston and so can supply this charge.

Rev. N.M. Stokes, who has served the Methodist Church at Oswego for three years he was granted a supernumerary relation by the Rock River Conference by which he retires from the active work of the ministry for the present. This action was taken on account of the continued prostration of Mrs. Stokes. They will continue to occupy the parsonage in Oswego.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hemm had a narrow escape from death Friday evening. They were coming from Aurora in their auto when they reached the railroad track a switch engine struck them. The auto was caught on the cowcatcher and carried nearly to the depot. Mrs. Hemm jumped out and was badly bruised. She was taken to Mrs. Corneils' where she remained several days. Mr. Hemm stuck to the machine and was not injured. The auto was badly damaged.

Friday noon an exciting runaway occurred. The driver of one of the Aurora oil wagons left his team in the alley back of George White's house and was in the house eating dinner. When G.M. Croushorn returned from his rural delivery trip he ran his auto into the alley and into the barn as usual. The noise of the machine frightened the team and they ran out, up the Park addition, past Lew Inman's, the water tank, down to the elevator and to the creamery, where they ran into a tree. The wagon tongue was badly damaged but no serious damage. The driver has been in the habit of leaving his team without tying and he did so once too often.

Yorkville: College Park, Md., Oct. 9.--With practically a dead calm settled over College Park, Md., Wilbur Wright today broke the world's record for speed in an aeroplane over a 500 meter course, including a turn beyond the course, his time being 58.35 seconds or 20 seconds less than that made by Delagrange over a similar course in France.

Mr. Wright attained a speed of 46 miles an hour for the distance. As the aviator left the starting point, Lieutenant Lahm took the time Wright made the 500 meters in the direction of Washington with a slight wind to his back in 0:24.1.5. He returned over the course in 0:24.75

Oct. 20: Joe Richards of Highland Park visited his relatives here over Sunday. Joe was one of the three employees held up in the bank robbery at Highland Park.

Herren & Elwood sustained quite a loss Friday night when the Denver Flyer struck and killed nine head of cattle for them.

Rev. and Mrs. Holland expect to move to Aurora this week. Their church gave them a reception Friday evening.

The body of Mr. Ned Hunt arrived here from Portland, Oregon Sunday and the funeral was held from the home of his parents. Mr. Hunt had been a sufferer from rheumatism for more than a year and it affected his heart. He is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Hunt; one brother, Walter Jr., of Iowa; a sister, Mrs. Mike Kelley of Emington, Ill.; and a sister, Elsie at home. The burial took place in the Oswego cemetery.

Yorkville: The state superintendent of public instruction has appointed Friday, Nov. 5, as Corn Day for the schools. The "Corn Day Annual," issued by the state superintendent, has been sent to every school in the county. this pamphlet gives lessons in the study of corn and suggestions for Corn Day programs.

The sales department of Cadillac have decided to answer the inquiries received from Yorkville and nearby towns by sending a 1910 model here to be shown. Others interested in seeing this popular car may be advised of the day it will be in this locality if they will promptly drop a card to the travelling representative of the company, A.H. Smith, Earlville, Ill. The Cadillac "Thirty" is built for particular people, built for those who demand years of service.

Oct. 27: Charles Reed, who has been employed as an electrician for the Burlington has resigned his position.

Miss Mary Cutter s taking lessons in china painting.

Main street is being greatly improved by graveling. The work in the business block is completed and the force will soon finish what remains.

A.E. Rowsell, the Oswego auctioneer, after a successful season with P.T. Nichols, with whom he expects to work this season, has spent almost the entire year working with and under the direction of Col. Carey M. Jones and will now guarantee satisfaction.

Miss Bernice Pearce has accepted a position with the Chicago Telephone Company and will be located at the company's offices in Aurora. Owing to this change she has resigned as the representative of *The Record* in Oswego after having served this office commendably for about a year. Her place will be taken by Miss Florence White, a popular young lady of Oswego, to whom all locals, advertisements, or business can be sent.

Tamarack and Wheatland: Miss Orma Young gave hr pupils in the Wilcox school a vacation on Friday and visited the Oswego schools.

November -- 1909

Nov. 3: James Goudie has received a carload of cattle from St. Paul.

While Dr. Gabel of Aurora was passing through town Sunday he narrowly escaped serious injury when one of the front wheels of his auto broke off.

About 8 o'clock Saturday morning fire broke out in Mr. Tom Edwards' barn. Prompt action of the fire department soon had the blaze under control, but not before the contents of the barn were destroyed.

Will the person or persons knowing anything about the hydrant wrenches please inform James Morrison. They disappeared some time during the fire Saturday morning and it is quite necessary that they be located.

The new homes of J.A. Bell and Charles Schultz are nearly completion and will soon be ready for occupancy.

Nov. 10: Mr. and Mrs. Flagg have moved to Plainfield. Mr. Flagg came here about a year ago and started a barber shop and pool room. A while ago, he sold the barber shop to John Williams, who with Frank Selling has rented and will operate the pool tables.

Myron Wormley lost one of his best horses last week by death.

The population of Oswego is in a way increased for the time being. A force of 72 Greeks, living in box cars, is making substantial improvements on the track, laying heavier rails for the increasing and heavier traffic of the railroad.

Mr. Frank Kenyon, who has for several months been employed by Knapp and Kneller, has moved to Aurora. Eugene Moyer will move back here and again occupy his old position.

Nov. 17: Rudolph Knapp has returned from Missouri where he has been buying stock, bringing with him a carload of cattle and one of hogs.

Gus Welz, one of the rural carriers, is at present enjoying a few weeks' vacation.

On Wednesday afternoon Miss Eva Woolley and Mr. Raymond Parkhurst of Oswego were married at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Woolley in Aurora. A wedding trip will be enjoyed and later Mr. and Mrs. Parkhurst will return to the new home which the groom has built on a farm two miles from Oswego along the Aurora-Yorkville electric car line.

Spring Valley, Ill., Nov. 13: The most appalling mine disaster in the history of the United States occurred this afternoon in the little town of Cherry, seven miles north of this place. A fire that started in the main shaft of the St. Paul Company's works is believed to have choked out the lives of 400 men working there. Thirteen rescuers who went down into a blazing shaft were roasted alive to a man.

Nov. 24: Word has been received that Mrs. Harriet Reese Curtis, formerly of Oswego, and at one time a teacher in the Aurora

schools, has been appointed a member of the board of managers for the Missouri State School for the Blind at St. Louis.

G.H. Voss, Fred Falk, and Charles Barker enjoyed the land show in Chicago Monday. They are enthusiastic about it.

NaAuSay: Hot water heat and gas lights are being put in at the Gates homestead.

Yorkville: It is difficult to estimate the number of dead men in the Cherry mine--so many conflicting accounts are given . It is thought there were about 300 in the mine when the fire occurred; 22 were taken out alive, one of whom died. Others were thought to be alive but when an entrance was made and hope was strong to reach the imprisoned ones, the fire would start anew and frustrate all rescue measures. The condition is one of horror and the need of financial aid will continue all winter.

December -- 1909

Dec. 1: One might have thought our village a livestock exchange from the number of cattle received one day last week. Goudie brothers received three carloads, Parkhursts two, and Frank Pearce one.

Miss Lizzie Pearce was surprised by about 20 of her relatives yesterday who came to help her settle her new home and leave her a fine rocking chair to assist in the furnishing.

Among those from here who attended the land show were Watts and Slade Cutter, W.O. Leigh, and Wm. Cliggitt, who bring back glowing accounts of the great improvements and wonders of irrigation.

George Hettrick and son Roy have returned from Kansas City, Mo., and brought with them 84 head of cattle.

One might have thought our village a livestock exchange from the number of cattle received one day last week. Goudie brothers received three carloads, Parkhursts two, and Frank Pearce one.

Walter Hunt Jr. came from Iowa to Chicago with a load of hogs and made a short visit with his people in Oswego.

NaAuSay: Corn husking in this vicinity will be about finished this week.

Eugene Cooney raised his new barn Wednesday.

Yorkville: It is a known fact that the woods and streams in the vicinity of Yorkville are rich in the relics of the red man, as the fine collections of Lawrence Hafenrichter proves. But the record breaking find was made by the Garners near Specie Grove southeast of Yorkville. In breaking some new land a regular "pocket" of Indian spearheads was uncovered, all of a pinkish flint, from two to four inches in length, nearly filling a peck measure, more than 200 of them all in a heap.

A fine specimen of a stone ax was also found in the same field, but unfortunately that is broken in two pieces.

For several weeks a party of Greek workmen have been housed in box cars at Oswego and Yorkville while they were engaged in improving the right-of-way of the Fox River railroad. They have raised the track and put on new steel rails from the Montgomery bridge to Fox and smoothed out the rough places. There were about 70 men in the party, headed by a pleasant son of Athens who acted as interpreter and business agent. They did considerable business with the Yorkville post office, receiving letters and papers from Greece and sending registered letters with drafts to the National Bank of Greece at Athens. Sunday morning, a special engine came down and took the children of Marco Bozzarie to Grand Ridge where they will do more track work.

Dec. 8: Rudolph Knapp returned Wednesday from a business trip to Missouri and Arkansas bringing with him two carloads of stock.

The remains of the late Harry Hopkins of Chicago were brought here for burial on the morning train Friday.

A full attendance of members is desired at the Modern Woodmen meeting, Camp 1401, Thursday night, at their rooms, as it is the meeting for election of officers.

On Thursday night an unsuccessful attempt was made to enter the CB&Q depot using the baggage truck to stand on. They tried to pry a window open. One pane was broken and it was evident that the party injured a hand; this probably scared them away.

Dec. 15: Rudolph Knapp was among the number from here to attended the fat stock show.

For sale: Fine cutter, reasonable. Call or phone Dr. A.E. Van Deventer, Oswego, Illinois.

The young children of Jake Myers have been having a siege with the chicken pox, which seems to be an epidemic around town.

Clarence Schickler and James Bell were among the football players who attended the banquet given by the juniors and seniors of the East Aurora high school.

Miss Carie Friebele and Mr. Lawrence Ode of Oswego were married last Wednesday. after a trip to Michigan, Mr. and Mrs. Ode will locate in Aurora where the groom is employed.

Ben Skeen has traded his home, formerly known as the Lester property, to Lou Paul, toward a farm near Aurora.

Gus Welz has for sale at his residence two road horses and harnesses, mail wagon, runabout, etc.

Dec. 22: The carpenters have begun work on finishing the interior of the fine new country residence of J.P. Schickler, which will be ready for occupancy in the early spring.

A number of young people have been enjoying the snow and a great many sleighing parties have been indulged in. Friday evening a sled load went to Kenneth Darfler's. The evening passed all too quickly with the various amusements.



Fred Huntoon and Miss Lena Barbaylia went to Chicago and were quietly married Dec. 15. After spending a few days there they returned to the groom's home. They will make their residence here, as Mr. Huntoon is in the livery business.

Roy Shoger is enjoying the sleighing to a much greater degree--a fine new cutter is the cause of it.

After spending some time around Oswego, Mr. Russell, a promoter of Washington lands, left for those regions Saturday evening. With him went George Collins and son Frank, and a young man who has been working for them for some time. Charles Rieger and Roy Croushorn. Rieger and Croushorn intend to extend their trip going south through the coast states to New Orleans before returning home.

Gus Shoger has now traded his corner property now occupied by Ted Stevens, the Northern Illinois Telephone office and Burrell's shoe repairing shop and the Gargrave blacksmith shop to a Mr. Brown, for a farm in Texas.

William Hills has sold his fruit farm to Chicago parties, who will use it as a summer house, sending a man here to work it for them. Mr. Hills has, some time since, moved to Aurora.

Upon his failing to come to his work on Wednesday morning, fellow workmen went to find Richard Alexander, who was to do some decorating on the new home of Mrs. Lydia Matthews. Unable to get a reply from rapping, neighbors were summoned and an entrance forced. On the floor beside the heating stove lay the body, cold and stiff in death. Coroner Drew was notified, a jury impaneled, and after investigating returned a verdict of suicide by inhaling coal gas. Dick had been having trouble with his eyes and on Dec. 10, his 33d birthday, he went to Chicago to consult a specialist. The results were discouraging, and disheartened with his future prospects, he ended all. Deceased was born in Kansas and went a mere boy came here to reside, making this his home ever since. Of late years he has been a painter and decorator. Interment in the Oswego cemetery.

Yorkville: We had a full week of zero weather--from Dec. 1 to 19 inclusive the mercury hovered around the zero mark, one day going from five to ten below, according to the reliability of the thermometer, clear and cold; air full of ozone.

Dec. 29: Word was received Thursday by relatives of the death of Mr. Morris Cliggitt. A sister, Miss Kate Cliggitt, has been with him during his illness.

Fred Falk is attending to the affairs at the elevator during the absence of William Cliggitt.

Miss Pearl Lapp of Wheatland and Ernest Kneller were married Wednesday evening at the home of the bride's parents. Mr. and Mrs. Kneller will make their home in Oswego, Mr. K. being one of the proprietors of the Knapp meat market.

Oswego is minus one of its antiquities. The old barn formerly owned by Gus Shoger has been torn down.

Owing to the heavy snowfall that delayed street car service, a number of people were unable to attend at Christmas gatherings here and on the other hand, many were unable to get out of town as had been arranged.

Miss Irene Newman has accepted a position as teacher in the Oak Street school, Aurora, which was recently vacated by the resignation of Miss Helen Voss.

C.I. Smith, with a force of about 30 men, is harvesting his ice crop. It seems of good quality, running from 12 to 15 inches.

The carrier on Route 1 wishes to thank his patrons for the Christmas presents and also to call their attention to the fact that it would lighten his burdens much if they would buy stamps and stamp their mail instead of making him grope around in the box for their pennies during the cold weather.

Gus Wald, carrier on Route 3, had a runaway Saturday morning. His cutter tipped over and his team ran away, being stopped by a man

who was waiting for the street car, nearly a mile from where they started. Mr. Wald was picked up by some passers-by. He was not seriously injured and is again on the route.

A sleigh load of young people came down from Aurora on Thursday and enjoyed the evening at Oscar Shoger's.

The Pittsburg Kansas Daily Headlight devotes two columns of the issue of Dec. 23 to the death and sketch of Hon. Morris Cliggitt, mayor of that city. Deceased had been in poor health for some time from some chronic ailments.

Mr. Cliggitt leaves a wife, Mrs. Clara Cliggitt; three brothers, John Cliggitt of Mason City, Ia., James Cliggitt of Chamberlain, S.D., and William Cliggitt of Oswego; and three sisters, Mary and Kate Cliggitt of Oswego and Mrs. Marguerite Boomer of Peoria. Three of the older brothers served in the Union army during the Civil War.

Mr. Cliggitt was married in McCook, Neb. in 1891 to Miss Celia Grier. One child was born to this union but passed away in infancy. Mrs. Cliggitt was a great help to her husband during their earlier married life, but the past few years she has been in a sanitarium.

Morris Cliggitt was born in Oswego in 1854, being a son of Morris and Julia (Russell) Cliggitt, both of whom were born in Ireland, and on coming to the United States located on a farm in Kendall county, where they made their home until death.

Mr. Cliggitt was reared on the farm and in the intervals of the farm labor attended the district schools and later, the academy in Oswego.

From June 1883 to March 1884 he practiced law with his brother, John, at Mason City, Ia., and then went to Hastings, Neb., where after a short period in the law he was chosen assistant cashier of the Exchange National bank of that place and continued that position until January 1887. He returned to his legal practice at Culbertson, Neb. and remained in that town until January 1890 at which time he came to Pittsburg, Kan. During his life in Nebraska he took a prominent part in politics as a member of the Democratic party.

Mr. Cliggitt began practice in Pittsburg in partnership with Ed Van Gundy at whose death in September 1894 the partnership ended and Mr. Cliggitt has since practiced alone. He served several years as attorney for the National Bank of Pittsburg and the smelter industries and coal companies of this district.

In December 1893 he was appointed by the Cleveland administration assistant United States District Attorney for Kansas and to discharge the duties of that office removed to Topeka, but in the following July resigned and returned to Pittsburg. He was among the national electors from Kansas in 1896.