

News items from the *Kendall County Record*, 1870-1889.

1870

January

Jan. 6: The transferment of Oswego from 1869 to 1870 took place at the usual time and without any unusual manifestation; with the exception of those who attended the Watch-meeting of the Methodists, most of its inhabitants were asleep, and therefore unconscious of the great event when it took place; at the Watch-meeting Elder Davison very forcibly reminded his hearers of their short comings in '69 and earnestly exhorted them to do better in '70.

Among the newly married are Charles Kimball and Helen Schram; J. Bissell Hunt and Mary F. Porter, our popular teacher; John G. Faust and Almira Hafenrichter.

The ladies' fair and festival in support of the projected hearse was only a partial success; the net profits amounting to only about \$80. No discouragement, however, is apparent on the part of the association. These ladies seem to be bound to have a hearse and be buried in style.

The gossip mongers very nearly succeeded in starting another sensation. It appears that on New Year's evening several young gentlemen met together and in order to further the enjoyments of this august holiday, they resorted to some of the ordinary stimulants, the effects of which it was said to have been somewhat extraordinary, producing more than the usual result and seemingly having more than the ordinary properties to make drunks.

Yorkville: Hon. Henry Sherrill, member of the Constitutional Convention from Kendall county, introduced a resolution on Monday "that the fees and emoluments of town and county officers for like services performed shall be uniform throughout the State and that all Sheriffs that be eligible for reelection."

At the last session of the Legislature, Mr. Coy, of Kendall, had a law passed reducing the fees of officers in that county. It is claimed that the reduction is so great and so manifestly unjust that this action is necessary. Certainly, the proposition of Mr. Sherrill is fair and honorable.

Yorkville is getting almost as bad as Oswego for drunkenness, fights, and saloons. Will State's Attorney Blanchard look after these things during Court week?

Jan. 13: A meeting was held one day last week to consider whether or not the Town collector should be restrained by injunction to collect certain taxes pertaining to the OO&FRVRR. Result, no cause of action.

Mrs. Amanda Wicks is filling the vacancy of a teacher, caused by Fannie Porter getting married.

The Oswego Division Sons of Temperance, on last Saturday evening threw open their Hall and invited the public to meet with them for the purpose to devise ways and means to further the cause of temperance; owing to the extreme cold weather but a very few turned out; the principal addresses were made by the Rev. Messrs Barclay and Baldwin. Other gentlemen spoke, finding fault with one another's actions in regard the subject. The meeting adjourned without any decisive action.

Yorkville: We breakfasted the other morning on tender buffalo steak from the market of Mr. Thomas. As far as we could judge it might as well have been beef as far as taste was concerned. It was very tender and juicy. Thomas has all the novelties of the Chicago market.

A manufacturing company is being organized at Plano to be called the "Plano Manufacturing Company," with an authorized capital of \$80,000. C.W. Marsh, Lewis Steward, G.H. Steward, E.H. Gammon, and G.D. Henning are the incorporators.

Jan. 20: The transferment of Oswego from 1869 to 1870 took place at the usual time and without any unusual manifestation; with the exception of those who attended the Watch-meeting of the Methodists, most of its inhabitants were asleep and therefore unconscious of the great event when it took place.

The latest piece of new music out is "And still they marry," which was composed by Mr. William P. Danforth and Miss Eliza A. Moore, before familiarly known as Bill Danforth and Lizzie Moore, all of which happened last week Thursday. They immediately started on their wedding tour, which was to be extended to a foreign country, Iowa I believe.

The weather has been extremely cold last night; thermometer this morning stood at 3° below zero.

For good and sufficient reason the eclipse of the moon yesterday morning was not visible in Oswego.

Owing to a change in the mail time, which now is a half hour earlier than formerly of which I was not aware, I have not time to write up a number of interesting items.

Yorkville: In a Jan. 20, 1870 letter to the editor of the *Kendall County Record*, Oswego residents Frederick Coffin, Charles Sutherland, Marcus J. Richards, J.A. Kenney, Alonzo B. Smith, and William Hoze wrote of the new Fox River Railroad: "The road is now graded through here, and it is no great stretch of the imagination to see the bed have on its surface the ties and rails and bear the scream of the engine's whistle and the roar of the passing trains.

"Our village and every village on the line of the route will receive an impetus in growth and prosperity in consequence of the road, the years will be but few before the many

water powers along the Fox River will be made of value and the noise of scores of manufacturing enterprises will enliven every village, attracting population and capital both of which benefit the agriculturalist and tradesmen, making business lively and prosperous.”

We have had every degree of weather from summer to winter in the past week. On Sunday afternoon there was a warm rain--at nine o'clock in the evening it was warm enough out of doors for a linen coat--at 10:30 or eleven at night it thundered and lightened. At eight o'clock Monday morning the thermometer was within eight degrees of zero; a change of about forth degrees in ten hours. And such a day as Monday was a high cold wind blowing all day and penetrating everywhere and everything.

Jan. 27: The Literary Association last evening discussed the question, Resolved, “That the Bible should be excluded from the common schools in the United States.” Cliggitt, Rank, and Hall on the affirmative; Haight, Vorhees, and Parkhurst negative. Mrs. Jolly acted as umpire and decided the question, much against her inclination, in favor of the affirmative. After the decision was rendered, a few remarks were made by a clergyman present, favoring the negative side.

A writing school is in operation taught by Prof. Cross, of Aurora.

A dancing association has been formed and the first ball of the series came off Friday evening.

Yorkville: Work has stopped on the F.R.V.R.R for the winter. It will commence as soon as possible in the spring.

On Friday last as Mr. S. Naden was driving home from Oswego, when near Mr. Cherry's, he was overtaken by some teams, the drivers of which attempted to pass him. In so doing they ran into his wagon, threw him out, and a wagon passed over him, knocking out several teeth and injuring his head very badly. He was taken into Mr. Cherry's and cared for.

A Negro in the U.S. Senate

The Mississippi Legislature last week elected W.H. Revel, a colored member of the State Senate, a native of the state and educated in Ohio, to fill the short term vacancy in the United States Senate expiring March 4, 1871. The same body at the same time elected Governor elect Alcorn as Revel's successor in the United States Senate for the long term and General Ames, at present the United States military commandant of that State, for his colleague.

February -- 1870

Feb. 3: A sad accident occurred at the railroad crossing above this place on Saturday afternoon. Harmon Minkler of Rochelle, in company with his son, Theodore, a lad of 19

years, had been in Aurora selling his work, meeting there his brother, Smith G. Minkler of Specie Grove, it was agreed that they go home with Smith and pay him a visit; the two older Minklers riding together in Smith's buggy, and the young man following some distance behind with the lumber wagon and in crossing the track was run into by the western bound train, receiving injuries of which he afterwards died at the house of A.J. Wormley to which he had been taken... On yesterday morning the railroad company furnished a special train to convey the remains and the friends of the deceased to Turner's Junction. The faultfinding with our highway commissioners in allowing the railroad company to dispense with a bridge at said crossing has been renewed by this occurrence.

Yorkville: By the County Superintendent: Thursday, the 27th, took a drive to a school about three miles east of Oswego in the Squire's neighborhood. It was a delightful day for riding and we passed through a portion of the county new to us--having never before been on the Naperville road. The farmers in that section should be happy by living among such beautiful scenery. If thus beautiful in winter, what must it be in summer? As the soldiers used to say, "it is God's country." Found the school house behind a belt of trees in a pleasant place. Miss Frank Crandall was in charge with some 35 scholars. The room has the improved seats, and is a fair schoolroom. Black boards, maps, and charts in plenty. There are some dozen panes of glass out of the windows; consequently there is plenty of air. The scholars were rather listless in manner, but recited quite well. The classes in arithmetic did well and they appeared to understand what they were doing when at the board. Spelling classes did not do well; there is room for improvements and from the looks of the scholars we are sure improvement will be made. It is a good school. [John R. Marshall was county superintendent of schools.]

Feb. 10: The temperance meeting on last Wednesday was pretty well attended. The principal speaker was a Mr. Jones of Chicago, publisher of the Prohibitionist. He began his remarks by insinuating that Oswego did not show a very fair state of affairs because it contains as many saloons as either dry goods or groceries stores; he, of course, didn't know that we are trading a good deal in Aurora and that we buy there more dry goods and groceries in proportion to whiskey. The meeting went into secret session; what transpired there, this deponent saith not, because he don't know.

A Mr. Olson was in town the other day; not being used to our whiskey, he became very noisy; in order to dry him up the police had to take charge of him for a little while.

The Messrs. Poages, and their sister have moved into their new residence on the street which bears the name of either Jefferson, Monroe, Jackson or Tyler.

Miss Sarah M. and Miss Mary Jane Edwards, sisters, were married to Er. Parke and James G. Andrews, not brothers theretofore. Parke and lady have started off on a wedding tour west, intending to go at least as far as Mendota.

Yorkville: Death of Moses Cherry, Esq.

Nearly every one in Kendall County knew Moses Cherry of Aux Sable Grove, and all will regret to hear that he died on Friday, the 4th inst. His disease was dropsy, and he had

been sick for some time. A few days ago he made a will, and in it bequeathed to his family an immense amount of property, as he was one of our richest men. Mr. Cherry came to this county some seventeen or eighteen years ago and bought this large estate--he came from Buffalo. Since living here, he has been a prominent man in public affairs, an active politician, and a generous entertainer of all who visited him. He leaves a large family--a wife and, we think eleven children. He was about 65 years of age. His funeral took place on Monday, and must have been a very large one, as a number of friends and acquaintances went from Yorkville and Bristol to offer the last services to a genial and warm hearted man. Mr. Cherry has been a good friend to us since starting a paper here, and he has given us many a word of encouragement. He will be missed from our County meetings as well as from the home circle.

Feb. 17: Mr. Wm. H. Chattle had a horse die, which it is said had the hydrophobia; Mr. C. was bitten by the horse, not seriously, merely bruising the skin. The horse had been bought but lately.

A short time ago, I undertook to praise young ladies for their smartness at certain donations, but did not meet with any better success, "That was just done to make fun of us," would they say. In pursuance of the foregoing few remarks, is it not possible that I am a damage to the *Record* and a failure as a reporter? Had I not better quit this and instead write poetry for you? What say you, Mr. Publisher?

I.B. Urstrulie has only the common lot to bear--people will find fault and we do them a great benefit in giving them something to growl about. If nothing was said, they would growl worse. "Dampool" is as good as any name--every man thinks his neighbor merits the appellation. Continue, I.B.U., in well doing--Excuse us from the poetry; we had rather not. --Editor

Yorkville: O.B. Knickerbocker of the *Aurora Beacon* was in Yorkville a few days ago, and gave us a call. Knick thinks we have a nice court house and that our village is improving.

The "oldest inhabitant" is at a loss to account for the present spring weather. Overcoats are laid aside, windows are opened, and the boys and girls have the spring fever. The frost is nearly out of the roads--and such roads!

Feb. 24: A theatrical and musical entertainment under the auspices and for the benefit of the Ladies Association (which ought to be styled Hearse Association, as people would know for what object it exists) will be given next Friday evening. Let everybody attend and enjoy some fun in behalf, and for the benefit of their final departure, that is if they calculate to make Oswego their permanent home."

The *Aurora Beacon* in referring to one of my items published in the *Record*, namely: that of an arrest--manifests a sort of surprise that we should have a police, and wonders whether it was the day or night police that did it; and furthermore wants to know how many police men Oswego has anyway. It would appear that the *Beacon* had noted that

item somewhat contemptuously, thinking we were making pretensions to which we are not entitled; and now in order to set the *Beacon* and the rest of the world aright upon the subject, I will state that no pretensions whatever were contemplated. As for our police they are not numbered, marked or peculiarly dressed; they are both day and night police, that is, they go to bed about ten o'clock, the same as the rest of our folks do; there is no need of any policemen being up during nights in this town, especially this season of the year--would do well enough in the summer to keep the cows from breaking into people's gardens. Our police consists of what we term a corporation constable, appointed by the board of trustees. Geo. W. Kimball fills the position now, who by the way is the proprietor of the livery stable, and which consequently is the place to where prisoners are taken; when he arrests a fellow he says, "Come sir, go with me to the barn." If any resistance is made, the nearest persons by will be police, helping execute such arrest, doing it without any order or command; we are a people carrying out the true principles of self-government, don't believe in being governed by the rule or on the routine order. I want to have it distinctly understood that we do not lay any claim to any ornament as a police, like there is in cities, who are limited to numbers, paid by the month to be constantly watching folks; our folks don't need watching nor do they require any police continually on duty to keep them straight; if any strangers come to town everybody will keep an eye on them, especially when it is known that they are from cities (Aurora!).

The proceeds of the Methodist Minister's donation was about \$84.

The Literary Association last evening discussed the dancing question; Mr. Child was umpire; decision that dancing should be discountenanced. The question for next Monday evening is, "Resolved, That the traffic in intoxicating liquors in every form and nature should be prohibited within the corporation of Oswego.

Yorkville: Mr. Post is doing a great work in making new roads and improving old ones in the vicinity of his new dam in Fox township. The labor and money he has expended must amount to a great deal. He is full of public spirit.

Old Winter has played us a sad trick this month. He professed to have retired for a few weeks when, on Saturday last, he came back in a storm of wind and whirl of snow. On Sunday morning at 7 o'clock the mercury was 12 below zero; on Monday morning, 8 below.

March -- 1870

March 3: Wednesday night last the hired man of Phillip Boessenecker heard something unusual about the premises; he took a shotgun, went out to ascertain what it was and found some men with three of B's horses out of the stall, and were then in the act of leading out the front. He fired among them and thinks that he hit one, as apparently one received assistance from the others in getting away. There were three of the thieves; some of the horses were taken away. The same night and earlier in the evening Charles Darboy

saw a man getting over the fence and enter his stable; he (Darboy) procured a lantern but afterwards failed to find the intruder.

L.B. Judson and his tenant, I.N. Mather had a law suit last Saturday before Justice Fowler; the jury failed to agree on any verdict.

Another old settler gone. John Miller, an Englishman by birth and for many years a resident of this township died night before last from old age I presume, being ninety-seven years old.

It may be proper to state here that although Mr. Miller lived to a more than common old age, yet he was not the oldest person in this town. Mrs. Murry, a French lady, whose age however is not known exactly, but enough of it so as to bring her upwards of 100 years, is also a remarkably smart old lay. She has walked within the last year to Aurora and done it in quicker times than most men would do it. She lives now several miles out of town and frequently walks back and forward. To see her walking, especially a little ways off, she appears like a little girl going along, stepping quick and sprightly.

The German and English languages are the ruling languages of America; and of the two, the English predominates, hence it is of the utmost importance that every citizen of the United States become thoroughly acquainted with the latter. There is no reasonable excuse for anyone not doing so; there are schools in which this language is solely taught; the rising generation have free access thereto, and those excluded therefrom on account of age, can be taught by others who are admitted. This applies to public schools. The German language--one of the greatest of all languages--can be used only in particular cases--in courts, in the translation of legal business, it is not the language--English goes ahead. The man who can not command the English language finds that he is behind the times in this country; the man who can use both English and German is a two-edge sword; he can cut right and left, and is always a useful instrument in any position he may be placed.

Yorkville: Surveyor Bennett has been engaged for some time in laying off the land left by Mr. Cherry's will to his children.

March 10: Not much done here the past week to brag on; a lawsuit Saturday in which the jury did not agree; a little difficulty between certain parties chargeable to whisky.

John Hettrick's team, hitched to an empty lumber wagon, undertook to run away yesterday afternoon. They started from Haight's store, took a circle round the block west of there when they were caught by Thos. Mullenix; no damage.

A man round town yesterday with a five dollar gold piece.

Yorkville: On Thursday afternoon, a boy of 15 or 16 years of age was seen reeling through a street in Bristol, so drunk that he could hardly stand up. A carriage was

procured and he was carried home. Talk about there being no hell! A man who would sell or give liquor to such a boy should have a place next to the arch-field himself.

--*Ottawa Free Trader*: There is quite a buzz up Fox river, we are told, over a rumor that the Fox River Valley Railroad has been sold out to the Burlington road, or some other road or connection, and instead of running to Aurora and Geneva, will stop at Sandwich, Somonauk or somewhere in that vicinity. These reports are without the slightest foundation. The road, we are confidently assured, will be completed to Aurora within the coming year. The sale of the road from Streator to Wenona to the Jacksonville and St. Louis R.R. Company in no way affects the road from Streator northward. The people up Fox River may rest easy. The road is "all right."

March 17: A board of arbitration consisting of A.B. Smith, P.G. Hawley, and Dr. Robert Hopkins of Bristol has been in session the biggest part of the past week to settle the difference and decide the controversy between L.B. Judson and I.N. Mather; they finished their labor yesterday afternoon. We understand that the arbitrators decided that each party should pay his own costs and call the matter a draw game.

A son of Jonathan Andrews, nine years old, was buried on yesterday.

Nature is displaying her skill crystallizing the trees; has overdone it in some instances, putting it on so thick as to break down the trees.

Yorkville: Railroad surveyors passed through Yorkville on Saturday on their way to Montgomery to finish the staking of the Fox River Road for the graders.

Thermometer on Tuesday at 10 a.m. indicated 10 above zero. A gale of wind and heavy snow storm. On Wednesday at 7 a.m., it was 4 above zero.

Mr. Jos. Jackson, one of the directors of the F.R.V.R.R, was in Yorkville on Monday on business for the road. He has engaged Mr. Bradford Johnson and Mr. Callender to finish up the grading between this place and Matlock's. Jackson talks of the road as a sure thing, and has the faith that never shrinks.

The President and Secretary of War, after conference about the condition of things in Tennessee, have issued orders to send four companies of troops into the state to assist the revenue officers in the enforcement of the laws and in the execution of processes of the United States Courts. Two companies are ordered to Murfreesboro and two to Jackson. The governor of North Carolina has asked for troops to suppress insurrection.

March 24: No Oswego news column.

Yorkville: If there is no local news to print, we can't print it, can we? That's the trouble this week.

The river was high on Monday morning, water covering the lower end of the island.

March 31: The last party of the season of the Oswego Dancing Association was given last Friday evening.

John P. Yard, an old settler was buried last Saturday.

The Great Western Telegraph Company are at building a line by this town on the west side of the river.

Yorkville: On Wednesday, the 23d inst., the ice on the river above Yorkville came down without doing any damage. it was thin and rotten.

There was a break in the race between the paper and grist mills on Saturday that came near getting the start of the mill men, but after half a day's work with bags of straw, etc., it was stopped.

I.B. Urstrulie must be running for office--he is excited in some way, we are sure. On Tuesday we received an envelope from him duly directed and stamped, but containing nothing. Was it symbolical of the Oswego news, or did he forget to enclose his letter?

On Saturday last, 50 or 60 head of cattle were driven through Bristol and Yorkville by three men who, if they were not drunk acted like crazy men. There were fully 25 head on the bridges at one time, and had any damage been done, out would have taken the whole drove to have paid it.

J.M. Gale has made another change in the river road running northeast from Bristol. He has fenced up the old state road in front of his house and makes travelers go directly east to Boyd's line and thence north to the old road again. When Mr. Gale will get through making the people of this county drive over his stubble fields, and through any place he wishes, is hard to tell It is the greatest exhibition of one man power we have ever seen in this country. His reason for doing this is that he wants to get his town lots square. I there was any probability of those lots being improved within eight or ten years, it might been an excuse, but as it is, there is no excuse.

The Great Western Telegraph Co. has set poles from Oswego down to Plano, and wanted to pass down one of Gale's streets that he has not thrown open yet, and thus reach the Plano road in a straight line. But he wouldn't allow it--made the company follow his crooks and turns--go south a piece then west then north to the Plano road.

The commissioners of the town of Bristol about a year ago, opened a road from the fair grounds to the Plano road, through land owned by B.H. Johnson, Geo. Ernst, and F.A. Emmons, to accommodate travel from Plano. It saves about 40 rods over the old road. This cost about \$300. There is not one third the travel on this road that there is on the road Gale has taken up; and he makes it 40 rods farther than the old road to get into Bristol. If we get a few more such bills through the legislature, we shall have no roads at all.

The road commissioners should open the old road as a town road.

April -- 1870

April 7: E.A. Hopkins was elected school director at yesterday's school meeting.

Mr. Mullenix is enlarging his residence by raising it to a two story house and building an addition to it.

Richard Cooke, who came from England something near 40 years ago, nearly the whole of which time he spent in the West living many years in and about Chicago and for about eight years has been residing in this town, died Thursday morning, March 24, at the age of 72 years and was buried on Saturday. And so we go.

The mail going east has been changed to the Atlantic Express train, making it a catch mail at our station.

April 14: The sublime precept of Christ, "Do good to them that hate you, and persecute you," seldom is more strikingly carried into effect than it was done the other day at our town election. The first negro vote cast in Oswego was given to John Chapman for Supervisor. Few men have denounced and cursed the negro more than Chapman has, because few men have suffered more mental torment on account of the nigger than he has. His life has been rendered miserable, the nigger haunted him wherever he went, he opened a newspaper and the nigger would stare him in the face; the proceedings of Congress for many years have been a horror to him because of the nigger in them; he would go to church and from the pulpit the nigger would be thrown in his face. The nigger would turn up to annoy him, steer whichever way he would, and now the climax being reached, the 15th Amendment declared as ratified, he runs for Supervisor and the nigger votes for him--Truly sublime! Chapman now accepts the situation and believes that the colored troops fought nobly.

[Shorter version of the above: "The first Negro vote cast in Oswego was given to John Chapman for Supervisor. Few men have denounced and cursed the Negro more than Chapman has. Now the climax being reached, the 15th Amendment declared as ratified, he runs for Supervisor and he now accepts the situation and believes that the colored troops fought nobly."]

It is said that the new board of trustees mean business. The calaboose received their first attention; and such an institution is now a reality in Oswego. Who says the world doesn't move? Some trouble was experienced in picking a site for it, with the first location to be back from any street on the block which contains all of the saloons, and which was thought to be a suitable place for the reason the prisoners could be taken from the back door of the saloons (as it was built for the benefit of those who get boisterously drunk) to the calaboose without touching a street, but some of the neighboring citizens, especially Fred Coffin, remonstrated, claiming that it would prove a damaging feature to their property. It stands now on the banks of the Waubonsie quite a distance removed from the other buildings so if a prisoner gets in and then wants to howl, he will not disturb anyone,

furthermore, the proximity of the creek will add much to the usefulness of the institution. A prisoner in for a drunk can lay there and listen to the purling waters as it runs over and ripples, which will forcibly remind him of his grief owing to his aversion of that element.

Moses J. Richards has commenced building an addition to his residence.

The lightning rod establishments are now very busy in getting up and sending out teams. Oliver [Hebert] has got up some very nice looking wagons for them.

John Hem's property, now occupied by John Faust, is undergoing improvements. The old square house, which probably was one of the oldest buildings in town, and which has sheltered many people of different nationalities--for a period of years occupied by the French--has been pulled down.

April 21: Some denominations of the new postage stamps have been received at our post office. Only a few of the principal offices thus far have received any of these stamps, so the post master informs me.

Mrs. Doerfler, an old lady upwards of seventy, and Mrs. Metzgar, both Germans, were buried a week ago today.

April 28: A confidence man who tried to steal from John Cherry was the first resident of Oswego's new calaboose. The man, by means of a ruse, attempted to get Cherry to sign a blank promissory note but was caught. A warrant was taken out, bracelets put upon his wrists, the biggest part of the afternoon he was placed in solitary confinement in the 'boose. In the evening he was brought before Justice Fowler for examination. He gave his name as Henry McLean, representing to be the son of a prominent man by that name residing in Woodstock. Due to some question of the evidence the case was dropped. A few things were in the fellow's favor, namely he was good looking, well dressed and very plucky.

Willie Briggs, whose boyhood was spent in Oswego and who after an absence of 15 years happened to make his appearance in town the other day for the purposes of a visit. Willie was somewhat of a wild boy when living here and apparently hasn't joined the church yet.

Why are the authorities not to work now repairing the roads?

A sudden change from hot to cold outdoors all over town last Sunday afternoon.

May -- 1870

May 5: This town has been exceedingly quiet and dull the past week; scarcely anything transpired worth the while mentioning.

We were to have a lecture last night by a Malay gentleman named Rooze DeLeo, an extensive traveler forming once one of the party of Dr. Livingston. This lecture was to be all about Africa and the Holy Land and was to form the subject of my communication this week, but Mr. DeLeo did not make his appearance and so I am brought up a stump. Quite a respectable crowd had turned out to be disappointed.

Mr. Hoze--the Hessian--has returned. He spent about four months with his friends in the State of New York. He has not changed any in his appearance or astronomical notions.

The remains of W.W. Tremaine--who is reported as having committed suicide at Kewanee--were brought here and buried one day last week.

Many improvements are being made in different parts of the town in building new door yard fences, &c. Mr. Mann especially has greatly improved his premises in that respect, and besides he has put down good sidewalks; a thing that would be well for others to imitate.

May 12: I am informed that the honorable board of corporation trustees of this village, at their session of last evening, have resolved that every lot owner on designated sides of certain streets must build a sidewalk adjacent their premises facing said streets. The town ought to be divided into three or four districts, each of which should build its sidewalk in common, by general taxation based upon the value of property.

The working of the roads is now progressing. So far, all the labor has been expended in the suburbs. A substantial bridge is to be put over the run on the AuSable Grove road.

The railroad surveyors are in town.

It has been suggested that a grave yard meeting be called at an early day for the purpose of devising ways and means of keeping the hogs from making the graveyard their running ground. The gates are torn down from the hinges and have been laying around for a long time. It is nobody's job to re-hang them so they just lay on the ground and rot.

May 19: Oswego is to be connected with the rest of the world by telegraph. A gentleman representing the Great Western Telegraph Company was here the other day disposing of the stock to our citizens and making preliminary arrangements for an office. L.N. Hall is to be the operator.

George Parker and Ezra Pearce each had horses stolen last Wednesday night.

Sidewalks on the east side of Main St. from Jefferson on to the drug store and from Wash. St. to the premises of W.L. Fowler are to be reconstructed, reestablished, and caused to be built, in a permanent and durable manner, at least four feet wide, of suitable boards, and containing not less than three sleepers. Also to be done on the north side of Washington Street from Haight's store to Schwab's residence, and again from Dr. Van

Deventer's to and including the premises of Gustavus Voss, all of which to be at the expense of the owners of the property adjacent these sidewalks.

May 26: Between two and three o'clock one morning of last week, Parker's miller heard some movements out doors; he went out to reconnoiter--saw two men hurriedly get into a buggy and drive away. Upon further examination the barn door was found open and being that a horse had been stolen there only about a week before, the men were at once suspected as being horse thieves and Joe Graham and Charlie Pratt immediately got on horses in pursuit of them. They tracked them to Aurora and being thus early in the morning and moonlight they could easily track them through the several streets and out of town to the Naperville road. The route taken by them was of a circuitous nature. About sunrise the pursuing party came up with the strangers, but were compelled to keep a respectable distance from them being they were unarmed and the men in the buggy exhibited pistols. The pursuers then got two more men to join them without any firearms, however. Having reached the Big Woods, the chase became quite exciting, the thieves doing their best to get away while the pursuers were crowding upon them and while thus under full run, the former jumped from the buggy and put for the thicket. The horses run into a tree and were thus stopped without any further damage than breaking the pole. The pursuit here ended, the horses and buggy were brought back, There was in the buggy an extra set of double harness, a curry comb, and brush, and two sacks of oats--it proved the property had been taken from four different men near Somonauk, who came on last Friday and took possession of it. It appears these men represented that no reward had been offered and compensated the captors with \$30 when in fact, a reward of \$100 was offered and the biggest portion of it paid to a man who informed them where their property was. I learn that the boys intend to make an effort for the recovery of the full reward to which they consider themselves entitled.

A certain Bartlett family were advertised to give a vocal concert last evening. Quite a number of the young people arrayed in their best fixtures were on hand at the usual time to enjoy the entertainment, but there was no lighted house and no musical troupe made their appearance, hence great disappointment, all the fussing for nothing. "Saved my 70 cents, however," says one who took a lady there.

Died, another old settler done. Nathaniel G. Hawley, 76 years of age died last Saturday. His funeral will take place at 2 o'clock today.

Yorkville: From the County Superintendent's Note-Book:

Walker District.--The school in this neighborhood, in Oswego, is taught this summer by Miss Kate Cliggitt. She has about a dozen pupils. The house is a small one, but meets the requirements of the district. A few repairs would make it a pleasant house. This is Miss Cliggitt's first school and we expect her to make a good career.

Collins District, Oswego.--Miss Delia Whiting commenced to teach here on the 18th. There are but few scholars who attend in the summer, though last winter there was a large school. A very good house, located in a quiet spot.

The Hem School, Oswego.--This house is two stories, occupied upstairs as a church and the basement for school purposes. The room is a large one and there is a large attendance

of children both summer and winter. Miss Hunt commenced to teach there on the 18th and is doing well for a beginner. The room needs cleaning, whitewashing, and painting. Primary, Oswego.--Miss Weeks has been teaching the primary department in Oswego village for the past six months, and gives very good satisfaction. The room in which she teaches is badly seated for even such little ones as attend there. The discipline is a little slack, but who can be severe on six year-olders? The entire house in this village is to be remodeled this summer and additions made that will give more room and better accommodations for all the departments. Messrs. Directors, don't fail to do this.

A Digression.--It is customary in some schools (and a good custom) to allow the little scholars an extra hour or so to play during the sessions. The other day a new teacher commenced to organize her classes and after about an hour's session in the morning she was greeted loudly with the request--"Say, teacher, may we little bits of fellers go out now and play!" The little "bits o' fellers" did not go out then.

Boarding Around.--There are some districts that keep up the primitive custom of requiring the teacher to "board around." This is improper, for a teacher needs a home while she is teaching, and cannot do justice to herself or school if she is compelled to change her boarding place every week, and sometimes walk a mile or two to and from school. There are but few districts that demand this, and it is hoped this summer will be decreased.

June -- 1870

June 2: The railroad folks are now very busy. Chapman has been putting in the tile drains and now is building the Cedar run culvert.

A.B. Smith, Kinney, and several others are getting their residences repaired.

The decoration of the soldiers' graves yesterday was of a private nature.

The old brewery where was made the first beer in Oswego, but which has been used lately by Charles Danforth as a stable, the owner of it has pulled it down.

The decoration of the soldiers' graves on yesterday was of a private nature.

Yorkville: The Common Council of Aurora has at length granted right of way through the city to the Ottawa and Fox River Valley Railroad by a vote of 8 to 2. This question has been agitated for over a year, and is just settled. The road will run up an alley just back of River Street.

On Wednesday the 25th, nine carloads of railroad material belonging to the Ottawa & Fox River Valley Railroad arrived at Montgomery. It consisted of 5,000 ties and the remainder of bridge timber for use on the bridge across the Fox River. It is the determination of contractor Young to have all the grading between Aurora and Ottawa finished before June 15th when the men will be free to labor on the extension to Geneva.

June 9: The argument most frequently employed against the eight hour system “that the time thus given to the laborers would be spent in dissipation,” was forcibly verified last week Thursday, it being pay day with the railroad men. There was no work done, the money they received was of their own earning, and of course they had the undoubted right to spend it as they pleased. A portion of it, therefore, was invested in the “O be joyful.” Somehow or other a man who hadn’t worked on the railroad, to whom the payday had been of no benefit, but who nevertheless took an active part in the celebration and in the course of the hilarious proceedings, he and a railroad man got their noses bloody. He then went to the Justice to get a warrant for the other fellow with the bloody nose, and was himself taken to the calaboose; subsequently they were both fined.

Mr. Kenney has packed up his goods and moved.

Troll’s building has been adorned with a lightning rod by the new firm of Newton & Hoze.

Rain hereabouts very much desired.

Yorkville: There is no better provision in the new Constitution than that which restricts the debt creating power of municipalities to five per cent. This one provision is enough to commend this instrument to the favorable consideration of the people and should itself insure its adoption. There seems to be a regular mania for running in debt by every city and town in the State, and if not checked will bring ruin and disaster on the whole people.

The Fox River Valley Railroad Company asks the town of St. Charles in Kane County for a loan of \$50,000 and agrees, if that sum is voted to have the road completed to Elgin in the present year. The route as proposed is on nearly an air line from the crossing at Geneva to West St. Charles, where it crosses the river and keeps a northward course through Clintonville to an intersection with the upper Fox River road at its junction with the old Galena Division of the Northwestern. It is further stated that Milwaukee will build a road to connect with the Fox River Valley at its upper terminus.

Messrs Henry Sherrill, John K. LeBaron, and Oliver Havenhill were engaged on Tuesday and Wednesday in assessing damages and condemning certain lands over which the Fox River Railroad is to pass. There are several farmers who will not give the right of way, nor do they want the road to cross their farms, and this course has been forced upon the Railroad Company. Three men of more integrity could not have been found in the County than the gentlemen above named. Engineer Wilson accompanied the party.

June 16: Charles Dickens, the renowned novelist, is dead.

A. Radley has entered upon the duties of superintendent of streets and alleys to which he was appointed at a late council meeting in place of G.W. Kimball, who resigned on account of health.

The enforcement of the sidewalk ordinance has been commenced. Justice Fowler with that ready respect for law for which he is famous was the first to respond by laying down a new sidewalk in front of his office. Let others emulate his example; let those whom this ordinance concerns cheerfully accept the situation and promptly govern themselves accordingly.

L.N. Hall and the Richards are finally putting a cornice on their store buildings. VanEvra is the architect.

G.M. Switzer and Ella Congdon got married. A substantial couple.

Tomorrow evening a strawberry and ice cream festival at Chapman's hall in aid of a library for the Methodist Sunday School.

Yorkville: Passing through Montgomery on Saturday we were pleased to see huge pile of ties and bridge timbers for our railroad. Also, the grading done from that village to the river. We will have a ride on that road before 1870 is passed.

The well-known Oswego merchant J.A. Kenney, is going to or has left that village. He goes to the southern part of the state with his stock of goods. We wish Brother Kenney success in business and regret to lose him.

June 23: There are many opposed to Woman's voting as a thing in general, but would be in favor of extending to them a partial suffrage. They want it restricted to some particular local subject, that does specifically affect them. Some think they ought to vote on school matters; others upon the question touching the sale of liquor and again others would favor the voting of such women as are taxpayers upon questions of raising taxes. Now respecting Oswego, the sidewalk question is the most significant upon which women ought to have the privilege of voting; it presents a strong case of the ballot in their favor, upon it can claim suffrage upon the principle of self-protection, no taxation without representation, fair play and now gouging, &c, &c, and this sidewalk question will necessarily hereafter be a prominent issue of our municipal politics. The next candidates for "City Paps" will be somewhat scrutinized upon this subject.

That the sidewalk policy of the present board is damnable; there is no question about it. The west side of Main street never was required to build a foot of sidewalk and never built any of their own accord while the east side was required to keep walks for more than a dozen years for the convenience of the public. Now it happens that on this doomed side of the street are living seven widows and an eighth is owning property on it. Eight widows are forthwith required to build sidewalks for the benefit of the public. Now take the west side and not a single widow lives nor owns property on it, indeed some of the most wealthy and aristocratic of our citizens are residing on it. I say give the ballot box to Oswego widows on the sidewalk question.

For want of time, I have to omit a number of items.

June 30: Several runaways have occurred the past week.

Mrs. Eliza Hopkins and Miss Anna Hopkins, while driving down Main St., their horse got scared at something and sheered off on the embankment at Bartlett's upsetting the buggy. Mrs. Hopkins was considerably bruised and stunned; Anna wasn't hurt any; some damage to the buggy.

Notwithstanding the severe heat of the last week Oswego was all activity in the way of public improvements by plowing and scraping in grading the streets; the sidewalk order also was responded to by quite a number whom it concerns, and something like a third of the walks on Main street are now completed. There is a rich joke connected with this sidewalk business; one of those included in the order to build a walk is a man principally made up of self-conceit. He has a better plan for doing most anything that comes up; besides his egotism he courts notoriety and here was an excellent opportunity to bring and keep himself before the people. he would build a sidewalk over which no one could pass without thinking of him, and so he began to go round and find fault with the walks that others were building and had already built, and so we went to work and without regard to expense he has constructed a concern which if disconnected from everything else would be the last thing a person would guess to be a sidewalk; to make him self notorious he succeeded admirably, in fact he over did it. The gentleman is now very quiet and reticent, the mere mention of sidewalks will dry him up on most any subject. He does not live on the premises himself and now takes the back street when he has any business beyond, that is in the daytime. I understand that he is in hopes the authorities may to accept of it and tear it up and thereby remove the eyesore; also that he is anxious to sell the premises and offers to take \$200 less than before the new sidewalk was laid.

Saturday afternoon we had a beautiful shower of rain and at the same time the south end of town was visited by a small tornado; it struck a pile of lumber of Judson's, which was scattered in all directions; it took off many shingles from his barn and also two doors. Two boys who just had driven in the barn with a load of hay were taken off the wagon with the hay and deposited out in the yard, the men on their way from the hayfield to the barn were overtaken by the tornado and Dave Sevrance was taken up in the air and carried several rods and landed in a plowed field in a praying attitude. Judson's fences also suffered considerable and quite a number of his trees were broken down or unlimbed; it also touched squire Fowler's orchard, blowing down several of his choice apple, pear, and cherry trees.

Some of John L Clark's family arrived here yesterday on a visit to their friends; they have just returned from Europe, where they have been sojourning for about two years, I think

Yorkville: If "Sidewalk," of Oswego will give us his name, we will publish is communication. No anonymous letters are noticed. Will correspondents please remember this.

July -- 1870

July 7: Wesley Edwards and Alice Pearce got married.

The 4th yesterday was a very quiet affair with us, the French only showed any spirit of '76; there is discord among the French in Oswego as well as in Paris, and open rupture among the discordant elements occurred towards evening at Troll's saloon consisting of loud talking and fighting all done in French which I couldn't understand anything but the swearing. Joe Brule and Frank Russell were arrested; on the way to the 'boose, Frank got away, Joe subsequently was taken before the police court and fined \$3 and costs.

Van last week for the crime of being tight was calaboused; he broke out and let town; no effort made for his recapture.

John R. Simons met with a very serious accident Sunday afternoon by the burning of his barn, which contained a threshing machine and horse power, Marsh harvester, part of mowing machine, plows, harrows, harnesses, and many other farm implements; also about 300 bushels of oats and 50 of barley; the contents amounting to upwards of \$1,000; a chest of carpenters tools belonging to a Mr. Watkins were stored there and also destroyed; the origin of the fire is supposed to be owing to the old gentleman being in the barn with a lighted pipe.

The vote on the constitution was very light, less than half voted; partisan spirit has to manifest itself to some extent; the minority clause fell behind; some Republicans wouldn't vote anything to help a Democrat into office. Democrats opposed it because they didn't want to be encumbered with it when they get into power, &c.

Yorkville: The New Constitution is adopted by the people of the State of Illinois by a large majority and with the main instrument all the special articles are adopted. It has made a clean sweep. The election in our County on Saturday was very quiet and but a light vote polled. There is a large majority against the minority representation clause. Following is the vote as far as heard from: Kendall, 126-0; Oswego, 135-32; Fox, 93-1; Lisbon, 131-1; Seward, 109-0; Bristol, 123-0; Little Rock, 177-0; NaAuSay, not heard from; Big Grove cast 100 votes, nearly all for.

This Constitution goes into operation on the 8th of August and after that time, railroad loans by towns and counties will not be in vogue--even now it is too late to call further elections.

The old Constitution is dead; long live the New!

Last week we received an anonymous communication from Oswego (signed "Sidewalks") concerning a local matter there. In the paper that week, a notice was inserted informing "Sidewalks" that if his name was made known to the editor, his communication would be published. On Friday we were stunned, overwhelmed, kersmashed, by the following letter:

"Oswego, Ill., July 1st, 1870.

"Mr. J.R. Marshall, Dear Sir:--Excuse me for the second intrusion, enclosed find a stamped envelope, please return to me the communication sent you Monday. I was the writer and signed myself Sidewalks. If there is but one man in this town that can have

access to your paper, all I want is to know it, he can Damn persons and things generally, and it is all right. I suppose this is because he is your correspondent, and no one must cross or criticize him. If you will return it as requested, I will agree to remember hereafter, when I want the use of a paper, to send it to some other one and not trouble you again. I don't fancy its publication two or six weeks after it is written.

“Yours, &c., -----“

We always gave the gentleman who wrote the above letter credit for being a man of sound mind, good business qualifications, and good judgment, but, alas! we were wrong--he doesn't seem to be any smarter than he ought to be. The original communication was a beautiful joke on “I.B. Urstrulie,” but he will never see it.

From the County Superintendent's Note Book:

Six Hours.--It seems cruel to endeavor to keep little children of six or seven years of age at school for six hours a day during hot weather and if we were teaching and there were any shade trees within a reasonable distance, we would allow the little folks half an hour at intervals outside. But as many of the school yards are as barren of shade as the desert of Sahara, the playing hours is a hot time indeed, and the school house is nearly as hot as the furnace of Nebuchadnezzar.

Labor in Vain.--On Tuesday, June 7th, went out to visit the Updike school in Oswego, but the house was closed up and passed on to the Albee school--this district has no summer school either. Determined to “do or die,” we drove on to the Squires school, where the same fate met us--house closed up--teacher sick. We drove home a sadder, but wiser man.

July 14: Among the most important events transpiring the past week I would mention two weddings; the first was that of Mr. Murry to a Mr. Rickard of Chicago and the other Charlie Smith and Lizzie Lester.

Henry Ricker is putting a new front to his building and otherwise repairing it.

Mr. J.H. Beers, the map man, is busy gathering statistics, mapping the township and procuring subscribers to his work, which doubtless will prove a very desirable and useful one.

Some excitement prevailed here last evening among the railroad laborers owing to a report that they would not get full pay for labor performed; a party started for headquarters (Ottawa) in consequence of it; Chapman went with them; pretty much all the male population of the “Patch” [Troy] was in town.

July 21: Of their own free will and accord Dr. Jewell has put down a board and John Young a stone sidewalk in front of their premises; Fred Coffin is getting ready to do likewise; the sidewalk in the forced sections are yet in an uncomplete state.

A little girl of Mrs. Darbey, 10 years old, was buried last Sunday.

Saturday was a very bad day; heat will engender thirst; there were some men who did not choose water because of its making them sweat too much and so they restored to whiskey and got tight. Charlie Jolly was among them; he got mad at something and spoke disrespectfully of the law, the law making powers, even in the presence of a law magistrate; that this should not be thus, he was hauled up last evening and fined \$10 and costs, to be paid in labor, I believe.

July 29: A number of suits for riot, assault and battery, breaking of the peace &c., has been commenced before both Justice Fowler and Burr by the belligerents of "the Patch," [Troy] which by agreement were all merged into one and tried Wednesday and Thursday of last week. Smith was the attorney for Gaughan. Hawley and Judge Parks of Aurora for Monaughon & Co. John Monaughon and Michael Ruddy were held to bail to keep the peace and appear at the next session of the circuit court.

Mrs. Esther Cooke died in Chicago while there on a visit. Her remains arrived here and were buried on Wednesday;; the funeral services were held at the Congregational church, the Presbyterian clergyman officiated.

Haight's kerosene oil safe sprung a leak one day last week, caused by a plank falling on the faucet; it caused them some greasy work.

A large crowbar was found in the possession of Samuel West belonging to James Chapman. West proved no criminal intent on the premises.

There is sufficient material on hand that would extend this report to considerable length; the police transactions of the last week would make a good chapter if fully shown up, but I believe that in this hot weather we should do no more than what is absolutely necessary. I will therefore refrain from writing up--from putting you to the trouble of setting type for and from inflicting up any one the reading of--a long report from Oswego.

Yorkville: The fall term of the Oswego Seminary, G.H. Taylor, A.M., principal, commences Wednesday, Aug. 31 and closes Tuesday, Nov. 22. For terms, address the principal at Oswego, Ill. Mr. Taylor is one of the best teachers in the west and we know he will keep a good school.

The Messrs Black are putting four of Books' turbine water wheels into their grist mill at a cost of \$2,000 or more. This mill is to have also a new smutter, bolting apparatus, etc., which will make it the best custom mill on the river. Stebbins will run it.

The Illinois Press Association meets in Annual Convention at Chicago on Tuesday, Aug. 16h. At the close of the session, the members will go on an excursion from Chicago via Mackinaw and Sarnia to Montreal, Quebec, and Boston, leaving Chicago on the 18th by Steamer Montgomery. We want to go and if our subscribers and advertisers will pay up right smart, we'll make the trip.

August -- 1870

Aug. 4: A powerful institution of this kind has commenced active operation in this town, the Oswego Manufacturing Company opened their books last week upwards of \$10,000 was immediately subscribed; last evening the stockholders met and elected directors, viz.: A.B. Smith, P.G. Hawley, H.W. Farley, C.L. Roberts, L.N. Hall, M.C. Richards and L. Rank.

The firm of Warner & Steiner, brewers, seems to have been rendered a complete wreck, internal dissension first started them for the breakers and now outside pressure is about to finish the work of destruction.

Aug. 11: At a meeting of the directors of the Oswego Manufacturing Company, H.W. Farley was elected president; C.L. Roberts, treasurer; and M.C. Chapman, secretary.

James Scott, years ago a hotel keeper in this place, was in town the other day; so was Samuel Stone, a former farmer of this township who now resides in Canada.

Mrs. Stoutemyer, now a resident of Missouri, is here on a visit.

The Franco Prussian War is now the principle burden of sidewalk and other public conversation. Outside of our French population, Louis Napoleon has but few supporters, the Germans here are pretty much all very enthusiastic for the success of Prussia.

The new constitution took effect on yesterday morning; so far it has not wrought any material change in the looks of things in Oswego.; some want their bitters just as much now as they did heretofore. One man (an official) came out with a new pair of breeches on, whether in consequence of the new constitution or not, I am not able to say.

Ladies are continuing to con--must close abruptly--mail time.

Yorkville: L.G. Bennett has a house at Oswego Station, which he has had taken to pieces, and is to be removed to Yorkville and again put up in the grove just west of the Court House. It is being brought here in wagons.

Work has ceased on the Rock River R.R. in NaAuSay, and the hands discharged. We are informed that the contractor at New York desires his contract for finishing the road be extended one year as owing to the European war, no money can be raised to carry on the work.

On Tuesday of last week the shaft to the large water wheel in Arnold & Lane's Mill, Bristol, gave out and stopped the machinery. It was a bad thing to fix, and hey have been to work ever since making the necessary repairs.

Aurora Items from the *Beacon* Saturday:

We are informed that 200 men will be set to work upon the Fox River Valley railroad between this city and Geneva during the ensuing week.

Aug. 18: A one-armed man established himself in the street, whitewashing teeth the other evening. He met with poor success, disgusting everybody with his coarse wit.

The brewery property, which had been levied upon, except the safe, the same being replevined, was sold by Constable Radley in accordance with the several writs of execution issued.

A Mr. Dowling, residing in Troy, was around the streets the other day apparently deranged, his folks came after him and took him home. He has been living here but a short time and it is said that he is subject to such spells.

A party consisting of Charley Still, Newt Gillespie, young George Avery, Will Hinchman, and Os Briggs started with covered wagon and tent for the West on a hunt, calculating to be gone some time.

Four of our boys went away yesterday morning, it is said, with the intention of enlisting in the regular army. One of them had returned last evening.

The directors of the Oswego Manufacturing Company had another meeting last evening, all present but A.B. Smith, who, by the way, is sick having a very sore foot occasioned by a sprain, I believe. A set of by-laws were adopted, an assessment levied, and treasurer's bonds fixed, the feasibility of immediate active operations discussed, and a general comparison of ideas--as to which should be done--took place.

Walter Loucks is ornamenting his premises with a new picket fence.

It is reported--and I think correctly--that John P. Bartlett and Emma Minkler got married last Sunday.

Schram & Wormley, or vice versa, is a firm established to carry on the butchering business at the union meat market.

Yorkville: There are lively times at Post's dam. Messrs. Wing are digging out a race and quarrying stone for the new mill. Mr. Post is at work raising the dam four feet higher.

The Latter Day Saints under the presidency of Joseph Smith, have one of the best printing offices west of Chicago at Plano. They have a neat steam engine, one of the Taylor Cylinder presses, jobber, etc., and many facilities for binding. They issue a number of books there--the Book of Mormon, Book of the Covenant, Hymn Book, tracts, &c. Besides the "*Latter Day Saints Herald*," they now publish the "*Hope of Zion*," a paper for the use of their Sunday schools. It is a handsome typographical production. Joseph Smith, Mark H. Forscutt, and Isaac Sheen are the editors and business managers, while Messrs. Scott, Patuck, Dille, and Kennedy do the typographical work.

The *Beacon* of Saturday says a party of 22 men and 11 teams arrived in this city last Wednesday from Oregon, Ogle county, to work on the Hinckley road; but Mr. Hinckley not being ready for them, they went to work on the Fox River Valley road. Jackson & Rowe, the contractors for grading the latter road between here and Geneva, have now a large force employed and are rushing their job right though.

Aug. 25: A company styling themselves "Hinds" gave a sort of theatrical exhibition here Tuesday evening of last week. It would be ungenerous in me to find fault with their performance on my own account, being that I was a deadhead, but those who paid had reason to complain. There was a fair turnout, but many were the deadheads; the receipts did not pay the expenses; naturally they were disgusted with Oswego and wanted to get out of it as soon as possible and so Charles Jolly was engaged to take them to Plainfield that very night. Now, whoever is acquainted with Mr. jolly knows that he is not sufficient aplomb so as to act judiciously under all circumstances, and so on this occasion he got into difficulty with these showmen after their arrival at Plainfield. He was struck in the face, breaking his jaw in several places. Upon his return, Dr. Lester performed the necessary surgical operation. Owing to his profuse bleeding Wednesday evening, some fear was had that his life was in danger, and a warrant was procured for the fellow who struck him and he was brought back that night under arrest and lodged in the calaboose. The rest of his companions also returned on Thursday and in the evening and arrangement of some kind of compromise was effected, said to be a money consideration. The prisoner was discharged; nobody appeared against him. The statements in regard to the origin of the fuss by the respective parties were of wide difference.

Yorkville: President Grant and troops passed through here Monday morning on their way to Elgin. Some 50 persons were at the depot when the train stopped. On their return, Grant could be seen with the "irrepressible" cigar between his lips.

Men were finishing up the grading on the Fox River Railroad in Yorkville on Friday, the 19th.

Arnold & Lane have finished repairing their mill and started operations again on Monday last.

Aurora. --From the *Herald*: Messrs. Rowe & Jackson are now employing about 175 men on the grading of the Fox River Valley R.R. between this city and Geneva.

September -- 1870

Sept. 1: For once, there is a first class item, an elopement. One evening the latter part of last week, Pat Monaghan, a boy of 19 years of age eloped with Mrs. Dowling and her three children; Mr. Dowling, the lady's husband, was absent from home; both parties were residents of the Patch [Troy].

Rufus Stebbins made his appearance in this town the other day. He left here in the spring of 1850 for California; 20 years have changed his appearance so much that none would have recognized him.

Mr. Wollenweber got his face considerably blackened by getting into a fight the other day at Herberger's saloon with a party from the Patch [Troy]. Dan Lillis, Jim Rowan, John Gauhan and others were the assailants, who had urgent business abroad after the occurrence; the authorities are now gathering them up for the purpose of a legal investigation.

The hauling of ties on the Fox River Railroad has been begun hereabouts.

The sidewalks on the Court House block are being repaired.

Yorkville: Married, at Princess Anne, Maryland, on the 18th day of August, inst., Col. T. Lyle Dickey of Ottawa and Mrs. B.C. Hurst of the former place.

The Vermonters' Pic-nic meeting, last Thursday evening, was fully attended by an enthusiastic assembly of "Green Mountaineers." The meeting was organized by appointing Hon. A.K. Wheeler chairman and Prof. T. H. Hasseltine secretary. The meeting adjourned till next Monday evening, at which time all Vermonters, their wives, and children are invited to meet and hear the reports of committees and make such other arrangements as are necessary for the success of the Vermont Basket Pic-nic.

Sept. 8: The news items of this town for the past week are of less importance than that furnished by that out of the way place in the northeast part of France, Sedan, a town that a month ago we didn't know was in existence. The receipt of the news of the surrender of McMahan and the capture of L.N. Bonaparte caused great excitement; some were almost beside themselves. Henry Van Buren Young was so elated that for a while the Cayuga Chief was entirely lost sight of; Sour Krout and Frogs were the principal subject of sidewalk conversation ever since.

The Oswego Seminary fall term commences Wednesday, Aug. 31st, 1870 and closes Tuesday, Nov. 22d, 1870. For particulars address the principal, D.H. Taylor, A.M., Oswego.

The party out on a hunting expedition have returned.

James A. Durand was in town the other day and Farley has been to the Springfield convention.

The prohibitionists of this town have called a meeting for the purpose of ratifying the doings of the Bloomington convention.

The German Methodist church is exhibiting a good deal of energy since Mr. Forkel their present minister, took charge of it. Evening meetings are held very frequently.

Mr. New went through here this morning with a lot of horses for the Chicago market; they were gathered up about Yorkville.

Public school has commenced, Mr. L. Van Fossen is the principal; other teachers, Anna Brown and Amanda Weeks. Mr. Taylor's select school, which commenced about two weeks ago, is also in a flourishing condition.

Wells Brown, Dell Lockwood and several other boys have joined the regulars. I learn that New Mexico is to be their destination.

Sept. 15: The events of this town embraced in the past week are not calculated to fill the world with astonishment; the dullness to some extent was owing to the Fair at Bristol, which was attended by a number of our citizens.

On Thursday, a couple from the vicinity of Bristol Station (formerly inhabitants of this township) started for the Fair; on the way they became absorbed in the thought touching the destiny and existence of man, thoughts that were probably stimulated by the baby show of the day previous; the next to the principal maxim uppermost in the gentleman's mind was the scriptural one, "it is not good that man should be alone," their minds filled with thoughts of a nature so highly interesting they happened to get astray and brought up at the residence of a certain minister in Oswego; they were duly disposed of as in such cases made and provided, that is, married, after which they hurriedly started for the Fair. Their names are James Morrison and Lydia Maxim.

Wm. Briggs, formerly proprietor of the old National hotel was in town the other day, and so was Marcus A. Fenton; it looked like old times to see them round town. The Hon. John P. VanDorston was also here on a visit yesterday.

The railroad bridges over the Waubonsie and Bartlett's run are completed.

M.J. Richards has built a sidewalk; another four rods of corporation ordinance carried into effect.

L.N. Hall started for Joliet this morning as a delegate to the Congressional Convention.

Sept. 22: Everybody went to Aurora last week to attend the fair.

In consequence of Farwells refusal of the candidacy of M.C. at large from this State, the ratification meeting called for last Saturday evening did not transpire.

The trestles on the railroad about here are all completed and workmen are now engaged finishing the grade preparatory for the ties.

All the Gaughans have moved away; gone to Kansas.

Several families have moved into town from appearances our population considerably increased since the taking of the census.

The lightning rod men nearly all returned and gone into winter quarters.

Wormley & Lane is the new firm of butchers.

The front of Greenfield's store has been painted a dark brown. Bradford did the work.

A loud argument against whiskey was furnished last night by Crazy Mary. She made the night hideous by her drunken shouts; went to the calaboose, or rather was dragged there. Troll was called up after midnight to assist.

Yorkville: The grading on F.R.V.R.R. is completed to Aurora. The iron is down as far as Buck Creek from Ottawa, and is reported to be going on at the rate of four miles a week.

Mr. Cliggitt wished to decline the nomination for Sheriff last Saturday, but A.B. Smith promised to take the office off his hands if he was elected and John said no more.

Sept. 29: Wm. A. Hawley and Geo. B. Lyon under the firm of Hawley & Lyon, have opened a grocery and crockery store in Shepard's building.

Asher B. Hall, Sheriff of Harris County, Texas, on his return from a trip east is stopping over for a few days.

The painting of residences of M.J. Richards, the general fixing up of the premises of Mr. Mullenix, the new sidewalks in front of Mrs. Minard, and F. Coffin, the rolling out of the middle of Washington Street the hardheads that laid there all summer are the latest prominent improvements about town.

The grand display of the Aurora Borealis last Saturday night perhaps cannot be strictly claimed a local item, not being confined to this place, yet apparently almost above Oswego, a little to the south of it, was the electrical currents at that point the flow from a circle of 60 degrees seemed to concentrate, rendering that portion of the sky for awhile dark red.

Episcopalian services were held in the Congregational church Sunday afternoon by a minister from Aurora, I think.

The farmers interested in the celebrated Texas cattle suit have just started for Princeton to attend the second trial.

Yorkville: We think the people of this county have reason to complain at the result of the census taken by Mr. Thomas Springer, Deputy Marshal. The returns as published in the *Chicago Tribune* of Friday last gave us a population of 12,398 in 1870, against a population of 13,074 in 1860. We cannot accept the figures of Mr. Springer as correct.

Grundy, Will, LaSalle, Kane, and DeKalb, the counties around us, show a very large increase since 1860, and we certainly have been open to the same influences.

Our [rail] road is more promising than ever--and that is saying a good deal. E.A. Black informs us that the iron is laid from Ottawa to Streator, and that on Monday night the hands passed through Yorkville up the river to Montgomery to lay the track from that point down. The iron will be laid to this place [Yorkville] in three or four weeks. The company intend to run the cars from Ottawa to Geneva by the 1st of December.

October -- 1870

Oct. 6: Uncle Sampson Pratt got his horse stolen one night of last week; it is supposed that Frank Overton is the thief. It appears that Overton's family moved away from here last week with the intention, it is said, of going to Ohio, his father-in-law being present to assist them. Frank subsequently returned and in the evening wanted to put up with Pratt; this was refused him because of his dissolute habits. That night, Overton and the horse disappeared. Constable Radley has been out several days in pursuit; he returned yesterday afternoon; it is said he was partly successful; did not learn particulars.

It may be said that Oswego is now in spiritual darkness, being it is left without a clergyman in it. Mr. Barclay, the only one now belonging here, has gone to Iowa on a month or six week visit.

The question of forming a Union Church organization is agitated. The Congregationalists and the Baptists, both regularly organized and having good churches, have been without preachers for some time, especially the latter. The Liberal Christians and the Universalists individually (neither of them is organized) and also many of the heathens favor the movement, and promise their support. It is hoped to get a large organization so as to secure a celebrated preacher.

A new billiard hall has been established by C.W. Still over Avery's saloon.

Yorkville: A game of ball was played last week between two Aurora clubs. Score, 84 to 49--heavy game.

We now issue 888 papers, well on to a thousand.

Oct. 13: And now we are a railroad town; the iron track runs through Oswego; every morning and evening we hear the puff of the engine, the screeching of the whistle, the ringing of the bell, and the rumbling of the cars; we have accomplished the most essential requisite giving importance to a town; we have now that which made the 19th century a success, which has elevated Illinois in wealth and population to the fourth State of the Union and to which Aurora is owing her greatness.

There is no longer any need for Oswegoans to be poor or have the blues, no excuse now for dull times. I want to form a co-partnership with someone who has plenty of stamps in

order to start a Daily newspaper; somebody ought to set themselves up in the banking business and furnish with money, which is still tight, the OO&FRV to the contrary notwithstanding. This town is now presenting fine opportunities for capital seeking investments.

It was last Thursday that the locomotive first made its appearance in our town; the cows stared at it and so did everybody else. The event transpired without any unusual noise or commotion, there was no gunpowder burned and nobody tore his garments in consequence of it. There is now a three-cornered contest about the location of the depot, one party wants it south of Washington St., another north of it, and still another wants it on the other side of the Waubonsie. The southern location to my mind is the best; the central and the most convenient for the present business community and the one that likely will be adopted; it is proposed that if the latter is chosen, to open from Main street and avenue to it by removing the Sherwood and Cooke buildings, which lots in connection with the alley would make a good thoroughfare to the depot.

A child of August Darfler, 11 months old, was buried a week ago today.

Dan Brownell and wife have started for Nebraska; so did Mrs. Congrove with her numerous children, to join her husband.

John Babbett has moved to the Grove.

The Bartlett troupe which was to exhibit here Saturday did not come on time.

A.B. Hall starts today on his return to Texas.

Yorkville: The trial of the Walker vs. Davis cattle case from this county has just concluded at Princeton. The jury found a verdict against Major Davis with damage in favor of Lauriston Walker for \$800. The case was tried here in May 1860 and the jury gave Walker \$550 damages.

D.M. Haight of Oswego should call himself a produce and commission merchant as well as a drygoods and grocery dealer. He advertises for tons of butter, thousands of eggs, carloads of timothy seed, etc. The best is, he pays cash for these articles and now ships direct to the East by way of the Fox River R.R.

By next Tuesday, weather permitting, the iron horse will be in Yorkville to awaken the people by a regular railroad whistle. On Monday afternoon we saw the train about two miles west of Oswego and the tracklayers hard at work laying from half to three quarters of a mile per day. The train is made up of three or four flat cars and the same number of box cars with CB&Q engine No. 54 to draw them. Proc. Sherwin is the conductor of the train and will probably run a "passenger" when the road is completed. We climbed aboard Monday and took a short ride on the Fox River Valley Railroad between Oswego and Yorkville.

Mr. Jackson of Millford has preceded the tracklayers and put in the culverts and bridges, and has done substantial looking work. The bridge across Ament's Creek is a fine one,

and the one over Morgan's Creek is also strong looking. Opposite Montgomery the grading is about finished, and the roadbed on the whole line from Ottawa to Geneva is ready for the iron. After 15 or 20 years' working the friends of this road are about to see their hopes realized by the completion of the road, and we all rejoice.

Mr. Hadden wishes us to inform the farmers that he will close the Bristol Station warehouse this week indefinitely. There being so little business done, it does not pay to keep a man at the house. We hope farmers will be able to ship their grain from Yorkville by the first of January.

Oct. 20: Last week's report contained a few errors--instead of D. Brownell and wife having gone to Nebraska, he went alone; instead of Mrs. Congrove and children ditto, they went to Paw Paw; instead of A.B. Hall having started for Texas, he changed his mind and staid over.

John B. Lane has left the meat market and gone to Colorado where his folks are living.

Thomas Miller and wife have moved to Akron, Ohio.

Both McConnells have returned to the Oswego Mills.

The first frost was experienced last Thursday morning.

In consequence of the unfinished condition of the railroad, the train ran off the track the other morning near town. No one was killed or hurt.

Mrs. Seymour, 70 years of age, who has been sick for several months, was buried last Sunday.

Yorkville: General Robert E. Lee, who was commander in chief of the rebel armies during the late war died on the 12th at his residence at Lexington, Va., of congestion of the brain. He was in his 64th year.

The steamer Comet, built at St. Charles, commenced running between Elgin and Clintonville on Fox River last week.

Dayton has a new railroad depot--the first one built on the new line of the Fox River Valley railroad, and a neat little frame building it is, standing on the lot next north of the school-house and but one block removed from Dayton Exchange.

J.J. Budlong and H.C. Cutter on the Oswego road, have as neat residences as a man could desire to live in. Mr. Budlong has a beautiful flower garden.

Farmers have commenced husking corn.

Last Thursday while laying the track on the Fox River R.R. one of the iron men had three of his fingers badly mashed.

#### STOPPED

The CB&Q company have gobbled the Fox River road, operations upon that line have been stopped north of Aurora, which city will be the northern terminus. The grading has been done as far north as Geneva, but the iron will not be laid.

We found the above item in the *DeKalb News* and it seems we must go from home to get the news. The above, however, is not reliable news, as there is no doubt whatever but what the iron will be laid to Geneva.

Oct. 27: On Thursday of last week was received the first freight by the Fox River R.R., being two carloads of lumber for Mr. Bunn.

The Barretts, a theatrical troupe, performed two evenings of last week. Their principal plays were "Uncle Tom's Cabin," and "The Sea of Ice," which were splendidly executed; financially, however, their labors were not a success. The last evening Frank Richards contributed largely to the music.

The other evening, while it is said some boys were amusing themselves by throwing stones at the showman's flag suspended across the street and dogs that would happen to be about, a stray stone went through one of Richards & Edson's 28x52 French plate window light.

A very handsome lantern sign was put up at the upper billiard saloon.

The common council had a meeting on yesterday. The business transacted was important, being the allowance of some bills; the more weighty matters were postponed among which, it is hinted, is a projected ordinance of their infallibility.

Yorkville: Oswego has a depot site located and is in feverish doubt whether to ask \$50 or \$100 per front foot for lots within hearing of the whistle.

Capt. Bunn, the Oswego lumber merchant, received two carloads of lumber last week over the Fox River Valley R.R.

The railroad track will probably be laid through Yorkville today. On Tuesday the train was down to the Big Slough, a mile above.

The Fox River Valley RR Company has purchased half a block on Madison street in Ottawa on which to locate the depot. There is no truth in the rumor that the company has sold out to the CB&Q folks.

A grand promenade concert will be given by the Kendall Cornet Band assisted by others who have kindly volunteered, in Chapman's Hall, Oswego, Tuesday evening, Nov. 1, 1870. The Band will play a choice selection of Quicksteps, Polkas, Waltzes, Gallops, &c.

The Arion Quartette Club will give several of their best selections. An Amateur Orchestra composed of ten instruments will perform favorite selections Admission 50 cents; children under 12 years, 25 cents.

November -- 1870

Nov. 3: A boy of Mr. Wm. Bradford's about six years old was buried last Saturday. Also on Sunday a child of Alfred M. Wormley was buried.

M.C. Richards lost a pocket-book. P. Daly was arrested for finding it as was suspected; the matter was compromised.

The location of the depot is now the most exciting topic on the carpet; the uptown men have decidedly the start, they have Chapman on their side, who was very busy yesterday raising money for that purpose.

Yorkville: On Thursday last, the 27th of October, 1870, a train of cars on the Fox River Valley Railroad entered Yorkville for the first time. It made the people of the villages feel big.

Engine 54, belonging to the CB&Q R.R. drew the train. On Friday, Hon. W.P. Pierce came down as a passenger from Oswego.

It was rather amusing to see the locomotive haul up along side of Crooker & Hobbs' pump there to have its tank filled with water by means of buckets. Ground has been broken for a water tank just east of the Saw-mill, near the head of the race.

A switch has been put in east of Black's rag-house, with all the appurtenances. By the time this reaches our readers the train will be out of sight down the river leaving only about 12 miles of track to lay between here and Ottawa.

#### THE LEASE OF THE FOX RIVER R.R.

The Facts of the Matter

From the *Railroad Gazette*

During the year 1869, the CB&Q R.R. Company added to its lines 202 miles of road, being an addition of 50 percent to its mileage. This year it seemed that no further extensions would be made and until very lately the company has undertaken no new work. But last week it was announced that it had leased the Ottawa, Oswego & Fox River Valley Railroad, now nearly completed from Streator, 16 miles south of Ottawa, northward through Ottawa, Yorkville and Oswego to Aurora. It is also partly graded from Aurora to Geneva, which was to be, for the time at least, its northern terminus. Some newspaper reports have intimated that the conclusion of the lease would cause the abandonment of the line between Aurora and Geneva, as the Burlington company has a branch in operation from Aurora to Batavia, within two miles of Geneva, which branch is separated from the line of the Fox River Valley road only by Fox River, the latter being on the west and former on the east side. But this report must have had its origin with those who supposed that the lease was made a few days ago and since the contracts on the section between Aurora and Geneva were let. But the fact is that the lease was

executed early in August and the agreement made even earlier. We are authorized to say that the road will be completed to Geneva and the whole operated as a branch of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy road.

This road, which is to be completed by the first of December, will add 70 miles to the Burlington company's lines. For a considerable distance--perhaps 20 miles south of Aurora--it is nowhere more than three or four miles from its main line, but separated from it by Fox River, which is a considerable stream with bridges usually several miles apart. It has on its main line, but separated from it by Fox River, which is a considerable stream with bridges usually several miles apart. It has on its line several considerable towns, such as Geneva, Batavia, Aurora, Oswego, Yorkville, and Ottawa and as its southern terminus is among the Vermillion coal mines at Streator, where a fuel equal to any in Northern Illinois is mined in great quantities and at a very small cost, it is likely to have at once a considerable business in the transportation of coal both to towns on its line and to those on the main line of the Burlington road between Mendota and Chicago, and also for the use of that road, which now uses Wilmington coal brought by way of Chicago in its shops and locomotives on its eastern division. The road will also afford a new route to Chicago to towns on the Chicago & Alton and the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific roads and to a considerable district east of Fox River, the distance between it and the Rock Island road being for the most part more than 15 miles.

Nov. 10: A Mr. Wing of Chicago is boring an artesian well in front of Coffin's store; the bore at present is 32 feet deep, eight feet of which was earth and the balance rock. If successful it will prove a very handy affair for the thirsty be it man or horse; that side of the street and that block is already celebrated for its thirst-quenching facilities.

The promenade concert of the Kendall Cornet Band proved a great success musically but a failure financially.

The side track necessary for depot purposes is now being graded under the superintendence of J.W. Chapman. The expenses I believe are defrayed by subscription of our citizens.

Nov. 17: Yorkville: Arnold & Lane of the Blackberry Mills, received a carload of White Winter Wheat on Saturday last. It came from Montgomery over the Fox River R.R. There were 300 bushels, and is the first freight received in Yorkville over this road.

The new water tank is up and presents quite a neat appearance. The track through the town has been straightened and the ties bedded.

On Wednesday night of last week as the construction train was going up the river, about a mile above Yorkville the tender jumped the track, caused by water flowing through a cut, making the roadbed muddy and causing the track to settle.

Nov. 24: It appears now that the truth of the old proverb that "All is well that ends well," will once more be vindicated by the completion of Fred Coffin's artesian well; the bore is now about 70 feet deep, the water coming up about half way.

On Saturday afternoon was sold at auction the goods left in the pledge by the showman Harry Gray for damages done to Charley Jolly's jaw; they consisted of all the necessary lady's wearing apparel, including curls, waterfalls, and other paraphernalia; also stage costumes for men and portions of stage implements being a great variety indeed.

Mary Gallagher, about 16 years old, died the latter part of last week. She was buried on Sunday, at Aurora, under the direction and form of the Catholic church.

The Fox River Valley Railroad broke one of the commandments last Sunday.

Yorkville: Our railroad men are not active church members. Last Sunday was spent by most of them in stringing out ties down the road. It was a novel sound to hear the puff, puff of the engine through our street during service in the churches.

December -- 1870

Dec. 1: Lauriston Walker vs. Wm. Noble Davis, cattle case in court. Davis received a load of Texas cattle, which apparently brought disease with it. Walker's cattle were infected, and he sued Davis under state law for damages.

Quite a number of former Oswegoans are now in town or have been within a few days past, among whom I might mention Mrs. Sophia Perine of Ohio; Joseph D. Kennedy and wife of Iowa; Mrs. Mary Richards of Chicago; Chas. D. Townsend of Chicago; and Dar Bradley of Aurora.

Thanksgiving was observed more general than usual; most of the business places closed doors during the religious services, which were held in the Congregational Church, the Presbyterian Minister preaching the sermon.

The R.R. company has been setting their telegraph poles through town, and by the way there is some dissatisfaction on the part of some of our citizens, especially the Trojans, with the proceedings of the R.R. Company. It appears that the said company don't come down with the stamps sufficiently prompt to satisfy some through whose land the road passes in consequences of which there has been fencing up of the track and forbidding of the further use of the road through their possessions going on.

Fred Coffin's artesian well proved abortive, the depth of bore upon discontinuing operations yesterday was 81 feet all solid rock with the exception of about 9 feet on the surface. If nothing more was accomplished, it at least establishes the fact that Oswego rests on solid foundation.

Dec. 8: The depot question is settled--the grounds staked out immediately above Washington St.; there seems to be not much else going on now on the road but graveling.

### School Notes

The Marysville school in NaAuSay is in charge of Chas. W. Rolfe this winter. He is a young teacher and seems ambitious. If properly sustained by parents and directors he will do well.

Do School Directors know that it is their duty to prescribe what text books are to be used in the schools and that the books in each school must be uniform? It is not a teacher's mission to use two or three different arithmetics in one school.

Frank Quereau, a nephew of the President of Aurora Seminary, takes his first lessons in teaching in the Cherry School, AuSable Grove.

Dec. 15: The construction of a side track and switch; the dance last Friday evening at Chapman's Hall are among the principal achievements of this town during the past week.

Yorkville: Eight carloads of lumber came down to Yorkville last week on the F.R.V. Road--four cars for Mr. Ernst, the lumber dealer, and the rest for the Railroad company. When we get a grain warehouse, we will publish the Yorkville grain, lumber, and stock markets weekly.

Post's dam across the river is finished and the water has backed up the river some distance in consequence. Wing's new mill is nearly done. It is a fine looking building.

### MARRIED

In Yorkville, Dec. 10th, 1870 by Willis Atkins, Esq., Mr. Michael Carnuf and Miss Celia Opman, both of Oswego.

Dec. 22: C.H. Fritchie, about 20 years of age, was buried last Wednesday; the funeral services were held at the Presbyterian church, of which he was a member.

Edwin A. Carpenter and Miss Diadema Davis were made man and wife one day last week.

A Methodist sociable was held at the residence of Mr. Newton last Friday evening. A special feature of entertainment was that of instrumental music performed by the band composed of Ives, Parkhurst, and Richards. Ladies also very musical. On the whole, it was quite a musical affair.

The first carload of hard coal on the FRV was received last week; consignee Mr. Snook.

Hall has a very large and fancy stock of Holiday goods.

Ed Herrick, after an absence of over 18 years in California, made his appearance in town last evening.

At the Masonic meeting Saturday night, and election was held for officers resulting as follows: For Master, A.B. Smith, reelected; for Senior Warden, James Pearce; for Junior

Warden, Charles Roberts Jr.; Treas., Wm. Parker, reelected; Secretary, Gustavus Voss; for Tyler, David Goudie.

This week's issue of the *Record* probably will be the last this year. As I would like to close my reportorial labors for the year with a first-class item, and as there is none to be got at the expense of anybody else, I conclude to furnish it my self. It will be needless for me to mention the deed by name; nothing else could induce me to perform the rash act but that of creating a sensation. Some no doubt will regret my sad and sudden end, and some won't. The majority of the Corporation board probably will; it was my intention before my defunction to pay my respects once more to the honorable body, to refer them to the subject of sidewalks, to what they have done and what they left undone and some other matters, but it is past now. If you want the further services of a reporter in this town, I would refer you to a Mr. Strooley, a very nice young man far better qualified than I was; and now the last of : I.B. Urstrulie.

Yorkville: Conforming to a pleasant custom (to the printer), no paper will be issued from this office during the Holiday Week.

The *Aurora Beacon* says the Fox River Railroad has been turned over to the care of Roadmaster Hoyt of the CB&Q.

#### LETTER FROM ALABAMA

By A.L. Brown of Kendall County

Montgomery, Ala., Dec. 13, 1870

Mr. Editor.--Here I am, in the old capital of the Rebel Confederacy, where Jeff Davis publicly took his oath of eternal hostility to the Yankee. Being engaged as Superintendent of Schools for Freedmen in this city, I expect to remain several months, and am bent on learning what I can of the condition and prospects of the South. Having the general supervision of several schools, only a portion of my time is occupied actually teaching. An able and experienced corps of [unreadable] teachers is employed, the number of colored pupils being between three and four hundred.

I find that the feeling against Northern men and Northern principles is still very strong in many places. On my way to this place, I fell in with the editor of a Raleigh, N.C. paper. When asked as to the political situation in North Carolina, he said that the universal desire was for peace and harmony. But it was very evident from other remarks that he, at least, desired peace and harmony only on Democratic Terms. [Unreadable] the time would soon come when the new amendments to the constitution would be rendered null and void and would be swept away like chaff before the wind. A Mobile merchant tells me that he has no objection to Northern men coming South if they only behave themselves and let politics alone; that the negro ought to be educated, but that Northern teachers have no right to instill into his mind their fanatical doctrines. Many of the people still believe in State rights; declare that the general government has no business to interfere with "our institution," and that slavery is the normal condition of the negro. They seem to have an undying hatred to "scalawags and carpet-baggers." Carpet baggers, you know, are radicals from the North, but scalawags are native southerners who have embraced Republican principles

There has been great excitement in this city over the recent election of a Democrat to the United States Senate, and also over the contest between Smith and Lindsay for the gubernatorial chair. Smith has served as Republican governor for one term. He was re-nominated by the Republicans for the recent election. Lindsay was nominated by the Democrats. The latter received a small majority of votes but Smith, considering the election illegal, undertook to contest it and refused to give up his office. If he had held out, he would no doubt have been successful, but coward that he was, he at length withdrew his claim and Lindsay immediately took possession of the office. It now remains to be seen whether the Democrats are sincere in loud professions of peach and good will toward all the people of the State.

The poor whites of the South are curious specimens of humanity. They are far inferior to the colored population in some respects. Ignorance and indolence are their prominent traits, and they seem to have no desire to better their condition. It must be confessed the same is true of the colored people to some extent, but it is not true at present, I think, as a general rule. Their desire is to become useful citizens and to give their children education. It will be some time before the proper state of things is brought about. The whole South presents a broad field of usefulness to the philanthropist and the Christian. But I must bring my letter to a close. With my best wishes for Kendall County in general and yourself in particular, I remain, most respectfully,

A.L. BROWNE

Dec. 29: No issue published.

1871

Jan. 5: In this town the beginning of 1871 was similar to the end of 1870, the two events happening so near together that things were found very much the same at the opening of the New Year as they were left at the close of the old.

On New Year's Day, the weather being very pleasant, everybody went to church with their best clothes on making the several congregations most fashionable.

The Methodists were holding revival meeting all through last week and are to continue through this.

Business changes: Andrew Metzger successor to Jacob Herberger. New establishments, Murphy & Ashley, oyster and confectionery saloon, on Main Street in the Smith Block.

It had been currently believed that on or about the holidays, personal relationships would be greatly enlarged, that the number of parents, children, brothers, and sisters in law would be much increased, all of which, however, proved a delusion. Apparently those that could have married wouldn't and those that would couldn't.

Yorkville: The Kendall County Bank to be established in Yorkville will be located for the time being in the *Record* building, proper arrangements being now made to accommodate it. When fully under way, the officers will be enabled to see their way clearly and will probably put up a building for banking purposes exclusively.

#### Among The Indians

County Surveyor [Lyman G.] Bennett has left us for a few months. He has been engaged by Uncle Sam to assist in laying out sections on the land of the Cherokee Nation and the Choctaws west of Arkansas and near Texas. Mr. Bennett will be gone about four months, said he wishes persons who want surveying done in the county to wait the time with patience until he returns.

In the *Chicago Tribune* we found an account of a lawsuit affecting citizens of Kendall County as follows:

In the United States Circuit Court, Therese LaFramboise v. William Noble Davis and John W. Cherry of Kendall County. this is one of the multifarious suits of the same plaintiff seeking dower. In this case, it is for assignment of dower in the Waishkeshaw reservation, being a reservation made unto Waishkeshaw, a Pottawattamie woman and her child (now dead) by treaty dated at Prairie du Chien, July 1829, containing one and a half sections of land at the old village of Nay-o-say at or near the source of the River Au Sable, Illinois, in Kendall County.

Jan. 12: For fast doings I would mention the demolition of a large portion of the saloon furniture of Mr. Metzger; the breaking of several heads; the calabooing of the proprietor; the arraignment of the same before Police Magistrate Burr, fining him \$25 all of which was accomplished with half an hour. It was considered at the time a complete German defeat, subsequently however, judicial proceedings for riot were commenced against M.C. Chapman, C.B. Smith, and J.N. Gillespie, the belligerents on the part of America; all of these came forward, plead guilty and were severally fined \$10 and costs; the wounded are improving and the destruction on the battlefield is again remedied.

On the evening of the fourth inst. a meeting of the subscribers to the stock of the OO&FRVRR was held at the office of Justice Burr to consider the status of their notes given in pursuance thereof; the matter was generally discussed and a committee appointed to confer with the RR Co.

A great religious revival is now taking place in this town. The Methodists, Congregationalists and the Presbyterians have laid aside all petty prejudices and made common cause and are now holding meetings jointly, both afternoon and evenings.

Being that this may be considered as my first appearance to the readers of the *Record*, my last week report I had not time to finish--it would perhaps be proper to write an introduction, but being that my time is again limited I will merely say that I shall endeavor to make my reports as correct and short as possible; that I shall not touch anything of a private nature; that I shall disregard mere rumors and all gossips; that upon all public affairs I shall be perfectly independent; that I shall show no partiality to

anybody, treating alike the high and low, rich and poor, noble and ignoble, and while I shall not be meddlesome, yet the privilege to criticize public acts of public men I shall fearlessly exercise; about my spelling and grammar I shall not be particular.

#### Yorkville: RAILROAD NEWS

On Sunday night the last rail was laid between Aurora and Ottawa at the Sheridan bridge. The trains are now running from Streator to Aurora.

The effect of the road on Yorkville is already seen and the town assumes a business air that seems foreign to it. The passenger house has been built south east of the Paper Mill; a temporary office has been opened by the CB&Q Co. opposite the grist mill with a gentleman from Sandwich as Station Agent. On Monday workmen from the CB&Q Co. commenced making a cattle yard and chute just above the water tank, and Lon. Halleck expected to ship hogs by it last night (Wednesday). Capt Bolster is on this work.

Tuesday morning a train went over the road to Streator consisting of a passenger car and two flat cars loaded with telegraph poles. We may expect regular passenger trains shortly. Helme & Dolph are to have a coal yard near their saw-mill and D.G. Johnson and Andrew Welch have one just east of the rag house.

Take it all in all, Yorkville promises to be a business town of no little importance, and there are many inducements for capital to come here for investment. It will pay.

Jan. 19: A letter was received by the friends of Cornelius McCormick, informing them of his death by apoplexy at a certain fort in New Mexico. He enlisted in the regular army last fall.

Sam Hopkins was in town the other day.

J.W. Chapman received three carloads of Vermillion coal; the first eight received here from the south on the Fox River Valley.

The Common Council had a session one evening of last week; the principal business was auditing accounts.

Uncle Ezra Smith is very sick.

Aurora: A large force of men are employed on the Fox River [rail] road between Montgomery and Geneva laying the rails. The bridge is nearly completed over Mill Creek and the road is rapidly approaching Batavia. We hear it rumored that the CB&Q will take up its track to the Junction after the new road is completed to Geneva.

Jan. 26: A Mr. J.T. Beebe has been installed as station and express agent for this town.

The wire for the RR telegraph was put up one day last week; so far no provisions have been made to get off any dispatches here.

Last Friday evening, a cotillion party, being one of a series given by the Oswego Dancing Association, was held at Chapman's Hall. These parties are conducted under rules of strict propriety.

Now that we have a railroad and telegraph complete and another telegraph underway-- furthermore, Oswego represents the second O in the OO&FRV--it is presumable that we intend to keep up the town and even if possible to enlarge upon it; now a town without a hotel is like the play of Hamlet with Hamlet left out. How would it be to raise the funds necessary by voting a tax upon the property within the corporation and the taxpayers receive hotel stock in proportion to the amount of taxes they pay.

Ezra Smith, upwards of 70, one of the oldest settlers, has just died.

A train yesterday collided with a cow, which happened to be on the track above town, the cow was thrown into a snowbank. I understand there was no damage done to cow or engine.

Yorkville: There has been a great dearth in coal in these villages the past week. Every one is out and waiting for coal to come up on the railroad. Three carloads of Vermillion coal went up to Oswego last Friday.

Editorial by editor John R. Marshall: The long-looked for and glorious time for Yorkville, Oswego and Millford has come after an anxious waiting of fifteen or eighteen years. These villages now have a railroad running through them with four passenger and two freight trains a day making good time over its rails. The people rejoice. On Thursday last, three engines with cars and a hundred working men came down from Aurora and in a few hours cleared the track of its weight of snow to Streator. In the afternoon, Andy Welch came back to Yorkville with the train and two carloads of Vermillion Coal to a coalless people. On Friday morning, Jan. 20th, 1871, the first regular passenger train ran down the road to Streator, and now the "thing is did." The telegraph wire is up and we are in connection with the world at large.

February -- 1871

Feb. 2: The all absorbing topic of yesterday was the great railroad breakdown at the bridge two and a half miles above here; quite a number of Oswegoans were on the train, among whom were the three American clergymen of our town, whether or not to their presence was owing one part of the lucky result of the occurrence, I am of course not able to say. As soon as the report reached here (which was brought by John Chapman, who was on the ill-fated train and returned to town on foot) Mr. Hoze and H.C. Hopkins repaired to the scene for the purpose of estimating the damages and ascertaining the cause; their report is not yet made public, enough is known however that they censure the surveyor for curving the road too sharply thereabouts.

The funeral of Ezra Smith was held at the Congregational church last Wednesday afternoon. Mr. Gould the Methodist Minister, preached the sermon.

Furthermore one day of last week, under the management of the Rev. Hugh A. Barclay, Mr. Byron Morgan was married to miss Annie R. Williams and Miss Annie R. Williams to Mr. Byron Morgan.

At the school some boys in possession of an old pistol with which they wanted to practice shooting at marks--used the blackboard for such purpose, which of course was done in the absence of the teacher; a remonstrance was made against the proceedings.

Yorkville: The Fox River line is advertised in the Chicago *Tribune* as being the shortest line and making quicker time than any other to Ottawa and points south.

Vermillion coal is selling in Yorkville for \$450 per ton at the yard and \$5 delivered. If we are not mistaken, the coal men promised us coal for \$3 or \$3.50 when they were asking loans to build the railroad. It costs \$2.50 per ton at the mines.

We print 888 papers this week. Our circulation is increasing steadily. Thirty-seven quires weekly is a large circulation for a country paper. Advertisers, take notice.

A new road is to be opened in Bristol up the river through Mr. Lathrop's land to Boyd's, thence north to the old Oswego road. The Road Commissioners refused to open it, but three Supervisors were appealed to and they thought they knew better what the people wanted than the Commissioners did and decided to open the road.

Persons entering the *Record* office notice a change in the appearance of things. Our business desk is to the left of the door--the Kendall County Bank occupies the right side. We can take all the money that comes in--Mr. Cass (for the bank) pays all the money that goes out.

Feb. 9: All in regard to the doings and condition of this community for the week past--as far as I was able to ascertain--may be expressed in the following beautiful lines of Shakespeare:

“Everything is lovely,  
And the goose hangs high.”

With the exception of considerable uneasiness on the part of some members of the German Lutheran Church because of the Methodists of that nationality undertaking to convert some of their number into better Christians than what they are already, nothing was observable but what was bright and serene.

At the German Methodist Church the revival services are still progressing. On the part of the American churches, frequent union prayer and conference meetings are still held.

Owing to the severe snow storm Sunday afternoon, the Union meeting in the evening at the Presbyterian church was sparingly attended.

One of the favorite and the most brilliant party of the Oswego Dancing Co. came to pass Friday evening. There were upwards of 60 couples present.

The hotel question has been somewhat discussed since my introduction of it in the *Record*; the joint stock plan seems to be the favorite project. It has been suggested that the hotel should bear the name of the largest stockholder, and that "Judson house" ought to be it.

Aurora: A party of a dozen good looking young Oswegoans in pairs rode up in sleighs last night and took oysters at Baldwin's.

Five routes were surveyed for the railroad between Aurora and Joliet: One direct from Joliet to West Aurora; one from Lockport by way of Plainfield and the Fox River Valley bridge below Montgomery; two from the CB&Q track one or two miles east of the city to Lockport and another from the same starting point across to Plainfield.

Yorkville: School Notes:

Happening in to the Oswego School the other Friday afternoon, we witnessed an interesting contest in spelling between Miss Brown's department and Mr. Van Fossen's. The first trial resulted in a draw, both sides missing the word. The second resulted in a victory for the upper department. Katy Lester, a little Miss, being alone on the floor. "Salad" seemed to be the hardest word to spell, a dozen going down on it.

The Russell School, Oswego, is doing well, but is held in a very poor house surrounded by nothing pleasant to the eye. Mr. John Cliggitt is a teacher of merit and good common sense.

Mr. A.J. Goodier is teaching the Cutter, or Fox, School near Oswego, and is doing finely. This district pays \$50 a month and board, and is a small one, but they believe in having good teachers.

Feb. 16: The hind trucks of the hind car of the upbound passenger train last Thursday evening ran off the track in consequence of some defect in the switch, in this manner running over the Waubonsie bridge, breaking all of the cross-pieces; no other damage done. The bridge was repaired before morning, causing no delay to any of the passenger trains.

Yesterday a couple of gentlemen from abroad opened an auction store for the sale of dry goods in Chapman's building.

Abe Emmons and family have moved to Lee county near Amboy.

Last night about half past 11 a brilliant meteor exhibited itself.

Yorkville: Mr. Grid. Kennedy of Bristol shot a fine deer about a mile and a half or less south of Yorkville on Thursday He had seen two in the woods, but only got one of them. This poor hunted animal will soon be extinct in Illinois.

We have just received a letter from the Cherokee country written, we suppose by Mr. L.G. Bennett. It has been wet and is so much damaged that it is impossible to read it. We are sorry, because we know it would be of great interest to our readers. We hope the "Arkansas Traveler" will write again and send his letter by a waterproof mail.

Feb. 23: During one night last week, several demoralized dogs got into Cowdrey's sheepfold and raised havoc among the sheep; 58 were found dead or in a dying condition in the morning when first discovered and enough more badly wounded so that the total loss probably will exceed 75. Such acts will not improve the reputation of the canine race.

A steer belonging to Mr. Judson was run into and thrown off the track by a freight engine; the consequence--a broken leg to the steer.

Results of church meetings: Congregational, 38 new members of which 7 were baptized; Methodist, 23 new members of which 16 were baptized; Presbyterian, 12 new members, of which 5 were baptized.

Yorkville: Many southern papers try to make it appear that Ku Klux organizations are but a mere myth. That they are a terrible reality can be testified by many honest men throughout the State of Alabama. It is only a few days since Judge Blockford, an old resident of Green County, Alabama, was driven from his home by a band of disguised men and sought refuge in this city. While here he was telegraphed to, that his life would be spared if he would sell all his property, settle up his business, and leave the State within ten days. The only reason that they gave for treating him thus was that he belongs to the Republican party. He laid the case before Governor Lindsay and was told that nothing could be done in his behalf. So, the old gentleman, after a residence of many years, must leave the State in order to save his life. This is only one instance of the Ku Klux depredations, out of a large number that might be mentioned. No person, unless he has resided for a time in the South, can fully realize the terrible state of affairs that exists here. There is no limit to the enmity that exists against "Northern teachers, carpet baggers, political adventurers, vampires, and emissaries." If a Republican would live in Alabama, he must make up his mind to fight his way through, braving danger, abuse, and social ostracism.

A.L. BROWNE

March -- 1871

March 2: Mrs. S.B. Colver, with her youngest boys, started last Thursday morning, for the state of Nevada where she calculates to make her future home having already several

of her children settled there. Quite a number of her friends were at the depot to see her off.

In the evening of the same day, a Mr. I.M. Christie of Burlington, Iowa, left on the western bound CB&Q train with Miss Louisa Bennett, or rather who has been Miss Louisa Bennett heretofore. A few hours previous to their leaving the Rev. Mr. Barclay made them husband and wife. [Louisa was the younger sister of Lyman G. Bennett]

The hotel company has now an existence, new partners, however, will be taken in. About \$3,000 in stock is taken.

Spring elections will soon be on hand; who shall be our next city fathers? What shall be the issues? Who will consent to be supervisor and collector? The corporation trustees ought to be elected on the minority principle.

Yorkville: J.K. LeBaron Esq., has removed to Aurora, we hope temporarily. J.R. Simons of Oswego has also gone to that city.

It is expected the mail will be carried on the Fox River [rail] road in a few days, and that we will have two mails a day east and two west.

The mail route between Yorkville and Newark via Pavilion was discontinued on the 14th. The Department allows the Pavilion office \$52 a year to pay a man for carrying the mail from Yorkville to them three times a week.

#### School Notes:

Miss Beach has charge of the Squires school Oswego, or vice versa, we hardly know which. The school is in very bad condition. This is a nice pleasant house in a beautiful location and we hope this summer the directors will take a little pains and looking after the school. For it will be too bad to let such a fine class of children grow up without a systematic education. System and government is all the teacher lacks; she has education enough.

Miss Alice Swartwout is a first rate teacher and has taught the Updike school in Oswego nearly two years. She has 38 scholars and is doing well with them. Her grammar classes are excellent. She is thoroughly systematic in government and the movement of classes, a feature that always makes a school appear pleasant.

A young man from Aurora, Mr. Frank Clark, one of Prof. Charler's teachers, has charge of the Hem school, Oswego. He has 40 scholars. This school needs a new supply of textbooks of later date than it now has.

March 9: The wife of Hiram Miller, who resides in the west part of the township was buried in the Oswego cemetery one day last week.

The funeral of a small child of John A. Young took place Sunday afternoon; the services were held at the house.

Lewis Beach and the wife of his brother Riley took their departure on the Friday morning train for Butler county, Neb., where they expect to meet her husband, his two brothers, and her two brothers-in-law, besides several other Oswegoans who went there last year and affected settlement.

Wm. H. Chattle and wife started yesterday morning for California with the intention of locating there.

Charles M. Bennett and family also started for their new homes--Springfield, Mo.-- yesterday. Mr. B. has been for many years residing in this township, owning a very nice farm on the road to Aurora west side of the river. He was a man of somewhat strong prejudices, would frequently meet with opposition causing a jar; he would express himself freely and openly about others and but always use the mildest language. He did not consider Oswego as the most perfect place, nor its inhabitants all without spot or blemish; he was not an enthusiastic admirer of railroads and railroad companies, especially the Fox River Valley; otherwise he was a very good man a prosperous farmer and the head of a large and very nice family.

Jobe G. Faust, who for a few months tried Iowa for a residence and business, has returned and is now setting up a store of general merchandise in Chapman's building.

The sidewalk on Jackson street has been extended the balance of Helle's lot; it would have been very convenient during this muddy weather if said extension had been continued to the depot.

The mail was to be received on the FRV yesterday, our post office folks governed themselves accordingly; but it failed to connect and Nick had to be dispatched again for the CB&Q to get it.

Van Evra & Cole have commenced taking down the warehouse on the CB&Q, which has been bought by Newton & Co., and is to be removed to, and put up on, the FRV at this town.

The hotel issue is lagging; who will agitate the subject?

Politically, Oswego is dead; nobody seems to be concerned about the approaching elections; no speculations in regard to the next presidential candidates. Since John Chapman got R.R. on the brain, we have been politically bankrupt.

R.W. Mason and wife who were sojourners in Iowa for the past four or five months, have returned this morning.

March 19: Jason and Rush Walker have emigrated; Iowa is to be their destination.

The lightning rod interest is now fully astir; and by the way, Wm. Huggins had his barn struck and a horse killed.

Yorkville: Mr. Seely has posted notices in Oswego township annually for the past five years for the election of school trustees, but owing to the apathy of the people there has been no election and the old board has held over from year to year. On the 10th of April, the regular election is held, when it is proposed to elect a new board throughout. Will the voters of Oswego who take an interest in our common schools make an effort to go to the polls and vote? It is necessary.

March 25: Newton Gillespie has gone to the Rocky mountains.

Geo. E. Marsh, for several years the station agent at the Oswego depot on the CB&Q line, has moved to LaMoille; W.C. Wilkinson has taken his place.

Albert Snook reconstructed the sidewalk past his premises on Main street; sidewalks also have been increased about the depot.

There is a disagreement among those concerned, concerning the location of the warehouse.

The firm of Murphy & Ashley has dissolved; Ashley is now the sole proprietor of the establishment.

Mrs. Chloe Brownell started this morning for Nebraska to join her husband, who went west there about six months ago and found a home.

There was a general rush of citizens to go off in this morning's train.

The municipal election will take place next Saturday; so far but very little has been said about it; there seems to be a general apathy prevailing in regard to it, which augurs not well for lovers of progress.

Yorkville: The CB&Q Company have lately put on the road two of the handsomest and most comfortable passenger cars that have yet been built and cars that cannot be excelled by any road in the United States. One of them is attached to Conductor Hackney's train on the Fox River Division, the other is on "Billy" Cummings' train on the main line. They both join at Aurora and go to Chicago under "Billy's" care. It is a privilege to ride in them. New and handsome seats covered with crimson plush; woodwork of oiled black walnut with panels of birds' eye maple; metal fixtures all silver plated, and all finished in magnificent style.

March 30: The most important event of his burg the past week was the municipal election on Saturday, the campaign of which was short but spirited. A citizens' caucus was held on Friday evening at Chapman's Hall, which was, or at least was to be, a movement in favor of no particular interest, party, ring, or individual; no issue whatever was made; the word license, prohibition, sidewalks, boulevards, Finnigans, or fanatics was never mentioned; the sole aim and object intended was to select the very best men independent

of any issue or principle and present them as candidates for city fathers. Dr. Lester presided; Esquire Burr kept the minutes. The first thing was the appointment of a committee of five of the most sagacious men, who were to retire, skim the community, and present the cream to the meeting. The report contained the names of G. Voss, C. Avery, L.N. Hall, A.B. Smith, and Thos Greenfield. However, the nominations were not agreed to, schism created, the dissatisfied element leaving the hall in a body. The rest of the nominations were gone through with a rushing and tumultuous yet harmonious manner. The bolters convened at Richards & Edson's Hardware store, organized another caucus--Judson chairman, Bunn, secretary, and nominated E. Mann, M.C. Richards, L.B. Judson, W.S. Bunn, and W. Strossman. Bunn was the next morning withdrawn, and Greenfield put in his place. At the election, the bolters proved victorious.

The old board was in session yesterday afternoon closing up affairs, which are said to be in very satisfactory condition.

George W. Kimball and Charles W. Still departed on yesterday morning's train for the Rocky mountains.

A child of Alex Dano, about a year old, was buried yesterday.

April -- 1871

April 6: A temperance meeting was held last night in Shepard's hall; Mr. Barclay delivered an address, further remarks were made by Gould, Mason, and Reed, the proposition to revive the Sons [of Temperance] met no very favorable response.

A suit at law between Shultz and Rowan of Little Rock growing out of a difference about some rent, was tried before Justice Burr yesterday afternoon; Smith and Hawley on opposite sides managing the case; the jury was out till near 12 o'clock failing to agree on a verdict.

At the school election yesterday Mr. Farley was chosen director to succeed Dr. Lester; the long term of school was voted.

The winter term of the public school has terminated; Mr. Van Fossen the principal has departed for Tennessee.

Several transfers of real estate have been made, among which is [the] Sage place on Madison street, bought by Mr. Farley; the Fowler place on Taylor street bought by Mrs. Ashley; the Devinny place by Samuel Hagerman; and some others which I don't mind right now.

A frightened horse of Judson's ran on to a bridge, got down and was run over and killed by the down going gravel train last Thursday; no damage was done to the train and but little to the bridge.

The vexed question concerning the warehouse is not yet settled; the project in vogue to exchange the Moore property for Mr. Newton's residence is yet undetermined.

The taking down of the freight depot on the CB&Q and the bringing of the same here has been accomplished; it is a rubbish looking mass.

The hotel question is up again but in a somewhat different shape from heretofore; it is now "who carried off the hotel?" Mr. Judson had a design drawn up by an artist in Aurora nicely colored and framed, making quite a handsome picture. It was put in the drug store on exhibition; occasionally it was taken out for the purpose of showing it to outside parties. To make a long story short, in this manner it disappeared and nobody now seems to know anything about what has become of it.

Yorkville: Telegraphic Dispatches sent to any point on the Fox River line between Aurora and Streator at 25 cents for 10 words and 2 cents for every additional word.

M.L. VanFossen, principal of the Oswego school the past winter, takes charge of the Oakdale Academy in Tennessee this spring.

At the Republican convention for the town[ship] of Oswego, nominations approved for Supervisor was H.W. Farley; Town Clerk, L.N. Hall; Collector, K.L. Walker; Road Commissioner, C.G. Doud; Constable, E.C. Strossman.

John W. Chapman ran independent for Supervisor.

L.B. Judson, J.S. Seely, and G.W. Parker were appointed central committee.

Roll of Honor of Oswego Schools for the Winter Term--The following have been present and punctual every day: Ida, Ada, and Eda Warner; and Hattie Billings. These were present, but tardy: August Keihl and George Lockwood. Roqua Minard, Katie Hopkins, Effa Parker, Willie Dufford, and Albert McLain are worthy of special mention for good deportment. Roqua Minard, Katie Hopkins, and Willie Dufford for diligent perseverance. All have made good improvement and done well, but with a few more books better work could be done. Too many depend on the generosity of others for the books always necessary. The class in analysis should have books. But the thing most necessary is the sympathy and hearty support of all. This it has not.

We would also urge parents to remember that as they train their children at home, so will they act and live in the school. Children honor or dishonor their parents just in proportion as parents honor themselves in bringing up their children.

L. VanFossen, Principal.

April 13: All of the public projects, such as the hotel, the warehouse, the ditch, the manufacturing company, the fountain, the society for the prevention of cruelty to animals, the organization of a Young Men's Christian association, the reorganization of the sons of temperance, the hearse &c. are in statu quo.

The lightning rod firms are now in a state of the highest animation, buying horses, hiring men, and getting their wagons ready for the season's business; especially is this the case with Teller & Moulton.

Our merchants have been receiving large shipments of new goods from different markets; their stocks have been greatly increased this spring. Apparently a large trade is anticipated.

The new common council--that is, the board of corporation trustees--had a session which was prolonged till late in the evening a few days ago, trying, it is said, to find the end where the old board left off, but adjourned without accomplishing the object.

Yorkville: A station has been located on the Fox River road three miles below Yorkville on the Vancleve farm. It is to be called Fox Station, we believe, and will be a great accommodation to many farmers in that vicinity.

A grain warehouse will soon be absolutely necessary in Yorkville. There is an abundance of corn in the county that will begin to move as soon as the farmers get through planting. Dr. Hopkins says he has 20,000 bushels to bring in and there are many who have from one to three thousand bushels to sell.

Last week the mercury was up to the 84 degrees mark, above summer time, doors and windows flew open, straw hats and linen coats came forth, and everyone was in a melting mood. Sunday was cooler, Monday it rained hard all day, Tuesday it snowed and ice formed on still water. Many fear these fruit buds will be injured.

April 20: The marriage of Levi N. Hall and Josephine Forbes took place on Thursday at the residence of the bride's parents where early in the afternoon the relatives and a number of friends of the parties assembled. Mr. Hall and wife returned from their bridal trip Saturday evening, and are now domiciled in what is known as the Durand place.

The same day, J.J. Potter of AuSable Grove married Carrie Pearce. They went to Aurora and had the knot-tying business performed there, after which they returned to the residence of John Pearce, the bride's father, and celebrated the wedding.

Crazy Mary was in town on a day last week and soon appeared in a very demoralized condition, lying around loose. People should not give or sell her more liquor than she is able to stand under, none at all would be better. Parents should also try to teach their boys to leave her alone. Such cases ought to excite pity instead of furnishing sport for boys.

Mr. Newton is preparing the ground for the foundation of his industrial building on the trans-Waubonsie side; he got the old freight house off his hands, which on yesterday again took to travel, its destiny being Sheridan.

Chapman is making a front entrance to his store cellar.

Pisciculture is to be introduced in this neighborhood. A certain Dr. Pratt is now establishing the necessary piscatorial arrangements on the farm of W.W. Wormley, which is well adapted for it.

The hotel project is lagging.

Pogue & Wagner, constituting a new firm and the proprietors of the new livery stable on the old National premises.

The depot building has been painted outside and is now undergoing the same operation inside.

The roads might be worked more advantageously now than they can be after a while.

Yorkville: Notice: Fox River Valley Railroad. The citizens of Aurora who subscribed stock in the above road are requested to meet at the Court House on Tuesday evening next at 7 o'clock to decide whether the officers of said road have complied with their part of the contract, and whether the said subscribers are holden for the same.

Our Oswego correspondent writes a splendid letter this week. He is the prince of localizers.

Sheridan has got the Oswego Station warehouse For enterprise and thrift, Sheridan and Mellington are leading Yorkville and Oswego and if some of our monied men do not come to the rescue, these villages will remain in status quo.

J.H. Dixon has sold his interest in the hotel at Plano to Mr. Charles Shibley of Oswego.

Who is "Crazy Mary?" The Aurora people are troubled by her and they say she belongs in Kendall County.

April 27: Upon a certain time last week an Aurora butcher was arraigned before Justice Burr for violation of a statute in relation to cruelty to animals; his offense consisted in leaving standing in the street a load of calves with their legs tied, while he found entertainment in a saloon, refreshing himself with beer &c; he was fined \$50.

A number of small boys for a change of amusement went throwing stones and dirt through the windows of a house occupied by a Dutchman; said boys were arrested yesterday afternoon and brought before the judicial authorities, where upon promising to repair damages and pay costs they were discharged.

Yesterday afternoon, Dud Randall made his appearance in our town with his new paper, the "Aurora Illustrated City Life," of which he distributed a few copies around town. An article in the same entitled "Oswego in Slices" caused a great indignation in the minds of those it seemed to concern, all of whom pronounced it a fabrication, the rest of a suggestion of a Young Gentleman now resident of Aurora, run through Dud's sensational

brains. The first heat produced by said article led to some extreme expression, it was even declared (and that too by the gentler portion of mankind) that the Editor of the paper ought to be Lydiatohompsonsized. It is hoped that nothing serious may grow out of this matter, no duels, no \$40,000 libel suits--let us have peace. [Lydia Thompson, a native of England, introduced burlesque to America. In 1870, Wilbur F. Storey of the *Chicago Times*, wrote a scathing review of Thompson's show. In response, Thompson, her husband, and a colleague horsewhipped Storey at gunpoint. Although arrested and fined, Thompson said she was glad of what she'd done. The incident made her even more popular.]

Yorkville: We have printed some handsome invitation cards for a May Party to be held at Oswego on the 12h of May. It is to be a select party. We consider the printing as good a job as can be done anywhere for the money.

Another exploring expedition under command of Major J.W. Powell has started for the canyons of the Colorado river, a section of country almost entirely unknown, having never been explored in a scientific way. Mr. John F. Steward of Plano is one of the party.

Kendall County Surveyor Lyman G. Bennett wrote a lengthy letter to the *Record*, printed on the page one and entitled "Jottings of a Surveyor," and signed "Arkansas Traveler." Bennett, a veteran of the 36th Illinois, had been hired to survey the Indian Territory. His letter is datelined "Camp on Red River, Ind. Ter., April 6, 1871." The letter describes the area around the Red River of Oklahoma.

May -- 1871

May 4: A little girl about 2 years old, of Rev. V. Forkel's, was buried on Thursday of last week.

The funeral of the widow of John Miller was held Sunday afternoon, her age was in the eighties; her husband at his death a year or two ago was 97 years.

John D. Hall's team, while at the depot Saturday afternoon got frightened and run away; coming up onto Main Street, they turned in at Troll's where quite a number of teams were hitched, upsetting several wagons and tangling things up generally; for a while there was quite a lively time; the damage done however was immaterial, the most being to Josiah Smith's wagon, of which both axles were broken.

The building of door yard fences, the planting of shade trees in several parts of the town are the most notable improvements going on at present.

The working of the streets and roads is now progressing under Capt. Mann as superintendent.

Mr. Newton's building is enclosed and will soon be ready for occupancy.

May 11: Issue missing from bound volume and microfilm.

May 18: Improvements.

A set of hitching posts in front of Faust's store.

A new door yard fence by Wm. A. Hawley.

The repairs of the Presbyterian church are favorably progressing.

Departures

Mrs. Race and Mrs. Cowdrey started for the eastern states on the 5.35 train last week Tuesday; also the bridal party S.P. Ives and wife, the latter heretofore familiarly known as Miss Cowdrey, departed for their home in South Pass in this state.

MISCHIEVOUS ENTERPRISE:

Levi Avery, a boy about 13 years of age, whose development of conscience is not yet sufficient to keep him from out of dark ways and from practicing vain tricks--heretofore he principally followed hunting and fishing--a pursuit well calculated to cultivate an evil disposition--last week he concluded upon a change of business selecting that of mercantile and the cutlery branch. Thereupon Thursday night he cut out a pane of light from Richards, Edson & Co.'s back window, went in, secured what little change there was in the drawer and about a dozen or so of pocket knives, took them to the woods and stored them in a hollow stump. Next day he went to Aurora and disposed of several, so far everything had come out well, but success in business is frequently abruptly interrupted and so with him. His great mishap consisted in leaving his own knife, with which he had removed the window glass, and which was identified by other boys--when arraigned he confessed.

Yorkville: Driving by the Cowdrey farm on Monday we saw George working his corn, a large field of which was up and growing nicely. He says he has plowed up bushels of potato bugs, and thinks he will get one of Squires' machines to clean them out in a few weeks. This machine is one invented by Mr. Squires, just above Oswego, which is said to clean the fines off thoroughly and deposit the bugs in a receptacle beneath. It is on wheels and a horse draws it up and down between the rows. There is no patent on it, and the inventor will show it to anyone who wants to make one. He has used it two seasons with success.

Mrs. Henry G. Smith died at the residence of her husband in Bristol Tp. on Saturday evening from consumption. She was a sister to Mr. Jas. Harkness and Mrs. John Dunn [? type blurred], of Kendall. Her age was about 30 years. Funeral services Tuesday from the Baptist church. A good wife and mother has gone to her rest.

H.G. Smith will sell at auction on Saturday, May 27, 1871 at his residence in Bristol Tp., opposite J.S. Cornell's, horses, colts, cows, hogs, wagons, double buggy, reaper and mower, plows, harnesses, household furniture, and other articles generally sold at a sale. A year's credit on all sums of \$10 and over.

May 25: Last Wednesday, George R. Schamp and Sarah A. Everett were joined together in the holy bonds of matrimony and immediately departed for New Jersey with the intention of residing there.

A little girl three years old of August Kuehl was buried on Sunday; funeral services at the Lutheran church.

By way of improvements, Coffin & Son curbed their sidewalk and flagged the street in front of their store.

The furnace project is yet in a pending condition; that of the hotel may be considered as defunct.

Catharine Feinden bought what is known as the Williams place in Block 7 on Washington street.

Yorkville: The annual meeting of the Illinois Press Association will be held at Rock Island on the 13th and 14th days of June.

We are informed by good authority that all applications to examine the books of the Fox River Valley Railroad Company have been refused. The committee appointed by the Supervisors to look into the matter were denied access to the Company's books.

Bring your corn, oats, or wheat to Yorkville and get two or three cents more per bushel than at any point on the Main Line of the CB&Q.

The gale of the 16th was quite severe in some places. In Montgomery, much damage was done. The *Beacon* says: "The Richardsons are erecting a considerable building, on contract, to be used as a post office, public hall, etc, in that village. The frame, which was nearly completed, was badly racked and considerably injured. The greatest destruction, however, was worked at the Richardson Factory, where the wind completely demolished their storehouse, a building 108 feet long and filled with, among other things, some 50,000 lights of sash. The stock, valued at near \$10,000, was scattered over the ground, in the race, and even into and beyond the river. The firm think their loss will reach about \$1,000. Had the wind continued two or three minutes more, it would probably have taken the Factory as well.

Yorkville: New Corn Sheller.--Jas. A. Godard is bound that Yorkville shall furnish abundant facilities for farmers to sell or ship their grain. At considerable expense he has bought a Sandwich power sheller and put it up in the grist mill--has put in elevators and all the conveniences needed to shell corn, weigh it, and store it in a cleanly and economical manner. The storage capacity of the mill is 15,000 bushels, and if farmers prefer to hold their grain it can be done.

Now then, friends, bring your corn, oats, or wheat to Yorkville and get two or three cents more per bushel than at any point on the Main Line of the CB&Q RR.

June -- 1871

June 1: I feel this morning like some stupid or bashful fellows do when sitting up with their sweethearts--cannot think of anything to say to fill up time--I cannot think of anything to write to fill up space.

Improvements.

George Troll has flagged the street in front of his establishment [saloon].

The public work on the streets is also progressing; Jackson street is at present undergoing repairs; Washington will be next attended to.

The members of the Oswego Ladies Association have been quite active the past week, to which may be owing to the wet weather just experienced; hearse business may have had something to do with it.

This is the year for the 1854 locusts to reappear; from appearances now, they promise a decided success.

Yorkville: In the Circuit Court last week was tried a case that has been on the docket a year or two. It was originally the town of NaAuSay suing Oswego Tp. for the support of a pauper. One Abe Kellogg, for a long time a resident of Oswego, was a pauper and we have heard Oswego sent him to his brother, Geo. W. Kellogg in NaAuSay, where he lived some years. Geo. K. demanded that NaAuSay should pay the board bill. It was shown that he was an Oswego pauper, and suit was brought against Oswego for his support.

In 1863, by a special act, Kendall County voted that each town should support its own poor. When this suit came up for trial, it was discovered that no record of the election had ever been made in the County Clerk's office. The suit was stopped and Geo. W. Kellogg brought suit against the county for the support of Abe, in the sum of \$1,000.

Last winter, Mr. Sherrill in the legislature got a bill passed legalizing the election of 1863.

The suit against the County commenced on Wednesday last and closed Friday. F.B. Parks was attorney for plaintiff and Canfield & Sherwin, A.B. Smith, and Irus Coy for defendant. It was proven by parol testimony [oral rather than written evidence], given by Supervisors and Town Clerks of 1863, that the election on "township support" in that year was carried by a large majority. The case was closely contested by both parties. The jury were out but a short time and brought in a verdict sustaining the county.

Trains on the Fox River road were quite irregular on Monday. Saturday last, a bridge broke down between Ottawa and Streator, letting a freight train down. No one hurt. Saturday night, the CB&Q Company commenced raising the bridge across the river near Montgomery a few feet higher and this work took till Tuesday morning. Passengers were transferred at this point, they having to talk across the river. Two freight trains remained in Yorkville Sunday and Monday waiting for the bridge to be completed. The road is being put in splendid order by the lessees, or owners.

June 8: Frequent and very heavy showers of rain were experienced the past week. In the storm of Sunday afternoon the barn of William Ladd was struck by lightning and consumed with pretty much all its contents, including two new wagons, reaper, mower, planter, harnesses and nearly everything required on a farm; also upwards of 300 bushels of grain, a part of which and also one of the wagons belonged to Abe Emmons, who upon his removal in the spring to Amboy left it there in store. Of the other contents a large share belonged to N.T. Ferris, who is working the farm. The entire loss will exceed \$3,000. The barn had one of the old style lightning rods on it that had a break. It is claimed however that the lightning didn't touch either one of the points; that it entered the barn at the end and away from the rod.

Joseph D. Brown and Miss Delphine English, a young couple, one hot day last week went to Yorkville in the forenoon and in the afternoon returned as husband and wife.

A child one year old, of Joseph Hinchman, was buried last Thursday.

The yesterday down going gravel train ran into Samson Pratt's cow, breaking her legs and making the butchering of her necessary.

George Troll has still further improved his establishment by a new and substantial platform, and newly painted blind on front door. His business must be prosperous.

Advertisement: Jabez Newberry still continues the boots and shoe business at the old stand, corner of Main and Washington street. All kinds of work made to order with neatness and dispatch.

J.G. Faust was advertising his dry goods, groceries, boots and shoes, hats and canes, crockery, and glassware.

Yorkville: During the terrific rain storm Thursday last, a construction train on the Fox River road was thrown from the track about two miles east of Millbrook and the engine and cars were smashed to pieces. The loss to the railroad company is considerable.

June 15: The German Methodists of the prairie are building a new church; location about four miles east of Oswego on the old Naperville Road on the land of Geo. Faust. The hauling of the lumber took place last week and now the foundation is under construction. There is to be performed a ceremonial of laying the cornerstone next Sunday morning.

The public school had a picnic Saturday afternoon in Cutters Grove; music by the locusts.

Ad. Radley shot and killed dead Metzger's dog yesterday morning; reason, didn't like each other.

The numerous typographical mistakes in my last week's report made portions of it appear nearly senseless. I overheard the expression in regard to it that "it must have been written by either a fool or a dutchman."

Yorkville: General Thomas J. Rodman, the distinguished ordinance officer of the United States army, and who has for several years past been in command of the United States Arsenal and other Government works at Rock Island in this State, died at Rock Island last week. He graduated from the Military Academy at West Point in 1841 and has been continuously in the army to the time of his death. He was especially distinguished for the invention of the great 15-inch columbiad known as the Rodman gun. He was about 50 years of age.

A new side track 1,200 feet long is being put in at the Yorkville station.

Conductor Hackney's train on the Fox River road has the patent air brake, by which the train is controlled by the engineer.

It is said that John W Chapman of Oswego owns \$15,000 in Fox River RR Company stock. Wherefore!

Near the Wormley School House, just above Oswego, a trout pond has been excavated into which runs a continuous stream of spring water. The pond now contains 2,000 young brook trout and more are soon to be added. This is a splendid place for a fish garden, pure water being abundant, shade trees contiguous, and the surrounding grounds very pleasant. Mr. Wormley proposes, we believe, to fit the grounds very handsomely.

June 22: Jacob H. Zimmerman, for several years absent in Iowa, has returned the same old Uncle Jake, making the town appear more like herself.

D.H. Taylor, the popular teacher of the high school, the efficient superintendent of and the leading spirit in the Methodist Sunday School, and the long-winded preacher of occasional sermons, or vice versa, has gone to sojourn in Ohio for a while.

Mr. Newton's establishment has nearly reached completion; the engine was received and put up last week. Last Friday night a small party of young ladies and gentlemen met there and had a picnic.

After walking several months the paths of soberness, Van again (to the regret of most everybody) returned to his old ways. The other day he got so full of the evil spirit, whisky, that a temporary stop in the calaboose was thought to be good. It took two constables to persuade him to go, during the night in appearing with a battering ram by a friend was effected up the back of the 'boose, through which Van made his departure.

The fixing up of the Presbyterian church is nearly completed; it is said that every thing is done in the most excellent style and exquisite taste; services will be resumed there soon.

Grading on the railroad has been done for additional side track, which is to be extended across Washington street, a thing that should be prevented.

Yorkville: A large number of Norwegians came down on Hackney's train Monday night, who will located in the south part of the county. A fine-looking class of people; they will make good citizens.

June 29: The Commissioners of Highways, held an adjourned meeting Saturday afternoon; the most important business before them, or at least that which has made the most talk, was the petition to vacate the piece of road to the CB&Q depot running through Wm. Parker's farm. The commissioners were relieved from taking action by the withdrawal of the petition; the strong opposition to it by certain parties led to a demand of the opening of certain streets in the Troy suburb, causing discomfort &c.

The public improvements of Washington street are now under way. Capt. Mann makes a very good boss, displaying much taste in fixing up the streets; his principal teamster Aleck is a tip top hand with the new patent scraper, and so is Billy McKeag with the shovel.

C.L. Roberts commenced cutting winter wheat last week Tuesday, or the 20th being perhaps as early a commencement of harvest as ever occurred in this section of country; the wheat was of the best and heavies quality.

A cow belonging to Mr. Forbes was killed by the down bound freight Friday noon.

A tornado of considerable force passed over the country for or five miles south of here doing a good deal of damage to orchards and outbuildings, also breaking off much corn.

Yorkville: We now use one of Dick's patent mailing machines to address our papers, and subscribers will find each week the date to which their paper is paid for opposite their name on the little slip.

Millford, Millington, Mellington, and now comes the *Aurora Beacon* with an item about Wellington Station. Our friends below must get another name for their town.

July -- 1871

July 6: The Glorious Fourth of July was ushered in early this morning with 13 loud guns from the Oswego cannon, itself was not a very big concern--the cannon, I mean--but very noisy nevertheless; there is now a continual explosion of fire crackers by the boys.

Wells Brown has returned from Fort Riley and quit the U.S.A.

A number of the lightning rod boys came home to spend the Fourth.

One day last week, G.M. Hollenback, as master in chancery, sold under a decree of the court the lands of the estate of Geo. T. Hopkins; Farley bought all but a 17 acre lot, which was bought by Fred Hertfield; the price ranged from \$30 to \$31.25 per acre.

The piece of land on the flat, also the lot on which the depot is situated, of the estate of the late Richard Cooke, was also sold under a decree of the court; J.G. Faust was the bidder-off.

Mr. Newton's establishment is now in operation.

The Lutherans last Sunday had a periodical consecration of their church at which several Ministers from abroad were present, and two of whom each preached a full sermon in succession, thus prolonging the meeting to a degree of tiresomeness.

Oswego Public School

Public examinations of classes will take place on Tuesday, the 11th inst. The afternoon of the following day will be devoted to literary and other exercises by the pupils, after which the school will close for summer vacation.

Anna Brown

July 13: Mr. Edward Essington and Miss Annie Peterson from near Plattville were married by Mr. Gould the Methodist minister.

This being the season of general vacation of the public schools, those of our schoolmarms who have been teaching abroad have returned, among which I may mention Miss Mary E. Murphy and Miss Florence Child.

In the case at law of Porter vs. Lavake tried before Justice Burr the other day, a verdict was obtained in favor of the plaintiff; the dispute seemed to be as to whether a certain cultivator had been sold by Porter's agent to Lavake or merely left on trial.

The railroad company has lengthened the side track, put in new switches, also additional stringers on the Waubonsie bridge with new and heavy ties, and otherwise much improving the track hereabouts; an additional depot building was also shipped here yesterday.

July 20: The public school closed last week; the examination proved very satisfactory and the teachers Anna Brown and Amanda Weeks are receiving the praises of everybody. Miss Brown has gone home to Plano.

Ordinarily this is not one of the most stirring towns, and now, owing to the harvest season it is particularly quiet. Many of the modern institutions or callings do not and never will be made to prosper here; especially is it a poor place for a newspaper reporter. It never yet has furnished a first-class sensation.

J.H. Sutherland is here on a visit for the first time in five years. Michigan has not changed him in the least.

Pat Diveny has moved in town. He is as jolly as ever.

Yorkville: Pratt's Photograph rooms in Yorkville are closed and will remain closed till the middle of August.

It is rumored that Washington Bushnell, president of the Fox River Railroad Company, and D.F. Cameron, Secretary, received \$100,000 for signing the lease of the road to CB&Q co. It hardly seems possible, and we do not credit the truth of the report.

July 27: L.B. Judson has traded \$8,500 worth of his farm to Hanna of Aurora for city property in that town, among which is the double store on the west side occupied by Hanna Brothers and some dwellings on Lincoln Avenue.

The second attempt of a trial of Dr. Van Deventer--in regard to his note given for RR stock--on yesterday proved again abortive; no jury was attainable, in consequence of which it was put over two weeks.

A very nice Tornado thrashing machine was unloaded here yesterday for Schark & Holderman.

The brick building of Mrs. Smith is now being renovated for the occupation of George Burghart as a saloon.

August -- 1871

Aug. 3: The katydids have begun their annual music.

Richards, Edson & Co. have established an iron hitching post in front of their store.

A new firm in the coal trade--Bunn & Faust--has been created; they have built a coal house on the side track and commenced receiving coal yesterday; their wagon scales they have located in front of the lumber yard.

D.M. Haight has invented a new contrivance in the management of retailing kerosene oil; it does away with the safes and faucets; it prevents any waste resulting from leaky barrels, over running of the measures, or from the spilling in filling cans and bottles, it confines the unpleasant odor, keeps everything clean and under cover, and out of danger of fire; it saves labor, requiring but a minute to prepare a barrel for use; the oil is taken from the bung by means of a pump.

The RR Co. has put wooden sewers under the track on Washington Street.

Gustav Koch is the name of the Lutheran clergyman just moved to town.

Charles Fox, who some 18 years ago was one of Oswego's small saucy boys, being the youngest son of Doctor Fox, then residing here, was hereon a visit for a few days last week.

The Aurora silver plating establishment was consumed by fire on yesterday.

Brady & Fuller, a traveling firm dealing in songs, stories and the shamrock oil, held forth on the street in front of the post office last night; they are loud and entertaining fellows and may be considered a success.

John P. Mullenix has returned on a furlough from the lightning rod service in an enfeebled condition.

Aug. 10: Check bound volume; microfilm unreadable.

Yorkville: Business on the railroad is lively--another reason why our town should be incorporated is that there may be some means to present the running of trains at such a high rate of speed.

Aug. 17: Yesterday was the hottest day of the season, the thermometer raising to 104° in the shade on the north side.

As I cannot think of any other item of news, I shall have to draw pretty largely upon the Sunday services of the churches in order to make out an article of the usual length. In the forenoon I went to the Presbyterian, whose pastor is disabled and in whose stead Rev. Mr. Beans officiated. Now there may be some who don't know Beans, and for their benefit I will say that he is the young man who several years ago taught school at Specie Grove in the district embracing Mr. Stevenson and who now resides at Channahon. In the evening I went to the Methodist church and there Mr. Beans preached again.

Yorkville: Hot and dry: Monday was the hottest day of the summer. Thermometer 104 in the shade, 92 at 7:15 in the evening. It is almost unbearable. The ground is parched and vegetation is wilting and burning beneath the intense head of the sun. A rain is anxiously looked for.

Mr. John Wheeler of NaAuSay drove 56 head of fat cattle through Yorkville Thursday evening to Bristol Station. They brought over \$3,000. Ferris & Green bought them.

Aug. 24: An *Aurora Herald* man spent the biggest part of last week in town, going to every house and shop soliciting subscriptions.

The horse race Saturday afternoon terminated in favor of the livery stable folks, the mare Maggie taking the first two heats.

Wm. Ladd is building a large barn in the place of the one consumed by fire a while ago.

A large train of teamsters for a Lake Superior railroad camped across the river last night.

The railroad stock note suit commenced some time ago was withdrawn by the plaintiff.

Billett & Beaupre, a firm moved down from Aurora, have opened in the lower Sherwood building on Main Street--business fruit, confectionary, &c.

Aug. 31: A few more days and death will be no longer any terror; the new hearse is ready for delivery. The ladies who brought about this achievement of a free hearse through raising of moneys in fairs, socials, etc. now wish to finish their labors and enjoy the fruits of it. The greatest harmony and goodwill was maintained during the endeavor and their several years of joint labor, and it is now hoped that no jealousy will spring up between them, and that the honor of its first usage may not create any envy among them.

What's his name, the Aurora auctioneer, was in town Saturday afternoon and evening with a miscellaneous lot of goods, selling it out of a wagon in the street.

D.H. Taylor's school commenced last Monday.

Miss Libby Murphy has returned to Amboy to teach again.

At base balling last Saturday afternoon the McPhersons beat the Harvesters, a country club from out east on the prairie.

The RR Co. should not allow their freight trains to be standing across Washington street over half an hour at one time.

Earl Sutherland has returned from Wisconsin where he has been lightning rodding.

The exclamation was frequently heard during the past week, why don't this man Strooley write like the *Aurora Herald* man about this town? Can't he write about anything without getting the worst side out? Apparently I am standing in worse odium now than ever before among this people brought about by the extolling articles in regard to this town lately published in that paper. Well, so we go.

Yorkville: Dr. G. Kendall of Lisbon brought the names (and money) of ten new subscribers last Thursday that he obtained in about an hour and a half one evening. We thank him.

For the past three weeks, we have been printing 984 papers--this week our subscription list is calls for 1,008.

September -- 1871

Sept. 7: An account of the wedding of Ella Judson and Martin L. Ashley is given. The wedding took place at the home of her father, Lewis B. Judson of Oswego. Bridesmaids were Orpha Ashley, Emma Burdock, and Helen Makinney. Some 100 guests attended the wedding.

The barn raising of Wm. Ladd's took place Friday at which Pat Berke got considerably hurt; a piece of timber striking him on the head.

Yorkville: In a front-page article datelined Mouth of Unita River, July 22, John F. Steward of Plano, who was with the John Wesley Powell expedition exploring the Grand Canyon, recounted the party's adventures.

There are many boys from five to ten years of age in these villages who will use the most profane oaths and the most disgusting language in the streets, and are never chided for it by anyone. It is too bad that these little ones should be allowed to grow up as street loafers.

Sept. 14: The Oswego Postmaster reported a theft of cash from the office.

Miss Norris has established a dressmaking institution on the south corner of Main and Washington streets.

Yorkville: Addison H. Albee, an old resident of Oswego township, died at Aurora Monday, Sept. 4th, aged 61 years. He settled in Oswego in 1836.

Sept. 21: in consequence of the Aurora Fair last week, the spending of superfluous money of our citizens was transferred to that town, leaving Oswego in the meantime very quiet.

John F. Gibbons, formerly of this place and late of Mississippi, to which state he had moved last spring, partly for the purpose of regaining his health, which instead, however, was rapidly failing, especially within the last month; he undertook to return, got as far as Aurora, where he was taken to the Fitch House and where he died. His remains were brought down yesterday; the burial took place Tuesday.

Edward M. (known as Eddie), 14 years of age, son of Wm. Parker, was buried last Sunday. The remains were taken to Plainfield for burial.

Kirby's show was not well appreciated. The second night's audience was very slim. The gift enterprise part of it did not add to its popularity.

Charles Roberts Jr., a few weeks since, went on a visit down to Champaign county; the other day he returned with a beautiful young lady as his wife. That is just as it should be. Charley is a good boy, and deserving of a nice wife.

James Samse also arrived yesterday from Chicago accompanied by a beautiful wife, just wedded.

Thomas J. Seely, who has been sojourning in Indiana for some months, has returned. He, however, did not bring any Hoosier girl with him for a wife, and it is well he didn't.

A new upright Steinway piano was received yesterday for Mattie Snook.

The firm of Hawley & Lyon has been dissolved, Geo. B. Lyon withdrawing. J.B. Hawley is incorporated in the new firm.

A hay press has been put in operation on Hanna's farm. Bell & Robinson, I believe, are the proprietors; they are Eastern men.

Yorkville: Another letter this week on the first page from the great Colorado Exploring Expedition. It is very interesting. The word canon appearing so often in Mrs. Steward's letters is pronounced canyon, and should be printed with a Spanish N to give the sound, but we have none among our type. A canon (or canyon) is a deep gorge or gulch worn down by water courses, with high, precipitous banks. Used principally in the Rocky Mountain country, Mexico, and California.

Sept. 28: Arrivals.

Geo. W Kimball from Colorado; Mrs. Cowdry [Cowdrey] from New York; James Snook, ditto.

Departures.

H.A. Barclay for Iowa; Charles Roberts and wife (newly married couple) returned to Rantoul; Miss Annie Jolly, Chicago.

Saturday afternoon, two young men from the neighborhood of Minooka were in town and the guests of Geo. Troll; they satisfied the wants of the inner man; being in a hilarious mood they appeared on the sidewalk and publicly uttered indecent sentiments; they were informed that they must dry up or else get calaboused; they started for home, got in their wagon, starting off on a trot; the end of the line hanging out and catching in the hub thus winding it up caused them to come to a stop, enabling constable Radley to arrest them and lodge them in the calaboose; they were fined \$10 each and cost, failing to settle or give bail they were returned to the 'boose, where they spent the night and the Sunday, towards evening of which some friends appeared, settled their fines and effected their release.

Yorkville: Mr. Daniel Platt in digging a well at Plattville struck a vein of water at the depth of 44 feet that throws out water over the surface at the rate of ten or 12 barrels an hour.

The old Eagle Mills in Aurora burned down Sunday morning.

October -- 1871

Oct. 5: Conrad Urban is the name of the tailor who has established himself above Smith's shoe store.

The public school commenced a week ago yesterday.

Newton & Hopkins have gone into the manufacturing of cider; their apparatus, a new one, is established at Newton's across the Wauponsie.

Ed. Richards and Chas. Mann have opened a quarry up the Wauponsie on the land of Mr. Loucks from which they are taking very nice building stone.

It appears that Mr. Mann will accomplish what was overtaken by many ex-pathmasters and upon which they had played out, namely the getting of that portion of Washington street between main and Adams in a proper condition; he has it well under way.

Last week Tuesday, a child of Anton Miller a little over one year of age, while running about the house, went into a back room where a tub of water was standing, and in it was drowned.

Mr. Van Evra, being under bonds to keep the peace and because of his occasional sprees, his bail was thrown up and on yesterday he went to Yorkville.

Turner & Long have packed up a spare billiard table and some other furniture to be moved to that go ahead town of Mellington. Doc. Long, I understand, is to go there and operate a saloon.

Albert Snook is building a large addition to his residence.

Alexis is not expected to come to Oswego. [Grand Duke Alexei Alexandrovich of Russia was sent on a grand tour of the United States and Japan in 1871. Although he didn't visit Oswego, he did visit Chicago in December 1871.]

Oct. 12: There is a large string of local items on hand, but I failed to come to time writing them up, more or less owing to the excitement caused by the Chicago fire.

Yorkville: Terrible Calamity!

The Heart Burned Out of Chicago! The Business Part of the City in Ruins. Six Miles in Length by One Mile in Breadth Burned! A National Disaster!

We scarcely know where to begin to tell of the terrible circumstance that has happened to the great city of the Northwest. Chicago has been desolated by fire and the city is a scene of ruin and want. Monday morning the mail train arrived in Yorkville without a Chicago mail; but the news instead that no trains had left Chicago that morning on account of the great fire that was then raging. People would scarcely believe that the reports could be true, but as the day progressed we learned that half the truth was not told--that it could

not be told. Our loved city of the West--Great Chicago was stricken and paralyzed by fire!

Oct. 14, Saturday: We issue a half sheet in order to post our readers on the news. Since the Great Fire, newspapers have been scarce, and for that reason we take this action. Another half sheet will be issued next Wednesday evening, which will make up our regular Weekly edition.

While all minds have been turned to Chicago in her calamity, immense fires have been sweeping the forests and villages of northeastern Wisconsin. We have had a tempest of fire. Menekanne and Peshtigo are in ruins; Manistee has been nearly consumed and over a million dollars worth of property destroyed. There were 300 houses and mills burned.

Oct. 19: I believe all in Chicago hailing from this town have been heard from and have escaped bodily injury; much anxiety was had about Ed. Lyon and family, a rumor was current that they were all separated from each other, that Mrs. Lyon had been seen frantically running about the streets; James Chapman, her father, had been there looking one day for them, he went a second time, in the meantime however, Mrs. Lyon and children arrived. They have lost all their effects and so have several others from this town.

Oct. 26: But little else besides the routine doings transpired the past week. A good many took a trip to Chicago to see the ruins.

It is said that a firm of young ladies are coming out from Chicago to set up a dressmaking and ladies furnish goods establishment.

Billett & Boprey have closed their business and left for other parts.

Two photograph cars are now in town, the respective proprietors are F.C. Gill and A.W. Peters; now is your time to get your pictures taken and hand one to Strooley, especially the young ladies.

Some parties commenced yesterday to sink a bore in the well of Smith's hotel.

A lawsuit has been commenced by Mrs. Obman against Mr. Obman; divorce and injunction, I believe, are the issues embraced.

John Bell--principal of the hay press--has returned from Massachusetts where he had been suddenly called because of the death of a married daughter.

The approaching election is treated as if it didn't concern Oswego; not a word is said about it.

Yorkville: The water famine continues in the county off from the river. Wells are drying up and stock is watered with great difficulty. It is becoming serious. A long, steady rain is anxiously prayed for.

Sheriff Kern recently took a bail bond bearing 39 signatures. it was from a party in Oswego whose wife wants a divorce and who doesn't want him to run away.

A.D. Curran lost all his household goods in the Great Fire and he must have assistance from his old neighbors and friends. The Bristol Station Dramatic Association will give an entertainment for his benefit Friday evening, Nov. 10th.

The corn crop in the county the present season is enormous. Our farmers are bus husking and cribbing and say corn never matured so early. It being so dry, however, it hard on the hands of the huskers. Lott Scofield, Esq., of Big Grove, has 200 acres of corn and he says he is yielding 60 bushels per acre by weight.

November -- 1871

Nov. 2: Old Mark Beaubien was in town the other day.

Newton Gillespie and Robert Jolly have returned from Colorado.

The dedication of the new German Methodist church on the prairie took place last Sunday afternoon.

The church is very neat both inside and out, is very nicely finished off and contains a fine sounding bell. These Germans have been extraordinarily enterprising in church matters. While sitting there in their beautiful and comfortable church, I was reminded of the past when they met from house to house to worship, their houses being small and poor at that, when they would sit upon rough boards fixed up for temporary benches, but with all these incontinences their religious fervor then was ardent as now if not more. After a while they built a spacious building for both church and school purposes, the basement forming the school room. Subsequently, they bought of the Presbyterians the stone church on Washington street [southwest corner of Main and Washington, site of Church of the Good Shepherd], holding meetings in town as well as on the prairie. And now they have a third and more suitable one to their present circumstances.

I heard a man from abroad remark a short time ago, "A stranger coming into your town wants to get out of it as soon as possible because you have no hotel--not that I find any fault with the accommodations at Smith's for they are good enough, but it is no regular hotel." Your town never will amount to anything until you get a hotel.

Yorkville; A few days ago, Guy C. Wheeler of NaAuSay, shot a large eagle in a cottonwood tree on the farm of Hon. O.C. Johnson. It measured 7 feet and 5-1/2 inches across the wings from tip to tip. Mr. Johnson says he had seen this eagle two or three times, and it appeared very tame. He could go up with a few yards of it and not scare it.

The remains were sent to O.S. Wescott in Chicago, who stuffed it and set up as natural as life.

Nov. 9: Orson Ashley and his son, Martin, started yesterday for their new home in Kansas near Topeka; they chartered a car to take their effects, Orpha and Ella, daughter and son's wife, are to follow.

Cattle loading in cars can now be done here; Wollenweber has built the necessary arrangements near the side track above the depot.

Gill's picture car is to leave today; Peter's is to remain for some time to come.

Henry and Frank Strossman are to enlarge their business for which purpose they are fixing up the corner room of the Smith building.

Nov. 16: Mrs. Eliza A. Danforth has gone to Iowa to join William P. her husband.

Among the new comers last week was the second, and of course the youngest, son of Rev. Mr. Barclay.

Rev. Mr. Koch, the Lutheran clergyman, has brought home a young wife. The marriage took place at Addison, the residence of the bride's parents.

John J. Potter, a native of England, 23 years of age and married last spring to a daughter of John Pearce, was buried Sunday.

Yorkville: Lyman G. Bennett ran unopposed for Kendall County Surveyor, receiving 825 votes in the general election.

A million dollars worth of sidewalks were destroyed in the Chicago fire.

Nov. 23: On last week Wednesday, one of those extra gladdening events--the wedding of a distinguished couple: Milton B. Poage and Helen Makinney came to pass. The 5:37 train took them off for a pleasure trip, accompanied as far as Aurora by their friends.

Sen. VanDorston was in town the other day, being on his way to the legislature. His wife is here at present visiting her folks.

Mr. H.A. Barclay has sold his residence on Madison street to Charles F. Shaver.

George A. Race and Charles Mann have gone to Houston, Tex.

Mr. Farley has been building a new dooryard fence.

Can there not something in the shape of a lyceum for the amusement and education of the rising generation of Oswegoans be got up and maintained during this period of long evenings?

Yorkville: The Grand Duke Alexis, eldest son of the Czar of the Russias, arrived at New York in a Russian frigate on Sunday morning last.

The Canal closes on the 25th for the season.

#### Pertaining To Schools

From the Superintendent's Note Book

Friday, Nov. 10th.--Visited public school at Oswego--the three departments. Miss Florence Childs, a teacher of experience, has charge of the upper rooms. Has about 30 scholars with good average attendance. We especially commend her for teaching emphasis to her reading classes--explaining to them how emphatic words are determined, also for the clear method of instruction in arithmetic. Her manner of imparting the "whys and the wherefores" to her classes is direct and plain. There are some excellent scholars in this room.

In the room below, Miss Anna Brown, so well-known and so well-liked in Oswego, has charge of the intermediate department. She has a large number of pupils and her time is fully employed in her various duties. She is a successful teacher. One of her pupils, Miss Katie Hopkins, has been tardy but once in eight months, and that was last Thursday morning when it rained so she was five minutes late. Neither has she been absent in that time. She is also a good scholar.

The primary department is taught by Miss Mattie Farley. The room is a very uncomfortable one, the seats and desks being too low for a majority of the scholars and no sunlight or cheeriness seems to penetrate the room except what cheeriness is imparted by the teacher with her bright face, cheerful smile, and the spirited singing of the little ones. Miss Mattie is doing well with her pupils--the improvements in the order is marked. This is her first school and with a few months experience, she will make a very competent teacher.

On the whole, the Oswego school is doing well. If the district could afford a new [school] house, it would do better. [This was the Old Stone School, located at Tyler and Monroe Street, Oswego. The building was gutted by fire in March 1885 and replaced with the Red Brick School on the block bounded by Monroe, Jackson, Madison, and Jefferson streets.]

Nov. 30: Richards, Edson & Co. have put up a building back of their store for blacking stoves and such like.

Saturday evening a number of the most energetic men of the town assembled in Esquire Burr's office for the purpose of devising ways and means by which their own wealth might be increased and the town be put upon the road to rapid prosperity. I venture a little advice--free of charge, of course--that is that our folks go to work themselves and do something; there is plenty of capital here. So long as we are afraid to invest in anything to build up the town, outsiders will be too. In order to have a town we must have the

institutions necessary to a town, the facilities required o a town, chief among these is a hotel.

Charles Mann has returned from Texas.

Mrs. Helme's residence got on fire one day last week caused by a defective chimney.

A Mr. Arnold of Chicago, the new proprietor of the Gus Worthing farm, has just moved to it.

Yorkville: Died at Marseilles, Ill., of old age on the 21st. inst, Justus Bristol, aged 89 years and two months.

Born and reared in Connecticut, he immigrated to Volney, N.Y. in early life where he remained till the spring of 1835 when he came to Fox River near Yorkville where he lived, well known and much respected for his intelligence and judgment and genial disposition, and good will to all., as also for his attachment to the Christian religion, the Sabbath, and religious institutions generally. He was a member of the Congregational Church of Bristol for a quarter of a century or more, and then removed to Marseilles, which he has just left, we trust, to enjoy the society and bliss of Heaven.

Of a family of ten children who grew to an adult age, only four survive him--viz: George Bristol, Mrs. R.T. Pope, Mrs. Hester Thurber, and Mrs. Susan Ryall.

Two of his children died in California; four in Kendall county.

December -- 1871

Dec. 6: United religious services on Thanksgiving day took place at the Presbyterian church.

A rough and tumble fight took place at the Justice's office the other day, between two men (not parties to) connected with a suit that had been on trial. Esquire Burr fined each \$5 for it. All of the parties belonged elsewhere.

Turner's saloon had a door stove in one night last week.

Some angry words passed between the butchering interests. Let us have peace.

The fuel famine is upon us; never before was this town reduced to such a strait as now; the people depended upon the Vermilion coal company, the OO&FRVRR and our coal dealers for fuel. Coal was promised them from day to day. They kept borrowing from each other until now with nearly the entire stock exhausted and the thermometer below zero, something must be done for relief, and the question is why are things thus?

Owing to the cold weather and apathy, there was an insufficient audience last evening for the delivery of the lecture on Chicago by a Chicagoan.

Yorkville: We are happy in the possession of a piece of the old Court House bell that fell from the tower in the Great Chicago fire. Mr. Richard Springer chipped off several pieces himself and kindly gave us a chip as a relic.

Dec. 14: A scarcity of local items.

All the great projects which are to transform Oswego from a one-horse town to a pert city are status quo.

The people are now going to Morris for coal as of yore.

Dec. 21: Byron Shibley has gone to Chicago to reside.

On tomorrow, the ordination of Mr. Wadhams, the Congregational Minister will take place.

The repairs of the Methodist Church will soon be completed. I understand the consecration of it will take place on Christmas.

A large stock of an endless variety of holiday goods has just been opened at the drug store; all the latest inventions of toys for the amusement of children.

The Oswego lyceum will not be operative until after the holidays.

Yorkville: It is a disgrace to Yorkville that here is no grain warehouse here yet. Every other town on the Fox River road is provided with a building for receiving, shelling, storing, or shipping grain. In Yorkville, a corn crib is built near the rag house and a corn sheller stands out in the weather to shell the grain, which has to be immediately loaded into cars. Mr. Godard has done much here for the grain trade, but he cannot do all. Yorkville must wake up.

Dec. 28: Believe the custom of the *Record* in the past has been not to appear on holiday week; don't know as it will this, but in case it should and in order that no issue of it may appear without Oswego being represented and my name kept before the people (intend to run for Coroner next time one is elected) I will jot down a few items.

Christmas came and went; there was the usual greetings with the merry Christmas; the Santa Claus gifts to the younguns.

The ordination of the Rev. Mr. Wadhams last week was accomplished with great satisfaction and agreeableness.

The concert last Friday night in a financial point of view proved a failure.

Joseph D. Kennedy is here transacting some real estate business; he has traded for a house and lot in Aurora; he is as nice and trim about his dress and pays strict attention to the blacking of his boots as ever.

There was a commotion the other morning among the occupants of the brick block caused by the rain during the night on the snow laying on the flat roof of said buildings. The halls of both the Masons and Odd Fellows fared badly.

Yorkville: We propose to abolish the Country style of stopping our issue during the holidays. By using a ready printed side, we can have two days' holiday and give our readers something to look at, if it is only advertisements.

1872

January

Jan. 4: I shall commence the year rather light and easy as regards a report; a few general notes must suffice at this time; hereafter I shall be huge and specific, indeed I calculate on a new departure, to wit: encouraging meritorious acts by suitable laudation of the parties, and terrifying scalawags by exposure.

The New Year has not wrought any material change with this town or its inhabitants.

None to my knowledge have watched the old year out and the new in, so I am not informed how the thing worked, but presume it was accomplished without accident.

A number of carloads of very fine hogs were shipped from here last night.

Jan. 11: The first public improvement of the season is the construction of a sidewalk on the north side of Washington St. from the railroad track half the block to Main St.

A batch of five of the note-givers for the Fox River Valley stock have been served with a process from the circuit court. Such proceedings are not calculated to stimulate love for the railroad company.

The repairs of the Methodist Church are now complete, all but the inside painting.

The Knight Templars of Aurora, fully uniformed and equipped, came down on a special train Sunday forenoon to attend the funeral of Captain Hobbs of Bristol; on stopping at the depot the band struck up a splendid piece; a number of our Masons were received aboard, taken to Yorkville, and brought back in the afternoon.

Speaking of the Masons here, it has leaked out that among them everything is not entirely lovely and the goose hangs in an elevated position.

Preliminary steps have been taken for the creation of a new institution to be called the "Oswego Young Men's Literary Association."

Jan. 18: New sidewalk now on Washington street, the entire block No. 6.

The YMLA [Young Men's Literary Association] started out on their mission with a good deal of energy; officers, to wit: L. Rank, president; H.P. Farley, vice president; C.E. Moore, secretary; and H.C. Strossman, treasurer.

Regarding education, a little school boy in a school about three miles from town, confiscated the dinner of another little school boy. The father of the dinnerless boy went to the school for the purpose of punishing the trespasser. The school marm, of course, interfered. A warrant for assault and batter, or something of that sort was talked of, but better counsel prevailed.

The holidays have been from time immemorial the principal season of weddings and I believe that never before in the history of Oswego were they allowed to pass without more or less being accomplished, but during the recent one not a marriage was solemnized to my knowledge. Now what can it mean? Are we tending towards woodhullism? Joseph Murray Junior and Eliza Jane Pollard, however, are bound to keep up the old institution; they were married last Saturday evening at the house of the Rev. H.A. Barclay.

Jan. 25: The Oswego Township Highway Commissioner's tools were found on the Oswego Bridge. The commissioner had left them there while going to get a plank to repair the floor of the bridge. The tools were taken to the post office. Meanwhile, the commissioner came back and found the tools gone, and so started searching wagons and buggies in the area. Later they found the tools had been dropped off at the post office.

The law passed a year or two ago giving pensions to the soldiers in the War of 1812 embraces one of our citizens. As the pensions became due last fall, he would go or send regularly every day to the post office for the expected letter containing the check for the amount but no such letter came. The other day, a letter was received in the mail to his address written on it "Fell through a crack in the mail car and just found." It bore the postmark of Chicago, Sept. 13; it proved to be the lost letter; check in it for \$24 all right; all this fuss on the account of a crack.

The Fairbarin Family will give a concert at the Oswego town hall Friday Eve, Jan. 26, 1872. Tickets at the door, 25 cents.

February -- 1872

Feb. 1: Miss Mary Foster, when a little girl residing in this town, but now of Atlanta, Ill, is here on a visit to her friends.

Lewis and Charles Judson have returned from Kansas.

A nice company was present to partake of the Methodist oyster supper last week. It passed off very agreeably, and proved satisfactory to all concerned.

George Woolley Jr. had a runaway by which Dr. Lester's fence sustained the most damage.

Yorkville: Yorkville: Levi N. Hall of Oswego made a short call in Yorkville Monday. He reports the drug business good this winter and that he never had such success in closing out his holiday goods as he has this season. Mr. Hall is a perfect gentleman to deal with and the Oswego folks appreciate his good qualities.

Feb. 8: The wedding of Libbie Murphy took place at the residence of Charles G. Doud on the afternoon of last Wednesday; the fortunate individual enjoying the position of bridegroom is a Mr. George K. Keeling of Amboy.

The controversy about the payment of the notes given by individuals to the Fox River Valley RR Co. is now settled; the matter was thoroughly discussed last evening by the YMLA and a decision rendered against the payment of them.

A nice company was present to partake of the Methodist oyster supper last week. It passed off very agreeably and proved satisfactory to all concerned.

Feb. 15: George Schell and Miss Caroline Lippold have assumed the relations of Mann and Frau to each other.

One of the best places for a social gathering is at Mr. Farley's; the church sociable held there last week was more than normally large and had a very sociable time.

The old folks ball Friday evening provide a good deal larger affair than was anticipated. The neighboring towns and surrounding country turned out well, near 70 couples had come together to enjoy a good dance. The celebrated fiddlers Jay & Mayson furnished the music.

The funeral of William Inman took place Sunday; said Inman was but 26 years of age, died of consumption which it is supposed he contracted in the army during the late war.

Decoliar Herrick has returned from Colorado; he hasn't changed much and grown but little while gone.

The funeral of Miss Lizzie Arnold of Chicago, who died of consumption, will take place here tomorrow.

Feb. 22: The funeral of Miss Lizzie Arnold took place last Wednesday at the Methodist Church; a Chicago Divine preached the sermon.

Friday evening the Baptist donation and oyster supper came to pass; the most attractive feature was the Yorkville Cornet Band in dispensing music loud and sweet, their performance caused general delight. The amount realized was about \$105.

Another girl gone; Miss Annie Avery was married Thursday evening to a Mr. Aldrich of Meriden, Ill.

Dwight Ladd's little girl, about one year old, died last night.

Oh, the beautiful snow flakes which now come down in great abundance.

Yorkville: On page 3, the *Record* printed a lengthy report on the "Geology of Kendall County."

L. Rank, postmaster at Oswego, is authorized to receive subscriptions for the *Record*. Subscribers whose time has expired may hand renewals to him.

Feb. 29: The funeral of Dwight Ladd's child took place last week Wednesday.

Augustin S. Worthing departed yesterday for his new home in the neighborhood of Topeka, Kansas; he chartered a car to take his effects.

Yorkville: The bins are being put up on Godard's new Elevator.

No notice taken of anonymous communications.

March -- 1872

March 7: The pressure of business compels me to cut my report short this morning.

Robert Graham and James Jackson took their departure yesterday destined for Kansas; a special car took their effects. Mr. Pease also left, I think for Kansas.

This is getting to be a big hay market; about 10 cars were left here on Saturday to be loaded for the Boston trade and about half of them have now gone forward.

Yorkville: Godard's Elevator is nearly enclosed. It is 30x30 feet and 40 feet high from top of stonework to peak. Mr. Edgar Ghurber of Marseilles superintends the building.

March 14: A snow ball was thrown through a 54x28 plate of glass in the window of the furniture store; boys should exercise more carefulness in throwing snow balls.

A couple of gents got into a fight the other evening in one of the saloons; the victory is claimed for both. Both came out of it with physiognomy considerably damaged. Had they been entirely sober, perhaps there would have been no fight.

Mrs. Lewis L. Beach has gone to Nebraska to join her husband.

John G. Faust has sold out his store to W.A. Hawley & Co.; the invoice is progressing now.

March 21: A little boy of Matthew J. Poage was buried last week; his other children have been quite sick but are now improving; complaint, scarlet fever.

Adam Blechschmidt, who lives on the Failing farm, had the second child die within a few weeks.

There is a good deal of sickness hereabouts principally among children.

Samuel S. Kerr, after several weeks' absence, returned the other day with a bride.

George A. Race arrived the other day from Houston, Tex.; he declares that Texas is a great country; Houston City, and Ash Hall (with whom he is) a darn good fellow.

Robinson Bar and family of West Union, Iowa, were here on a visit to their friends.

The changing of hands of Faust's store has materially improved the appearance of it; it has been renovated and made exclusively dry goods and boots and shoes. The former clerks have been retained.

A new musical band composed of young men is now in operation; their headquarters are on the corner upstairs in the Smith block.

Milton B. Poage has moved in the country on a farm and Walter S Hunt to town; Charles F. Shaver has also moved to town.

Several accidents occurred at the molasses candy pull out in the country last week; a lady had her finger cut and a gentleman had some flour dropped in his eye; it was a very hilarious affair.

A farmer out in the country lost a cow; not hearing or seeing anything of her for several days, he was about going to Yorkville to advertise her; someone happened to go down cellar when lo and behold there was the cow; she had slipped in by the outside door.

A Professor Ewers delivered a lecture and exhibited a magic lantern with astronomical views last Wednesday evening.

Yorkville: Will our readers remember that a line in this paper is to us as a yard of muslin to a merchant, a pound of coffee to the grocer, a beef steak to the butcher. We wish they would remember this, for we are asked every week to insert matter that is really advertising free.

March 28: A sudden, and for that reason somewhat surprising, wedding occurred last week, namely that of Wm. H. Hicks and Mrs. Alice Ripley. The happy couple began the realization of their honeymoon by a trip to Chicago and back. And may it forever continue.

George B. Lyon has moved to Streator.

Three brides were among the congregation of the Presbyterian Church Sunday morning, viz: Mrs. Woolley, Mrs. Kerr, and Mrs. Hicks.

W.A. Hawley & Co. have connected their stores by an inside arched door through the stone wall.

George Woolley has sold a bull to Harry Davis weighing upwards of 2,500 pounds.

George A. Race started yesterday on his return to Texas.

Yorkville: Major George A. Race, formerly of Oswego and now of Houston, Texas, was in Yorkville last week and returned to Texas Monday. He likes the country there very much and says the Northern men are doing well. A great many cattle roam in that vicinity and he spoke of one man who owned 160,000 head! Hard money is used to some extent as the natives do not take to greenbacks. The price of all merchandise is based on specie rates.

We have recently printed a handsome circular for Mr. L.H. Partridge, proprietor of the new cheese factory at Mellington. This factory was put up last fall just south of the railroad track on the Newark road. It is a large two-story building 33x78 feet, and 22 feet high. When all the machinery is in, it will have facilities to make up the milk of over 1,000 cows. There is a pure stream of cold water running constantly through the factory from a living spring.

April -- 1872

April 4: A wedding transpired very quietly last Thursday evening; the bridal parties were Mr. John C. Turpin and Miss Anna Swanson both of AuSable Grove.

After the caucus for nominations of corporation officers the other evening, Dr. Jewell was discovered lying in an insensible condition at the gate by his office; first it was thought by some that he had been having a fit, but subsequently it appeared that it was the result of a blow on the side of his head; according to hearsay he was met there by a

couple of young men who accused him of circulating a slanderous report against a member of one of their families and during the altercation he was knocked down.

Mrs. James Stevenson got home yesterday all well and safe from Scotland where she has been on a visit for the past three months; of course mother's return after so long an absence and from so far off a country caused great joy in the family.

The coal firm of Bunn & Faust mutually dissolved; W.S. Bunn continues the business alone hereafter.

The death of Stephen Mundy Sunday morning caused a painful surprise to everyone who knew him, being he was a stout and hale man, and withal, a good man. His death is deplorable.

The church consolidation scheme has not been entirely abandoned, but there is little hope of success; it would appear that Presbyterianism and Congregationalism are hard to mix.

The new board of trustees which is to devise rules and regulations for our guidance and care for our welfare the ensuing year consists of M.C. Richards, F. Greenfield, Wm. Strossman, Dave Hall, and F. Coffin; Asahel Newton is to hear our complaints and to fine us when we raise -----.

The main contest of to-day's election is the Supervisorship; H.W. Farley and P.G. Hawley are the competitors.

There is a project in vogue of starting a newspaper here, its name is to be "The Prognosticator," the local department is promised to me; it is thought that such is necessary for the prosperity of the town that if we don't do our own blowing nobody else will; it is to be pushed forward immediately in order to take a prominent part in the approaching presidential campaign; it will take up on the side of labor reform.

Yorkville: Sunday morning last, March 31st, Mr. Stephen Mundy, living about 2-1/2 miles from Oswego on the Bristol road, died from inflammation of the lungs after a short illness. Mr. Mundy leaves a large family--a wife and six boys quite young. He was a hardworking farmer and a very successful one. He was about 47 years of age.

April 11: George Troll's little boy died very suddenly last week.

Mr. John Monaghan of Troy died last night; he had been sick about a week.

Charley Jolly has returned from Jacksonville. He was there at the Insane Asylum; not however, for treatment, but as an employee.

Eddie Andrews of Specie Grove, a boy but nine years old, has put up a cord of wood for Mr. Snook, and received his pay. How's that for a boy?

The new board of trustees assembled in council for the first time last Saturday evening. The following appointments were made: A. Newton, clerk; N. Congdon, constable and street superintendent. In regard to the duties pertaining to the latter office, I would offer him this much gratuitous advice--never quit a job but half finished.

Coffin & Son have set up a very ornamental and doubtless useful receptacle for tea. It will prevent the tea from being in any manner exposed, thus preserving its freshness and flavor; there is no chance for the cat to get in.

The funeral of Stephen Mundy last Wednesday took place under the auspices of the Aurora Commandery of Knight Templars; it being the first of the kind that occurred in this town, their showy appearance was much admired.

Yorkville: The robins are singing, and the frogs make melody (?) in the ponds. Spring has come.

April 18: Another of our best looking and best girls otherwise gone: Miss Maggie Bunn was transformed into Mrs. C.H. Durand, in other words got married; the wedding took place Thursday afternoon at her father's residence; a company of her relatives were present to witness the important event; the bridegroom is of Belle Plaine, Iowa, for that reason, however, not a stranger in this town. Cassius was brought up here and he merely returned to the old place to get one of his school mates. The company repaired to the depot to see the bridal couple off on the 5:42 train; Maggie was beautifully attired, appeared in her happiest mood, looked admirably. So they go. The cakes were excellent.

Alfred Wormley's barn and corn cribs were destroyed by fire one of those windy days last week; about 800 bushels of corn, 100 of oats, and a lot of hay was burned; the fire was caused, as supposed, by a passing engine on the CB&Q RR.

Orson Ashley and Orpha, his daughter, have returned from Kansas in good spirits; per contra Robert Graham and family, and James Jackson have returned from there sick and discouraged.

The first improvement under the new administration of our village government is a new footbridge over Bartlett's run on Main Street; said bridge is substantial and faultless with this exception, the west side railing is somewhat too straight for a winding railing and altogether too winding for a straight one.

The Rev. Hugh A. Barclay and family have taken their departure on yesterday; they doubtless will be greatly missed, as they were almost universally liked by our people. Mr. B. in the pulpit was rather ultra, and sometimes--especially when dealing with skeptics--would be apt in wounding the feelings of sinners by his severe denunciations. Otherwise he was a first-rate man.

Mr. Forkel in the evening preached his farewell sermon, the latter part of which was devoted to charging the church with its trust, duties and responsibilities. He was

especially emphatic in exhorting those who came into the church during his ministry; he hoped to meet all in that better land. Mr. F. was the most energetic and successful preacher the German Methodists ever had.

The lightning rod men are all in a bustle now starting their teams, etc.

Horace Royce has returned from Nevada.

April 25: To put in an appearance is the most I shall attempt for this week.

The common council was in session last evening and a full board present; sidewalks and streets were the principle issues under consideration.

W.W. Wormley has gone to Nevada, and has taken the celebrated horse "Oliver" with him.

Bell & Robbins the hay pressers are now engaged in pulling up stakes and moving to Ottawa where they have contracted for 400 tons of hay. They calculate, however, upon this as their principal point of operation and to return upon the cutting of the new crop. They have, while here, pressed upwards of 700 tons of hay.

The Rev. V. Forkel has departed and Rev. John Kuetchel has arrived and taken the place of the former.

Phillip Boessenecker was in town this morning to get a plow repaired. His horses ran away with it yesterday.

Yorkville: Since the Fox River Railroad has been in operation the business and business facilities of Yorkville have increased beyond the expectation of its people. The past fall and winter have been seasons of unprecedented activity among our merchants and mechanics and the spring has opened with thrift and action in every department. With the factories and business houses that must soon be in operation, we will grow to a population of 2,500 or 3,000 in a short time.

Thursday last we called at Godard's Elevator to note the status of affairs and though we found three of the principal actors invalidated by hard work, everything was progressing rapidly. our attention was directed, first to a large iron grooved pulley, seven feet in diameter and weighing 1,000 pounds. It is to be used in conjunction with another just like it to transmit power from the water wheel at the saw mill to the elevator machinery. Mr. Godard has leased the saw mill and water power to run it of the Messrs. Black, and is entitled to 30 horsepower from the river. One of the large pulleys above spoken of is to be put up in the mill about 10 or 12 feet high and the other is up in the elevator 40 feet high. A half-inch wire rope 500 feet long encircles these pulleys from elevator to saw mill. The pulley at the mill is connected with the water wheel and thence by the wire to the machinery 250 feet away from the power is to be driven.

In the new building are nine bins with a capacity for 15,000 bushels of grain. A mill to grind feed and a corn sheller is in the elevator.

Kendall County has been accused of being the smallest county in the state in area. It isn't so--there are several smaller counties.

May -- 1872

May 2: Last evening for the first time our inhabitants repaired out on the plazas, sidewalks, etc. to enjoy the mild weather and listen to the sweet music of the frogs in the distant pond.

H.C. Hopkins and Mrs. Road Kenyon have exchanged residences.

James A. Judson got married last week to a lady in Aurora; wish you much joy Gus.

The little girl of Wm. W. Pearce died last week.

Also the wife of Wm. Todd, an old lady, died last Saturday. The funeral took place yesterday; the remains were taken to near Warrenville for interment.

Mrs. L.B. Judson and little boy departed for Kansas this morning for a visit to her daughter Ella.

We are now minus any institution of photography--the picture car left this morning for Plainfield; A.W. Peters and family of course will follow.

May 9: James Jackson who returned sick from Kansas a few weeks ago, died last night.

Mrs. Thomas Miller has been suddenly called to Akron Ohio on account of the sickness of her mother.

At 3 o'clock last Sunday quite a number assembled on the bank of the river below Benton St. to witness a baptism by immersion--four persons, an old lady, a middle-age lady, a young lady, and a girl received the sacred ordination.

Mrs. John Moore--an old lady--died just now.

Yorkville: H.G. Smith, who has been engaged with the Yorkville station for some months learning the telegraph business, has got a situation on the Hinckley Road. Went to his place Tuesday.

Godard's elevator is in running order. The new wire-rope power works admirably. He has one of the simplest and most powerful shellers in motion that is made. Everything done

by machinery. No shoveling or carrying of bags, but grain in any condition is dumped from the wagon and machinery does the work.

May 16: The funeral of James Jackson took place last Wednesday; that of Mrs. John Moore--who was 77 years of age--on Thursday; both were held at the Congregational church.

Mrs. Ann Sherwood (her name however is now something else) now a resident of New York city is here on a visit; she wants to sell her two buildings on Main street in block six.

Yorkville: There were indications of a slight frost Monday morning.

Mr. John H. Wormley thinks fruit will be very abundant this year. His magnificent apple orchard indicates a great yield. Mr. Wormley is well posted in this line.

Fox river is quite low for the season.

Godard shipped the first carload of grain from the new elevator Wednesday.

May 23: W.S. Bunn is building an office on the corner of Main and Jefferson street.

John Hem is constructing a sidewalk by his premises on Main street.

John W. Chapman and Marcius S. Richards have adorned their residences by the construction of neat picket fences.

Roswell W. Mason has made extensive improvements on his new residence, south corner of Madison and Van Buren streets, by painting and fencing; it looks like a different place altogether.

Turner & Long have painted the front of their saloon.

Henry C. Strossman & Bro. have very tastefully fixed up the upstairs part of their place of business for a summer restaurant, the same being newly papered, painted and carpeted and the walls adorned with beautiful pictures; a dumb waiter arrangement is in operation; it is there where you can take your lady and treat her to refreshments in Dolly Varden style. [The term *Dolly Varden* in dress is generally understood to mean a brightly patterned, usually flowered, dress with a polonaise overskirt gathered up and draped over a separate underskirt.[1] The overdress was typically made from printed cotton or chintz, although it can be made from other materials such as lightweight wool, silk and muslin.]

Yorkville: 115 hogs were driven to the Yorkville stock yard Monday from Hallock & Inscho's place five miles south of Yorkville. They were shipped to Chicago Monday night.

May 30: A mush and milk festival is arranged for next Thursday evening at Chapman's Hall for the benefit of the Baptist Church.

A conversation between two of our prominent citizens on the sidewalk last evening was not of the most dignified or genteel manner; one would suppose that people well off hadn't ought to make fools of themselves by quarreling with each other. Let us have peace.

Washington street is now adorned with the barber pole--perchance the most extensive and magnificent in the United States. The barber shop is kept in the little brown building.

The inquiry was made the other day as to whether or not there was a law against fishing in the river with a seine. Who can tell? If there is, it ought to be more generally known so people might govern themselves accordingly.

Also, whether or not there is an ordinance prohibiting shooting with firearms in the corporation. There are people who becoming aware of the great benefits of the birds would like to see their preservation and increase. Let us incorporate in our creed the idea that birds have some rights which boys must respect.

Yorkville: Pratt & Comstock, photographers, will leave Yorkville in July next. All persons wanting photographs taken should call at once.

June -- 1872

June 6: Van Buren street is to be opened from Main to Harrison in pursuance of which the Railroad Company has constructed a crossing over their track.

L.B. Judson started his morning on a trip through a portion of the western country, including Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, the Indian Territory, and Missouri. He expects to be gone several months.

Dave Hall last Friday morning packed his carpet bag and started for the Philadelphia Convention.

Visitors from abroad: Wm. Reed of Idaho; C.M. Bennett, Missouri; and C.P. Drake, Connecticut.

Among the Republicans, there is but little opposition to Grant, and that is merely on the principle that a formidable opposition is essential for maintaining the purity of the Administration.

Yorkville; So much grain is being transported over the Fox River Road that it is hard work to get cars enough at the different stations.

June 13: On opening a sand pit on the banks of the Waubonsie Creek, the bones of a human body were dug up. From their appearance they must have been buried centuries ago and doubtless were the remains of an Indian.

Sampson Pratt, 78 years of age, and soldier of the War of 1812, has received his furlough; his funeral services took place at the Methodist Church on Sunday forenoon. Elder Minard preached the sermon.

An infant of J.B. Hawley was also buried on Sunday.

The lightning rod folks who are and have been home on a visit to their families and friends may be mentioned Boss, G.H. Teller; C.L. Murdock, and C.L. Judson.

A car-load of lumber has arrived for the hay press barn, the building of which will commence at an early time.

A drove of steers went through town this morning.

In grading down Van Buren street a hard-head weighing five tons more or less was encountered; Charles Richards is now engaged in drilling it, the shooting of it will not take place until some time this afternoon; the result I will give next week.

Yorkville: The name of the Mellington post office has been changed by the Department to Millington, and now the latter name takes precedence of all others in the old village of Milford.

The Cutter School house about two miles below Oswego has received new life. The directors at the last school meeting opened their hearts (and the district's pocket) and bought blinds for the windows, had the walls papered, ceiling whitewashed, and woodwork painted. To these improvements, the teacher, Miss Jennie Doud, has added pictures for the walls, house plants, bouquets, etc. The room is as cozy as a parlor and the children are delighted with the change. Last Saturday the school had a picnic in Cutter's grove; croquet, swinging, singing, and refreshments made up a pleasant afternoon for all present.

June 20: The building of the hay-press barn has been commenced. Theron and Charles Richards are the architects.

W.S. Bunn has constructed a new sidewalk in front of his premises; it is expected that others between there and the brick block will do likewise.

A number of the lightning rod boys have been home to spend Sunday.

David Hall has returned from the National Republican convention. He reports the country safe.

Wednesday afternoon of last week when all the folks were gone from home except the old man, the barn of Thomas Edwards took fire and was totally consumed with all its contents.

The Barrett's theater will take place tonight; also several church sociables.

Yorkville: A neat and clean restaurant and ice cream saloon has been opened in the late Holland House, Yorkville, by Mr. Schneider. Those who have been there and eaten of his cream as it is first rate and the rooms nice and quiet. He also has a bakery.

June 27: The Barrett theater failed to realize expenses; they need not be expected again very soon.

Those interested in the Sunday school cause very generally attended the State Convention in Aurora.

But very few of our Masons turned out yesterday to celebrate the anniversary of Saint John the Baptist; the Knights, of course, were plumed, decorated, and equipped.

The Baptists have furloughed their Minister, My. Sawyer, during the hot season. He left this morning on a visit to Michigan.

Ella Newton, Lettie Teller, and Mattie Murphy have gone to Aurora.

There is no material change here in the political outlook; the preponderance of the Republicans is so great with us that success would seem inevitable; the Democrats are just now muchly afflicted with principles. "Can we go back on these principles?" said one the other day while discussing the situation. "We must swallow Greeley, yes we must force him down; it is a severe but our only remedy," said another. "And bejabbers, wouldn't that dose produce a great puke and could we at all at all bear the strain of sich an emetic,?" inquired a third. "I say, let us keep ourselves pure and undefiled," chimed a fourth. "Yes, and with the Republican party divided we can elect Groesbeck as sure as preaching," a fifth, &c.

The operations now going on in creating a passage across the pond are not far enough developed yet to show what it will be, but apparently it will not be faultless.

Yorkville: Some young amateur printers in Yorkville have started a little paper called the semi-weekly News. It is about as big as a quarter sheet auction bill and about as interesting. The boys have a nice little printing office; a little Novelty printing press that cost about \$15, and a neat lot of type. They print for amusement and hope in a few years to get an insight into the paper business.

July -- 1872

July 4: As I wish to contribute as much as possible to the comforts of my fellow beings, I propose that the compositors of the *Record* shall fan themselves while they are setting up the long articles of mine and that those who have to read them think of ice cream while doing so.

James Lewis one day last week spent the biggest part of a day in town on business; he laid in rather heavy of a certain kind of goods, causing him to be much tired. On his way home just out of town, the horses and wagon got away from him; when first discovered, it was supposed he was dead, but it proved he was hurt but little. James is a good fellow and not in the habit of overdoing business in that style.

Richards, Edson & Co. have commenced this morning the building of an addition to their store.

The frame of the hay press barn is partially raised.

The main public talk the past week has been about the town[ship] R.R. bonds. It would appear that the law granting the privilege to towns of issuing their bonds for railroad purposes was but half made, consequently our town bonds issued to the O.O.&F.R.V.R.R Co. may be no good and in that case we would be apt to lose our stock in said road; apparently there is no certainty about anything any more.

In my last week's, I made a mistake about the travels of certain young ladies; take back all that was wrong.

Yorkville: The streets of Yorkville are pestered with loose pigs, hogs, and colts. Where is the pound master?

July 11: The town trustees were in session last night, a full board being present. The principal proceedings were in regard to the granting of a saloon license and the passage of an ordinance conferring discretionary powers upon themselves to grant or refuse licenses for selling liquor after a certain date.

The term of the public school expired last Wednesday. The closing exercises took place in the afternoon, witnessed by a large number of the parents of the scholars and others. The school was kept by a corps of teachers wholly composed of ladies, namely Miss Florence C. Child, Miss Anna Brown, and Miss M.K. Farley.

The quietest 4th ever experienced in the annals of Oswego was the one last week; the patriotic drunks were limited down to a very few.

Section boss Gallagher, who has been sick for a week or two, is round again and nearly recovered.

July 18: Eugene Hinchman, 24 years of age, died yesterday morning of consumption, the services at the Baptist church.

Of visitors of former townsmen, Mr. James A. Durand of Iowa was here on a visit; Mr. D.B. Case and wife of Ford County are now here on a visit to their friends.

Summer or winter, hot or cold, folks are bound to get married. Such as been the case with Miss Lodema L. Morgan to Mr. Phelps of Missouri. The wedding took place on Sunday afternoon at her father's (Esquire Morgan's) residence.

A lawsuit between George Woolley and James M. Chapman was tried before Justice Fowler the other day; the case stood something like this: Defendant owned plaintiff a balance of \$2 on pigs bought, which amount he was to leave for plaintiff at a certain store. The defendant averred that such had been done, the merchant had no recollection of it, a verdict obtained in favor of plaintiff. P.G. Hawley and Albert Snook conducted the case.

July 25: The long prayed for rain has come; some are already apprehensive of getting too much of it.

Mr. and Mrs. Wadhams with some relative visitors and a number of friends repaired to a pleasant spot in Pearce's woods last Friday afternoon and enjoyed a picnic.

August -- 1872

Aug. 1: it is stating it but mildly to say that great solicitude is felt by some of our young men concerning the success of their Burnside whiskers now in an embryo state of existence.

The stock of extra fine horses in this town is now quite large, and our horsemen, of which Paul Hawley, Ed Mann and Hank Hopkins are the principal ones, are daily at training them to fast and square trotting on the half mile course in Hawley's pasture which is now in an excellent condition.

The Rev. Gustav Koch, pastor of the Lutheran church, preached his farewell sermon last Sunday morning. Said church is without a pastor for the time being.

The inside of the Methodist church has been undergoing painting, in consequence of which no services have been held for several Sundays.

Albert Norton, the enthusiastic little Methodist preacher, was in town the other day. He intends to start in a few weeks for India as a missionary.

Of lightning rod men, Ed English and Lew Judson have come home on a visit; of Ed it may be said that he has been gaining nicely in flesh during the hot weather.

Yorkville: Aurora wants a fast train to Chicago that will take its business men to Chicago in one hour.

We will just say to our correspondents that we do not publish a Greeley paper, and articles or items derogatory to the Republican party are not acceptable.

Those boys who disport themselves in the river on mules' backs near Bristol bridge should wear a small fig-leaf. A large thistle on the posterior would be appropriate.

Aug. 8: Several loads of fashionably attired colored gentlemen and ladies on their return from the West India emancipation celebration at Aurora breakfasted in this town on Friday morning. They were a gay company.

An arbitration has been had wherein John Collins was complainant and the town of Oswego defendant concerning the rental of the marble front building on Main street, occupied for the last several years by Duke West. The board of Auditors constituted that of arbitrators. No decision has yet been rendered.

The common council was in session last evening. The proceedings were concerning streets, alleys, and sidewalks.

Rev. Mr. Koch has moved to Barrington.

There was a show last night at Chapman's hall, which, judging from the cheers heard outside, was a good one. From some stupid oversight, I was skipped on the deadhead list; consequently I was not there.

The Congregational sociable at Captain Bunn's last week was not a large, but very pleasant affair.

The temperance law didn't work worth a cent last Saturday night, at least as far as the prevention of getting drunk and making noise is concerned.

Yorkville: The song of the katydid is heard in the land.

Two excursion parties passed through Yorkville Saturday and Monday. The first, from Batavia to Sheridan, the second from Ottawa to Aurora. Both trains were crowded.

Mr. J.A. Kenney, formerly of Oswego, now on a visit to that village, has been for the past two years engaged in lead mining in Hardin County, Ill. on the Ohio River. These mines were discovered about 25 years ago, but were never worked to any extent till recently. There is one large vein on which three companies are working at Rose Clair. Mr. Kenney's mine is now over 200 feet deep and large amounts of lead and zinc are taken therefrom, besides great blocks of "spar," an earthy mineral used (in this instance) by the silver melting works in Chicago to flux the ore. Mr. K. has been so driven by his business that his health has failed him and he is going up to Duluth to recuperate.

Rumor says A.B. Smith of Oswego has been dabbling in Chicago real estate since the Fair and last week doubled his money on some Boulevard property. Further, rumor says that he is a candidate for minority representative in the legislature. A.B. is a good man-- for a Democrat.

In six counties in Southwestern Missouri, the Ku-Klux, encouraged by the Greeley movement, are driving Union men out of the district by inaugurating a reign of terror.

Aug. 15: Cassius Mullenix, a boy 14 years old, undertook to board the afternoon freight train last Friday when under motion and missing the step got his right foot and lower part of the leg completely crushed...Dr Young, of Aurora, assisted by Dr. Lester performed the amputation, namely, half of lower leg. Mr. Mullenix, the father, was in Wisconsin employed in lightning-rodding.

R.B. Murphy has returned from Mobile where he has been for some months. He says that Alabama will go for Grant and Wilson just as sure as his name is Bob, and that the southern States will astonish the North in their devotion to General Grant.

The Dick Silver theatrical troupe gave a second performance Thursday evening.

J.A. Kinney and wife started yesterday for Lake Superior on a pleasure trip; also Mrs. Alexander Brown for her home in Pennsylvania.

Our people were more or less disappointed because of that Comet not putting in an appearance at 4:17 yesterday afternoon as was advertised.

Let somebody get up a mushmelon festival.

U.S. Seely and family, heretofore residing about Specie Grove, started this morning for Kansas.

Yorkville: Hogs and pigs roam freely in the streets of Yorkville.

Iced tea is now in season. It is very nice and appropriate served at evening croquet parties, and it will also be found refreshing and gently invigorating at the dinner hour. Those in the habit of using it assert that no drowsiness follows its use in hot weather, and it is therefore invaluable to people of sedentary occupation and habits.

A gentleman in Yorkville tells us of beautiful sights in the sky last Thursday night caused by the aurora borealis. He says it was the most beautiful sight he ever witnessed.

Aug. 22: The funeral of the little boy of Charles B. Smith took place yesterday. The services were held at the house of A.B. Smith.

Walter Loucks had a somewhat serious run away last week in Aurora. His horses were frightened by a railroad train and were brought to a stop by running in some teams hitched in the street, where two buggies were extensively damaged. Mr. Loucks had his wife and daughter, Mrs. Van Evra, with him.

The brewery is undergoing reconstruction. A new tower is greatly improving its outside appearance. John C. Maar is the present manager.

I think it was a week ago last Sunday when out on the prairie in the German settlement, Ferdinand Schoger [Shoger] and Miss Mina Sorg, also Gottlieb somebody and Miss Katie Scharck brought their affairs to a termination by getting married. All are doing well.

Harry Davis was bitten in several places on the face and back by a horse.

Wm. Richards, editor of the Vandalia Union, was here on a visit.

The regular session of the common council transpired last evening. It was not altogether harmonious. The sidewalk question was up again and formed the main business.

An item touching on the domestic troubles in the West family might be given, but with family affairs of an unhappy nature, I wish to have nothing to do.

Yorkville: The Kendall County Fair begins Tuesday, Sept. 3.

Sheridan is going to buy a cannon to celebrate the Republican victory on the 5th of November.

We had a terrific storm of thunder, lightning and rain Monday morning that did some damage in places. The lightning struck the telegraph wire between Fox and Millington, shattering a dozen or more poles and injuring the instrument at Millbrook Station beyond use.

Next Sunday morning the Oswego M.E. Church will be dedicated. Rev. S.A.W. Jewett, the presiding elder, will preach. The church has been refitted in every particular.

Aug. 29: "How are your sick folks?" is an expression heard at present quite frequently. There is an unusually large number of people sick in the town and surrounding country and the doctors and apothecaries are now the most looked for personages. This town is reputed for its general healthfulness; let everybody try to maintain this reputation by keeping from getting sick, and if sick, to get well as soon as possible.

An Aurora base ball club of children exhibited themselves down here the other day in uniform.

H.S. Humphrey, our former townsman and publisher of the *Kendall County Free Press*, and now P.M. of Vandalia, was here on a visit for a few days. He appears the same as of old, still smokes.

The Methodists have the repairs of their church completed. The church looks very neat, it is painted with walnut facing, the railings and pulpit are also walnut, the carpets and furniture are all new and of excellent quality.

There perhaps never was a time in the history of this country when the political situation was so fraught with danger as the present, and yet in this community general apathy prevails. Why don't somebody come to stir us up and rouse the latent patriotism within us?

The mosquitoes last night acted very mean.

Yorkville: Mr. C.W. Marsh has succeeded in obtaining an extension of his Harvester patents for seven years, during his recent visit to Washington. Consequently, he will retire from the political arena and devote his time to the Harvester.

September -- 1872

Sept. 5: The funeral of Mrs. Wm. Wagner, who died during Friday night at the age of 64 years, took place on Sunday forenoon. Owing to the sickness of Mr. Wagner, the services were held at the house.

It is reported, and I believe it is true that Been Edwards and Martha C. Beach got married.

Most all those who have been dangerously sick are reported as getting better; the fever and ague cases have been on an increase the past week.

Richards, Edson & Co. have put a tin roof on the new part of their store building, which would seem to be proof against leaking.

As usual, the Chief Clerk of the weather department don't seem to be favorably inclined towards the Kendall County Fair from the present appearance.

Yorkville: Monday morning last, Mr. L.S. Chittenden of Little rock township, shipped 140 baskets of grapes to the Chicago market.

Capt. Wm. H. Christie, a brother-in-law of L.G. Bennett of Yorkville is the Republican candidate for State Treasurer of Iowa.

Sheridan has invited Gen. Phil Sheridan, in whose honor the town was named, to be present at the dedication of the town and eat a big dinner. Gen. Phil has answered that

pressing business keeps him at Chicago now, but "I will avail myself of your invitation sometime during the coming fall."

Sept. 12: The wedding of Don Carter and Miss Jennie McClain transpired last Wednesday at the residence of the bride's father, John McClain. About a dozen carriages accompanied them as far as Aurora on their wedding trip.

There is much sickness yet prevailing; the patients in general however, are on the gain.

The Methodists on Sunday rededicated their church, the presiding Elder Jewett officiating. The amount remaining unpaid for repairs to the church is about \$700--an effort was made to raise it there by subscription but provided less than half successful.

A theatre has been in operation under a tent on the flats Saturday and last night; didn't meet with much success.

A circus is to perform here a week from today.

Sept. 19: Vice President Schuler Colfax arrived here last week Tuesday on the 1 o'clock train for a visit and immediately repaired to the house of Mr. Sutherland. Hardly anyone outside of the Sutherlands knew of his presence until after he had gone; he wanted his visit to be a strictly private one, and such it was.

A five months old child of Oliver Hebert was buried last week.

Marcus C. Richards has bought the Boessenecker property on Washington street.

Mr. Kinley and family are moving to Aurora; their household goods are now being loaded in wagons.

Yorkville: The post office at Little Rock has no regular mail route since the completion of the Chicago & Iowa railroad, but Mr. Bartlett, the postmaster, secures a daily mail by swearing in as mail carriers all the farmers in the country who travel between that place and Plano. The Department authorizes him to have the mail carried once a week or oftener and oftener gets it.

In answer to the many inquiries why the School Superintendent does not visit the fall schools, we would say that he has not been authorized by the Supervisors to make any visits, and under the new law, he must await their action.

Sept. 28: MURDER IN OSWEGO

A Man Shoots His Wife's Companion

Jealousy And Its Effects

THE MURDERER IN JAIL AT YORKVILLE

For some time past an intimacy has been existing between Mark Newberry and Mrs. West, which has caused considerable disturbance in the West family. It is said that the

Duke (the familiar appellation of Mr. West) has frequently forbidden Newberry to come to his house; that he (Duke) sent word to Newberry through others that he would shoot him if he persisted in visiting his wife. Last night, between 8 and 9 o'clock these threats were carried out.

It appears that Newberry was spending the evening at West's, that he, Mrs. West and Sam, the West oldest son, were sitting around a table enjoying a game of Euchre; that the Duke approached the window from the outside on the roof of the shed (they were living upstairs) and fired through a pane of glass, a heavy charge of shot into Newberry's back, striking him below the nape of the neck, the charge tending downward, making an ugly wound. Two of the shot struck Mrs. West in the face but doing no serious harm to her. The Duke went immediately to Justice Newton and gave himself up. Constable Congdon took him into custody.

West, the murderer, is an old offender; has served one or more terms in the Joliet Penitentiary and rumor says at one time he was a convict at Botany Bay. [Later issues of the *Record* reported West, who was about 30 years older than his wife, was sentenced to life in prison at Joliet.]

During the past week, our town has been rather more than unusually quiet, perhaps owing to the State Fair, which many of our citizens attended. The most went on Thursday, when 136 embarked from this depot.

Justice Newton was called upon yesterday to decide a case in which doctors disagreed. The suit was brought to recover for setting a broken arm. The defence claimed that the arm hadn't been broken; witnesses from abroad were Drs. Young and Davis of Aurora and Robert Hopkins from Bristol. The verdict was rendered in favor of the broken arm, and the Doctor entitled to his pay.

The Rev. Robert Brown of Leavenworth, who eight years ago was the pastor of the Congregational church here, spent a few days in town among his friends and also occupied the pulpit Sunday forenoon. Mr. B. spends much time among the soldiers at Fort Leavenworth, especially those under arrest, also the lower classes of the city receives his attention.

Lockwood has moved his harness shop on Main Street in the Smith block.

M.C. Richards has a force of workmen engaged in the rebuilding of the house he lately bought on Washington Street.

It is said that Newberry is dying.

Yorkville: Saturday afternoon, 250 stock hogs from Michigan were driven through Yorkville to Mr. Dwight Curtis's farm in Fox.

The great circus exhibited here last Thursday to the regret of several patrons of that concern, There was a big attendance at night and some thievish hangers-on of the show made a raid on several buggies and wagons. The hotel also suffered to some extent. These

things are always laid to circus men, but it is more than likely that the thieves are nearer home and steal at these times that blame may be put on circus men.

October -- 1872

Oct. 3: The international Postal money order system with Germany has been extended to our office and goes into effect to-day; the P.M. will now be prepared to transmit sums not exceeding fifth dollars to any part of Germany through that system, or to be drawn upon for like amounts from any part of that country.

The fog just now (a little after sunrise this morning) is so thick as to endanger outdoor travel; people going along the sidewalks have to whistle in order to prevent collisions.

This evening, our town is to experience the first political meeting of this presidential campaign; it will be in behalf of the Republican cause.

Yorkville: The *Beacon* thus compliments one of our Oswego citizens: We had the pleasure on Monday of dining with the agreeable family of E. Mann, Esq., at Oswego, whom we had not met for a quarter of a century previous, and enjoying a pleasant chat over the days of long ago. Mr. Mann had on exhibition at our Fair his beautiful Hamiltonian colt, "Gilbert," which we failed to notice in our report, but which is one of the finest animals in the west and in a few years will develop rare speed. Without training, he now makes 2:50 with ease.

Another branch of industry Chicago parties will soon put up a large ice house (100x100 feet) in Yorkville where ice will be stored this winter for the Chicago market next summer. It will hold an immense quantity of ice.

We acknowledge the receipt of the *Houston (Texas) Price Current*, from Hendricks & Co., wholesale grocers. The "Co." is Asher B. Hall, formerly of Oswego, brother of Dave and L.N. Hall.

Anthony Rowan, a venerable Irishman living at Oswego, went to Aurora Friday and while drunk attempted the difficult feat of driving his horse over a railway train while the train was in motion, resulting in the horse turning around, throwing the old man from the wagon, breaking one leg and badly bruising his head. A doctor's bill and loss of winter's work will be among Mrs. Rowan's bill of damages, which some saloon-keeper will have to pay according to the provisions of the new Temperance law, if the case is prosecuted.

Oct. 10: Anthony Rowan died from the injuries recently received at Aurora. His funeral took place on Saturday, also at Aurora, under the ordinance of the Catholic church.

An infant child of Wm. Lippold was buried last week.

L.W. Rowley, many years ago an inhabitant of this town, was here on a visit to his friends.

George Newberry, son of the man recently killed, is in town.

Today, state elections will take place in three of the principal states of the union, the result of which will be of the highest importance to politicians.

Yorkville: There are over 2,000 liquor saloons in Chicago. Is it any wonder murders occur nightly?

Barnum's Circus exhibits at Aurora tomorrow, the 11th; at Ottawa the 12th; and at Joliet the 14th. It moves entirely by railroad and will pass through Yorkville early Saturday morning.

Oct. 17: The large barn of George Parker was on Sunday night consumed by fire with all its contents consisting of a large stock of various valuable implements, machinery, carriages, harnesses, a large lot of hay and upwards of 400 bushels of corn in an adjoining crib.

A gravel train going through town under full speed a few days ago struck Mrs. Ezra Smith's cow--she being not quite quick enough to get wholly out of the way--injuring her so she had to be killed.

Charles E. Hubbard went last spring in the Teller company to Wisconsin lightning rodding; it appears however that he did not wholly confine his attention to that business, for he came home one day last week with a wife.

Oliver Hebert is erecting a new residence adjoining his old one in which he is exhibiting a good deal of taste and himself a Frenchman, for he departed from the usual style of architecture and it will have quite a foreign look; Mr. Van Evra is the builder; the lower story is of stone and was constructed by Charles Avery.

Mr. and Mrs. Wadhams have returned from their visit east. Mr. W. Resumed the ministrations of his church last Sunday but I understand that he will leave it next month and go to Bell Plaine, Ia.

It appears that no Vermillion coal can be had at present because there is demand for it somewhere else.

Yorkville: Aurora claims a population of 12,010.

Some of our Kendall County folks are becoming Aurora business men. J.R. Simons, formerly of Oswego, is now of the firm of Simons & Matter grocers. Mark Covell has bought out Charley LaSurre in the painting business.

Oct. 24: The past week has been a very quiet one with us, possibly due to the several agencies, both foreign and domestic, now at work for the social, religious, and industrial regeneration of this town. I would suggest that our literary leaders make a move towards the establishment of a public lyceum. The evenings are now long and there is a great want felt for a place to go and spend them. It is no wonder if our saloons are full evenings, for they are the only public places where young men can go and feel welcome.

Rev. S.M. Gregory, the new Methodist preacher, commenced his pastoral labor in that church last Sunday.

Mrs. Jolly moved this morning to Chicago. John Harrison started for Canada and H.V.B. Young started out on a tour as traveling agent for an agricultural house. Henry Sutherland returned yesterday to Michigan where he is going to vote for Grant and Wilson.

Yorkville: The pay roll of the Joliet Iron and Steel company, for labor alone, for the month of September, amounted to the nice sum of \$75,000.

#### THE CALEDONIA ICE COMPANY

##### A Mammoth Ice House in Yorkville

As we mentioned a few weeks ago, the big ice house to be built at Yorkville has been commenced and from a call on the ground we learned the following particulars concerning the enterprise: The proprietors are R.B. Hutchinson & Son, under the title of the "Caledonia Ice Company." Their headquarters are at 31 Evans St., Chicago. They have now two large ice houses at Naperville and three in Chicago but these not being adequate to supply their patrons, they have located at Yorkville as the best point on the Fox River Road.

The skeleton of the new house is now up, on a piece of land some rods east of the water tank, and on the river shore, leased for ten years from the Messrs. Black. The building, or four of them built together, is 100 feet square and 20 feet high. It will take about 80,000 feet of lumber to complete it, and will cost, all fitted up for work, nearly \$5,000. The side walls are 14 inches thick, to be filled with tan-bark between the sheathings. On the north end will be arranged three balconies, six, 12, and 18 feet from the ground on which the ice will be received from the river and disposed of in the houses. It will be taken from the river by a new style of elevator never before used in the West, consisting of a heavy endless chain running over two large iron pulleys weighing 1,100 lbs., and propelled by a steam engine. This chain carries a series of hooks that, as they revolve, grab a cake of ice from the river and carry it up the elevator in grooves that act like a railroad track, to its proper platform, where it is received by a man who pushes it along the track to the door at which it is to be received. These tracks on each platform, have "switches" at each door, and by turning the switch the cake is dropped into any door desired. There is no handling of the ice; all is done by machinery, by these tracks, and by the men with pointed poles pushing the ice to its resting place in the house. The cakes are cut 22 inches square and each room is 12 cakes wide so that everything is done systematically. The house will hold 7,000 tons--14 million pounds--and all this can be stored by two men as it comes up the elevator. It is not probable that they will put in this amount, however.

The ice will be cut by ice plows, of which five will be used, each drawn by a horse. About 30 men will be employed through the winter and four to five in the summer. The company expect to ship three carloads, or 30 tons, to Chicago every night during the summer in cars fitted for the purpose. It will leave Yorkville at 10 o'clock p.m. and reach Chicago at 3 in the morning. The company employ seven large wagons and 22 horses in the city, and their trade is very large. The house will be finished in a few weeks and they expect to begin cutting ice about Christmas time, weather permitting. Mr. Robert Hutchinson, the son, has been in the ice business in Chicago for 13 years and understands the business thoroughly.

A number of our Yorkville men are employed on the building, and a circular saw is run by a steam engine to cut the lumber in proper lengths.

Oct. 31: One of those happy evenings, a wedding occurred last Wednesday. The high contracting parties to it were Charles Woolley and Ella Parker. It took place at the residence of Wm. Parker.

Carson McClain is also reported as having formed a connubial alliance with one of Iowa's fair maidens in the southern part of which state he now resides.

The Hon. Samuel Collins of Plainfield was buried here yesterday under Masonic rites by the lodge of that place. Mr. C. was a good many years ago and when living near Lisbon, an associate judge for this county.

The report of the death of Mrs. R.W Mason, at Ripon Wis., was received a few days ago.

It is said that the Judson farm has been sold again to a Chicago man for \$100 an acre.

Wallace Edson has by a course of recklessness brought himself into difficulty; he stops for the time being a Yorkville.

Alfred Foster, a former Oswegoan, was here on a flying visit.

Frank Schram has opened a butcher shop.

The alarming report published lately about that stone house on the corner smacks more of the sensational than anything else and may bear close analogy to that often told story about the fellow who reported having seen 100 deer but upon being questioned kept on falling in regard to the same until finally he got down to where he had seen no deer at all but had heard quite a rustling in the bushes. M.U. Lation needn't be afraid of danger to his mundane existence because o that house or any other man.

Yorkville: The *Record* will not be printed next week till Thursday noon so as to get a full return from the Presidential election.

Capt. Bob Hutchinson, superintending the building of the ice house, is captain of a company of 300 tanners in the 7th Ward, Chicago.

The sixth annual re-union of the brave old 36th Regiment of Illinois Volunteers was held at Newark Friday last.

November -- 1872

Nov. 7: John W. Chapman deserves praise for putting down a new sidewalk between the Post office and Troll's; he has been fixing up his premises considerably this season; the Post office building should next receive his attention.

Ed Strossman has built an addition to his residence.

John Sanders, after an absence of upwards of seven years during which time he resided at Dallas, Tex., has returned. The claim of scientific men that every seven years a person is completely changed has not proven true with John; he is the same every bit of him as he was when residing here before; his eyesight is considerably affected.

The insurance on Geo. Parker's barn was satisfactorily adjusted and promptly paid and amounted to \$3,750 in the Agricultural Company of Watertown, N.Y.

A child about 1-1/2 year old of Mitchell Flurey was buried on Sunday.

Yorkville: The *Record* reported in a front page story about the triumph of the Republican party in the national election, in which U.S. Grant was elected President.

The friends of the late Anthony Rowan of Oswego who was injured by the cars while in a state of intoxication recently in Aurora so that he died, were about to institute proceedings against the saloon keepers for damages when the latter came up and compromised the matter by paying the doctors' fees, about \$50. They got off cheaply.

Nov. 14: G.H. Teller of the Oswego Fishing Company returned yesterday from the Ottawa waters with upwards of 100 pounds of catfish. George Switzer's oldest son also arrived.

The Boston fire has been the principal theme since yesterday morning when it became generally known. Some are very apprehensive of the results that may flow from it, being that said city is claimed to be the hub of the universe. Others see a blessing in it; it will create labor for the poor. Again, others point to it as another demonstration showing the curse of large cities.

The political campaign is now over; the victory of the Republicans exceeds the expectations of the most sanguine. The Liberals are routed from all positions; the death of the Democratic Party is now complete and peace once more reigns in America.

Yorkville: Great Fire in Boston

The most destructive fire ever known in New England broke out in Boston Saturday night and raged 20 hours, having destroyed a large portion of the business part of the city.

In the Presidential election, Kendall County voted for Republican U.S. Grant for president, 1,613 to 369 for Democrat Horace Greeley.

Times are dull since the election.

Dr. J.A. Cook has shipped 1,750 bushels of apples from his farm in Fox this fall, and made 50 barrels of cider.

Hon. A.K. Wheeler, who moved to Aurora a few years ago, has moved back to his old home in NaAuSay, where his neighbors and friends will be delighted to have him stay. The *Beacon* says of him: "Mr. Wheeler, previous to his residence in Aurora, had lived in the vicinity of NaAuSay for 25 years, and by the votes of that community had been elected to the Legislature, where he served with credit to himself and honor to his constituents, and while we note his change of base, we just want to say that the old gentleman sat upon his packing boxes for two days in patient waiting for a chance to vote for Grant and Wilson."

Nov. 21: This town's reputation of its going a little further in most things than the rest of the world does is again verified by the epizootic [*Webster's On-Line Dictionary*: an outbreak of disease affecting many animals of one kind at the same time; *also* : the disease itself], for here it got among the dogs. Doc Van Deventer has a full-developed case; it should be said, however, that his dog is almost constantly in the barn and was with a horse so affected. The disease is now quiet general both in town and surrounding country.

A Congregational church fellowship meeting--a new institution for the progress of that denomination and originating, I believe, in Aurora--was held one day of last week in said church.

P.G. Hawley has built a large cistern near his barn and is now prepared to catch 300 barrels of water the first time it rains; that is the amount it holds.

Yorkville: The Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad company on Sunday gave notice to their 1,000 employees at Aurora to commence work next morning on the nine-hour plan, quitting at 5 o'clock in the evening. A proportionate reduction of wages will be made.

Monday morning last the mercury indicated 8 degrees above zero. Pretty cold for the 18th of November.

Major Race, formerly of Oswego, sends us a *Houston Union* extra, containing the election returns of that city and writes: "That we feel splendid over this victory but partly express our feelings. All have worked hard and the result, as you will see in our city

extra, has been all that we could wish. It plainly shows that Democracy is dying a natural death even in the hotbed of Texas. The Republican ticket in Houston had a majority of 699.”

Large quantities of Morris coal are still hauled to this and other markets on the river as it gives better satisfaction generally than the Vermillion coal and it costs but a dollar more a ton in Yorkville. The great card the defunct Fox River Valley Railroad Company played to get subscriptions on its line of road was cheap coal and good coal, but they failed us in both particulars.

Nov. 28: The worst of the epizootic is apparently past. Some horses have entirely recovered and others are convalescent.

The Thanksgiving services will be held at the Baptist Church and Union prayer meeting in the evening at the Congregational; there is no regular programme about the eating of the turkeys.

Taylor’s school will give an exhibition next Friday night. It will be a good one. I don’t say this because of a free ticket.

The hog market the past week was very brisk; Wollenweber & Knapp shipped about ten carloads.

Other business is also quite fair. D.M. Haight does a large business in the corner store of the brick block; Er. Parke and Herman Tetzlaff are accommodating customers there as they have for years past.

W.A. Hawley & Co. have their stores--or compound store--full of goods and are also doing a big business. Their gentlemanly clerks are Charley Moore in the dry goods and Lorenz Hafenrichter, grocery department.

Greenfield monopolizes the furniture trade. He and John are constantly busy in putting on the finish, repairing, &c.

Richards, Edson & Co. are continually increasing their business. Their stock of stoves is very large and of great variety.

Levi N. Hall has the apothecary business all to himself. The much fever and ague and other sickness has made that branch of business the most prosperous. Will Forbes is the always ready clerk.

Lawrence Briggs has been the most important man of late because of the epizootic. [Briggs’ occupation was listed as veterinary surgeon in the 1880 U.S. Census for Oswego Township.]

W.S. Bunn is always on the rush to attend to his business, namely that of lumber and coal.

Anton Miller does a good trade in family groceries and so does Coffin & Son.

Both Henry Helle and Sutherland have large stocks of boots and shoes and are doing much custom work.

Jabez Newberry is manufacturing boots and shoes and so is Fred Sierp, who has been trying Ottawa for a while but finds this the better place.

Gabe Turner and also George Troll are supplying this community with billiards and saloon advantages, also occasionally a brick in the hat of some fellow.

M. Tosachandean keeps a tonsorial establishment over Turner's saloon. Another is kept on Washington street by Mr. Seer.

Rank, besides keeping the post office, is agent for two Atlantic steamship lines, namely the White Star and Anchor; he sells tickets for either of these lines to or from most parts of Europe. Those who wish to assist friends to come to this country from Europe should take notice.

H.C. Strossman is doing a very prosperous business in the restaurant and confectionery line.

Van Deventer, Lester, and Jewell (not a firm but separately) keep our bodies in repair. They had their hands full the last three or four months.

Fowler and Newton are dispensing the necessary justice; the latter has been sick with rheumatism for some time.

A.B. Smith, P. Hawley, and A. Snook are attending to the legal affairs of this town.

Gus Voss makes the insurance business a specialty.

To be continued hereafter in the future.

Yorkville: There will be an exhibition at Oswego Seminary Friday evening, Nov. 29, 1872. In addition to the usual exercises of the scholars, there will be a short oration by Rev. Duncan McGregor, songs by Misses Reed, Teller, Murdock, Child, Parker, and Russell, Duncan McGregor, and Charlie Pierce.

Good music by Richards & Strossman's string band.

Admission 25 cents.

Winter term of 16 weeks commences first Monday in December, 1872.

D.H. Taylor, A.M., Principal

December -- 1872

Dec. 5: The corporation has put down a new sidewalk by the National block on Main street.

The R.R. company is now constructing a stock yard near the side track north of Jackson street.

A photograph car is now located on the vacant lot, corner of Main and Jackson streets.

A movement of establishing a permanent literary association is on foot.

Sam Hopkins was in town the other day; he was smoking pipe when I met him.

Walter S. Hunt has gone to California prospecting.

Fred Sierp lost, by death, a little girl about two years old.

Mrs. Edward Murphy of AuSable Grove, while engaged in collecting the eggs about her premises, fell off a shed and broke her leg; Dr. Lester attended to the injury.

The observance of Thanksgiving day was not general, I think none of the business establishments were closed; the Post office was shut during divine service, which took place at the Baptist Church.

The turkey shoot was a spirited affair; a number of crack marksmen from abroad were present but the shooting was poor, the cause of which was laid to the wind. It blowed quite hard.

Taylor's school exhibition was quite a success, considering the very cold night on which it occurred. The performances were of an elevated character and well executed.

Yorkville: The continued drought is getting troublesome if not serious. Wells in this vicinity are very low and many do not afford a pail of water a day. Cisterns are also dry, and housekeepers have to get ice from the river for washing and culinary purposes. Rain is needed badly.

The fine passenger coach in Conductor Williams' train now runs through to Chicago without change, so that now passengers on the Fox River line do not have to change cars at Aurora for Chicago unless they ride in the smoking car.

A recent copy of the *Houston (Texas) Union* contains a column describing the Cement Pipe Works of Courtney & Race (Major Geo. A. Race, formerly of Oswego). They have a large tract of ground a short distance from the city and a building 50x50 with a 20 foot ceiling. The machinery is run by steam power. They manufacture sewer and rain pipe, chimney flues, tops, etc. from English cement and Texas sand.

We gladly introduce W.S. Bunn, the Oswego lumber merchant, to our readers. He makes his first appearance this week in the advertising columns of the *Record*. Will our subscribers Oswego-ward give due attention to his card, and let him see that it pays to advertise in the *Record*.

Dec. 12: O.G. Turner and Miss Lydia Hilderband, also George C. Williams and Miss Nellie McEwen of Chicago have formed connubial combinations. The nuptials of the former couple transpired at Plano, I am informed. That of the latter at Chicago, I suppose.

A writing school has been organized and is held on certain evenings at the school house, a Mr. Leland is the teacher.

A Prof. DeNormandie gave an entertainment in the town hall one evening last week, which, for a one man affair, was pretty good.

Earl Sutherland has returned.

Over 400 hogs, making seven carloads, were shipped from here last night; six of the loads belonged to Davis of AuSable Grove; and one to Wollenweber & Knapp.

The shipping of produce from this town is quite extensive; being into Hawley's the other evening, who are one of the principal shippers, I was shown their shipping account since last March which amounted to nearly 34,000 pounds of butter and upwards of 19,000 dozen of eggs.

A new trial was to be had yesterday in the sheep killing case, Parker vs. Judson, but a postponement was effected to Saturday, I believe.

Very little drunkenness has been shown of late in this town; last night however some boys had a drop too much.

There are some things which never wear out, which improve with age, and which are always enjoyed, such is the case with many of our citizens in respect to the game of dominoes.

Items this week are not very plenty with me and in the order of making my communication of the usual length, I undertook to fill up with the water question, but in trying to show the necessity of a public water supply in this town, to explain why by digging wells we cannot reach water as readily as heretofore, why springs are drying up, why there is so much less rain than formerly, and why water is getting continually scarcer, I got into water so deep that I had to back out for this time.

Yorkville: The ice men are putting up tools in preparatory to filling the mammoth ice house.

A horse belonging to the Caledonia Ice Company died in Yorkville Sunday night from lung disease.

You can't eat enough in one day to last you a whole year and you can't advertise on that plan, either.

Mr. A.D. Newton, the new Sheriff, has located himself and family in Yorkville for two years to come--and perhaps for four--and he is making things about the Court House look clean and orderly. The supervisors have voted him a liberal salary and he will earn ever cent of it by strict attention to the duties of his office.

Tuesday morning, Michael O'Connell died suddenly at the house of I.F. Arnold, southeast of Oswego, just after getting up from the breakfast table. While engaged in putting on his coat, he dropped dead instantly. Dr. J.B. Littlewood, the coroner, held an inquest on the remains Tuesday afternoon. Dr. G.B. Lester and the coroner made a post mortem examination and found death to have been caused by aneurism of the aorta. The jury's verdict was death from heart disease. O'Connell was a young man of about 25 who

had just come out from Chicago to do some plastering for Mr. Arnold. He was buried Wednesday in Oswego.

Dec. 19: The meat markets are among the most changeable things of this town. The firm of Mosley & Hinchman is successor to that of Armstrong & Snook.

John H. Wormley was considerably hurt one day last week at the railroad crossing this side of Montgomery.

A new firm, Newton & Armstrong, or vice versa, has been instituted for the manufacture of certain wooden wares; pumps being one of the leading articles.

A very large and fancy stock of holiday goods has been opened at the drug store.

Yorkville: The CB&Q are putting in a new side track at Yorkville for the use of the Caledonia Ice Company.

Dec. 26: The thermometer this morning, Dec. 24, 25 degrees below zero.

The residence of Daniel Pearce, about one mile east of town, was burned Sunday morning and proved a very distressing occurrence. The most of the family was yet in bed when the fire was discovered and the boys, James and Calvin, rushed out in their bare feet to carry water from the spring some little distance below the house. James failed to secure his boots in time, which were in the kitchen, and was compelled to go to his brother's house, (Ezekiel, a half mile distance) barefooted, the weather from 16-20 degrees below zero, his feet were badly frozen. The house burnt down in a very short time; there was nothing saved except a couple of trunks containing some of their effects. The fire originated, it was supposed, from the ashes, which the old lady had taken up and set outdoors, although she hadn't noticed any live coals in them.

A very gorgeous Christmas tree can be seen at the drug store. Last night it was illuminated and, of course, will be so again tonight. Levi takes to the ornamental and beautiful.

Clint Hawley, about 10 years of age, the little boy of J.B. Hawley, was buried last Saturday.

On account of the extreme cold weather, the attendance at the churches was slim last Sunday. McGregor in the morning waived the sermon he had prepared and took the cold weather for a text, contrasting it with cold hearts, cold dispositions, and cold Christians. Doubtless he was warm in these particulars, but as to fingers, he has showed some signs contrariwise.

The Congregational sociable was held at Teller's last week and is said to have been a very pleasant affair. Any doings there are always a success.

The severe storm considerably interfered with the magnitude of the ball last Thursday night.

The Masons held their election of officers last Saturday night. A.B. Smith was chosen head boss; M.J. Richards, Senior Warden; W.K. Van Fleet, Junior Warden; W.S. Bunn, Treasurer; Kirk L. Walker, Secretary; L. Rank was appointed Senior Deacon; Chas. Roberts Jr. Junior Deacon; R.M. Cherry and John A Yeigh, Stewards; and Fred Coffin, Tyler. Their installations into office also took place, after which they adjourned to Strossman's restaurant for oysters.

As regards that imbroglio, I hain't afraid. Let anybody challenge me to a dish of oysters and if I don't accept, call me a coward. That fling of the printers about being "too thin" to the contrary notwithstanding. As to pistols, I hain't much used to handling them.

Because of spending much time thawing ink, hands stiff from cold, and shaky otherwise, a number of items must remain unnoticed.

Plano: The several manufacturers of the Marsh Harvester expect to turn out 5,000 machines for next fall's use, a great majority of which have already been bargained for. Of this number, 1,350 will be made at the Sycamore Works. The Plano factory now has facilities for making a machine every 40 minutes during the day. A specimen machine will be on exhibition at the Vienna exposition of 1873.

Yorkville: The Caledonia Ice Company commenced to cut ice on Monday last and are filling their house as fast as possible.

The CB&Q have put another thickness of siding on their water tank at Yorkville to keep the water from freezing.

We are indebted to some Oswego friend for a copy of the *Kendall County Free Press* of 1857. J.W. Chapman was postmaster then, and from a list of advertised letters, we judge that the Oswego office reached out many miles. There are letters advertised for Jas. Eckles, Wm. Graham, Clark Havenhill, Andrew Jackson, Rev. M. Lewis, and E.M. Merchant, who now live far from Oswego.

1873

January

Jan. 2: The several weddings that have transpired on or about Christmas in this town and vicinity have furnished a good share of the social topic the past week. Due notice of them has already been taken in the last week's *Record*, except that of Wm. B. Ross and Miss Sarah McClain, who were married at the residence of John McClain, the bride's father, and then started, I believe, for the former residence of the bridegroom in a neighboring

state. I must be permitted to also mention the wedding of Emma Richards to George D. Wormley, in the first place correcting the mistake of the date; it took place at three in the afternoon of Christmas instead of Christmas Eve as the *Record* had it. It occurred at the residence of the bride's father, M.J. Richards.

The exhibition of the Methodist Sunday School and the distribution of presents from the Christmas Tree was a very joyful affair. The gifts were various and numerous, and many, both young and old, were made happy by them.

On Christmas Eve, in some places of resort for the boys, the English language failed to give full expression to the points embraced in the animated subject under discussion and recourse was therefore had to fists. I suppose those who came away with mutilated countenances were the ones who lost the question.

The bird show the other evening was not endorsed as tip-top by all who went to see it.

I will say good-bye for 1872 to those who have been in the habit of reading my communications. If I have heretofore said anything displeasing to anybody, let them be forgotten; let us dismiss animosities with the old year and commence clean with the new.; let there be peace and good will among us.

Yorkville: Four new subscribers to the *Record* from Oswego gladdened the office last Tuesday.

The Hutchinsons are about to ship 2,000 tons of ice from Yorkville to fill their Chicago ice houses. They will load the cars directly from the river.

Scores of our people are mourning the loss of cherished house plants by frost during the past week, while a great number have their cellars lumbered with vegetables rendered worthless in like manner.

Jan. 9: A temperance movement was inaugurated last Friday night, the most novel part of which is that the hardest drinkers are the leading spirits in it; there were none of the regular temperance people present. A pledge was drawn up and numerous signed. A.B. Smith was called upon for a speech and he made a very good one. Next John W. Chapman made a happy little speech; the next speaker was D.M. Haight. He is a business man and is apt to look at most things from the standpoint of profits and losses and so in this case he applied the percent argument, which doubtless is the most potent one involved in the question. J.H. Gray was called up on for a speech; he remarked that he was a novice in the business, that he would have to train awhile to get acquainted with the subject. He thought he would be qualified to make a speech on the other side, wherein he was well-versed, but these ideas of temperance were strangers to him. The president was next called upon--he rose and excused himself by saying he was in the same boat with Gray. There were a large number of males present, the utmost harmony prevailed, and the movement looked suspicious. Isaac Pearce presided over the meeting, and J.A. Radley was the secretary.

Asher B. Hall of Houston, Texas is here on a visit. I have not seen him and therefore am not prepared to tell how he acts and looks.

Surprise parties are just now the greatest source of amusement and pleasure, occasionally on an evening, among a certain class of our young people. These parties are the most pleasant affair of the present era.

Millington: Now if my memory is not at fault, the OO&FRVRR was to be competing with low freights and cheap coal, but how has it turned out freights as high as ever and no coal half the time at any price. But we have the road and that is better than some sections have faired.

Jan. 16: A wedding occurred last Wednesday; the parties to it were a Mr. George Loomis, formerly of Iowa, and Mrs. Josiah Pearce.

A.B. Hall has returned to Texas. He never showed himself to me.

Another temperance meeting was held Friday evening at which it was determined that the old independent order of the "temperance camp" be resuscitated, in consequence of which its president--at the time of its falling into dormancy about six years ago--called a meeting of said camp for Saturday night at which 18 men (the most of whom were heretofore in the habit of drinking more or less) were initiated. The regular meetings of said camp are to be held hereafter every Saturday evening.

Our community enjoyed the pleasure on Sunday forenoon of listening to a sermon by the old veteran Methodist preacher, Elder [Stephen R.] Beggs, who preached here to the settlers 40 years ago, before Oswego had an existence.

More than usual quietness prevailed during the past week, which perhaps was more or less of account of its being the week of prayer; the temperance spirit which suddenly manifested itself in a large number of the saloon frequenters may also have contributed to it.

Yorkville: Monday was a sloppy, warm day--extremely watery under foot.

Last week, Lon. Hallock shipped 14 car loads of hogs from Yorkville, the most he ever shipped in one week except upon one occasion.

The winter of 1872 and thus far of 1873 may be put down in the diary as "severely cold, dry, and blustering." Certainly it has been a trying season.

Jan. 23: The snow, the beautiful snow--the shoveling of which this morning, and pressure of other business, necessitates brevity of this communication.

Owing to the bad weather and darkness of the fore part of last Wednesday evening, the Methodist donation was a failure as far as a big crowd of adults was concerned.

The writing school closed last Friday evening when an examination took place. The school selected L. Rank, L.N. Hall, and H.P Farley for the judges. Mary Crosby was adjudged to have made the greatest progress and was rewarded by the teacher with a gold pen and holder; second best, Clara Parker. Hattie Wormley, best penmanship, premium a drawing; second best, Aggie Hopkins. Mr. Leland, the teacher, understands the art thoroughly.

The Temperance Camp had a late session on Saturday night. The most interesting business transacted was the election of officers, which resulted as follows: President, Isaac Pearce; vice president, Henry C. Hopkins; Secretary, J.A. Radley; financial secretary, Orson Pearce; treasurer, Lorenzo Rank.

Mr. Sawyer, the Baptist minister, I understand is sick, so the religious services on Sunday were confined to the Methodist church.

Jan. 30: The big snow storm last week made business for Superintendent Gallagher; he kept his section of the railroad open and in running order most all of the time.

A special town meeting is called for next Saturday, Feb. 1. The railroad bonds being the object for consideration.

As Byron Morgan was driving through Main street last Saturday, something got disarranged about the team--believe one of the horses got a foot over the trace or tongue--in getting out to fix it the horses started to run, turning into and going through Mullenix's dooryard fence, breaking down several pear trees and bringing up against the house, no bodily injury resulting.

The temperance camp is growing in magnitude and importance.

Mrs. Samuel Smith was buried last Sunday; the funeral services took place at the Methodist Church. The corpse had been kept a number of days for the reason, I understood, that the arrival of Luther, a son, who resides in Kansas was expected; he, however, was not present. Mr. Smith is an old settler, one of the quietest men, being of Quaker descent. The family is one of the most exemplary.

Yorkville: S.G. Minkler of this county was last week elected President of the Northern Illinois Horticultural Society at its session in Freeport, an honor Little Kendall appreciates.

We had the pleasure on Tuesday of receiving from the hands of J.M.C. Runner, Esq., some specimens of beet sugar manufactured at Freeport, Ill., an article we never before saw.

The *Beacon* relates the following: Patrick Tighe, a blacksmith at the shops, has a son ten years old who has suffered a year or two with stone in the bladder. About three weeks ago, Dr. Elliott of this city took the boy to Chicago where Dr. Gunn extracted the stone, measuring one inch by an inch and a quarter, and the boy is nearly well.

February -- 1873

Feb. 6: The information was received last week that two former Oswegoans had stepped off the stage of action, namely Matthias Beaupre of DeKalb Centre, who was buried last Saturday, and Jesse Holt, who died several weeks ago in the State of Ohio. [Beaupre was a former hotelier who managed both the National Hotel and Kendall House in Oswego, and who also served as Kendall County Sheriff]

S.S. Kerr and wife departed from among us the other day for Americus, Kansas, their new home. Matt Poage is also making preparation to move to that state.

Judge Parks of Aurora delivered a forcible speech last Saturday evening at a public meeting of the temperance camp. He took strong grounds against the traffic; he favored the enforcement of temperance and Sunday laws, the instituting of inebriate asylums. He counseled total abstinence. John Chapman and Charles Avery also made short addresses, after which the camp went into executive session with closed doors. Another open meeting will be held next Saturday evening, at which Irus Coy of Bristol is to be the orator.

Yorkville: It is supposed by the *Enterprise* that Millington has 300 inhabitants, and they want to incorporate.

The Kendall Cornet Band will go to Oswego tomorrow (Friday) evening to attend the Baptist donation at Chapman's Hall by special invitation. Our Oswego readers should all go to the donation and hear the best amateur band in the West.

From Sheriff Newton we learn that Matthias Beaupre, sheriff of Kendall County about 1852, died at DeKalb Center on the 30th of January, 1873. He had been sick for a long time. Mr. B. came to Illinois in 1836 from Canada, and located at Joliet, thence to Ottawa, and then settled in Oswego. At one time, he was landlord of the old National Hotel there. He was a brother-in-law of Mr. Zarley, editor of the *Joliet Signal*. His age was 59 years and 8 months.

West, the murderer, was taken to Geneva by Sheriff Newton last Monday and delivered to the Sheriff of Kane County. His trial is set for next Thursday, the 13th. There are now no prisoners in the Kendall County Jail. Upon the Sheriff at Geneva searching West's satchel, he found a razor, a jack knife, and a bottle of strychnine. The old man was well prepared to leave this world on his own account.

Feb. 13: The Baptist donation festival Friday night proved a very joyous affair; one of the chief features of attraction was the Yorkville Band, not only because of the music it produced, which was loud and splendid and for the kind quite a rarity to us, but the band itself--the company composing it--was much admired.

Irus Coy gave us a very eloquent temperance address Saturday night.

A lawsuit Saturday before Squire Fowler between a Mr. Chapman of Aurora and George Haag was tried.

Yorkville: It is a hard story but we have the word of good men for it. The ice in Lane's pond (the Blackberry) was measured Saturday and found to be 3 feet and 9 inches in thickness. The ice on Black's pond was about 22 inches.

Millington: Millington "Grange"

Pursuant to a call in our local paper, a goodly number of farmers and mechanics assembled at the school house on Thursday evening last to take initiative steps to organize a Farmers' and Mechanics' Club, similar to those organizing all over the country. The object of the meeting was fully stated--to band themselves together for mutual protection and to work for the Overthrow of Monopolies in general and railroad monopolies in particular.

The pop-corn and milk sociable at the residence of Capt. Geo. Biddulph was a perfect success, and a perfect jam; there being nearly 100 persons present.

Feb. 20: A *Hockzeit* [wedding] occurred on the prairie last week Thursday; the high contracting parties to it were William Dierenfeld and Miss Maggie Haag; it took place at the residence of George Haag, the bride's father.

The old folks' ball lat Thursday night was a splendid success.

George Kimball's house caught fire on the roof from the chimney one forenoon last week; our fire department worked admirably and soon had it under control and but little damage resulted; the lightning rod men claim that the rod on it saved it, it being a gothic roof and the lightning rod was the only thing that aided men to climb to the top of the roof, no hook-ladder being handy by.

James Cliggitt, who now makes his headquarters at St. Louis, is here on a visit.

Wollenweber & Knapp shipped four carloads of very nice hogs last week.

James S. Lee has sold his residence to Thomas Miller. Mr. and Mrs. Lee are contemplating to spend a few months visiting their relatives in Iowa.

The approaching trial of Duke West at Geneva is more or less discussed pro and con; a great many witnesses are subpoenaed; there are many who think that he ought to swing, not so much because he killed Newberry but on general principles.

A trial for the recovery on one of the railroad notes against George Cooney took place the other day before Justice Fowler; the jury failed to agree on a verdict. This RR matter is a sort of Credit Mobilier affair with John Chapman as the Oakes Ames; there is however this difference, while the original Oakes Ames testifies to corruption and while the other parties are denying it, our corrupted parties insist that they have been corrupted, that they voted and worked for the town tax with the understanding that their notes was to be given up to them without paying a cent on them, while on the other hand our Oakes Ames denies such corruptible design.

M.J. Richards has traded his land on the flats to H.G. Teller for town lots, &c.

Yorkville: Henry G. Smith has resigned his position as Station Agent at Blunt.

It is said that several cows gave ice cream during the recent cold weather, but we cannot find the author of the report.

We are in receipt of the *Waubansee County News*, published at Alma, Kansas by Abram Sellers, formerly of Bristol, Oswego, and Plano. It is a handsome paper, size of the *Record*, and is filled (one side) with local news. The proprietor is a member of the Kansas Legislature. So we have two Kendall County men in the Kansas Assembly--Hon. A. Sellers and Hon. Levi Lane.

Feb. 27: Quite an exodus would take place some mornings the latter part of last week, namely the witnesses in the West trial repairing to Geneva. [An extensive story on the trial was printed on page 2]

John Sanders has bought of Wayne the Durand place where L.N. Hall now lives.

James Pearce and Miss Mary Gannon were married last Thursday; it took place at his brother Ezekiel's house.

Harmon Parker, one of the old settlers has gone to his final home; he died at his son-in-law's, Henry Marsh, in NaAuSay, with whom he has been staying. Mr. P. was 81 years of age and has been a jovial old man, he in company with the late Ezra Smith attended many 4th of July celebrations where they were the principles in performing the martial music, Mr. P. being the fifer; now both are gone.

The hay press is now crowding work as fast as possible.

G.H. Teller is making large preparations again for his summer's work of lightning rodding; he has bought some very nice horses.

The George Cooney suit concerning the collection of a note given in exchange for a railroad note was tried again yesterday; it took place before Justice Newton, and by a jury of ten; the getting of the jury was the most difficult job, and it kept Constable Strossman busy for a number of hours. Paul Hawley for the plaintiff and Albert Snook for the defendant performed the legal doings; the verdict, the plaintiff for \$50, the amount of the face of the note.

Yorkville: C.G. Doud, J.H. Wormley, J.S. Seely, and Mr. John Wormley were the representatives from Oswego to attend the Farmers' meeting last Saturday.

The maddest lot of folks in the county are the Oswego witnesses in the West trail. To Geneva and back each day, \$1.20; dinner, 50 cents; cigars, 25 cents; beer, 00 cents; liabilities, \$1.95, assets, nothing. It is too bad, certainly, 51 subpoenas issued to know that Oswego knows about West. Ask Dave Hall about it.

Married: Pearce--Gannon.--Feb. 20th, in Oswego by Rev. Mr. S.A.W. Jewett, Mr. James Pearce and Miss Mary C. Gannon, both of Oswego.

March -- 1873

March 6: This is inauguration day, and in order to witness as much as possible of this celebration I shall be brief with my report. The inauguration ball for the evening, I believe, has fallen through; the display of bunting, the forgetting for the time being of whatever there is discouraging, and feeling very good generally may be all of it will amount to with us.

Again, an old settler gone to that bourne from where none return, namely Christopher Williams, aged 76 years, who was buried Saturday in the cemetery on or adjoining the Cowdrey farm.

Joseph Murry and family, after more than 20 years of residence in this town, have moved to Aurora.

The house of Mr. DeLong, in the east part of NaAuSay was burned one day last week.

A few miles southeast of here there is a very neighborly neighborhood; when one of them enters upon any important undertaking, all the others are ready to assist. O.E. Judson is going to build a barn, his neighbors to the number of seven or eight turned out with their teams the other day and in one draft hauled all the umber for it; nothing like being neighborly and that practically.

David Severance has moved on the farm and the house he left was moved into by Joe Gentensberg.

In pursuance of the investigating times concerning arrogant monopolies, high freights, cheap corn, suffering farmers, and financial stringency, it was my intention to give herewith what I know about these things, but am compelled to defer; these views won't spoil, however, by being kept over.

Yorkville: The mercury 11 degrees below zero March 4th. No green peas yet.

The railroads are feeling the pressure of the farmers' organization. The CB&Q Company have reduced the freight on cans of milk from Yorkville to Chicago from 20 cents to 15 cents a can. Mr. Frank Seely is the only shipper from Yorkville and would like more company. He has tried the business now about five months and knows that it pays.

The railroads are feeling the pressure of the farmers' organization. The CB&Q Company have reduced the freight on cans of milk from Yorkville to Chicago from 20 cents to 15 cents a can.

March 13: Again an old settler, and one of the earliest, has left this stage of action. Ebenezer Morgan died Sunday afternoon, March 9th, and will be buried at the cemetery near his residence. His age was 73 years. E.W. Barnes and wife and Mrs. Lodemin Phelps of Missouri, the ladies being the daughters of the deceased, were in attendance during the last days of his life.

Libbie, daughter of George R. Minkler, 17 years of age, died of consumption last week.

If money wasn't so, so tight I should undertake the agitation of the hotel question.

New officers to conduct the municipal and town governments must be chosen ere long; a sad thing that property eligibility for aldermen is required.

Yorkville: The late horse disease left many horses in bad condition and we have heard that they do not bear hard work well. Great care should be taken that they are not overworked when plowing is begun.

A portion of the Dayton dam across Fox River was taken out by the ice last Saturday. The damage can soon be repaired.

March 20: The burning of a dwelling house on the south end of the town owned by Oliver Hebert and occupied by one of his employees, Joseph Richott, was the greatest event within the week past; at a more central locality and at any other time the fire probably would have been extinguished; but it being remote from the headquarters of the fire department and happening at the time it did, namely half after six in the morning, just when many are sleeping the sweetest, little resistance could be offered so the house was totally consumed. For a while the Presbyterian church opposite to it was somewhat endangered.

The ice commenced breaking up on Saturday and the most of it moved out on Sunday.

The ball last week, which was mainly patronized by the temperance folks, was a very pleasant affair and a tolerable success.

Our Knight Templars turned out the other day in full dress uniform and equipage and joined their Aurora brethren on the p.m. down train to attend some doings at Ottawa.

Yorkville: Henry G. Smith is now pro tem agent and telegraph operator at Sheridan.

The break in the dam across Fox River at Dayton, which supplies the canal with water at Ottawa, has left the canal dry.

We never saw so many saw logs at the Yorkville sawmill as there are at present. The ground in that vicinity is covered with them, enough to keep the old mill at work till summer.

The ice went out from Black's pond last Sunday, the 16th, about noon, very gently, much to the satisfaction of the mill men and taxpayers who feared accident to the bridges. The first break covered the island and the water raised rapidly but soon went down when the gorge cleared. The ice was very rotten.

March 27: One day recently as John Tatge was engaged in hauling out manure with the old gray, on throwing down the lines to step back for the fork, the horse got frightened and ran all over town spilling the manure and scattering parts of the wagon along the road. Another runaway occurred yesterday; the Shoger boys, Leonard and Henry, were driving in a buggy, their team started with them uptown someplace and running down Washington Street, getting off the road below town--the buggy was considerably damaged, and one of the horses was hurt a little bit.

Somebody who probably means his funeral to take place in Oswego and so ye Editor wants me to regulate the irregularities of our grave yard, in regard to which I merely wish to say that that breach in the fence is repaired. There are, however, other things about the arrangements of our cemetery which bother me more than the condition of fences.

That there is a somewhat general spirit of negligence prevailing is certain, not only in regard to the graveyard, but other public and even private affairs. For instance, our people felt quite proud over the brick block when it was completed. It was looked upon as the great ornament of the town. During the first year of its existence and upstairs window light was broken out. It happened to be in the window over a stairway which divides the ownership of the building. The said window is accessible to only one of the owners of the building, but the light is broken out on the side of the one who has no access to the window. Now it is not know who really ought to fix it.

Again, there is a piece of clapboard torn off the side facing the street of the Post Office Building. The occupant thinks the owner of the building ought to get it fixed and the owner that the tenants must and are obliged to keep such property in ordinary repairs.

Another man had some quarry chips hauled in front of his place of business to fill in around the hitching posts, among which were many large-sized pieces that failed to consolidate with the ground and became scattered all over the street thereabouts. I have my mind on a number of shortcomings, but this letter is already longer than it should be. Our eyes have become accustomed to these irregularities and so they appear harmless, but to strangers they look badly.

A little boy of Robert Graham's, eight years old, died Monday night.

Some of our grafters have organized their forces and started out on their circuits.

Thos. B. Reed has moved to town and into the place heretofore occupied by H.V.B. Young. Also, J. Wesley Edwards, who has moved into the Edson house, the same individuals comprising the new butcher firm of Reed & Edwards.

The rest of our trappers, Ed. English and Newt Gillespie, who have been operating during the winter in and about Mason county, have returned.

It would appear that our town has become too insignificant a place or Charley Moore to stop in. He went to the capital of Kendall County and into the employ of a druggist there, I believe. His place at Hawley & Co.'s was filled by Thomas Cliggitt, another very good looking young man.

Yorkville: The break in the dam across Fox river at Dayton, which supplies the canal with water at Ottawa, has left the canal dry.

#### DAMAGE BY ICE AT OTTAWA

The ice that went out of Fox River recently gave the manufacturing interests of Ottawa a serious blow, two dams being damaged to such an extent as to stop many establishments for a short time. The *Republican* of the 20th says:

The dam across the Fox River at Dayton, owned by the State, is to all appearances a total wreck. Some ten days ago a part of the comb of this dam on the east end, about a third the length of the dam and apparently about two feet in depth, went off. The damage seemed to be trifling but on Friday last a field of ice came down with such force that it racked the whole structure downstream and as the ice moved off leaving the water clear, there seemed to but little left of the old Dayton dam. The river fell almost instantly, and the water of the feeder turned in its course and ran back into the Fox river, leaving the Dayton mills and factory without propelling power.

This dam was built some years before the opening of the canal, which took place in 1848. John Green had constructed a dam at the same place to create a water power, with which he ran a flouring and saw mill. The State having established that point as the place from which to take water from the Fox river to feed the canal, made an arrangement with Green by which he was secured in the perpetual use of water power much greater than has ever yet been used. This dam was built of timber crib work, just above the old one, and in the filling up, both the old and new were consolidated making it a very strong structure. It has stood many shocks in the years that have intervened, with slight repairs

and little care. It will of course be rebuilt as soon as the stage of water will permit, as canal navigation can hardly be carried on without the use of this feeder. In the meantime, serious inconvenience and loss will be suffered by the numerous manufacturers of Ottawa whose mills are propelled by water from the "side cut" and hydraulic basin, which are supplied by this feeder.

The break in the Illinois River dam, it must be confessed, is a serious one. While the south division or dam between the island and south bank seems to be uninjured and the planking that was put in last fall in order to allow repairs to be made seems to be unmoved, the north division or the dam between the island and the north shore, is badly shattered. On the south end, that part which was built in and on the projecting rock is washed away down to the level of the rock, some four feet in depth and, say, 60 feet in length. The most serious break is next to the north abutment. Here the break is about 50 feet in length and some 10 or 12 feet in depth, and may in the centre extend to the bottom of the dam. It is impossible now to determine the extent of the injury, but it is certainly very considerable.

"If I knew the name of your Oswego correspondent, I would ask him to say something about the broken fences at the cattle that make the Oswego cemetery so unsightly," said a subscriber to the *Record* man the other day.

An ancient document was presented to Treasurer Cornell on Wednesday of last week for payment. It was a juror's certificate for \$2.25 issued in 1842 to Ebenezer Morgan by A.B. Smith, clerk of the circuit court. It had been in the possession of Squire Morgan till his death, when his executor came across it and had it cashed.

[Each week's *Record* includes stories about the farmers' organizations being formed in virtually every county township to combat monopolies, particularly railroad monopolies.]

April -- 1873

April 3: Our people should patronize the lectures which are now taking place a little better than they have so far; there was some excuse for small audiences the first two lectures because the weather was quite unfavorable, but last evening it was well enough for a good turn out.

Out of about a dozen candidates, the following were selected for the powers to be in this town [village] the ensuing year: Edward Mann; Henry C. Hopkins; Moses J. Richards; Charles Avery; and Henry Helle.

There is much moving taking place at present. L.N. Hall, after thorough renovation, has moved into his new residence, the Jolly house; John Sanders moved into the house lately bought by him; so also did Miss Eliza Kennedy; Mrs. Schram is now occupying a part of the H.C. Hopkins house; her own place, I believe, is to be let to some parties from Chicago.

Business is now considerably increasing, our merchants are receiving heavy invoices of goods, especially is the lumber trade growing. Mat Poage has now his lumber and coal business in full operation and offers to sell very cheap for cash. For the first time we have competition in the lumber trade; the other lumber yard is run by Shoger & Brother.

Armstrong & Newton have now also their machinery in full motion for the manufacture of pumps, etc.

I believe with \$8,000 we could buy the old National [Hotel] property and build a suitable hotel on it. The unfavorable economical situation of the farming community now and the agitation resulting from it will have tendency towards shaping some of our industries in some other directions from what they now are...Oswego may bet be made one of the most prosperous towns on Fox River; the building of a hotel should be the initiative.

Yorkville: To the Editor:

The farmers of the neighborhood met at Walker's School House, Oswego [corner of Plainfield and Simons roads] the 7th of March and organized a Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry. They met again Saturday, the 22d and took in several new members and finished electing officers. The farmers are getting thoroughly waked up to their interests, and as soon as they come in from the other side of town we will adjourn to the village. The officers elected were G. Gaylord, Master; J.B. Shumway, Overseer. C.J. Shumway, Lecturer. S.E. Walker, Steward. C.G. Gaylord, Assistant Steward. Charles Gaylord, Chaplain. Nath. Loucks, Treasurer. M.B. Poage, Secretary. F. Collins, Gate Keeper.

The town of Oswego votes on the 12th, at the Trustee's election, for or against establishing a high school in the township.

The nice, new maple syrup left at the editor's house last Thursday by Mr. David Kennedy was a great treat. It was clear and thick.

Some large pickerel were caught at Lane's Mill the forepart of the week, weighing five, seven, and eight pounds.

The Yorkville mills were obliged to close down several days last week on account of slush ice and snow filling up the race and backing up the water.

April 10: Notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather on town meeting day, a full average turnout of the voters was had; five-sixths put in an appearance. The persons elected are H.W. Farley, supervisor; David Hall, assessor; L.N. Hall, town clerk; Jonathan Andrews, collector; C.A. Davis, commissioner of highways; Edward Mann and Rufus Gray, justices of the peace; Nicholas Congdon and Samuel Hagerman, constables.

The combined lecture and concert at the Baptist Church last week was a splendid affair; the lecturer, Rev. Dr. Everts, was a very pleasant speaker. The concert, of which A.J. Parkhurst was manager, Lettie and Bessie Richards, Mattie and Fannie Murphy, Clara

Parker, Cy Poage, and Ed. Shibley the principal performers and Mrs. Josephine Hall pianist, was extraordinarily well rendered.

The new board of corporation trustees are organized and in working order; Mann is president, Helle treasurer, and Bunn was appointed clerk; as a constituent I intended to give them herewith a lecture, but for want of time I must postpone it.

Luther Smith who has been absent about five years in Kansas, made his appearance again among us; he looks a little older, but none the worse for that.

From Yorkville: Last Thursday Emmett Arnold speared a pickerel at Lane's Mill that weighed 10-1/2 pounds, and measured two feet and nine inches in length. It is the largest pickerel yet caught in this vicinity.

April 17: The election of school trustees resulted in a tie vote between Gilbert Gaylord and Henry Wormley; the drawing of lots subsequently gave it to the latter. The proposition to establish a high school was rejected; only 7 out of 181 voted in favor of it. The free school system is a good thing, but good things carried to excess become hurtful; education is not for ornamental purposes but for practical benefits. A finished education is a fortune; it is capital, a claim for a share of the nation's wealth. Under the system of communism where the earnings of both the lawyer and the hod carrier go into a common fund, the free high school principle would be entirely proper.

Among the new things the past week has given birth to is the *Oswego News*, our enterprising fellow citizen H.A. Tounshendeau is the begetter of it; it is a sort of a twin affair, but a part of a newspaper is better than none at all; may it prosper and make its mark in the world.

William A. Hawley left yesterday for Mississippi with the intention of going into the planting business there.

Some Chicago creditors caused a disturbance in the regular business at [J.B.] Hawley's store last night; I learn that no business is to be transacted pending the investigation.

Yorkville: About two years ago L.G. Bennett, Esq., was in the Indian Territory with a party of United States Surveyors engaged in laying off townships. The chief of the survey was Capt. [R.C.] Darling, U.S.C.E. [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers]. Mr. Bennett has recently heard that Capt. D. and four others of his party have been killed by the Indians (the Kiowas) on Cinnamon River. They belong to the tribe of Santana and Big Tree, who have been in the Texas State Prison for the past year. It is a good deal safer to be clerk of the Kendall County Circuit Court than to be "gallivanting" among such treacherous red devils.

The County Farmers' Association was practically disfranchised last Saturday by the adoption of the new constitution. The original organization was done away with, and now it will be a delegate body. The change is for the better.

H.P. Hutchinson & Son of the Caledonia Ice Company expect to begin shipping ice about May 1st from Yorkville and are making preparations for an active season's work. The Yorkville ice is the best in Chicago and all who have seen it pronounce it to be the firmest, cleanest and most pure of any ever sold in Chicago. Already the company's wagons are on the streets in the city delivering ice.

April 24: Chauncey Kennedy died early Thursday morning at the age of 55 years.

Among those who have exhibited the most energetic spirit so far this spring is David Severance on the Baldwin (of Chicago) farm. The orchard is trimmed up to the best advantage.

The suspension of business at Hawley's store is still maintained, and has furnished a share of the gossiping material the past week.

Street work is considered as one of the most important duties of our corporation trustees, and the new board is about to enter upon the same. I want the present board to do better than any of its predecessors. For instance, about the first thing the last board undertook towards street work was the opening and getting in order the northwest end of Van Buren street; a good deal of work was expended upon it; the result of which was that a nice piece of side-hill ground, made so by nature, was disfigured by a hole being dug into it, that a nice large round hardhead was spoiled by blasting it into ill-shaped pieces, and that a bridge was built across the pond on the flat, which is just about as much use to us as it is to the people living at the further end of China. Another thing which to my mind is the business of the town government and that is to see to the protection of the property of non-residents; a building of a non-resident cannot stand vacant a month without the windows being all knocked out. It ought to be somebody's business to at least warn the boys against it. This town, for the sake of its own reputation, ought to put new windows into Danforth's shop; the same being so close to the railroad, strangers carried by there will not get a favorable impression of us by the sight of its present condition.

Yorkville: A fire occurred at Plainfield on Tuesday night of last week which resulted in the total destruction of the Plainfield College. The loss is roughly estimated at \$10,000; insurance, \$2,000. Considerable prejudice arose from the location of the college at Plainfield, and the fire is undoubtedly the work of an incendiary. It was a credible institution and its loss will be severely felt in the county.

May -- 1873

May 1: The raising of George Parker's new barn was successfully accomplished yesterday.

O.L. Turner has bought Mrs. Casey's lower building on Main Street.

Ludwig Helle has sold his premises to Henry Helle; the former is going to move to Iowa.

Some of our people are again experiencing shakes of the ague.

Charles E. Beaupre has moved into town and into G.W. Wormley's house.

Some new silk plug hats were shining around town on Sunday on top of some gentlemen for the first time.

The difficulties at Hawley's store are not yet removed and things are still at status quo. It would appear to one upon a tree that our legal system is a confused and inextricable mess. It is full of conflicts of authorities. We want our legal system straightened out and got in a somewhat intelligible shape.

Yorkville: H.W. Farley, Esq. of Oswego has received a patent on an "Elevated Way," which was applied for the 8th of March. The specifications are as follows: "The cable is supported by transverse and longitudinal plates firmly attached to it. Motion is imparted from the driving wheels, between which and a set of under rollers the plates are grasped. The axes to the bearing-rollers are inclined to furnish requisite space for articles in transit.

May 8: Attempts of burglariously entering a residence were made during one night of last week.

John Cliggitt, now a resident of, and engaged in the legal profession at, Mason City, Ia., is here on a visit.

Charles E. Beaupre has made a short stay with us; he has moved back to DeKalb Centre today.

The embarrassments at Hawley's store have been removed and business was resumed Saturday afternoon; the legal profession doubtless has been the gainer by these difficulties.

D.J. Holmes, the humorist, will deliver another lecture at the Methodist Church next Thursday evening.

Dave Hall is now actively engaged in the service of assessing; the new manner of performing the same is quite imperious, persons have to disclose their entire business.

Everybody admits that we ought to have a hotel and all would be glad if somebody would build one, but no one is willing to do for the very good reason that it wouldn't pay.

Yorkville: G.H. Teller, Esq. of Oswego is operating in Streator in the lightning rod business. *The Monitor* gives him a very fine notice.

There was a flurry of snow on the 3d of May last year, and many thought it was a backward spring. The same is the complaint this year. Let us have patience friends; there's a bright lining to every cloud.

The boys are but few in the spring and summer schools. That is the season they are required on the farm. We often hear it said that the girls are more advanced and make more progress in the schools than do boys. They have reason to make progress--they are at school all the year round. The less fortunate sex take their schooling (generally) between corn husking and plowing.

May 15: The question as to whether or not our old men are liable to work on the road is not understood alike by all concerned; it appears that the general state law exempts those over 50 years of age while the corporation fixes no limit.

A new sidewalk has been constructed in front of Teller's.

Road work is now progressing under Boss Hopkins on Main Street in the vicinity of the Congregational church.

O.G. Turner is making extensive improvements to his lately bought building, putting in an entire new front, new flooring, and otherwise repairing it. The Averys are doing the job.

The Shoger house, on the corner of Adams and Jackson streets, is drawing near completion in the hands of the Richards.

Philip Boessenecker is building a new barn; his workmen, I believe, are from Aurora.

No movement has been made this week towards building the hotel.

Van Evra, Cole & Co. are building and have nearly completed the large barn of George Parker.

Yorkville: H.G. Smith was down running the Millington Station last week. Mr. Halsey, the agent, being on the sick list.

M.C. Richards of Oswego is now engaged in selling and putting up the Halladay Windmill and pump for the use of farmers and manufacturers. He offers a fair contract to all.

Out of 11 good, strong swarms of bees belonging to Mr. George C. Willett that went into winter quarters last fall, only one swarm is left. There has been a singular fatality among bees the past winter.

Measles are prevalent.

Yorkville: As a Fox River freight train was switching at Montgomery on Tuesday morning, it backed on the main track by mistake when it was run into by another train. Six cars were thrown from the track and an engine badly smashed.

Many farmers on the dryer lands of the county are planting corn, while the more unfortunate on wetter land are hurrying their plowing that they may get the corn in before the end of the month.

The Hiddleston school, Little Rock, numbers only 14 pupils this spring. Miss Libbie Stahl of Oswego has charge and the people of the district speak well of her as a teacher.

This is good weather for wood and coal dealers. It is necessary to keep a fire all the time, and has been since last October to keep a room in decent temperature.

The old brick academy in Long Grove, a monument of the early days of the country and at one time the center for all town meetings and county conventions, is being torn down and a new school house is being erected on the site. The old academy was built by the Methodist protestants and the district, and was used jointly as a meeting house and school house. A new house is much needed in the district and the children will be glad to see the change, notwithstanding the loss of a historical relic.

May 22: The family of Michael Carney met with a sad bereavement; their little child died Wednesday morning, seemingly without having been sick.

Henry Hopkins one afternoon last week engaged Mr. Wm. Bradford to break a horse to saddle for him; it was said that the undertaking proved quite a success so far as the art of dismounting is concerned. Mr. B. dismounted 13 times with the greatest celerity and without his own free will and accord, frequently springing to the ground on his head. Those present pronounced it a better show than could have been accomplished with a trained circus mule.

It is deplorable that there should be so much contention between parties of the same profession; the butchers are getting nearly as bad as the doctors.

Yorkville: Last Sunday afternoon the people of Aurora were startled by the alarm of fire, and were more startled when they learned that it was the CB&Q Car Shops that were burning. A high wind blew from the southeast, and the tinder-like frame buildings burned like paper.

The fire, it seems started on the roof of the paint shop from sparks of the switch engine. It was soon seen by watchmen, but being beyond their immediate reach, before help could be procured, it was beyond help. From this, the fire communicated to the coach shop, directly west of which, in order, lay the carpenter shop, the sore house, and the lumber house. Near by, also, were the copper shop, boiler shop, lock shop, and south of all, the car depot of the machine shop. All these were burned together with a vast amount of lumber.

Three Pullman Palace cars, the International (new), the Kansas City, and the St. Joseph, were burned, one, the New York, was saved. The Director's car, a baggage car, some eight passenger cars, and at least eight cars loaded with lumber were burned. A fire engine house standing in the yard upon Broadway was near the last to burn, but this communicated the fire across Broadway and a house and barn were burned, which, I believe, were all the individual property destroyed.

The prettiest street we know of is Main street in Oswego from the business part of the down southwest by the Judson place. The street is wide and is lined with shade trees, while the residences on either side are embowered in a mass of foliage. The whole street for two miles down the river is a beautiful drive.

It is always a pleasure to visit the Budlong school, Oswego, as the house and location are pleasant and the scholars well behaved and tolerably studious. This school has ranked very high for its teachers and pupils, but the older scholars have grown up and left. A new generation to be built up again educationally. Miss Orpha Ashley is teaching the school this spring and maintains good discipline. [This school was later renamed the Cutter School.]

Messrs. Pearce and Chattel living about two miles west of Oswego, had their corn planted in good season but the weather has been so unfavorable that about 30 acres rotted and they were to commence last Tuesday to paint it over.

#### Farmers' Mass Convention

At Yorkville, Friday (to-morrow), May 23d

At the request of many citizens and members of the Farmers' Association of Kendall County, a mass convention of Farmers and anti-monopolists is hereby called to be held at Yorkville on Friday, the 23d inst., at 1 o'clock p.m., for the purpose of appointing 11 delegates to represent Kendall County in the Judicial Convention to be held at Aurora on Saturday the 24th inst. Also, to select delegates to attend the Farmers' national Convention to be held at Indianapolis. The attendance of all who are opposed to rings and monopolies in general are earnestly requested.

By order of

Lott Schofield, President

May 29: There prevailed the usual peace among and the good will towards each other of this community the past week. No earthquake, no tornado, no explosion or horror of any kind, everything serene and tranquil. The sick are improving, quinine is making firm the shaky, the weather delightful, the atmosphere balmy, birds are singing, bumblebees humming, and all nature is smiling.

Housecleaning has been the order of the week; I had begun making a list of the cases, but it got too large for publication.

The most important and interesting event was the ordination of the Rev. E.H. Sawyer to the ministry of the Baptist church.

Nathan Loucks is very proud of a young colt he has out of the late Cassius. Frank Hawley offered him \$100 for it when but a week old; it is indeed a nice little fellow.

Yorkville: Millington is going to have a race-course on Jackson's Bluff. Surveyors have it laid out. This has no connection with the race-course from Post's dam.

Last Friday, a number of the farmers and anti-monopolists got together at the Court House in pursuance of the call of the president of the Farmers' Association and appointed 11 delegates to attend the Judicial Convention at Aurora the next day.

The Kendall delegates were D.H. Shonts, James S. Cornell, H.W. Farley, Fred Coffin, J.A. Gilliam, J.U. Cooper, Dr. Ballou, Asahel Newton, John Dunn, W.T. Henning, and W.F. Elliott.

A motion was made and carried that an extra effort be made to get out the vote of the several towns and the president of each club in conjunction with the supervisor of the town, who were in sympathy with the movement, were authorized, to appoint a sub-committee whose duty it should be to get out the voters.

The election for Circuit judge in the fourth Circuit takes place next Monday. There are two candidates before the people to be voted for, and it will take some thought to know which is the proper man to support. Both are good lawyers; both are honest men; both are fitted for this position.

Hon Charles Wheaton was nominated by a Republican convention and goes before the people as the Republican candidate.

Hon. Silvanus Wilcox was nominated by a "farmers' and anti-monopolists'" convention, and is before you as the farmers' candidate. On the farmers' platform he accepts the nomination and if elected will do his duty.

We have no recommendation to make to the voters of the county. If they are in earnest in this farmers' movement, of course they will vote for Mr. Wilcox; if they are better Republicans than Grangers, they will vote for Mr. Wheaton.

Personally, our sympathies are with Mr. Wilcox and were with him before Mr. Wheaton was spoken of as a candidate and it would please the *Record* and many of its readers to see him reelected. Others may prefer Mr. Wheaton; and they will not go amiss if they vote for him.

June -- 1873

June 5: The election yesterday passed off very quietly, only a little over half of the vote was polled and it was a very one-sided affair, Wheaton receiving but 27 votes out of 215.

Teller is building a large cistern. O.E. Judson has been raising his barn. George Parker is building another large barn.

The War Department weather observations and prognostications are to be visible at the post office sometime hereafter.

Slight frosts Saturday and Sunday.

Six cans of milk are now regularly sent every morning to Chicago by Charles A. Davis.

We now have a new tailor by the name of Prentice; shop in the Cooke brick building, second story.

The taking of small children to church does not prove felicitous as a general thing, for they will invariably cry when they hadn't ought to and vice versa.

Bryant Finnegan came to town Sunday morning with a very mutilated face and got Doc Van Deventer to dress and fix it. The cause for it, he said, was that at or near Plainfield Saturday after dark, three unknown men jumped into his wagon and assaulted him, for the purpose of robbery, he thinks.

Yorkville: Mr. Ed Strossman of Oswego plays the E $\flat$  Bass in the Kendall Cornet Band, filling the place of Mr. Groom.

Mosquitoes have put in an appearance. The times being hard, they present their little bills. The exemption law has no effect upon them; they exact their drop of blood in ever instance.

Mr. J.E. Brown, principal of the Oswego public school, is a practical surveyor and has had considerable experience in Iowa as a civil engineer. He has a contract to survey, plat, and record the public roads in the towns of Oswego and Big Grove, as there is now no legal record of the public highways.

Kate Cliggitt is making progress in the teacher's profession and soon will rank with the best. Quiet and unostentatious, she rules her school with but little effort and her pupils are very respectful and orderly. This term she has charge of the Ament school, Kendall; has 19 scholars embracing a class of young ladies that is well advanced in the common school branches and algebra.

The Union School, NaAuSay, is taught this summer by Miss Eleanor Leitch, a lady who has successfully taught several schools in the county. The attendance is not very large, but those who are present seem to be studious and ambitious to excel. This district has turned out some excellent scholars, whose influence in the world for good will be to the honor of the old Union district. This schools possess one of the stereoscopes and views that a man named Clark peddled through the county last summer.

#### WILCOX ELECTED

The Farmers Back Up Resolves With The Ballot  
Tally one for the Farmers!

The first election made on issues of monopoly and anti-monopoly has resulted in the victory of the latter, and the farmers' candidate in the fourth judicial circuit, Hon.

Silvanus Wilcox, our present judge, has been reelected. The result has surprised many. With Mr. Wheaton's popularity it was supposed he would poll a strong vote, but his friends did not heed the writing on the wall; they had confidence in the name "Republican Ticket," and thought it all powerful. In fact, so did we, but it is shown that the farmers and anti-monopolists mean just what they say and while they are no less Republicans, they wish to impress upon the party that salary grabs, land grabs, railroad and steamboat subsidies, and rings of every kind will not be tolerated by the taxpayers of the country.

June 12: Cassius Durand of Iowa and Frank Van Doozer of Livingston county have been back here to see the old place.

John Hinchman of the Chicago Merchant's police force, is out here recruiting his health.

For style and neatness, Turner's saloon is one of the most advanced for a country town.

Thos. B. Reed is building a cistern on the place he occupies. Baker is the architect.

The frame of another large barn for Geo. Parker was raised yesterday on the site where the one destroyed by fire had stood. Van Evra is the head boss carpenter.

Miss Anna Brown, our estimable teacher, gave a party at H.C. Cutter's, where she boards.

The following are the delegates appointed by the Farmers' Club of Oswego to attend the County Meeting to be held in Yorkville on Saturday, June 14th: C.G. Doud, A.J. Wormley, Wm. Ladd, Dwight Ladd, F. Coffin. J.S. Seely, Sec'y. It is supposed the Grange will send its quota of delegates.

P.S. -- Must be short on account of affliction with ague, &c.

Yorkville: The same little reddish brown school house still occupies its useful position in the Walker district, Oswego, and is pretty well filled this summer. Miss Julia Russell taught the last summer term and continued through this spring and summer. The school is lively and feels well; can study when necessary and play at anytime. Miss Jennie Loucks is studying Latin--the first scholar we have yet found in any of the country schools studying the classics. Miss Russell is a good scholar. It is said the directors will soon build a new house and put out some shade trees.

June 19: One thing to our advantage is that we are located just a nice drive from a great and rich city; on nearly any of these pleasant afternoons may be seen splendid equipages containing the elite of Aurora passing through our streets.

Madison street is now being put in extra condition; the extensive culvert at the run is a first-rate job, and one that Henry can point to with pride in after years.

O.C. Westcott of Chicago, the great insectarian, formerly a famous teacher in our school, was in town the other day.

The first installment of the Signal Service weather probabilities were received yesterday.

It is said that it is now definitely decided that we shall have a newspaper of our own, all the preliminary arrangements are settled and a press is to be secured immediately. I don't know whether or not it has been determined what the name of it shall be; I would like that an original one be selected. I have given the subject no special thought, but how would it do to call the new paper *The Swego Transcendentalist*.

Yorkville: The total vote cast in this District at the late judicial election was 5,451, of which Judge Wilcox received 3,441 and Mr. Wheaton 2,008, the majority of Judge Wilcox being 1,433.

Ice cream at Schneider's. He has rooms nicely fitted up for ladies and gentlemen and will do his best to give satisfaction in quality of cream and prompt attendance.

The *Aurora Herald* says in relation to the new car-shops in that city, "that the car shops have been staked out, and will soon be erected. They are six in number, 300 feet long by 80 wide, and will be built 20 feet from Broadway, leaving room for a side track."

Kendall County graduates of the Jennings Seminary in Aurora included Miss Julia Custin, Plano; Miss Georgiann Squires, Oswego; and F.W. Lord of Plano.

The Farmers' Association of Kendall County at its bi-monthly meeting in Yorkville last Saturday voted to have a grand picnic on the Fair Grounds in Bristol on Friday, the 4th day of July next; to make it a home affair; a basket picnic, and in all sympathy with them in their grand work of reform, are invited to be present.

A committee was then appointed to make arrangements for the occasion and to do all business necessary to make the affair a success. The committee consists of West Matlock, J.M. Gale, Wm. Ladd, N.C. Mighell, John Litsey, J.W. House, Matthew Budd, Jas. S. Cornell, J.R. Burnes, J.R. Marshall, L.G. Bennett, Orson Dolph, W.W. VanEmmon, O.C. Johnson, and D.G. Johnson.

At the close of the meeting the committee met and elected the following officers for the day of celebration and invited the speakers named, viz: President, Lott Scofield; marshal, Ami D. Newton. Vice presidents: Oswego, Rufus Gray; Bristol, J.S. Cornell; Little Rock Walter S. Faxon; Fox, Thomas Finnie; Kendall, John Dunn; NaAuSay, Edmund Seely; Seward, James Bell; Lisbon, Phines Davis; Big Grove, Guildford Edgerton. Reader of Declaration, L.G. Bennett. Speakers: Hon. John West Mason, Prof. J.R. Burns, Rev. A.W. Chapman, J.S. McGrath, John Litsey, Jeremiah Evarts, West Matlock, D.R. Ballou, Peter S. Lott, J.R. Bullard, and others.

June 26: The assessment appeal board was in session yesterday at the Town clerk's office; but very few aggrieved persons appeared and the changes made were insignificant.

John T. Emmons, who about five years ago came to this town from New Jersey and who was one of our most quiet and steady young men, died last week of inflammation of the bowels.

The term of our public school closed last Thursday. The event was celebrated in the afternoon by a picnic in Cutter's grove, which was hugely enjoyed by all present. At the close, Ad. Armstrong gave the little ones--as many as he could pile and stick on his broom wagon--a ride around town. For several years past our school has been conducted in a very smooth manner; this town doubtless has been very fortunate in securing the services of the right kind of teachers; the late corps consisted of J. Emmett Brown, Miss Anna Brown, and Miss Martha K. Farley. The ladies have been teaching in this school for several years.

Miss Mary Hunt has returned from Kansas where she has been for a year or more.

Leavitt's Swiss Bell Ringers will perform here next Monday.

A small child of John P. Bartlett died last night.

Wm. H. Coffin has a very nice mocking bird.

That new sign of Gabe Turner's is calling forth many comments. Some pronounce it elegant and the lettering of the most tasty kind; others are quite contrary opinion; then again what is meant by "Sample Room" sticks in some fellows' crops; they query whether or no samples are furnished there free gratis, as samples usually are, they wouldn't object to sampling his goods.

John Bell, of the hay press firm, has gone to Boston.

John Sanders is advocating the peace policy in relation to potato bugs. The soundness of his judgment on this question is, however, questionable being that he never saw one of these bugs in his life.

Frank Hawley has moved his meat market further up town--into the brick building of Mrs. Mary A. Smith.

Mr. Leer has resingled, re-floored, and otherwise repaired his barber shop.

The suggestion advanced by me last week of calling our forthcoming paper the "Swego Transcendentalist" was taken as a slur on the enterprise. The misconstruction was because my communication had been considerably cut down, the preceding paragraph with which it was connected had been dropped. It hadn't ought to appeared without the other.

A number of families are making preparations to move with William Hawley to the state of Mississippi.

Yorkville: It is seldom we find a country school in the summer with an enrollment of 42 pupils, but this is the number belonging to the Marysville school in NaAuSay, and the average attendance is good. Miss Clara Williams is the teacher this summer and is now in the sixth week of the term. The order in the school is good and the recitations are fair. The children are nearly all young and are not very far advanced. The Directors keep the house and surroundings in good repair and in that respect this is one of our best districts.

The question of a new school house or a radical improvement in the old one is still discussed at school meetings in the Suydam district, Oswego, and before long some action will probably be taken. Were the site changed to one more elevated and retired, it would be beneficial to the school. Miss Murray of Plainfield, who taught the school last winter, again has charge this summer. Miss Murray formerly lived in the Bronk district, NaAuSay, and attended school there when the present school building was erected. [This building was later renamed the Gaylord School; it stood at Plainfield and Cherry roads southeast of Oswego.]

Fourth of July 1873

Farmers' Grand Rally at Yorkville

Basket Picnic and Union Celebration

The County of Kendall will celebrate the 97th anniversary of the birth of this nation in the beautiful grove on the eastern edge of Yorkville (permission having been kindly given by the Messrs. Black, who own the land) on Friday, July 4th, 1873, by vote of the Farmers' Association of the County, under whose auspices the celebration will take place.

Ample preparations are being made to accommodate an immense assembly. Water and ice will be plenty as the ground is just opposite the river and the huge ice houses of the Hutchisons, holding 7,000 tons of ice; the shade is thick and the ground gently rising to the bluff is picturesque and easy to access.

The Association will provide a Refreshment Stand where will be sold ice cream, lemonade, fruit, candies, nuts, cakes, pies, etc., the proceeds of which will accrue to the Association and be used to defray the expenses of the celebration.

Every one is expected to come provided with baskets of provisions to supply their own and family needs; and those who do not care to bring lunch, can be amply provided at Yorkville or on the ground. There is much room in the grove and family parties will have an enjoyable time.

The Kendall Cornet Band, under the leadership of Capt. E.M. Hobbs will be in attendance during the day, in their new and beautiful uniform and enlighten our souls by stirring patriotic music.

The Committee saw fit to change the location from the Fair Ground as voted by the Association, to the grove in Yorkville for the reason that the gentleman who rents the Fair Ground for a pasture objected to its use on the 4th, and for ether further reason that they deemed the shade insufficient.

July -- 1873

July 3: Ten carloads of cattle and one of hogs were shipped from here Friday morning. Mr. Holderman shipped the cattle and Wollenweber & Knapp the hogs. The cars--a special train--to receive this stock didn't arrive until late Thursday night; some irritable persons residing in the proximity of the depot wished that the railroad and cattle shippers were in--transacting their night work a little more quiet about it.

Old Mr. Helle has returned from Iowa where he went several months ago for the purpose of settling; he says he is satisfied now that there is no place like Oswego.

Mrs. Roberts of DeKalb, who in years gone by was one among us known as Sally Beaupre, is here on a visit.

The annual meeting of the Oswego Bible Society took place Sunday evening at the Baptist church.

During Sunday night a large barn of George Woolley was destroyed by fire; I didn't learn the amount of loss but understand that many farm implements were destroyed.

The Bell ringers last evening had a pretty fair attendance and gave good satisfaction.

Yorkville: There is hope for Oswego. Lawrence Rank is secretary of the Bible Society.

Ottawa: The case now on trial is that of the Ottawa, Oswego & F.R.V.R.R. Co., for C.H. Force & Co., vs. Levi H. Rood, a case which excites a good deal of interest as it involves the liability of the defendant to pay a note given for stock in the aforesaid railroad company, the consideration for which the defendant claims has failed. The facts in the case are generally familiar, as is the further fact that other notes to quiet a large amount are virtually involved in the same suit. One point of the defense is that in the transfer of the road to the Burlington Company, the stock of the Original stockholders was forfeited, extinguished, or rendered worthless.

July 10: The Fourth passed off very pleasantly and quietly in this town; morning slumber suffered no disturbance by the shooting of anvils and cannons; even the small boys reserved their firecracker engagements till the middle of the forenoon; about breakfast time the big storm of rain and wind absorbed all the attention, especially where they had leaky roofs; with the exception of blowing down and otherwise injuring a few trees, no damage resulted from it. Considerable difficulty was experienced by those who were going elsewhere to celebrate in getting clean, dry, and unruffled to the depot. Towards evening the locomotion on the broad gauge of a few masculines was observable but they acted decorously otherwise.

A wedding occurred on the evening previous to the fourth, namely Charles Davis and Miss Nellie Cooper; the happy couple celebrated the fourth in Aurora.

Pretty much all of the lightning rod boys had been home to spend the 4th.

Wm. A. Hawley departed on the 4th for his new home in Madison county, Mississippi; a number of others will follow him during this week.

During Thursday's storm, Wm. K. Van Fleet had a cow killed by lightning.

Hall Beardslie died quite suddenly last week; he had been ailing all through the spring but kept up and about. His wife had gone to Aurora to visit their daughter. About noon on Tuesday it was discovered that his horse hadn't been fed; the door of his abode was found locked and no response from him could be obtained. The door was forced open and he was found lying on the bed entirely unconscious and apparently dying. The services of Dr. Lester were immediately procured and a messenger dispatched to Aurora for his wife. Before Mrs. Beardslie could then be brought death had taken place. As misfortunes seldom come singly, so yesterday while Mr. Gregory, the son-in-law, who had come down from Aurora to see to the affairs, was attending the horse, he was kicked in the side and thereby seriously affected; his condition being precarious.

The *Ottawa Free Trader* of the 28th says: The last nail in the Dayton dam was driven on Friday evening of last week. The dam is 8 feet high and 471 feet in length, built of two-inch plank, in cribs, filled in with stone and gravel, and double-planked on top and front. The dam was built by the canal board, and cost the state about \$15,000. The work was done in about six weeks, under the direction of Superintendent Thomas and his assistant, Mr. Titus, and considering the high water they had to contend with most of the time, its erection in so short a time was an achievement to boast of.

Yorkville: THE FOURTH!

The Winds Blew and the Rain Descended.

A Watery Fourth, But A Full Meeting

Our readers are well aware ere this that the farmers were celebrating the Fourth in Yorkville and many are personally aware of how Old Probabilities conducted himself on that memorable day. Last week was a rainy week generally considered, and many prophecied a few nice showers to cool the air and lay the dust, and a delightful day on Friday.

Great preparations had been made by the committee for the reception and comfort of a very large crowd and much expense was occurred to hire the Band, erect platforms, provision or refreshment house, seats, etc. Mr. Dolph did magnificently in preparing the grounds and went into the work with his whole soul. Mr. L.J. Needham had his refreshment stand provided with the lighter comforts for the inner man and had a good corps of assistants in attendance.

There was a terrible rain storm on Thursday noon that shook the confidence of many as to the ultimate clearness and dryness of the succeeding day, but work on the grounds went on and everything was in readiness by night for 5,000 people.

But "the best laid plans of mice and men gang aft a-glee," and so it was with the Yorkville celebration. At four o'clock in the morning the sky was clear and the bells rang out as

they did 97 years ago at the old hall in Philadelphia and every beat of the clapper told of this nation's perpetuity and reminded all of the great boon we enjoy being American citizens. The single piece of artillery spoke in a sharp decisive tone and an occasional snap, indicating the presence of the boys with China's best gift to youth, but greatest curse to old folks and horses.

That bright dream was our last (for the day) for a great black cloud was coming from the west whose appearance boded no good to man's preparations and soon heaven's artillery put to shame the puny cannon on the river and the deep-toned thunder and vivid lightning afforded a grander sound and sight than powder and wadding can create.

About seven o'clock the storm came; the rain came down in a sheet of water, filling ditches and holes; the wind blew a hurricane. it was such a storm as we seldom see. It was nearly nine o'clock when the rain abated and the town folks began to gather on Bridge street and an occasional tam came in from the country. Things looked blue, but the sky cleared again and hopes arose. About one o'clock a big storm of wind and rain clapped the climax and the grounds were deserted entirely and the celebration was a disheartening failure so far as an outdoor meeting was concerned.

Not to be baffled in this manner, however, the court room was opened by Sheriff Newton and under the direction of President Scofield the people assembled there and soon filled that large room, ladies predominating in number.

July 17: William H. Strossman, wife, and child came up from St. Louis on a visit, it being the first since he became a man of family. They staid over at Aurora to visit Peter Crance, his brother-in-law, and while there their child died. They brought the little corpse with them to this place and the funeral took place Wednesday from the house of Mr. Strossman. What is more and still, Mrs. Crance of Aurora also died, her remains, too, will be brought down here and the funeral take place this afternoon.

Casius H. Durand, wife, and baby of Belle Plaine, Iowa arrived several days ago on a visit to Mr. Bunn's--her folks--it being the first visit since she left them as a bride; the baby also took sick immediately after their arrival and died; it will be buried today at Aurora.

Charles E. Hubbard, or rather his family, as he for the present is off lightning rodding, have moved into the house lately occupied by Tom Reed.

The condition of Sylvester Gregory, who was so severely injured by the kick of a horse, is much better.

Thomas Hopkins is also rapidly recovering.

The new paper, which I learn is to be called the *Oswego Vidette*, is underway and will soon make its appearance.

A new sidewalk and a substantial awning has been constructed in front of the Union Meat Market.

Miss Howe, the telegraph operator, is now boarding at Mrs. Moore's.

Charles Sprague has sold out his interest in the livery stable to C.F. [Charles Ferdinand] Shoger, the firm now consists of Shoger and Bro. [The brother was August "Gus" Shoger]

The Presbyterians and Congregationalists are about to form a union, if not already accomplished, and engage all the services of the Rev. Mr. Boyd who has preached here for several Sundays.

Some of our people cannot agree as regards the region in the Signal service reports to which we belong; cannot the Editor set us right on the subject?

As to our locality in the weather chart, it is our opinion that we belong to the Upper Lake and Northwest region, Lakes Michigan and Superior being undoubtedly the upper lakes.-- Editor.

Yorkville: Several men from Oswego, Yorkville, and Bristol figured in the Aurora Police Court as having taken too much patriotism on the Fourth. They took it out of a tumbler. \$5 and costs.

Two of the dignitaries of the CB&Q Railroad from Chicago passed down the Fox River Line Friday and inspected the Yorkville station. They traveled by special train and "dead-headed" it through. They might just as well pay as editors.

July 24: Teller is building a new barn; the Averys are doing the work.

The weather the past week has ranged from the chilly to the sweltering; there were some very wet rains and very hot sunshines.

Albert Snook's white shorthorn Durham cow was thrown off the track by the 5:35 train a few days ago; she was killed and buried afterwards.

The latest business project is the building of a warehouse.

Edward Edwards, residing about four miles east of here, was buried last Wednesday.

All of the family of Edward S.L. Richardson had an attack of cholera morbus last night; they had been eating some kind of smoked fish, which is assigned for the cause.

The office of the *Oswego Vidette* is above Greenfield's furniture store. The *Vidette* will be a living reality in a few days. [The *Oswego Vidette* was first published on Aug. 7, 1873. It moved to Aurora in October 1873. It was preceded by the *Courier*, *Bald Hornet*, and *Free Press*.]

Yorkville: Aurora has got to be so dry this summer that the citizens use the river for a cow pasture.

An excursion train of Turners, a German society from Aurora and Chicago, passed down the [rail] road to Ottawa Monday morning.

Mr. Lindsay of the *Oswego Vidette*, gave us a call on Saturday. He has the material all ready and will probably get out the first number next Tuesday or thereabouts. It is to be a seven column paper at \$1.50 a year. It will be a live local paper.

July 31: H. Kendall Carey, who spends most of his time in New Orleans, is at present among us.

A.B. Hall of Houston, Texas is here on a flying visit. Ash is increasing in weight and beauty and appears as clever as ever.

Mrs. William H. Strossman has returned to her home in St. Louis.

Miss Beebe has returned to pursue her study of the art of telegraphy under Miss Nettie Howe, the present operator.

A report is current that the hay press barn will be sold by the owner at public sale in a few weeks. A good chance for somebody to go into business.

One of Judson's old buildings back of Haight's store was pulled down and the material sold to and removed by Col. Clark of NaAuSay. The other was bought by Fred Sierp to be removed to some other locality.

For a good while our town has been extraordinarily quiet and peaceful especially evenings, but last Saturday some fellows from the country were determined to wake up everybody at midnight and let them know that they (country fellows) were in town and that they felt happy. The saloons had been closed at 10 o'clock, and that is what brought them in the street and not being ready to go home so early and feeling quiet talkative, hence the noise.

Considerable political blowing transpired on the sidewalk this morning. I shall take up the discussion of politics after dog days are over.

Yorkville: D.M. Haight of Oswego has written to the *Chicago Tribune* about his freighting to Chicago with teams In speaking of the high freight tariffs, he says: "Butter in crocks is classed double first class, which is 60 cents per 100 lbs. by the old rate and 52.2 under the new. Add to this 10 cents per hundred cartage in Chicago and we have an enormous freight charge on that important staple. Empty egg cases are now classed the same. This forces that kind of produce into the express company's hands, the rate being 60 cents per 100 lbs. from this station (Oswego); and at that price we can made money by

sending by teams. We do and haul any second, third, or fourth class freight but only the class the railroad, by its classification, renders profitable.

This is a savings of \$21.50 over express rates. This is no fancy picture, but an actual transaction. The Fox River Valley is a very fine dairy section and the finest butter reaches our market in crocks and shippers wish to forward it in the same package they receive it in, as it goes forward in better condition and better prices are realized. My shipments reach 50 tons annually and at \$11 per ton, amount \$600. If that can be done by team for \$300, as you see it can, it is quite a nice saving.

Mr. Shibley, formerly of Oswego, now a popular and successful merchant in Chicago, was in Yorkville on Wednesday of last week.

The cheerful phiz of Nate Loucks illuminated Yorkville Thursday last. He came down for repairs to his Wood's reaper. Nate is seldom here save in court time.

The Oswego Grange is in a flourishing condition. There are about 50 members and the meetings are held at the residence of Mr. Gaylord. The organization is an element of social pleasure for the farmers of southeast Oswego.

The *Millington Enterprise* says the work on the dam at that point is nearly completed. When finished, the woolen mills will be put in operation to work up the material of the stockholders and perhaps do other local business until matters are arranged for permanent business.

Because there are so many Oswegos in the U.S. and the mail keeps getting mixed up, U.R. Strooley suggests that the name be changed. "Oswego," pronounced in ordinary conversation, the first two syllables are generally merged into each other. One of our correspondents, who doubtless got the name by merely hearing it spoken, always directs his letter "Swego." This is the case with other places such as "Rora" instead of Aurora. So he suggested in that issue that the name of the town be changed to Swego. Evidently it did not happen.

August -- 1873

Aug. 7: The *Oswego Vidette* is now a reality; it was auspiciously (in the new of the moon) ushered into the works this morning; all the parties concerned are doing well; it looks neat, trim and clear even handsome and doubtless will be plucky. May it grow and flourish and become a mighty institution.

The foundation of the extension of Haight's store is nearly completed. Charles Avery and John Tigue are doing the job.

Capt. Bunn has been out to Iowa.

The rest of the Shibley family have moved to Chicago.

Ella, the youngest daughter of John D. Hall, has married a Dr. J.S. Perkins of Aurora.

Agnes, daughter of Mr. Devinney, married John M. Nevin, also of Aurora and they have moved to Chicago. He is a telegraph operator in the employ of the Western Union.

Yorkville: A well-to-do farmer in Oswego showed his utter disregard for the Sabbath day and for the religious opinions of his neighbors by cutting his grain Sunday. He had a full force on machine and binders. It was not the weather nor the ripeness of his grain that made this necessary. The Sabbath day is rapidly becoming like those of France. We believe it is the peril of nations to allow those Sabbath desecrations.

CAPT. WM. L. FOWLER

Resolution from his Company in 1862

At a meeting held by the members of Company A, 127th Regiment, Illinois Volunteers the following preamble and resolution were unanimously adopted:

That, whereas we learn with regret that our Captain, William. L. Fowler, is compelled by reason of continued ill health to tender his resignation, therefore:

Resolved, That in him we have found a vigilant guardian of our rights as soldiers; a true and faithful friend, one who has been ever ready to sacrifice all things pertaining to his own comfort whenever he could add to that of ours.

Resolved, That in his retiring from us as our commander, he will carry with him the best wishes of a grateful company for his future happiness and prosperity.

Resolved, That a copy be sent to the Chicago and Oswego papers for publication.

Lieut. Wm. Walker, President

Charles E. Hubbard, Secretary.

Done at Memphis, Tenn., Nov 28, 1862.

Aug. 14: Everything very quiet and everybody well-behaved, consequently no startling items. There were no public doings of any kind; politics is mixed and some don't know where they belong or what may become of them.

Oswego is getting the reputation of being the cheapest market to buy and the dearest to sell in, and business is reported as very good, people come from 15 to 20 miles to do their trading here; let us now get the hotel and the warehouse; having a publishing establishment now let us next try and start some manufactories, a woolen, shoe, hat, paper collar factory or tannery would do well

Miss Nettie A. Howe, the telegraph operator, was relieved from duty for a few days by Lawrence Norton from the Aurora office. She resumed again this morning.

D.M. Haight is pushing the extension to his store energetically; A. Van Driesen is converting his old residence into a new one; Fred Sierp is improving the building moved on his lot.

The second number of the *Vidette* out this morning, Aug. 12.

Yorkville: The railroad company increased the tariff on a carload of ice from Yorkville to Chicago \$4.40. Capt. Bob Hutchison don't like it much, but "abides his time."

Village folks should keep gentle cows. Cows that are vicious and hungry break through people's fences and eat up their sweet corn. This is not right--keep nice easy cows. Bad cows make men swear and women lose their temper.

COUNTY FARMERS' ASSOCIATION.

A Thinly Attended But Interesting Meeting

Inexpedient to Form An Independent Party

The Doctors on the War Path

More Railroad Extortion

W.D. Smith, who runs the Montgomery mills, about two weeks ago received two carloads of wheat from Brownsville, Minn., via Chicago & Iowa R.R. to Aurora. From the latter place they were sent down to Montgomery at a charge of \$416.85 per car for the short distance of only two miles, making a total of \$33.70 for two cars! This was the new tariff charge, while the old tariff charged only \$5 for the same service. These are the facts as we have ascertained them. The idea of doing a paying business by charging \$16.85 per car for only two miles is worthy only of the brain of a lunatic. Any teamster would gladly take the contract to draw the wheat from West Aurora for \$5 per car, delivered at the mill, while it takes two men and a team half a day to haul it from the Montgomery depot to the mill. So it is easy to see the saving that teaming would make, even with the railroad charge at only \$5 per car. -- *Aurora Herald*.

OVERLAND TRANSPORTATION

Our friends in Pilot [Township, Vermilion County] have organized an overland transportation company for the purpose of hauling their grain and produce across the country to Chicago by team. Between 40 and 50 teams will be put on the road and will make the distance--70 miles--returning with lumber and other commodities at a good round profit per wagon.

This is a movement which is obtaining a very general foothold throughout the State. The farmers do not intend to be devoured, body and soul, by the arrogant assumptions and fiendish impositions of that power which should be their best and most valuable friends. The railroads will find that in seeking to make the new law so odious to the people that any compromise would be hailed with joy and relief, they have overreached themselves. There is just as determined and influential a power all over these broad acres of the West at work to correct the abuses of our transportation system as lies in all the moneyed corporations that control the railroads. The farming community is the main stay of the Western railroads and the sooner these railroads recognize the fact by the exhibition of a spirit of conciliation and friendliness toward the vast army of the producers of the country, the sooner will they assume their proper relations to the great commercial machinery of the nation. -- *Kankakee Gazette*.

Aug. 21: A young couple mutually agreed upon joining fortunes, sharing destiny, &c, but the family of the young lady, or at least some of the members, interposed serious

objection, consequently one fine morning when all were engaged in their usual avocations, the young lady hurriedly departed, waiving the formalities of bidding good bye all around and joined the young man who was ready with a carriage, with which they effected a successful escape from further interference of their plans, thus verifying the old adage, "where there is a will there is a way."

The better half of Geo. B. Lindsey--one of the publishers of the *Vidette*--has arrived and joined her husband.

Mrs. Emma A. Lombard of Fort Wayne has been called here by the disarranged condition of mind of her father, Mr. Fowler. His sister, Mrs. Wm. Bly of Minooka, and a half brother from Clifton are all here at present; his condition is growing worse; somebody has to be with him day and night to keep him diverted from doing mischief. His case is to be acted upon today by the County court. He started for Yorkville just now.

As Mr. and Mrs. Kinney were going home together a few days ago he stepped on the end of a plank of the sidewalk which was loose on the other side making it to fly up, in which manner her foot was caught causing her to fall and dislocate her arm. I never approved of the style of sidewalks our authorities have ordered to be constructed.

The reunion of the 127th Regiment Illinois volunteer is to take place here on Sept. 6th.

Yorkville: CAPTAIN FOWLER INSANE

On Tuesday, Capt. Wm. L. Fowler of Oswego was brought before Judge Hudson in the County Court to be tried as to his sanity. A jury of six men was called; the trial formally proceeded with Drs. Hopkins and Lester testifying as experts. The jury brought in a verdict of insanity and on Wednesday the Sheriff was to take the unfortunate man to the Asylum at Elgin.

Capt. Fowler is one of our oldest residents; at one time was Sheriff of the county; was Captain of a company in the 127th Illinois Volunteers; and now holds a commission as Associate Justice in the County and a justice of the peace in Oswego. About two years ago he had a paralytic stroke that made useless his right side, and the stroke undoubtedly impaired his mind. He was a very large man and of late he has been failing in flesh becoming quite thin for him. For some weeks, he has seemed flighty and restless, and for the past two weeks has required constant watching.

Capt. F.'s many friends are filled with sorrow at his affliction and his jovial face and hearty greeting will be missed in Oswego. Let us hope his insanity is only temporary.

It is with a great deal of pleasure that we announce an error that the *Record* committed last week in recording the vote of W.W. VanEmon, Esq., as being in favor of forming a new party at the farmers' meeting. We either misunderstood Mr. VanEmon, or as he thought, he was voting on the original resolution instead of the amendment. Mr. VanEmon is not in favor of dragging political matters into the farmers' movement and thereby gives further evidence of his good practical common sense. If the Republicans make bad nominations, he believes the people should put up a better man, and elect him, and that is the *Record's* platform exactly.

The railroad companies, when the new law went into force July 1st, attempted by bravado and unjust rates to make the people sick of the law and express a desire to return to the old time once more. But for once the schemes of these extortionists and monopolists will fail. The people stick to their text: "The railroads must be controlled by the legislature," and they mean to have it so.

John S. Seely, John Dunn, and G.D. Henning of this county have joined the Aurora Board of Trade.

On the last day of the Fair, Friday Sept. 5th, there will be a balloon ascension from the grounds in Bristol. The services of Professor Paul LeGand have been secured with his monster balloon, "City of Paris," capable of holding 100,000 feet of ascending power; it is 95 feet high and 50 feet in diameter.

Aug. 28: Charles Bennett of Springfield, Mo., formerly a citizen of this town, is here on a visit and is as fresh and independent as ever.

Wm. L. Fowler, having been adjudged insane by the county court, was on Wednesday removed to the Insane asylum at Elgin for treatment.

The hay press property was sold to D.F. Baldwin of Chicago. The barn brought \$1,100 and the press \$300.

A menagerie on a small scale arrived here on Sunday and exhibited last night; owing to the rain, dark night, etc., but a small number visited it; the animals consisted of a pair of elk, a buffalo, antelope, Kiota Lynx or California Lion, prairie dogs, and rabbits.

It is of the utmost importance that all true American citizens, native or foreign, male or female, single or married should bear in mind the reunion of the 127th Illinois Regiment at this place the 6th proximo. While the 127th will take the lead in all the exercises both military and civil--all other soldiers of the rebellion, especially the home guards, will take part in the celebration; also all other soldiers, those that fought in Mexico, the 1812ers, the descendants of the revolutionary soldiers are expected to be present; let it be such a rallying round the old flag and such an outburst of patriotism as to fairly make the American Eagle get beside himself.

Haight put the felt on the roof of the new building yesterday, and arch is now being constructed between front and back room.

A man hired a horse and buggy at the livery stable about noon Saturday to be gone till about 5 o'clock. Not returning on Saturday, search was made by telegraph and otherwise; the property was recovered at Sandwich. The harness had been sold for \$16. The fellow also tried to sell the horse and buggy but learning that he was suspected, and becoming alarmed, he cleared out.

Yorkville: We are glad to see that the farmers of this county are following the example of their co-laborers of other counties and are cutting loose from the leading strings of a few wily politicians who have attempted to prostitute the movement to their own selfish purpose.

The avowed object of the farmers movement is a glorious one and one in which all classes of citizens (except monopolists) will unite and one which both of the old parties have made a part of their platforms.

The move for a new party was gotten up for no other purpose than to start another Tidal Wave on which some old political office seekers might ride into some fat office.

We understand the old XL base ball club of Newark has accepted the challenge of the NaAuSay club and that the game is to be played Saturday afternoon in NaAuSay.

September -- 1873

Sept. 4: Mrs. Mary Hopkins, after having been confined to her bed for nearly a year, died Sunday at the residence of her son, Henry C. Hopkins, her age being 87 years.

John Sipes, quite an old man, was buried Saturday; the funeral services were held at the house of William Parker, his son-in-law, with whom he has been staying. His remains were deposited in the Wormley cemetery.

Mrs. Lawrence Briggs is suffering from a deranged mind.

Dr. Van Deventer and wife started yesterday on a visit to New Jersey.

A family by the name of Low have moved into town; also one from Indiana by the name of Potter.

Wayne yesterday commenced operations on the new warehouse, the location of it has been changed from where it was first intended; it will be placed below Van Buren street on the upper side of the track. The R.R. co. will put in a stub switch for its use; the building will be pushed forward with all possible speed.

Robbins and Baldwin constitute now the hay press firm; Robbins is conducting the business and buys all the hay he can get.

The farmers Thursday last had a picnic out at Deacon Walker's, which is reported as having been ahead of anything ever got up heretofore; the Grangers were the prime movers of it.

Jabez Newberry has packed up his kit preparatory to move to Streator.

Something should be done immediately with the Waubonsie bridge.

A one-dollar gift enterprise concern is in operation in town just now.

Yorkville: Mr. Stolp of the Aurora Woolen Mills was in Yorkville Tuesday and was out buying up fine wool for his factory.

Sept. 11: Matt Bennett, formerly one among us, but now residing at Springfield, Mo., was up last week on a visit for the first time. He kept himself very retired, never showed himself to his most intimate acquaintances although passing right by their doors. His strange conduct was explained, however, when he departed with Julia Waters, a prominent lady in our village; they forming a bridal couple. The wedding took place last Thursday afternoon at the residence of L.B. Judson, the lady's father.

The reunion of the 127th was a success and passed off satisfactorily.

Early Saturday morning a number of our inhabitants were startled from their sweet slumbers by the cry of "Fire!" It proved to be the barn of the Shoger boys, just below their new house [at Jackson and Adams Street]. It required considerable effort to save the house.

Yorkville: The annual reunion of the 127th Illinois at Oswego last Saturday was a glorious occasion for the veteran soldiers of the regiment, for its many friends, and gave Oswego another opportunity to display that unbounded hospitality for which her citizens are noted.

The Excelsior Club of Newark and the Davis club of Plattville played a match game of base ball at the latter place on Saturday, Aug. 30th. They played seven innings, the score being 32 for the Excelsiors to 23 for the Davis.

Sept. 18: Everybody last week spent a day at the Aurora Fair. Dan Puff had chosen Friday, the unlucky day. On returning he got into some difficulty with some young fellows from below, one of whom struck him. After leaving the car, he concluded to give a parting salute, and so picked up a stone and flung it through the window. It took effect over the eye of a young fellow from Indian Creek--not the one it was intended for--and made an ugly wound. The train had already commenced moving but was stopped again and delayed several minutes; the wounded man was taken to the hotel and Dr. Lester rendered the necessary services. Dan was arrested and had to spend that night in the calaboose; the next day he was put under \$100 bond for his appearance hereafter when wanted.

The fall term of our school begun last week. The teachers are W.L. Mason, a very good looking young man from Ottawa; Miss Martha K. Farley, one of the last year teachers; and Miss Florence C. Child.

A.B. Hall and George A. Race from Houston, Texas arrived the other day; Hall intended to start for New York yesterday but was taken sick Sunday night with the ague.

Lauriston Walker and wife started yesterday for Massachusetts. It will be the first visit to their native state since they left it 27 years ago (Kirk now feels like an orphan). They will be joined at Chicago by James B. Shumway and wife, who will start today and together make the journey to the old Bay State.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Rickard, Mrs. Nathan Loucks, Mrs. Walter Loucks, and Mrs. S.E. Walker will start in a few days on a visit to their native land, the Mohawk Valley.

Wayne's warehouse is being put upon a very solid foundation,, which is nearly completed. Charles Avery and James Benson are the builders.

Prosperity is manifesting itself in every department of industry; some of our prominent men are dressed up in new clothes from top to bottom.

The millennium is about to be realized. John Chapman has joined himself to the Republicans; there shall be no war any more, the lion and lamb, &c.

I believe it is now a settled fact that the Rev. Mr. Boyd will be the regular minister of the united Presbyterians and Congregationalists.

Yorkville: There was a sharp frost last Sunday morning that dried up green corn leaves, and pinched vegetation considerably. Farmers south of here say that a large quantity of corn is damaged by the frost.

Navasota, Texas, Aug. 25th, 1873.

To My Comrades of the 127th Illinois, Greeting:

As it is impossible for me to be with you the 6th, at the reunion, I would say my heart and sympathies are with you, and I shall think of you many times that day; of the grasping hands, the interchange of thought and feeling by old comrades as you meet once more. I can only regret that I am unable to be with you, to partake of the hospitality and good cheer that I know the kind-hearted ladies of Kendall county will set before you--but if Kennedy is there let him have my rations, as he is not very good at the "foraging." When I look back eleven years, to the time we first met, around the campfires at [Camp] Douglas, with so many, many others who proved the bravest men that ever left the comforts of home life, and faced the hardships of the battlefield; when I think of the homes made lonely and sad --my own among the rest--then I can only look back with a sorrowful heart; yet never do I regret that I was a drummer boy of your Regiment; but thank God, and am proud that my name is registered with yours on the tablets of history. Dear comrades, although not able, and too young to be with you in the front ranks of the many hard fought battles we were so victorious in, yet my heart was overflowing with love for you, for my country and your success. Being most of the time in such a position that I could watch you, I can proudly say your flag, although shattered and torn by the enemy's shot and shell, was never trod in the dust, but from the time you raised it so brightly and bravely over the forts of Arkansas, to the time it kissed the breezes of Georgia, and there waved high and proudly throughout all the hard fought battles, and was still upraised when last saw her floating mid the smoke and shell on the 28th of July,

in front of Atlanta, when you, comrades, checked the main portion of Hood's army from flanking the whole army of the Tennessee; a day that is often spoken of by Southern soldiers as one of them told me if our soldiers "had been eastern instead of western men, they would have driven them back into the river; but them western soldiers fought like h--ll!" Next fall if my life is spared, I hope to be with you. My kind regards, and best wishes for all.

I am very respectfully,  
R.B. [Robinson Barr] Murphy

THE FARMERS' CONVENTION.  
COUNTY NOMINATIONS MADE

Lott Schofield for County Judge  
Evarts and Cornell Renominated.

Miss Chittenden For Superintendent of Schools

Delegates from Oswego Township included Rufus Gray, John S. Seely, William Ladd, Fred Coffin, Dwight Ladd, William F. Elliott, David Hall, W.W. Winn, Charles L. Roberts, A.J. Wormley, and Henry W. Farley.

Sept. 25: Thomas J. Seely and Anzolette E. Teller were married Wednesday evening at the residence of G.H. Teller, the bride's father. The bride was attired in a light lavender silk dress trimmed with white satin. The bridegroom was dressed in the usual style of a black suit with white vest.

The collapse of Jay Cooke & Co. and financial panic otherwise has not in the least impaired the business of this town.

John C. McConnell and family have gone back to their former home in the old Keystone State.

Festus Burr and wife and Mrs. Ezekiel Pearce were the only ones to my knowledge that visited the State Fair from this town.

David Hall auctioned off a lot of household goods and farming utensils the property of Mrs. Hall Beardslee.

The Republican caucus Saturday was presided over by James Andrews and written up by Kirk Walker. Mr. John W. Chapman, the newly converted Republican, was on hand and would have liked to have served on the delegation in the County convention; his garments, however, were smelling yet of Democracy and was shown the cold shoulder; he reiterated however his faith in the cause and says he means to stick by them, posish or no posish.

Yorkville: On the third page of this paper will be found an account of the failure of Jay Cooke & Co. Since then, financial circles have been wild with excitement, and some 20 firms of stock-brokers have suspended, among them Fisk & Hatch and Henry Clewes & Co.. The failures have not affected the legitimate banking houses.

Work on the Northern Pacific Railroad has been indefinitely suspended.

The grain market is flat. Corn has fallen five cents a bushel. Mr. Godard gives no quotations this week on corn or oats, but in a few days when values are ascertained, prices will doubtless revive.

The crash among Eastern speculators is no surprise; they have been doing business on fictitious capital on inflated stock, on money rightly belonging to the producers of the West, and judgment has come upon them.

This flurry will be better for the country when it has become calm.

#### JAY COOKE & CO. FAILED.

Panic in Financial Circles

The Topic on Every Tongue.

From the Chicago *Tribune*, Sept. 19th.

Great excitement prevailed in all the commercial centres of the country yesterday upon the announcement of the failure of Jay Cooke & Co, bankers, of New York, Philadelphia, and Washington; financial agents of the Northern Pacific Railway; head-centres of the syndicates for the sale of Government bonds, promoters of life insurance companies; issuer of foreign letters of credit, etc., etc., etc. A tremendous panic ensued in Wall street and stocks fell from 1 to 10 percent.

October -- 1873

Oct. 2: Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Seely started yesterday for the east on their bridal excursion; they will be gone several months.

Rev. Duncan McGregor has taken his departure and the new Methodist pastor, Mr. Tobias, has arrived. He is rather below medium size, spare, and dresses first rate. The rain Sunday prevented the holding of a meeting at the church.

There are institutions which for some reason unexplainable, cannot be made to prosper in this town; for instance, we have a good and well arranged brewery, possessing all the essentials to make it first-class--it is pronounced so by all who are skilled in the business--besides the consumption of beer hereabouts amounts to considerable, and yet it cannot be made a profitable concern; a number, at different times have tried to run it, and for awhile apparently prospered, but eventually was *spiel aux*. The last occupant, John C. Maar, left it about a month ago.

Again, we are a great reading community, yet newspapers are in the same category; we have had the "*Courier*," the "*Bald Hornet*," the "*Free Press*" and the "*Vidette*;" all are gone where the woodbine twineth, except the last which went to Aurora. This took place last Tuesday and caused great surprise, for no premonition was had of it...it was merely one of the grab games of Aurora; that town is always gobbling up everything we have. The "*Vidette*" therefore will hereafter be published in Aurora, but I learn that it will still endeavor to advance the prosperity of Oswego. Tounshendeau, one of its editors, will

continue to reside here and see that the interests of this town are not neglected in the *Vidette*, and the interests of the *Vidette* are maintained in Oswego.

A suitable platform has been erected at the depot for the accommodation of milk shippers.

Armstrong & Newton have a handsome windmill on exhibition near their factory.

The German Methodist church [on the site of the Church of the Good Shepherd, which had not yet been built] has been improved by new steps and new sidewalk. Dr. Lester, adjoining it, also repaired his sidewalk.

Mrs. Radley, 77 years of age, died quite suddenly at the residence of Mr. Maxim, her son-in-law, under the following circumstances: Mrs. Callie Springer of Yorkville was driving by the house when her horse, in fighting flies, threw himself; the old lady hurried out to render assistance, but the excitement proved too much for her physical condition, being subject to paralysis--she fell down and expired in a few minutes. Her funeral took place Saturday afternoon.

The only boy about one and a half years old of Alexander Dano Jr., died yesterday.

Notwithstanding the money crisis, the hay press firm is buying all the hay that may be offered, paying the highest market price for it. Their press is of the perpetual order, doing quick and excellent work. They have now about 80 tons of hay in the barn, over half of it pressed and ready for shipment.

The warehouse probably will be raised today; the telegraph line had to be changed some to make room for its elevation.

The respective tickets for county officers are now fairly before the people. I shall hereafter by word and pen give them all the support in my power, especially the new element up for the first time for position; I always maintained that woman was entitled to all the privileges and immunities under the government, to sue and be sued, to be elected and to vote, to be courted, voted and be voted for; let us manifest our appreciation of the fair sex on the 4th of November next.

Yorkville: Mr. Gaylord, Master of the Oswego Grange, was a delegate to the Republican County Convention--not as a Granger, but as an independent citizen. Why are not more Granges organized in Kendall County? They are a more useful and permanent organization than the open club.

The *Aurora Beacon* of the 24th says: On Tuesday of last week, the people of Montgomery and vicinity turned out en masse to hear Rev. Mr. Atchison preach a dedicating sermon in the new school house in the Keck neighborhood. He spoke principally of the effect of education in our own, as well as in other countries. After which Mr. D.W.C. Smith made a speech which was quite laughable but right to the point.

The school house is situated in the place of the old one. It is a good substantial building, and does credit to the architects, Smith and Keck.

#### FRATERNAL

Whereas, Wm. L. Fowler has been bereft of his reason and we fear has become hopelessly insane, and

Whereas, Brother Fowler has ever been a true and faithful member of Raven Lodge No. 303 A.F. and A. Masons; there,

Resolved, That we tender to his afflicted family our heartfelt sympathy in their afflictions.

2. That we spread this preamble and resolutions on our minutes.

3. That a copy be furnished for publication to the *Kendall County Record, Yorkville News*, and *Oswego Vidette* and that a copy be presented to his family.

A.B. Smith, W.M

K.L. Walker, Sec'y.

The Hon. Schuyler Colfax, ex-Vice President, has kindly accepted an invitation to deliver an address on Odd Fellowship in Yorkville, Kendall County, Wednesday, Oct. 8, 1873.

Oct. 9: Both the new ministers have established their residences here; Mr. Boyd is occupying the house of Harvey Stahl, who last week moved to Joliet, and Mr. Tobias is for the present staying at J.S. Armstrong's.

A.B. Hall and Geo. A. Race, after a short sojourn, have returned to Houston, Tex.

Cut stone walks are being put down at several crossings of our streets.

Nicholas Hafenrichter died last Friday after a well spent life of 72 years; his native town was Weissdorf in Germany; he settled about 28 years ago on 80 acres of prairie in what is known as the German settlement, forming one of the original settlers...he sold his small farm and bought a large and improved one--the Samuel Stone place--and continued to prosper to the end.

Yesterday the news was received of the death of the Rev. Ambler Edson, who some 20-odd years ago was a resident of this town, but since resided in Massachusetts where he died--and the bell was tolled accordingly. His remains will be brought here for interment.

The Rev. J.J. Tobias, the new pastor of the Methodist church, preached his introductory sermon Sunday forenoon.

The farmers held a special meeting Saturday afternoon. I was not present but learned that their proceedings were not harmonious, and that several of the members seceded. There are now but four short weeks intervening till election, and it behooves all patriots and reformers to use every exertion for the success of the good and righteous cause. The two respective tickets are before us--I apprehend that no change will be made in the farmers' ticket. For Judge we have, on the one hand, Mr. Hudson, who has been weighed in the

balance; if he has done well heretofore, experience makes perfect; officials are like wine, the longer they are kept the better they will get. On the other hand, we have Mr. Schofield, a very good farmer. Now it is too bad to spoil a good farmer, but some men must be sacrificed for the public good. Schofield is now our Cincinnatus--through him the battle must be won.

Next we have the County Clerk. We find Mr. Evarts on both tickets and that is just as it should be. Mr. E. is not one of these narrow contracted beings, suitable just for one line of policy, but on the contrary he is endowed with a mind sufficiently broad to enable him to believe in the cause of both parties. Besides, Mr. E. is a good fellow; everybody likes him.

As to the treasurer, the candidates, Mr. Cernell and Mr. Serrine (I don't know as the last name is spelled right) are both gentlemen and good men and if it was in order I would suggest to elect them both. I wish them both good luck.

Last but not least is the school superintendentship, for on him or her will depend the welfare of the next generation. Marshall should not be reelected; he has had the office long enough. I don't believe in keeping a man eternally in office; let somebody else have a pull at it. Mr. M. has a good business besides. Let him confine his attention to printing and he won't get in so many squabbles. The other candidate, Miss Chittenden, I don't know but she is an excellent lady--all ladies are excellent--and would doubtless would make an excellent Sueprintendress.

Yorkville: The State central committee of the Illinois State Farmers' association, at the request and with the promised cooperation of many persons throughout the west, do hereby respectfully invite the several farmers' clubs, Granges, farmers' associations, agricultural societies, boards of agriculture, and other organizations of the industrial classes of the United States and British provinces to send from their own numbers an identified with their interests, one delegate from each such organization, to meet at McCormick's hall in the city of Chicago on Wednesday, the 22d day of October.

The purpose of this convention is to discuss the prevailing overcharges in transportation; to incite and perfect the organization of the agricultural and other industrial classes who chiefly suffer from those overcharges in every state, territory, and province of the country, with the view of throwing a combined and overwhelming influence against the further depredations and to take such measures as shall secure prompt and efficient legislation, that shall end in the complete extinction of railway or other monopolies now preying upon the productive interests of America.

Oct. 16: Forgot to mention last week that E.A. Hopkins has taken unto himself a helpmeet again; the lady is from Ohio.

Daniel Pearce of the firm of Pearce & Chattle, died last week of erysipelas; it is said that the disease was brought on by bruising his little finger; a large procession followed the remains from their residence 1-1/2 miles below Oswego on the Bristol road to the Methodist Church and from thence to the grave.

Also Daniel, aged 17 years, son of J.G. Haag, was buried last week.

The remains of the Rev. Ambler Edson arrived last Wednesday and were buried on the same day, but owing to the detention of the family of the deceased by sickness on their way the funeral sermon was postponed until their arrival. In token of respect for the deceased all the other American churches united with the Baptist in this sad rite. Rev. H. Minard--the only minister present who had been acquainted with the deceased--delivered a eulogy and address of consolation. The deceased was a nephew of Alfred Edson of this town.

Mrs. Lois Richards is setting up a dress making establishment over the furniture store where the *Vidette* has been.

Yorkville: Notwithstanding the hard times, the circulation of the *Record* is still increasing, and this week we print 51 quires, 1,224 copies. Advertisers, take due notice and be governed accordingly.

Card from Miss Chittenden.

Bristol, Oct. 13, 1873

To the Editor:

Allow me through the columns of the *Record* to return thanks to the Farmers' Convention for the honor conferred in renominating me Superintendent of Public Instruction of Kendall County.

While I appreciate the compliment and realize there is nothing imposed upon the office which a lady might not perform and retain the dignity of a lady, I feel that I must remain firm in my declination. I suppose the Convention was aware that I had declined the first nomination, and regret it was not thus understood, as it leaves a vacancy in the Farmers' ticket.

Hoping they may find a worthier than I, I am, very respectfully,  
Nettie Chittenden

Oct. 23: The only thing of an exciting nature that has happened here the past week was a fracas on the street Sunday afternoon between Isaac Pearce and Oscar Briggs, in which the latter got severely stabbed. Surgical aid was procured as soon as possible and the wounded man taken to the house of Mrs. Darby where he now lays and is cared for. Suffice it to say that both were more or less under the influence of liquor and both made use of knives.

But for the above I wouldn't have had an item this week, except that nearly everybody has been to the Chicago Exposition.

Politics here are muchly mixed. The result of the October elections has confounded everybody; both sides are disappointed--the one for doing no better, and the other for doing so poorly. I am so fuddled as to be unable to make an intelligent argument for our side that's going to win. All, however, are deploring the withdrawal of Miss Chittenden. It will be through the ladies that our political campaigns be raised to the standard of civilized warfare.

The *Aurora Beacon* of the 15th says the largest eel ever caught in Fox River was captured a day or two since at Montgomery by William Brooks Jr. of Aurora and was three feet two inches in length and weighed six pounds.

Yorkville: Mr. E. Gaylord of Oswego now gets his *Record* at Dwight. Has he moved there to stay?

Farmers have been very busy the past week in fall plowing. The land is in good condition and the plow runs nice. A large breadth of land has been turned up in this vicinity.

Driving down from Oswego Monday we saw a horse coming up the road trotting as though "Goldsmith Maid" was after him. He lifted his feet beautifully and took them up often enough and put them down quick enough to go a mile in less than three minutes. Thinking there was a race against time, we hauled up out of the road only to greet Capt. Ed. Mann and his handsome stallion, "Gilbert." He had been to Bristol, and his horse, feeling well, he had "let him go" a few rods. He is a beautiful animal and Cap. is justly proud of him.

Memphis is being rapidly abandoned by those of its citizens who are physically and pecuniarily able to get away. At least three-fourths of its total white population is absent. It is literally a plague-stricken city, and people continue to die at the rate of 30 or 40 a day.

Oct. 30: Rev. E.H. Sawyer preached his farewell sermon on Sunday; also made a valedictory address to the children in the evening at the Sunday School Concert. Today, he departed for his new field of labor--Kirkwood, Mo.

The family of G.C. Harris has moved to Aurora.

Oswego received one day of last week a terrible shock. It was not that of an earthquake, but a blast from the *Aurora Vidette*. It is not yet decided whether we shall go into sackcloth and ashes about it.

The election is now near at hand, and whatever is to be done must be done quickly. This is the last opportunity for any expression in regard to it through The *Record*. We anti-monops been having a mass meeting last Saturday evening in Chapman's Hall. The crowd in attendance was overwhelming as to quality and the enthusiasm immense as far as it went.

I shall not attempt to give a synopsis of the speech, but merely the drift of it, and that both the old parties are identified with the monopolies; go to Springfield during the session of the legislature and there are the Democratic and Republican politicians drinking out of the same bottle and lobbying together for monopolies.

Yorkville: The Aurora Silver Plate Factory [partly owned by L.B. Judson] has commenced running on three-fourths time owing to dull times. It is to be hoped it will be required to put in full hours before long.

Mrs. Cooley of Montgomery, quite an aged lady, was thrown from a buggy near Smith's mill on Wednesday, the 22d, and somewhat severely injured about the head. She struck in a sand bank and in a manner to loosen the scalp and draw it over her face and eyes. Her physicians think she may recover. She is mother of the Cooley Brothers, Engineers on the CB&Q R.R.

November -- 1873

Nov. 6: Duane VanDriesen, who has been several years in Nebraska roughing it on a homestead claim, has returned, looking very robust.

The musical talent of this town has been reinforced by a Miss M.M. Tobias, sister of the new pastor of the Methodist church; she is said to be an accomplished teacher in all the musical branches and makes that her business.

Mullenix and Teller had a suit tried by Justice Newton; the controversy was in regard to wages.

Judicial action was commenced against the saloon keepers for doing business in violation of their licenses; the suits were settled by assessing each \$20 and costs.

Oscar Briggs, the man supposed as good as dead a few weeks ago by being cut in the breast is out again looking not much the worse for it.

One of the most happy events, a wedding, transpired last Wednesday evening. The bridal parties were Mr. H.H. Pratt of Sandwich and Mrs. Sylvia C. Collins of this town. It took place at the residence of Mr. J.S. Seely, where Mrs. C. heretofore has been staying, she being a sister of Mrs. Seely.

A row occurred Saturday evening at the depot; it commenced in a playful scuffle after the departure of the 6:40 train, between Lew Jenkins and Gus Zucker; Charley Sparsam interposed in behalf of Zucker, and thereby also got into the muss. No other means than fists were employed except the throwing of some gravel; the noise and their being terribly mad afterwards was the worst feature of the affair. Arrests were made and some proceedings taken against Jenkins that night, but subsequently dropped and yesterday Esquire Newton fined the three \$3 and costs each to make them wiser men.

The election is now fairly under way; three votes are polled and the Farmer's ticket is one ahead; the secret ballot will be voted quite extensively; a number came and thanked me for pointing a way out of their dilemma; up to now I have counted 26 candidates running to fill a vacancy of Justice of the Peace in this town and doubtless there are some more. John Chapman is hard at work electioneering for the Republican ticket, believing that thereby he surely will damage their cause.

Yorkville: The case of the bonds for the Ottawa Oswego and Fox River Valley Railroad was detailed in a front page story.

Rice is being used by a number of persons as a substitute for potatoes at the dinner table. Potatoes are scarce and high, and rice and hominy will fill an empty stomach at less expense.

Nov. 13: Robinson B. Murphy arrived yesterday on a visit from Texas, where he has been residing for a year or more. He is highly delighted with that State, but alleges that reform in political affairs there is very much needed.

The scale builders of Fairbanks & Co. of Chicago are here erecting a stock scale for Wollenweber & Knapp.

There is a deal of improvement going on all over town. The most notable is a new fence around P.G. Hawley's residence; the painting that of Mr. Farley's; the flagging of the sewer in front of Richards, Edson & Co.; and the erecting of another iron hitching post there.

James Shumway is quite sick with the typhoid fever; one of his daughters is also sick. Mrs. S. has been on a visit to the New England States and was expected home yesterday.

Yorkville: The *Ottawa Free Trader* furnishes this item about "Frid," well-known at Oswego. "Hon. B.F. Fridley of Aurora, a gentleman who, 30 years ago, was noted in our courts as a lawyer of more brains and pluck than knowledge of the genial refinements of English grammar, has become apparently a millionaire. The Chicago papers mention that he has just completed a row of several fine marble front residences on Lake Avenue, just south of the Douglas monument, Chicago. In view of the number of houses to rent in Chicago just now, too much property of that sort may not be as big a thing as it looks on paper."

Nov. 20: The case of Mrs. Briggs was investigated one day of last week in the County Court, and she was adjudged insane; the next day she started to go away but was overtaken by her husband about six miles from town and returned home.

Mrs. J.B. Shumway has returned from a few months' visit to the State of Massachusetts. Her return was hastened by the sickness of her husband and youngest daughter. Happily, both are now getting better, especially the former.

The warehouse is drawing near completion; the wind-mill placed on the top of it yesterday is quite an ornament to it; the Railroad company has laid down the side track for its accommodation.

We have an institution here called the Temperance Camp; it is famous for its great success in suspensions; there is no prospect of its doing anything before the commencement of the next century.

Yorkville: Mercury 10 degrees above zero Wednesday morning. River frozen up.

Mr. R.B. Murphy, formerly of Oswego, now of Galveston, Tex., was in Yorkville Monday. He returns to Galveston in a few days.

Mr. Abraham Sellers of Waubunsee County, Kan., has been reelected to the Kansas legislature by a large majority Mr. Sellers formerly lived in Bristol.

The location of the new bridge across Fox river at Aurora was finally agreed upon by the highway commissioners Monday evening. It will cross the river from the foot of New York street to the extension of Walnut street, will be 700 feet long with five spans of 140 feet each, and will cost about \$40,000.

Nov. 27: Death and Funeral of Captain Wm. L. Fowler.

Last Thursday the news of the death of Wm. L. Fowler at the Elgin Insane Asylum was received by his family. R.B. Murphy repaired there immediately and returned with the remains next day; the funeral took place Sunday under the charge of the Masons of Raven lodge. Mr. Fowler was 57 years of age, he was one of the oldest settlers, came to this neighborhood about 38 years ago and when but a boy; he had been serving his country in a number of capacities, first (to my own recollection) as Constable; next in 1848 he was elected Sheriff of Kendall County and served his term two years; subsequently he went into the employ of the Railroad and for several years he had charge of the baggage department in the old Galena depot at Chicago; afterwards he was transferred to other duties and did much traveling; later he was connected with the detective interest; during the war he raised a company in this town, was chosen Captain thereof and which was incorporated into the 127th as Co. A; he went with the Regiment to the front but was soon discharged for disability; shortly after his return from the army the people of this town elected him a commissioner of highways and Justice of the Peace, which latter office he held for number of years and until his death; for several years past he has been suffering from a paralytic stroke partially depriving him of the use of his limbs; last summer his mind was deranged by it and he was placed in the Insane Asylum for the treatment and there his earthly career ended.

Yorkville: From the *Aurora Herald*: A.C. Rand has sold his splendid residence on LaSalle street to Mr. L.B. Judson of Oswego.

The ordinance against cattle running at large in Yorkville after the 1st of December will be put in force by the Board of Trustees. Let the people take warning and keep them at home after that date.

The *Oswego Vidette*, which lately was moved to Aurora, has again packed up and gone to Chicago into the hands of S.P. Rounds, who furnished the material. Mr. Rounds may get tired of establishing offices in the country after a while if they end up in this manner. So says the *Aurora Herald*. Wouldn't care much if S.P. did get bit on that trade.

December -- 1873

Dec. 3: Sarah, the youngest daughter of Mr. J.B. Shumway, about 17 years of age, was buried last Saturday. Owing to Mr. S. not being able to leave his room and also some other members of the family being unwell, the funeral services were held at the house.

Wesley Edwards has bought and is repairing and improving, the Van Sickle property on Washington Street. A meat market is to be carried on in the basement.

Henry Strossman and Early Sutherland have established a new restaurant in the Cooke building. It is a very neat and comfortable place.

L.B. Judson has moved to Aurora--there are, perhaps a number of good and valid reasons why he now prefers that city for a residence. First, the most of his interest is there; then again small places are disadvantageous...Mr. J., however, remarked upon departing that "leaving Oswego seemed almost like being thrown homeless upon the world," and that notwithstanding the many adverse circumstances with which the place has always been surrounded he still liked it better than any other, and that about the only motive in moving to Aurora was to secure a better schooling for his boys and at the same time have them live at home. On the whole, it may be for the best that this move has taken place, one now going to Aurora may improve the opportunity of making a call there about dinner time.

Thanksgiving day was quite generally observed, that is, in divers ways. A few of the business men closed their doors during church worship, which took place in the Baptist house. The congregation was of but medium size.

A lecture is advertised for next Friday evening at Chapman's Hall on the subject of "Money," promising to be interesting to Grangers, merchants, doctors, lawyers, and laborers. Knowledge on that subject is very important in these panicky times. Improve this opportunity to get enlightened.

Yorkville: Mr. Levi N. Hall of Oswego was in Yorkville Monday. He expects to open a very large stock of goods for the holiday trade at his store in the brick block, and parents and children wanting to buy presents will find at his place a choice assortment to select from.

We had a pleasant call from Mr. P. Boessenecker of Oswego last Wednesday and was right glad to make the acquaintance of a gentleman who has taken the *Record* since its first start. Mr. B. came to this country from Wirtemberg, Germany in 1854 without a dollar when he commenced work in Kendall County. By continuous labor, careful attention to business, and that intuitive tact most Germans have to lay up money, he is now a wealthy man. He owns 180 acres of splendid land about three miles southeast of Oswego on which he lately built a fine barn and a new house. The panic, says Mr. B., does not affect him in the least--he owes no one, always has enough to pay current

expenses, and he is a farmer who is prepared for high prices or low prices--neither will do him an injury, though he doubtless prefers high prices. Mr. B. is a well-informed man and can converse on almost any subject.

Dec. 11: Ambrose Andrews of Specie Grove was buried last Friday in the cemetery near Cowdrey's.

R.W. Mason, who during the summer has been sojourning in northern Wisconsin, acting more or less the hermit, has returned to us in excellent health.

V.J. Low and Charles Pool have moved, with their families, to Aurora.

During that windy night of last week the windmill was blown off the warehouse

The lecture on "Money" last Friday evening went by default--neither lecturer nor the audience put in an appearance.

No movement has been made toward advancing the hotel project.

The hog market has been very brisk during the past week; Wollenweber & Knapp shipped four car loads last night.

Yorkville: Judge T. Lyle Dickey has withdrawn from his law firm in Ottawa and goes to Chicago in partnership with B.G. Caulfield to practice law. Ottawa is sorry to lose one who has been an honor to her as a citizen for 25 years.

Dec. 18: John B. Lane, for several years a resident of Colorado, arrived the other day to pay a visit to his friends. Johnny, as he is familiarly called, is quite a favorite in this community.

R.B. Murphy started on his return to Texas yesterday morning.

The concert of the new Ole Bull was a tolerable success. There are a good many better looking men and worse fiddlers in the world than this Ole. His singing--what it lacked in melody was made up by loudness.

We really have a theater in this town, on a Lilliputian scale to be sure, but a theatre nevertheless. The same holds forth at private houses before select audiences charging the enormous sum of 5 cents admittance, but small children are free. I had the pleasure of attending one evening last week; the main act was a Shakespearian piece (forgot the name of it), the performers were all girls from about 10-14 years of age.

A Chicago firm was selling here at auction U.S. Army goods last Saturday.

Trade and commerce has been quite brisk, especially the hog markets. Socially, we have been very quiet, but in the course of a week or two we shall see what we shall see.

L.N. Hall is again opening a large stock of holiday goods; special pains have been taken to procure notions of utility and the best of confectionaries.

Yorkville: New subscribers continue to come in and this week we print 1,248 papers. Pretty good for Little Kendall. Now, reader, can't you send us one more subscriber?

Santa Claus in Oswego

This fine old gentleman, the patron saint of the children, has his Oswego headquarters this month at the drug store of L.N. Hall, and he requests all who love Christmas to call there on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of next week and see what beautiful goods Mr. Hall has to sell. In the evening of those days, a beautiful Christmas tree will be lit up at 7 o'clock for the admiration of customers and little folks.

Dec. 25: A ball took place on Friday evening; it was not a very extensive affair. Music by Jay & Mason.

Miles D. Beach has arrived from Nebraska where he has been for several years, establishing a homestead.

Harry A. Tounshendeau has taken his departure, caused perhaps by financial embarrassment, he rose to eminence in this town in a very short time, and fell from it in a still shorter; may he have better success somewhere else.

It is said that our station agent and telegraph operator will be changed; everybody will deplore the loss of Tom Beebe and Nettie Howe.

Some parties are apprehensive that the ice crop will prove a failure.

Beebe has already departed; he is to be hereafter established at Plano.

Yorkville: That timber land on the Morgan estate, Specie Grove, is nearly all sold--only about 20 acres left. Persons wanting to buy in small lots should apply at once. This is all splendid wood land.

1874

January

Jan. 8: The commencement of a new year is the season of entering upon new projects, the subscribing for newspapers and magazines, the attempt of keeping account of expenses, the forming of resolutions, the leaving off of smoking, drinking, swearing, gambling, etc. The experiences of our doings the past year should not be lost, but retained as valuable lessons. What was then ever so well performed may be done still better, and we

profitably might ask ourselves in everything we do, "how can I improve on this?" I am well aware that there is plenty of room for the improvement of my communications, and while I might not be competent to improve them much in grammar, style, and sense, I can at least in brevity and upon this particular, I am fully resolved to improve, to act upon the principle that better not enough be said than too much. This also will be in harmony with the spirit of the times, "retrenchment," curtailing the use of ink and paper, as well as superfluities in other directions. I shall endeavor to keep out of all controversies.

As Charles A. Davis and Hamilton and Robert Cherry were going home New Years eve (Davis being in the buggy with the Cherrys and was leading his horse behind) they met a man on horseback riding very fast and who apparently tried to show himself as little as possible. Davis claimed it had been John Kreidler's mare, by the way a very good animal, and at once jumped on his horse and followed. When the fellow saw that he was pursued he ran as fast as possible to get away; coming down to the fork of the road he turned and took that heading to Plainfield and when perceiving that his pursuer was gaining on him pretty fast, he jumped from the horse and over the fence and escaped in the cornfield. Davis found it to be Kreidler's mare and took her home.

A very distressing accident occurred at Aux Sable Grove. Katie, a four year old child of Michael Ragan, a tenant of Chas. A. Davis, was as supposed playing with matches up stairs and set the bed on fire. Mrs. Ragan being at the time engaged out doors and when discovering the fire had merely time to snatch the child off from the burning bed. After hours of intense suffering, it died from the injuries received. The house was totally consumed and the family lost nearly all their effects.

D.M. Haight got his name painted over the door of his store. W.H. Hicks performed the art.

Yorkville: Paul Hawley of Oswego recently sold a pair of horses that weigh 2,600 pounds to the Aurora Fire Department for \$400.

Hard times have reached DuPage County. The *Naperville Clarion* says: When last heard from, the county treasury contained 30 cents, with flattering prospects of soon being entirely empty.

Jan. 15: Good will towards one another seemed to have been the prevailing spirit of this community the last week.

John H. Gray came home one evening last week in a somewhat demoralized condition; he had been having a runaway, and was thrown from his buggy, bruising his face considerably.

N.C. Gillespie was fooling round one evening, by which means he broke out a few lights of glass at several places. The next day he went about and fixed up things again, acknowledging that experience is the mother of wisdom.

A woeful case of human vicissitude took place at AuSable Grove. I will give it as it was related to me: Sinda, the wife of Thomas Sims (a colored family) has lately become deranged in mind, and one night when the roads were the roughest she got away from her attendants. The night being dark they were unable to follow and apprehend her. The next morning she was tracked by the blood from her feet, being barefooted, and she had thus traveled 14 miles. She is a very fat woman, weighing between 300 and 400 pounds. She is now in a very pitiable condition, insane, with feet and legs frozen to the knees.

Wesley Edwards' meat market is now fully established on Washington street; a large swinging sign with an arched top is adorning the place. The sign contains among other things a representation of the head of a brindle ox--not of ordinary cattle but that of the sacred specie of India.

The new meat market firm of Jones & Co. at the old stand of Frank Hawley, is also in full operation.

Yesterday as Charley Moore was returning to Yorkville on the morning freight, he undertook to cross over the Waubonsie bridge while the train stood on it, in order to get to the way-car. When most over the train commenced moving, and he was pushed off, his head striking against the fence, making a flesh wound over one eye. He had to stay over to the next train so as to get his wound fixed up, which was done by Dr. Van Deventer.

Yorkville: The *Aurora Herald* says the sash and door factory at Montgomery has furnished a large amount of work for Lewis Steward & Co.'s reaper factory and for J.W. Jacobs' residence.

It was quite a pleasure last Thursday to visit the school in the Wormley district, Oswego, and take a seat in the new house. Though the house has been built a year, this was our first visit. John E. Scofield is the teacher; has 14 pupils enrolled, but the attendance is very irregular, owing to this irregularity the school is not accomplishing as much as it should and the work is only passable. Good order is maintained. The house, though small, is one of the neatest and most comfortable in the county and the Directors certainly did their duty in building it. Everything about it is in good taste. The old house, standing in the corner of the yard, was built 30 years ago, mostly by subscription and did its duty nobly till the new house took its place. It formerly stood some distance west of its present site and was moved about 17 years ago. The new house, with seats and all complete, cost about \$700. The school houses of 20 and 30 years ago are rapidly giving way to new and more comfortable places.

It is seldom we visit two new school houses in one day and from the Wormley district a short drive took us around to the Keck district in Bristol and the first sight of the new school house erected there last fall was a surprise and a pleasure. The old house had stood for a quarter of a century and was in a shocking condition--the new one is second to none in Kendall County for excellence of finish and inside appointments. The building is high, with wide cornice, green Venetian blinds, and large platform at the front door. Inside are handsome patent seats and desks with slats of walnut and ash; a handsome desk if

furnished for the teacher. Good blackboards and a dictionary complete the appointments. The scholars seem to appreciate the new house, and it is for their interest to do what they can to keep every thing in good order. About \$1,000 has been expended in this work by the district. W.M. Wilig of Aurora is the teacher, and has 26 as fine scholars under his charge as will be found in any school. The larger scholars were well along in their studies and recite understandingly.

Miss Kate Cliggitt is still teaching in the Ament district (third term, we believe) and has one of the smoothest running schools in the county. Thirty-seven names are enrolled and the attendance is good. The higher classes are studious and make rapid progress--algebra and physiology are taught in conjunction with the common branches. A most excellent school.

The unusually open winter has made an uneasy feeling among ice dealers and we notice among our exchanges that the feeling prevails in all the towns where there are ice houses. In Yorkville, Hutchison & Son commenced early to get their machinery in order, expecting to commence work right after Christmas, but the ice showing only eight to nine inches in thickness, work was postponed from day to day.

Finally tired of waiting, the plow was put upon the pond last Tuesday morning and preparations made to load a car to ship to Chicago, which was done by night. Yesterday they commenced at the ice houses and will probably work two gangs--one to load cars to fill the houses in Chicago and the other to fill the houses here.

Capt. Bob Hutchison, who is superintending matters here, has made much better arrangements in the way of machinery and facilities for rapid work than was had last year. A new chain 226 feet long (endless) runs over two large cast iron wheels with spurs from the river to the ice house and run by a steam engine, carries the cakes with great ease to the skids or slides, by which they find their way to the houses. He has built also a large stable on the east end of the houses where eight horses are kept; also a tool house and office; and in the engine house is a forge, anvil, and tools for blacksmithing. Everything is in complete order, and no expense has been spared to make this one of the best ice harvesting places in the state. O. Dolph has had supervision of most of the work and his ingenuity as a mechanic is often called in play to make some improvement in the machinery. The ice is now nine inches thick, clear and hard, and will answer quite well. It was 22 inches last winter.

The constitution and bylaws of the Kendall County Teachers Association was printed. According to the preamble: "We the undersigned claiming that the profession of teaching imposes the highest of trusts, the gravest of responsibilities possible for an individual to assume; therefore that an extension of our information upon all subjects pertaining to teaching, directly or indirectly, is desirable, and that experience has abundantly proved that Associations property conducted are valuable aids, do declare ourselves an Association and adopt for our government the following Constitution, By-Laws, and Rules of Order."

Jan. 22: Lewis, son of Dexter Shaw of Poweshick County, Ia., formerly residing in the Walker district, is here on a visit.

Mr. and Mrs. Byron Gray of York State--perhaps from that part called Stone Arabia--and who now wear the bridal relations, are on a visit to Walter Loucks.

Alfred Edson Jr. and also Wm. Walker, both of Iowa, and both former townsmen appeared to us last week.

The old folks' ball Friday night proved a far great success than anticipated by the most sanguine. There were over 80 couples present.

Yorkville: On Tuesday morning, Court was promptly called at nine o'clock and preliminary arrangements made for the trial of Timothy Dolan for the murder of his mother-in-law, Mrs. Bridget Carey in the town of Seward last summer.

Hutchison shipped 12 carloads of ice to Chicago Tuesday night.

Jan. 29: Frank Hawley's tame eagle while flying about the river the other day was shot dead by Bauman, who happened to be there with a gun. The eagle was exceedingly well tamed; was at full liberty and so occasionally took a soar in the vicinity returning to the stable when tired.

One of Mr. Farley's horses took sick and died while employed by L.N. Hall in drawing wood.

Among the visitors from abroad the past week was Mr. James R. Gibbs, a former merchant of this town, since he has resided in Wisconsin and now is one of the postmasters there.

The many friends of the Arnold family of Chicago (former residents of this town) were grieved to learn Friday evening that Harriet had departed this life, being the oldest (in her 40th year) and the third sister that has died within two years. The sad intelligence was brought by W.H. Fuller, who came out to make the arrangements for the funeral, which took place Sunday from the residence of Dr. D.B. Jewell.

Yorkville: The entire front page of the *Record* was taken up with the account of the murder trial of Timothy Dolan. Dolan, who was charged with the murder of his mother-in-law in Seward Township, was found not guilty.

A great deal of rain fell last week and the river raised about four feet, clearing out most of the ice below the dam here and piling it up down the river away. Ice cutting was suspended for two days. Saturday, the mercury was at zero again, freezing things solid.

February -- 1874

Feb. 5: The greatest event of the past week was the burning of Wm. S. Bunn's residence--one of the finest in town--early Thursday morning. Mr. B. had been up and started the fires and returned again to bed, but shortly after heard some kind of noise upstairs and going to ascertain the cause found a chamber all on fire. It originated, as supposed, from a defective flue. But little of the furniture and other effects were saved as the building burned very rapidly. The property was insured in the Agricultural, which promises to pay \$1,900 of the damage just as soon as their paying agent can get around to do it.

Mrs. C.F. West, the lady who was very sick while here on a visit, died after her arrival home in Warrenburgh, Mo.

Among those that have been living abroad and returned, I may mention: H.W. Farley from Washington; Charles Lake, Michigan; Gus Shoger, Plano; Maggie Darley, Chicago.

Who is Susan? This question has been frequently asked since the receipt of Saturday's mail, when over the name of Susan, a very spicy letter on Oswego and its institutions appeared in the *Aurora Herald*.

Feb. 12: The donation season is now upon us; a week ago tonight the Methodists held theirs and it proved a success. The attendance was quite large, especially that of Young America, the boys' portion of which were disappointed in not being able to procure ten cent tickets at the start so as to stuff themselves at the first table. The supper was very nice and abundance of it. There was the usual promenading up and down the hall a little putting on of airs and playing smart, much chatting just for the sake of saying something.

Several weddings have taken place, one last Thursday at the house of Samuel Hagerman, by the Rev. W.L. Boyd, Mr. A.G. Hagerman of Champaign County to Miss Emily Davis, daughter of Ezekiel Davis.

Another some days previous, Mr. McCartney of Bristol Station to Miss Ann Murphy, daughter of James Murphy.

Mr. Holyoke, our station agent, was suddenly called away last Saturday, the cause being the death of his mother at Wataga.

Mr. Farley has evolved a new system of transportation and invented the apparatus for it; he has now a model put up. I called in the other day to see it work and had it explained to me; the system embraces some excellent principles; its utility, of course, will have to be established by trial. All who are interested in the subject of transportation, especially as to cheaper rates of freight, should examine this plan and see how it may be done.

The privilege was extended to our people last evening to listen to a lecture from one of the "fair sex," a Miss Clara Norris. The number availing themselves of the opportunity was small.

Mrs. Joseph B. Chase will be buried today; have learned that the body was subjected to an autopsy, she having been sick for a long while and her ailment was generally supposed

to be internal cancer. This doubtless arose from the fact that she had one externally removed and cured previous to her sickness. It appears that the examination showed to the contrary; the disease was in the liver and lungs.

Feb. 19: The funeral of Mrs. Joseph B. Chase took place Wednesday from the Methodist church.

Seth Warner went out from here about 20 years ago a young man; several weeks ago he died in Michigan and was buried in Indiana where his wife was from; subsequently arrangements were made for his remains to be brought here and buried along side of his parents and several brothers in the Pearce burying ground and which took place Sunday forenoon.

The Bunn family, after having been burned out of house and home for a little while, put up with relations and friends, but as soon as possible commenced housekeeping anew by moving into the Wm. Hawley house; in answering the door bell one evening last week they were confronted by a party with sacks, bundles, baskets and jars--well to make a long story short, they were overwhelmed with all kinds of vegetables, preserves, sauces and other provisions; the surprise was complete and hugely enjoyed, the evening pleasantly spent and now with a full larder the captain says that he believes in friends in times of adversity.

Oswego is unfortunately located because so near big Aurora; that city always was hoggish, taking away our trade and whatever else we would get up, and the bigger it grows the worse it gets; of late it has commenced absorbing our inhabitants. Mr. William McKeag became afflicted with the Aurora fever resulting in the removal of that family last week to that city and so Aurora keeps gaining at our expense.

Among old acquaintances that are or have been here on a visit, I might mention Asher B. Hall, of Texas; Daniel Pearce, of Shabbona; A.C. Hopkins, of Chicago; also Anthony Burnett, of that City--better known as Tony--and who is just overflowing with suavity.

An effort may soon be made here to inaugurate the Ohio temperance movement, which the newspapers style "the woman's crusade against the saloons."

Charles Howland of Paw Paw, Mich., a relative of the Murdock family, arrived last week.

Yorkville: In the Updike neighborhood, Oswego, the school is doing well under the tutorage of Mr. Thomas Cliggitt, a teacher of some experience. He has 28 pupils enrolled. The house is in very bad condition, and should be repaired and refitted inside. New desks and seats, and recitation seats are needed.

The Squires School in Oswego is taught by Miss Abby Benedict of Aurora. There was not a girl in attendance the morning we called and there is only one enrolled. There is no hope for this district till there are more girls in it.

The most advanced school in Kendall County is the one at Lisbon under the care of C.C. Duffy.

Feb. 26: Boss York, the professor of horsology, put in his appearance yesterday, according to programme, performing for a while in the street with his horse, then making a horse speech, next commencing the horse lessons. A contrary colt of A. Armstrong was experimented upon with entire success.

The condition of George Parker is improved.

The temperance wave overtook us sooner than expected. Solitary and alone Mrs. Mary E. Smith appeared in Troll's saloon Tuesday afternoon and then there opened the battle in the presence of a full house. At Turner's they got wind of her coming, so there was a scattering--some were there who would rather not be caught in a saloon by her. The next day she was reinforced by four others and again both saloons were visited and prayers offered up. The next day, however, when they appeared about 10 strong, they found at Troll's the door locked against them; a season of prayers was then held on the sidewalk. At Turner's, however, they were again courteously received, Mr. T. bringing down from upstairs the lady members of his household to witness the devotional exercises.

Sunday evening, a temperance meeting under the auspices of the united churches was held at the Methodist house; owing to the inclemency of the weather the attendance was not large.

Russell's team just now ran away from near the depot, the horses became separated but both are now secured.

Yorkville: The CB&Q are now running 14 regular trains on this branch of their road.

Parties wanting ornamental, shade, or fruit trees should go to S.G. Minkler & Son's Specie Grove Nursery.

The *Kendall County Record* claims a bonifide subscription list of 1,272--pretty good for a small town with another paper in it.--*Creston Times*.

March -- 1874

March 5: The [temperance] crusaders the past week have sallied forth but occasionally and their attacks I believe were only directed against [saloon keeper George] Troll, who so far has shown the most stubborn resistance. The cause is to be prosecuted with all the energy possible. There is now less praying and more diplomacy. The trustees have been petitioned to revoke their licenses, which of course they have to decline, being they were elected as a license board.

It would be very desirable to have the voice of woman included in determining the conduct of this question in this town the next year, but of course it wouldn't do to let her

vote at the approaching corporation election--the courts would not sustain such action--and we are bound to observe the formalities of the law.

The sick are improving.

To the family of Thomas Miller has been added a daughter; consequently great joy.

The ball last week was too largely attended to be really pleasant.

Walter S. Hunt will move today to Livingston County, if the rain don't prevent. Andrew Shoger moved there a few days ago.

Yorkville: Tucker of Aurora recently bought a matched pair of bay horses of William Wormley of Oswego for \$300. He shipped them East.

The ice business in Yorkville is played out for a while. Hutchison pulled up stakes on Monday and his engine, horses, and men have gone back to Chicago.

There were 409 cars loaded and shipped from Yorkville station during the month of February as follows: 353 cars of ice, 46 cars of grain, and 10 cars of stock. That's doing pretty well for a one-horse town.

March 12: The Temperance War

The excitement resulting from the temperance movement never ran so high in this town as at present; the procedures heretofore were merely of a skirmishing nature; now the fight is begun in good earnest; the tabernacle yesterday for the first time appeared on the field--about one o'clock it was placed in position namely near the sidewalk between Troll's place and the post office; the ladies shortly afterwards rendezvoused there occupying it all the afternoon. Apparently the operations didn't produce any very good effects; there was more or less rowdy spirit manifested; toward the close Mr. Monkemeier was arrested, arraigned, and fined \$5 for indecent behavior. The tabernacle was taken off the field for the night.

That this movement has caused an immense commotion cannot be gainsaid. Mrs. Cady Stanton treats it as "refined mobbing;" Mrs. Commodore Dahlgren as "lawlessness and precedent to other lawlessness," fears incalculable mischief resulting from it.

S.A. Reynolds of Chicago, one of our merchants of olden times--is here to see friends.

Yorkville: Capt. Mann [of Oswego] makes an announcement for his horse, "Gilbert," in another column, to which the attention of the farmers is called. "Gilbert" has wintered well and is very much improved in general appearance; he has grown and developed into a fine large horse weighing nearly 1,200 pounds His stock, thus far, shows many excellent traits and Capt. Mann is so well satisfied that the horse will be a favorite that next season the price for his service will be increased.

March 19: The statement in last week's report that Mr. Monkemeier had been arrested and fined was erroneous; it had referenced to another man altogether. Mr. M. will please pardon the mistake.

The [temperance] crusade is now only yet the most exciting issue of the community, but is growing in interest and importance as time rolls on, and the persuasive power of it is increasing daily. The ark made a voyage every secular day the past week except Friday--the prevailing superstitious custom of seafaring people that bad luck will follow any navigation begun on the day was observed--every night she was returned to her moorings in the harbor. A very important thing was omitted in the outfit of this craft, namely the nailing up of a horseshoe somewhere about her--in the bow is the best place--let this be supplied and all will feel more happy and secure when aboard of her.

There is now, perhaps, just as much drinking going on in this town as there was before the crusade commenced; indeed, some who heretofore hardly ever drank will now rush in a saloon when the women are there to get a drink and treat others just to spite them. Others undertook to show the ladies that their prayers would be no disturbance in playing a good game of billiards, but when a ball jumped the cushion and struck one of the ladies while in a kneeling position, the cues were put up immediately. By the way, this occurrence was purely accidental; the players deplored it, thinking that the ladies might have taken it as having been designed.

If the crusade has done no special good here, it at least has crated consternation and confusion. There are some in favor of prohibition, but who think that their fame and prerogatives would be at stake by the success of the movement.

The lightning rodders are getting ready to move; a number have gone already.

Bunn has begun the rebuilding of his residence

A stone cross-walk has been laid from the drug store to Coffin's

March 26: The authorities of this town have been very energetic the past week in repairing the streets; several stone cross-walks have been constructed, a sewer across Main street uncovered and capped, the principal business portion of that street graveled, etc. Of course some will say that all this has been done just now for effect--the election is close by.

George R. Schamp has come up from New Jersey to spend a while with us.

Mary McGuin went from here some years ago a little girl. She has now returned a young lay, and is staying at A.B. Smith's.

Yorkville: The new plate on the *Record* office door was made by E.H. Hale at Montgomery, Kane County, and we think it a neat and handsome addition to our front

door. Have a plate on your front door with your name on it, and your friends can find you more readily.

April -- 1874

April 2: All things work together for some good. If it hadn't been for the thieves that nearly killed a man on the road to Jericho, the good Samaritan would never have had an existence. If it hadn't been for those rowdies who annoyed the crusading ladies while engaged in prayer at Turner's saloon, Hank Gray (according to his own declaration) would not have supported for the time being the temperance cause. And if it hadn't been for my (unintentionally) wounding the feelings of these ladies, the world would have been bereft of the spicy communications from this town to the *News* of last week and the disposition of certain persons would never have been so well exhibited.

At the municipal election last Saturday the entire board was reelected by more than two to one; any one at all acquainted with the voting elements of this village was satisfied that no prohibition ticket could be elected, no matter who might be the candidate and for that reason some--I among which--were in favor of putting out the most radical temperance men.

The campaign did develop some queer features of political science; some who had the most to say about others being on the force kept themselves most skillfully on both sides of it, but time forbids now to go into details. For the future prosecution of the temperance reform, I would suggest a change of base and tactics.

Last night Rev. Duncan McGregor, who is here on a visit, delivered a forcible temperance address to a good congregation; it was of the emotional nature, the rousing up of the feelings, the same being rather characteristic of the man.

The subject of Mr. Tobias's sermon next Sunday morning, if nothing happens to interfere, will be "The defeat and victory of the people of Oswego at the last corporation election."

Archibald Hopkins of Specie Grove was buried here last Saturday after having died after a few days sickness.

Yorkville: We had the honor of a call from W.M. Wormley, Esq., of Oswego last Monday, a man who came to Kendall County in 1833 (not Kendall then). He is hale and hearty though in his 70th year. Mr. Wormley has many interesting reminiscences of the early days and it is a treat to hear him tell of the living in the pioneer times. He is one of 11 children and is from York State, coming in about the time the Minklers and Pearces did. For 41 years he has witnessed the growth of the Fox River Valley and he looks to be good for 41 years longer.

Mr. D.H. Taylor, formerly of Oswego, who is well known for his ability as a teacher, is now in Maine where he has been teaching with great success. We have a copy of the report of the selectmen of Vassalborough in which we find Mr. Taylor mentioned as one

of the ablest teachers that ever taught in the town. He has been engaged to take charge of the Eat Pittston Academy and judging from the demand there seems to be for him in his native State, there is but little chance of his ever coming West again. Sorry to lose the gentleman from our schools.

April 9: A good deal of interest is manifested in the election today, the main contest being the Supervisorship. All the caucusing transpired Saturday afternoon, making that a busy time for wire-pullers. Three different parties went into the field, but a coalition was effected between the Republicans and Farmers, renominating the present incumbent for the head of the ticket. Against this was pitted a ticket by the Unionists with P.G. Hawley for supervisor, he having been Farley's competition theretofore. The ticket, however, was remodeled yesterday. Hawley was hauled off and Henry Wormley, the nominee for assessor, put in his place and Ezekiel Pearce put on to fill the vacancy provided. Much shrewdness has been exhibited in the maneuverings; Been Butler is nowhere compared to our politicians.

The lightning rod 'turn-outs' this season are more complete in style, finish, and quality than ever before; preparations are being made for a large business.

John Squires, son of Geo. S. met with a serious accident; he borrowed an old gun said for the purpose of shooting a dog, on discharging it, it bursted, burning his face severely.

The intelligence of the death of Dr. Davis of Aurora was received yesterday morning and this is lamented by many in this town.

Michael Barth a German 69 years of age died yesterday.

The Walker neighborhood is undergoing a great deal of sickness, especially the Shumway family. Mr. S. has been confined a number of months, the rest of the family have been more or less sick. Clarence kept well until lately but now is very sick. Besides there is now sick in that neighborhood Miss Laura Judson, N.T. Ferris, Albert Davis, J.P. Walker, and Deacon Walker has been. Cyrus Cass is somewhat unwell.

April 16: The spring elections are now over and the country is safe once more. The old officers must have conducted the affairs pretty satisfactorily to their constituents for the most were reelected by large majorities or else by reason of their experience of position they were better prepared to pull the ropes. First, the entire corporation board was reelected. Next, the Supervisor, assessor, and town clerk, and last Henry C. Cutter for another term of school trustee, which took place Saturday. On that day, a school director was also elected, resulting in the choice of Albert Snook to succeed Mr. Farley.

Miss Laura Judson, aged 21 years, daughter of O.E. Judson, died last Wednesday morning after a brief illness. The funeral took place Friday; a large procession followed the remains from the residence to the Congregational church and from thence to the grave.

Nazareth had a bad name, so when the Saviour began his mission he was denounced because of having been brought up in that place; the same is true of Oswego, from time immemorial he has been charged with cussedness and its citizens more or less denounced just because they lived here, and further whatever happens here appears a great deal worse than it would had it happened elsewhere; not only is this the case with outsiders but many of our own people are given to this notion.

And by the way, while on the subject of scribblers' troubles, I am threatened with a licking if I don't correct a mistake made last week. Let me therefore take off 72 pounds from Ed English's avoirdupois. I guessed at it, but his dimensions deceive me. He is more bulky than hefty.

Yorkville: Charlie Weber caught a pickerel Wednesday morning just below Black's dam that weighed 12 pounds.

April 23: A very joyful event transpired last week Tuesday, namely the wedding of Miss Jennie L. Budlong, one of our most handsome and accomplished young ladies, to William Hoyt of Aurora.

A project is on foot to organize a "Reading room society." Some of our prominent young men offer to subscribe liberally toward it.

Joseph Failing is building for himself a residence on the corner of Monroe and Van Buren Streets, the lot on which Coffin lost his residence by fire quite a number of years ago.

The residence of Mr. Bunn is nearly completed.

April 30: Forgot to mention heretofore that Jacob Alschuler of Aurora has moved a stock of goods into the Shepard store, principally consisting of clothing, hats and caps, and men's furnishing goods.

Also that Jones & Co. have put up a very nice ornamental sign--the illustrations being fat livestock in the pasture--the same executed by Mr. Radley; and by the way, Ad may become one of the celebrated artists of this period; he has just finished several very nice landscape paintings.

Last Thursday it was Solomon Long and Miss Emma Newsom that passed through the happy ordeal of a wedding; it took place at Specie Grove.

The Barth property was sold at auction; the lot with the dwelling was bought by Miss Ella Gibbons the other lot with the shop by Ed Mann. John Lauterback (son-in-law of B.) was here and settled up the estate and took the old lady with him to his home in Iowa.

An extensive trade was effected between Thomas Greenfield and Charles F. Shaver, the property exchanged is Greenfield's building in the brick block together with the stock of furniture for Shaver's farm at Specie Grove.

The moving season is at hand. Mr. Tobias has moved into Harp Hopkins' house, Mrs. Fowler back to her old premises, Mrs. Hubbard to J.A. Judson's to board, and Harp Hopkins is going to move his family to Chicago.

Yorkville: The editor of this paper does not consider himself responsible for the opinions of his correspondents.

May -- 1874

May 7: Frank Richards, about two weeks ago, started on a trip to Iowa; he was in the easy and careless condition of a young man. The other day he returned with all the responsibilities of a husband resting on him. Yes, he was accompanied by a wife. The bride is Miss Ida Peirson of Cedar Rapids, a young lady who several years ago stayed awhile with Mr. Seely and was then going to school.

The funeral of a daughter of Burton Still took place yesterday. She was a married lady; did not ascertain her name.

Several new buildings are commenced and several more projected; besides much building in the shape of additions going on all over town. Now since the building spirit is up why not build a hotel this summer.

A trotting match between Turner's "Dick" and Hopkins' "Sarco" was to occur last Saturday, but owing to the bad condition of the track, it was postponed to the 30th inst.

A brass band is one of the new institutions of this town.

Yorkville: May 7th, 1864, the first number of the *Kendall County Record* made its appearance. A small, 24 column paper with a circulation of 288. Many there were who prophesied a short life to the bantling.

May 7th, 1874, we issue the 518th number of the *Record*, a large, 32 column paper with a circulation weekly of 1,340 and the paper is on a firm basis with the best corps of subscribers and contributors and advertisers the West can furnish.

Rev. Henry Minard of Oswego, State deputy, will be at Mack's Hall, Bristol Station, on Saturday evening next, May 9th, at 7 o'clock sharp for the purpose of organizing a Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry. Brother farmers, unhitch from the plow a little earlier that afternoon and try to be in good time as there is a great deal to do at a first meeting.

May 14: Nothing of any importance occurred the past week; all the lightning rodders are out; the farmers are busy and spend little time in town; the mechanics, especially those engaged in building, have more work than they can attend to. The ladies are cleaning house, preparing flower gardens or studying the spring fashions; the boys are down the river fishing, so with the exception of a little playing ball and pitching quoits towards evening, the streets are very quiet.

Norman T. Ferris, who has been one of the severely afflicted by sickness is out again and was in town the other day. All the sick in the Shumway family are also improving; this is the best news there is.

The Rev. W.L. Boyd preached a very energetic sermon Sunday morning at the close of which and after prayer he announced his resignation of the pastorate of the combined Presbyterian and Congregational churches to take effect in two weeks. It is said that he goes to Elgin.

The Deuel family have removed to the East.

A big rain this morning [May 12].

May 21: A large share of the attention of our people the past week was given to the Swing trail. The sympathy of the majority being in behalf of the accused.

The railroad bond question has been more or less the topic of street talk.

The financial measures before Congress are frequently alluded to, but the subject is too little understood for man to take a decided stand upon it. All, however, are in favor of that which will give the greatest prosperity, if we only knew what that was.

The Rev. Mrs. Greene, who of late temporarily supplied the Baptist pulpit, is now the pastor of that church, and services will be held there regularly under his ministrations.

W.A. Hawley and family have returned and moved in their residence.

There was quite a frost yesterday morning.

There have been several marriages of late, the last being that of Miss Maggie C. Hem to a Rev. Mr. Oehrig.

The Forepaugh's bill posters, with their fancy outfit, were in town yesterday afternoon embellishing the outside of the Post-office. The show, of course, is to take place at Aurora.

Many of our people had business in Aurora yesterday, something they wanted to buy which they couldn't get here (it wasn't Hippodrome--of course not), with the exception of

one of the Band boys, who kept up his tu-tu-tu (practicing on a brass horn), the town was very still.

The wedding of Miss Katie Rowan should have been mentioned last week. She was married to an Aurora gentleman by the name of Santry, I believe.

Yorkville: On Saturday evening, May 9th, 1874, a Grange was organized at Bristol Station by Rev. Henry Minard of Oswego under the name of "Bristol Grange." There were 22 persons present. Chester H. Helme was elected Master and I.K. Young secretary. The Grange will meet on Friday evening, the 22d, at Bristol Station, when an opportunity will be offered to others who may wish to join.

Died

Wing.--At his residence in Newark, Kendall County, on Tuesday, May 4th, 1874, of typhoid pneumonia, Brownell Wing, aged 54 years.

Mr. Wing was assessor for the town of Big Grove and was sick but a short time. He attended the assessor's meeting in Yorkville a few days previous to his death and seemed to be in excellent health.

May 28: A corps of surveyors have been examining the route for a railroad from Elgin to Joliet; the most feasible pass for it through this town seems to be by either Madison or Monroe street to where they intersect with Tyler, from whence it would curve out into P.G. Hawley's pasture.

O.E. Judson is preparing to retire from business; he sold his farm to a Mr. Jacob Constantine for \$10,000; it contains 200 acres with excellent improvements.

The funeral of Henrietta, aged 19 years, daughter of Edward Murphy of AuSable Grove, took place yesterday. The disease was dropsy. She was taken to Aurora for burial.

The Rev. W.L. Boyd is moving today to Elgin where he will take charge of a Presbyterian church.

Wayne's scales and office on Van Buren street near the warehouse are now complete.

M.J. Richards and others have been building new door yard fences.

Business quite lively today; a firm of traveling scissor grinders in town; also an umbrella mender.

Yorkville: The well known Marsh Harvester is now 17 years old, and up to this time there has been 25,000 of them put in the harvest field and this year there will be between nine and ten thousand of them made, making about 35,000 machines all told.

Says the Beacon of the 20th: Mann, of Oswego, was in the city on Tuesday driving a magnificent pair of colts--a Hambletonian and Bashaw. Together with other notable stock, we believe Mr. Mann will exhibit this team at the next Aurora Fair.

On the third page of this issue will be found the decisions of Judges Blodgett and Drummond of the United States Court at Chicago on a question of vital importance to Kendall County. It is as to the validity of the bonds amounting to \$50,000 issued by the County to aid in the construction of the Fox River Valley Railroad. As this matter promises to be one of vital importance to us as taxpayers, we will give her a resume of the matter from the election.

The project of building this railroad had been before the people since about 1852 and was discussed pro and con for years and strenuous efforts were made to have it built. In 1857 the State Assembly passed a bill (or it was supposed to have passed) authorizing the towns on the river and the county to vote aid to construct the road. After various mishaps, Washington Bushnell, Dwight Cameron, Plumb of Streator, and others took hold with a will to build the road and make what they could out of it. Aid was voted by towns in Marshall, LaSalle, Kendall and Kane counties and on the 30th of March 1869, an election was held in this county to vote for or against taking stock to the amount of \$50,000 in the proposed road. Meetings were held, an address published signed by many of our best and wealthiest citizens and the election came off on the day appointed with the following result: 1,074 yes to 805 no, majority for the subscription to stock, 269.

After the issuing of the bonds of the county and \$50,000 by Oswego, \$25,000 by Kendall, and \$15,000 by Fox, the work on the railroad went on, when a most barefaced swindle was perpetrated upon the people by the Fox River Company--Bushnell, Cameron, et al.--who leased the line in perpetuity to the CB&Q R.R. Company, without any practical benefit to the subscribers of the capital stock of the road.

It was then discovered that the law authorizing the vote on the subscription had never properly passed the State Assembly--that it had not been read a third time in the State Senate. The counties refused to pay the bonds and a test case was made up in LaSalle County and taken up to the Supreme Court. This court decided the bonds invalid by reason of the non-passage of the law under which the vote had been taken. Suit was then commenced in the United States Court at Chicago, resulting in a victory for the bond holders as set forth on the third page of this paper. The case will not rest till passed upon by the Supreme Court of the United States.

There are divers opinions as to whether we should pay these bonds or not. Many holding that they were issued in good faith and are now in the hands of innocent third parties, and should be paid. Others, again, seeing how egregiously we have been swindled, say that we are neither morally nor legally bound to pay them, but commence suit against the Fox River Company, break the lease to the CB&Q and recover the road. To the latter, we would say, as well try to pay the national debt with the earnings of the *Record* office as to recover anything from the Fox River Company.

June -- 1874

June 6: The horse race Saturday afternoon has been the most exciting event the past week; it was easily won by Sargo in three straight heats. The best time made was 3:05.

A refrigerator was put up at the Union Meat market; Leigh & Harmon were the architects; it is the greatest thing in the shape of a cooling apparatus that ever was got up, so says H.V.B. Young, the conductor of the establishment.

Mr. and Mrs. J.A. Durand of Belle Plaine, Ia., are here on a visit.

The religious doings Sunday were more than ordinary interesting. In the evening the several churches united in the decoration services, which were held in the Congregational church; the pulpit services were performed by the three clergymen conjointly.

Yorkville: J.R. Marshall, editor of the Record, and lady, have gone to Washington on the Editorial excursion.

The anniversary exercises of Jennings Seminary, Aurora, being Sunday, June 7th, and close Thursday, June 11th.

We received a short call from Dr. Wm. Putt of Lisbon last Wednesday. The doctor has just graduated from the Cincinnati Medical Institute, but has not yet decided where he will locate.

The corn in Kendall County is most all up and the farmers should keep it well cultivated.

Last week the *Record* office received \$100 worth of new wood type for posters, Etc. It is of the latest style and will enable us to do better work. Give us a trial when you want anything in our line.

June 11: The appearance awhile ago of an impending revolution has all subsided; things are quieting down again and are running in the same old ruts, no change has taken place recently; the same pane of glass is still out in the upstairs window of the brick store, the same big burdock plant is flourishing on the same old corner, as it has for years; the same business is transacted by the same men, the same prates amuse themselves evenings with the same game of dominoes, the old grumblers are grumbling yet, and the braggarts are bragging still. Susan, the old maid, has retired, the hotel building question is ignored, the cheese factory project is feebly supported, and the cremation scheme has few friends; but still a number of

#### NEW INSTITUTIONS

have spring up. The band is making very rapid progress; they occupy the third story of the Cooke building; then there are the two windmill manufactories now in operation the firm of which are Newton & Hoze and Armstrong and Buchanan; also, a new

#### MEDICINE MAN

Dr. W.T. Putt has established his office over Sutherland's boot and shoe store. A new

#### SPECIES OF BUG

has made its appearance; they feed upon sweet potato vines and are supposed to be very destructive; they are about half the size of the common potato bug and are very beautiful, their color being of a bright bronze.

Mr. Shumway has so far recovered as to again come to town.

The united congregations of Presbyterian and Congregationalists were ministered to last Sunday by a stranger; among the new ideas he advanced was that Paul was not a bachelor as commonly supposed, but a widower.

NaAuSay: The regular meetings of Union Grange, No. 1439, is on the fourth Tuesday of each month. There will be a special meeting next Friday eve, the 26th. A full attendance on the part of the members is requested, as it is impossible to advance the interests of the order with out.

SECRETARY

Yorkville: The fruit men of Kendall county say that the prospects for a heavy crop were never better than at the present time.

The Kendall Cornet Band has been engaged to play in Chicago on the 24th inst., at the laying of the Corner Stone of the new Government building.

This weather is rather rough on clean shirts and paper collars. We could most always make a collar last two weeks, but it can't be done these times.

The railroad time table has been changed a little this week. One more freight has been put on the road, making seven regular trains each way.

Thuneman & Niblo print a little 10x12 inch paper at Newark, in the interest of suffering humanity That's a good cause. It is only published occasionally.

June 18: The Baptist Sunday school picnic although not a very extensive affair was nevertheless quite a success. The band was one of the most attractive features; the boys had their best clothes on (they are not yet uniformed) and looked and played well.

A quartette of our ladies went to Joliet to visit some friends last week. They went over land with their own conveyance, namely with a team of M.L. Ashley's Coming home Saturday they found the bridge over a run partly washed away, some distance this side of Plainfield which, in crossing, the horses jumped thereby breaking the coupling of the wagon, spilling the ladies and other contents promiscuously about; the horses with the front wheels, ran as far as Gaylord's where they were caught. Mrs. Judson, and baby, were entirely uninjured. The others were all more or less bruised. Gaylord and Updyke fixed them up and brought them home.

The grade of Main Street north of the Congregational Church has been raised. May this good work be extended further on to the south side of that church; may the water

thereabouts be prevented from running across the street and that round about sewerage operation eradicated.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith of Chicago, namely the Smith whom we used to call when living here "Smith the broom-maker," are out on a visit to Stephen Fox.

Last night it being clear our astronomers were trying to get a glimpse of the new comet.

Yorkville: We hear that the voters of the town of Aurora have decided to pay the Fox River Railroad bonds, and not contest the matter further. In our individual opinion, had Kendall County done this as the bonds became due our people would have been saved a great expense and have maintained a reputation for integrity that we are in danger of losing. Then sue this swindling corporation and break the lease to the CB&Q RR Company.

Stone and lumber is on the ground at Fox Station to build a grain elevator with a capacity of about 12,000 bushels. Mr. Van Cleve says it will be running before fall.

Mr. Nate Loucks of Oswego had some close calls from lightning during the recent storm-several trees having been struck in his vicinity and the hail riddled the corn in one of his fields.

The steeple of the Presbyterian church in NaAuSay was struck by lightning during a recent storm, and somewhat damaged. The roof took fire, but the pelting rain put out the blaze instantly.

The Bristol Station Grange is officered as follows: Chester H. Helme, Master; Jams M. Gale, overseer; Arthur H. Barnes, Lecturer; L.J. Miller, Treasurer; James Young, Steward; M.W. Becher, Assistant Steward; Isaac K. Young, Secretary; Wm. H. Healy, Chaplain; Mrs. T.J. Miller, Ceres; Mrs. W.H. Healy, Flora; Mrs. J.M. Gale, Pomona; Miss Lizzie Grimwood, Lady Assistant Steward.

June 25: For big shows and celebrated lectures we are dependent on Aurora. Now for once, however, we are up with that great city, the comet can be seen here as advantageously as it can be there.

Considering the stringency of the money, the doubtful results of the pending measures before Congress in regard to it, the Coronet Band festival proved satisfactory to the parties interested. The band cleared \$51,05.

Dellie, six years of age, son of J.B. Hawley, was buried last week; he had been sick for some time.

Harlow Higby who has been here for a while on a visit to Doud's, has returned East.

The Oswego Township Bible Society held its annual meeting Sunday evening at the Congregational church.

Yorkville: If you want to be refreshed these hot days, go to Lee & Moore's and get a glass of soda from the Arctic fountain. It will do you good.

Mad dogs infest Joliet. What with the big sewer, the iron mills, and the penitentiary, that city is not in clover.

From the Morris Herald: Somebody left a nice plump baby boy apparently two or three weeks old on the steps of Mr. J.A. Taylor's house about six miles from our city on the Conklin road early on the morning of last Saturday. Mr. Thomas Carlton of Nettle Creek has adopted the little fellow and he is sure of a good home and kind treatment.

Mr. I.L. Carter of Bristol has one of the greatest labor savers yet introduced for the amelioration of our wives and help in the kitchen on wash-days. It is a patent steam washer, which cleans out the clothes without rubbing, and is very simply in its action.

July -- 1874

July 2: A serious runaway happened to S.G. Minkler last week. He in company with Florence his daughter, was returning from Aurora. Below Montgomery they passed a party coming out of the river with a fishing seine which somewhat frightened the horses, a span of colts; these boys, to whom it appeared fun, began making a hissing noise to still further excite the horses and they became uncontrollable and ran at a furious rate. The vehicle with the occupants was soon upset and left on the road. The horses came running into this town covered with foam with parts of the harness hanging to them. Mr. Minkler and daughter were picked up by somebody and brought to this place. From here they were taken to their home by Mr. Haight. It was found that Mr. M. had several ribs and a thumb broken besides numerous bruises; the principal hurt of Florence is in the spine. Dr. Lester is attending them. One of the horses was also severely injured; the wagon and harness are almost demolished.

Capt. Mann and Frank Hawley moved last Saturday with a portion of their fast stock to Aurora preparatory to the taking part in the races on the 4th. Mann took four trotters and Hawley three, which together with the baggage wagons--they occupy their own tents while there--made quite a display upon their departure.

A lady revivalist, Miss Benedict of Wisconsin, is now laboring at the Methodist Church in the Christian cause. She wore a black alpaca dress, plain collar narrow wrist ruffs, black hat with black lace and jet trimmings, no jewelry except a collar pin.

Yorkville: The youngest looking gentleman we know for his age is J.H. Wormley of Oswego, he of the beautiful orchard where the trunks of the trees look so clean and shiny. (Those trees are whitewashed with strong lye, hence their cleanliness.) Mr. Wormley is

67 years of age, has lived in this county 41 years and has lived the life of a pioneer with all its hardships. he has an iron constitution. His wife has been afflicted with a spinal disease for over a year, and recently her children presented her with an invalid chair, in which she takes great comfort.

July 9: The Glorious 4th in this town was rather a tame affair; there was no early noise of any kind, no interruption of sweet morning slumber, no use made of the cannon or anvils; the stock of firecrackers must have been small or else the boys are imbued with the retrenchment spirit, they commencing late in the forenoon.

Some children about the premises of Fred Leyh on the morning of the 3rd began the celebration of the 98th anniversary of American Independence, throwing up their firecrackers one was carried on the roof resulting in the entire destruction of the house and a lot of wood nicely piled up in the proximity of the house; the household goods were mostly saved.

Pretty much all of the lightning rod boys came home to spend the 4th and behaved quite nicely.

The term of school was closed without any demonstrations and Mr. Milo L. Mason, the principal, has returned to Ottawa.

Mr. Cyrus Cass had a brother 90 years of age arrive this morning on a visit.

Solomon Long, a colored man, while engaged in helping shingle Mr. W.W. Winn's new barn, fell from some staging on the inside a distance of about 20 feet striking on his back and causing the lower part of his body to be paralyzed. He was in a critical condition but is now reported as improving, the feeling again extending as far down as his knees. Dr. Van Deventer is attending him.

It would seem that heat has been inflated, an extra supply issued.

Yorkville: The weather has been and is excessively hot, and the drought is getting serious. Sunday and Monday the heat was intense, the mercury indicating 103 degrees in the shade as the hottest. Tuesday evening there was a fierce storm of wind from the north and dust filled the air. Rain was anxiously looked for, but beyond a slight shower, we were not favored.

If those boys who were in swimming under the Bristol bridge on Tuesday afternoon have no common decency their parents should incorporate a little into them by means of a switch. They were too big to conduct themselves in such a manner. They took especial pains when a lady and young girls were crossing the bridge to swim out and by various contortions indecently expose themselves. There is no fun in such actions.

July 16: No "Oswego" column.

Yorkville: Chicago was again visited by a disastrous fire on Tuesday afternoon and her loss is immense, with 15 blocks burned, covering 20 acres, 1,000 houses destroyed, and the loss at \$4,000,000.

The comet has rapidly glided down in the northwestern heavens, and will soon be out of sight.

Naperville has had a big fire and now a meeting has been called to see about buying a fire engine. "After the horse is stolen lock the stable."

S.G. Minkler was in town on Saturday and is recovering slowly from his recent accident. Miss Florence will be able to be about in a few days.

At Aurora on the Fourth, there was quite a display from this neighborhood. Capt. Ed Mann of Oswego had a chestnut mare, Annie Logan, in a green race and she did well, taking the second money.

July 23: (Intended for last week's paper, but the letter did not reach us in time): The windmill manufacturing companies lately organized are meeting with extra ordinary success; to get machines up fast enough for supplying the demand is now the only thing that bothers them.

The mental organization of Mrs. L. Briggs has been more or less deranging for the past year and gradually grew worse; arrangements have been effected to admit her to the insane asylum at Elgin to which she was taken last week by Constable Hagerman.

Miss Maggie Shepard has returned from Centralia, where she has been teaching.

William Richards, editor of the "Vandalia Union," has been here for several days on a visit to his folks and friends.

When a fellow lays awake from one to two hours Monday night to study up the contents for his regular communication to the newspaper; when he rises Tuesday at the peep of day, sacrificing that sweet morning slumber and for several hours industriously employs his brains and hands for getting out the sentences and writing up the article; when satisfactory completion is reached, the same duly prepared for the mail and placed in the Post office, the relief of a burden is sensibly felt. When again Wednesday p.m. he sees the mail coming bringing the papers and then contemplates in his mind the result, namely that in the course of an hour or so a large number of his fellow citizens will be imbued with the spirit of that article, the author praised, Christianity advance, and good will towards all promoted; when next--just to quiet the fear that the printers might have spoiled or damaged the article--he opens a paper but finds not a word of it there he realizes the uncertainty of human affairs and feels like exclaiming with Solomon, "All things are vanity and vexation of spirit." Such was the case with Yours &c.

The funeral of Mrs. Lovegrove, 92 years of age, mother of Mrs. A.B. Whipple, took place yesterday at the Congregational church. A few bits of her history which I chanced to hear are that she was born in New Hampshire, that she was the last of 13 brothers and sisters, and that outlived three husbands.

There used to be in olden times a young lady here by the name of Lydia Smith, namely a daughter of Ezra Smith; she became Mrs. John Cole and moved to New Jersey, which is over 20 years ago and now for the first time returned on a visit.

The religious portion of this community and a good share of the ungodly have been deeply interested in the series of meetings at the Methodist church which have been in progress upwards of three weeks and closed last night.

O.G. Turner is embellishing his place both inside and outside. Aurora painters are doing the work.

Rank has constructed a platform in front of his building. It is now supposed that that place will be completed this season.

Some of our young ladies have made a beginning in dress reform. They are now wearing the regular men's straw hats; the next thing they will have is our trouserloons if we don't watch out.

Yorkville: The comet has disappeared.

The light from Chicago's fire on the 14th could be plainly seen from Bristol.

Thursday we received a short call from Mr. Merritt Pratt, who used to carry on the photograph gallery in Yorkville. He is from Rantoul, where he is clerking in a store, having quit photographing.

Al Hurd, Ed Kilbourne, and Mr. Sleeps of Aurora passed through Yorkville on Tuesday evening in boats on a pleasure trip down the Fox and Illinois rivers trapping, hunting, and fishing.

July 31: More or less fault is found with my reports because being made up of too much church doings and little about the business affairs. My situation is such that during business hours I have to attend to my own business; the churches on Sunday are therefore about the only source from which to draw any local information.

The RR bond question is still a subject to harp upon.

Mrs. Dr. A. Gould of Chicago gave a free lecture at the Baptist church; I was prevented from going because it being to ladies only.

An exhibition of interesting and instructive magic lantern views too place at the Congregational church, a part of the proceeds being for the benefit of the Sunday school.

It is the saloon keepers that are doing the fixing up; two ornamental painters from Aurora have been engaged for some time in embellishing those establishments; Turner's windows are nicely lettered and the wire cloth door contains a number of illustrations, giving the place quite a fancy appearance. Troll's establishment is not yet completed.

Haight on Saturday received his first shipment of peaches. He also shipped a carload of timothy seed last week.

J.B. Hawley, as usual, is doing a large business in selling general merchandise and buying produce.

Charles F. Shaver received a large invoice of furniture, especially chairs.

If anybody has an ax to grind let them go to Richards, Edson & Co., they received a large lot of grindstones.

Levi N. Hall continues to supply this community with drugs, paints, stationery notions &c., he also keeps the patent medicines except the Vin Idria. Rank is agent for that. He (Hall) re-laid his sidewalk in front of his store yesterday.

The family groceries are supplied by Coffin & Son and Anton Miller; the boots and shoes by Henry Helle, Chas. Sutherland and Fred Sierp; the lightning rods by ever so many; meat by Wesley Edwards and C.A. Davis; John Lockwood makes and repairs the harnesses; Henry Ricker quietly pursues the business of watch tinkering, &c.; Sutherland & Strossman keep the restaurant; Jewell, Van Deventer, Lester, and Putt, M.D. relieve the people of bodily affliction and loose change; A.B. Smith, P.G. Hawley and Albert Snook help folks out of trouble or get them into worse; the Shoger boys are running the livery stable; Mrs. Smith is keeping a better hotel than ever; M.J. Poage is constantly receiving lumber; John W. Chapman is scheming in politics and economy.

Beecher and Tilton received a large share of attention and everybody now knows that there are two such men and that they have trouble existing between them.

Early Sunday morning this town was visited by a heavy wind; it made many get up earlier than they would have done otherwise; it blew down a few trees, upset a windmill, broke the brake chain on a freight car and run it to the end of the sidetrack, it upset many of the shocks of train in the fields, &c.

If there is nothing without a cause, it would be well then for someone to study out the cause of the droughts; can there nothing be done towards bringing about a rain?

The base ball trial game between a club from Yorkville and Oswego Saturday afternoon was not completed. As far as they went, Oswego says it was a draw and Yorkville claims to be a few ahead.

Yorkville: No rain yet.

Mr. S.G. Minkler made the *Record* folks happy on Monday by leaving a basket of nice harvest apples at this office.

Last Saturday was certainly the most oppressive day we had this summer. The mercury ranged from 105 degrees to 106 degrees at hottest, according to location. The wind blew hard but was like a simoom from the Arabian desert--the common expression was that it was like the air from a hot oven. And still there is no rain.

Last Saturday afternoon the boys from Yorkville and Bristol took the 2:20 p.m. train for Oswego to play a social game of ball with the Oswego Club. Mr. George Seeley was selected as umpire and the mercury stood at 104 degrees in the shade, and the wind about "90 minutes" higher, the game commenced with the Oswego club at the bat. At the close of the fifth inning the game was closed with a score of nine for Oswego and fifteen for Yorkville; the Yorkville boys having to take the train to get back home. The Oswego boys wanted to call it a draw game. Mr. King of the Yorkville club, caught a ball handsomely in the right eye, and a little later an Oswego boy got an "old settler" in his left eye.

August -- 1874

Aug. 6: The hay press barn, together with about 100 tons of hay--75 of which was pressed--a perpetual hay press, horse power, scales and some other implements, burned Sunday afternoon. The property was owned by T.F. Baldwin of Chicago and in charge of J.E. Robbins; the loss is about \$4,000; the insurance on it \$2000. The greatest exertion was put forth to save Mrs. Moore's barn which was close by. Wayne's elevator was much in danger, but by energetic work it was kept from getting on fire. Wm. Varner's house, Danforth's shop building, and Armstrong's broom factory all caught fire but were extinguished. Dr. Putt, who was one of the most venturesome fighting the fire, became overheated and had to be carried away and has not entirely recovered yet. The fire department worked well but there was a great deal of unnecessary work done after the barn was down.

The post office has been moved from the corner where it was in operation for about 19 years to the center of the block across the street. The inside arrangements of the new office are about as crooked as they could have been made. The change is not favorably regarded by the public.

William Holyoke, the station agent, has returned, at which many of our citizens of both sexes are delighted.

Thomas J. Seely and wife have moved to Chicago.

Yorkville: Delightful rain Wednesday.

Dr. Putt of Oswego was in Yorkville on Tuesday still suffering from the effects of his exertion at the fire in that village on Sunday. He was overcome with the heat while working to save an adjoining barn and fell insensible. He was carried to a house, remedies given, and recovered in about half an hour.

Aug. 13: The livery stable has changed hands; Joseph Failing is now the proprietor; he traded his farm for it, receiving it is said \$4,300 to boot.

O.G. Turner has been suffering of late from a delirious malady; some days ago he was prevailed upon to leave the saloon and for a while stay with his uncle, Mr. House of Seward. Mrs. Turner went with him; Saturday he died under the following circumstances: In the morning he felt uncommonly well, eating a hardy breakfast and expressing a desire to return to Oswego; it was then proposed that they would attend a picnic and Mr. House would bring them home towards evening; Mr. House went perform some work and Turner said he would go out in the grove and pick a few blackberries; not returning search was immediately instituted; it was supposed he was on his way to Oswego so Mr. House, Mrs. Vandyke, and Turner's wife started to overtake him and came all the way to this place; not finding him there they started to return and as driving out of town were met by another party with the intelligence that he had been found about 3 miles from House's in a field when breathing his last, having pulled up all the grass within reach. That Turner's death was not ordinarily providential, I think will not be disputed. For a number of months he has been most of the time under the influence of liquor and he plainly showed his end would not be distant unless there was a change of course. His funeral services took place Sunday at the residence of Mr. House and he was buried at Plainfield. [Turner was the owner of one of Oswego's two saloons]

A number of young people arranged a surprise and housewarming party to Rank in his new quarters Wednesday evening; that it was a success as far as surprise was concerned there can be no question.

A menagerie consisting of two men, a bear, and a drum came along the other day and exhibited in the streets. The bear was a good upright walker, would dance, shake hands with and kiss the ringmaster, carry a pole, wear a hat, roll over, etc. The man with him had a great deal to say but nobody could tell what he meant; the other man attended to the collections; the drum didn't amount to much.

In the shape of improvements in the business part of the town, the front of the drug store was repainted and screened. Shaver changed the front of his store from brown to white. Chapman also repainted his front and a new sidewalk was constructed in front of the restaurant.

Yorkville: The *Aurora Herald* talks about the young men who went down Fox River in boats to Streator! Buy a geography.

The Baptist Sunday Schools of Bristol, Oswego, and Pavilion have a picnic in Black's grove today (Thursday). Although this picnic is conducted by the Baptists, everybody is invited.

One of the best and handiest things to have in the house is a rubber portable bath-tub now being introduced into DeKalb and Kendall counties by Mr. Thomas Right of Sandwich. By this invention you get all the benefits of a bath-room without the expense usually necessary. This bathing apparatus weighs but 15 pounds, can be hung up on a wall, and is easily handled. Mr. Wright has already introduced several into our county.

Last Thursday the Newark Ball Club came up the river to give the Yorkville boys a turn at the national game. Newark won 19-16.

Aug. 20: All but last evening the past week was passed through very quietly; most everybody would secure a daily paper, sit down and quietly peruse the great scandal. The sympathies are about equally divided between the parties but everybody hopes that Henry may be innocent, Theodore mistaken, Elizabeth pure, Frank don't know anything, and the Woodhull never more come back to America. Last night, however, a fellow from abroad (the capital I believe) in the first place got up a show in the street without taking out license; while the constable was engaged in calaboosing him, a tripartite fight was got up among our boys; another stranger being present who thought it unfair for two to be against one undertook to hold one back, by which means he got into the muss; the disturbance however lasted but a minuet or so and no harm was done except that one of the young men got his pantaloons' leg torn.

This town, within a week, was favored with much information on spiritualism. Tuesday evening, a Mr. J.O. Barrett from Wisconsin gave us a lecture. The weather was very hot; the audience was not very large. He explained the two natures--material and spiritual--of man combined in this life, citing cases, especially Swedenborg. That the Bible is mainly based on spiritualism was shown and many of the spiritual manifestations there recorded pointed out, all the prophets and holy men were spiritualists. The charge of free love against spiritualists was referred to; if that meant free lust that he wanted none in his, but he believed in free love separated from lust &c.

Last evening, Mrs. Nellie Williams, who with her husband is at present sojourning in this place, delivered a lecture entitled "Is there any good in spiritualism." It was very finely written, quite flowery. She attributed to spirit power the many and great achievements of this age; she also held the Bible's foundation to be spiritualism, reading portions of it and claiming it for the Spiritualist.

The picnic of the ladies of the Cutter household and the Misses Child in Cutter's grove Saturday was a splendid affair, it was said. Over 60 were present.

Joseph Erwin's house was struck by lightning during the storm the other night and considerably shattered. In the village, several trees were blown down.

John W. Chapman has commenced the repairs on the old post office building.

Mrs. Julia M. Bennett after quite a prolonged visit has returned to her home in Missouri.

Miss Cole, who with her parents are visiting O.E. Judson, is dangerously sick. Dr. Putt is attending her.

Business has been very brisk.

The riotous proceedings of last night are to be judicially investigated today.

Yorkville: THE BALLOON!

Great Attraction at the Kendall County Fair

The Committee take great pleasure in announcing to the citizens of this and surrounding counties that they have made arrangements with the celebrated balloon manager of the west, Prof. R.A. Palmer, to exhibit and inflate his mammoth balloon at the Fair, on which occasion, Providence permitting, Prof. R.A. Palmer, the champion aerial gymnast of the world, will make one of his magnificent and thrilling ascensions, as above announced, in his mammoth aerial ship. This is the largest caloric balloon in the world, equal in capacity to the one to be used by Prof. Wise in his contemplated balloon voyage to Europe.

Aug. 27: Henry [P.] Farley is no more. A week ago Sunday he was apparently in good health and Thursday afternoon was a corpse. His sisters were on a visit in Ohio, were telegraphed for as soon as his case became alarming, but only arrived in time to attend the funeral, which took place Friday afternoon. The remains were taken to the NaAuSay cemetery for burial. Henry was 23 years of age; he was one of the most steady, exemplary young men in town. [Son of H.W. Farley. He died at the home of his father]

Prof. D.H. Taylor is again one of this community; he arrived from Maine last week and is in excellent health and condition. He met almost immediately with an aggravating and painful casualty. While walking a short distance out of town to see a friend, he was on the way bitten by a dog; the injury, however, was not serious.

A serious accident happened out at AuSable Grove. Mike Ragan was to work for John Cherry, in driving a team the whiffletree came out, the tongue dropped down, the horses started on a run, he was jerked from the wagon and much injured. His backscalp was almost torn from the skull. Dr. Lester rendered the requisite surgical services.

Mrs. Turner has moved in the country, perhaps to her parents; the saloon was again opened yesterday by George Burkhart.

M.J. Pogue has leased for a term of years the Shoger premises and is now establishing the lumber yard below and just across the street from the railroad track, bringing it and his dwelling and coal yard in close proximity and making his business arrangements very handy. He has lately received vast piles of lumber and has now on hand a very large stock of all kinds; he is also receiving a variety of hard and soft coal.

J.S. Seely is establishing a large windmill system on his place for irrigating and other purposes. The Marshall Wind Engine Co. is doing the work.

There was some change in the pulpit services last Sunday. Rev. S.B. Goodenow of Earlville preached in the Congregational church (intends to preach there again next Sunday.) An Israelitish Christian preacher--a former Jewish Rabbi--preached in the afternoon at the Baptist and evening at the Methodist church. The afternoon discourse was intended for children. That of the evening when there was a large congregation in attendance, "The Jews a Peculiar and the Chosen People of God." he had with him the holy garments, the phylactery and other Jewish worshipping paraphernalia in which he regaled himself, showing their uses and origin, the manner of Jewish worship and devotional exercises, dwelling upon the feasts and fastings. He pointed out the peculiarities of the Jews, their keeping themselves a distinct people among all nations. He sang and prayed some in Hebrew, that language, and the Greek, Latin, German, French, and English are all at his tongue's end. His zeal in Christianity now seems to be unbounded.

The need of a more extensive hotel is sorely felt in this town.

Politics are quite dull.

Yorkville: The Kendall County Fair begins next Tuesday. Remember that a successful fair benefits all classes and adds to the prosperity of the county.

Rand, Tiffany & Co., some four weeks ago bought the Montgomery Sash Factory from the Richardsons, and have since improved the methods of doing business greatly to the benefit of those who deal at the factory. They propose doing work on time, at the lowest living prices and use the best material.

September -- 1874

Sept. 3: This week the minds of the readers of the *Record* will be occupied with the County Fair, so it is not very likely that anybody cares to read what I shall offer; accordingly, I will be brief.

Martin Hinchman, 66 years of age, was buried last week. The funeral rites were held at the Baptist church, he having been a member of that persuasion. Mr. H. was one of the old residents of this town.

The school commences today; Prof. Taylor, the principal, has been busy for days getting the house in order Mr. T. is one of the most practical teachers, he knows that the success of a school depends much on the surroundings, consequently is bound to have everything just as convenient and pleasant as circumstances will permit and he has well succeeded in making the old house cheerful. The ceilings and walls are whitewashed; the floors

scrubbed clean, the furniture varnished, the desks and seats rearranged in the most convenient manner, the yard cleaned up, and everything in splendid order. Miss Florence C. Child and Miss Julia Russell will be the assistant teachers.

The condition of Miss Cole at O.E. Judson's, who has been laying very low with fever for several weeks, is reported as somewhat improved.

A little unpleasantness was exhibited between certain parties that ought to have known better at Troll's saloon one day last week, by which one of the fancy lettered windows went to smash.

In this land of the free, &c., a man of course has a right to occasionally enjoy a day in town in a boozy condition, but he has no legal right thereby to neglect the wants of his team; to abuse one's own or anybody else's dumb brutes is by the statute made punishable. Horses tied to a hitching post for 14 consecutive hours without food, water, or any protection against flies this season of the year are cruelly treated.

An itinerant firm was selling notions, &c., auction-style, in the old Sherwood building one evening last week.

Politically, the Circuit Judgeship is now topmost in interest, the drinking propensities of the candidates receiving much attention. The Hon. Isham White of Aurora was down Saturday evening advocating the claims of Judge Parks. I missed the opportunity of attending the meeting, the notice of its taking place having slipped my mind, but all who were present seemed to be convinced that he is a good speaker. These candidates for Judge ought to define their position on the money question; it is important to know whether they are for imposing fines upon us to be paid with cheap or costly money.

Our music band will doubtless be soon ahead of everything of the kind in the country; the boys exhibit extraordinary zeal and energy.

F.T. Baldwin is making preparation for rebuilding the hay-press barn. It is to be fire-proof and differently located.

The old post office is undergoing extensive repairs.

Yorkville: The peach festival at the AuSable Presbyterian church on Thursday night was a success financially and socially. Eighty dollars were realized for the church. Judge Parks was there and says it was one of the most pleasant entertainments he ever attended.

Sept. 10: J.J. Grooms has sold his residence to Levi N. Hall. Mr. G. is making preparations to move to Kansas and join his son.

The repairs of the old postoffice building are about complete; John Lockwood will move his harness shop there this week.

The Aurora Fair will cause this a dull week with us.

Most of the lightning rod men are now home on a visit; M.C. Chapman is the last arrival; Mark looks well and is full of experience and knowledge.

Miss Fanny Murphy spent Sunday at home. Mrs. Jolly of Chicago, her granddaughter, Miss Jeneson of Jacksonville, and a Miss Crothers are here on a visit.

T.F. Baldwin arrived this morning to attend to his interests in this town.

Yorkville: The election on Tuesday for Judge to fill vacancy in the Circuit resulted in the election of Mr. Cody of Naperville. There were two candidates, Parks and Cody, both unsatisfactory to the people and it was Hobson's choice--Cody received the support of all classes and parties. Total vote in Kendall County was 346 for Parks and 636 for Cody. Cody is elected by about 1,500 majority in the Circuit.

Sept. 17: The happiest persons now in town, or at last they should be, are Mr. and Mrs. John E. Robbins; they arrived yesterday as bridegroom and bride; the latter was Miss Mary Hubbell of Turner Junction. The bad boys last night gave them a charivari serenade.

Ed Walker is the most prosperous man in this community. Nature is bestowing her gifts on him with a lavishing hand. His possessions increase double that of the ordinary rate; he is raising twin calves and twin colts, and now--to cap the climax--he is favored with twin boys.

The Aurora fair was largely attended by our people, but they did not, as a general thing, speak very favorably of it; it proved quite costly and aggravating to Mrs. Munday; she was robbed of her gold watch. Ed Mann came in for a share of the horse races; Mrs. Parkhurst has done well on flowers; E. Sutherland & Co. made independent fortunes in the catering business. David Goudie bought a young premium Durham bull; Thomas Goudie was kicked by a horse. One of our citizens got abused there by a grease-spot extractor; another lost money on pitching rings, etc.

J.B. Hawley has sold out his store to his brothers, William and Albert; J.B.'s health would not permit him to be confined to the store. He is again going on the farm.

John McClain has sold his farm to Wm. Parker.

George D. Wormley met with a serious loss the other day. He drove his best team to Chicago and on getting there, both of his horses were taken sick. One died, and the other he left there is in a very precarious condition.

Henry Helle is building an addition to his place of business.

Wm. Wagner, his daughter, Mrs. David Hall, and Nellie, her daughter, will start tomorrow on a visit to old Virginia.

A number of New Jerseyans are here visiting their friends, among which are a brother of White Cole, a Carkhuff, a Smith, and a Kline.

By the revival meetings held evenings at the Baptist church for a few weeks past, no general interest was awakened. Nevertheless, the result has proved quite favorable. Sunday afternoon they gathered at the river and administered the sacrament of baptism in the original form on eight new converts, namely: Mr. and Mrs. George Parker and Clara, their daughter; Mr. and Mrs. George C. Inman; Mrs. Orin Curtis; Mrs. Powers; and Miss Alice Head.

The funeral of a six months old child of Joseph Pearce of Shabbona took place at the residence of his father, Daniel Pearce, Sunday.

Somebody stole Gen. George W. Avery's pocket-book, containing \$49, last night. No clue to the burglar.

Yorkville: The *Batavia News* says: The water in the river still continues low, and every morning the basin is drained by the paper mill while the other manufactories in its neighborhood using water power are obliged to shut down for the want of water to run.

Sept. 24: Among the arrivals last week was a young man, a son of Denmark, who being a stranger in a strange land naturally relied somewhat on the assistance of those he met in getting along. He fell in with two of our young hoodlums, namely Levi Avery and John Koeslinger, who became deeply interested in him, acting on the old adage, "if you meet a stranger, take him in." In accompanying him to the hotel after dark, Levi, on the way, offered to sell a knife at the very low price of ten cents. The Dane evidently thinking it a good bargain, concluded to make the purchase. One of the party lit a match to enable him to see to make the payment, but no sooner had he exposed his pocket-book when it was snatched or knocked out of his hand, and Levi ran off. The next day the boys were brought before the police court. John made it appear that he had nothing to do with the robbery, and had no knowledge of Levi's intention previous to the set, and being he didn't run, nor try to avert arrest, he was discharged. Levi was bound over to await the action of the grand jury and in default of bail was sent to jail where doubtless he will enjoy himself as well as circumstances will permit.

Asher B. Hall, the Galveston, Texas postmaster, is spending a few days with us and is in excellent health and spirits.

Quite a number of our citizens went to the Chicago Exposition today.

J.B. Hunt has sold out to his brother, Charles; this though, happened several weeks ago.

George W. Warner has bought or is about buying the Colver property.

A while ago I mentioned the windmill works of Mr. Seely and promised to say more about them after I had made an inspection of them. I went there the other day for that purpose but got my eyes and mind on his grapes, of which he has a large variety.

Yorkville: The city council of Rochelle are taking steps to have gas works established there. They are to grant to the company the exclusive right to manufacture gas for 30 years within city limits.

October -- 1874

Oct. 1: Levi Hall is putting a new tar and gravel roof on his store building.

The foundation for the new hay-press establishment is rapidly progressing; Ed. Richards, Chris. Hem, Joe Gentsberg and others are the masons.

Coffin & Son have put up a new chimney at their store.

Henry Helle's addition to his business place is nearly completed.

Richards Edson & Co. are making preparations to cement their big cistern under their workshop.

All our merchants have been receiving new goods.

W. Holyoke wears a new suit of clothes bought at Haight's.

C.L. Murdock is sick down in Delavan, his wife is there to minister to his wants; Emma is on a visit to Chicago causing the absence of the entire family.

John Chapman is getting old and I fear we haven't another man to take his place. We are now approaching an election but hardly a word is said about it. In this district especially should the campaign be interesting as money is the thing which should concern everybody for by it all our actions are controlled and our destiny shaped.

The cornet band is still as energetic as ever. It was out serenading one evening last week.

A professor Kellogg has been lecturing on mental alchemy and exhibiting its power on subjects, Saturday and last evening. A number were partially brought under his control.

T.F. Baldwin has commenced the building of a large structure, and in the most substantial manner near the railroad track; in order to give it due proportions, he wants part of the street, to which objection is made by property owners near by, this street (Adams) has been little used as a thoroughfare especially south of Washington so ready permission

was given to the railroad company to occupy a large portion of it, also to Mr. Wayne, to partly build his elevator on it; to shut out Baldwin now seems hardly right.

Oct. 8: That we are politically defunct, done for, and played out has been fully demonstrated last Wednesday evening. Although Mr. Campbell was to point out a way by which the laborer might improve his condition, the poor find relief, and burdens generally be lifted from our shoulders, yet but a few were present to hear him. Mr. C. doubtless is a great thinker, but an inferior orator and therefore illy adapted for a stump-speaker.

At the close of Prof. Kellogg's lectures on mental alchemy, etc., last week a class of about eight or ten was formed to learn the science so the mystery of subjecting mind to mind remains in our midst and important results may be expected.

Abraham Van Fleet, one of the older settlers, is no more; having spent a useful life of 81 years, he died last week. He came here in 1835, took up a piece of land about two miles northeast of Oswego, which he converted into a nice farm and lived there since.

We have now an imbroglio on hand, namely whether or not Mr. Baldwin shall be allowed to partly build in an unused street; a large majority of our people are doubtless willing he should; P.G. Hawley, who owns the lots on the opposite side of the street, is the principal opponent.

Levi N. Hall, with a force of men, is now engaged in re-roofing his store building; these coal tar coverings have caused the owners of the brick block a good deal of trouble and expense.

Frank Van Doozer is now in the tonsorial business, or in other words, running the barbershop.

James Cliggitt of St. Louis arrived last night; Robinson Barr, of Iowa is also here on a visit and Geo. W. Parker of Poplar Grove, ditto.

The Wind Engine Company is putting up a wind-mill for Norm Ferris.

The Post Office has been furnished with a sign.

Can there not be something devised for public diversion and instruction during the winter?

Yorkville: We have received a copy of the *Daily Salt Lake* (Utah) *Tribune* from A.B. Platt. It is interesting for a Gentile to read, as it gives Brigham Young and his polygamous cohorts particular fits.

The Hutchisons are at work at the Ice Houses again, getting ready for the winter's work.

Oct. 22: The most important and gratifying event the past week was the wedding of two sisters at one and the same time, or double wedding, as it was called. It was gratifying because the brides were two of our best looking highly esteemed and most accomplished young ladies, namely the Misses Lettie and Bessie Gillespie--usually, however, known by the name of Richards--and the grooms Frank Hawley and L. Hord, the latter from Aurora, Lettie becoming Mrs. Hawley and Bessie Mrs. Hord. The wedding occurred Wednesday afternoon at the residence of M.J. Richards. The attire of the brides ought to be described by somebody who understands the subject. I will merely say that the dresses were of very rich silk poplins, the color I should call slate, but doubtless there is a more appropriate name for it, that of Lettie's being a shade lighter than the other--trimmed with satin of a similar color and made in the most elegant style. Their hair was dressed with orange blossoms and other fixings were correspondingly beautiful. On the 5:21 train they embarked on their wedding trip, the depot being full of friends to see them off, Mr. and Mrs. Hawley going to Minnesota and Mr. Hord and wife to Kentucky, the native state of Mr. H.

This community was surprised last week by the sudden death of Mrs. Seth Walker. There was nothing premonitory of it, she apparently was in her usual good health sitting in the rocking chair knitting and at the same time conversing with Mrs. Samuel Foster there on a visit when suddenly throwing up her hands, she expired in a few minutes. Heart disease was the cause of her death, her age being 63 years. The funeral services took place at her house.

William Hinchman, 52 years old, died of consumption. His funeral took place Sunday forenoon from the Baptist church. He leaves a widow and (I think) two small children.

There has been for years past a sort of political ostracism resting upon this town; to be from Oswego was sufficient for the rejection of any candidate for a county office by either the Republican or Democratic conventions; it would seem that in this respect the Reformers have reformed, for they really have given us a nominee, namely Dr. Putt for the office of Coroner.

The minister of the Oswego Methodist Episcopal Church said goodbye to his congregation. The Rev. J.J. Tobias and his wife were moving out of town. The Rev. W.K. Beans was appointed the new minister.

John Tique [Tigue] has bought the McMahon property.

Yorkville: The new bridge at Millington is completed and our neighbors are happy.

1,601,000 cigars have been made in Aurora since last January, and still people complain of hard times.

Oct. 29: A terrible case, which should have been reported last week, but was overlooked. A thrashing company, of which Tommy Edwards is a member, was engaged some two weeks ago doing a job for John Collins. Tommy was oiling the machinery while in

motion, which in some way caught his cloths and commenced drawing him in and winding him up--I am not certain, but think it was the tumbling rod. By extraordinary efforts, he succeeded in extricating himself, regardless of the consequences to his garments, which were all stripped off of him, except the wristbands of his shirt. Those present say that his escape was nearer a miracle than anything they ever seen or heard of. A few slight bruises was all the injury he received.

Pitiless death has again invaded the Shumway family and this time it took the head of the household. Mr. James B. Shumway died last Wednesday at the age of 56 years, having been sick but a few days. His funeral took place the next day at the house, Rev. Mr. Prentice of Aurora officiating. Mr. S. was a very quiet and unassuming man, a member of the Congregational Church, one of our best citizens, a native of Massachusetts, but has been living for many years on his farm in this township.

Mrs. Wm. Parker has returned from a few months' visit to Canada, with much improved health.

Mr. J.J. Grooms, after many years of residence in this neighborhood, has, last week, moved to Pottawattomie county, Kansas.

W.O. Parke, one of our former townsmen, merchant and postmaster, spent a day among us last week.

Electricity and everything connected with it is no longer a mystery. Moses J. Richards has succeeded, doubtless by severe study, in getting the definite comprehension of its properties, workings, and the laws governing it. He ought to write a book or go out lecturing on the subject. It would be a great benefit to mankind.

It is said that two of our citizens without much fuss paid \$5 into the town treasury for the luxury of trotting over the bridge.

Alderman Charles Avery has made the most substantial public improvement ever got up in this town, namely a hitching post in front of his residence. It is an oblong hardhead set up endways in the ground with a stout ring securely fastened in the top if it; it looks as though it would be good for the next 6,000 years.

Samuel Hagerman is now operating the old Union meat market in the Smith block; by buying your meats and sausages of the City Marshal, the transactions of course will be according to the laws and ordinances.

Yorkville: Next Tuesday is election day. Leave your farm, your shop, your store, your business long enough to go to the polls and vote--and vote the straight Republican ticket.

Last Thursday, Mr. Shel. Wheeler was in town and reports his father, hon. A.K. Wheeler, was somewhat better. The old gentleman has been quite ill for several weeks.

William Bradford, a colored brother, is in Yorkville jail for stealing a watch from Mr. Briggs at Oswego. It is said that William is a tough cuss and has been a resident of Joliet in times past, as a boarder at the State's hotel.

Last Saturday night was a lively time in Yorkville. Everybody stayed up to see the moon eclipsed and some of them found it hard keeping awake without something to drink. About 11 o'clock some had got a little too much "fire water" down and a general uproar was the consequence.

November -- 1874

Nov. 5: An Auroraite named Fox, alleged to have committed a rape on a young girl and leaving her tied to a tree in the outskirts of Aurora, was arrested last week near this town by the marshal of that city, assisted by Constable Hagerman of this place. The fellow undertook flight when he noticed the Aurora official, but his course being intercepted by Hagerman, he quietly surrendered himself to the latter; subsequently, however, he made violent resistance against formal arrest.

A ball under the management of the Band took place Friday evening.

Freddie, son of W.W Wormley, got on a horse Saturday and forded the river to drive home the cows. In riding through the woods he was thrown from the horse breaking one of his forearms and severely bruising his fact. In this condition, without being daunted, and cold as it was that day, he recrossed the river by wading and went to his home. And by the way, he is naturally sore from a former injury, somewhat lame. Now this was an exhibition of "real boy's intrepidity." Dr. Lester attended to his injuries.

Speaking of the Wormleys, it may not be out of place to mention here that they are quite numerous in this neighborhood and still on an increase. A new one--a near relative of George D., with whom he is putting up--has made his appearance. Furthermore, by this arrival, Mose Richards has been raised to the dignity of Grandpa.

All the lately married people have returned from their bridal tours.

Mr. and Mrs. D.H. Hale, formerly of this place, who have been spending the summer traveling in Europe, are now here on a visit to J.A. Kinney.

The Kinley family have removed back from Aurora and are again occupying their house near the depot.

Michael Gallagher, the very efficient section boss for this portion of the track ever since the railroad got into operation, has resigned his position.

Today, all true blue American freemen will turn out to perform their duty of saving the country. The Republican, to save it because they have proven themselves the only

competent party to keep it safe; the Reformers to save it because by letting the management of it remain where it is now, it would surely go to the bad; and Democrats to save it (although hereabouts not in the saving business on their won hook) because it cannot be safe so long as they are out in the cold.

Yorkville: Our first snow fell on Friday afternoon last, Oct. 30th. In the evening the ground was white.

Those wishing hedge plants of second year growth can be supplied at the residence of Geo. Smith six miles south of Yorkville.

Nov. 12: The political excitement the past week has been of such momentous proportions as to obscure all local affairs, and I am therefore almost entirely destitute of items. As regards the results of the campaign there has been no formal jubilation had here. The Democrats content themselves with grinning; the Independents look at the result somewhat with apprehension. They don't know what to think about these Democratic factories all over the country. My individual opinion is that the remodeling of parties is not far distant and that therefore this result is of little consequence; that the money questing must be the issue of division; hard money and free banking or the old order of things--on the one hand and government legal tender currency convertible into bonds on the other.

Why would it not be best to settle this political imbroglio now by calling the vote of the State of New York a tie and draw cuts for it; otherwise it will be called a "steal of the presidency" no matter which way it may go.

Hopkins & Schram have succeeded Davis & Co. in the upper meat market on Main street.

Oliver Hebert has transferred his entire blacksmithing establishment to J.H. Sinclair; all the different branches of that business will now be prosecuted there and all work promptly attended to.

Hubbard & Mann constitute a new firm in the broom making business.

Michael Gallagher has again resumed the boss-ship of this section of the railway track.

Andrew Buchanan will start today for his new home in Indiana.

J.A. Kinney and wife departed this morning for a new location; California is their destination.

W.K. Beans, the new Methodist pastor, is causing the fitting up of the Jolly house for the reception of his family.

Some very nice monuments have been erected in the cemetery; that of Laura Judson's is an exceedingly fine one.

Sunday afternoon, the weather being very beautiful, a large crowd of our people gathered at the river near the bridge to witness the bestowal of the baptismal rite according to the manner of the Baptist church on Mrs. Eveline Hinchman.

Friday, Nov. 20, 1874, commencing at 10 o'clock, Wm. W. Wormley will sell at his residence one mile from Oswego on the Oswego and Aurora road, horses, cows, heifers, yearlings, Durham spring bull calves, shoats, and breeding sows. Dave Hall will do the selling.

Yorkville: The result of the elections on the 3d inst have been adverse to the Republican party in a measure and has given the lower house of Congress to the Democrats by a large majority. But the Senate and the president can control the House so that no mischief will be done.

The Democrats laugh now, and they can enjoy it for two years. But in '76 the Republicans will wake up and give them a turn that will make them shiver.

Nov. 19: The funeral of Mrs. Emeline A. Young of AuSable grove took place Saturday from the Baptist church. Elder Button of Aurora performing the solemn rites. Mrs. Y. was born in the state of New York, was a daughter of Joel Warner, one of the earliest settlers near this town; she became the wife of Henry A. Clark and from that marriage five grown up children are remaining; several years after the death of Mr. C. she was married to Mr. H.W. Young. Her age was 53 years.

Mrs. Lochmiller, quite an old lady, died night before last. She resided in the German settlement.

Among the sick, both Mr. Teller and Mr. Burr are now quite poorly.

The ice procurable in the mill pond is to be exported hereafter; an ice house 102 by 60 feet is now being constructed near there, or on The Patch, as the place [Troy] is usually called, by Rabe & Esch, Chicago firm.

This place contains a good deal of inventive and mechanical genius; Mr. Farley's new system of transportation is before the public. One individual is waiting to get it started so as to add an improvement, substituting reversible rollers for the wheels, by which more than one-half of the power and all the expense of lubrication can be saved. Another has a perpetual motion all complete in theory and merely wants the time of constructing a machine for showing the practical results. The boys in the hardware store--I suppose Eugene principally--have got up an engine on a small scale. The boiler is nothing more than a tea kettle and gasoline is used for fuel. It is a splendid piece of workmanship and runs like a top.

Yorkville: The ice company will put up a larger engine for the winter's work at the Yorkville ice houses and hands are now engaged in other improvements.

Died

Mrs. Emeline A. Young, formerly Mrs. Henry A. Clark, at her residence in AuSable Grove. Funeral from the Baptist church at Oswego, Nov. 14th, 1874.

Nov. 26: The death of G.H. Teller occurred last Wednesday morning. The funeral took place the next day afternoon at the house. A large concourse of our people were present to pay their last respects to the deceased; only the ladies could find room inside the house. Mr. T. was not quite 50 years of age; he was one of our leading and most energetic men. He will be much missed by this community.

Fred Leih [Leigh] was in Aurora Wednesday. On his return he brought along a load of sash, doors, &c., for his new house, which he is building. At the Wormley railroad crossing, he and Billy Cummins, with his train, happened there at the same time, or rather Fred was there a little bit first, but Billy didn't give him time to clear the track and shoved his wagon off rather unceremoniously, promiscuously scattering it and its contents. Fred was picked up by the train men, put aboard, the train, and taken to Bristol Station. He was brought home the next day and is doing well and in a short time will be a good as ever. The horses received no injury.

Mr. I.F. Arnold's hired man, Russell, on returning from a hunt and getting over a fence, accidentally discharged the gun into his hand injuring it severely.

Thanksgiving day is to be celebrated by divine worship in the forenoon; by eating turkey at noon by those who can afford it, and by dancing in the evening of those both old and young who know how and delight in that diversion.

There was a little bit of unpleasantness at Troll's saloon the other day by which an old man lost a tooth or two and a young man was threatened with legal proceedings.

Yorkville: The Coulter Opera House

We were fortunate enough last Thursday night to be at the opening entertainment at the new Opera House in Aurora, and to witness the opera of the "Barber of Seville," by the Adelaide Phillips troupe.

The house was full and all were charmed with the new hall. The entrance to the hall is somewhat narrow and difficult, and the exit during a panic would be more so. The interior is finely frescoed; the stage is large and scenery good. The seats--well, we had a reserved seat in the shape of a chair about a foot in diameter and covered with red enameled cloth and the work of the evening was to keep from slipping to the floor.

The river was frozen up tight Tuesday morning.

December -- 1874

Dec. 2: Thanksgiving day was observed according to the various inclinations of individual characters. The union religious services were held at the Methodist church, three clergymen being present, namely Mr. Beans the pastor; Elder Stoughton of Aurora; and Mr. Wiard of a Chicago Seminary, the supplier of the Congregational church.

The sporting fraternity had their usual shooting match of turkeys and chickens; a practice which in a moral point of view, to my notions, is not far removed from Spanish bull-fighting, and why our good people do not discountenance it this deponent saith not.

The giving thanks with tripping the light fantastic toe by old and young in the evening was very successfully accomplished. And so ended thanksgiving for this year.

Rev. Duncan McGregor will deliver, next Friday evening at the M.E. church, a lecture on Darwinism. Let everybody turn out and hear what Mac has to say on that ism.

Somebody not having the fear of Lawrence the clerk (who sleeps in the store, but was at the dance) before his or their eyes, but being instigated, &c., broke into Hawley's store Thursday night and appropriated what money was in the drawer, about \$15, and the revolver, with which it was to be guarded.

Wm. Wagner and Mrs. David Hall have returned from their visit to old Virginia.

Wollenweber & Knapp shipped last evening 409 hogs making 8 carloads and they were a very fine lot.

Yorkville: Don't take your sleighride without bells. John Cooper has the finest lot of them in Yorkville.

We notice by the *Aurora Beacon* that Dr. G.B. Lester of Oswego has opened an office in Aurora to practice his profession.

We print every week 1,356 copies of this paper.

The mercury was down Monday morning from four to six degrees below zero.

Dec. 9: The most prominent event the past week in this region was the marriage of Miss Clara H. Child to Clarence J. Shumway. It took place Wednesday and because of the sickness of Mr. Child, the bride's father, at the Shumway residence.

Rev. Duncan McGregor Friday evening treated those of us who improved the opportunity to his well-prepared lecture on Darwinism. A good audience as to size and intelligence was in attendance. The orator with a few of his friends were the last to put in an appearance--that is to say, he was late, the same is rather an old habit of his. The lecture may be said to have been an exposition of the evolution theory and refutation of the same, partly from a theological but more from a prejudicial point of view. Seemingly, no

material change of mind was effected. The few to whom Darwinism looked plausible it looks plausible still, and the many who always were disgusted with the idea of a mean pedigree are so still. People in general have acquired a pride for noble ancestry; they rather look to from where they may ignominiously have fallen than down from where they may have risen.

It is a well established fact that churches and political parties when strong become corrupt. Our churches are very pure because they are very weak.

An oyster festival will be given by the Baptist society at which the band will lend its services towards the entertainment at Chapman's hall. The proceeds to be for the benefit of their church or Sunday school or both.

Mr. Sinclair has dissolved his connection with the Hebert shop and bought out the John Bartlett shop, where he is now fully prepared to prosecute the blacksmithing business in all its branches to best advantage.

All the different branches of business have been in a prosperous condition except the hog trade. Our dealers lost on their big shipments.

The Kinley residence has been re-sided or rather topsided that is, new siding has been put over the old.

There will be a meeting of Union Grange No. 1439 Tuesday evening, Dec. 15, 1874. All members are requested to be present as business of importance is to be transacted.

Robert Gates, Master  
S.W. Johnson, Sec.

Dec. 17: Edward A. Smith and Miss Anna Reed went through the wedding ordeal last Wednesday. it took place at the home of Isaac D. Reed, the bride's father. Prof. D.H. Taylor, who seems to be quite popular for the knot-tying business, performed that interesting duty. They went on a visit, it is said, to their friends, Tom and Lettie Seely in Chicago.

Abijah Child has been one of the most robust and healthy men among us; a number of months ago, however, he began ailing; medical skill and remedies seemed to be unavailing and on Friday he died. Mr. C. at his death was a few days over 59 years of age. He came from Massachusetts. From the doctor I learned that his disease was "Lymphadenites," or more plainly expressed, "Inflammation of the absorbent glands."

A week ago Sunday collections were to be taken up in the churches in behalf of the destitute of Kansas and Nebraska.

Dec. 24: Another of those joyful and interesting events came to pass Thursday; this time it was from Henry C. Strossman and Miss Katie Chapman that formed the compact. The

wedding took place in the evening at the residence of the bride's father, James M. Chapman.

A millinery establishment is now opening on a large scale in the Shepard store of the brick block; G.D. Wykoff is the proprietor.

The death of Mrs. Daniel Pearce occurred Friday and the funeral took place Sunday afternoon at the house...she was buried in the so-called Pearce grave yard, the same being on the land of her husband. The deceased was born in Virginia and had arrived to the age of 73 years; her surviving husband is 85 and is also getting quite feeble. Mr. Pearce is one of the first settlers, making his claim in 1832, the following year he moved upon it with his family and resided thereon ever since.

To carry arms is one of the constitutional privileges of an American citizen, and to be an American citizen in the full sense of the term one must carry at all times a loaded revolver in the hip pocket--Young America carries them in going to school; Charley Hawley in pulling his out--not for necessary use however--the hammer caught in the handkerchief which was in the same pocket, by which it was discharged (not the handkerchief but the pistol) the bullet passing through the palm of his hand causing a very painful wound.

Yorkville: 200 pounds of fresh assorted candies and all kinds of games for children at L.N. Hall's, Oswego.

For Holiday goods, go to L.N. Hall's, Oswego. He has a fine stock of all kinds of fancy goods--ten dozen china and rubber dolls, and toys in great variety.

We have two apprentices in the office just beginning the business, and if you see more typographical errors in the paper than usual, just lay it to them.

E.G. Earls, Esq., collector for the town of Oswego, was in Yorkville on Monday after his books. He has lived in this county for 16 years and this is the first time he has been at the County Seat.

1875

January

Jan. 7: Since my last report two more of our people have gone to that bourne from whence no traveler returns; first Wm. Hugart, three score and odd years old, for a number of years residing here. During his sickness he was at the house of Fred Sierp, the Supervisor, providing for his care; he died Tuesday week before last, was buried the next day with short religious services.

Miss Libbie Stahl was but 22 years of age, in music and otherwise accomplished and one of our best departed young ladies, fell a victim to that much debilitating and fatal disease, consumption, and closed the death list of 1874.

Lewis B. Judson Jr. went to Deansville, N.Y., and there married a very handsome young lady by the name of Lillie A. Hatheway. The bridal couple were here on a visit and are now in Aurora.

The holidays were spent according to the various inclinations of individual taste; eating a dinner of some kind of fowl was the most general act performed; the nimrod fraternity had their usual shooting matches; Christmas Night there was a ball which was very largely attended and proved a very grand affair. On New Year's nothing special was going on, a number of boys got quite boozy, but with the exception of a little energetic windwork, which was confined to the saloons, no disturbance was made.

Yorkville: The Farmers' mass meeting at the Court House Tuesday was very slimly attended--about 20 persons being present. Squire Litsey was elected chairman and J.N. Harris secretary after which S.M. Smith addressed the meeting for about an hour. Lott Scofield, John Litsey, Wm. Grimwood, R.M. Springer, and C.L. Roberts were appointed delegates to the Convention at Springfield.

At the last meeting of the Illinois State Fish Culturists' Association, Drs. Pratt of Elgin and Ballou of Sandwich were appointed to a committee to prepare a bill to be presented to the next State Legislature for the protection of the fish in the waters of the state, and providing for their being restocked with better food fish. By order of Mr. Baird, the United States Fish Commissioner, the state quota of 50,000 California salmon have been delivered to him and will be used for stocking our stream the present year.

They play croquet on the ice at St. Charles.

The *Record* office the past week has received some new type for job work.

J.R. Marshall, County Superintendent [of Schools], attended the State Teacher's Association at Chicago last week.

The Bradford Johnson house in Bristol has been sold to Mr. Abraham Thomas, brother-in-law of George Ernst, Esq., for \$800. Cheaper than any one could expect.

We have a number of communications on hand, most of which will be published next week. Omitting one issue of our paper has got us in a snarl; a little patience on the art of our correspondents and all will soon be right.

The Caledonia Ice Company commenced cutting ice on Blacks' pond on Saturday, with the mercury eight degrees below zero. It was the coldest morning of the season, being 14 below early in the morning.

Jan. 14: The week of prayer was pretty well observed by the Christian portion of this community; the heathens paid little attention to it.

Orlando Reed and Miss Jennie Beck apparently mean to realize as much of the felicity of married life as possibly can be, for both are yet quite young; they were joined in wedlock by Justice Newton.

Peter Cooney in going home one evening discovered a broken rail on the track in the neighborhood of his place; a passenger train was then nearly due and being doubtful as to succeeding in stopping it in the dark and warn it of the danger ahead he ran for his home as fast as possible, got his lantern and returned in time to signal the train and thereby possibly prevented a smashup.

The hog trade has been very lively last week. Wollenweber & Knapp shipped one day 245, among which was a very choice lot of 54 Poland Chinas from J.J. Budlong, which averaged 480 lbs. each.

Owing to the severity of the weather the usual bi-weekly dance Friday evening was not largely attended.

Yorkville: The most interesting and auspicious wedding that has taken place for some time occurred last Wednesday at the house of Nathan The *Chicago Tribune* in a long and able editorial truthfully says:

We have said that, unless the Republican party controls this country, the late Rebels will control it. The opposition to the Republican party is made up of the old line Democrats, of the Southern Rebels, and of deserters from the Republican ranks. The balance of power in the opposition is with the former Rebels, and the opposition must, therefore, either submit to defeat or yield to the demands of the Southern Democrats. If our former Republican friends who have gone off with the Independents want to live under Southern rule again, let them persist in trying to break up the Republican party and we will have all the rebellion to go over again.

“Sunset” Cox calls for the withdrawal of troops from Louisiana. We are reminded by General Butler that Cox once before called for the withdrawal of troops, then from Fort Sumter. [Samuel Sullivan "Sunset" Cox (1824-1889) was a U.S. Congressman and diplomat. He represented both Ohio and New York in the U.S. Congress, and also served as United States Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire. Cox was elected to Congress as a Democrat in 1856, and served three terms representing Ohio's 12th congressional district and one representing the 7th district. After giving an impassioned speech in 1864 denouncing Republicans for allegedly supporting miscegenation he was defeated for reelection. He was known as an eloquent public speaker. His nickname "Sunset" came from a particularly florid description of a sunset in one speech.]

We have received quite a number of new subscribers the past two weeks and there is yet room for more.

We make a specialty of job printing. Have three good power presses, good stock of type, and a first class printer.

The Caledonia Ice Company is hard at it on Black's pond with about 70 men getting out ice for Chicago consumption; with a large new engine of 37 horse-power ice is delivered into the houses or car at the rate of 17 cakes a minute; the rapidity with which the work is done is wonderful. If any in attendance at court have any leisure time it will pay them to go down to the river and see them cut ice. Capt. Bob Hutchison has charge of the work and rushes it with characteristic vim. Where does all the ice go? Well, this company have a contract to furnish Armour & Co, packers, Chicago, with some 2,500 tons; they put about 7,000 tons in the ice houses here and as much more in the company's houses in Chicago. The ice this season is splendid--clear, 15 inches thick, and pure as crystal.

We have been congratulating ourselves for some time over the mild winter and glorying over the light calls upon the fuel pile. But Old King Winter was not satisfied to let us off so easily and last Friday night with the assistance of Old Boreas, he sent the mercury down to zero--down to ten below; and not yet satisfied Saturday morning, the thermometer indicated from 20 to 25 below, according to location. All the night the wind blew a hurricane and the icy air entered at every crevice. Leaky cellars were no protection to vegetables, and potatoes were icy balls in the morning. Plants were frozen by wholesale and housewives mourned the loss of their favorites.

Jan. 21: Nahum A. Parkhurst is the first on our death list for 1875; he died of consumption last week Tuesday at the age of 70 years; he was one of the old settlers, a hard worker and one of the most peaceable citizens. A strict adherent to the Christian faith according to the doctrine of the Baptist church, of which he was a member. The funeral took place Thursday at the house.

Lewis M., but usually known as Doc, Wooley [Woolley], went to Hinckley last week and there married a young lady. In a roundabout way I got some of the wedding cake, but otherwise was unable to gain any information concerning it.

The old saying is "When the cat is out then the mice have free course;" the young folks across the river to the number of about 25 couples took advantage of the absence of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Wormley--who are down York State on a visit--and surprised that household with a party the other evening.

Those hogs of Budlong's--which mentioned in my last week's report--were a very nice lot and it won't do any harm to refer to them again. I wrote the paragraph in the shortest way possible and said that the lot consisted of 54 Poland-Chinas, which averaged 480; the printer added to it the words "pounds each." Now the word "pounds" was all right. Looking at it from the standpoint of a Dutchman, one cannot see what the "each" had to do there. (We stand corrected by the Dutchman--Typo.)

David Goudie shipped yesterday a carload of very nice beef cattle.

Oswego society is the same--only a little more so--as it has been for years past, little circles of an exclusive nature, especially in this case with the better portion of it.

A party of Aurorans came down last evening on a sleighride and also had a dance.

Yorkville: The NaAuSay Grange No. 1436 had an oyster supper and dance at the house of Alf Brown in Seward on Friday night, the 18th.

We have several times of late published items of irregularities among Grangers and those connected with them, that some of our readers may think is done to cast odium upon the order. That is not the reasons we publish them. For the past year or two, there has been a concerted plan on the part of the enemies of the Republican party to make it responsible for all the evil deeds of some of its members. The party has been held responsible for the acts of defaulters when only the men themselves should be. The new Farmers' party was organized to do away with all wrong--it was to be a party of wholly honest men; but the result has been much the same as with the Republican party. Dishonest men creep into the Granges and commit frauds. Should the Order be decried for the acts of these evil men? We think no. Neither should the Republican party be held responsible for individual dishonesty.

The picture car opposite the Bank in Yorkville has changed hands. Mr. Hough having sold to Riddle & McCloud. The latter is a young man from Seward. These gentlemen are prepared to do good work; and are always ready to receive calls from the public generally. Give the boys and order and they will make you a good picture.

From the *Aurora Beacon*: The old gravel pit at Montgomery, from which such an enormous drain has been made for 20 years past, having become exhausted, the Company have purchased 25 acres of land adjoining the old pit upon the north where the gravel is equally desirable.

The water in the river and in Blackberry creek is so low as to seriously interfere with the mills.

#### The Grand Jury and the Election Board

Whereas, it having been brought to the Grand Jury that the Elections in the township of Kendall, Kendall county, Illinois, have been conducted in a loose and informal manner and especially the last election, to wit, taking and receiving, contrary to law, votes of foreigners when they had only obtained their first papers; also opening the ballot box before the polls were closed and receiving votes after the ballot box had been opened; and receiving votes that did not pass through the ballot box;

Therefore, resolved that we, as a board of Grand Jurors, do hereby censure all such loose and informal ways of conducting elections and would recommend that all elections hereafter be conducted according to the law and the statutes.

Resolved, that the above proceedings be published in the Yorkville papers.

J.S. SEELY, Foreman, Grand Jury.

J.M.C. RUNNER, Clerk

Jan. 15, 1875.

Jan. 28: The most interesting and auspicious wedding that has taken place for some time occurred last Wednesday at the house of Nathan Loucks. The bride was It was Katie A., his oldest daughter, who was married to Clinton G., son of Gilbert Gaylord of the same neighborhood. About 75 guests were present to enjoy the happy event and share the festivities which that family is so well qualified to furnish. (I should have been there myself, was especially hankering after Nate's cider, but pressure of business, the deficiency of a well-boiled shirt, and one thing and another prevented; a very observing participant, however, informed me of the main particulars.) The marriage took place about one o'clock and was performed by Elder Minard--uncle of the groom--in an impressive manner. The bride was the happiest of all ages, just 18. She was beautifully attired in an ashes of roses poplin that for richness and style could not be surpassed, while her hair was elegantly arranged and ornamented with orange blossoms. The groom was richly dressed in black coat and pants, white vest. Together they formed a picture of manly strength and womanly loveliness, seldom found. After some nice music from several of the ladies present, and other amusements, the happy couple started for the depot accompanied by a number of their young friends to see them off on their bridal tour to Wisconsin.

Mention was made last week of L.M. Wooley's [Woolley] marriage. Since then I learned that the bride was Miss Della Taylor of Hinckley, that the wedding occurred on the 14th inst., at the residence of the bride's parents of that place..

J.W. Morrison is now dispensing sirloins, steaks, mutton, &c. from the brick meat market. He is the successor of H.C. Hopkins.

Wesley Edwards has built an icehouse and is making other preparations for conducting the provision business on an extensive scale.

The hog and cattle trade has again been quite lively the past week. Among the shippings was a carload of cattle from John Collins and two of hogs from Hamilton Cherry.

Most all of our merchants received more or less new goods to replenish their stocks; Haight received a carload of salt.

Aurora: C.H. Adams of this city was called to Newark on Saturday in consequence of the death of his oldest brother, Earl Adams, the day previous, Jan 15th. Mr. Adams was 75 years of age, one of the early settlers, having been a resident of Kendall county for 41 years, and was universally respected.

Sugar Grove is on the watch for wolves. Last December two were shot. On Monday last, two more were raised in the timber and a party started for them in the morning. The varmints were pursued nearly to Rock creek and on the return were killed on John Paul's place. They were large animals, capable of taking care of a number of sheep had they been permitted to live until next summer. The boys made a good day's work as they

animals net a bounty of \$20 each, besides the worth of their skins. The hunters are making strenuous efforts to clear these animals out of both the Sugar Grove and Big Rock timber.

Yorkville: William Pitt Kellogg, the governor of Louisiana whom the White Leaguers are trying to drive from the executive chair, is a cousin of George Washington Kellogg, Esq., of NaAuSay.

McOmber received a fresh supply of Montgomery flour Friday.

Rev. E.W. Hicks will deliver a lecture in the Baptist Church, Newark, Tuesday evening, Feb. 2d, on the "Science of the first day of Creation, or how the world was made," illustrated by crayon drawings. The story of the world's supposed birth from the fire mist is one of the most wonderful in all the annals of science. Admission 25 cents; children 10 cents.

#### Aid for Kansas

The people of Districts No. 6 and 7 of Big Grove and Lisbon townships, have been actively at work collecting things for the outer and inner man by filling a good-sized dry goods box for those who are suffering in grasshopper country, and we hope it may reach those who stand in most need, for it would make a number of families happy and drive want from their door for awhile.

Wednesday, Feb. 24, O.E. Judson, two miles southeast of Oswego, assisted by Dave Hall, will have a very large auction sale.

We give the following synopsis of Circuit Court business since our last issue:

People vs. Wm. Bradford, larceny. Verdict, guilty; prisoner sentenced to one year in the penitentiary; one day solitary confinement.

George Kellogg vs. Jas. O Richmond, appeal. Verdict for plaintiff for \$42.63

Rebecca Elliott, Nancy Ellis, and Esther Ferris vs. I.B. Chattel, *et al.* To contest the will of the late Daniel Pearce. The trial lasted nearly a week, and the jury was out all night.

Jan. 22d, returned a verdict sustaining the will. Motion by complainants for new trial.

On Tuesday, the Sheriff took the negro Bradford to Joliet.

#### February -- 1875

Feb. 4: A "slide" hand show took place last evening with which was connected a kind of lottery and consequently drew a large crowd; being there too, caused me to neglect the writing up of the items and therefore my report must be brief.

Mrs. Elizabeth R. Billings--familiarily known as Aunty Billings--was suddenly taken ill about a week ago and Saturday her life expired; she was 54 years of age and the last of the family; husband and children preceded her in death years ago.

The "Ethiopians," a local troupe of minstrels, gave a performance one evening last week; it proved a greater success than expected; they had a full house and the performances were very creditable for amateurs.

Several of the Troy boys were down town Saturday evening and in the course of their business transactions some little unpleasantness transpired.

The cattle and hog trade had again been quite active the past week; Wollenweber & Knapp shipped two carloads of hogs last night.

Yorkville: If you want a good picture taken you must go to Riddle & McCloud's large car before Monday next, as on that day they will leave Yorkville for Plattville. The car is now located opposite the Kendall County Bank.

There will be a meeting of Union Grange No. 1439, NaAuSay, for the installation of officers on Tuesday evening, Feb. 9, 1875 at the Union School House.

Our readers may remember that a number of business men along the line of the Fox River Valley Railroad gave conditional notes to aid in building said road; the notes were for a line from Wenona to Geneva, and the understanding was for a competing road with CB&Q road. Before the road was finished, the Fox River Company sold part of the line from Wenona to Streator to another company, and soon after leased the line from Streator to Geneva to the CB&Q Company in perpetuity; this practically annulling the contract between the note-givers and the Fox River Company Payment was demanded from some, and refused. The contractors of the road, who held the notes, sued, and the case of J.P. & E.A. Black, of Yorkville, came up first in this vicinity. Upon hearing the pleas and demurrers, Judge Wilcox in our Circuit Court, decided adversely to the railroad, and the case was taken to the Supreme Court where the decision was reversed. Judge Dickey, counsel for the defendants, obtained a rehearing of the case, and a decision has just been given, again adverse to our people.

It is the same opinion as that at first filed with the exception that three manuscript pages have been rewritten.

All of which decision seems very strange to men who are not lawyers, and to a common-sense view looks decidedly wrong.

Persons along the line, as we look at it, entered into a contract with the railroad company to pay a certain sum of money when a certain thing was done. The contract was not fulfilled, but the Supreme Court says that makes no difference. That is law--not justice--but it is no use fighting a railroad company.

It is a matter of moment; it may be that the Philistines are upon us, and it may take more than the jawbone of an ass to save us. Failing in settlement, we suppose the cases will come before our Circuit Court at the May term in regular course.

Feb. 11: The past week was a delightful one, or at least full of delightful incidents; first and foremost of those was the wedding of Charles K. Moore and Miss Gertrude H. Teller, which took place in the early part of Wednesday afternoon at the Teller residence, the bride's home.

Our genial fellow townsman R.W. Mason has shown that he is fond of the good things of this world and delights in providing himself with them; a little over a week ago he went to Lemont and there married Mrs. Elizabeth Cheese.

The every other week dance Friday night was a very delightful affair.

The mornings were delightfully cool and the breezes delightfully fresh and the streets delightfully smooth and it was a delightful sight to see a plug hat spinning along on the ice, especially if it came from a baldheaded man and no boy about to skate after it.

We also were favored with a freight train running off the track nearby on that most breezy day, but somehow but few of our people improved the opportunity to witness the operation of getting it on again.

The friends of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Reed were delighted in welcoming them back from the sunny south. They are the last to return of the Mississippi colony that settled in the state in 1873.

Feb. 18: Mr. Q.Y. Snyder and wife, who for upwards of a year have been regular boarders at the hotel, occupying room 23 on the second floor, were both found defunct in their bed this morning, having been suffocated by the gas escaping in their room. The above is all suppositions; it might have happened if there had been such a couple and we had a hotel and such kind of escaping gas.

It would appear that the weather clerk has some kind of a grudge against the managers of the "old folks' ball" which was to take place on the 3rd inst., but the weather was so bad that it was postponed.

A.B. Hall, the Galveston postmaster has made us a call.

Frank Fox of Boston is here to help minister to his sick father, Stephen Fox.

The hog trade has again been quite brisk; Wollenweber & Knapp shipped five carloads last night.

Mabel Clare, the graphic and poetical correspondent of the *Yorkville News*, signified in her last and intention of quitting the reportorial field for the reason of being satirized, and from her silence last week seems to have carried it into effect. I have about formed the same resolution but quite from the opposite reason, namely, nobody takes any notice any more of my pieces.

Yorkville: Montgomery has a new organ for church use that cost \$285. Miss Mina Smith is the organist.

The Streator coal mines are now shipping from two to three thousand tons daily.

The remains of Arthur Keck were brought home last week from the East and were buried in the neighborhood cemetery near Montgomery.

The Caledonia Ice Company has about closed its business in Yorkville for the winter and the amount of ice that has been cut, stored and shipped to Chicago has been enormous, probably more than 30,000 tons. And we can assure the company's Chicago customers that no better ice will be sold in Chicago next summer than that furnished by R.P. Hutchison & Son from Yorkville. It is as clear as crystal, firm as rock, and free from weeds or any deleterious substance. The business of this company is quite an item to this place; about \$6,000 a year is paid out here by the company in wages and board and for lumber, hardware, hay, grain, etc. A large number of men have been employed ever since the holidays. Besides filling the houses here and in Chicago, the Messrs. Hutchison have shipped a great many carloads to packers in this city. This city ice trade is an immense business when we consider that the Caledonia Company handle about \$80,000 a year, and there are eight or ten firms in the business in Chicago.

22 degrees below zero in Yorkville last Monday morning.

Feb. 25: Last Thursday evening there assembled at the residence of Mr. J.B. Hunt a number of relatives and friends fixed up in their best clothes; in due course of time his sister, Miss Sarah A. Hunt, in company with Zopher W. Ketchum appeared on the scene decked in bridal array, presenting themselves for matrimonial alliance.

Another wedding occurred Saturday evening at the residence of N.A. Hawley, the bridal couple being Mr. J.H. Sinclair and Miss Ida C. Dodge, both of this village.

Mr. Stephen Fox reached the end of his life--being 64 years old--last Thursday. The corpse was enclosed in a very elegant coffin, from which the lid was removed and the last view taken of the deceased, the assembly then accompanied the remains to the family lot--one of the prettiest sites--in the cemetery--and which contains the costliest monument in it, being erected to the memory of Watts Fox, son of the deceased; after the coffin was lowered into the grave Rev. Mr. G[ordon] made a few more appropriate remarks and thanked the congregation on behalf of the family. All his children--two of whom reside in Boston--were gathered around him during his last days. According to his direction the bottom of his grave had been provided with a stone floor, the grave was then bricked up some distance, into this the coffin was set without being put into a box; the brickwork was then overlaid with heavy planks upon which the earth was filled. Mr. F. came here from the Mohawk valley, N.Y., about 27 years ago and with the exception of one or two years when first arrived has resided at the place where he died.

Friday after dark there was a constant jingling of sleigh bells in the streets.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. E. Moore have returned from their bridal tour and are now preparing for solid realities.

The McClain family have moved away to their new home over in Kane or DeKalb County.

Yorkville: We noticed our good friend, E.S.L. Richardson of Oswego in Yorkville Wednesday.

On the second page of this issue we publish a brief account of the party at the residence of David Goudie, Esq. Monday's Inter-Ocean contains a sketch of the party from which we make this extract: Mr. Goudie is an opulent land owner who removed from Scotland to Kendall County something like a score of years ago and has resided in this community ever since. He, with a few others, has labored long and arduously for the general interests of Kendall, and has now the satisfaction of viewing the results of these early endeavors. The few pioneers of this section now alive can be counted on one's digits, and the gathering of last night had the effect of drawing together representatives of these leading families for a radius of many miles. The guests numbered over 80 persons.

The ice is so thick on Blacks dam that there are fears of a thaw and rise in the river lifting the dam with the ice and carrying it out. Workmen have been engaged for a few days in cutting the ice loose.

March -- 1875

March 4: Deaths of the older people have been quite frequent the past few months. The oldest members in both of the Ladd families stepped off the stage of action within the past week. At Dwight Ladd's, his mother-in-law, Mrs. Anna, widow of Theodore Sanderson, aged 77 years, died last week. The Sanderson family came from Vermont and moved to this neighborhood about 27 years ago. Mrs. William Ladd died Sunday morning at the age of 72 years and was buried yesterday afternoon. Mrs. L. had been living on the place where she died over thirty years; they came from the State of New York.

Mrs. William Ladd died Sunday morning at the age of 72 years, and was buried yesterday afternoon. The funeral services were held at the Congregational church. Mrs. L. had been living on the place where she died over 30 years; they came from the State of New York. I think both of these ladies were members of the Congregational church or at least were connected with it.

Rev. Mr. Wiard has moved with his family to town and into the house of R.W. Mason. A housewarming party took place there Friday evening

Yorkville: Died

Sanderson. --At the residence of Dwight Ladd, in the town of Oswego, Feb. 23, 1875, Mrs. Anna Sanderson, aged 77 years.

Ladd. --At the residence of William Ladd in the town of Oswego, Feb. 28, 1875, his wife, Alma Ladd, aged 72 years.

The icy condition of the roads and fields have made it very dangerous for stock generally, it being almost impossible for animals to stand up. Mr. W.W. VanEmon lost two colts last Saturday; they had fallen down on the ice and in their struggles to get up injured themselves so badly that they had to be killed.

NaAuSay: The Grange at the Bronk school house in NaAuSay met last Saturday, Feb. 27th, to install new officers. Mr. Barthan of Plainfield, assisted by Rev. Mr. Taylor of Sheridan, installed them. There were a few present from the Union Grange.

March 11: The claims of inexorable death have fallen on three of this community in the past week. First, little Edith, five years old, daughter of Oliver Hebert, the pet of the family, who was taken with a fit Tuesday evening, from which no relief seemed to be procurable and which ended her life early the next morning. Second, Mrs. Patrick Devinny, aged 52 years, who died Saturday. Yesterday her remains were taken to Aurora and buried according to the rites of the Catholic Church. Third, Gracie Weeks, nine years old--only child of Mrs. Amanda Weeks--one of our smartest and liveliest little girls, died Sunday having been sick one week from congestion of the brain and lungs.

A wedding occurred last week in the German settlement. Miss Amelia Hem was married to a Chicago gentleman.

The Cooke building (three story brick) on Main street, has been sold to a man from Montgomery and the report is that it is going to be fitted up and turned into a hotel; in consequence of which Sutherland & Strossman are getting ready to move their restaurant out of it and into the next building heretofore occupied by J.W. Morrison as a meat market. The latter is now occupying the red market in the Smith block.

The lightning rod boys' dance, Friday evening, was a great success.

Yorkville: Hank Matlock is going into the lightning rod business this spring.

Mercury 6 degrees below zero Monday morning, March 8. "Winter lingers," &c.

Prairie wolves chase the cows through the streets of Kankakee, and yet they call it a city.

March 18: The excellent sleighing for some time past has had the effect of setting some evil disposed persons to work at preying upon the farmers in this neighborhood during night time; a number east of here have suffered more or less from these parties; during the forepart of last week there was taken from John Hafenrichter six bags of shelled corn (the bags included) from E. Updyke some horse blankets and a whip, from Slater a lot of oats and from George Schmidt a lot of corn. Owing to the much-traveled roads the perpetrators could not be tracked.

Our former fellow townsman Walter S. Hunt made us a visit last week; he has represented Livingston county and especially that portion about Dwight as the very choicest spot in the state of Illinois.

The restaurant of Sutherland & Strossman has been moved one door north and their new quarters are very neatly fitted up and more roomy than the old. Their former stand has been taken possession of by the new proprietor moving in some furniture but the place is not yet opened for business.

Some very neat cards were received bearing the indication that Miss Mary E. Foster, a very good looking and one of the pleasantest young ladies extant, and who was brought up in this town but of late years residing in the central part of this State, is no more, but has taken the station of Mrs. H.D. Chapin. Her husband is said to be a Chicago gentleman.

The exhibition of the Apocalypse will take place the next two evenings. ["The Great Apocalypse" was a panorama described as "The work of a master artist inspired by loftiest conceptions of his subject, representing what St. John saw when a door was opened to him in Heaven." Admission was 25 cents. It was described as follows: "Do not expect some cheap magic lantern or stereopticon exhibition such as is often advertised. It is an oil painting, a work of high order, and is both interesting and instructive. There are some 50 scenes, any of which is alone worth the price of admission.]"

Yorkville: Married

Edwards--Moore. --In Aurora March 11, 1875, at the house of the officiating clergyman, Rev. Thomas Galt, Mr. John Edwards of Oswego and Miss Jessie M. Moore of Kendall.

March 25: Mrs. Carrie Potter resumed the wifely status last Thursday; the bridegroom is Mr. Charles Smith of Bristol Station. The wedding took place at the residence of John Pearce, the bride's father.

Henry Hafenrichter Jr. also took unto himself a Frau and it is said that he captured one of the nicest and best girls of Wheatland, namely Miss Mary Bucks; they were married at Naperville one day last week.

Engine 156 of the morning passenger train got lamed just below town yesterday morning; another had to come down from Aurora to fetch the train, causing the delay of about 45 minutes to the passengers.

Great grandmother Murry, the oldest person of this town and perhaps of the State--her correct age is not known but is supposed to be at least 105 years--died Sunday morning; she was Canadian French, quite small and spare and remarkably smart and spry up to about two years ago before; before that she would walk a distance of five or six miles as quick and easy as any young girl; she was the mother of Mrs. Alexander Dano Sr., and Joe Murry of Aurora and has resided in this town about 25 years.

April -- 1875

April 1: John D. Hall has returned from his extended visit in Jersey and other eastern portions of Uncle Sam's dominion in a hale and hardy condition.

Wallace Hopkins is at present sojourning with us.

Mrs. Sophia Perry and daughter were out from Chicago to attend the funeral of their grand and great-grandmother, Mrs. Murry, which took place Tuesday. She was buried in the French cemetery near Montgomery.

A project is on foot to build a new school house (perhaps it ought to be called by a more high-flown name). Mr. Van Evra has drafted a design which is on exhibition at the post office.

The building of Thomas Simpson's is receiving new front windows, a new floor, and other repairs preparatory for business.

The new dancing association held their second party at Shepard's hall Friday evening; they had excellent music, the principal being a man from Montgomery and Henry Hebert, both playing violins, with piano accompaniment by Miss Ida Wormley. These parties are of a private mature and conducted on strictly moral principles.

The German Methodists have decided upon an institution which should be imitated by other church organizations, at least by some in this town. While they are zealously working for the welfare of their souls, they mean that at the same time the bodies of their horses shall be kept comfortable, a very good Christian principle indeed. A conference was had a few days ago at which it was determined to build a shed 108x24 feet to be partitioned off so that each householder shall have his own apartment, which he may keep locked--as each will have its own door--and have for his sole use; the lumber has been engaged already.

Judson & Company are out with some very handsome lightning rod wagons; they come from the Hebert shop and Charles Shibley of Aurora done the painting.

Many of our people spent most of Sunday on the bridge and elsewhere about the river watching some parties to push off large cakes of ice and set them in motion, a work somewhat hazardous. Frequently floating down on cakes, at the bridge ropes would be thrown to them by which they were hauled up. Several distinguished themselves.

In pursuance of the corporation election which took place Saturday and the approaching town meeting, local politics have been quite lively the past week. The out and out license men held their caucus in Chapman's hall and renominated the old board--against which by the way nothing very objectionable could be raised--and the same was ratified at the polls by about 20 majority. The Adams street vacation question was at one time to form a

part in the contest, but it was found out that the old board had already done as much as it could toward allowing the desired portion to be occupied for the erection of a warehouse and that the dispute was confined to Mr. Baldwin and Mr. Hawley.

The election passed vary pleasantly, and some parties enjoyed a good deal of fun by the getting up of a clever sell, which worked admirably throughout the afternoon. According to the cruel laws of the State of Illinois, the saloons were closed, and if there is any time when a man enjoys a little of the critter the most, it is on the day when he exercises the freedman right, so a little from a private source will come very acceptable. The horn of a cow was procured and placed in the back yard of a saloon. A fellow was approached on the sidewalk and after passing a few words, he would be asked in an undertone, "Wouldn't you like a horn?" the response, of course, would be "You bet I do," or something to that effect. Then they would trot down the alley and round into the yard where the cow's horn would be presented. When next seen, he would wear a sheepish smile, especially when asked how he liked the horn. Scores of them were sold in this manner and neither age, beauty, or character was spared.

Yorkville: The *Aurora Herald* says the late freeze-up has cost the Aurora Gas Company about \$2,500; \$55 of it was paid for the use of the city steamer for ten hours' work in filling up the gasometer tank after the pipes were fixed.

Mr. A.D. Curran of Bristol Station goes to Chicago again as bookkeeper for a clothing firm. We congratulate Amos on his good fortune, and hope he may except the fire this time.

The ice was still on Black's pond Wednesday, but is rotting under the hot sun and warm wind. Below the pond, the river is pretty clear, and all fears of damage by ice and flood has passed away.

April 8: The family of John E. Robbins started yesterday for their new home, Neosho Valley, Kansas, where Mr. R preceded them some weeks ago.

Norman E. Richards of Syracuse, N.Y. is here on a visit to his relatives.

Old Racer died suddenly and without any premonition a week ago this morning. His career has been a sudden one and he was an honor to his kind; he never was sick a day in his life; never lame or otherwise indisposed, but always ready to perform the service required of him. He lived to the good old horse age of 21 years, been always with the Cherry family, and traveled over the AuSable grove road oftener than any horse ever did. Everybody in this region knew Cherry's old sorrel; may his memory be cherished, at least by the Yahoos, if not by his own species.

A sociable took place Friday evening at the residence of W.K. Beans, the Methodist pastor.

Local politics, of course, has been very active the past week, but it was of the quiet and wire pulling order. The head fuglemen were around, looking wise and with an ominous

bearing. The Supervisorship is again the great love of contention, and new men on both sides have been put up for that position. The Republicans have Henry C. Cutter, and the opposition Charles A. Davis. Of the minor officers, some of the old have been re-nominated and to some there is no opposition. Well, by 10 o'clock tonight, we shall see whether or not the country is safe.

#### Yorkville: The Town Elections

There was a close contest in the Republican caucus in Oswego for Supervisor. Mr. Farley received 30 votes and H.C. Cutter 35. So the regular Republican ticket was: For Supervisor, Henry C. Cutter; for Town Clerk, Levi N. Hall; for Assessor, David Hall; for Collector, James G. Andrews; for Commissioner of Highways, John S. Seely.

An opposition ticket was put up with Charles A. Davis for Supervisor; Gust Voss, town clerk; Samuel Hagerman, collector. This is the only town, we believe, that ran a regular Republican ticket.

The vote in Oswego was as follows: Republican ticket--Supervisor, Cutter, 224; clerk, Hall, 222; assessor, Hall, 314; collector, Andrews, 224; road commissioner, J.S. Seely, 315.

Independent ticket--Supervisor, Davis, 96; clerk, Voss, 101; collector, Hagerman, 94. Total vote cast, 323.

The CB&Q R.R. Co. will plant, next season, along its line, about 2,000 elm, maple, and ash trees.

The fishermen have commenced work, and the bulkheads of Black's dam furnishes support for numerous dip nets.

Farmers are plowing and the soil is light and dry; turns up beautifully.

An old friend and subscriber in Oswego says it is hard for the old settlers to read the fine print that has been in the *Record* for two weeks. We will try and give him the larger type hereafter.

On the Fox River Road, business is unusually light. Two regular trains have been hauled off during the week, and there are now nine crews to run four trains.

The Inter Ocean says: --A special dispatch from Sioux City states that two men who have just reached Springfield, Dakota from the Black Hills have with them several nuggets of very fine gold, which they dug out of the ground with an ax, their party being destitute of mining tools.

April 15: Housecleaning has commenced.

Several newcomers have come to town.

Wils Briggs is repainting the Wesley Edwards house.

The post office has been furnished with a large new map of the United States.

Wesley Edwards has put up a wagon house adjoining his icehouse. Harley Stahl and Whit Cole were the architects.

The front of Shepard's building in the brick block, or the millinery store, has Ben painted white by Mr. Selfridge.

Our bridge has just received a new flooring on top of the old, put down in the most practical and durable manner, namely diagonally across. John Yeigh and Dan Kennedy performed the job.

VanEvra is engaged in constructing several new barns; that of E.A. Hopkins contains a stone basement and will be one of the best barns in the country. The others are for J.B. Hawley and Charles Wooley.

As far as numbers were concerned, the spelling school last week was no great success. A change was effected in the place of holding it, and too late to make it much known, from the town hall to the Methodist church, so that some not seeing that hall lighted concluded that it had been given up. Next, it was under Methodist auspices with a ten cents' admission fee, naturally awakening to some extent sectarian jealousy. Then again, the idea prevailed that all present would have to spell and many didn't want to be subjected to such an ordeal for obvious reasons.

Owing the inclemency of the weather, the church services Sunday were thinly attended.

Yorkville: The meeting for the purpose of forming a company to build a cheese and butter factory, held at the Union school house in the town of NaAuSay April 2nd, adjourned to meet at the same place April 16th to hear the report of committee on location. All are invited to attend.

Another hand car smashed in the woods just below Yorkville Tuesday, and another section boss takes a rest.

Fish are plenty in the Yorkville market. Some extra fine ones are caught daily.

Yesterday was the day appointed by the Second Adventists for the coming of Christ and the destruction of the world. What a sad disappointment it must be to them to have this pleasant prediction so often miscarry.

These two items we found in the *Aurora News* of Monday: The Paul Hawley case is on today before Squire Tages and many Oswegoans are in attendance. It is said to be a "put up job" to get money out of Hawley, but the evidence will probably show us to that. The west side is happy today. Its got a sensation in the Paul Hawley case well worthy of that side of the river. Squire Gates' office is crowded with white-haired men and the "white souled Elizabeth" of this local Beecher business is "the observed of all observers."

The trouble began at 11 o'clock and as we go to press is raging hotly. Five lawyers are employed in the case and everything is lovely and the goose is high up.

This is a case that has been a great deal talked of in Oswego for some time. A girl up there says Paul is the parent of a baby, when it is wrong for him to be so. Paul denies it, and the suit is for bastardy, we believe.

April 22: A little girl, two years old, daughter of George S. Williams, died last week of scarlet fever. The funeral services were held at the house.

Our merchants are now receiving their spring stocks and all are laying in large supplies, especially our new millinery store, which is now fully stocked with all the choicest kinds of ladies' furnishing goods. Mr. Wyckoff has recently been in Baltimore, where he secured his new goods, which in quality and style is second to none in the country. Shaver is continually adding to his stock of furniture of the latest styles and most improved patterns.

The large store room of Richards, Edson & Co. is crowded with farming implements. The drug store is dealing largely now in paints and oils; business of all kinds is flourishing.

The Thomas Simpson saloon commenced operation last week under the most favorable auspices in one sense, that is as far as patronage is concerned; indeed it would appear that there was too much of it for several complaints have already been lodged that young men who never voted for a President of the United States are among its customers.

Roll Wheeler and Ham Cherry were in town yesterday and accused each other of carrying shooting irons, jokingly, of course.

It is said that by a certain event, Frank Richards has been raised to the dignity of a daddy; seven pounds--a boy.

I didn't know but that the Adventists might have been correct in their figures and that the writing of a report would be needless and so delayed it until the contrary seemed to be the fact and then had to scribble it off in a great hurry. Please correct the worstest grammar and oblige.

Yorkville: Oswego is no such town, and the *Aurora Herald* did very wrong in publishing this item: Other cities and towns have their scandal trials, but Aurora, not being able to get up one of her own, must needs be afflicted with the dirt and filth of Oswego. The Paul Hawley bastardy case was on trial the first three days of the week, during which some of the Oswego bloods came up and swore they were a low, dirty set, and they were all acquitted. We hope Oswego will try and keep her nastiness at home hereafter.

Mr. L.G. Bennett has platted a subdivision of lots for Dr. John Cook's Chicago property and we warrant it is as handsome and correct a piece of work as can be done by any Chicago surveyor. L.G. is a most excellent draughtsman.

From the *Aurora News*: Much to the surprise of everybody, the Paul Hawley case was concluded this morning by the acquittal of the defendant. The proceedings and details of the case are 100 degrees too disgusting to appear in public print.

From the *Aurora Beacon*: "Now that the Oswego case, which has been pending before Esq., Gates, has been decided, our supervisors will have a pleasant time collecting the \$300 or thereabouts which has been expended in taking care of the woman and child. Kendall county is doubtless sin law and in equity, bound to make the Kane county poor funds good for the expenses!" We would state for the benefit of Aurora that Kendall County is not caring for the poor. The towns [townships] look to that business.

Supervisor Cutter of Oswego was in Yorkville on Monday to settle up the Fox estate.

There will be another meeting in NaAuSay on Saturday afternoon, May 1st, in the interest of a cheese and butter factory, and all farmers are urgently requested to attend. The meeting will be at Marysville school house.

There is a strong disposition among the farmers of that town to go into the dairy business and nothing will be more convenient than a cheese factory near home. Turn out farmers, and talk this thing up and take stock.

April 29: This time it was Mr. Franklin Albee from the N.E. corner of this town and Miss Orpha Ashley of this village that formed a matrimonial alliance.

Thomas Simpson was assessed \$40 for supplying the wants of some such not of legal age to vote or to drink.

A great multitude of people went down to the river Fox Sunday afternoon to witness the performance of baptism according to the practice of St. John in the Jordan. Rev. Mr. Sampson, pastor of the Baptists, clothed in a black robe with a girdle about his loins went down in the water and successfully administered the holy ordinances to three young men and a lady, the latter somewhat advanced in years, namely: George Poor, Jerome Inman, John Parker, and Mrs. Ann Inman.

The Rev. Theodore P. Jessup of Kendall officiated at the Presbyterian church Sunday forenoon.

The death of Mrs. Mosley occurred Sunday; cause, consumption. The funeral will take place today.

Yorkville: Lew Steward is going to plank the roadway near the tannery and mills in Plano with saw logs and big ones, too.

Torch-light fishing commenced early this year, and a large number of fine fish were speared on Tuesday night.

Millington: The small grain was all sown sometime ago, and many of the farmers in this section are pretty well along with plowing for corn, and are getting on finely with their spring work, much of which is due to that irrepressible Jule Hummel's wonderful plows.

May -- 1875

May 6: Notwithstanding the disagreeable weather the past week, our people bore themselves gently and serenely. Business was also quite active. Haight and the Hawley Brothers did a large trade in general merchandise. The milliner store, the favorite place of the ladies, is fixed up nicer than ever. Its business is rapidly increasing both in the salesroom and dressmaking department. Furniture was carried away by the wagonloads from Shaver's establishment. At the hardware store, all hands were busy from morning to night. L. N. Hall was busy dispensing drugs, paints and notions. The post office received its usual patronage. The postmaster is also agent for two Atlantic Steamship lines, the White Star and Anchor. The grocery merchants enjoyed a good trade. Coffin and Son renovated their store and rearranged their goods. The shoe stores did a good business and so did Lockwood in the harness line. The restaurant had a good run of custom. The saloons kept pace with the rest. The butchers furnished excellent meat. The depot was all animation. Van Doozer was very active in his barbarous business. The boarding house did unusually well. The livery stable had its share of customers. Samse and Jones are turning out the latest style of spring suits for men and boys as fast as they can. The painters are making a great change in the appearance of some of our houses. The homes of Rank and Maxam have been painted Bismarck brown. The Wesley Edwards home has been painted in cottage brown. The windmill men have been active and the lightning rodders are all out. The lawyers and doctors are up and doing well except Dr. Putt whom is down nursing a cold. Newton was occupied with judiciary and collection matters. The insurance agents were not idle. Mechanics of every kind had all the work they could do. Gardeners were in great demand and all other pursuits of industry were prosperous.

The small attendance at the literary meeting Wednesday evening had a somewhat chilling effect on the ardor of its friends.

The spelling exercises were gone through with. Mrs. Haight gave out the words; on the down spell, Mrs. Beans, Katie Lester, and Nora Shaver maintained their positions for some time, but gradually succumbed, leaving the contest between miss Hobson and Mr. Beans, and after continuing it for some time, the latter went down, leaving Miss H. again victorious.

Ike Bartlett is gaining a reputation as one of the most skillful well borers; he has sunk several on the Major Davis farm and all proved entirely successful; the deepest is said to be 220 feet and that pieces of wood were taken out at a depth of 180 feet.

Mr. Beans is meeting with much success in getting subscribers for a new book of the pictorial order entitled "Christ in Art."

The Doty's Merry-Makers, a company of five, gave theatrical performances Thursday, Saturday, and last evenings. Their plays were well chosen and well rendered and they deserved better patronage than they received.

It is hardly supposable that a baptism would be otherwise than successfully accomplished, and therefore in my last week's report of such a transaction the word "successively"--meaning one after another--would have sounded much better than "successfully" as printed. Another baptism by immersion in the river took place the past Sunday, namely that of Orin Curtis.

George W. Andrews started this morning for California.

Yorkville: "Oswego claims to send a good deal of milk to Chicago. Well how much? It's the first time we knew that the milk business, to any extent, had got that far south. --*St. Charles Leader*.

Come down the river some day, Wheeler, and we'll show you. Yorkville ships a dozen, or 10 cans a day, also. You haven't all the milk (or the coconut) up the river.

Our good old Methodist friend, Mr. James Snook of Oswego, was in Yorkville Tuesday, for the first time in some years. He was down in his old home in Dutchess County, N.Y. last winter; had a pleasant time. He is full of the love of religion and likes to talk of Christ and His work.

May 13: Everybody within hearing distance of the headquarters of the Band must have been made gleeful last evening; the music proceeding therefrom was exceedingly lively.

The railroad note question has again come to the surface and just at this time of general tightness it is not favorably received by the note givers.

Mr. Page and family have moved to Chicago.

The process of our absorption continues. Apparently it is only a question of time when we shall be swallowed up by Aurora. She now has absorbed a part of our local government, that is, Henry C. Hopkins, one of our aldermen, has taken up his residence there. This, however, may prove beneficial to us as his experience in city life may be exerted toward salutary effects in the council, which otherwise he would have been unable to exercise.

Another thing: the owner of our cemetery resides in Aurora, consequently if anyone dies not already in possession of a lot, a trip has to be made to Aurora to procure a place for burial. Cannot a necropolis association be formed which would buy the unoccupied portion of the yard. I understand that Mr. Judson, the owner, is willing to sell it, and also an extension to it if desired at such rates as would insure sufficient rent from the sale of lots above the original cost. Who will move on this matter?

The May ball Friday evening was a very beautiful affair; the company consisted of young people altogether, hence beauty was there on the most extensive scale.

The Avery carpenter shop is now on a move; it will be placed on the Richards premises, and is said to be turned into a blacksmith shop to be run in connection with the hardware store.

Yorkville: The White Stockings, Chicago's crack base ball club, played a game with a St. Louis club last Thursday and were disgracefully whipped by a score of 10 to 0. Go home!

To supply the CB&Q R.R. Co. each year requires 10, 250 cords of wood and 158,934,193 tons of coal. That's a pile of coal, but the *Aurora News* says it's so.

May 20: Mr. and Mrs. Kinney have returned in the best of health and spirits from about a seven months' sojourn in southern California.

Geo. N. Whipple and lady, representing a bridal couple on their wedding tour, stayed over a day or so last week at his brother-in-law's, W.A. Hawley.

Holyoke, the station agent, &c., received a furlough; a Mr. Horace Lehman is officiating in his stead.

Another of the oldest settlers departed. Uncle Nick Gray died last Saturday without any other premonition than ripe old age, being 92 years old; he resided with his son Rufus, went out in the yard to get some wood, after picking it up he fell. Mrs. Gray went out and assisted him in the house and on the bed and in a few minutes he breathed his last.

Frank Pearce, about 16 years old, recently from Council Bluffs, died last Saturday at the residence of Isaac Pearce, being distantly related to the Pearces. He had been unwell on his arrival and rapidly grew worse. He also was buried yesterday.

The latest improvements in the business district of this town is the putting up of the regular city style awnings on the stores of D.M. Haight, Mrs. L.K. Wycoff, Hawley & Brother, and L.N. Hall. [on the Brick Block on the east side of Main Street between Washington and Jackson]

The literary doings Wednesday evening were spirited and interesting. On the spell, Mrs. Beans served as propounder, Pinnie Wayne and Lida Andrews heading the sides. The spelling proceeded rapidly and in good order; most all acquitted themselves very efficiently. Willie Samse stood up nobly and Hally Haight held out for some time in a tripartite contest, but finally gave way, leaving Mrs. Haight and Mr. Beans to finish the trial, the latter after a prolonged and vigorous combat dropped on "Raccoon," short one c, thus leaving the victory to Mrs. Haight and she doubtless is one of the best spellers extant. Mr. Beans then recited two chapters of Miles Standish, which was exceedingly well performed. Having a strong, deep voice, he presented the gruff warrior to the best advantage.

Yorkville: Cherry trees are in blossom. This weather is cold enough to give most everybody the blues.

The fisher-men of St. Charles have formed a club for the protection of fish in Fox River at that place.

Gas administered in extracting teeth at our new office by Dr. Fahnestock, who has given it 11,400 times successfully and is the only extractor I have had since 1864, with but slight intermission. O. Willson, Dentist, Aurora.

L.G. Bennett received a fine new set of parlor furniture by rail on Friday.

The best flour made is at the Montgomery Mills from Minnesota wheat.

We are being overwhelmed with obituary poetry, more than we can find room for. Our friends should consider that what is interesting to the writer as poetry is not interesting to the general reader, and they must pardon us for laying their pieces aside. More especially do we dislike poems whose writers spell Jesus with a little j--it is irreverent.

We are very sorry to learn from Mr. Strooley's Oswego letter that the postmaster of that village was so conspicuous in a small circle of misses at the recent spelling contest. Rank should let the girls alone. A man of his age and standing in the community should devote his whole attention to elderly ladies. Lawrence, we blush for you.

May 27: A number of very fine monuments have lately been erected in the cemetery of which the most conspicuous are those of Mrs. Seth Walker, G.H. Teller, and Mrs. Matilda Crance.

Wesley Edwards is converting his lower stone building heretofore occupied for the stables into a dwelling house.

The annual meeting of this town's bible society was held Sunday evening at the M.E. church.

The past week was very barren of items or else my observing faculties were very dull. I am bankrupt in anything local to bring this letter up to ordinary length.

Yorkville: As might have been anticipated, the attempts of parties of minders to reach the Black Hills and their arrest by the military are causing trouble. If all reports are true, the miners now on the way and soon to follow far outnumber the soldiers and it will be impossible to keep them out of the Black Hills.

Mrs. Abraham Lincoln was before the County Court of Cook County last week to be tried for insanity. It was done at the insistence of her friends and her son, Robert T. Lincoln,

was with her. Mrs. Lincoln has not been in her right mind since the assassination of her husband.

The testimony given by her son is sad in the extreme. The jury adjudged her insane and she will be taken to the private asylum of Dr. Patterson at Batavia, Kane Co.

Mr. Wm. Wagner of Oswego was in Yorkville Tuesday and we had quite a talk with him about Virginia where he was born and where he has been visiting the past year. He is from the neighborhood of Stanton, and the Valley where Sheridan's forces and Early fought and he says the people there bitterly rue the war. Mr. W. speaks very highly of his old neighbors in Virginia and expects to go and see them again before long.

June -- 1875

June 3: Some more canvas awnings have been established; one over the bench window of the jewelry shop and another over the southwest window of the harness manufactory.

Holyoke has returned minus, among other things, his Burn-sides.

Thomas Cliggitt was out in Iowa as far as Mason City where his brother, John, resides.

James Elliott met with an accident in Parker's saw mill; he had a toe cut off and otherwise the foot badly injured.

The Band also attended one evening last week a festival held in the Montgomery cheese factory.

The Presbyterians had a church cleaning last week. Lamp stands to the pulpit have also been erected and new lamps for the same procured. That denomination is now pretty well fixed their house of worship is in first-rate order and very neat condition. They have a very likely pastor and have recently reorganized their Sunday school, which is now in excellent running order.

Yorkville: A gentleman requests me to say something about playing croquet on the Sabbath day. We hardly know what to say further, than we think it is wrong, but we are becoming so Frenchified and Germanized in our observances of the Sabbath that our children are fast losing all reverence for the day. If it is all right to play croquet on Sunday, why others will take the occasion to play base ball, billiards, euchre, or any other game. We believe the Sabbath day should be one of quiet and rest and not general jollity.

June 10: This past week has been most significant for its much rain and some sharp lightning. An elm tree was struck near Wm. Parker's house and some of the girls, who were near by attending to the clothes on a wire line received quite a shock, from the effect of which they were considerably stunned for some time.

George Burghart has bought the Sherwood building, the lower floor which heretofore constituted the Justice office will be converted into a saloon; the upper part is used for the family residence.

Justice Newton has moved his office upstairs in the Smith building corner Main and Washington streets.

The new hat worn by A.B. Smith--a white one--is not well-proportioned; it is too flat by a good deal.

A telegraph pole was moved to make room for Wesley Edwards' new stable.

Geo. M. Hollenback was in town one day last week with as genial a countenance as ever, so also John R. Marshall of Yorkville. Mr. S. Loomis, on his travels, stopped over a few days.

J.W. Roberts has returned from New York City, where he has been for some time with the firm of Haines Bros., a musical instrument house, and where he has made himself thoroughly proficient in the art of Piano tuning.

The Presbyterians continue in the fullness of the spirit of enterprise. Money is now being raised for a bell, one that has ring in it. Evergreen trees have been set out in their church yard and other improvements are contemplated.

The Band is going to give a promenade concert and festival next Friday evening and the town hall where music and promenade, ice cream and lemonade, &C. may be enjoyed to the fullest extent.

Sunday towards dark our people were astonished by the appearance of one of the elegant Aurora omnibuses in our streets; what it meant I did not find out.

Yorkville: One of the leading industries promised to Oswego is the manufacture of the Marshall Windmill by a company of which D.M. Haight is president and Capt. W.S. Bunn is general manager. The company occupies the building beside the railroad track, just across the creek; have a good steam engine to run planers, borers, and other machinery, and roomy paint room. They claim to have the best and cheapest windmill made. The advantages claimed are a solid wheel, which gives a third more power and runs in a lighter wind or a heavier wind than any other mill, and in a very violent storm the edge of the wheel is turned toward the wind and the engine is at rest. While other mills are sometimes blown to pieces, none of this make have as yet been broken by the storms. As nearly every farmer must sooner or later have something for raising water, they should carefully investigate this mill before investing. Among other advantages, the mill is wholly noiseless and may be erected on a dwelling house, where it will run without disturbing the inmates. Last Friday, Capt. Bunn had just finished work on the Carter farm above Oswego where he had put up a new mill, pump, pipes, tanks, etc., in good style and Mr. Spellman will no doubt enjoy the improvement. Three of the new

wind engines may be seen from the factory running nicely--at Charley Roberts', John S. Seely's, and George Parker's.

## **Farmers, Attention!**

All wanting a **FIRST-CLASS WIND MILL**, will greatly consult their interest by calling at the **Manufactory of the MARSHALL WIND MILL** at Oswego, where they can have their orders filled at **Manufacturer's prices**, and the company will send out a competent mechanic to erect the same at day wages. We have recently made **IMPROVEMENTS** in the way of **Steel Bearings**, that render our Mill first-class in every particular, and we protect purchasers with a guarantee. We will execute all orders for **Tanks, Convey Pipe, Pumps** and, in fact, every thing pertaining to the **Wind-Mill business**, promptly, and in the most skillful manner. All work warranted.

**D. M. HAIGHT, President,  
WM. S. BUNN, Manager.**

OSWEGO, Ill., June 3d.

H.C. Strossman of the Oswego Band was in Yorkville Friday to get "dodgers" printed for a promenade concert to be given in Oswego soon.

We hear that Dr. Putt is having a fine practice in Oswego and has made many friends. He deserves success, as he is a young man of good principles and untiring zeal in his profession.

We had a call Tuesday from Rev. Duncan McGregor, formerly of Oswego. He graduated from the Theological Institute at Evanston last week. Mac is looking exceedingly well and has a prosperous path before him.

One of the pleasantest places we have to visit when in Oswego is L.N. Hall's drug store, where we always find Levi cheerful and chatty, whether times are dull or lively. He has a handsome store and keeps a nice line of goods. Farmers who are about to paint should call at Mr. Hall's and get his figures on lead and oils. He is right down to the lowest prices and keeps the best of materials.

The editor of the paper at North Springfield, Mo., took a ride among the farms of his vicinity and among the notes he published this: "The best field of wheat we saw belonged to M.V. and Charles Bennett and grows on the farm of L.G. Bennett of Yorkville, Ill. All who see it acknowledge it to be the best in this section of country. It is good for 30 bushels to the acre."

June 17: Charles A. Doud (young Charlie) has returned; he represents Minnesota a great country and Winona a town which is a town.

Also, J.B. Hunt came from Indiana where he has been operating in the Windmill interest.

O.H. Hopkins was out from Chicago over Sunday.

Anybody that wants to excursion to Nebraska and back under the Reeves enterprise can order tickets through our P.M.

The Band concert and festival proved very satisfactory to all concerned; it was well attended and yielded the profits expected. The ice cream was A. No. 1 and other things correspondingly.

The question is now agitated, what shall Oswegoans do on the glorious 4th? Shall we again go to other places and spend our stamps, or shall we celebrate at home? We have all the facilities for a good celebration, a first-rate Brass band that can give us all the patriotic airs; we have men that can read the grand old Declaration as well as anybody, and others that can by orating spread the eagle to its utmost capacity. If our hotel accommodations are insufficient for those that may come from abroad, our citizens can throw open their houses and stables. Shall we celebrate at home? We can if we are amind to.

A little unpleasantness transpired yesterday between Jim Morrison and a very sensitive gentleman of African descent from the grove which resulted in the latter going--contrary to inclination--to the calaboose and from thence to the J.P.'s office where a fine of \$3 was imposed on him.

Yorkville: Mr. D.M. Haight, Oswego's popular and thriving merchant, was in Yorkville Friday last.

The pay-car went down the Fox River road Thursday last and all the railroad boys on the line said, "So glad."

We have been having very cold weather. Saturday night everyone expected frost, but about midnight it clouded over and the wind blew strong, thus averting the calamity. Some say there was a slight frost.

Tuesday Capt. Bunn and man came down from Oswego with the new tank and pipe for the watering place back of the Bank. The tank will hold about 25 barrels of water; the pipe is about 150 feet in length, bringing the water down from the spring on the righthand side of the ravine. A float-valve is fixed at the place of ingress into the tank so as to shut off the supply when it is full. This is one of the best things ever done for Yorkville--to have a full supply of water convenient to get at for horses and cattle without any trouble whatever. The trustees have done a good work in this. Capt. Bunn is a first class man to do such work and any of our readers wanting work of the kind done should drop him a line at Oswego.

June 24: The Methodist Sabbath School will give a strawberry and ice cream festival at the Court House, Oswego, on Friday evening, June 25th. Admission, 10 cents.

Richards, Edson & Co. and Charles F. Shaver are now putting up awnings. This will complete the shading of the front of the entire brick block.

Marcus A. Fenton, one of the olden time Oswegoans, made a short call last week.

A street auction took place the other evening.

At the celebration meeting Friday evening it was decided that we celebrate at home in the shape of a picnic in one of the groves.

There is plenty material on hand for a long letter, but couldn't muster enough energy to write it up.

Yorkville: Prof. A.L. Brown, Sheridan, was in Yorkville on Saturday last.

The Oswego Manufacturing Company has placed a Marshall wind-mill on exhibition over the well on Hobbs' corner. Persons wishing to purchase anything of this kind should examine it. Willett & Welch are agents.

The grass in the Bristol public square will be sold at auction next Saturday evening at half-past seven o'clock. It is a fine crop of grass and should bring a good price. The proceeds will be used to improve the park. Mr. Joseph Tarbox now has charge of the square and has done a good deal of work on it this spring in trimming up the trees, etc.

July -- 1875

July 1: There is going to take place in this town and neighborhood within a week a good deal of enjoyment in the shape of social intercourse, festivities, music, fun, frolics, hilarity, &c.

First, the Presbyterians on Thursday evening will hold a strawberry and ice cream festival at the town hall.

Second, on Saturday will be held the celebration of the Fourth of July in Judson's Grove; the procession will form at 11; the Rev. T.F. Jessup, of Kendall, will be the principal orator, also Rev. Beans will make a short address. The proceedings will be enlivened at intervals by the band; and there will be singing; croquet playing will form part of the amusement, and there will be races. No popping of fireworks will be allowed on the grounds.

Third, a grand platform dance, also in token of the 4th, will be held on Monday evening at Aux Sable grove near the Clark place.

George Burghart yesterday opened his new saloon.

Yorkville: Dr. W.T. Putt, Oswego's favorite physician, was in Yorkville Thursday afternoon.

The river at this point is getting fearfully low, and Black's pond is nearly covered with weeds.

The new windmill made by the Oswego Company is becoming very popular among our farmers. The one put up on Hobbs' corner runs nicely and is quite an ornament. Buy the Marshall Windmill of Willett & Welch; it's the cheapest and the best.

July 8: The past week may be said to have been notable for its failures and disappointments; the preparations for the Presbyterian festival were of the most complete order, but alas the management of the weather department was such as to dampen the whole affair. A drizzly rain that afternoon which gradually increased as the evening drew near interrupted the success of the festival to a great extent.

A similar fate was met with on Saturday in the celebration of the Fourth. A number of heavy showers in the forenoon settled the picnic and the entire programme of going to the grove was abandoned

Pretty much all the lightning rodders have been home to celebrate the 4th.

Wm. P Danforth is here on a visit from Iowa.

O.E. Judson has returned from a trip out west.

The marriage of Abram Dano and Libbie Higgins took place last week.

The Aux Sable grove dance came off last night in much reduced proportion to what it would have been under favorable weather; it is said that those present had a very gay time.

Yorkville: Brother Taylor of Oswego was in Yorkville Friday looking at out schools. His school closed Wednesday and now he is preparing for a trip to Lake Superior.

We took the following personal from the *Naperville Clarion*: George Gaylord & Co., a heavy grain firm of Lockport, Ill, were recently victimized by a local sharper on the "advance-on-grain dodge." Frank W. Clark, alias Winfield Scott, of Oswego, who has at different times in his eventful life inherited some considerable property from his parents and went through it nearly as rapidly as he received it, was the individual who got the advancement on 500 bushels of corn. The corn failed to come in and Gaylord & Co. have been on the watch for Clark. Ab. Gaylord accompanied by Sam Clark, City Marshal of Lockport, and a Joliet policeman, succeeded in taking him at the Cut-Off depot in this city last night. The young man admits his crime, says he borrowed the money on grain and if he ever "got hold of any," he would deliver it as per contract.

July 15: Inasmuch as the Fourth of July picnic did not come to pass, the young ladies are bound to have one yet, and the same is to take place next Saturday afternoon in Judson's Grove.

The Presbyterian church was provided last week with a new bell.

The "ivory pease," a new garden product, are raised by Dr. Van Deventer; they are now in blossom and their growth has been vigorous.

Cassius Durand and wife of Bell Plain, Iowa, have been here for a number of days visiting.

Many doubtless will yet remember Charley Jolly. He made a call yesterday. Was and kept himself as straight as a string. Wanted to know who was raising h--l in town since he had gone and expressed satisfaction that his friends were no worse than they are.

Yorkville: Mr. George Woolley of Oswego called last week to subscribe for the *Record*. His son has taken it for some time, but he went and got married, set up for himself, and monopolized the paper so the father made up his mind to have it for himself, all of which is very pleasing to us. Mr. Woolley is one of our old settlers--came to this country in 1841 and is a prosperous farmer.

David Hall, assessor for Oswego, found 3,200 sheep in his town. Mr. Small alone has nearly 1,000.

D.C. Pratt, the Aurora photographer, had a stroke of paralysis last week, rendering his right side helpless for some time. He is much better, however, at this time.

July 22: Prof. D.H. Taylor, in company with a brother, late from the east, started the other day for Ohio to spend the balance of the summer.

I am informed by friends of the parties that a *Hochzeit* of great prominence will take place today out in Kendall. The *Trauenden* are Miss Carrie Hemm, daughter of Michael Hemm, at whose residence the joyful affair comes off, and Mr. George Rutheschel of Franklin County, Ia.

That picnic was broken up by the rain. It now stands postponed to next Saturday. It is bound to come off some time should it be raining again.

Kirk Walker received this morning from Chicago a new carriage.

Yorkville: Since our last issue there have been heavy rains, and much damage was done to the crops, which gave so much promise but the day we went to press. Thursday night or Friday morning last, there was an immense amount of rain fell in a very short time, accompanied by lightning and thunder. It rained also Friday evening, all day Saturday, and till early Sunday morning.

Mr. L.G. Bennett has showed us a neat bound volume of his travels in the Far West, which he has been writing during his spare moments and had bound in the manuscript. It makes a neat looking volume and will be interesting to read "when silver threads," etc.

Holland makes splendid chocolate ice cream, and if you want a real nice dish to cool you off, just drop into his restaurant. Charley McHugh says he turned the freezer and that's what makes it so good.

July 29: The picnic has come off according to the last program.

Thomas D. Wayne has returned from the excursion to Fort Larned and is highly delighted with the Kansas country.

Levi S. Young had his foot severely cut by a reaper.

W.W. Wormley in trimming a tree struck the ax into his knee.

The building mechanics are all to work out of town, the farmers busy at haying, the town is thus made exceedingly quiet. The only raging thing now is playing croquet.

The only raging thing now is playing croquet.

Yorkville: The interest in the fate of the balloon in which Donaldson and Grimwood made an ascension from Chicago on the 15th inst., has not abated in this vicinity and every day the question is asked: "Anything from the balloon?" Many theories are advanced to their fate; beyond conjecture, nothing is known

As we stated last week, Mr. Grimwood is a Kendall County man, born in Bristol, the son of Wm. Grimwood, Esq. He was 22 years of age and a rising journalist.

Donaldson was an aeronaut of experience, having made nearly 140 ascensions. He was still a young man and a person of great daring.

Until something is heard definitely of their fate, we all hope for the best but the hope is founded on a weak basis.

The bankrupt Great Western Telegraph Company will be sold to the highest bidder on the 1st of October.

On that evening when Donaldson and Grimwood ascended from Chicago's Dearborn Park in a great balloon, a gentle wind was moving eastward and upon its wings they sailed off over this great wide lake. They feared no ill; they had confidence in their aerial shop. That which the daring Donaldson had accomplished so often they felt could be done again. And so they flew away and at that hour neither they nor we had any misgivings of their fate.

Farmers have commenced cutting their small grain, and the next two weeks will be lively for farmers, if it don't rain.

August -- 1875

Aug. 5: W.O. Parke, or Oscar Parke as familiarly known, was in an early day one of the most energetic men and prominent merchants of this town; he was the postmaster during the administration of James K. Polk and again during a portion of that of Franklin Pierce. Intelligence of his death was received a few days ago.

Robert B. Murphy, who for a number of years has been residing south and the last two at Mobile, Ala., is up on a visit to his folks. He expresses himself highly opposed to radicalism and denounced the carpetbaggers in unmeasured terms.

Yorkville: Andrew Johnson is no more, and with that announcement all animosity should cease. His good deeds should be remembered to his honor and his imperfections only noted to vindicate the truth of history.

In another column will be found the advertisement of Jennings Seminary, Aurora, whose fall term commences on Tuesday, Aug. 31, 1875. This is the 18th academic year of this well-known institution, which is under the direction of Rev. C.E. Mandeville.

Mr. Parke, a former citizen of Oswego and who at one time came within a few votes of being elected Circuit Clerk of this County, died in Wisconsin a few days ago. He was a prominent and honored citizen.

Farmers are nearly through harvesting, notwithstanding the west weather and bad condition of the grain.

Aug. 12: Frequent allusions have been made through these weekly reports to the want of a regular hotel in this place; this indispensable requisite of a town seems now to receive some attention. A hotel company is to be organized immediately and the project pushed forward with all possible speed. So mote it be.

A happy event, the wedding of Miss Alvira C. VanDriesen to Mr. James Todd of Chicago took place last Thursday at the bride's parents.

Chas. A. Dowd and Mrs. Devoe yesterday returned to Minnesota. Mrs. Race accompanied them.

Didn't witness on Sunday as much of the religious engagement as usual; near church time met Mr. George Woolley, that is the old man Woolley, who had been in town on an errand; he invited me to get in the buggy and go out with him to his place and spend the Sunday in the country. I accepted the invitation. Mr. W. came here 34 years ago and is well known to most everybody. His characteristics are somewhat singular; in his conversation he is very outspoken, quite rough, frequently will slip a profane word, and when he gets to town he is very apt to drink too much of something strong, but I don't mean to be understood that such was the case on this occasion. However, with all his drinking and the many sprees he has experienced, he never lost sight of the value of money and never anybody got the advantage of him in a bargain or anything else on that account. He understands the art of making money, is one of the best farmers, keeps everything in the neatest style and most convenient manner, and has raised a family of the steadiest boys in the country. This, however, is doubtless most due to Mrs. Woolley, for there is no better woman or nicer lady anywhere. For awhile, Mr. W. wanted all the land adjoining his farm and he bought up several places, but since he retired from business (it is now the boys that are working the land) he is satisfied with what he has. They have now between six and seven hundred acres all in a boy and there is no better land in the county.

We went first to

#### CHARLES' PLACE

and looked over the premises, especially the new barn built this season by Mr. VanEvra, and which in design of the different compartments for convenience is ahead of anything I ever saw. We met at that place Mrs. Wm. Parker, being there on a visit to her daughter, Mrs. Charles Woolley. Then we drove up to the place of George Jr., or what he called the old place, namely where he used to live. Found none but a hired man at home, the folks having gone to church. We went however through the house and other buildings--the bar was built a number of years ago in the place of one burned down. Next we drove to

#### L.M. WOOLLEY'S

or Doc, as he is called, but found the house shut up all having gone to church. From there we drove to his own residence at the upper end of the farm, a most delightful place. The buildings all new, everything arranged for the greatest convenience and kept in the neatest style. He merely keeps a family horse (the mare he had been driving a number of years, the safest animal extant, stops of her own accord the minute anything breaks, never stirs out of her tracks when in harness, he never pretends to tie her even when standing

beside a moving engine) a couple of cows, a lot of the choicest breed of pigs and just works a garden spot together with Frank, his little boy. Mrs. Woolley is as nice a housekeeper as can be found anywhere and has an excellent taste for the beautiful. She has the most magnificent display of flowers I ever beheld. There is a cut stone walk from the house to the gate about eight or nine rods long, on each side is a bed of flowers about five feet wide the entire distance, standing just as thick as they possibly can and mixed in together so as to beautifully blend and cause a rare dazzling to the eye. Standing at one end and looking over them, it is like looking over clouds of bouquets. I don't know by name one flower from another, but even if I did I couldn't begin to mention varieties. A very good dinner was soon enjoyed, at which I exhibited my eating faculties to the best advantage--always have more appetite when in the country and am not slow at home, at least our folks say.

After conversing awhile about the olden times when there was no money, little market for anything, and the prices ruled very low, Mr. W. likes to talk about the time when he was poor and when he had to use all his wits in contriving to get along--and about the old neighbors, those that have passed away, &c. At short intervals, taking a glass of cider, we took a walk up to his nearest neighbor,

#### PHILLIP BOESSENECKER

who has the most favorable site for a residence in the country, having a very extensive view. Portions of Yorkville, Oswego, and the steeples of Aurora are in sight, and an immense tract of country. He also has a new house and barn of large dimensions and is one of the most prosperous farmers. Phillip's entertainments were very hospitable, his excellent currant wine (an innocent beverage) was not spared. He accompanied us back to Woolley's where we were joined by Charley and young George, and the balance of the afternoon was spent in lively talk interspersed with an occasional glass of cider. Before departing, Mrs. Woolley fixed me a huge and splendid bouquet. Charles, towards evening, brought me back to town. The spending of a day in the country amongst the farmers was to me a very agreeable change. Mr. Woolley was in Aurora yesterday and took home a new \$300 one-horse carriage, mostly for the use of his wife. (Strooley must have been pretty full when he got home. --Editor.)

The Grand Harvest ball will be held a week from Friday evening or the 20th inst.

#### Yorkville: Death of S.M. Satterly

A man well known in Kendall and related to a number of families in the towns of Oswego, NaAuSay, and Kendall--the Shepards, Seelys, Jessups, and others--a good man, died at Aurora last week after patient suffering or many months and was buried last Saturday in the AuSable Grove Cemetery. We can pay no better tribute to his memory than to publish the following from the Chicago Tribune of last Monday, which, we think, was written by Governor Bross, who was present at the funeral:

Another Good man has passed to his reward. Seth M. Satterly died at Aurora last Thursday evening, aged 67 years. Born of one of the oldest and most respected families in Orange County, N.Y., he lived on his pastoral acres in the beautiful town of Chester till 1853 when, accompanied by a large emigration of his friends and neighbors, he settled near AuSable Grove in Kendall County in this State. For many years an elder in the

Presbyterian Church, he illustrated in his character and in all his life the genuine traits of a true Christian gentleman.

If our Court House is ever struck by lightning we shall lose all faith in Old Ben Franklin, in lightning rods, and in Mose Richards. The past week Mr. Richards and his men have been busy rodding the County building in the most scientific and tasteful manner. He has put up what is called the English Cable Rod--a continuous wire rope composed of 15 galvanized iron wires and a center wire of copper, tipped with a gold-plated point. There are nine points on the Court House, one on the cupola, one on each of the gables (four), and a point to each of four chimneys. A couple of feet below the points are neat gilded balls, which set off the rods in a handsome manner. The rods are well insulated with glass holders in galvanized iron staples or hook, which are strongly imbedded in the brick or roof, as required. The lower ends are buried in the ground 13 feet, ending in a charcoal receptacle, which makes the chance of any damage by electricity almost impossible. Everything is done in a workmanlike manner and Mr. Richards can proudly point to our Court House as a monument of his skill as a lightning-rod man. [Richards' lightning rod firm was based in Oswego]

The man who put the lightning-rod on the top of the Court House cupola was in a ticklish position. We would rather have been on the ground.

One of the saddest accidents we have ever been called upon to record came to our knowledge last Friday through a letter to S.G. Minkler, Esq., written to him by Rev. G.R. VanHorne, and containing this brief account: Miss Libbie, daughter of Mortimer Minkler, Esq., of Rochelle, a niece of our Smith Minkler, was thrown against the sickle of a Kirby reaper on the 31 inst., and both arms between the elbows and the shoulders were cut off. The young lady is about 16 years of age.

L.N. Hall and Dr. Putt, and ladies of Oswego, taking advantage of the pleasant evening, were at the Baptist Church, Bristol, Sunday evening.

NaAuSay: Mike Ragen has left this vicinity; it is supposed on account of debt.

Mr. Satterly, a former resident of this town, died last Thursday and many friends mourn for him.

Mr. Greenfield of Oswego is putting up a fine residence for B. Clark of Aux Sable grove.

Charles Davis is doing a flourishing business in the milk line. He delivers 25 cans daily to the Montgomery cheese factory.

Aug. 19: The funeral of Albert Davis took place Sunday afternoon. The services were held at the house. Mr. D. has been sick for several months, was 54 years of age, came from Rutland, Vt., and settled in this township about 24 years ago.

Squire Welch and C.F. Duffy killed 48 prairie chickens on last Monday.

The photograph car of Reiff and Wood is now on a stoppage for business in this town.

A difficulty occurred between Del. Lockwood, Charley Hawley, and Nick Hanni, from which the latter came out with a black eye, and which was owing to the former being hunting on the premises of the latter. A suit at law was instituted, but subsequently withdrawn.

Dwight Smith has returned from Iowa.

Coffin & Son had their store reshingled.

An outdoor ball under the management of Martin Moorman took place Friday evening. A dancing platform, music stand, and other stands necessary for serving refreshments had been erected in Judson's grove near the R.R. track; the ground was illuminated with about 150 Chinese lanterns of different colors, giving the place a magnificent appearance. An Aurora band furnished the music. Contrary to conjectures, the affair was conducted in good order and passed off very quietly.

Mr. VanEvra and the authorities are at variance. Because of too much indulgence in the ardent his conduct became obnoxious to the neighbors and he was complained of, which led to his being kept in durance over night. The case is not yet disposed of.

Learned that Mr. Duffy of Lisbon has been engaged as principal of our school for the ensuing term.

Yorkville: The managers of the Winnebago Agricultural Society made an engagement with Jeff Davis the rebel President, to address the annual Fair at Rockford next month. Last week, Jeff's card of acceptance was published in the different papers and an indignant uprisal of the people has been the result. The Grand Army of the Republic held a meeting at Rockford Thursday night and 300 soldier boys signed a protest.

I.B. Chattle on the river road between Yorkville and Oswego is setting a good example for his neighbors by mowing down all the weeds in front of his residence.

An Oswego correspondent for the Chicago Journal says: The crusade, which commenced here a little over a year ago, unfortunately did not accomplish what it was hoped it would, public sentiment not sustaining the ladies in their effort. When the crusade was started, there were two saloons; now there are four. Not only that, but much complaint is made of liquor being sold, contrary to law, to minors, on Sunday, for which offense the authorities, we understand, intend to take action during the coming week.

Wednesday's Chicago Tribune contained the following brief editorial:

The melancholy mystery surrounding the fate of the balloonists who ascended from Chicago five weeks ago and started upon a mid-air voyage across Lake Michigan has been partially cleared away. The boy of Mr. Grimwood, the Journal reporter who

accompanied Prof. Donaldson on his perilous expedition, has been yielded up from the depths of the lake. Upon a lonely beach along the eastern shore near Montague, Mich., the remains of Grimwood were yesterday found and identified beyond question. Thus is verified the Tribune's theory, advanced within 48 hours of the departure of the balloon, that the aeronauts were dashed violently into the lake by the terrible storm which came upon them about midnight. There is no longer room for doubt that the two men were drowned and the bursted life-preserve found upon Grimwood's boy suggests the probability that he either jumped in the black night from a considerable elevation or else was violently hurled upon the water by a sudden blast of the hurricane.

Aug. 26: The marriage of Charles Wagner and Mrs. Irene Billings occurred last week Thursday.

Of former Oswegoans, Mrs. Beaupre and her daughter, Mrs. Sarah A. Roberts, Byron Shibley, and Wallace Hopkins were in town.

A settlement was effected in all the liquor cases that had been on Judicial docket.

There was some frost both Sunday and Monday mornings, but not enough to hurt anything.

Yorkville: On the inside of this paper we give an account of the finding of Mr. Grimwood's body and the circumstances attending it. At his home here last Thursday, preparations were made to receive and bury the remains, which were expected at Bristol Station at ten o'clock. The Kendall Cornet Band and a large number of friends went from Yorkville and Bristol to the station, with C.R. Wood as Marshal. Arriving at the station, a large concourse of people assembled to pay a tribute of respect to the departed.

September -- 1875

Sept. 2: The death of Martha E., wife of William Dwyre, occurred last week. The remains were taken on Friday to NaAuSay. The deceased was 37 years and 10 months of age, born in Jefferson county, N.Y., and had been sick some time with consumption.

Charles Lehman and G.W. Kimball have returned.

Lawing has been somewhat revived. A suit by a six man jury was tried Saturday before Justice Gray. The village trustees were plaintiff and G. Collins and E. Edwards defendants. The charge was a violation of ordinance, the verdict six cents for plaintiff. Hawley and Snook rendered the legal services for the town and Brown of Aurora for the defendants.

Kief had Tom Rowan bound over to keep the peace, then Tom informed on Kief that he was selling beer on Sunday and to minors, for which the trustees overhauled him before Esquire Newton and a fine of \$75 was assessed against him.

Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Gaylord left this morning for Kansas to pay a visit to their son, Charles.

Yorkville: Col. Greusel had a pleasant visit among the old soldiers of Yorkville last week. The Colonel is a good talker and knows all about the late war.

C. Duffy has moved from Lisbon to Oswego and begins his school next Monday. We commend him to the good graces of our Oswego friends as a good sociable gentleman.

Our Oswego correspondent philosophizes to some extent in his letter this week, and his earnest language cannot be put aside in a trifling manner. There's meat in it; there's truth in it, we are sorry to say.

Mr. L.N. Hall has been visiting in the vicinity of Amboy and says wheat there thrashed 20 to 25 bushels per acre and oats will average 70 bushels. Corn is about the same as along Fox River.

The large water-wheel at the Blackberry Mills has been relined by E.K. Green, who has also repaired the buckets. The mill is now in thorough order for fall work, and Mr. Dixon can give you a good grist.

NaAuSay: Mrs. William Dwyre of Oswego, formerly of NaAuSay, died Aug. 25, 1875. Friday, Aug. 27th, friends met at the house. The funeral services took place at Union church.

Sept. 9: The new term of school commenced yesterday. The teachers are Prof. C. Duffy, principal; Miss Florence C. Child and Miss Anna Brown, assistant.

Charles Inman returned last week in excellent health and spirits from the plains; he has been out there five years, principally in New Mexico, in the regular service of Uncle Sam. James Butler and Bryant Ruddy, the other two Oswego boys discharged from the Army at the same time remained there; Butler is going to run a ranch.

Lester Young has been installed into service in the drug store.

Rev. W.K. Beans has gone on the excursion to Kansas; Elder Minard officiated in his stead at the M.E. church.

The infant child of N.C. Gillespie died at Plano and was brought here for burial.

Our burial ground wants to be in different shape from what it now is; it wants to be under some organization and in charge of somebody. Cannot we have a cemetery company? Judson offers to sell the unoccupied and as much additional ground as may be wanted on vary reasonable terms. Who will move in this matter? A number of nice monuments have

lately been put up in it, of which I just can call to mind those of Libbie Stahl, Mrs. Moesley, Martin, Eugene and William Hinchman.

The repairs of the Congregational church are progressing finely under Zopher Ketchum, the boss carpenter; Wils Briggs, painter; David Carpenter and August Kuehl are making the excavation for the cellar.

Yorkville: Last Thursday morning, 37 parlor heating stoves were unloaded at Yorkville depot for R.W. Willet.

George Cowdrey will have a splendid crop of corn this season. Last Thursday he left three ears at this office picked from his field of large yellow variety that is out of the way of frost. Mr. Cowdrey is generally among the first to have ripe corn.

The recent hot weather has increased the sick list in this neighborhood and the doctors have been kept busily employed.

During the recent pleasant weather, workmen have been busily engaged in repairing Black's dam. It is being put in better shape than it has been in for some time. Mr. E.A. Black gives his personal attention to the work.

A nest of sports were engaged throwing dice on the Island Tuesday. The authorities of Bristol or Kendall or the Sheriff should break up these gangs. They are not allowed on the Fair Grounds.

Capt. Edward Mann of Oswego officiated as one of the judges at the Aurora races.

Sept. 16: Thinking that Fair matters will crowd the columns of the *Record* this week and that therefore the shorter my report the better it will be liked, I will be brief.

The Presbyterian peach festival was a success socially and tolerably so financially, about \$40 made clear.

Rev. Levi H. Holt is about leaving his charge here to return to the Baptist seminary at Chicago for further studies. He will preach his last sermon next Sunday.

Rev. W.K. Beans returned from the excursion and vigorously resumed his labors.

The authorities have commenced to repair the streets, a little.

NaAuSay: NaAuSay attended the peach festival in Oswego last Tuesday evening.

The men did not work the roads last week but gathered at the church and parsonage last Saturday where they made fence, trimmed trees, and had a general clearing up.

I hear that our school is going to commence the first Monday in next month and is to continue five months. Mr. Fitzgerald is the expected teacher.

#### Sept. 23: Removals

The milliner store to over the post office; Dr. Putt's office over the furniture store; the family of Geo. D. Wykoff over Sutherland's shoe store; Prof. C.C. Duffy into Miss Kennedy's house; Ambrose Maxam into Mrs. Whitman's house.

#### Visitors

Mrs. Geo. W. Parker (formerly Mrs. Joseph Hopkins) of Binghamton, N.Y.

John B. Roberts and family of Champaign County.

Wm. Walker of Iowa.

Mrs. Geo. R Keeling of Amboy.

Miss Anna Hopkins of Sandwich.

The funeral of a boy 14 months old of Thomas Brace took place last week; he was buried in the Wormley grave yard.

C. Dale Armstrong will exhibit his reading and ventriloquism Thursday evening; the band will furnish the music.

Coffin & Son have received a new Fairbanks Wagon load scales.

R.R. track in front of the depot was made sweet yesterday by running over a barrel of sugar; just the thing for small boys.

Yorkville: Mose Richards has been putting lightning rods all over Conklin's hay barn at Millbrook, and if lightning ever burns it up, Mose will pay the damages--won't you?

Rev. E.W. Hicks of Newark (Epsilon) called on us last week. We learn that he is to assist in editing the *Millington Enterprise* hereafter. We congratulate the readers of that paper in having the pleasure of reading his happy locals.

We have seen the first installment of a history of the 36th Illinois Volunteers written by Major L.G. Bennett of Yorkville. It takes the regiment up to the battle of Pea Ridge. The Major expects to conclude the history by spring. It is a most interesting volume and from the glance we got of it, judge that it will be a great favorite with the regiment.

Sept. 30: With the exception of the erection of scales by Coffin & Son on Main Street in front of the National premises and C. Dale Armstrong's articulatory exhibition which was not very largely attended, the doings of this burg the past week have been of the routine nature.

The Congregationals are progressing finely with the repairs on their church.

A stereopticon exhibition will be given Thursday and Friday evenings at the Baptist Church.

A little disagreeableness transpired between Pat Deviny and George Washington at the mill.

A large company went from here to the Exposition this morning; the baggage car had to be filled with passengers.

Yorkville: Our threshing machines all seem to be doing a good business this season, and are making money for their owners. Last week with his new Case machine, Thos. Spencer thrashed 275 bags of oats in 3 hours and 30 minutes on the Helme farm for Mr. Garlick, and the horses on the power never stopped once during the time. This was 825 bushels of oats by weight.

NaAuSay: The winter term of the Union school commences next Monday.

October -- 1875

Oct. 7: H.C. Cutter was suddenly called to Arlington, Mass., on account of sickness of his father; the death of the latter was subsequently received by telegraph.

The question of getting a public fountain, water trough, or something of that sort is now agitated.

Henry Strossman is causing the Shepard store room to be fixed up for a restaurant.

The Smith building on the corner of Washington and Main street is undergoing repairs.

Miss Etta Lamb was married to a Mr. Wm. Boyle of Galesburg; his occurred about two weeks ago.

D.M. Haight has returned from New York, Boston, Lynn, Providence and other eastern cities--in a brand new suit, where he has been on a business trip.

Charles Clinton and family of New Orleans--the State Treasurer of Louisiana--were in town yesterday on a visit to their friends and acquaintances.

David Hall is at present running the post office and Horace Lehman the depot; the keepers of these posts have gone to the exposition.

Mr. Beans preached his farewell sermon Sunday morning to a large congregation.

Just received a package of wedding cake and the information of Miss Alice M. Loucks' marriage to Mr. Edward A. Welch of Little Rock.

Yorkville: We have received Jules Vern's famous new book, *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Seas*. It is an interesting account of a long and adventurous trip and lays bare the mysteries of the mighty deep, its sunken treasure ships, darksome caverns and strange monsters.

D.J. Townsend, formerly of Kendall County, now of Virginia, was on a visit to his friends in Kendall County the past week; he speaks very highly of Virginia; the peach crop is a failure, the tobacco and corn crop is good.

One of the most exciting and interesting events which has transpired in Plainfield, perhaps for several years, occurred Tuesday evening, Sept. 28, 1875. It was the marriage of Miss Ella M. Young to Rev. E.W. Hicks, of Newark. It happened this wise: Those who were invited to witness the ceremony, some 200 persons, assembled at the Baptist church at 7 o'clock. At half-past 7 the bridal party were announced, which consisted of the bride and bridegroom, Miss Amanda Dillman of Joliet as bridesmaid and H.W. Young, brother of the bride, as groomsman....Mr. and Mrs. Hicks then received the hearty congratulations of their numerous friends, after which they, with the invited guests repaired to the house of Mr. H. Young for a reception...Her dress was green silk trimmed with the same, the basque being also trimmed with white lace, and a white lace tie; she wore a white veil, with the usual wreaths of orange blossoms in her hair and white gloves and slippers. The guests at the house numbered about 50... At an early hour the party broke up and the happy couple took their departure for Joliet, intending to make an extended tour through the northern part of the state....The bridegroom is well-known to the readers of the *Record* both as a preacher and a writer. The bride was formerly a teacher in Kendall County and is a sister of H.W. Young, formerly of AuSable Grove.

Oct. 14: By a late addition to the population of the United States, Ellis Minkler was raised to the dignity of "daddy;" it is a boy.

A Mr. Comstock, constructor of Fairbanks scales, completed the erection of the scales for Coffin & Son on Main street above the post office.

The barbershop building on Washington Street has been moved, turned about, and joined to the building on the corner.

The Methodist church Sunday morning was supplied by the Rev. Mr. Wilkinson from the Scotch settlement.

Stereopticon exhibition heretofore postponed, will not take place Thursday evening the 14th inst., at the Baptist church.

Pressure of business causes the brevity of this report.

Yorkville: Freight business on the Fox River road is picking up, and a large number of extra freight trains pass over the road daily.

Mr. L.G. Bennett was down at Galesburg last week to see Chaplain Haigh in relation to assisting him in getting up the history of the 36th Regiment. Mr. Haigh promises to help on the work. Mr. Bennett also went to Burlington, Ia., and attended a Democratic meeting where he saw the great unwashed in all their glory.

There was a big drove of cattle going through Yorkville on Monday going south.

Oct. 21: The funeral of Miss Martha Edson took place today. The services were held at the house. Miss E. has been an invalid for years suffering from that slow but fatal disease, consumption.

Miss Carrie Makinney has been very sick with typhoid fever.

The water trough by the post office will soon be a reality; Kuchl is doing the excavating work. Theron Richards and Bis Hunt are constructing the tower and the Marshall Wind Engine Co. will put up the wind mill; the National well is used for the supply of the water.

R.B. Murphy has returned to Mobile, Ala.

Two of the Troy boys were a little too much spiritously stimulated the other evening and therefore unduly exercised about their affairs, fell into the hands of the police authorities and fetched up in the calaboose.

The Rev. W.K. Beans was returned to this place by the Rock River Methodist Conference to the delight of his many friends.

The Lutherans in the afternoon held services at their church, a Pfarrer from Naperville officiated.

Yorkville: David Goudie, Esq. of NaAuSay, says he is going to vote for Grant for President in 1876. If the Republicans don't nominate him, the Democrats will.

Oct. 28: There was a wedding Thursday evening at the residence of Ezekiel Pearce, namely their daughter Nora to Thomas Goudie.

Ash. Hall is up from Houston, Texas, and owing to his presence there was a kind of family reunion Sunday afternoon at John D's, his father.

The water works attracted the most attention the past week. They are now finished, all but some painting and paving; the horses are highly delighted with and universally approve of them, but among the Yahoos there was some discussion and faultfinding; a few impolite opinions exchanged, but that is natural and there was no harm in it. The institution is now making the supply of water in its various uses very handy and seems to work admirably.

It is said the first thing Robinson B. Murphy did when he got back to Mobile was to get married.

Winter is coming on and the evenings are getting long; shall we, as usual, while them away as best we can or get up some doings. What say those with combativeness largely developed to a debating club? Or those inclined to sentimentalism to a reading society?

Yorkville: Horse Thieves Again

Shall We have some Judicious Lynching?

Tuesday night, a pair of horses were stolen from the stable of N.B. Young, Bristol; the same gentleman who had a wagon stolen at the time Mr. Patterson's horses were taken. They were good farm horses only six years old. The thieves also took a farm wagon and set of double harness. The barn door was locked but the rascals wrenched the lock off. Mr. Young tracked the thieves as far as the Oswego bridge, which they crossed and there the trail was lost. Mr. Y. being a member of the Protective Association has notified its officers of the lost property. There are many scoundrels engaged in this business; some of them near home; and a little harsh treatment might do them good.

The photographers now in Yorkville, Rieff & Wood have taken some very fine views of the Court House and both sides of Bridge street. Framed, these will make a handsome ornament for the parlor or office.

November -- 1875

Nov. 4: There will be an oyster supper for the benefit of the M.E. Sabbath School at the Methodist parsonage Nov. 20. There will be music and literary exercises.

The wedding of Earl T. Sutherland and Lydia Turner transpired very quietly Thursday evening.

In the New Orleans "Bulletin" of Oct. 22, I noticed this paragraph: "We are pleased to meet on our streets Mr. R.B. Murphy, a well known and justly popular citizen of Mobile. Mr. Murphy is on a wedding tour, and with his bride, is stopping at the St. James Hotel. From that it will be soon that Rob is surely married.

The place heretofore occupied by Moorman as a saloon is now being fitted for Early Sutherland's restaurant.

The Poage Brothers have been receiving immense piles of lumber; they have now decidedly the largest stock on hand that ever was in Oswego.

Mr. Farley has been building an addition to his residence.

The Sciopticon [Stereopticon] show Thursday evening fizzled for want of patronage.

Yorkville: D.M. Haight of Oswego has received a patent on "skids for oil barrels."

From the *Aurora Beacon*: Mr. W.D. Smith has successfully conducted the Montgomery flouring mills for six or seven years past, but has decided to retire upon the expiration of his lease on December 1st. He will be succeeded in this popular mill by Mr. Upshaw Hord, late of the Black Hawk Mills and Mr. Chas. P. Emmons, formerly of the firm of Phelps & Emmons, both gentlemen of energy and fine business qualifications whom their many friends will be pleased to welcome in the new enterprise and whom we commend to the former patrons of the Montgomery Mills.

Capt Ed. Mann has a good, second hand Phaeton for sale, very cheap. It is in good order and strong in every way.

Nov. 11: The oyster supper for the benefit of the M.E. Sabbath school, which was to take place at the Methodist parsonage, has been changed to Shepard's Hall tomorrow (Wednesday) evening. All are invited.

Henry C. Cutter and Mrs. J.B. Hunt have returned from their visit to the Old Bay State. Also, Mrs. Thomas S. Hopkins from the Empire State, a lady friend accompanying her.

A.B. Hall returned here from his trips east.

Miss Emma Murdock was taken very sick at Bloomington, where of late she has been staying; one day last week she was removed to her home.

There is great joy in the family of Frank Hawley; a daughter is the cause of it.

Our millinery store is a thing of the past. The Wyckoff family has moved to Aurora.

The flag stones for use of the water trough are on the ground and ready for laying.

While taking a stroll with some friends over the country Sunday afternoon, we called at Milt. Poage's, where we were very hospitably entertained. Milt. has a large herd of the finest Berkshire pigs and lots of other nice young stock.

A very wicked act was perpetrated here Sunday evening, during the services of the union meeting some person or persons got in the post office and appropriated the fractional currency and most of the nickels and pennies in the drawer; the entrance was effected by breaking a pane of glass out of the back window; in climbing in the fellow smashed the looking glass, the best piece of furniture in the office, which was hanging near the window; upwards of a dollar of nickels and three cent pieces were left in the drawer; there were postage stamps in both drawers ransacked but it I supposed that none were taken and nothing else in the office was disturbed; it will doubtless go hard with them if they carry this sin with them to the final judgment; better have it straightened up now and thereby avoid a terrible punishment for it. I am very sorry that they got themselves into

this scrape and see no other way out of it than by restitution. It should be remarked here that nothing of this kind had been going on in this town for some time.

Zoph and Ed Ketchum have moved to town from Plattville.

Yorkville: Lee & Moore sell the best five-cent cigar that is made.

Gen. Sherman's Memoirs and Gen. Jo. Johnson's History of his Campaigns have been added to our Yorkville library. A good investment. [This was probably Confederate Gen. Joseph Johnston's *Narrative of Military Operations*, 1874.]

Wood & Reiff in the new picture car, now in Yorkville, are turning out as good work as can be got in Aurora or any city. They take photographs or tintypes. The views they took of the court house and Bridge street met with great favor and they have sold three dozen.

Ye Oswegoites, remember that oyster supper at Shepard's Hall tonight. The first of the season.

Nov. 18: The Methodist Sunday school oyster supper brought only \$15 profits. Liberality seems not to be the prevailing spirit at present.

George Haag in returning from Aurora had a runaway in the neighborhood of Squires'; he was thrown from the wagon and his scalp and face badly cut.

It is said that two young ladies took a short promenade--only round one block--on an evening of last week, one of them being dressed in gentlemen's clothes; some think that such was very disnice. For my part, I don't see the great harm done; this is a free country; if I should choose to rig up in a regular pin-back attire, whose business would it be? But old Propriety is very exacting you know.

Early Sutherland has moved into his new quarters, which are fitted up in the best of style for the catering business. We now have two neat and tasty restaurants; nobody now need go hungry between meals nor suffer for the want of good things.

Mr. William P. Danforth is now getting up the material and making preparations for the production in public of the "Oratorio of Queen Esther;" the rehearsals take place evenings at the Baptist church.

Nick Congdon and family have gone to and are going to stay at Edwards Station during the winter.

Yorkville: Mr. Bennett's history of the 36th Illinois Infantry will be printed and bound at the Beacon office, Aurora, and they will doubtless get up a handsome book.

Nate Loucks dropped in Thursday morning and made it lively for us a few moments. He was over after brick to fix up about his house. Nate is one of our most thrifty farmers, and has made his money by hard work.

Winter began in real earnest Tuesday morning. During the night a light snow fell, and the wind blew keenly from the west. Ice formed thick in tubs and pails and small patches were seen on the river. It was a cold morning and very disagreeable for corn huskers.

Mr. George W. Kellogg of NaAuSay dropped in to see us Monday and we drew him out to talk of early days. He came to this country in 1835 and rode from Plainfield to Somonauk on horseback. There, he says, there was a log house where the courthouse now stands in Yorkville and a house in Bristol near where Lane's mill now is and that was all the buildings there were where these villages now stand. He had ridden from Plainfield to Holderman's and the only house between those points was Daniel Platt's. He spoke of the first Fourth of July celebration in Chicago when Judge Smith of the State Supreme Court made the speech and prophesied that in 50 years Chicago would have a population of 100,000. This so amused the Chicagoans of that day that they pulled the Judge from the platform, calling him a fool, and poured whiskey on his head. They don't waste whiskey on the head now--they pour it down the throat.

#### Auctions

At the store of Hawley & Bros. Oswego commencing Nov. 20 and continuing from Saturday to Saturday till all are disposed of, will be sold dry good, groceries, glassware, wooden ware, barrels of salt, show cases, desks, butter tubs and crocks, egg carriers, a large line of prints, domestics, woolen goods, army clothing, yankee notions, &c. David Hall will commence to do the talking at 1 o'clock.

On the Schofield farm, one half mile west of Bristol Station on the Plano road, Wednesday, Dec. 1, will be sold 11 head of horses and colts, cows, calves, one grade bull, lot of stock hogs and breeding sows, a lot of hay, harnesses, a Marsh Harvester, Union corn planter, farming utensils of every kind, household goods, &c. All sums over \$10 on a credit of one year.

#### Married

Weatherstone-Albee--In Oswego, Nov. 10th, inst., by the Rev. S.P. Keys at the residence of the bride's father, Mr. James P. Weatherstone of Chicago and Miss Belle Albee of Oswego.

Nov. 25: Mr. and Mrs. Joseph D. Kennedy of Manchester, Iowa, formerly residents of this town, are here on a visit.

Mrs. Jefferson Phillips of Lostant--or Maria Stafford when an Oswego girl--spent a few days visiting among her friends. [Lostant is a village in LaSalle County.]

The son of Charles J. Shumway who, about two weeks ago delighted that family by his appearance among them, is said to be as smart as he is pretty.

Leo Miller failed to fulfill his appointment for a temperance lecture last week, and perhaps it was well he did. He would have been disappointed with the audience and the audience mortified because of its diminitiveness. Elder Stoughton of Aurora had come down to supply the engagement but the attendance did not warrant the delivery of an address. Tomorrow evening, Mr. Seboski, the State lecturer of the Good Templars, will make a trial to instruct us on that subject at the Baptist church.

A new saloon has been put in operation in the Smith brick building, making again full our regular number; I believe Wollenweber is the head boss of it.

Mrs. Ambrose Maxam died yesterday morning at the age of 35 years; she had been ailing for a month or two.

The town authorities are now at securing from freezing the supply tank of the water works, and perhaps while they are at it they will also cause the laying of the flagstones at the trough.

The auction sales at Hawley's store have been progressing Saturday and last evening.

The livestock trade is now quite lively, considerable shipping of cattle and hogs going on; the Cherrys, Davises and Goudie are among the shippers; also Wollenweber, our regular dealer.

#### Yorkville: Some School Statistics

We make an abstract of the County Superintendent's Report to Hon. S.M. Etter, State Superintendent, and offer it for the examination of our readers.

The census report from the different towns gives us 5,674 persons under 21 years of age against 5,890 in 1874 and 6,097 in 1873, showing a gradual decrease in the number of minors in the county.

Of the total number in the county under 21 years, 2,821 are males and 2,853 are females. There are 79 school districts; and the average number of months school is kept in the county is 7.53 each year.

The total number of pupils enrolled in the different schools is 3,205, against 3,118 in 1874 and 3,256 in 1873, showing nearly the same attendance each year.

The total number of male teachers employed during the year was 44; female teachers, 108; whole number of teachers engaged during the year, 152.

The report of school libraries is very deficient and shows that branch of improvement has gone to decay.

Bristol reports two districts having libraries with 226 volumes; Kendall reports three districts having libraries with 140 volumes. That is all. As no additions have been made to these libraries since they were first bought, it might be well to have that item omitted from all future reports.

The total expenditures for the year were \$31,901.60; balance on hand in the townships, \$9,306.90.

The highest wages paid to a teacher was \$110 a month; the lowest was \$20 a month.

\$31,901 looks like a large sum to be expended in one year on our schools, but it is not much per scholar when averaged. According to the total number of pupils enrolled in our schools, it costs \$9.95 per year to school each pupil. According to the number of school age, it will take \$8.65 per year per pupil.

Boys were skating on the river below Bristol bridge last Monday. The skating on Lane's pond is good.

Navigation on the Illinois and Michigan canal closes today.

NaAuSay: Mr. Gates has completed his house and we hear he is going to have it "warmed" pretty soon.

December -- 1875

Dec. 2: The funeral of Mrs. Ambrose Maxam took place Wednesday from the Presbyterian church.

Seboski, the state lecturer for the order of Good Templars, and McDonald, a companion, addressed those who availed themselves of the opportunity on the subject of temperance Wednesday and Thursday evenings. None of those that needed reform most, in that direction, were present and the attendance was not as large as the cause would seem to demand.

Thanksgiving was very generally observed, but not altogether in compliance with the recommendations of the President and Governor. Those that assembled at the Congregational church for divine worship made a very respectable congregation....the alterations and improvements of the church are quite extensive; the seats are remodeled, the side pews removed, a low platform, the center an inverted circle, is extended across the entire pulpit end, the wall paper is of a white neat pattern capped with a heavy border, the windows nicely frescoed; behind the pulpit is a representation of tall pillars supporting an arch; the pulpit is one of those new fashioned tiny affairs--a style not especially admired by the writer--looks too much like the preacher standing by a post and that his boots ought to be in order to make the sermon effective--the painting, except the pulpit and the trimmings to the pews is all white, the carpets are of a neat light colored pattern, the heating is done by furnaces; everything about the church is fresh, clean, and tidy.

Another class spent a large share of that day down on the bank of the river shooting; and in the evening the young folks of the gay and worldly minded order held a dance in Shepard's hall; the sober minded attended the temperance lecture at the Baptist church and everybody on that day ate a big dinner of course.

The town authorities caused the erection of a building over the supply water tank, the casing, sawdust interlining and covering of the trough, the painting of the whole,

including the windmill tower, the laying of the flagstones around the trough, and the putting down of tile for the drainage of that part of the street.

D.M. Haight has received a 3,000 pound safe of an excellent finish and immense strength; anything locked up in there, especially in the inner chamber, must be as safe as safe can be.

A.T.D. Austin has moved to this town.

Auction at Hawley's store every evening.

Yorkville: Financial matters were very lively at the Kendall County Bank on Saturday last. E.N. Lewis, fiscal agent for Cushman, Force & Co. was at the bank receiving investments in the Fox River Valley Railroad, deceased. Some years ago, many of our people invested in the franchises of said company and were badly sold, and Saturday they made their little settlements. They were sold short, and C.F. & Co. bulled the market successfully. It was a day of long faces and anathemas, but the rhino or its equivalent had to come. There were merchants, farmers, and capitalists and all thought swear words, whether they uttered them or not. A few have still refused to settle and await further developments.

For some months to come, the most rigid economy will be practiced by many of our people. Five cent cigars will be in vogue among smokers and a mush and milk diet, varied with an occasional dish of baked beans will form the winter's bill of fare. Wives must not ask for new dresses; daughters of furs; sons for a new overcoat; nor children for a pair of new skates.

But then, why fuss about it; the dog is dead; let us rejoice. We have all sworn never to sign another aid note--the experience is worth something.

Chicago is overrun by gamblers, thieves, and prostitutes and is getting to be one of the worst cities in the Union, if not the worst.

One of those shocking railroad accidents which are almost daily chronicled by the press but which we never fully realize unless they take place in our immediate vicinity, occurred at Millington. About 3 o'clock Friday morning as Engine No. 210 was passing north or up the river, drawing a heavily loaded freight train, the upper end of the switch being left open, the engine and eight cars were thrown from the track upon the right into the ditch, causing a serious loss of life and property. The fireman and brakeman escaped from the cab at once, but not without considerable injury, which it is feared will terminate fatally with one of them. But unfortunately the engineer was caught and held down by the lever and other fixtures of the cab, from which it is thought probably together with the injuries received by the first shock that it was impossible for him to extricate himself and where he remained being terribly scalded by the steam from the boiler. He was taken to the Austin House where he was attended by Dr. Newsome. His wounds aside from the burns were not considered serious but it is the opinion of the attending physician that he could never have recovered from the burns upon the upper portion of his person. He died within a few hours.

Of the eight cars thrown from the track, one was loaded with glass, three with hogs, and four with coal. The glass was badly broken and over 30 of the hogs were killed besides many more injured. The cars are badly wrecked and it will take some days to get them and the engine upon the track again.

Dec. 9: The big thing last week was the "Oratorio of Queen Esther," rendered under the superintendence of Prof. W.P. Danforth; it was the greatest success in the shape of entertainment that has been accomplished here for along while.

It was because of the joy created in Zopher Ketchum's household by his only daughter--about 8 pounds--that he did not appear in his place in the choir of the Congregational church Sunday morning.

Byron Morgan has departed from among us; he intends to spend the winter in Texas and on his way there he will stay over a few weeks in Missouri.

Some dogs have made a raid on Walter Loucks' sheep one night last week injuring about a dozen, three of which died or had to be killed.

It is said that M.J. Richards has sold his residence to a man from Chicago.

John C. Roberts, one of the olden times Oswegoans, but now of Rochelle, was here on a visit.

Adam Bauer, at the age of nearly 85 years, died early yesterday morning at the residence of his son-in-law, Henry Helle, with whom he was living. Mr. B. came from Germany and that part which is called Upper Franconia in the Kingdom of Bavaria about 11 years ago. It is said that he never was sick in his life and never took any medicine. His death was owing to old age.

NaAuSay: The new stove at the Union school is a number 20 Revolution, and it keeps the scholars as much too warm as the other one did too cold, It has made several of the scholars sick already; the teacher and several of the larger scholars are going to clean the schoolhouse next Saturday and I hope they will get it clean for once.

Dec. 16: Our old friend R.W. Mason is again adorning this aspect of this community with his genial countenance.

Thomas S. Welling has gone to spend awhile at his place of nativity, Orange County, N.Y.

J.A. Kinney and wife have again taken advantage of the pleasant opportunities America affords. They have returned to southern California where winter weather is unknown. Santa Barbara is the place of their sojourn.

Wm. Parker is erecting a building adjoining the saw mill for some manufacturing establishment.

It is R.R. through the *Millington Enterprise* that is giving us now the home news in the nicest rounded sentences.

A Good Templars lodge is now in full operation. Its members so far are all of those who have been temperate heretofore. How many of the drinkers may join it remains to be seen.

Dec. 23: All of the Morgan family have departed for the present. Mrs. M. has gone to her daughter in Missouri; Luman to Texas, where his brother, Byron preceded him some weeks ago.

Mr. Farley has returned from a journey over a large portion of America.

Wm. Ladd has gone to Indiana.

It is said that Miss Florence C. Child the accomplished teacher in our school, has resigned.

Wm. A. Hawley has moved into the Kinney home.

Levi N. Hall has opened a large stock of the various holiday goods.

A stranger departed the other afternoon with his face bandaged; some unpleasantness in a saloon was the cause of it.

The Masons had their election Wednesday evening and installation of officers Saturday. A.B. Smith is Master; James Pearce and Ed. Walker are the Wardens; John Turpin the Treasurer; Kirk Walker, Secretary; Cob. Pearce and Charley Roberts the deacons; James Andrews the chaplain; C.L. Roberts and Gus. Voss the stewards; and Fred Coffin the Tyler. Of the old officers, none but the secretary, chaplain, and tyler regained their positions.

The two halves of a dog are lying in the basement of the burnt hay barn; he was run over by a train.

The Methodists are preparing a Christmas house for their Sunday school, likewise the Presbyterians a Christmas tree, at their respective churches; the Congregationalists are arranging a Sunday school entertainment at the residence of the superintendent, Mr. Farley, all to take place, I believe, on Christmas eve. The Baptists will have a Sunday school gathering for the exchange of presents, &c., at their church on Christmas night.

Yorkville: Diaries for 1876--choice assortment at Hall's drug store, Oswego.

Arthur Austin, formerly a NaAuSay farmer, has rented the grain warehouse at Oswego and will begin January 1 to buy grain and thinks he will make it an object to farmers to sell to him.

Hall's drug store is the central depot for toys in Oswego, and all who are expecting to make Christmas presents should go there to buy.

Rev. L.H. Holt of Oswego preached at the Baptist church, Bristol, last Sunday morning.

Miss Florence Child of Oswego has engaged the Millington school for six months. Oswego will lose and Millington gain. We commend Miss Child to the citizens of Millbrook as a lady, a good teacher, and a true woman.

There will be a "Christmas House" at the M.E. church, Oswego, on Friday evening, Dec. 24th. It will be decorated, illumined, and laden with presents for young and old. There will be singing and speaking and a good time generally. All are cordially invited.

Some weeks ago, a correspondent from NaAuSay stated that there was a colored man going about scaring the women. On Friday morning last, this colored man was found in an old log hut on the farm of H.M. Hopkins near the Big Slough, lying upon his face, dead. Coroner Grant was notified and going to the scene empanelled a jury, who upon hearing the facts of the matter returned a verdict of "Death from exposure to cold weather."

The man's name was Samuel Simms, and he was about 50 years old. He had been working about here for some time, and was lame from having his feet frozen. Some ten days before his body was found, Mr. Robert Gates found him at his place one morning lying in some straw or hay. He made known that he wanted some breakfast and Mr. Gates went to the house and got him a pint of coffee and some bread and meat. The man drank the coffee quickly and wanted more; Mr. G. got him another cup, which he also drank, but said he could not eat anything. He had his boots off, and he asked Mr. G. to wrap up the bread and meat and stick it in one of his boots; this was done. He then got up and threw his boots over his shoulder and walked away. When he was found, this bread and meat was in his boot, just as Mr. Gates had put it in, and from this circumstance it is supposed Simms died soon after leaving his place. The man was buried by some of the colored people of the neighborhood.

Dec. 30: The Methodist Sunday school at that church on Christmas eve rejoiced over the various and numerous presents from a Christmas house constructed of evergreens with open front, the inside walls lined with presents and what could not be got inside was fastened on the outside and lying on the roof. The cupola and other parts were illuminated; it was indeed a gorgeous affair. The most valuable gifts noticed were a set of communion service by the Mite society to the church and some sets of furs. The distribution of gifts was preceded with singing, reading of scripture lesson, and other exercises. The speaking of a piece by Nellie Snook cannot be excelled by one of her age.

The Presbyterian S.S. on the same evening enjoyed a Christmas tree, which is reported as having been one of the grandest things ever produced of that nature, causing wide-spread happiness.

The Congregational Sunday school at the same time exchanged presents and otherwise were made to rejoice at the residence of Mr. Farley. That of the Baptists met the next evening at their church and enjoyed the same blessings over a tree, &c.

The dances on Thursday and Friday evenings at Chapman's and Shepard's halls, were but moderate affairs and so more enjoyable to the participants.

A merry Christmas, however, was not the universal condition of this community. There were families shrouded in gloom and their homes draped in mourning. On Christmas day the funeral of Miss Julia Sanders took place; who was especially endeared to the family owing to her constantly being at home as she has been a cripple from infancy, ever able to stand on her feet; besides she would do the reading for her father, who for a number of years had been totally blind. In her condition, it would be natural to think that she is better off now, but the family are greatly grieved in losing her. She was to her 21st year; the services were held at the house.

Then there was Robert M. Cherry, who was in town on Monday full of life and joviality; on Sunday his funeral took place. Death indeed is inexorable. The skill of the best physicians proved unavailing, death was inevitable; at the age of a few days over 30 years with the most promising prospects of a successful future his life ended. The funeral was from the house. The Aurora Commandery of the Knights Templars--who with a band of music had come as far as town on a special train--and others from here, principally Masons, went out by team, making upwards of 20 wagons and other vehicles--to the band wagon four horses, the weather being very foul and the roads most wretched--then took charge of the remains, which were enclosed in a beautiful metallic casket weighing 600 pounds. They were removed from the parlor to the porch outside and there over them the Knights, according to their order, performed a portion of the obsequies. The coffin was then placed into a beautiful hearse from Aurora and the procession started with music for the grove in the NaAuSay cemetery, where the impressive ceremonies were complete and the body consigned to its dark abode. The sudden and premature death of poor Robert is deplored by all his acquaintances.

Wm. Richards, the editor of the *Vandalia Union*, is spending the holidays among his friends here.

Yorkville: We had a big rain on the morning of the 24th.

Saturday last, Sheriff Newton had a visit from young Scobey and Bradford, the colored man, both of whom had just been released from Joliet, having been sent there last January by Judge Cody for various misdemeanors. Both men looked well and are going to keep out of such places in the future. Mr. Newton raised some money for Scobey on the street, took him over to Bristol Station, where Horace Young gave him \$5 and he started on his way for New York, where his mother lives.

Ho for Kansas!

I shall take out a small party of excursionists to Larned and Kinsley, Kan. on Tuesday, Jan. 11th, 1876. If you desire to go to any part of Kansas at excursion rates, let me know at once.

I shall also send out emigrant freight and excursion trains on Feb. 15th and March 14th, 1876. Cars of freight, \$95 and \$100 each, from all points on C.R.I. & P. R.R.

John M, Childs, Gen. Agt., A.T. & S.F. R.R., Joliet

1876

January

Jan. 6: 1876 is fully installed and 1875 a thing of the past. During 1875 there were 22 deaths (10 males and 12 females, the youngest being 14 months and the oldest 105 years). Thirty-nine persons were married. There were married during the year of this community 39 persons, 17 males, 22 females showing that our ladies have a notion for strangers. Among the number married were 3 widowers and 5 widows.

Of births, there were but five, 3 boys and 2 girls, but judging from the squalls at church and the many baby wagons perambulated on the sidewalks during summer, I think my record in this particular is not complete.

The last wedding of the year was Mr. Henry C. Kerr to Miss Belle Hopkins, which took place Tuesday evening at the residence of the bride's father, Mr. W.K, Hopkins, Specie Grove.

The first marriage in the New Year occurred Sunday at the house of Esquire Newton who joined Mr. Henry Shoger and Miss Maggie B. Sorg. The Shogers and Sorgs are getting pretty thick into *Verschandtschaft*.

The wind storm Saturday night did a good deal of damage out at the Grove and over in the Gaylord neighborhood to wind mills, cattle sheds, &c.

The Rev. Mr. Beans was absent Sunday; his father-in-law, Elder Stoughton of Aurora, officiated at the Methodist church in his stead.

The sad news of the death of Mrs. E.W. Barnes of Marshfield, Mo., formerly of this vicinity, was received a few days ago.

Yorkville: Write 1876 on your letters.

Shoot no more prairie chickens or quails till next August, so says the State law.

The first day of January 1876 was a peculiar day, warm and balmy with the mercury at 68 degrees in the shade. Grass and weeds had grown considerably during the week of warm weather. On the 1st, Mr. Sears was plowing in a field on the Page farm and on Monday

last, a sail boat made good time on the river above Black's dam, the river being entirely clear of ice and the water very high. Late in the afternoon on New Year's day after several heavy April-like showers, the wind began to blow and by 7 o'clock it was a perfect hurricane. The best lanterns were blown out in going across the bridges and it was almost impossible to walk against the wind. Many fences were blown down, trees up-rooted, straw piles scattered, chimneys wrecked. The telegraph wires on the Fox River road were broken. Fred Hill, A.J. Weed and a hand-car went up at Montgomery to fix the breaks. They had to walk most of the way back and push the hand-car. The roof of the railroad bridge across the river just this side of Montgomery was badly damaged.

At the residence of Sarah A. Andrews, four miles southwest of Oswego and three and a half east of Yorkville on Tuesday, Jan. 11, 1876, will be sold horses, cattle, 1,000 bushels of corn, farming implements, household furniture. Auctioneer Hall never offers anything he don't intend to sell.

Jan. 13: During the past week in this community, everything apparently has been running on an even tenor. The cattle and hog trade here was quite active; among the shippers were W.H. Russell of Plainfield, stock brought of the Wheelers; O.C. Johnson, Goudie and Wollenweber and Knapp.

The open winter has caused public attention to be drawn to the importance of good roads. Nate Loucks, one of the commissioners, got up a subscription paper for the graveling of the Plainfield road from the village out as far as possible and has met with very good success; the list showed upwards of \$1,000 subscribed yesterday. Money and labor expended on roads is repaid with large interest. May the Plainfield road become that for a pleasant drive at all seasons.

It is said that a new firm has been formed; the title of it has not yet been made public but probably will be. Tetzlaff and Hafenrichter or vice versa; Herman Tetzlaff who has from a boy up been clerking for Haight and Lawrence Hafenrichter, who for a number of years noted the same capacity at Hawley's store, have jointly bought out the latter and are now on making preparations for the reopening of the same under the new proprietorship. The veteran clerk Er. Parke is again at Haight's.

Miss Anna Brown, our accomplished teacher, has a sister visiting her.

Our new teacher, from Aurora, I believe, whose name I have not yet learned, is a lady of commanding appearance.

#### A Card to the Farmers

To the farmers of Oswego, NaAuSay, and surrounding vicinity: I take this method of informing you that I am now buying oats and corn at the Oswego Elevator, where I will constantly be found attending to "biz;" and with your united patronage will try and make Oswego one of the best markets on Fox River. Believing in the old adage which says that which is not worth asking for is not worth having, therefore respectfully ask you

gentlemen for your patronage and support. Feeling thankful to the 65 gentlemen who signed the petition I presented to you. I remain yours,  
A.T.D. Austin

Yorkville: The State Fair is to be held at Ottawa again--beginning the 4th of September. Pretty early.

The Aurora people who are paying up their subscribing notes to the Fox River Railroad Company are not at all happy. The beacon says: That \$1,000 picture displayed in White & Todd's lumber office attracts numerous visitors daily. It is carefully labeled "Poison!" and is guarded by old Death a half-dozen times duplicated, while beneath in Fred's handsome chirography, appears this legend: "Put not your trust in Railroads! We paid for our education--victims of misplaced confidence!" And Fred breathes a sigh of relief as he thanks heaven that his share in the Fox River R.R. bonds is paid.

Jan. 20: Mr. Frank Shaw of Poweshiek county, Ia., one of the sons of C.D. [Charles Dexter] Shaw, formerly of this township, arrived here the other day with a handsome young bride. They are spending a part of their honeymoon at Ed. Walker's, a relative.

Norman F. Ferris has returned from old Chenango county, N.Y., where for a few weeks he has been on a visit.

August S. Worthing, who a number of years ago established himself in Kansas, is back here on a visit. He speaks highly of that country, the grasshoppers to the contrary notwithstanding.

The new firm of Tetzlaff & Hafenrichter have fixed up their store and filled out their stock with new goods and are now in full operation.

The sewer across Main street from the Smith to the Jewell corners was caused to be opened yesterday and overlaid with flagstones by the corporation authorities. Also a stone crosswalk is being laid on Main at the intersection of Tyler street.

The live stock market within the week has again been quite active; Wollenweber & Knapp shipped eight carloads of hogs; S.F. Wagner two; John H. Morgan of Ashkum one; Goudie one of cattle.

Owing to the darkness this morning and being out of kerosene, I had to shorten this report. U.R. Strooley.

Yorkville: The fast mail trains which went into the postal service with so much noise last fall are to be withdrawn. They do not pay.

The leaders of the Independent party in Kendall County are constantly at work to build themselves up and undermine the Republican party. They have Greenback Clubs and Farmers' Clubs; they are independents, reformers, Democrats, or anything for opposition.

The gentlemen are working well and systematically, and it is the duty of our Republicans to back up their own party a little; they should talk and act for their principles and we shall want votes this spring and fall. It is time, gentlemen, to organize.

Mr. H.W. Farley informs us that Hon. Schuyler Colfax will lecture in Oswego on the 14th of February for the benefit of the Congregational church. He will draw a crowd.

Jan. 27: Mr. and Mrs. C.G. Doud are here on a visit to their many friends. They are highly pleased with their new home in Winona, Minn.

Miss Florence C. Child spend Saturday and Sunday at home; she expressed herself greatly pleased with her new situation at Millington.

Dr. Putt is again around in his usual activity; about two weeks ago he had a tumble down with his horse on the Plainfield road, the horse managing to get on top and by which means he (the Doc) had a rib fractured and otherwise was much abused.

Charles Sutherland met last week Tuesday evening with a very serious accident, if indeed merely an accident it was. He was apparently struck on the head by someone or some thing. Mrs. Sutherland is very positive that he was struck down by somebody; and a number of others are of the same opinion. The wound also would favor that hypothesis, but being that his money was found on him all right, and as supposed that the getting of the money would have been the only cause leading to such an attack, as he is a man strictly minding his own business, not having a known enemy, and besides advanced in years, being in the 70th year, many believe it was simply done by falling and by trying to get up and falling again.

John Turpin is now very active in the poultry business; he bought a lot of Budlong the other days which he says was the nicest he ever saw, consisting of 45 turkeys and 275 chickens of some of the choice varieties and for which he paid \$175.

Some days the hog trade was again very brisk. On Friday, Wollenweber and Knapp shipped three carloads and S.F. Wagner two. Henry Hafenrichter, Leonard Burkhart, and John Wolf raised the hogs.

The work of graveling the Plainfield road was commenced Tuesday morning; from 20 to 30 teams are to be employed.

Yorkville: New stereoscopic views at Lee & Moore's.

A younger brother of L.G. Bennett, just from Kansas, dropped in to see us last week. He is going to take orders for the Major's new book, *History of the 36th*.

The event of the past week in Yorkville, and to many who placed their names to Fox River Railroad paper, was the trial between said Railroad Company and L.N. Hall of

Oswego, in which the Company desired to collect a note for \$200 from Mr. Hall for Joseph Jackson.

Joseph Jackson--the much abused--was the first witness for plaintiff, and he told how he came to get the notes, which is pretty much the same way that he took all, by promising invaluable benefits to every signer.

Col. Plumb, treasurer of the company, swore that the F.R. Co. did complete the road from Wenona to Oswego and sold out to the CB&Q Co. in 1870 by a lease in perpetuity. The Colonel was closely questioned, but being a shrewd man did not tell more than he was obliged to. With his testimony, the plaintiff rested, without attempting to prove much.

L.B. Judson was called for the defense, and he told a straight story of his connection with the road from 1853 as a director to its selling out. He said the road was intended to be an independent road to connect with the Northwestern; that he took the notes in Oswego and not Jackson, though Jackson was with him; that the first notes given were all to be delivered up to the subscribers if Oswego would vote a second \$25,000, which the town did; and that many of the larger ones were reduced from five and six hundred dollars to new notes of two or three hundred; that he took Hall's reduced note for \$200, gave it to Jackson with others, with the understanding that they were not to be delivered to the railroad company except by Judson's direction. The signers did not want the notes to go out of town, but Judson thought they were safe in Jackson's hands. Judson promised to return the note to Hall if they raised enough money on other parts of the line. Then there was another bargain--that if the county voted \$50,000 to aid the road, all the notes were to be returned to the Oswego singers. The aid was voted, but the notes were still held.

Judson called upon Jackson for the notes, but they had been sent by him to Cameron, secretary of the Company at Ottawa. When the Board of Directors met in Ottawa, Judson stated the agreement with the Oswego note givers and asked that the notes be returned. John Chapman, vice president of the road, denied the agreement and said the new notes were not to be returned. Then Plumb said the notes could not be returned. It was afterward decided that Plumb should go up to Oswego and if what Judson said was true, the notes would be returned. Plumb never went to investigate. Upon cross examination, Judson stated that the company held his note for \$3,000 and he expected it to be returned to him when the county vote was carried. After the meeting Plumb took Judson to one side and asked him to leave the notes in his (Plumb's) hands. John Chapman had \$15,000 of the Company's stock, I had \$500.

Col. Plumb was recalled and swore that Judson asked for his own note only and thought it should be given up for the influence he had used and the work he had done for the road. The Board never agreed to return the notes. He did tell Judson he would go to Oswego and investigate the matter. Some of the notes were to be returned for right-of-way. . "I never stated that all the Oswego notes were to be given up. I did say the agreement with Oswego people was such as Judson states, that the notes should be returned. The notes were in the hands of Cushman, Force, and Plumb, the contractors." [according to Plumb.] Asahel Newton testified that there was an agreement or understanding that when the second \$25,000 was voted by the town, the notes were to be returned; this was by consent of Jackson. Chapman and Jackson did not want the people out of the village to know the notes were to be returned for fear they would not vote the other \$25,000. In a public meeting in Oswego Chapman said if the County vote was carried the notes would be returned.

J.P. Mullenix swore that Jackson told him the notes were to be returned when the County vote was carried.

Capt. Bunn was a victim to the company and heard Plumb agree that he would come to Oswego with the notes and if the matter stood as Judson had stated, they should be returned.

Fred Coffin had given a note for \$200. Jackson said he would take care of the notes. He paid his note to Chapman, but Mr. Lewis would not let him tell how he paid it. (We afterwards learned that Coffin took his note and called an old store bill square.)

George Parker thought the whole thing was a swindle from the beginning, and took no stock. He heard Plumb say to Newton that he would come up to Oswego in a few days and return the notes if it was so agreed.

L.N. Hall, the defendant, testified that it was an express understanding that if the County vote for \$50,000 was carried, his note was to be returned to him.

John W. Chapman sworn: Had lived in Oswego 38 years, and had been connected with Fox River Railroad Company since 1853. He denied that either he or Judson were authorized to take subscriptions; that Jackson and J.W. Eddy were the only persons so authorized. Never heard Plumb say anything about returning notes. I never promised to give up Hall's note on any contingency.

Cross examined: "I got \$15,000 in stock from the contractors and had in all \$3,400 in notes. Returned some of the notes and had \$2,500 of them left. Never told Hall I would give up his note for \$100. Mr. Chapman persisted in saying that he never was a party to the agreement that the notes should be given back.

Here we rest, Tuesday afternoon. The jury has disagreed and [has] been discharged--standing seven for note-givers and five for railroad. A week's work thrown away.

February -- 1876

Feb. 3: Tetzlaff & Hafenrichter keep the best brands of the Lockport flour; they also pay cash and the highest market prices for butter and eggs.

Our convivial friend, Sam Wagner, has returned on a visit. Several years ago he went to western Iowa and since has converted a raw piece of land into a farm in the neighborhood of Council Bluffs.

Those that have tried it say that that new Japan tea at Tetzlaff & Hafenrichter's is tea, what is tea?

Prof. Cross' writing school terminated Friday evening with an examination of specimen penmanship of the scholars at the beginning and end of the term.

Wollenweber & Knapp shipped last night five carloads of hogs.

Hon. Schuyler Colfax is expected to lecture here the evening of the 14th inst.

The condition of Mr. Sutherland has improved but little.

Festus Burr, who has been sick now for a year and a half, is slowly failing.

Yorkville: On the farm of C.G. Doud on the Specie Grove road, southeast of Oswego on Thursday, Feb. 10, 1876, J.J. Budlong will sell nine head of horses, one span of matched mules, 59 head of cattle, 2,000 bushels of corn, 300 bushels of Golden oats, 25 tons of tame hay, farming implements, &c. D. Hall, auctioneer.

The “duke of Wellington” is dead. His real name was Samuel West, and he was a life convict in the Penitentiary at Joliet for the murder of Mark Newberry at Oswego, Sept. 22d, 1872. Our readers doubtless remember the case, as we published a full account of the trial. He shot the man in the old stone house at Oswego for being too intimate with his (West’s) wife. The case was tried in Kane County on a change of venue. He did Jan. 26th, aged 71 years, and old age and general debility released him from the prison. He was a “second term” prisoners, having been in the same prison in 1865 for larceny.

Feb. 10: The death of Charles Sutherland took place Thursday morning. Mr. S. was a native of the German State, Hanover; his early years in this country were spent in Montgomery county, N.Y. In 1849 or ’50 he moved with his family to the west, settled in this town, and ever since has been one of our prominent citizens and business men, his establishment being the most fixed institution and by far the longest uninterrupted of any in town. Although he had arrived at the good old age of 71 years, yet his demise was premature having been brought about violently. An inquest was held Thursday afternoon. The autopsy revealed a serious fracture of the skull. The testimony of Dr. Hard, of Aurora, the principal witness who performed the post-mortem examination, was to the effect that there was a mere possibility that the injuries were caused by falling, but not at all probable and to the best of his belief they were caused by blows with a heavy instrument. The jury rendered their verdict accordingly, to wit: that his death was caused by wounds inflicted by parties to the jury unknown. This carries with it the presumption that upon somebody is resting the crime of murder. The children of the deceased are all living abroad and none of them were present at the funeral.

Early Thursday morning the house of Leonard Rieger was consumed by fire with most of the furniture.

Lockport flour at Tetzlaff & Hafenrichter’s.

Dr. Lester has returned in good condition and excellent spirits from a three months sojourn in the Province of New Brunswick; he reports the times there as hard as they are here.

A ring around the moon is a common occurrence; such was the case last evening, but in addition thereto, there was another and much larger one, not around it but proceeded from it, appearing as if the moon was hanging to it. Our savants were unable to explain the strange phenomenon.

The lecture of the Hon. Schuyler Colfax next week will probably be postponed.

Yorkville: From the *Aurora Herald*: Supervisor Cutter of Oswego was in this city on Thursday last and paid over to Supervisor Reising the sum of \$215.34, it being the amount paid by this town for the care of Louisa Reed, who came here from Oswego last spring, was confined here, and had a lawsuit with an Oswego gentleman about it. Mr. Cutter is determined that the credit of the town shall not suffer by it--so promptly pays the bills. L.B. Judson Jr. has purchased a house and lot on the corner of Clark and LaSalle streets and taken possession.

Walter Loucks Esq., one of Oswego's oldest citizens, has the well-known stone quarry on the Wauponsie creek open for business again, and parties in want of good stone for building purposes or good sharp sand for mortar or cement should call at the Wauponsie quarry. Mr. Loucks expects to be able to furnish cut stone for all purposes in a few months.

The ice has started out of the river and there is danger that the Bristol bridge will fall should the props under the south span be knocked out. The Caledonia Ice Company cut and housed ice Monday and Tuesday, but we fear it is the last they will get this winter.

Feb. 17: A joyous time was experienced at the house of John D. Hall Thursday evening, the wedding of their daughter Libbie to Dr. Wm. T. Putt. The doctor has fitted up and furnished in excellent style a suite of rooms for dwelling and office purposed over the furniture store in the brick block; everything about the premises is neat and tasty and arranged in the most convenient manner and now with a good and sensible lady for a wife he is well prepared for success in the solid realities of life.

Wanted: 50,000 bushel of oats at the Oswego Elevator.

Notwithstanding the very bad going, the Budlong sale last week proved very successful. Dave Hall, within three hours, knocked down to the bidders nearly \$4,000 worth of property.

The election of officers for the administration of this municipality is approaching; what shall the issue on which to elect them? Shall it be hard money versus the Rag baby, or personal prerogatives versus centralized power, or prohibition versus license, or woman's suffrage, or home role, or dog tax, or what? This is an extraordinary year--it is the centennial year, the like not likely to be seen again by any now old enough to be voters, and it behooves them to elect an extraordinary board for administering the affairs of this village in an extraordinary manner.

A.T.D. Austin is paying 27 cents for good oats either white or black at the Oswego Elevator.

The Band Saturday evening repaired to the residence of L.N. Hall where Dr. Putt and wife were staying and gave the newly married couple a serenade.

There was an insufficient stock of Valentines in town yesterday to supply the demands; some had to forego the exchange of the tokens of love which was too bad.

Miss Murdock, who was confined to the house all winter, has regained her health sufficiently to again appear outdoors.

The wedding of Dr. W.T. Putt and Miss Libbie Hall took place at the residence of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J.D. Hall on Thursday evening, Feb. 10th. The bride was neatly attired in a beautiful silver gray dress trimmed with lavender and wore white flowers in her hair. The groom wore the usual suit of black with white vest.

The doctor and his wife will immediately enter upon the duties of housekeeping in their splendid rooms in the "Brick Block," Oswego.

Since his residence among us, Dr. Putt has made many warm friends, all of whom wish him success in his profession.

Yorkville: L.G. Bennett has already over 100 names for his book and nearly all taken in his office at the Court house.

Married

Putt-Hall.--On the 10th inst, by the Rev. J.B. Andrews, at the residence of the bride's parents, Dr. Wm. T. Putt, to Catherine E. Hall, both of Oswego, Ill.

The *Aurora Beacon* of the 12th says: The heavy rain which set in on Tuesday evening last resulted in a flood which carried the ice out of Fox River about noon next day, and did considerable damage at this point. Our older citizens claim that the river has not before been so high since February 1857 as on Wednesday. Indian Creek became an angry torrent of astonishing proportions and of such depth that the water for a time flowed over the track on the railroad bridge. The most serious damage is sustained by Mr. James Skinner, at the City Mills--the bulkhead having been washed out, together with a small portion of the east end of the dam. It was estimated on Thursday morning that it would cost \$3,000 to repair the damage effected up to that time, while the heavy volume of water rushing through the break was hourly making matters worse so far as the dam was concerned. After a few days, all the water will pass through the break until the water has fallen sufficiently to admit of repairs being made and by that time the damage will have been greatly increased. The old saw mill in the rear of the City Mills built by Joseph McCarty in 1834 was carried from its foundations and lodged just below the dam its venerable timbers were gradually rent asunder and disappeared. Attached to the saw mill was the carpenter shop occupied by Mr. J.G. Ralph. We understand that this gentleman and his employee succeeded in saving their tools, but that his loss on lumber was about \$75.

NaAuSay: Mr. Robert Gates has bought the old Amen farm and his son John and wife expect to go to housekeeping there pretty soon. And he has also bought 40 acres of land adjoining his home farm of Silas Wagner. He paid \$50 an acre for both.

Feb. 24: Wm. Holyoke, our robust and genial station agent, has this morning departed for a visit to his folks in Wataga. Horace Lehman is the agent ad interim.

Jeremiah S. Armstrong has moved with his family to Ottawa. Mr. James Snook has also gone there.

All goods purchased at Tetzlaff & Hafenrichter's will be delivered in any part of town free of charge. Call and examine their goods and they'll be pretty sure of your patronage.

Z.W. Ketchum has rented and moved onto the J.S. Armstrong premises.

Goudie, Davis and Collins each shipped two carloads of cattle; Wollenweber & Knapp made several shipments of hogs.

It is said the Finnigins are on a move.

Yorkville: The Third Party

A third party for a share of the votes of the commonwealth of Illinois is now in the field with a full list of candidates for State offices, the result of the convention held at Decatur last week. The candidates are: For Governor, Lewis Steward, of Kendall county; for Secretary of State, M.M. Horton; for Treasurer, a Mr. Aspern; for Auditor, John Hisc; for Lieutenant Governor, Mr. Pickerell; for Attorney General, W. Scott Coy, formerly a teacher and Superintendent of Schools in Kendall county.

This is called the Independent ticket; falsely, however, as it is very dependent--depending on the Democratic party to endorse it and thus hoping to elect the ticket.

Now, then, Republicans of Kendall county, and you who drifted away from the party in the late farmers' movement are you prepared to see this mongrel ticket sweep our State? The platform they have adopted is nothing. It is only a string of platitudes to catch votes and which means nothing.

March -- 1876

March 2: Much progress was made last week in graveling the Plainfield road under the superintendency of Nate Loucks.

A man calling himself George Simmons and claiming that Freeport had been his late residence, recently hired out to John Turpin, and as far as work was concerned, he proved to be a very good hand. Last Thursday during the absence of Mr. and family, he (the hired man) with Mr. Turpin's overcoat, a pair of boots, three razors, the child's safe [bank] containing several dollars in specie, some provisions and other things, also a gun and dog belonging to Ed English which had been left there, cleared out. Mr. T. Made considerable effort to apprehend the crooked fellow, but so far has met with no success.

Thomas Lumbard one day last week had a sale and it is said that with the cash taken in and with that previously on hand, he made up a package of \$500 and put it in an old

envelope and laid it down for his wife to put away. Saturday, he wanted to take it to Aurora, but it was gone--nothing could be found of it except the envelope in which it had been put.

Mr. Dewey has again returned to this town.

Mrs. Harriet Denton died in Chicago last week, where she had been living since the death of her husband. Her remains were brought here, accompanied by her children and relatives and buried in the family lot in our cemetery.

Yorkville: A young man named George Simmons played a nice little joke on John C. Turpin, who lives on the old Walter Pearce farm, Oswego. Mr. Turpin had hired Simmons nine days before to work for him. Thursday last, Mr. T. and family went to Aurora and when they returned found Simmons gone and that he had eaten two tumblers of jelly, a custard pie, drank a pan of milk, and carried off a large pan of cookies. Looking about the house, they missed a double-barreled shotgun, an overcoat, three razors and a strop, a pair of new leather boots and a pair of rubber boots, the child's savings bank containing about \$2, a Masonic breastpin, shirts, collars, and a fine squirrel dog. Simmons is about 20 years old and hails from Freeport. Mr. Turpin would like to get hold of him once, and he thinks he wouldn't want any more jelly.

Michael and John Sorg will have a joint sale on Tuesday, March 7th, four miles east of Oswego and one mile southeast of the German church: Four horses, 30 head of cattle, ten sows and shoats, a large amount farming tools, 1,200 bushels of corn, 700 bushels of oats, two stacks hay, stack straw, etc.

Aurora Items: Miss Sarah E. Raymond, Superintendent of the Bloomington schools, who has been visiting the Aurora public schools, has also, with her mother, been the guest of Mr. L.B. Judson. Miss Raymond is daughter of ex-Sheriff Raymond, formerly of Kendall County.

March 9: Our population must now have reached its maximum unless new houses are provided, for every available place seems to be occupied and there is much inquiry for vacant dwelling places.

Edward S.L. Richardson is getting ready to return to Chicago to reside.

L.H. Morgan has returned from Texas well pleased with his sojourn there.

Abram V. Wormley has returned from DeKalb county to reside again among us.

The parties mentioned last week as having robed met with more or less good luck. The dog taken from John Turpin returned safe and sound. None of the other things stolen at the same time have returned. Thomas Lumbard recovered his \$500 that had disappeared; it was found in some of the bedding; how it got there is not satisfactorily explained.

C.A. Davis shipped two car-loads of cattle last night.

Being that on Saturday was our corporation election, the political spirit last week was much excited. There are in the village about 180 legal voters, of which all the freeholders believed themselves most fit for city fathers and each thought his name surely ought to be the first on the ticket. Until within about a day of the election there seemed to be nothing at issue; two license tickets had been put into the field; all were in favor of straight saloons, straight drinking, good sidewalks, the making of good roads, and the contest seemed to be merely for favorites of the respective factions. Towards the last, an anti-license ticket was brought out, but our temperance folks are bad politicians--they ever make a move without putting their foot into it. Friday evening there was to be a ratification of their tickets but finally the affair broke up without formal adjournment. I was well aware that anti-license was weak, but I supposed it possible that in a three-cornered contest it might win on a plurality vote, but the result proved quite the contrary, for out of 169 votes polled, it received but 17. The run of the other two tickets was nip and tuck; including the police justice, each gained half the contest. The persons elected for trustees: Mann, Haight, Helle, Strossman, and Shepard; for police magistrate, Newton. Altogether, they are a pretty good set of men.

March 16: The death of Miss Susie Farley occurred Wednesday evening. The remains were taken to the NaAuSay cemetery for burial. She was 20 years of age, and the last two years of her life experienced much sickness.

Notwithstanding the antipathy existing between France and Germany, Edward Lavine and Miss Mary Kreutler, both of Aux Sable Grove, united their fortunes and destinies; that is, they got married.

Mr. O.E. Judson is in town; he has chosen Sandwich for his permanent home hereafter, having bought there a \$2,000 residence.

Charles E. Moore and family of Yorkville have been up to spend a few days in the old place and among their family.

The lightning rod element is again fully astir. Murdock and Lamb have been off for several days; W.A. Hawley started yesterday for Iowa with six men. Charley Lockwood and Eugene Minard went with him.

There is a good deal of inventive genius in this town. Jimmy Poage has been for some time exercising his contriving faculties for something of practical and general usefulness and at last has hit on the very thing most essential to human advancement; it is a baby-walker.

Bad roads have caused trade and commerce to be somewhat dull but nevertheless our merchants are receiving large quantities of new goods.

Mr. Russell had a good young span of horses die; over exertion from the bad going from Aurora home is said to have been the cause.

Yorkville: There is a break in the Fox River dam at Ottawa 60 feet long and nine feet deep.

Died

Farley.--At the residence of her parents in Oswego on Wednesday, March 8, 1876. Miss Susan C. Farley, aged 20 years, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H.W. Farley.

We heartily sympathize with the family of Mr. Farley in this sad bereavement. But one child, we believe, is left to them--Miss Mattie. These good friends have been sorely afflicted by death's visitations, but their reliance is on One who is always able to comfort.

Many of our readers doubtless remember the account we published last summer of the accident to Miss Libbie Minkler of Rochelle, who lost both arms near the shoulders by falling before the sickle of a mowing machine. Well, Miss Libbie recovered and Tuesday her uncle, Smith Minkler, showed us a letter she had written to his daughter, Florence, which certainly is a surprise. The letter was headed with a bird and scroll with "Libbie" written in it, all well drawn. The letter is a wonderful piece of work when you consider that the writer is without arms and did the work with her mouth. Miss Libbie sings in the Methodist choir at Rochelle, takes parts in concerts, and is as happy and as contented as though the sad accident had never occurred.

March 23: Another very quiet week has been passed. Nothing transpired to cause even a ripple in the public mind.

Wm. Parker has received a planer from Rochester, N.Y. for his new manufacturing establishment. 6,000 pounds was the weight thereof.

A series of lectures will be given, one on Phrenology and other ologies and scientific subjects, by a Prof. Moreland at Chapman's hall during this week.

NaAuSay: Several resolutions were adopted by the NaAuSay Grange, No. 1436, P. of H., on the death of C.L. Whitlock.

Yorkville: C.C. Duffy, the principal of the Oswego school, was in Yorkville Thursday. Mr. D. speaks very highly of his school, the directors, and the people of Oswego.

Fishermen who use a net or seine, the meshes of which is less than 1-1/2 inches, lay themselves liable to be fined not less than \$10 or more than \$50 for the first offense. This being the law, our young sportsmen had been see to it that their fishing apparatus complies with the statute.

March 30: The wedding of Miss Anna Hopkins and Mr. Victor Mather of Chicago took place Thursday at the residence of the bride's father, Mr. E.A. Hopkins. The bride has been a professional dress maker, consequently her wedding attire was of the most faultless order.

Miss Hannah Minard came home the other day from Streator not, however, as Miss Minard but under the name and dignity of Mrs. William Alexander.

Dwight Smith has returned from Minonk.

Walter S. Hunt came up from Dwight to spend some days with his relatives and old acquaintances.

Rush Walker has come back for the first time since his emigration to Iowa.

Mr. Walsh, for a long time one of the section hands, has moved with his family elsewhere.

Dr. Joseph I. Poage has returned from Chicago where he has been in attendance at a medical college.

The lectures of Dr. J.J. Moreland were quite largely attended. Upon the completion of the course, our people will be fully posted upon man's mental, physical, and spiritual natures and organizations, their connection to and government of each other, the attributes that may be evolved, the character required and perfection to accomplish made possible. In the first lecture, we were instructed in the general principles of phrenology.

Mrs. William W. Pearce is setting up a milliner establishment over the post office; she is now in Chicago selecting the stock. It is said that Miss Maggie Shepard is also preparing to set up a similar establishment, having engaged the upper rooms of the Smith building on the corner of Main and Washington streets.

The barber shop has been moved to more eligible quarters, namely to the corner building of the Smith row.

Prof. York was in town yesterday lecturing on and exhibiting in the street the science of horsemanship and selling his treatise on that subject.

A successful snow storm prevailed Tuesday morning hereabouts.

Yorkville: Thos. Lombard of Oswego expects soon to move to Wheatland. He expects to make his usual trip through Long Gove with his black horse this spring and call on the farmers.

Why is it deemed necessary for so many boys and men to carry revolvers and to be handling and shooting them so promiscuously? It ought to be made a penal offense.

April -- 1876

April 6: This is town meeting day, the result of which, with the exception of the election of a school trustee next Saturday, will complete the composition of our local government for the ensuing year. The election has been progressing very quietly so far and up to now, 9 o'clock and 16 minutes, seven freemen have exercised the great privilege of American citizenship.

Ad. Armstrong was elected a school director last Saturday. His competitor was F.O. Hawley.

The boys the other evening repaired with the usual instruments of charivari music to the residence of Mrs. Minard, where Mr. and Mrs. Alexander, a newly married couple, were staying and gave them one of those questionable serenades.

The wife of Robert Graham, daughter of Charles Jackson, formerly of this place, died last week at Montgomery of consumption; the remains were brought here for interment.

Wesley Edwards caught one of the Goodall boys in some mischief at his market and gave him a chastisement, for which Goodall caused Edwards to be brought before the judicial authorities. The hearing of the case was postponed to next Saturday.

Miss Maggie Shepard's millinery establishment is on the ground floor instead of up stairs as I said last week.

Thomas S. Welling has returned to NaAuSay from his visit to his native, the Empire State.

Yorkville: The spring elections for 1876 are over and the victorious happy and the vanquished are very passive. The results have been various.

Oswego

Total vote cast, 284.

Supervisor.--Henry W. Farley, 261; Gilbert Gaylord, 15.

Town Clerk.--Levi N. Hall, 246; David Jenison, 34.

Assessor.--David Hall, 265; Ezekiel Pearce, 16.

Collector.--Wm. W. Pearce, 234; Anton Miller, 44.

Commissioner of Highways.--Charles A Davis, 280.

L.G. Bennett of Yorkville donated \$25 to assist the Aurora Light Guards in getting a uniform. So says the *Aurora News*.

April 13: The burial of Mrs. Eliza Bowen of Earlville took place at our cemetery last week. Mrs. B. was a daughter of Mrs. Samuel Smith of his neighborhood. Her age was 32 years.

Charley Mann and Arthur Beaupre, the latter one of the Aurora P.O. clerks, started down the river yesterday morning with boat and tent on a fishing exhibition.

A pocket book containing about \$115 was abstracted from the money drawer of Tetzlaff & Hafenrichter one day last week. A young man belonging to a prominent family of this town was there at the time, who immediately disappeared and ever since has been missing.

Mike Schweigen is now one of our fixed business concerns. He is continuing the business of the late Charles Sutherland, has renovated and fixed up the store in a neat style, got on a new stock of boots and shoes, and is now fully prepared to supply the wants of all classes in that line of wares.

M.C. Richards has invented a very nice thing especially adapted to dealers in kerosene; it will put the exact amount, from a pint to a gallon, into your can without the use of a measure or funnel without the oil coming in sight, and in half the time the same can be accomplished in the usually way.

Rank is putting up a high board fence around his premises in the rear of the post office; John Yeigh is the architect.

Nat Loucks brought down 11 six months old pigs of the Berkshire breed, which averaged 240 apiece; they were a nice clean lot and had been sold to Wollenweber & Knapp.

Prof. Sloat, who is about opening a private school in the old courthouse, delivered a lecture last evening in the Congregational church on the "Great West from Omaha to San Francisco and down to the Yosemite Valley," accompanied with sciopicon [a type of magic lantern projector] views.

The bell is just now tolling for the death of Deacon Seth Walker.

Coffin's stone building has been supplied with lightning rods which contain a noticeable feature of utility, namely to one of the point standards is attached a vane which shows the direction of the wind.

Yorkville: The *Streator Monitor* announces Ralph Plumb as a Republican candidate for congress to represent the Seventh District. Such coolness is astonishing. Mr. Plumb is treasurer of the Fox River Railroad Company, the Company which so beautifully swindles the people of Kendall County. We would sooner vote for Jeff Davis for President or Alex. Campbell for Governor. Plumb, indeed; he would not get a vote in Kendall County.

Sam Hagerman, Esq., of Oswego dropped in to see us Thursday. He is an old-fashioned Republican and believes in voting as he fought.

April 20: A wooden Wedding, the first ever had in Oswego, took place last Thursday evening, namely the celebration of the fifth anniversary of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. L.N. Hall. Josie--that's Mrs. Hall--was attired in her bridal dress and otherwise similarly

fixed up as she had been at her wedding, so Levi too wore a black suit and white vest, and both looked as handsome and even more smiling than they did five years ago.

Virgil Snook, an exemplary young man from this town has been for some time engaged in photography at Aurora, but appears that that it was not all the engaging he accomplished during this time; he now occupies the important station of a husband. [Virgil H. Snook married Libbie Curtis April 13, 1876 in Kane County]

The funeral of Deacon Seth Walker took place Wednesday at the Congregational church. The Deacon was 78 years of age, was born and lived in Belchertown, Mass, up to 1845, when he with his family moved to this neighborhood and settled on the farm at which he died. He was a good and quiet citizen, a constant professor of religion, was principally instrumental in the establishment of the Congregational church.

A little girl 17 months old of J.B. Haley was buried on Saturday.

Our population has been considerably decreased by the removal of the Goodale family. Aurora was the choice of their future residence.

Wollenweber has been building an addition to his residence and Schuman is doing the same to his.

Mose Richards has of late been trafficking in a good deal of real estate in the cities of Chicago, Aurora, and also this town; he is now the owner of the Judson place, which he is extensively improving.

Wesley Edwards' mules run away with the meat wagon from up town. They put for the stable but did not quite accomplish it; a telegraph pole brought them to a stop. The damage done was but little.

Bissell Hunt and Arthur Austin are building stables.

Dr. Lester is enlarging and remodeling his residence. Hebert is about finishing his mansard-roofed house.

The Fox River Congregationalists association will hold a convention today and tomorrow in this town, occupying the church of that denomination for the purpose.

It is said that Mr. Wm. B. Phillips went yesterday to Batavia for the purpose of resuming again the marriage relations. Mr. P. is somewhat advanced in age and has been a widower for upwards of 30 years. Doubtless the influence of this the centennial year stimulated him into the new action of life. What next?

April 27: The convention last week of the Fox River Association of Congregationalists brought among us a large number of preachers and devout laymen of that persuasion so that for two days there prevailed in this town an atmosphere of much sanctity.

Mr. and Mrs. T.J. Seely have removed from Chicago and again taken up their abode among us.

A daughter of Dick Waterfall, a townsman of ancient times, made a call on some of her acquaintances and schoolmates last week.

Ed. McColgin, when here years ago, was the best singist that could be scared up; he is again among us and as formerly, with Ad. Armstrong.

Tom Simpson's saloon has been closed for several weeks. He and the authorities are at loggerheads.

H.C. Strossman has discontinued the restaurant business.

Professor Sloat's school commenced yesterday.

The condition of Esquire Burr is now quite precarious and he is now failing fast.

Yorkville: In this issue we publish a startling advertisement offering \$1,000 for the conviction of the murderer of Charles Sutherland, who was knocked down on a street in Oswego last February and died from his injuries. The town of Oswego, at its recent town meeting, voted to pay \$500 for the conviction of the guilty ones and last Thursday our Board of Supervisors nobly seconded Oswego by offering the same amount, and the governor will offer \$200 reward from the State. This foul deed should be investigated and no expense spared to bring the murderous wretches to punishment. Supervisor Farley is largely instrumental in having this reward offered, and the county and town have stood well by him.

Circuit Clerk Bennett took a trip to Keokuk, Ia., and got a fine steel plate from the son of Gen. Curtis and from it will have the General's picture printed to embellish the History of the 36th.

Capt. Ed Mann drove his little trotting mare down from Oswego Monday and she is just as pretty as a picture. The Captain must be a popular Mann up at Oswego; he has been president of the board of trustees for four years.

S.G. Minkler says he will give a large evergreen tree 12 feet high for the Bristol park, provided the recipients will dig it. She will also give one for each of the cemeteries on the same terms. This is a Centennial offering worthy of our big-hearted neighbor.

May -- 1876

May 4: The pound party at Mr. Beans' last week was a complete success. The pounds brought along by the visitors ranged from the pound of sal soda upwards but did not

reach that of the bound sterling. The parson and family appeared to be highly pleased with this unexpected visit of so many friends.

Mike Schweigen is advancing very rapidly on the road to prosperity and happiness; only a short time ago he was a journeyman shoemaker. Now he is the proprietor of a flourishing boot and shoe store, Sutherland's old stand. Saturday, he completed a co partnership for life with Miss Katie, daughter of Rudolph Kief.

Fred Hawley and Doc Wooley got fighting mad at each other on the street Saturday afternoon.

A good looking young gentleman by the name of Samuel B. Dobson, from Wataga, a townsman of Mr. Holyoke, is now at the depot for the purpose of acquiring the science of telegraphy.

A large company of gypsies came through town yesterday and probably have established a camp nearby.

A bear show exhibited in the street yesterday; it consisted of two fine specimens which were well trained; they would parade and dance in upright position, turn summersets, kiss, and shake hands with the boss, &c.

Brotherly love does not exist universally and to the fullest extent among the brethren of the Good Templar lodge; the late corporation election is the cause of a little disturbance.

John and William Sorg have moved to Iowa for the purpose of converting their land there into farms.

Yorkville: Hon. Schuyler Colfax will lecture in the Congregational Church, Oswego, on Thursday, May 18, on "Abraham Lincoln." This is one of the grandest lectures ever delivered and Mr. Colfax is inspired with his theme.

#### Directory of Kendall County

We have been shown a prospectus of a Biographical Directory of Kendall County, proposed to be published by Geo. Fisher & Co. of Chicago. besides giving the name of taxpayers and voters of the county, there will be a classified business directory, a map of Kendall county, a sketch of the county and its interests, officials of societies, lodges, associations, public officials, statistical tables. If sufficient encouragement is given it will be ready for delivery to subscribers as soon as a work of such extent can be rightly and correctly completed.

The State Central Committee of the Independent party gave a very pleasant entertainment at the Court House last Saturday evening, and being free to all, a very large audience gathered.

It was given as the first gun of the campaign from the Independent party.

A strong effort is to be made to carry Kendall county for that party this fall. It is the home of their candidate for Governor and they will use every endeavor, fair or foul, to win it for him. They battle on one idea--that of interconvertible bonds and greenbacks. That is their only issue. What is the true issue before the nation, before the people of this State? It is to keep out national government out of the hands of the South and out of the hands of the party which tried to destroy it. That is the issue.

May 11: About the usual number of personas might be written up. There is Haight's new clerk, a young gentleman from Naperville by name of San Schneider.

The return of William Bradford, who for a year or more sojourned in Yorkville and Joliet, and who immediately upon his arrival went round and paid up what little debts he had been owing, thereby exemplifying the adage "An honest man's the noblest work of God." He expressed regret for the delay and apologized by saying that circumstances beyond his control prevented him from being around sooner. [Bradford, a member of the black community living in the Minkler Road area, served a year in the state penitentiary at Joliet for stealing a watch.]

A string band of Italians was in town.

I have been reminded that newspaper reports of this sort of intelligence are nothing more or less than gossip, that I ought to be engaged in something better than tattling through a newspaper.

This is an extraordinary year because it is the centennial; the election, therefore, of a President will be an extraordinary one and as a corollary, we must have extraordinary politics. We must turn over a new leaf, throw aside the old worn out instruments, and adopt something new.

Yorkville: PROCLAMATION

State of Illinois, executive Department

To all to whom these presents shall come--Greeting:

WHEREAS, on the evening of the 18th of January 1876 at the town of Oswego, County of Kendall, and State of Illinois, a brutal and unprovoked assault was made by some person unknown upon Charles Sutherland, a respected citizen of that town, from the effect of which assault the said Charles Sutherland soon thereafter died, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Kendall County have instructed the Treasurer of said county to offer a reward of Five Hundred Dollars for the apprehension and conviction of the murderer of the said Charles Sutherland.

Now THEREFORE, I, John L. Beveridge, Governor of Illinois, do hereby offer and proclaim an additional reward of Two Hundred Dollars for the arrest of the said murderer and his delivery into the custody of the Sheriff of Kendall County.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of State to be affixed. Done at the City of Springfield this 26th day of April, A.D. 1876

John L. Beveridge

Governor.

Hon. Schuyler Colfax will lecture in the Congregational Church, Oswego on Thursday, May 18, on "Abraham Lincoln." This is one of the grandest lectures ever delivered and Mr. Colfax is inspired with his theme. Admission 50 cents. Lecture will begin at 8 o'clock. Tickets will be for sale at D.M. Haight's and L.N. Hall's stores.

The CB&Q Company have 100 locomotives at Aurora, 95 at Galesburg, 73 at Creston, and 38 at Burlington.

Capt. Mann's fine horse, "Gilbert," will be in NaAuSay this season. He is of Hambletonian stock.

From the *Naperville Clarion*: Mr. Samuel Schneider has accepted a position as clerk in D.M. Haight's store in Oswego and entered upon the discharge of his duties last Monday. We believe Samuel to be an honest boy, possessed of a set of good brains, and predict for him success, provided he cultivates stick-to-it-iveness.

Since the firm of Hord, Emmons & Co. have taken hold of the Montgomery Mills, its reputation has been reestablished throughout the whole section of country, and it now holds its former high position as the best flouring mill on Fox River. The gentlemen now running it are first class businessmen, employ experienced millers, buy the best of what, and consequently furnish a high grade of flour at the lowest prices.

Millbrook: The town well near the shops is to be furnished with a trough for teams to drink out of. The well is to be sunk deeper, and one of the Oswego wind mills is to be put up to do the pumping and keep the trough full. [Marshall Wind Engine windmills were manufactured under license by the Oswego Manufacturing Company.]

May 18: What is called the Wagner Bridge, on the Grove Road, broke down as a gravestone wagon from Aurora was passing over it. It had been washed away by the big rain a short time ago and was only fixed for temporary use. The wagon was loaded with a monument for the NaAuSay cemetery, which sustained some damage and was taken back to the factory for repairs. The horses also received slight injuries, but the men escaped unhurt. There is a good deal of work required this season for repairing the roads; Trustee Strossman, to whom was assigned the duty of overseeing it within the limits of the corporation, has been very energetic in fixing up the damaged bridges.

Our former townsman, Charles E. Beaupre, was in town the other day.

J.A. Judson and M.L. Ashley have moved away with their families. Aurora, I believe, is now their residence.

The raising of fine stock is quite extensively carried on by Mr. J.S. Seely, who has now a dozen of very nice sucking calves all or partly full-blooded; the nicest a full-blooded Durham calf he sold to George Squires for a handsome price no doubt.

Thursday evening, ex-Vice President Schuyler Colfax will deliver his lecture on Abraham Lincoln at the Congregational church. As Mr. C. is a very fine speaker, the lecture is most renowned, an extraordinary edification may be expected.

Yorkville: The kindly face of A.B. Smith of Oswego looked in upon us Monday. He is the best Democrat we know of; that is, he is more near a good Republican than any hardshell we know.

We are having delightful growing weather.

The "day room" of the county jail is being made proof against escape. Besides the iron cage around the window, the ceiling of the room has been covered with heavy sheet iron. Billy Gray and assistant did that work. R.W. Willett furnished the iron for all the work.

Thermometer indicated 90 degrees Monday and almost as hot Tuesday.

A large number of very fine black bass are being caught in the river just below the Black's dam by fishermen this week.

Nate Loucks was over Tuesday with a handsome carriage and a little horse.

May 25: Issue missing from microfilm.

June -- 1876

June 1: The political campaign was opened in this town last week by a speech from Mr. D.W. Wood of Chicago in behalf of the Independents. Mr. R.M. Springer was with him and following the address, a greenback club was organized.

Emerson Ashley, while shelling corn for VanFleet, had in some manner one hoof his horses caught in the horsepower, breaking a leg and causing its killing necessary; a severe loss to Emerson.

A Mr. Kingman is here canvassing for the "Biographical Directory of Kendall County."

Business at the elevator is now very lively, keeping Austin in a sweat from morning to night in attending to the receiving and shipping of corn.

The basement of Haight's store has been provided with a cement floor and the roof with a new covering of coal tar and gravel.

Yorkville: To the editor: There are a few items connected with Mr. Colfax's late visit to Oswego which may prove of interest to the readers of the *Record*. Mr. Colfax, while in Oswego, was the guest of Mrs. Charles Sutherland. Our lamented friend Mr. Sutherland, during his lifetime, was the warm friend of Mr. Colfax. Mrs. S. and our ex-Vice President

have been intimately acquainted for a number of years during her recent severe bereavement he has manifested the most sincere sympathy, has consoled and advised with the tender solicitude and devotion of a brother. The real object of his trip to Oswego was to visit his old friend, Mrs. Sutherland.

In August 1859, the trustees of the Yorkville Methodist church borrowed \$100 from Mr. Daniel Pearce of Oswego. M. Lewis, O.H. Arnold, and J.P. Black signed the note. About 1862, the trustees desired to pay the note and offered Mr. Pearce greenbacks as legal tender, but Mr. Pearce refused it and demanded gold--saying further that he did not have the note. Several attempts were made to pay the note, but always failed. It came into the hands of Mr. Thomas Wayne and was presented by him as a claim against the Black estate, but of course the church could not allow it to be paid in that way. The church had \$201 on hand in the bank, and last Saturday, J.R. Marshall, for the trustee, paid Mr. Wayne \$267.70 principal and interest at 10 percent for nearly 17 years to get that hundred dollar obligation. Mr. Wayne had thought all the time that he could collect compound interest. There is still \$65.73 due J.R. Marshall from the church to make the matter square.

June 8: A week ago today was with us a day of considerable excitement and some loud talk; the supervisors were to sanction the laying out of the cut-off road, east of the village from the Plainfield to the Aurora road leading by Squires, which heretofore has been refused by the Commissioners.

Mrs. Wm. A Hawley, accompanied by her sister-in-law, Mrs. George Whipple of Mendota, has returned from a prolonged visit to her folks at Galva.

The flat roof of Mrs. Kenyon's residence has been replaced by one sloping from all sides--the name of the style I don't know--by it the appearance of the house is greatly improved.

Go thou and do likewise. Joseph Failing has laid down a very nice and substantial flagstone sidewalk in front of his residence. The stone came from the Hopkins quarry.

Strossman, the superintendent of the streets, is doing excellent service in the construction of sewers and fixing up generally.

Yorkville: We were recently shown a new process of enlarging and coloring portraits from ordinary card photographs or tintypes. They are made by the patentee, H.P. Moore, Concord, N.H., and are called "silvertypes." They are cheap in price and very beautiful. Agents wanted in Kendall County to take orders.

June 15: Edward Haviland of Jacksonville, aged 31 years, died of consumption at the residence of George M. Cowdry [Cowdrey]. He was a brother of Mrs. C. The remains were taken for burial to Joliet.

Mr. Samuel Buell has moved to Lyons in order to be nearer Chicago and undergo treatment for cancer with which he is afflicted in the face.

Miss Mary A. Hunt arrived from Leavenworth, Kansas yesterday; she probably was called home to see her brother Henry, who is lying quite sick with consumption. That disease is quite prevalent about here this season.

Mr. Young appeared at the appointed time, 4 o'clock Sunday afternoon, and on a dry goods box in front of Coffin's after singing a hymn, preached his second discourse of unadulterated Bible truths.

Just learned that Eugene Inman, a lad of 17 years, died last night, he being one of the consumptives heretofore referred to and has been under its sway for a year or more.

Yorkville: Rev. E.W. Hicks of Newark attended the annual meeting of the Fox River Baptist Association at Highland Park last week.

When you want stone for foundation or cellar walls, for well or cistern, you can get a first class article at Walter Loucks stone quarry at Oswego.

June 22: The funeral of Eugene Inman, whose death was mentioned last week, took place at the house.

Henry W. Hunt, another victim to consumption, died Tuesday night and was buried Thursday. The age of the deceased was nearly 23 years.

R.B. Murphy and wife arrived here Yesterday from Mobile, Ala. They are lately married and this is their first visit to his folks--the Fowler family--in that capacity.

The announcement of the firm of Hayes and Wheeler going into the presidential business caused general surprise hereabouts. Our Republicans were almost to a man for Blaine and his nomination was taken as a foregone conclusion. His defeat therefore occasioned much disappointment.

The Democrats will meet next week in St. Louis and there, conservatism will be attended to. They will reaffirm the resolution of '97, reaffirm the reserved rights of the states, reaffirm the Jacksonian doctrines and resolve to return to white men's government, to a tariff of revenue only, to hard cash and a return to many more things. There is one resolve which I hope they have chalked in their memory so it may not be forgotten, and that is a return to the wearing of hickory shirts.

Further proceedings were had yesterday in the cut-of road matter. I believe it was the selection of a jury for the assessment of damages.

Yorkville: Hurrah for Hayes and Wheeler!

June 29: The funeral of Mrs. Elizabeth Sutherland, widow of the late Charles Sutherland, took place Saturday. The death of Mrs. S. was very sudden and extraordinary, so far as it did not occur in a bed at her home. On Friday she came down town to do some trading, first going into the drug store, bought some kerosene; heaving the can she went farther on and visited both of the dry goods stores at which it is said she exhibited some excitement about certain lawlessness in this town. On her return to the drug store and in front of the furniture store she passed the time of day with Mr. Shaver, who stood in the door, also saying she was very tired and simultaneously, with which she began to stagger somewhat. Mr. Shaver invited her in to rest herself, which she rapidly accepted. Sitting in a chair for a minute or two and drinking a little water, she complained of headache and wished to lie down and was assisted to a lounge. Some passing ladies were called in to render assistance. Also, Dr. Jewell, the family physician, who came accompanied by Dr. Winslow of Aurora, who happened to be in town, but their services seemed to be unavailing for death occurred an hour from the time she had entered the store, the cause of which is said to have been apoplexy, which she had been subject to.

I should have mentioned heretofore the term of the public school has expired.

The Washington Street German church is undergoing extensive repairs, the outside all repainted and the doors grained; the inside is not yet completed.

The cut-off road matter was again under investigation yesterday, the principal proceedings being the jury examining the route.

A horse belonging to Sinclair, only bought by him a few days ago, dropped dead in the street Sunday afternoon on the return from a drive to Aurora.

An entrance was effected through the cellar into the drug store one night last week and what change there was left in the drawers, besides a few articles of no great value, appropriated. I suppose we are too weak a municipality and too poor to afford a hired night police.

Strossman is proving a very efficient pathmaster and is causing much work to be accomplished on the street and roads within his jurisdiction.

Yorkville: The matter of laying out a road through part of Oswego township to connect with the Aurora road at Squires' corners has been dismissed. The chosen Supervisors of our county agreed that the road should be laid out; then came the question of damages; a jury of six was chosen and gave the case a hearing before Squire Newton. After some sparring by the lawyers and viewing the ground by the jury on Tuesday, the case was dismissed by the Justice for illegality of proceeding.

Farley's Elevated Way is now in practical working at Oswego and has given evidence that it bears elements of practical success. Mr. Farley has put up a--what shall we call it?-line or way near the railroad track at Oswego some 20 rods long and runs it with a steam engine. He has built two large pulleys running horizontally for the termini, with his

standard pulleys at proper distances between and placed thereon the belt or platforms and moved all with success. We have heretofore described Mr. Farley's invention at length and while we feared for its success, he has, with true Yankee faith in his scheme, stood out against all discouragements and made it work just as he said it would, for a short distance. And if it works so well for 20 rods, with the proper apparatus and engines it will work for 20 miles or 200 miles with equal success.

Mr. W.W. VanEmon rode on the new line last Monday and is enthusiastic in its praise, believing that it will do just what the inventor claims: Transport grain, coal, or merchandise for hundreds of miles at a great saving in cost over our present modes of transportation. It moves without jar or jerking, rounds the turns perfectly and is a surprise even to Mr. Farley. It is worthy of the attention of the public, of engineers, and the commercial people of the country especially.

An adjourned meeting of the holders of stock and endowment notes of the Fowler Institute will be held in the institute building, Newark, on Thursday, July 13th, 1876 for the purpose of taking measures to dispose of the property.

July -- 1876

July 6: The nation was celebrating its 100th birthday.

R.B. Murphy and wife started yesterday on their return to Mobile, Ala. Mrs. M. is a very pleasant and sociable lady; nothing stuck up about her.

George R. Schamp arrived here the other day and apparently contemplates a change of residence from New Jersey to that of the west. George better take up his abode among us.

A number of the lighting rodders have come home to celebrate.

"Yankee Doodle" and other patriotic airs were given by the band on the Morning of July 4 from the roof of the brick block.

The Misses Emma and Helen Samse are now arranging an establishment for dressmaking and other kinds of sewing; they are both proficient in the business, the one followed it in Chicago and the other at Aurora.

July 13: Death will now be less dreadful to our citizens than heretofore; they now are reassured of being interred in a regular established cemetery. A charter from the state department incorporating the Oswego Cemetery Association is now in existence and immediate steps will be taken to complete the full organization.

A military company is now undergoing organization, the roll now bearing about 40 members; soldiers of the late war are the managers.

George W. Cooney was gored by a bull yesterday and considerably injured; three ribs are broken.

#### Yorkville: FIVE COMPANIES OF SOLDIERS SLAUGHTERED

General Custer's expedition against the Sioux Indians has been cut to pieces, and General Custer, his two brothers, his brother-in-law, his nephew, Lieutenant Crittenden, a son of General Crittenden, and 11 other commissioned officers killed. The fight occurred on the 25th ult., near the Little Horn River in Wyoming. The Indians numbered nearly 4,000 warriors. General Custer charged the thickest part of the camp at the head of five companies of cavalry. Not one soldier of that detachment escaped alive. Major Reno, who was also in the fight, escaped with the remnant of his command, under cover of the reserves, whom Custer had stationed on a hill in the rear. He was surrounded by the Indians and held for one day until relieved by the arrival of General Gibbon with reinforcements. The timely arrival of the latter probably prevented the slaughter of the entire expedition.

#### July 20: THE CUSTER MASSACRE

A front page *Record* story recounted more details in the aftermath of the massacre of Gen. George A. Custer and troopers of the U.S. Seventh Cavalry by the Sioux along the Little Bighorn River.

With the exception of the wedding of Maitland G. Poor to Miss Ada Warner last week, I am almost destitute of something to communicate this morning.

Esquire Burr was relieved last night by death of his long sufferings. He had been sick and confined for nearly two years and attained the age of 77 years.

The Oswego military company completed its organization last week by electing George W. Avery Jr. for Captain; Orin Curtis first and William T. Putt second lieutenants, together with the requisite number of minor officers.

The lightning struck on the farm of Wm. Ladd yesterday killing Miss Carrie Ferris's cow.

#### July 27: Farley's Conveyor.

Public Exhibition Next Saturday, July 29th

In response to many inquiries from parties who desire to see the working of Farley's Transportation Conveyor, he announces that his working model will be in operation at Oswego next Saturday, July 29, and all persons interested in cheap transportation are invited to come and see it.

Of the young men that went out from this place making their mark in this world, Isaac N. Stoutemyer, or Newton Stoutemyer as we called him, is one of the foremost in the race for fame and fortune. About 13 years ago he moved with his mother to Missouri. There he commenced the study of law and afterwards the practice of it. Henry Judson, another of the energetic and progressive boys from this town, was out there engaging in the law and publishing business. The two got together and in the course of time drifted to

Louisiana and now are the proprietors and publishers of the *New Orleans Times*, one of the largest newspaper establishments in that city and of which Mr. S. is the business manager.

The funeral of Festus Burr took place Wednesday at the Baptist church of which he was a member. The esquire was one of our old citizens, has been identified with the town in various ways, a justice of the peace for a long time and the town clerk for a number of years.

Wm. Huggins has sold his farm to Frank DeWolfe, son-in-law of H. Hafenrichter. Mr. Huggins will move to Iowa, where he has bought land.

Leonard Burkhart is now a very learned or refined man, but he understands the knack of accumulation. About 32 years ago he settled on 80 acres four miles out on the prairie. He soon commenced buying out his neighbors this way, kept it up and still continues to do so and at the rate he is going on he will reach town before many years. The last farm he bought is that of James Pearce. James is going to Iowa to occupy a section of land he has out there.

There was a dance one evening last week, the first use made of John T. Wormley's new barn.

M.J. Richards is about the only man that is making any improvements in building in the village but the country round about it very extensively in that way. Mike Hem and Wm. Elliott are completing residences of large size and which for substantiality and all the modern improvements are said to rival any in the neighborhood.

August -- 1876

Aug. 3: The firm of Tetzlaff & Hafenrichter has been changed to Hunt & Tetzlaff; J.B. Hunt has bought out the interest of L. Hafenrichter, the latter remains at the store as head clerk; this should have been mentioned last week. Since then they have also made a change in location, moving one door south into Shepard's building, which brings our two drygoods stores side by side.

W.A. Jessup went through town the other day with a drove of 60 head of extra nice steers; he took them to Bristol Station for shipment.

There were also in town Col. Plumb of Streator--of him our people acted a little shy-- Gen. Hayes and Judge Redding of Morris; Mr. Beebe and Mr. Corbin of Plano. The business which brought these here was about the "safety of our country," win which some of them feel very solicitous. Corbin is the author of the Plano Locals [in the *Record*] and is quite a different chap and much handsomer than what I had supposed him to be; a little heavier moustache might add still more to his beauty, however it does well enough as it is. I tried to get out of him some points on Lew Steward, as now all available

means should be brought to bear against the latter's success of being elected governor, but my trouble met with little reward. He admitted that Lew wasn't a professor of religion, but said he was quite liberal towards the churches; that he was headstrong and willful, but most always on the right track, that he had been a great help to the town, &c... There is, however, little danger of his getting elected; such a load as the Democratic nomination would swamp the angel Gabriel, but still there is one thing which is working very much in his favor and contributing mightily towards his success--I mean the Chicago Times, which is terribly out against him. The Times has a great many readers; people like to read it because it gives more real juicy news than other papers and because it is sarcastic and spicy; but politically the Times has no influence at all, the Democrats have lost all confidence and the Republicans never had any in it.

Mrs. Henry Helle is one of our accomplished florists.

Frank Strossman became 21 years of age yesterday but is tall enough to have been a voter these many years.

Mr. Bunn is one of our boss gardeners.

Many improved the opportunity to take a ride on Farley's Conveyor Saturday.

That Biographical Directory.

To the Editor:

To all whom it may concern, take notice, and govern yourselves accordingly:

A certain Mr. Birdsell has been canvassing the town of Little Rock to get material for a book purporting to be a Register of Kendall County, and representing that the book would contain the names of all the voters of Kendall County, their nativity, and the period of their residence in the county; the said book would contain from 400 to 500 pages. It was also to contain the history of Kendall County; to be bound in different styles of binding. And now comes one Mr. Fisher to deliver said book, the price of which is \$4.50--which your humble servant paid for one of them. Now the book is not what it was represented to be, and they know it. Some parties here paid them for it, others refused to take the book, while some have compromised by paying one dollar for it. The book has but 114 pages, instead of 400 or more. Further, it was represented to be embellished with quite a number of plates, which are wanting. The thing is a swindle, and the parties who are operating here know it.

David H. Shonts

J.W. Winans starts out this week with his threshing machine and invites the patronage of the farmers. His machine was a new one last season and there is no better in the county. He makes a specialty of threshing timothy, claiming that he can do as good work if not better, than any other thresher. Post Office address Bristol, Ill.

Aug. 10: Those who, from 1861 to 1865 attempted to destroy our government by armed rebellion are now gradually getting the political control of that government into their hands. This is a very serious matter and deserves public attention. *The New York Times*

has recently investigated the matter and ascertained that there are now in the National Senate seven Generals and three Colonels of the rebel army; that there are in the House of Representatives fifteen rebel Generals, eighteen rebel Colonels, four rebel Majors, and four rebel Captains.

It is getting to be a question whether this government and all its affairs shall be transferred to the hands of those who did their utmost, by war and political scheming, to destroy it. If the loyal citizens of the nation really desire to complete this "unconditional surrender," let them elect Samuel J. Tilden to the Presidency. He would be the most willing tool the Confederates of the South could possibly find.-- Journal

There will be a meeting held next Saturday at one o'clock in the afternoon at the town hall for the purpose of completing the organization of the Oswego Cemetery Association. I want to say that all who have friends and relatives in the cemetery and all who expect some day to be taken there themselves should not fail to attend this meeting; don't stay away because these Second Adventists have been preaching to you that the time was near at hand when graveyards will be vacated; don't believe that you will be one of those changed in the twinkling of an eye and not taste death; the greater probability is that we all shall want a place for a good long rest; let's all go to that meeting.

Politics have been very dull with us; even the acceptance letters of Tilden & Hendricks failed to enthuse our people; we are now awaiting with much curiosity that of Lew Steward.

The Rev. Mr. Beans and family have returned from their visit abroad invigorated in body and mind.

The regular every-other-week morning service of the German Methodist congregation took place at the church in town.

In the afternoon we also had about two hours' preaching on the street, where Second Adventism was under examination; the speakers were Messrs. young and Chase of Aurora, and Mr. Rank of this town, the first two advocating it and the latter modifying and trying to make it conform to the evangelical and other creeds.

The Old Court House has been repaired and the hall put in complete order for the carrying on of a good school. Prof. Sloat will commence his new term there shortly.

Aug. 17: Ketchum Bros. are the successors of William Wagner at the red meat market.

The youngest child, an infant, of George Troll was buried last week.

George Haag met with a serious accident one day last week; they were threshing and he went on the horse-power to drive and for some cause fell off and got terribly squeezed in the region of the bowels; his condition is somewhat improved but still precarious.

The Oswego Cemetery Association is now a fixed fact, the capital stock is \$5,000 and the officers are Rev. Henry Minard, president; C.L. Roberts, vice-president; H.C. Cutter, secretary; and David Hall, treasurer.

Thomas D. Wayne has built an engine house to his cider factory; also bought a new press of the latest pattern and means to make cider on an extensive scale and in the most approved style.

From the *Chicago Times*: A year or two ago the *Times* noticed at some length a system of transportation invented by Mr. H.W. Farley, a mechanical engineer living in Oswego, Illinois. Some radical, or at least serious, defects were then pointed out in the system. Since that time, the inventor has been devoting himself to a perfection of its details; and he once more presents it to the public with the belief that it will now accomplish that for which it was especially intended--cheap transportation.

Mr. Farley calls his invention the "Horizontal Conveyor." it consists, in popular language, of an endless belt running over rollers, and carrying an endless number of cars of shallow depth. The belt is moved by stationary engines located 10 miles apart, and is so constructed as to round curves and ascend and descend grades without difficulty. The carrying capacity of the belt is at the rate of a bushel of grain to every two and a half feet. It is provided that the conveyor shall be in continuous motion and that the loading and unloading shall be done without any stoppage. In some calculations relative to the belt moving at the rate of 4-1/2 miles a hour from Chicago to New York, it is shown that its average daily capacity of receiving, delivering, and discharging would be 200,000 bushels of grain; and which would cost about 2-1/2 mills per ton per mile, or about one-fourth the cost on the regular [rail] roads....

It is scarcely possible to even approximate as to the outlay required to put such machinery in practical working order. Mr. Farley has attempted it, however, and places it at about \$6,000 a mile...

His system is, in brief, applying to the distance between New York and Chicago or any other two points the same system which the elevator owner applies to the distance which separates the upper floor of his building from the boat or car to be unloaded.

Aug. 24: Alec Budlong, uncle of J.J., got his foot caught in the horse-power the other day while threshing and the lower part of it badly wounded. The threshing casualties are getting quite frequent.

The Rev. J.B. Andrews and Frank Parker have returned from the Centennial Saturday; they had a very extensive trip over 4,000 miles of travel, going through Canada, the New England States, visiting the White Mountains, enjoying the beautiful snow and many Lake and River scenes. They are highly delighted with their trip and the big show. Mr. A. says a fellow cannot invest his money to any better advantage.

David Hall had a call yesterday from Mr. and Mrs. I.N. Stoutemyer, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Clinton and daughter and Mrs. West, all of New Orleans. Mrs. Stoutemyer and Mr. and Mrs. Hugh McConnell of Aurora, with a number, if not all of the Stoutemyers

family, all but Mary's husband, Mr. West. The New Orleans party are on their return from the centennial and are now visiting with their Aurora relatives.

The band boys are now wearing lamps on the front part of their hats evening when marching through or otherwise playing in the streets so that the puffing up of their cheeks may be seen when blowing. The drummers, I suppose, wear them to see the notes. There is going to be a Centennial ball next Thursday evening.

The cemetery association have bought of M.J. Richards all the vacant lots in, and about three acres more land adjoining, the present grave yard; also opened books for the subscription of stock, of which a fair amount is already taken and it is desirable that the whole amount should be taken immediately. By laying out now some money and labor we can soon have one of the nicest cemeteries in the state; the ground and location are as nice as could be desired; by cleaning and thinning out the woods on the lower side it will present a beautiful view from the railroad as well as the wagon road above. Let us now display some energy in providing a pleasant place for our intermediate state, and death won't seem near as terrible.

Yorkville: The Centennial history of Kendall County begins in the *Millington Enterprise* of Sept. 7, 1876 and will be continued for several months. It will be thorough and reliable in every sense, embracing the early explorations of LaSalle and Marquette the fort on Starved Rock, Indian massacres, Jessie Walker's mission, first white settlements, the chiefs--Shabbona and Wauponsie--Black Hawk war, name and claim of very settler, village plats, land sales, stage lines, tavern stands, and noteworthy incidents of all kinds.

Aug. 31: Mrs. Harriet P. Dodge, aged 42 years, died Friday evening of consumption.

D.M. Haight shipped last Thursday 23,000 pounds of butter; the lot was bought for the Liverpool market.

Prof. Oben of Aurora gave Saturday evening one of his highly enjoyable entertainments; the Professor has been here several times before and always furnishes lots of fun.

Mr. Farley receives now many letters of inquiry concerning his conveyer from all sections of the country, showing that it is creating an interest among the people.

The fall term of the high school successfully commenced yesterday. Prof. Sloat is highly pleased with the hall. He pronounces it one of the best rooms for school purposes.

September -- 1876

Sept. 7: The funeral of Mr. R.G. Poage took place Tuesday of last week at the house. Mr. Poage was born in Virginia in 1798; at the age of about 30 years he moved to Ohio and resided there till 1853, when he moved to this State and settled near this town. He was a quiet and peaceable citizen, the head of a large and exemplary family.

The remains of Mrs. Aldrich Smith were brought here last week and interred in the Cowdry [Cowdrey] cemetery where other members of the family are buried. They were residing in this region some 20 years ago and then moved and settled six miles south of Morris where her death took place.

Mrs. Mary Crosby, 35 years of age, after a lingering illness from consumption died Monday at the residence of Henry Wormley where she had made her home since the death of her husband, she being a niece of Mrs. Wormley. No children are left behind. The consumptives have been dropping off quiet rapidly this season in this neighborhood.

A change was effected at the beginning of this month in the depot agents. William Holyoke was transferred to Yorkville and Fredrick O. Tarbox installed here. The change was universally regretted, as William was liked by everybody. Our people are not the easiest pleased nor the least faultfinding in the world, but Bill had the facility to please all and there never was the least complaint from any source against him... Tarbox is a handsome spruce young gentleman and altogether different fellow from what his name would indicate.

As the centennial doesn't occur very often, John Collins concluded that he might not have another opportunity and so he improved this and started for the big show a few days ago.

The fall term of the public school commenced yesterday; the old corps of teachers, Mr. Duffy, Miss Brown and Miss Wayne, gave such general satisfaction the last term so they were again retained for the new.

#### Advertisement: OSWEGO SEMINARY

The fall term opens Monday, Aug. 28, 1876.

Tuition: Primary English, \$5; Higher English, \$8; Music, \$8.

French, German, and Latin each extra \$2. Good board or rooms can be obtained in the town.

Prof. A.H. Sloat, Principal.

Sept. 14: There has been much stocking up by our merchants. Haight and Hunt & Tetzlaff have received large supplies of dry goods and general merchandise; Edson & Co. a large assortment of stoves; fresh oysters find now the most ready consumption at Sutherland's restaurant. Early [Sutherland] is skilled in getting up a good stew; all other business pursuits are apparently in a flourishing condition.

The first installment of the Centennial history of Kendall County through the *Millington Enterprise* was received last week; our old inhabitants should put the publishers in possession of all the important items connected with the early history of Oswego so that it may receive a full and correct setting out, and everybody ought to take the paper during the publication of this history.

Wm. H. Chattle and wife arrived here some days ago; Mr. C. was in a very crippled condition. He is a railroad man and in coupling cars while moving fell and had the car wheel run on his leg lengthwise, breaking no bones but terribly lacerating the flesh from the foot to the knee.

Mrs. Cushing of Arlington, Mass. was here on a visit to J.B. Hunt. Mrs. C. Was born and raised in this town; she then was Mamie Cutter.

Yorkville: Report from St. Paul, Minn., datelined Sept. 7: About 2 o'clock this afternoon eight mounted men, armed with navy revolvers carrying extra cartridges in their belts, dismounted in front of a bank at Northfield, Rice County. Five remained outside and three entered the bank and sprang over the counter. One held a knife at the throat of J.L. Haywood Cashier, ordering him to open the vault. The other two compelled A.E. Bunker, assistant cashier, and Frank Wilcox, clerk, to hold up their hands...Meanwhile the townspeople in the street had opened fire on the robbers, killing two and wounding one. Five escaped carrying the wounded one with them leaving one horse killed and another captured by the citizens..

Fourteen citizens in pursuit of the Northfield robbers overtook them late Thursday night in a ravine a short distance from Shieldsville. Shots were exchanged and one of the robbers' horses was killed but as the robbers turned to make a fight and the citizens were poorly armed, they dared not dash into them and the robbers mounting the dismounted comrade double, took to the woods and were again lost sight of...the general impression seems to be that the robbers are members of the famous Younger and James gangs.

Sept. 21: John Simons, Cass Gaylord, and C.F. Shaver have returned from the centennial.

A Lowry troop gave an exhibition one evening of last week.

Bridges' moral circus performed here yesterday afternoon.

John Chapman wears a new shiny stovepipe hat and otherwise extraordinary good clothes; what can it all mean.

Saturday morning, M. Russell was surprised to find the best span of his horses taken out of the stable and gone. They were found shortly after in the road about a mile from his place. In the evening not much after eight o'clock Mr. Esch of the ice firm, heard one of his horses whinny; looking out he noticed the stable door open and upon examination found one of the horses and a bridle gone; he immediately telegraphed the fact in several directions and offered a reward; the horse also shortly afterwards was found in the road on the other side of the river.

Sept. 28: Mrs. Ida Sinclair died and was buried last week. The deceased was but 18 years of age. An infant is surviving her. The mother of Mr. Sinclair arrived from the East too late for the funeral.

Thomas F. Baldwin has been among us most of the time for two or three years, or ever since he became the possessor of the Judson farm, although his family was residing in Chicago. About five weeks ago he went to the city with the intention of being gone about a week but was taken sick with a paralytic disease and the past week he died there. His remains were taken to Cincinnati, his former home. Mr. B. was 76 years old. He was a business spirited man but somewhat eccentric, of much wealth, an adherent of the Methodist church, and had befriended most everybody while among us.

The marriage mania has broke out in this community. During last week Samuel Roberts and Miss Lida Andrews were consolidated. William F. Forbes surprised nearly everybody by the return from a visit to Shabbona accompanied by a bride, namely Miss Sue Keely of that place.

David W. Carpenter celebrated his 63d birthday on Sunday. It was a very happy family event and it gave Dave more pleasure than anything ever before--the relating of his exploits in the Mexican war are no comparison to it.

W.A. Hawley, Charles E. Hubbard, C.L. Murdock, Tom Mullenix and other lightning rodders have returned.

Rev. H.W. Thomas, D.D., of Aurora, will lecture in the M.E. church, Oswego, on Friday evening, Sept. 29. Subject: "Man." Admission is 25 cents.

In a dispatch from Minnesota, it was reported that the four fugitives who robbed the bank at Northfield, Minn. had been run to ground by a posse of 40 to 50 men. One of the four were killed in the subsequent gunfight, while three were wounded. Two of the wounded men were the Younger brothers. They refused to name their dead comrade.

October -- 1876

Oct. 5: W.H. [William Huston "Hugh"] McConnell & Co., a new firm, have just commenced business in this town. They have bought the brewery and are converting it into a butter factory. The engine and other machinery for the establishment have arrived and they calculate to have it in running order by the first of December.

Miss Libbie Pearce is no more; last Wednesday she was transformed into Mrs. James Hoyt. The wedding took place at the residence of Ezekiel Pearce the bride's father.

It was a whopper of a boy, nearly 10 pounds, that caused all that joyfulness among his relatives, and that has raised Clint Gaylord to the importance of a daddy and Nate Loucks to the dignity of grandpapa.

Some folks by the name of Spencer from Canada are visiting at Doc Lester's.

The Rev. Dr. Thomas delivered his lecture according to appointment; there was but a fair audience in attendance, ladies predominating--perhaps they felt more interest in the subject, "Man," than the men did. The Doctor wasn't very positive about the profound questions involved, but I should think that if he wasn't a Methodist preacher he would say that the evolution theory of the origin of man is more plausible than the account in Genesis.

Young and Chase were on hand Sunday afternoon to expound other gospel from the standpoint of second Adventism, at Chapman's hall, but the congregation was insufficient to proceed and no further meetings of that persuasion will be held. This preaching to a certain class who seldom attend divine service did very well as a novelty for a little while but the same soon wore off; it wasn't the kind of doctrine this class needed; it required too much faith indeed more of it than orthodoxy does. Something in which there is employed less faith and more reason is what this element needs.

The Cooper and Cary club met last evening at Chapman's hall and tried on the Greenback uniform, a very gaudy affair; there is room for reform in the conduct and tomfoolery of our political campaigns.

The Selfridge family have moved away. To Aurora of course.

Oct. 12: Mrs. Julia Whipple of Camden, N.Y., who used to be Miss Julia Hoze, is here on a visit.

At the quarry of E.A. Hopkins, they have got down to very nice stone; experiments show that they admit of as nice a polish as the finest marble.

George Haag has so far recovered from the injuries received in a horse-power as to be able to again come to town.

Gus Voss had a runaway and got considerably bruised up.

The Republican meeting last week was a very pleasant one; the officers of the Hayes and Wheeler club occupied the platform with the speakers.

It is the Cooperites that create politically the biggest excitement in this town; their meeting Saturday was the largest and most enthusiastic of any we had in Oswego thus far in this campaign, their club members in uniform and with burning torches and music by our band proceeded through the streets making a fine display. At the hall, Austin presided; Sam VanDorston was the only speaker and did well; he talked hard of the Democrats in referring to their record--they rather enjoyed it, considering the source it came from--and of course found much fault with the Republicans.

Oct. 19: Politics have absorbed everything the past week; if anything has happened hereabouts that would make an item it suffered absorption at least before it came to my knowledge, so as to items I am bankrupt this morning and I don't remember any persons

from abroad having been in town except Bill Holyoke of Yorkville, Daniel Hunt of Kaneville, Harrison Ashley of Belvidere, or anyone having gone away except Capt. Bunn who is off somewhere.

The Registration of voters is taking place today, a system designed against fraudulent voting, but has proved a signal failure. There are numerous frauds practiced at our elections but the principal ones are repeating, box-stuffing, and fantailing.

A number of newcomers from Schuylkill County, Pa., by name of Thompson, Zerbe, Hatter, Dietman, Hardis, Wolf and others have lately arrived.

Oct. 26: Henry Judson was here on a visit to his friends, especially Major Davis. Henry has not been here for 12 years during which time of course he got married and so now is accompanied by a wife and child. He was one of our ambitious boys; started out from here to make his mark in the world and has succeeded well for he is now part proprietor of the *New Orleans Times*, a large Democratic newspaper of two editions a day and the business manager of the same. Henry looks well, and with the exceptions of his Tildenism, is one of the most promising boys ever raised in Oswego.

As two freight trains were coming up the road the other afternoon the hind one undertook to help the forward one along up the rising grade about a mile below town by pushing. The experiment proved not a success, but resulted in a damaged engine and caboose and a car or two off the track.

Henry C. Cutter has completed his new barn, which is said to be one of the finest and best proportioned in the county. It has a basement and all its compartments are arranged for the greatest convenience. Theron Richards was the constructor.

There has been a great deal of building going on this fall, but most all out of town. About the only building lately erected in the village is on Washington street by Dr. Lester. The Poage Brothers are doing a very large business in lumber; heard Matt say the other day that they have received 80 carloads in two months.

There was an all night dance in the town hall Friday by the young folks.

The Rev. S. Stover was appointed for the charge of the Methodist church here. I understood he supplied this church once before from Plainfield.

Yorkville: Information has reached Washington that a large number of the former members of Wade Hampton's Rebel cavalry legion have rallied around their old commander and are doing effective work for him in the present canvass. They have organized into companies under their old officers and armed with sabers and carbines are carrying the gospel of reconciliation and peace among the colored Republicans of South Carolina.

U.S. Sen. John A. Logan, a former Civil War general, spoke in Yorkville to more than 3,000 people. "A stand had been erected in the grove at the west end of Court street with seats for 800 people, and the committee expected to see about 1,200 present, but Yorkville was fairly captured and we had to surrender to overwhelming numbers. A sharp speaking cannon, kindly loaned by Sandwich, was placed on the Court House hill and manned by Burt Wellman and Walter Ralston, made the welcoming ring as the train came in."

November -- 1876

Nov. 2: Last week this community experienced the most political stirring up thus far in this campaign; besides largely attending the big gatherings addressed by eminent speakers in neighboring places, we had the two largest meetings in town... Wishing to do all the good I could for the country and the cause, I have devoted all the space usually allowed me and more, too, to politics and will keep over the locals on hand until next week.

This is the last opportunity of saying anything through the Record concerning the great event, namely the election, before it will take place; its other correspondents likely will refer to it and urge the readers to turn out and vote, so a little advice of mine may be in order and first would say that the importance of this Tuesday following the first Monday in November, I will simply say that it is the only day upon which we voters are placed upon the nearest common level in political power and it behooves us then to exercise it as individual free men.

Yorkville: Reader, how would you like to live under the rule of the South the coming four years? Every vote given for Tilden next Tuesday is a vote for a Southern administration of public affairs... The only safe course is to vote the entire Republican ticket. The Southern States have 138 electoral votes and will only need 47 from the Northern States to elect a President. Now, then, if the South furnishes 138 electoral votes to elect the new administration, and the North only 47 votes, isn't it a fact that the South will rule this nation if Tilden is elected? The very idea is abhorrent! That Jeff Davis Robert Toombs, Ben Hill, and the men who held our soldiers captive at Andersonville should dictate the policy of this government! Prevent this by voting for Hayes and Wheeler.

Keep your cider sweet. Howard has the article that will do it. Why shiver with cold when a chest protector is so cheap. Howard keeps them.

Ansel Reed's story and escape in the Black Hawk war, often solicited but never before published, will appear in the Millington *Enterprise* next week.

Hon. Wm. Cullen of Ottawa will speak at Oswego Friday night, Nov. 3d, 1876. Mr. Cullen is a fine speaker and should have a full house.

Nov. 9: Fred Coffin will be 60 years old the 12th inst.

Charles L. Roberts seemingly is practicing on runaways. He had two within two weeks.

The depot has been undergoing a cleaning up and it looks now as neat as a ladies drawing room on a gala day, and Fred Tarbox feels very proud about it. Fred thinks that whatever the shortcomings of Oswego otherwise may be, it has a good paying station. His freight receipts for October were \$2,158.64; the outfreight being \$642.92 and freights received \$1,516.72, of which the Poage Brothers paid about \$1,000.

Among the late marriages was that of Joseph Foss to Miss Delia Davis.

Uncle Snook was up from Ottawa for a few days but returned yesterday so as not to lose his vote for Hayes & Wheeler and the rest of the ticket.

Mr. Russell had a very good horse die the other day; it is said that the disease resembled hydrophobia.

Lawrence Hafenrichter gave me a ride the other Sunday and a very fine day it was, over a large portion of country and through the German settlement. We stopped at his folks, also one of my homes, one of the nicest locations extant on the ridge from where one can have a most extensive view of country, embracing large portions of Will, DuPage, Kane and Kendall counties. Of course we were highly and extensively feasted and had a good time. On our round I noticed a number of new buildings, the largest and most imposing was the residence of William F. Elliott; George Schilling has a very nice house. Rieger's new house, John Simons' new cornhouse, and granary and the new residence of Charley Knapp all appeared as very nice buildings at the distance from which they could be seen.

In the Walker district they are now building a new schoolhouse.

Yorkville: Kendall County voted overwhelmingly for Rutherford B. Hayes for President. The countywide vote was 1,869 for Hayes; 524 for Samuel J. Tilden, the Democrat; and 309 for Peter Cooper of the Greenback Party. The nationwide vote, however, was still in doubt.

Tilden is elected; the South again will rule the Nation, and this people has receded 20 years. We are routed completely. New York did it with the 75,000 majority in the city of Tweed. The Kendall County Democrats rejoice, but there is mourning in the house of Abraham.

Always look for bad weather about election times. Our first snow storm took place Monday. It was a wretched day.

Mr. W.T. Weeks of Big Grove gave the Republicans a big lift Saturday by his exertions in getting our Norwegian friends made into citizens. He is a good worker.

Burglars were very lively last week and a number of residents of Bristol received a call from these nimble-fingered gents last Friday night.

There was a tin wedding at Frank Van Doozer's, Oswego, on the evening of Oct. 26th. Forty in number were present.

Nov. 16: Who is elected President? This has been the all absorbing query since election day.

John Schilling of Beecher, Will County, formerly of this neighborhood, was in town Sunday.

You that have taken stock in the graveyard, are hereby requested to call at the drug store and get your certificates, which are now ready, and I suppose you will have to pay over the money subscribed.

S.F. Wagner shipped two carloads of hogs last night. Baldwin, two of cattle; Wollenweber & Knapp have shipped a number of carloads of hogs during the week.

Yorkville: An attempt was made on election night to enter the tomb of Abraham Lincoln in Springfield and remove his body. The attempt was unsuccessful.

Nov. 23: It was thought when the *Record* was issued last week that by another Thursday it would be able to tell its readers who was to be the next President of the United States, Hayes or Tilden. But another week has rolled around and no decided announcement of the result is made.

There has been again much shipping of livestock the past week. Last night, Luman Morgan shipped a carload of fat cattle and Wollenweber & Knapp two of hogs.

It would now be a useless undertaking for me to write up anything interesting to the readers of the *Record*, for the public mind is too much absorbed in the unsettled presidential contest. Here, there is little discussion over the situation between the respective adherents of Hayes and Tilden, but all seem to be viewing it with the deepest concern and some apprehension of danger.

Nov. 30: Nothing Decided: This is the third issue of our paper since the election, and yet we are unable to tell the people who is to be the next President. But very little has been decided to solve the problem, and in the meanwhile the pestilential States of South Carolina and Louisiana are in a perfect turmoil, little Florida added to the mess.

Lamb & Randall, a firm of musical professors are here undertaking the cultivation of that science in our young people.

Walker & Wheeler, another firm, are here, I believe, for the benefit of the noble horse.

The Greenback Club was organized for the purpose of supporting Cooper & Cary and to sustain the incontrovertible principal. If they will not convert themselves into a debating club, as it reported they intend to, they will accomplish something very much needed in this town.

December -- 1876

Dec. 7: DECIDED. Rutherford B. Hayes will be the next President. William A. Wheeler will be the Vice President.

Thanksgiving day was spent according to the different inclination of our people. Only upon one thing seemed there to be any unanimity and that was all wanted a good big dinner.

Mr. Byron Morgan arrived here the other day from Marshfield, Mo., where he now resides, and owing to his being accompanied by a bride, was received with the heartiest congratulations by his many friends.

John Huffman, an elderly gentleman who settled in this town about a year ago, died rather suddenly Saturday evening. A widow is surviving him.

Mrs. Susan Jenson, 84 years of age, died yesterday morning. Mrs. J. was from Scotland and the family emigrated to this country in 1846 coming immediately to Illinois and living for about 10 years in Will County, then moving to this town where she has been residing ever since and in the meantime losing by death her husband.

Yorkville: "Cowdrey's!" the brakemen on the Fox River passenger will call hereafter, as by permission of Superintendent Hudson a platform has been built at that point about 2-1/2 miles above Yorkville and it is now a regular flag station. Trains will not stop unless flagged or there are passengers to get off. S.G. Minkler saw Mr. Hudson and got the necessary permit.

Dec. 14: Last Wednesday the 6th inst., was the greatest of all days for lucky events. On that day the Electoral College met and elected two Presidents and two vice presidents.

The singing school now in progress is prospering nicely. Zophe Ketchum says that Professor Randall is the boss singing teacher he ever met.

I had written a lengthy article giving our town authorities a raking over for neglecting to keep in repair the waterworks, but they spoiled it, for yesterday afternoon they fixed them up.

Twenty carloads of stock from this station within the week; six last night, Wollenweber & Knapp and S.F. Wagner each three loads.

Yorkville: Oswego headquarters for holiday goods is at L.N. Hall's drug store; where he has a full line of toys for children. Selling low.

In consequence of the depression of the times and the necessity of meeting about \$2,800 of demands, the First Baptist Society of Aurora has determined to sell their parsonage, corner of Downer Place and May street.

The *Aurora News* says Mr. Courtney Smith has constructed an ice boat for use upon the river there. It was on the millpond this morning, and though the ice was very rough, the boat made good time.

Dec. 21: The singing school concert Thursday evening is said to have been a splendid affair as far as the performance was concerned.

The house on the farm of Mr. Greenfield at Specie Grove was consumed by fire early Thursday evening.

George W. Andrews has returned from Nebraska because the grasshoppers ate up his crops leaving him nothing to live on. Otherwise he would have been well pleased with that country.

The settlement of election bets has caused some irate feelings in the breasts of a few of our citizens.

Bob Jolly has paid us a flying visit.

Yorkville: S.G. Minkler Esq., has been elected treasurer of the Illinois State Horticultural Society. The society's money will be safe in Mr. Minkler's hands.

The Hutchinsons commenced work on the river Monday morning, gathering ice for the Chicago trade, and we guarantee that no better ice will be sold in Chicago next summer than that sold by the Caledonia Ice Company. The river has been high all the season, cleaning out everything in the shape of grass and the ice now found on Blacks pond is pure as crystal, hard and firm, and just the right thickness.

Dec. 28: No issue published.

1877

January

Jan. 4: Getting married and dying seem to be the two most prominent events of human existence, so accordingly I kept again a record of them the past year. Number of marriages, 19; of the persons they embraced, 28, or 13 males and 15 females were from this town and vicinity. Of this number, three males were married and unknown. It was a

bad year for widows as none of them got married. There was a falling off of six marriages, 11 persons or four males and seven females, from the previous year. The number of deaths (not including infants, of which there were about four) were 20 of which 11 were males and nine females.

Whatever intimidation, bulldozing and other devilment they may have down in Louisiana, they certainly have the nicest, biggest and most luscious oranges, at least that I ever saw or tasted. A package of eight cases was received from Charles Clinton as a Christmas present to some of his friends, one case being consigned to this individual. Mr. C. thinks a good deal of this place, the reason is he married an Oswego girl, and as all our girls are good girls, and Hattie Stoutemyer was one of the best, hence the partiality. It is said that Mr. Clinton's place is one of the finest in that state, with a nice orange grove and other beautiful surroundings and situated right outside of the city of New Orleans.

On Christmas occurred the marriage of Miss Nancy Newel to a Mr. Henry C. Hamilton.

Further doings on that day were the usual turkey shoot by the nimrods, a dance in the evening, and a big dinner by everybody that could afford it.

The wedding of Miss Florence C. Child to Mr. W.S. Washburn of Millbrook took place during the holiday week.

Haight got the inside of his store and furniture repainted and varnished, and a regular banking office constructed in the center. The establishment now looks very citified.

James Stevenson had his team hitched a few minutes the other day just after dark in front of the hardware store, while going to the butcher shop, during which time some evil disposed yahoo abstracted a \$10 buffalo robe from the sleigh.

Preliminary steps have been taken to organize a business men's club.

Jan. 11: The silver wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. W.W. Wormley was celebrated New Year's evening.

The organization lately affected by our business men is called the "Traders Union." One of the rules adopted is to close their places of business at 8 o'clock in the evening until March 15.

Wayne & Son are again running the elevator. Mr. Austin is closing up his business.

The farmers on the Plainfield road have been improving the good going the last month in drawing quarry chips and gravel. Said road will be put in perfect condition to the town line.

Yesterday was shipped from this station six carloads of livestock and two of grain.

Yorkville: Mr. A.W. Edwards, of the old reliable meat market at Oswego, sends an advertisement which shall appear next week. He keeps only the best of meat and never handles an animal that is now first class.

Jan. 18: The wedding of Miss Fannie E. Murphy and William Holyoke of Yorkville has kept social circles on the qui vive over the past week. It took place Wednesday afternoon at the residence of Mrs. Fowler, the bride's mother, and about 25 of their relatives and friends were present (Will was on hand at the appointed time; no James Gordon Bennett capers about him).

Levi N. Hall has the prettiest or boss cutter in town.

The Oswego Butter and Cheese Factory is now complete and in successful operation.

The Traders' Union had a meeting at Capt. Bunn's office last evening at which the principal business transacted was the adoption of a constitution and some by-laws. The officers of the association are L.N. Hall, president; D.M. Haight, secretary; J.B. Hunt, treasurer.

Yorkville: Last Thursday occurred the biggest snow storm of the season. It snowed all day.

Cisterns are getting glow hereabouts and large quantities of ice are being hauled from the river.

Jan. 25: The production of brackets and other fancy wood work is practiced by a number of our mechanical geniuses; a set of articles consisting of letter holders, card baskets, &c, sawed out of black walnut and white holly by Frank Parker are the neatest job in that line I ever saw; also pictures in frames, where a bird is sawed out of each kind of wood then exchanged and again inserted, making a white bird on a dark ground, and visa versa.

I should have mentioned heretofore that the brethren of Glen Lodge, that is, the Odd Fellows of this town, had the installation of their officers on the 9th inst. C.L. Murdock was installed as Noble Grand; William Strossman, vice-Grand; Henry Minard, Secretary; and Joe Failing, treasurer.

February -- 1877

Feb. 1: In the Parker [furniture] factory one day last week as one of the men was sawing off the end of a plank with a circular saw, the piece caught on the saw and was thrown with great force, striking William Parker on the throat and almost knocking him down and placing him for a few days in a precarious condition. He is now somewhat better.

Intelligence of the death, on the 17th inst., of Mrs. G.S. Rhoads of Boone, Iowa, nee Miss Anna Zimmerman of this town, was received last week; her age was 28 years.

The Band boys gave a dance Tuesday evening at the town hall.

Yorkville: The Freshet of 1857.

The *Batavia News* contained the following, which may interest our river readers:

A number of our citizens wishing to know the date of the last freshet, we give below the time, etc., as furnished by Mr. N.S. Young, who has kept a chronicle of events which has happened in Batavia for a number of years and which will be interesting to all.

“The great freshet of 1857 occurred on February 7th. Three very heavy rainfalls on the 5th, 6th, and 7th, upon a body of snow nearly two feet deep was the immediate cause of the rise of water in the Fox River Valley at that time. Every bridge from Elgin to Ottawa except the stone bridge at Batavia was swept away. Huge piles of ice were lodged upon both banks of the river, remaining there till far into the month of April.”

Hon. O.B. Galusha, the well-known horticulturalist, was the guest of S.G. Minkler last week.

One of Sheriff Newton's prisoners--the one from Plano--got away Thursday and had a little exercise, but he was soon captured again. He gave "Hank" the slip and was caught near Hathaway's. The prisoner has since tried to hang himself. The *Beacon* says: On Thursday evening last, about 20 couples of our young people drove out to the residence of Mr. John Gaylord in NaAuSay and spent the evening in a very happy manner. It was one of the merriest sleighing parties of the season.

Feb. 8: The visit of Ervin R. Davis to Ohio about the holidays was of greater significance than I supposed; I just learned that on the evening of New Years day, and at the residence of Peter Wilson near Springfield of that State, he was married to Miss Nellie Mellett, a very handsome young lady.

The interest in the revival meetings is increasing as they are protracted.

Yorkville: At a regular meeting of Seward grange No. 1437, brothers James Bell, John Hurst, and Ralph Heap were chosen as a committee to draw up a resolution in behalf of Sister Kate Hanson. The following resolutions of sympathy and respect were adopted. WHEREAS, It has pleased Almighty God in his wise providence to remove from among us our esteemed sister, Kate Hanson.

Resolved, That in the death of our late sister, Seward grange has sustained a loss of one of its most respected sisters.

Resolved, That we as brothers and sisters offer our sincere sympathy and condolence to the bereaved husband and children in this, their affliction.

Feb. 15: Inasmuch as I am almost destitute of something to write for this week, I will take the liberty to make a short address to the people of this neighborhood. I suppose that for the last six months my scribbling to the *Record* and the setting of it in type was not much better than labor thrown away; the public mind was so much exercised with the great

political questions at issue, causing local matters to receive but a passing glance or being ignored altogether. As now the end of the rope is nearly reached, as in all probability we shall ere long enjoy again quietude and repose, local matters then will once more receive some attention.

Just learned that several weeks ago Miss Celia Vanfleet was married to Mr. Henry Albee.

Also that several months ago Mr. Whipple got stuck with a load of stone on one of the crossings of the railroad track when a freight train came along and demolished his sleigh.

A man was overtaken and arrested here last week by Bristol Stationers for leaving their place with an overcoat not his own.

Some of our fellow citizens had to get intimidated with the calaboose in order to wind up their sprees.

The Leavitt Bellringers furnished the amusement to a fair audience one evening last week.

Feb. 22: Samuel N. Schneider and D.M. Haight dissolved their business relations last Saturday; Sam departed for Naperville yesterday morning much to the regret of some of the girls.

Mr. Daniel Platt of Plattville was in town yesterday, after a load of lumber and dropped in to see our Postmaster, and wanted to know why in the world he don't come home once in a while; well, the fact of it is, whenever he (the P.M.) gets hard up and has no place to go to, he surely will point for Platt's for a home, as he did years ago under such circumstances.

William Sorg, 23 years of age, died yesterday at his father's in the German Settlement. His disease was consumption. This is the first death this year in this neighborhood.

The intelligence of the death of Sam Dobson was received a few days ago and surprised everybody that knew him. But a short time ago he was one of the liveliest young men among us.

Mr. A.L. Rice of Elgin has moved to these parts and is occupying the Charlie Knapp farm.

March -- 1877

March 1: Nothing this week of any special interest.

The funeral of William Sorg took place Wednesday at the German church on the prairie.

John T. Hopkins has returned home and will carry on his business for awhile in this town.

Our base-ballists went out the other day to show some country chaps that they were nowhere when it came to the national game; during the contest Jimmy Poage caught a liner on the eye, that is Jimmy's eye not the liner's, from which he has been confined to the house ever since. Our boys gained the defeat.

Yorkville: W.H. McConnell & Co. are doing an excellent business for a new business at the Oswego Cheese and Butter Factory (the old brewery), and have stopped in a measure the shipment of milk to Chicago by the farmers in that vicinity. Mr. G. Roe takes his milk to that factory and many others are preparing to do so. The firm means business, and dairymen should give them a try.

The ice went out of Black's pond Wednesday night of last week without causing a ruffle. It was very rotten.

March 8: The wedding of Miss Emma Schuman to William Colman took place Tuesday afternoon, the ceremonial part of it in the German church on Washington street, where a full house of spectators witnessed the same.

D.M. Haight, Gustavus Voss, Henry Helle, Thomas Greenfield, and George W. Avery Jr. constitute now the board of our village trustees, Haight and Helle being on the former board; the election took place Saturday and was a very quiet affair.

Shepard's hall is now occupied by J.T. Hopkins & Co. for a feather renovating business.

A masquerade ball was one of the new things in this town one evening last week.

March 15: Charles A. and Henry Davis, with the latter's family, and William H. Coffin and family, Will Miller, Dan Puff, Valentine somebody and others whose names I did not learn, altogether 12 persons, started this morning for a new home in Kansas. They have taken with them two carloads of effects including 12 horses and mules. The Davises have land in Lyon and Greenwood counties of that state. I believe it is the latter to which they are now going.

Yorkville: George Woolley Sr. was in Yorkville Monday to attend court, and he made a call on the *Record*. He is a well-informed gentleman on many subjects and give us a good account of the excitement in England at the time Sebastopol was captured--he came over in the ship that brought the news to America, having been to England on a visit. Mr. Woolley settled in this country in 1841.

March 22: A child 18 months old, of Christian Herren (the farmer) died last week from scarlet fever. Nearly the entire family was afflicted with it, but he rest are recovering.

Mr. Amos Boardman of East Wheatland, father of Mrs. H.N. Moore of this town, died last Saturday from no other cause than that of his time being up, having reached the good old age of four score and seven.

A panorama of Apocalypse was exhibited at the Methodist Church last evening and will be again this evening.

Farmers, it will do you good to see the finest and best sulky plow on the market at Hunt & Tetzlaff's. The warehouse is in the Ezra Smith building; all kinds of agricultural implements in stock.

The snow, the snow, the beautiful snow and occasionally rather too much of it mornings on the sidewalks.

March 29: In such a quiet burg as Oswego, the assortment of reportorial stock is very meager, visits of persons to and from town from the staples, once in awhile a wedding of one kind or another comes in for a variety, or as the fancy portion of the stock.

The sad intelligence of the death of the wife of Carey A. Hopkins of Kendall was received about noon Friday.

The report was current last evening that the Supreme Court had rendered its decision on the Fox River Railroad Bonds in favor of the non-validity of the same. It was said that Farley received a telegram to that effect from someone in Ottawa.

Fred Sorg and Miss Sarah Burkhart were married last Thursday.

In a report on the graveling of the Plainfield Road, highway commissioner Nathan Loucks reported: "We not have two miles of gravel road as good as any in Kendall County. It will cost about \$600 to complete the road to the Bluff and we hope it will be finished next winter. The Corporation of Oswego has met us with a first class gravel road so far as the Corporation extends at the cost of \$1,045, and we have now three miles of road good a all times of the year when we usually had the worst that could be conceived of.

April -- 1877

April 5: The depot was entered one night last week by prying open a window. Fred Tarbox in the morning found things pretty well rummaged over, but nothing was missing except a pair of shears, his old gloves, and perhaps a few cents that had been left in the drawer. The burglars also broke open the tool-house and took out a handcar, with which they moved themselves to near Montgomery, where they ditched it. Henry Helle saw four fellows prowling around Anton Miller's place after 12 that night, which very likely were the same chaps.

The CB&Q has furnished a very handsome new stove for the passenger room at the depot.

Mrs. E.A. Hopkins is said to be quite sick.

The match game of base ball played between the Oswego nine and the Na-Au-Say nine in Mrs. Collins pasture was considered by all to be a success; at the end of the second inning the score stood at 34-14 in favor of Oswego. The Na-Au-Say boys do not eat buckwheats in vain for the tables were turned by the closing inning with the score being 49-43 in favor of Na-Au-Say. The Oswego boys were slightly embarrassed by the loss of one of their number, James Poage, who was rendered unfit for action by receiving a ball in his eye. Among the appreciative spectators were young ladies from Oswego and Aurora.

April 12: George R. Schamp has become a freeholder among us and is now eligible for Alderman. He has bought the Mason place on the north corner of Madison and Van Buren streets.

There is great rejoicing in the family of Henry C. Kerr over the firstborn, a son.

Wollenweber & Knapp had a deuce of a time Friday and Saturday in getting in a lot of fat cattle bought of Almon P. Ashley; going through the grove one steer became demoralized, likely caused by too much urging, and turned on the drivers, goring the horse Charley was on; Charley then came to town to bring home the wounded horse and get help, and among others secured Ed. Ketchum as an experienced hand. Further proceedings to drive that steer were useless; he was finally secured and tied successfully up. The other cattle were brought along successfully until the town was reached, which was in the evening; then a general scattering was experienced and but a portion of them were brought to the yards. The next morning the work of gathering up commenced, in which they were tolerably successful, except in one case a steer in the south end of the town defied all the bulldozing that possibly could be inflicted upon him; at last he was fastened to the end of a wagon and forced a distance by horsepower, but a desperate lurch by which he was heavily thrown terminated that; the rest of the way he was hauled on a pair of sleds, but died shortly after having reached the yards. The proceeding would have furnished a strong case for any society for the prevention of cruelty to animals.

A picked 9 of Nausayans came in Saturday and played with a picked similar number of our boys a game of base ball. The score stood 20 to 19, our boys being one behind.

The world renowned Wilson sewing machine, acknowledged to be the best manufactured, for sale by Hunt & Tetzlaff.

A feller weighing 11 pounds at a certain age may be called a bouncer; such was the case with Thomas Hopkins' youngest son the other day.

Owing to the sickness of Frank Andrews, the Edwards meat-market--which was in his charge--will be closed until Wesley's return from Kansas.

Mark Poage has strayed away off down to Cincinnati.

John Lane--called Johnnie when an Oswego boy, but who now is dividing his residence between Colorado and Kansas--was in town the other day to see some of his friends.

Mrs. James N. Todd has gone to New York, where her husband had preceded her several weeks; the evening before her departure a number of her friends made her a surprise good-bye visit.

M.C. Richards has laid down extensive flag walks in his yard.

Now, who dares say that ours is not a moral town, that we are not a loyal and orderly people? We had a calaboose but no use for it lately, so the common council decreed that it be sold; which was carried into effect by auctioneer Hall on town meeting day; it was struck off to Elder Minard for \$25.25, who bought it for a tool house for the cemetery association. The band boys turned out in uniform and on the vacant lots near the post office serenaded the town upon the abolition of this relic of barbarism.

Town-meeting was a very tame affair, there being but one set of candidates up. The existing state of affairs was not favorable to fight Farley on the bond litigations, that Supreme Court decision had made him invulnerable in that quarter, and by the way these bonds present an ugly shape in either direction they may be viewed. How in the world poor widows and schoolmistresses came to buy them is a mystery; it is not very often that poor widows are dealing in thousand dollar bonds, or schoolmams either, at least in this section of the country. Schoolmams about here would know better; they would put their money into a grosgrain silk dress instead of bonds, but of courts it may be different away down in New England. On the other hand there are many widows who would have to help pay these bonds if they were to be paid, none of which had any voice in causing them to exist, a grievous hardship too. The way the case appears to me is that the bondholders are not the losers of the total amount of their investments; we have issued these bonds without having any right, that made them fraudulent paper; a forgery; the Railroad Co. took them in exchange for its stocks and disposed of them; now the holders of these fraudulent bonds must come back on the O.O. & F.R.V.R.R. Co. [Ottawa Oswego & Fox River Valley Rail Road] and make it refund.

April 19: Somebody that has the means ought to put up some dwellings; much inquiry has been of late for vacant houses.

Mr. and Mrs. Lynch, a recently married couple and late of Cheyenne, Wyo. are now stopping at C.L. Murdock's, the bride's parents, she being the veritable Miss Emma Murdock.

Newt Gillespie went through here the other day with about half a dozen very nice rigs, being on his start out for lightning rodding.

Wesley Edwards has returned from Kansas where he has been buying land; he brought a jugful of the products of that state with him, namely mineral water.

Some enterprising Aurora house is putting up a large bulletin board near the west end of the bridge; besides advertising purposes it will make a good win break for Seely's stable.

The official list of this town I believe is now complete; the last election, that of school trustee, took place Saturday; it was slimly attended, and resulted in the reelection of H.C. Cutter.

April 27: Luel Cottrell, a young man from Kane County is now at the depot assisting Fred and studying telegraphy.

A new barn of extensive dimensions has been built on Taylor street, the property of Capt. Mann.

Henry Helle has put up a new outbuilding and otherwise materially improved his premises.

Browne & Randall's pasture (the old Slashing) lately owned by Major Davis, is now ready for the reception of stock. This pasture is 3-1/2 miles from Oswego adjoining the Hunt farm. J.C. Turpin is the agent.

Rev. Mr. Hicks of Newark was in town the other day gathering up material for the History of Kendal County, published in the *Millington Enterprise*. Said history is quite full and accurate; our people, especially the old settlers, missed a good thing in not procuring it.

Ezekiel Pearce has returned from about a two months' sojourn in Plymouth County, Iowa, where he and a brother are opening a large farm. I heard him say that they put in 400 acres of small grain.

FOUND DEAD He came to his end after repeated warnings that the course he was pursuing would terminate his life; but he heeded none of the earnest appeals of his friends, and so at an early hour this morning, persons passing on the street heard strange noises issuing from his room and upon entering he was found in his last struggle. The coroner was summoned, and the jury called and the verdict was "died from sleeping on impure, unhealthy feathers. Take warning friends, and avoid the bitter experience of this man and have your feather beds, pillows and mattresses cleaned and renovated by J.T. Hopkins steam process located in the Shepard's building, Oswego. (adv.)

May -- 1877

May 3: Sad Accident at Oswego

It is with great sorrow that we write of a painful accident which occurred to Miss Anna Brown, the popular teacher, at Oswego. She was out Tuesday afternoon with her scholars gathering flowers (the first of May) about a mile above Oswego. As the five o'clock train came along a little boy, named Carpenter, about nine years old, was on a railroad bridge over a ravine and became frightened. Miss Brown ran on the bridge to help him off. She saved the boy, but the engine struck her, ran over her left foot and threw her from the bridge to the creek, ten feet below.

The train was stopped, backed up, and the unfortunate lady got aboard and taken to Oswego, thence to her boarding place. Doctors were summoned, and her injuries found to be severe. The toes of the left foot were crushed, and portions of the foot had to be amputated. She was badly hurt about the back by the fall, and internal injuries are feared. Tuesday night the doctors thought she would not recover, but Wednesday morning she had rallied somewhat from the shock.

The Odd Fellows celebration was the great event the past week.

In going through the AuSable Grove the other day, John Turpin and William Devire saw an old wolf running away from a certain place; upon reconnoitering they found her young ones in a hollow basswood log; procuring an ax and chopping an opening into it they captured them, three alive and one they had to kill in order to get it.

A writer in the *Millington Enterprise* last week gave our inventors quite a puff, and apparently some of their patents take well, especially Haight's Rope Reel. I heard him say the other day that his income from the royalty averages now about \$7 per day and that he was negotiating with one house for 500 of the machines.

May 10: A statement of the casualty met by Miss Anna Brown a week ago today has already appeared in the *Record*, but I will refer to it again--first correcting an error, namely, it took place below the town instead of above, as there stated. The accident caused quite a sensation, and everybody deplored it, for Miss B. is a great favorite with out people. To be sure, in talking over the affair, there were some who wanted to lay the blame mostly upon herself by holding that, First, she should not have gone with a number of children in the woods near the railroad track; and that Second, that the boy was out on the edge of the bridge and likely would not have been hurt. Now all this may be so, it is very easy to conjecture after a thing is past. The question, however, is not what might or should have been done, but what actually has occurred. All human virtues are measured by the vices in existence; there would be no good in this world without evil, no philanthropy without destitution, no heroism without calamities. The most noble and heroic deed a person can do is to brave danger for the safety of a fellow being. Miss B. has proved herself a heroine, and no matter what could have been averted or justifiableness of the risk. She has been held in high esteem in this community because of her many good qualities, always active on the side of religion and good morals, is an excellent teacher, with the faculty to make herself beloved by all her scholars. It was said by the passengers that on the return to the place of the accident, the scene was very affecting, that there was a general crying and sorrow of the children, and all that first could be got out of them was "Miss Brown is killed;" some adding, "Davie Carpenter is

to blame.” Now beside all this she is a heroine and will be more admired than ever before... The last report from Miss Brown was that she is steadily improving.

The cemetery improvements are progressing nicely but somebody now ought to straighten up the grave stones out of plumb or cause those whom it concerns to do it.

May 17: The Waubonsie bridge, under street commissioner James Chapman, has been braced and re-floored, and now perhaps is as good as new.

B.F. Van Doozer has sold the vacant lot of his premises to E.C. Strossman.

The Poage Brothers are leveling up for lumber yard facilities the lot on which the hay press barn stood. The property was bought of Baldwin some time ago.

The great difficulty with this place is that whenever anybody starts any enterprise, all the rest of us go against it and try to break it down. The Cemetery Association has gone to a great deal of expense and labor to improve and beautify the grounds and to make it one of the finest cemeteries in the country, but seemingly there is no one to encourage them by taking up his abode there. There hasn't been a death in this town for upwards of five months.

“Young Western,” being the name of a large and fine draft stallion bought by Capt. Mann some three weeks ago, Sunday he (the horse) took sick and in the evening died. The cause of his death was inflammation of the lungs.

Lewis Weller, out in that portion of NaAuSay which used to be known as Tinkertown, has been quite busy this spring in hauling lumber away from here. He has built a new barn.

The people of NaAuSay and surrounding country made manifest their appreciation of and respect for a man of integrity by turning out en-masse to the funeral of Dr. Townsend Seely, which took place Sunday at the Union church of that town. The near villages were also well represented, especially Yorkville by her functionaries.

The corpse of Henry Benson, a former resident of Specie Grove, arrived yesterday on the 9:33 train and was taken from here to the Cowdry [Cowdrey] cemetery for burial. Mr. B. died at Onarga.

Yorkville: DEATH OF DR. TOWNSEND SEELY.

Not unexpected did the news come last Friday that Dr. Seely was dead, for he had long been lingering from heart disease and he expected to go at any moment. For several months, he was confined to the house and required hourly attention but loving hands were ever ready to minister to his necessities. He was quite strong a few moments before he died and after taking some medicine went to sleep and passed away quietly. Thus has one of our best, oldest and most respected citizens gone to that home prepared by the Master whom he so diligently served. Our Oswego letter contains a notice of the funeral,

and Deacon Bress, who was an intimate friend of the Doctor's furnished the Chicago tribune with a notice which we cut from that paper of Monday and publish as follows:

Dr. Townsend Seely

Another of the early settlers of Northern Illinois, and a most useful and valuable citizen, has passed away. Dr. Townsend Seely of Kendall County died at his home Friday, May 11, aged 83 years and four months. He was born in Orange County, New York, and after finishing his medical education removed with his family to the beautiful farm district near AuSable Grove, about six miles southeast of Yorkville. Dr. Seely was a man of great energy and of marked ability. In his extensive medical practice he was uniformly successful. In this regard, in the early settlement of the country, his services were of inestimable value, for he had to grapple with the new diseases incident to new countries. For this, his sound judgment, careful study, and close, discriminating observation eminently fitted him and made him a great benefactor in the community in which he had cast his lot. Not only as an able physician, but as a Christian gentleman will Dr. Seely be missed by all who knew him. For many years he was an Elder in the Presbyterian church, and few men ever better illustrated in life and character the religion they professed than Dr. Seely. A good man, full of years and usefulness, has passed away to his reward.

May 24: Elijah A. Hopkins is one of the elders representing the Ottawa district in the general assembly of the Presbyterians now in session in Chicago.

A Champion road grader was bought by the town and James Jarvis with his team set to work with it last week. It appears to be just the thing to fix up the roads in the easiest, quickest and best manner when rough and rutty. So much were our authorities pleased with its working that the corporation ordered one also.

Another bridge is to be built across the Waubonsie, namely on Adams street, just below the railroad bridge. Now before that is done or before any more expenses are incurred in bridging the creek, an effort should be made to secure the right of way for a road from the end of, and on a line with, Main street to where it would intersect with the present road and to build a bridge back of D.C. Kennedy's residence. For utility, convenience, looks, and every other consideration, there is just where the outlet in that direction should be. The road there is good and in all kinds of weather, leading right to the butter and cheese factory, a place to which more teams have to be driven than any other, and which, by the way, is one of our prosperous and best arranged business institutions--the building apparently couldn't have been more adaptable for the work if originally built for the purpose--while a road down on the bottom as proposed would be impassable a large part of the time, or else require far more expenses than what would have to be incurred by getting through from Main street to the road on the bluff. Let this thing be talked up and see what can be done.

A dark brown horse with heavy mane and tail, and in fact the best horse of Amos J. Parkhurst, was stolen last night. He offers a good reward for his recovery.

May 31: FATAL ACCIDENT Among those in town last Saturday was John McCawley, of Troy, usually called "The Patch;" his business kept him until 10 o'clock and it was then

by urging that he started home. Officer Hagerman accompanied him across the railroad bridge over the Waubonsie. About an hour after that Gus, a young German in the employ of the ice firm, was going home on the railroad track and at the crossing, a short distance above the bridge, turned out for the 11:15 train to pass him, and then following after it; coming near the Fox River Creamery, he found a dead man laying on the track. Upon investigation the remains were found to be those of John McCawley. The substance of the verdict of the coroner's jury was that the subject came to his death by a train running over him while he was lying dead drunk on the tracks.

Horse Thief: This time it was J.J. Budlong that had a horse stolen. It occurred in the early part of the evening last week. Amos J. Parkhurst was informed by telegraph yesterday that his horse, or at least one answering the description, was at Michigan City. He proceeded thither to get him.

Our former townsman, J.A. Durand, has been among us a couple of days putting up at Capt. Bunn's. Mr. D. is now one of the big business men of Iowa, president of the bank at Belle Plaine and in company with his son is carrying on a large store in that city.

June -- 1877

June 7: The demonstration on here on Decoration day was not of a general character, yet enough ladies had come together to perform the sacred work and observe the day.

The new house of E.C. Strossman is up and inclosed.

This community on Sunday received a copious share of instructions and exhortations on the temperance question, called forth by the McCauley death.

The intelligence of the death of Mrs. Anthony Whipple of Camden, N.J., formerly Miss Julia Hoze of this place, was received the other day.

June 14: The wedding of Miss Ida M. Wormley to Mr. Oscar A. Hagar of Montgomery took place Tuesday at the residence of W.W. Wormley, the bride's father.

The condition of Miss Anna Brown, heretofore not very favorable, has the past week materially improved.

The Band last evening has been puffing off a good deal of stirring music on the street.

A movement is on foot for a home celebration on the 4th.

June 21: The Band festival last week was a very enjoyable affair.

Mrs. Hannah Alexander came back from Montgomery County, Kansas on a visit to her folks and friends here. She doesn't speak very favorably of the prospects of that section for this season. Too much rain and hoppers.

Our merchants have done big business in strawberries the past week and are doing so yet.

Levi Avery has returned from Plymouth County, Iowa where he has been in the employ of James Pearce.

The closing exercises of Mr. Duffy's department in the public school last Friday were of a very interesting nature and largely witnessed by our people. Our school affairs have been running very smoothly for a number of years. Had no school squabble for ever so long.

June 28: if the weather clerk is in sympathy with our people the approaching national holiday will evoke such an enthusiastic celebration in this town as never was witnessed before. The glorious day will be ushered in with a great national salute, cannons and mortars have been procured from arsenals abroad (our people better have their windows up and sleep with their mouths open that morning or else there may be shattered glass and damaged stomachs). Richards' grove will be the place to which the procession will move for the regular exercises and a picnic. Subsequently a parade under the command of Gen. Avery will take place, also a base ball match game between the NaAuSay nine and the Oswego pink stockings and many other frolicsome performances too numerous to mention. The band will enliven all the proceedings with the most stirring music.

During Wednesday evening's storm the barn of Phillip Boessenecker, a large and almost new one, was struck by lightning, causing its consumption by fire with a large lot of hay, farming utensils, and a very good colt. The prominent location of the barn made the fire conspicuous in town and a number went out to it. There had been no rod on it, hence our lightning rodders point now to it as proof of the stupidity of men that don't have their buildings rodded.

Gottlieb Schwarz and Miss Maggie Rieger have linked together their fortunes last Saturday; that is, got married.

The wedding of Mrs. Amanda Weeks to E.Y. Ketchum took place on Thursday evening.

July -- 1877

July 5: From the Kankakee Gazette: MARY MURPHY'S MURDERER.  
After a Lapse of 16 Years, the Only Man Ever Hung in Kankakee County is Proven Innocent.  
"Hawkeye Bill" and not the Negro Killed Her

Of course our readers remember the horses that were stolen in Oswego a few weeks ago, and the consequent reward offered for them. Well the fellow who stole them is now in the Yorkville Jail and he should have a 20 years' term in the Penitentiary. David Carter is his name.

July 12: The principal item to report from this town is the celebration, an affair which was more than ordinarily pleasant and withal quite a success.

Sunday a lady representing herself a music teacher hired a horse and buggy of Ed Mann to go to Aurora and back. As she didn't again make her appearance with the rig, the Captain started on Monday morning for investigation. After he had gone a dispatch was received from Geneva stating that the rig was there and the lady that had it was insane. Charley went after it and in the afternoon both returned with the same.

During the storm Thursday afternoon J.C. Shepard's barn, out on the farm, was struck by lightning. No other damage than the ripping off of boards was one.

A funeral cortege passed through town yesterday with the remains of Miss Julia Greene, sister-in-law of William Dwyre, which were taken to the NaAuSay cemetery for burial. She died in Aurora.

July 19: William H. Coffin and family have returned from Kansas. He is much delighted with that state; thinks it is just the place where a man can make himself if he can just get rightly situated. The reports the Davis boys in a very prosperous condition.

July 26: The [railroad] strike has evidently reached here; the side track is crowded full of Paducah cars.

Mr. Charles Clinton of New Orleans is now with his family on a visit to his mother-in-law, Mrs. Stoutemyer, in Aurora.

Prof. Wesley Rolfe was in town the other day; he has engaged himself as principal of the Kankakee public school. Mr. R. is a graduate of Champaign College and was once an Oswego boy.

The funeral of Mrs. Ferguson took place yesterday at the Methodist Church and the burial in the Pearce cemetery. This was the first death that has occurred in this village since Dec. 5th last.

August -- 1877

Aug. 2: The [railroad] strike has been the all absorbing topic the past week.

On Wednesday while some of the children of August Schmidt, living on the Hunt farm, were playing in the granary, they got hold of a loaded gun that had been kept there and in

handling it one little boy 8 years old shot a little girl 5 years old through the head, killing her instantly. Funeral on Tuesday. The family is sadly afflicted by this deplorable accident.

When Congress and the legislatures meet the flood of bills and resolutions coming in against riots and strikes will be enormous, and they will be principally of the crushing out style, large standing army, heavy penalties, &c. There should be a thorough searching for the cause; the matter should be probed to the very bottom, even if we have to go down to protoplasm.

Yesterday the old calaboose was put on wheels and hauled to the cemetery where it will constitute the repository of the grave yard implements.

A strike was initiated in this town on Friday morning last. A number had formed a combination to not drink at the saloons and not let anybody else drink unless the keepers came down to six cents for whiskey and three cents for beer and no reduction in the size of the drinks. The movement, however, was speedily crushed out, the majesty of the law prevailed and the business suffered no injury. John Chapman was the principal leader of the mob.

Let no more money be raised for foreign missions. Let the missionaries abroad be recalled. All these instrumentalities we need at home to humanize the inhabitants of our big cities.

Aug. 9: Engine 135 became disabled at this point Tuesday afternoon of last week and had to be taken home for treatment. The 6:32 passenger was delayed over an hour on account of it.

Thomas Coughlan, once living and doing business here, that of harness making, was in town a day or two. He is the same wild Irishman as ever.

LB. Judson showed himself in town the other day for the first time in six months.

Commissioner James Chapman has muchly improved the streets. Special attention was given to crosswalks.

A number of railroad bridgebuilders were here for a week or so rebracing and otherwise strengthening the bridges hereabouts on the line.

Episcopal services will be held next Sunday afternoon at the Congregational Church by Rev. Mr. Hopkins of Aurora I understand he will be accompanied by the choir of his church.

Aug. 16: The house of Pat Daley caught fire from the stove pipe Saturday and it required considerable exertion by those on hand to extinguish it.

Another trial of base ball came off Saturday between the NaAuSay's and our boys; 21 to 9 was the outcome; our boys this time being victorious.

Aug. 23: The marriage of Miss Clara F. Parker to the Rev. L.H. Holt of DeKalb took place Tuesday.

Aunty Varner died yesterday at the age of 75; the first death of any citizen in this town this year.

Phillip Boessenecker received yesterday the lumber for a new barn; five carloads.

Among the improvements are the painting and shingling of B.F. Van Doozer's house; the painting of Mrs. Kenyon's house and the Mansard roof house of Oliver Hebert; the shingling of E.T. Sutherland's building.

The German Lutheran Church is to be revived under the ministrations of Rev. Mr. Bosber of Turner Junction, who will commence preaching Sept. 2d. Members in the country should take notice and govern themselves accordingly.

THE HISTORY OF KENDALL COUNTY advertised in another column is written by Rev. E.W. Hicks of Newark. The idea had its origin in a series of a dozen historical sketches prepared at odd times two or three years ago for the Millington '*Enterprise*.' While gathering materials for those, the conviction grew upon him that the entire history of the county ought to be written if it could be done; not in the hasty sketchy manner such works are usually prepared, but in a thorough manner and from a perfect acquaintance with the subject. There was at that time, however, no prospect that the task would ever be executed. But a year ago a history from the beginning was begun in the columns of the '*Enterprise*,' although not with any idea of making a book. But it grew on the author's hands. The sources of information once opened, there were new leads discovered which yielded richer results than were anticipated. The account was to be finished in about four months, but the allotted time expired and the year 1835 had not yet been reached. Now three times four months have passed away and the end has just come. As soon as it was resolved to publish in book form the labor of correction and of obtaining additional facts was begun and is still being pushed forward with vigor, as the copy for the work is being made up.

Other counties have their histories, DuPage Co. has had hers written twice, the last time by an appropriation from the Board of Supervisors of \$500, but little Kendall will have the honor of possessing what will undoubtedly be the best county history in the State of Illinois. We have had sketches of our history in lectures, atlases, directories, and what not, but our complete history we have never until now possessed. Bear in mind these things:

1. It is not the work of outside parties, with the object of making money, but it is a home production begun from the love of research, carried on with enthusiasm, and completed after nearly three years labor.

2. It has no connection or resemblance either in subject, style, or price with the Biographical Directory with which we were swindled last fall. That was simply a partial

list of the names of our voters and taxpayers, with a few pages of history prefixed. This is between three and four hundred pages of original history drawn from nearly every old settler in the country, and from documents of all sorts, and compiled in chronological order. Several chapters are occupied with the Jesuit history of this section drawn from old works in the Franklin library at Philadelphia. George Steward of Plano has supplied the rich materials for the geological and architectural history. He takes a deep interest in archeology and is an authority in it. Ansel Reed, who came to Kendall County fifty years ago, Geo. B. Hollenback the original Newark storekeeper and trader, E.G. Ament, one of our first settlers, who came to Chicago fifty-three years ago, Rev. S.R. Beggs, the pioneer preacher and others have helped furnish the materials for the half dozen chapters on the Black Hawk war, scores of old settlers back among the thirties and hundreds among the forties have contributed to the history of those periods. And not to particularize further, the history of our past in the civil war alone will be invaluable in the years to come--each soldier is noticed. On this part alone nearly three weeks of continuous labor have been bestowed. It will appear in the book for the first time.

Aug. 30: Yesterday was remarkable for being the hottest day and bringing forth the boss storm of the season. It burst upon us about half after five. The furious wind lasted but a few minutes but the pouring down of the water fully half an hour and toward the last there were some large hail stones among it. The damage done is not great. The Poage Brothers had some lumber scattered, and the shade trees suffered some.

Mrs. Mary Varner was buried Tuesday afternoon of last week; funeral at the Congregational church.

Miss Minnie Rice of Aurora is visiting Alfred Edson's and by the way this village has become too insignificant for Mr. Edson as he is about moving with his family to the city of Aurora where he is already engaged in business.

Rev. W.K. Beane and wife of Waterman--also Lonnie, their son--have been visiting with some of their many friends in this town and on Sunday he performed the preaching at the Methodist.

Between three and five o'clock Sunday afternoon there were religious services at the Presbyterian, Baptist, and Congregational churches; at the latter the same were Episcopalian by the Rev. Mr. Hopkins of Aurora.

Rev. E.W. Hicks of Newark was in town the other day gathering up additional material for his forthcoming history.

Yorkville: In a front page article, the Rev. E.W. Hicks detailed who his sources were for each section of his new history of Kendall County were. Sources for the Oswego sections of the book included H.A. Albee, David Carpenter, Fred Coffin, H.W. Farley, D.M. Haight, Walter Loucks, William Parker, George Parker, M.C. Richards, J.W. Chapman, William W. Wormley, D.B. Jewell, and the Rev. S. Stover.

The "hard times" continue to be severely felt in nearly every part of Europe. A correspondent of the New York Nation, writing from Paris, says: Europe is suffering now from the effects of a long crisis, which has many causes.

Shoot prairie chickens Saturday.

Kendall County Fair begins Tuesday Sept. 10.

The corner on sugar has busted! See prices at Morton & Johnson's.

There is a large amount of blooded stock owned in Kendall County, and it all should be brought to our County Fair, which begins the 10th.

The old settlers of Kendall County meet on the Fair Grounds in Bristol today (Thursday) to talk over old times and eat their dinner under the trees while the grass hoppers skip around on the table, the crickets get into the butter and sugar, and the sprightly little ant crawls up the old man's back.

In the chapter from Mr. Hicks' history of Kendall County printed on the second page of this paper, please read "clay" instead of "wooden" houses on the summits of the mounds.

The Fox River Creamery at Oswego makes a good offer to the farmers of that section for their milk, delivered, for one year, agreeing to pay an average of 8-1/2 cents per gallon, or \$1.02 per hundred pounds for the year. The highest sum paid is 11 cents per gallon in January and February, the lowest, 6 cents per gallon in the summer months. This factory in the hands of W.H. McConnell & Co. has become a very successful institution and is going to be a permanent concern.

September -- 1877

Sept. 6: Mrs. Ann O., wife of Isaac F. Reed, after about one week's sickness, died on the forenoon of Thursday and was buried next day afternoon. It is thought that Mrs. R. had a forcible premonition of the event as she had made all preparations for it; she had selected a number of scripture passages, one of which to be the text of her funeral sermon, the one chosen being, Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from henceforth: yes, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors, and their works do follow them." Mrs. Reed was 65 years of age, married 36 years ago; born and lived up to 1855 in New Jersey, from whence the family moved to this town.

The raising of Phillip Boesenecker's new barn took place Saturday, at which all his neighbors and some from town rendered assistance. Besides the work, a big dinner and general good time was enjoyed.

The shock of the strike caused old State Rights men to forsake their life-long principles and clamor for federal intervention; in the brains of the newspaper men it created a

mighty revolution. Besides the large standing army, stopping of emigration, driving out the Chinese, going west and south on unoccupied lands--the labor saving machinery is frequently referred to, and by the way, I spent a few minutes the other day in our furniture factory of William Parker & Son, who have one of the most complete manufacturing establishments, all the most improved machines for the different kinds of work, and with which they (the machines) perform in the neatest and quickest manner possible. Indeed it would seem that all they require is the will and a little guidance of the workmen, of whom the genius, R.R. VanEvra, is the principal, who apparently has concluded to act the fool no more, as he has been straight as a string and steady as a clock for ever so long. Frank takes a great delight in producing the neatest and most delicate ornamental work, of which he has a variety of articles for samples, a very fancy bouquet holder was carried off by me.

The Chicago *Tribune* for years has had the nightmare caused by communism. One day of last week Chicago experienced a heavy shock by the collapse of her State Savings Institution. The next day the *Tribune* came out advocating communism, wanting the government to take care of our money; give us post office saving banks; verily things and men are changeable.

The public school again commenced yesterday; about 125 put in appearance. The old corps, Chris Duffy, Anna Brown, and Pinney Wayne are the teachers.

Another cargo of lumber arrived this morning.

Gone away: Wm. K. Van Fleet to Kansas; John C. Greenfield to Chicago; Mrs. Danforth to Yorkville; M.C. Richards somewhere.

Mr. and Mrs. L.H. Hold have returned from their bridal trip.

Some weeks ago I was informed by a friend that Hank Smith of Fox was threatening to put a hole through me for having mentioned him among our visitors; not liking to get mutilated I kept out of his way, as he has been up several times since; last Sunday, however, I run smack into him, but instead of offering violence he was as good as pie.

Yorkville: Wagons loaded with drain-tile daily pass through Yorkville from Aurora. It would pay for some one to establish tile works in these villages.

Mr. J.G. Stolp of the Aurora Woolen Mills is coming down to the Fair, and will bring down a full and complete lot of samples from his mill for exhibition. Stolp's reputation for first-class clothing is good, and Kendall County people should give him a call.

Metal Albums, newest thing out, at Seely & Newton's. Put the whole history of a photograph on the margin.

Sept. 13: Two families of this town have been thrown into mourning last week by death entering their midst. First, Miss Ella Loucks, who was taken sick in aurora where she was

on a visit, died Tuesday night. Ella was about 25 years of age; was born and brought up in this town, the youngest of the family of Walter Loucks and the only child remaining at home.

Second, Orrin Curtis in the prime of life, being 34 years of age, died on Thursday of typhoid fever. The remains were taken to North Aurora and deposited beside a brother that was buried there a few months ago. Mr. C. was a native of New York State. A wife and two children are remaining.

The most of the sick are on the way of recovery. Dr. Putt, however, is not getting along very fast, and for Mrs. Kerr, at AuSable Grove, little hope is entertained.

Among visitors were Toney (his right name I have forgotten) of Chicago; the most polite, spruce and affable gentleman and fellow citizen of African descent that ever has lived in this town; and Hank Smith of Fox.

Yorkville: Have you laid in your hard coal yet?

The 11th annual re-union of the Old Thirty-Sixth Illinois will be held at Elgin Thursday, Sept. 27th. Secretary Dennison informs L.G. Bennett that arrangements are being made for a grand time. There will be reduced [passenger] rates on the railroads.

Sept. 20: A team hitched to a lumber wagon came running into town Sunday afternoon, and as they were coming down Washington Street, Gus Voss happened to be driving up Main Street intending to go down the former, but seeing the runaways coming he kept straight ahead to get out of the way. They, however, turned the corner and followed him. Gus then turned at the next corner up Jackson street, and the runaways followed suit. Near the National barn they caught up and formed a conjunction, one horse became locked in the buggy wheel, which brought all but Voss's horse to a stop. The latter freed himself from the buggy.

Quite a substantial sidewalk was built by subscription on the north side of Tyler street between Madison and Monroe. The school house caused the same to be brought into being.

Mrs. Hubbard has returned from a visit to Wisconsin and Charles, her husband, from his lightning rod engagement in Minnesota.

Yorkville: Last Saturday afternoon about 75 persons met at the Court House to listen to a speech from Mr. Norton, a greenback speaker from Chicago, and nominate a ticket to be voted for at the November election. The meeting elected I.K. Young as Secretary and appointed C.L. Roberts, R.M. Springer, and Henry Minard a committee on resolutions, after which the nomination of candidates for County officers were in order.

The convention proceeded to take an informal ballot for Judge, with the following result: A.B. Smith of Oswego, 33 votes; J.B. Fowler of Newark, 7 votes; G.M. Hollenback, Fox, 2 votes. Mr. Smith having a majority was declared the nominee of the convention.

County Clerk: there being only once candidate for the office of Clerk, Mr. T.J. Beebe of Plano, he was nominated by acclamation.

Superintendent of Schools

For this office there were several aspirants, but the convention seemed to be in favor of Miss [Anna] Brown. Springer said that Miss Brown's brother had been to him and especially requested that her name should not be presented to the convention as it would hurt her chances before the Republican Convention next week. A.B. Smith thought it would not hurt her chances, and was sure it would help the ticket. Others also objected, not wanting to do anything that would defeat her.

I.K. Young nominated J.H. Best, said he was the best teacher in Kendall County and an out-and-out greenback man.

A vote was then taken with the following result: Miss Lizzie Petty of Newark, 21 votes; J.H. Best, Bristol Station, 11 votes; Miss Anna Brown, 2 votes. Miss Petty was declared the choice of the convention.

Congressman Singleton of Mississippi, a Southern Bourbon of the bravado sort, in a recent speech showed the cloven foot. He has a grievance--it is "the shame and injustice" of the United States Government in having liberated all the slaves without paying their owners for them. Well, let him make an "Issue" of it at the next Presidential election--asking an appropriation of Congress for compensation to slave-owners--and see what he will make out of it.

Stanley, the African explorer has been heard from after 12 months of anxious suspense. He has arrived on the west coast safely, but he, and what remains of his expedition, are in a pitiable condition. The ordeal through which Stanley and his men have passed was indeed a horrible one, but the survey was made, notwithstanding, and its results are presented. A map of Africa can now be made.

There was a heavy frost in this vicinity Monday night.

If you want good stone, go to the Hopkins' quarry, one mile east of Oswego. They have some fine building stone.

Stolp of the Aurora Woolen Mills, intends to start several teams through the country very soon to sell his goods direct to farmers, and take their produce in part payment. They will traverse several counties in Northern Illinois and will be a great accommodation to those wanting a genuine article of the best woolen goods for men and boys, and flannels, stockings, etc. of all kinds.

Sept. 27: Hunt & Tetzlaff keep the Plano boots; if you want the best understanding in the world, you should buy no others. Go in and see the boots what are boots.

For a day with the sun on the other side of the Equinox, yesterday was one of the hottest. Goudie drove a lot of hogs down for shipment and lost several of them by becoming overheated or sunstruck.

A little squabble took place at one of the business places on the west side of Main street last evening between two gentlemen from the country, in which one of them got one finger considerably chawed up.

John Bartlett's residence has undergone enlargement by which its appearance has been changed altogether. The newest feature about it is the chimneys, which are the imported ready made [kind}.

George Cowdrey showed some very big ears of corn; some weighing nearly 1-1/2 pounds.

A Mrs. Curren and Mrs. Mead, from the Dominion of Canada, are on a visit at Wayne's.

Major Davis yesterday started for Kansas to see how the boys there are established.

A street auction was one of the business features Saturday.

J. West Roberts and Miss Carrie Young got married this morning. Rev. Mr. Wiard performed the ceremony.

“Wonder what's become of Chris Camp?” This was often asked in years gone by. He was our town collector about 27 years ago, elected by the Whigs, and when nearly through gathering in disappeared with the money. As he went to Chicago in the ordinary and public manner, it was supposed by many that he was there put out of the way. And now, at this late day, the news is received in a roundabout way that he is not only alive, but a man of much importance; and that as soon as he gets through with a big job on which he is now engaged, he will come back and make things all right. It appears that he went back to the old country, drifted over into Turkey, there lost all the tax money in a game they called poker; as Crimean war was just breaking out, he joined the Turkish army, in which he has been ever since, and to make a long story short, Mukhtar Pasha is none other than Chris Camp.

Yorkville: Another savings bank in Chicago has failed, the Farmers' Merchants' and Mechanics', at the head of which was Sidney Myers, who has been giving more attention of late to the making of Greenback affiliation speeches than to management of his depositors.

Practice economy these hard times by purchasing clothing of the manufacturer--Stolp's Aurora Woolen mills make only first-class all-wool goods.

There were a number of persons from Hinsdale came down to Yorkville by a special car on Saturday to spend the day fishing and hunting. They didn't need a car to take home their fish and game, however.

The Christmas term of Fowler Institute at Newark begins Nov. 5th and closes Jan. 18th. Prof. Ellinwood has a good attendance at his fall term, and looks for increased interest

this winter. Student desiring a good practical education should correspond with the Professor.

A.B. Smith, who will be County Judge if the vote pans out right, was in Yorkville Monday without cane or crutch, having so far recovered from his severe attack of rheumatism as to be able to go alone.

Robert M. Brown of Newark in company with Stephen Fox and Watts Cutter of Oswego were pleasure riding on Lake Michigan last Sunday on board the yacht Minnie when by some carelessness of the crew, the vessel upset, dumping all hands headlong into the water. Fortunately they succeeded in laying on parts of the rigging and thus managed to keep their heads up. They yelled lustily for help, but for some time there appeared no help for them. The yacht Garibaldi, however, happened to be cursing in that locality and came to their assistance just in time to rescue them. The boys say they will not go boat-riding next time they visit Chicago.

October -- 1877

Oct. 4: It is my pleasure to chronicle another of those happy events, such as occasionally occur, even though hard times prevail, namely the marriage of Miss Mattie C. Murphy to Dr. Clarence M. Whiting of Polo, Ill, which took place at the residence of the bride's mother, Mrs. M.B. Fowler on Thursday, Sept. 27. It is understood that Mrs. Fowler will in the future make her home with them, but the coming winter will visit her son in Mobile, Ala.

J.W. Roberts and wife have returned from their wedding trip.

J.B. Hunt and H.C. Cutter are at present down in Boston.

The upper part of Main Street has been leveled up and is receiving a layer of gravel.

Close observers of things must have noticed within a week or two, the different effects of the consumption of whisky has on different classes; while it seldom disturbs the amiability of us in town, those from the country have their fighting propensities roused whenever the consumption has been excessive. The other day, a young Mr. Reed, while surcharged, assaulted a young Mr. Kellogg; afterwards at the Magistrate's office, Reed paid \$5 and costs.

Mr. Duffy is now eligible for the office of town trustee and may be considered a permanent resident, as he has bought the Dan Warren place, corner of Madison and Tyler streets.

The remains of Mrs. C. Burghart, from the town of Fox, arrived here yesterday for burial, followed by a large procession. The funeral services were held in the Lutheran church. A Sandwich minister officiated.

Oct. 11: Fred Tarbox has gone off to get married. Winsor, a young gent from Riverside is Agent ad interim.

Mr. W.M. Forbes has secured the agency for Hicks' History of Kendall County for this region and will soon be around calling upon us to subscribe. It will be an interesting book to all Kendall county people, as it is very complete...I have read the rough form of it in the *Millington Enterprise*, in which it was published by installments during the past year and was much pleased with it.

While thrashing was in progress at the Wormleys' last week a difficulty rose in which a hired man got an arm broken. It appears that Fred, son of W.W. kept annoying the Dutchman, which caused the latter to go for the boy, and then the father of the boy went for the Dutchman.

Oct. 18: Another reason why Oswego should be laid aside among the relics of the past is the Geological Society, of Aurora, was down the other day investigating the local terrestrial structure; the committee examining the town pronounced it as "one of the fossils belonging to the ante-diluvian age."

It was W.W. Wormley that had an arm broken instead of the hired man as reported last week. I had misunderstood the occurrence.

A beehive of Esquire Newton's was robbed of its honey and the bees destroyed during the night of Sept. 29. The job was performed very methodically.

Mrs. George W. Warner, aged 21 years, daughter of Morris Gray, died and was buried last week in Aurora. Surviving her is a four weeks infant.

That sidewalk past Snook's residence, which some mischievous persons had overturned, has been replaced by a new one.

E.C. Strossman is constructing flagstone sidewalks on both streets by his new residence.

Mosquitoes are evolved from protoplasm through the process of heat and moisture; warm weather in the fall will do it as well as in the summer.

Fred Lester is now a student in the Rush Medical College, Chicago.

Mrs. Martha B. Fowler and Mattie, her daughter, took their departure from among us Friday morning, and the Fowler family is now to be numbered with the things of the past. Mrs. F. will visit her daughters in Ohio and Polo for a little while and then proceed to Mobile and spend the winter in that sunny climate with her son [Robinson B. Murphy].

The house of Joseph W. Reed, in the suburbs of Troy, burned down early Saturday morning with most of the effects of the family. The fire caught from the chimney.

Mr. and Mrs. Cassius Durand of Iowa are on a visit at Bunn's.

A little boy of George W. Kimball's died this morning, Oct. 16, of diphtheria.

Oct. 25: The corpse of Deacon Justin Lee arrived here for burial last Wednesday. The deacon was an old settler of this township, but for quite a number of years has been living with his son-in-law James Gibbs in Racine county, Wis.

Notwithstanding the failure of apples John H. Wormley is in the business of making cider. He made two barrels the other day.

John P. Mullenix has returned after a seven months absence in the northern part of Uncle Sam's dominion, lightningrodding.

There was some excuse during the week of the strike for the Railroad Company to have a car partly standing in the street, but there is none whatever for leaving one wholly in the street all Sunday and part of yesterday when there was but two cars on the track.

November -- 1877

Nov. 1: Duffy is causing the transmutation of the house he recently bought into one of suitable dimensions.

Isaac Bartlett's little girl died and was buried last week.

Duane Van Driesen manufactured a novel cane, and withal a very handsome one, out of corn cobs. At least the outside is all cob, except the rings covering the joints. It was sent to Elder Stover for a present.

Wollenweber & Knapp bought 24 fifteen month hogs of Mr. Dobbins that averaged 440 pounds and from which were raised 130 pigs now from 4 to 5 months old that will average 200...they are of the Poland China breed.

Mr. Charles Clinton and family have returned to New Orleans.

The Fred Tarbox family are moving into the house of W.S. Bunn, occupying a part of it.

The new Methodist minister, Rev. E.H. Beal, has arrived and commenced the ministrations of that church on Sunday.

Nov. 8: Hicks' history of Kendall County will be ready for delivery by week after next. So much new matter has been incorporated that the size of the book will be about 420 pages, while the price remains the same as was fixed on when it was supposed the number of pages would be but 300--viz. \$1.75...A frontispiece representing "The Old

Cabin" has been engraved expressly for the work by Bernhard & Co, Chicago...600 copies have been printed for the market, 150 copies less than were printed of the DuPage County History, a county the same size as Kendall. And as the type is now broken up no more copies will probably ever be had. Those 600 copies will grow more valuable as the years go by.

Once more we have a newspaper of our own and a daily at that. Yes, the first number of the "Oswego Daily Times" appeared this morning. Looking as tidy and acting as smart as a sweet sixteen meeting her lover. J.W. Stahl and F. Strossman are the publishers. It is none of your unwieldy blanket sheets that require time and labor to get into shape for reading, but a convenient seven-column paper. Politically it seems to be independent, favoring the home candidate, Smith on the one ticket and Duffy on the other. Four of its columns are occupied by advertisements and the rest with news and choice reading matter.

The Band's concert and drama two evenings of last week was a great success, a full house being in attendance each evening.

Gus Voss has bought the Sutherland premises, which he hereafter will occupy for his residence. His former residence will be occupied by Ludwig Helle, his father-in-law.

Owing to the furnace being out of repair at the Methodist church, there were no services there last Sunday.

Nov. 15: The greatest tranquility prevailed at the election in this town, as for once an opportunity was given us to vote for our own men we improved it and made the best of it.

Wollenweber & Knapp shipped last night 302 hogs and all of the best grade. They were bought of the Woolley boys, Squire's, and Cherry.

A professor has organized a class of our money handlers for instruction in the science of detecting the counterfeits. The first lesson, I believe, was given Monday.

Nov. 22: The Bristol P.M. was in town yesterday and also Mrs. L.B. Judson of Aurora.

Nov. 29: The drug store is now undergoing embellishments and will, when completed, be one of the most elegant places of business that can be found anywhere. The walls are now painted, behind the shelves, pale blue, otherwise a kind of drab color, and the ceiling is repainted white. L.N takes great pride in having things nice and nice things.

A very handsome sign is now showing the entrance to the barber shop.

Yorkville: The ice houses in Yorkville and property pertaining thereto have been transferred from Hutchison & Co. to A.S. Piper & Co., the great ice firm in Chicago. Deeds have been given and are recorded to Piper & Co., from Jas. Schofield, S.S. Lathrop, C.Y. Godard, E.A. Black and John Lyons guaranteeing the use of their lands on the river bank to hold the ice privileges.

December -- 1877

Dec. 6: The Thanksgiving observances here were rather less demonstrative than usual; the divine services were held at the Presbyterian Church.

For stock steers and feeders, go to Milt Poage's place where you will find a large drove to select from or inquire about them at the meat market of the Ketchum Brothers.

Henry C. Cutter has returned from a two months' visit to Boston and vicinity.

The repairs at the Methodist church have been completed and the regular services resumed.

Dec. 13: Edward F. Eggleston and Miss Rosetta F. Stickler were married last Wednesday at the residence of the bride's parents, George Stickler.

On Thursday at the residence of David Severance, their daughter, Ella, was married to William Smith.

Some country chaps again drank themselves fighting tight the other afternoon. If you use the critter at all, gentlemen, use it moderately.

At a school across the river there had been rather a slim attendance for about two weeks but one scholar, a little boy put in an appearance. Louie--that is his name--got tired of the situation and so one morning surreptitiously carried off his baby sister with to school for company.

Judicial business has been very active the past week: Esquire Newton's court was in session nearly every day; George Parker and his tenant, Ervin Davis, been lawing about rents; Wesley Edwards and Rush Walker about the use of a span of mules; Poage & Bro. and B. Still and several other parties whose names escaped by memory about one thing and another.

The handsome barber pole is now ornamenting the brick block; that is the barbershop has been moved in the Shepard building up stairs.

In the shop of M.C. Richards & Co., a private compartment is being constructed for the manufacture of models by Eugene for new inventions.

A show held forth for two evenings of last week at Chapman's hall.

Dec. 20: At the Fox River creamery a new detached building has been constructed.

Mr. P.G. Hawley is building a new ice house.

The attendance was not large enough for a quorum and consequently there was no dance Friday evening; hard times are telling on dancing as well as other pursuits.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank O. Hawley came out from Chicago on a visit.

The new house, and a very nice one, of Doc Woolley, is now completed. George R. Schamp was the architect.

It cost one of the business men on the west side of Main street \$5 last week because in selling goods he did not sufficient discriminate as to customers.

Yorkville: No paper will be issued from this office next week. We want a holiday, too.

Officer Hagerman of Oswego was in Yorkville Thursday on official business. They say Sam is a first class constable.

1878

January

Jan. 3: Miss Mattie K. Farley married Prof. W. Rolfe of Kankakee.

Fred W. Lester and Fannie Bristol have been out from Chicago on a visit to their parents, Doc Lester.

Tom Simpson died Thursday evening rather suddenly having been sick but a very short time. His age was 52 years. Death the past year has dealt with this community rather sparingly. According to my record, there were in this town and the region round about naturally, included, 11 natural deaths and two casualties; total 13.

My matrimonial record shows that there were married the past year 25 couples or from this town 35 persons, of which 15 were males and 20 females, 10 gentlemen and 17 ladies not previously married, 3 widowers, 3 widows, and two unknown.

Yorkville: By express Friday we received a box from Oswego containing a supply of the nicest wedding cake ever made, with the compliments of Mrs. H.W. Farley, and a silver bonanza from Mr. Farley, all in commemoration of the wedding of Miss Mattie Farley and Prof. Charles W. Rolfe, superintendent of the Kankakee schools. The ceremony took place at 1:30 Tuesday afternoon. Miss Farley was a lady of refinement and one of the most popular in Oswego, as Mrs. Rolfe, Kankakee will gain an active worker in all good causes, and we commend her to the citizens of that city.

Jan. 10: Mrs. John H. Wormley was the first this year that departed for "That bourne from which no traveler returns" from this community. She died New Year's morning and was buried on Thursday in the Wormley Cemetery. Mrs. W. was born in 1810 in Tioga County, N.Y. Her maiden name was Sally Townsend, was married to Mrs. Wormley in 1829 and together came west to this place in the spring of 1833. Consequently, she was one of the oldest settlers. In 1845 she fully embraced the Christian religion and united herself with the Methodist church. The funeral services were held at the house. A sister, Mrs. Davoe, had come from Winona, Minn. to attend the funeral.

Mrs. Ruth Shepard, another old settler of Kendall County, died at her daughter's residence, Mrs. Richardson of Aurora, at the advanced age of 94 years. She was the mother of the well-known Shepards of this county, was early left a widow, and came from Salem, Mass. to this country in 1838, taking up her abode with two of her sons that had preceded her about three years, establishing themselves south of Specie Grove and built the first house in that section of the country. The deceased left behind four sons and two daughters, which formerly were scattered over the world as much as a family well county get scattered, owing to the boys following the pursuit of their father, that of seafaring, but the other day her six children attended her funeral. All of them are now and have been for many years been comfortably settled within limited distances of each other. Owing to the bad road the remains were temporarily buried at Aurora, but hereafter they will be transferred to the family burial ground in the NaAuSay Cemetery.

Miss Maggie Shepard has gone on a visit to Vandalia; during her absence her sister Mary is superintending the millinery store.

Yorkville: The History of Kendall County by Rev. E.W. Hicks can be obtained at the *Record* office, Yorkville. Price, \$1.75.

Jan. 17: The most exciting theme in social circles the past week was a prominent wedding, namely that of Miss Irene, daughter of Michael Russell, to Mr. L.B. Clark. Notwithstanding the rough roads, a large company was in attendance. The parents of the bride are members of the Catholic Church and so it was very appropriate that Father Stack of Aurora should perform the nuptials.

Another wedding which took place on Monday of last week was that of Mr. Burton L. Still and Miss Carrie E. Smith.

New officers of the Oswego Odd Fellows lodge included L.N. Hall, G.W. Orendorf, M.E. Tooley, H. Minard, and G.C. Inman.

New Masonic officers installed were Charles Roberts Jr., George R. Schamp, Kirk L. Walker, W.K. Van Fleet, W.H. Coffin, and George W. Avery Jr.

A new musical apparatus may be seen in the shop of M.C. Richards & Co. It is merely a number of different sized horseshoes suspended, out of which Frank extracts very good music.

Among the newcomers is Miss Alice Mabel Davis. This young lady has raised Ervin Davis to the dignity of "Daddy." Miss Effie Estella Dano has increased by one the family of Jerome Dano, and a young gentleman by the name of Robert Nelson Cooney has put up with Emanuel Cooney.

Jan. 24: The repairs and ornamentations of L.N. Hall's drug store are now nearly complete; the last work was a new floor of alternate narrow strips of walnut and white ash; along the center of floor are diamond shaped variations of the proper proportions; the job was performed by Geo. R. Schamp.

M.C. Richards & Co. have caused the repainting of the inside of the hardware store.

The dancing school lessons take place regularly at Shepard's Hall once a week.

Jan. 31: George Richards, aged 25 years, died yesterday morning of that lingering disease, consumption; for upwards of a year he has been just able to be around. The funeral will be tomorrow.

Charles Hinchman has been quite low with the same complaint, but for the last few days has been improving.

While butchering the other day Milt Poage got into a tussle with a hog; Milt beside being stripped of the most important garment received a stitch in his back which caused him to be around in a doubled up condition; now however is pretty near straight again.

The Germans and others on the Wheatland road are very busy in graveling that road; it is said that they are making a very good job of it.

The road tax question has formed a considerable share of sidewalk talk, and one meeting was held in regard to it, which, however was past before I heard of it. Speeches, I believe, was all it brought forth.

A dyeing establishment is now in operation in this town, located in the old meat market in the Smith block; F.A. Howe & Co., proprietors.

Many will remember Will Holyoke, who, two years ago, was running the depot here. But of course, that wasn't all the running he done, for subsequently he married an Oswego girl. He is now living at Hinsdale and moreover is now trying to learn his daughter to say papa.

February -- 1878

Feb. 7: Everybody that had a horse and cutter or anything else on runners improved the short opportunity of sleighing.

The funeral of George Richards last week took place at the house.

As Nate Loucks was driving on a trot across the railroad track up in Troy on his way to Aurora with a sleigh load comprising his own family and others, one horse slipped with the forefoot between the rail and planking, thus got fastened and heavily thrown and the whole establishment was pretty much piled into a heap. The foot was wedged in so tight that it had to be pried out with a crowbar and through considerably injured yet not as much as one would suppose considering the fall of the shoes and his subsequent struggling to free himself.

Charlie Mann had a horse burst a blood vessel and bleed to death while quietly standing in the stall.

Yorkville: Mr. R.P. Hutchison, who built the ice houses in Yorkville, was killed in Chicago Sunday afternoon while superintending the packing of ice in a brewery. He fell from a ladder he was on 40 feet to the floor. He was 60 years of age.

Feb. 14: It is claimed that the men going round the country buying up the dead hogs are spreading the disease of which they died. Such men will not meet with a cordial reception if calling on some of our hog raisers; they are for driving them out of the country.

Feb. 21: The wedding of George White and Miss Lavina Hall came to pass Last Thursday...It took place at the bride's brother-in-law's (Dr. Putt) residence.

The wedding of Leonard Wolf and Miss Sarah Faust also transpired recently.

Cyrus Cass, who settled in this township in 1842 and for many years was one of the leading men in the same, died last Friday and was buried yesterday. The funeral services were held at the house at which a large concourse of friends and neighbors were present; the cortege to the grave in the Oswego cemetery was also very large. The remains were buried in a very nice metallic coffin lined with white satin, the cost of which I understand was \$200. Mr. Cass was 78 years of age and a new Englander by birth.

Charles Hinchman, aged 27 years, who was afflicted with consumption reached the end of his life's journey last Thursday and was buried Saturday. The funeral services were held at the Congregational church and the Rev. Mr. Jackson of Aurora officiated.

The ice went out of the river Sunday very easily.

Feb. 28: Obituary: Cyrus Cass died in Oswego February 15, 1878, aged 78 years, 11 months, and 9 days. He was born in Alexandria, Grafton Co., New Hampshire, March 6, 1799. Was the youngest son of a large family, was left by the death of his father when quite young to enter on a business career, in which he has been engaged for sixty years. In 1819 he married Mary Worthing, one of the first Methodists of New England. He united with the M.E. church in New Hampshire in 1830; in 1833 removed to New York,

where he pursued the mercantile business; in 1842 he moved to Illinois, where he became an extensive farmer; was the first to settle on the prairie, hence his home became the home of the pioneer preacher. He also made a home for many of the early settlers. With a trifling assistance, he built a house for worship and schools immediately after settling. Has been honored with a score of public duties in the different places in which he has lived. His last days were especially devoted to preparing to go away as he termed it. His intellect seemed unclouded to the last. His last sickness, of two weeks, which was very painful, was marked with patience and Christian fortitude, often speaking of his readiness to go and his satisfaction in his life and reconciliation to God. He leaves a wife and three daughters (Mrs. Gaylord, Mrs. Minard, Mrs. Collins), two sons-in-law, and nine grandchildren to mourn his loss.

L.N. Hall is now causing the construction of a very nice office in his store.

March -- 1878

March 7: Our home theatricals again gave two evenings entertainment last week, and as heretofore drew good houses and gave general satisfaction. The main piece was a tragedy commencing with a love affair and ending with the hanging of the two principal characters, Charley Hunt and Cora Samse...The minstrels in the afterpiece made lots of fun and performed better than some professionals.

Willie Forbes has left the drug store and today is moving with his family to Lee Station. Charlie Hubbard is now clerking at the same.

The death of George Faust occurred on Saturday morning and the funeral will be today. He was 62 years of age, a native of Bavaria, Germany; emigrated to this country in 1844; came to Illinois and settled on the place where he died in 1846, and during which time he has been a prosperous farmer and staunch member of the German Methodist church. All his children--some of them residing in Iowa, and John at Dwight--were present at his death.

Last Saturday, the town was struck by the temperance wave; it came upon us very sudden, and with a double force, one of which was a freak which no scientist can explain...Friday evening the usual "people's caucus" met for the selection of five of the best men without reference to the license question, but of course supposed to be for the same, at which a very small number put in an appearance but a ticket was nominated. On the other side one man was desirous to run an anti-license ticket; he went around to consult with others and thus a ticket was made up and put before the voters the next day in opposition to the other. The election passed very quietly and with good humor, no electioneering or discussions...on canvassing everybody was surprised to find the whole ticket elected more than two to one. The board elected are: Geo. R. Schamp, M.J. Poage, Jonathan Andrews, M.C. Richards and Ed C. Strossman.

The families of Alfred Lucas and Wm. were burned out yesterday afternoon. They were living in a house on Hamilton Cherry's farm, and while all being away from home the fire took place consequently they lost nearly everything, even their money had been left at home. Some of the neighbors rushed there but a sewing machine was all they were able to save. Miss Darfler knocked in and went through a bedroom window to get out some bedding, but before she could accomplish the object was set on fire herself and would have perished if others had not come to her assistance, having her clothes most burned off from her, one of her hands is also badly cut caused by the glass in getting through the window. [These were black farming families living in the AuSable Grove area.]

Yorkville: We hear the CB&Q company are soon to have a double track between Leland and Bristol station. This will be a valuable improvement.

March 14: There is no change in the situation of the town; the houses stand where they always did and retain their former appearance; the broken window light over the stairway between the drygood stores is there as of yore...the moral sentiments of his community have undergone a complete revolution, turned upside down, burnished and crystallized. Supposed incorrigibility in intemperance has changed to bigotry in temperance; who was to be reformed is now the reformer.

It is proposed to institute a public recreation and reading hall, and to make the same as inviting and comfortable as possible with a rope carpet on the floor, pictures on the walls, a piano in one corner, and all other essential furniture. The playing of chequers, backgammon, and dominoes to be allowed, but no cards or billiards.

An old landmark is gone, namely the old livery stable on the corner of Main and Van Buren streets; the front of it was moved a block below on the latter street and the back part to the rear of the lot. On the side of it Andrew Gray is going to build a residence.

Yorkville: The *Scientific American* notices an Oswego invention as follows: "Pinchers, designed for applying and securing barbs to fence wires, are the subject of a patent recently issued to Mr. J.W. Edwards of Oswego, Ill. The handles of the tool are arranged to give a powerful leverage for bending the wires and barbs, and the jaws are provided with suitable grooves and projections."

March 21: At the session of the new council all were present except Alderman Richards; the reconsideration of the election of the president was talked about but no action was taken upon it. The only business transacted was the appointment of Capt. Bunn for Clerk, Ed Ketchum for Corporation Constable, and Alderman Schamp was chosen Treasurer of the Board.

Mrs. Nathaniel G. Hawley reached the end of life's journey last Friday and her funeral took place Sunday afternoon from the Congregational church...Mrs. H. was 78 years of age, 33 years an inhabitant of this town, and an adherent to the Christian faith according to the Baptist persuasion from her youth.

Myron Wormley's hired man while left alone at home Sunday afternoon suddenly resolved to travel, and for a keepsake by which to remember the family took along Mrs. W's gold watch and chain...Myron followed, overtook the fellow at Bristol Station, and undertook to have him return for a judicial settlement buy on the way he begged so much to be spared that trouble that Myron let him depart in piece...Subsequently it was found that \$4 in money had also disappeared.

The cut off road was under legal consideration yesterday and the same is to be completed to-day.

March 28: The Nationals have this spring taken the lead in the local politics of this town; last Saturday they met in caucus and put in nomination a very good ticket, viz: Wm. Parker for supervisor; E.G. Earls, assessor; A. Newton, town clerk; Thomas Cliggitt, collector; Ezekiel Pearce, road commissioner; Edward Mann, justice of the peace; and Sam Hagerman, constable.

The Louisiana Jubilee Singers--a colored troop--held forth in this place two evenings of last week and were well patronized; their concerts to some extent were an exhibition of the religious fervor of the Southern negroes and its demonstrations. Several of the party were very good singers.

The funeral of Mrs. Margaret Witman took place Friday afternoon, the services being at the Congregational church. Mrs. W. was 58 years of age, a native of Germany, a resident of this village for upwards of 30 years, for more than a dozen years a widow and leaves three grown children.

The jury on the cut-off road case last week assessed the damages as follows: To G.P. Boessenecker, \$1,316; John Collins, \$908; Dwight Ladd, \$800; Thomas Miller, \$425; and P.G. Hawley, \$941. It is estimated that the construction of the road would bring the expenses up to \$10,000.

The raising of Fred Leigh's new barn took place Saturday; a number  
March

Miss Susan B. Anthony, one of the most celebrated of the strong minded women of the country, lectures in Oswego on April 1 at the Congregational Church.

April -- 1878

April 4: This town underwent a regular burglar's raid Friday night; the amount stolen, however, was insignificant. At Mrs. Makinney's they got in the room where she was sleeping but her waking and crying murder caused to depart carrying away a pocket book which contained between \$6 and \$7.

The Simpson saloon was closed last week voluntarily.

Mr. and Mrs. M.J. Poage, with their little daughter, have gone on a visit to the land of their nativity, Highland County, Ohio.

A Mr. Pangburn of Elgin, a card writer, spent a few days in town at that business.

April 11: At 10 o'clock Saturday evening the licenses for selling liquor of the saloon keepers of this village expired; as a renewal of the same had been refused by the new board, the saloons closed their doors at 8 o'clock, two hours before their time was, and since darkness shrouded the saloon row at evenings.

The breastpin stolen from Mrs. Makenney was returned to her by the burglars in a letter mailed at Aurora. The letter was of considerable length and to the effect that upon finding the pin to contain a family relic--it had some hair enclosed--they concluded to return it, the writing stating that his mother would feel bad if losing anything of that kind; that he had been straight heretofore but hard times and oppression was driving him to such resorts. In the way of pleasantry he said that they ought to have slapped her for hallooing so. The fellows seem to have some respect yet.

Miss Lorancy Richards died Sunday after a short sickness; funeral this afternoon at the M.E. church.

C.M. Ross of the *Aurora Beacon* was in town the other day for the first time since the Newberry murder. At that time it will be remembered Ross was greatly shocked at the morals of Oswego, because he found no signs of a mob for lynching the duke. May his opinions of us undergo a change by his last visit.

April 18: A.J. Ives has moved his family from Aurora to his town or rather to Troy.

Capt. Bunn was reelected school trustee last Saturday; he got all the votes that were polled and that was not many.

The scissor grinder with his tingling bell is here.

April 25: The funeral of Mrs. John Billings, nee Clara Hawley, took place yesterday. The services were held at the house and the remains brought to the Oswego cemetery for burial.

William Richards, the editor of the *Vandalia Union* was here on a visit for a few days.

The daily receipts of milk at the Fox River Creamery are now over 10,000 pounds and increasing very rapidly.

Mrs. Charles Danforth was down from Montgomery the other day visiting friends.

The June grass was heading out the middle of April and the vanguard of the swallows have made their appearance.

May -- 1878

May 2: Mrs. Franklin B. Kellogg, nee Carrie Moseley, died at her home near Aurora a week ago Saturday night of quick consumption at the age of 19 years...the body was taken to the NaAuSay cemetery for burial.

The receipt of milk at the creamery is now up to 14,000 pounds.

Ashley & Walker, a new firm that has put in an appearance, have bought a Sandwich sheller and horse-power which they exhibited by a trial Saturday afternoon on the national [hotel] lots; it is a nice machine and worked splendidly. The cob stacking attachment is a new and valuable feature of the same.

Fred Smith, the one in town, got a cut over the eye with a shovel while fooling with Pete Lamb at the corn-sheller trial Saturday. Among the most conspicuous things where there is room for reform is rowdyism.

Estey's Swiss Bell-Ringers will perform here next Monday evening, May 6th.

May 9: The death of Mr. Charles E. Vanderlip occurred yesterday. Also that of Wm. Hoze last evening.

The funeral of Samuel Buell took place last week Thursday, the services being at the Congregational church...Mr. B. was 59 years of age, a native of England, and had been living in this town and neighborhood for many years; during several of the last he was subjected to much suffering being afflicted with that dreadful malady, cancer, the cause of his death.

May 16: Root Beer: Boil one-half hour in two gallons of water, one ounce each of spruce, hemlock and sarsaparilla bark, dandelion, yellow dock and burdock; strain and add ten drops each of oil of spruce and sassafras; when cold, add one-half pound of light brown sugar and a half cup of yeast; let it stand over night in a jar, cover tight, and in the morning bottle. This makes a very refreshing drink when iced and withal being healthy, purifies the blood and prevents biliousness.

The funeral of Charles Vanderlip took place last Wednesday. The remains were taken to Aurora for burial.

The funeral of Wm. Hoze also took place Wednesday...at the Congregational church. There had been some disagreement among the medical profession in regard to the nature of his disease; an autopsy revealed that it was a tumor on the posterior wall of the stomach. Mr. Hoze has been living in this town about 36 years and was one of the several

settlers that came from the Mohawk valley in the state of New York. His absence from this community is like the removal of a prominent landmark; he is largely identified with the history of this town, took a part in most all discussions, expressed his opinion on most any subject that would present itself, and there is none among us qualified to take his place. All of his family, a wife and three children, preceded him to the grave.

Another funeral that of Mrs. Alfred Edson, took place Thursday from the Congregational church.

Joseph Reiff with his photograph car is in town; a chance now for the good looking folks to have their pictures taken without going to Aurora.

The station office and passenger room have undergone repairs and embellishments and perhaps other improvements about the depot are yet to follow.

A special town[ship] meeting is called for the 23d inst., the object being the election of a constable.

The creamery is now producing 2,600 pounds of butter per week and is furnishing the Grand Pacific Hotel 20 gallons of cream daily.

Under the rule of "three times and out" I suppose this morning's frost was the last for this time; there were three in succession and they were quite heavy, except this morning's.

Miss Eliza Kennedy is now causing great improvements to her house, corner of Madison and Benton streets; it has been raised to two stories and a wing added to it; and will be finished up with bay windows. Madison street is going to take the lead in fine residences.

The monument of Cyrus Cass--a very beautiful and massive one of Scotch granite, said to have cost \$500--was erected last week at his grave, by the manufacturer, Mr. Andrus of Aurora. By this our cemetery has received a magnificent ornament.

May 23: Hinchman & Pearce is a new firm that has sprung into existence; they are operating a billiard hall in the Simpson building.

Cassius and Maggie Durand with their son arrived Saturday afternoon from Iowa on a visit to their friends.

The depot is being painted both in and outside; the workmen are at it now.

The cutoff road investigation was in progress out in NaAuSay yesterday and will be continued today.

May 30: Mrs. Thomas H. Rowe, of New York State, after ten years of absence has returned on a visit...she used to be Miss Emma Cowdrey.

Sam Hagerman was elected constable at the special town meeting last week.

Of the great problems now threatening the world with convulsion next to the St. Stefano treaty and the Potter resolution is the Oswego cut off road. There was a time when people were obliged more or less to go to Aurora to do their trading, because lacking the facilities for shipping and having no home market for farmers produce our merchants couldn't compete with Aurora merchants. At that time there was some need for this road, but now with the best of facilities for shipping with energetic merchants keeping the best of stocks, selling as low as anywhere and buying all the produce offered (farmers taking butter to the stores will soon be a thing of the past, already some are buying it for home use at the creamery) there is little need for the same. The real animus is spite more than anything else.

June -- 1878

June 6: Mr. and Mrs. Dwight Ladd celebrated their 20th wedding anniversary.

The decoration ceremonies Thursday were of a private nature. A number of ladies met and went to the cemetery with plenty of flowers to copiously decorate all the soldiers' graves. The speeches made were short but many of them; all spoke that were there.

The Oldest Settler Gone: Daniel Pearce died Sunday afternoon and his funeral will take place at 2 o'clock today at the house...Mr. P. was 89 years and one month of age, a native of Maryland, and served three months in the War of 1812; previous to his coming here he was residing in Ohio; he came from there in 1832, selected and staked out his lands, returned the next year moved his family here and ever since has been living on the spot he then selected for a residence; he raised a numerous family of large, stout and healthy children, confined himself exclusively to farming and prospered extraordinarily; he was the main stay of the Oswego Methodist church during the early stages of its existence; he had strong prejudices and did not regard with the greatest degree of charitableness contrary opinions to his own, but he was a man that minded his own business, was seldom away from home, never unless it was necessary, and hence had little difficulty with his neighbors or anybody else.

Jacob Kussmaul, 63 years of age, a native of the state of Baden in Germany and who came to America about 8 years and to Illinois 2 years ago was buried yesterday in the Cowdrey cemetery, having been residing in that neighborhood.

June 13: The living descendants of Daniel Pearce--whose death was mentioned last week--are only 122.

Dr. Putt and his brother-in-law, George White, have rented the Snook premises.

June 20: A large company of the friends of A.J. Parkhurst with the [Specie Grove] Band went in procession down to his residence for a surprise birthday celebration.

Mr. and Mrs. C.H. Durand started this morning on the return to their home in Iowa.

June 27: William Noble Davis, generally known as Major Davis, one of the earliest settlers, widest known and most prominent men of this township, died last Thursday after about ten days of sickness. The funeral took place on Saturday, the services were held at the house, the officiating clergyman was from Geneva, to which place the remains were removed for interment.

The receipts of milk per day at the creamery are now running over twenty thousand pounds and gradually increasing; yesterday they were 20,230.

July -- 1878

July 4: Book agents as well as lightning rod men and patent right shovers have become somewhat disreputable by their frequent visits, hangingability, and extensiveness of cheek. But occasionally a gentleman comes along with something of real merit and this is now the case with J.H. Eaton, canvasser for Johnson's Cyclopedia a work which would be valuable adjunct to every house or office.

After 32 years of residence in the United States, Johann Hafenrichter last week started on his return to the *Vaterland*, namely, Germany.

In the Tuesday nigh storm of last week, Luman Morgan had one of his best steers killed by lightning. He happened to be too near a tree that was struck.

Prof. C. Wesley Rolfe and wife are at present sojourning in this town.

The Band went down to Luman Morgan's the other evening for a good time.

Although this village possesses six houses for the special purpose of worship, yet last Sunday many people were deprived of hearing the Rev. Miss Chapin of Aurora, because of no church to preach in. Her appointment had been countermanded in the forenoon from one of the pulpits. Still, quite a number came together at the Baptist church, where she was to preach and the most aggravating of all was that the most had come from a distance, even some from Yorkville. Hereafter count me out from lending my assistance to fooling people by church or lecture announcements. The affair was anything but that of promoting brotherly love.

July 11: There were a large number of visitors here the past week; there are some sick folks; how the fourth was spent; the proceedings of the Bible Society meeting were interesting. The political atmosphere is freighted with portents.

July 18: Willis Lyon, oldest son of E.A. Lyon, died very suddenly at his home in Chicago. The corpse was brought to this place Thursday for burial.

Mr. J.C. McConnell was recalled to Pennsylvania by the sickness of his wife and found her dead on his arrival.

July 25: The farmers of Kendall County are busy in the harvest with various degrees of success as to crops. The wheat and oats are both ready for the reaper at the same time, making it an unusually busy week. On the north side of the river, small grain is very fine and wheat is said to be of excellent quality this year and yields quite abundant. South of the river the grain is good and bad in spots as the land lies high or low. Corn has done splendidly the past hot days and now only needs some good warm rains to make it perfect.

Nobody in this region was sunstruck during the hot spell; suppose we are not of the strucky kind or perhaps because the menfolks all had their hair cropped short and the women vigorously used the fan.

A number from town just to see how they could stand the hot weather went over to help Roberts harvesting the other day.

August -- 1878

Aug. 1: The first safe cracking ever done or attempted in this town took place last Thursday night. It was on the rainy night and a little after midnight that Mat Poage awoke from his sleep and discovered a light in the office of the depot; he saw that somebody was at work; burglary suggested itself to his mind. However, Mat went and called Jimmy his son, returning to watch further proceedings...just as Jimmy was ready the fellow in the depot went with the light into the freight room, by which it was seen that he was in his shirt sleeves, barehead, with his hair cropped short; a moment later there was a flash and a heavy report. Jim Poage aimed his rifle at the fellow and fired. Charles Knapp across the street joined the two Poages and advanced on the depot. The burglars gave a signal whistle and decamped. The safe door was found to have been entirely torn off and thrown in the corner several feet distant. Nothing was taken away.

The eclipse yesterday came off precisely on time according to advertisement; the most visible effect it produced here was on the noses of small boys, many of which were caused to be black tipped.

Aug. 8: The twelfth annual reunion of the survivors of the 36th Illinois will be held at Monmouth in Warren County on Thursday the 19th of September next, just fifteen years after the fearful day of Chickamauga.

Four of the Pearce boys have established a farm out in Plymouth county, Iowa containing over 2,000 acres.

A sail boat may occasionally be seen cruising on the river. It is the property of Geo. W. Avery Jr. and soon will be employed for an extensive voyage.

I should have mentioned last week that the boys in M.C. Richards & Co.'s establishment had invented and manufactured some new scientific instruments for making observations of the eclipse.

P.W. Cole has been elevating his residence to a full two story, and is otherwise giving it a general repair.

Prof. Rolfe, who at present is sojourning at Mr. Farley's, has established a telephone; those who have seen it say that it works to perfection.

The several projects of enterprise in this town are still in an undeveloped state. The Oswego Starch Manufacturing Company is not yet organized. The lots for the new hotel, namely those of the old National, have been bought but operations towards the building of the same have not yet begun.

Aug. 15: Owing to the sobriety, carefulness, minding one's own business, and general good behavior of this community the past week, nothing has been evolved for an exciting item.

Charles Clinton is up from New Orleans.

The prevailing nice weather keeps the farmers steadily employed with their harvests and makes the town quite quiet. Still, the merchants are doing a very good business. At evening they are very busy.

Reynolds & Budlong are doing a very large business in their line. They have the agency for the sale of Ladow's Patent Pulverizer, the best harrow out, in northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin. The headquarters of the firm are in Aurora where one of the partners resides.

The blow the other afternoon damaged some of the shade trees.

Miss Maggie R. Shepard has moved her establishment into the business centre of the town and is now occupying the upper floor of the Shaver building in the brick block--the rooms lately vacated by Dr. Putt. A very handsome show case filled with lady's head embellishments, near the foot of the stairway, is ornamenting the sidewalk and showing where to find the Millinery Bazaar.

Aug. 22: The grandest social event of the season came off last Thursday evening at the residence of James Stevenson down in Specie Grove; it was a party given in honor of a young married couple, a Mr. Rayburn to a Miss Clough, who were there on a visit. The number of guests were over 150 who besides that neighborhood and this village came from the counties of Will, DuPage and Kane.

The ice cream festival of the Red Ribbon club Wednesday evening passed off very successfully.

Dr. Bement, a veteran lecturer was with us a few days.

Aug. 29: The scourge of yellow fever in the South is too horrible to contemplate and the sufferers should receive the most extensive charity from the General Government, municipalities and individuals.

Mrs. Fannie Holyoke and daughter, and Mrs. Fowler were here on a visit to their friends.

John Chapman, the Democratic party of this town, is thoroughly united.

Several of the lightning rodders have returned.

Haight and Hunt & Tetzlaff had pavements constructed around the hitching posts in front of their stores.

September -- 1878

Sept. 5: The Plainfield cornet band was over the other evening and serenaded Miss Jennie Loucks. Besides the band music, Miss Kate Lester and Jennie graced the event with very nice vocal and instrumental parlor music.

There was a dance at the Town Hall Friday evening.

Mrs. DeWitt Gross and son of Montgomery County, N.Y. are on a visit at Nathan Loucks.

Prof. Rolfe and wife have returned to Kankakee.

People want to get enough acquainted with the postal laws to know that a once cent stamp does not carry any kind of a newspaper through the mails. A once cent stamp won't carry a paper weighing over two ounces any further than the basket in the post office.

James B. Poage is attending college at Naperville.

It is now down at the elevator where the big business is done and where the times are hurrying; Wayne & Son are distributing the Greenbacks and National bank currency up to thousands nearly every day.

Sept. 12: John F. Wormley brought to town Saturday a box full of bones, being the skeleton of a human being and left them with me for a scientific examination; calling in

some of the medical profession, and after arranging and placing together some of the broken parts, we decided that they had belonged to an Indian maiden about 18 years of age at her death. They were dug up in a gravel bank right above the Wormley cider mill and must have lain there upward of a hundred years, as about ten feet from the place is a large oak stump some of the roots of which extended right over the grave and were five inches through.

Lewis Jones has now permanently established himself in the building on Dr. Jewell's office, where he will give you fits if you bring there cloth and trimmings for a suit of clothes and have him manufacture it.

Charles Lockwood is now the head clerk in the store of Hunt & Tetzlaff.

The new term of school commenced yesterday with a pretty full attendance and otherwise very auspiciously; Superintendent Duffy, Henry D. Hatch and Miss Lizzie H. Russell are the corps of teachers; the latter is a stranger is from Dwight.

Sept. 19: William H. Kelley is bragging about the good school he has commenced teaching and the nice community of its district. It is the Pavilion School.

J.H. Eaton, the cyclopedia man, has moved his headquarters to NaAuSay.

Ludwig Helle has bought the Harper Hopkins place. The Voss house, a good residence which Helle vacates, can now be bought or rented.

Haight is causing the construction of new sidewalks around his store, and had put in a new wall of the entrance to the basement.

The creamery is a very nice thing for our farmers but the fourth commandment--I think that's the one I mean--is somewhat made to suffer there; the men there Sunday forenoons are just as busy as any other time.

George W. Avery Jr. is selling out his house and furniture on the 28th inst.; he is bound for the yellow fever lands.

Sept. 26: Miss Libbie Minkler of Rochelle is visiting at her uncle's Smith G.

Saturday, Sept. 21st was the day advertised by the farmers of Wheatland township, Will county, (better known as Scotch settlement) for their annual plow trial. The trial was held on the farm of Robt. Clow Esq., about nine miles east of Oswego. To our great surprise the attendance was as large as the first day of the Will County Fair. A better show of plowmen and plowing would be hard to find. As the plowing progressed it was generally conceded that the Sulkies did better work than the Walking Plows, the work being side by side could be easily compared.

October -- 1878

Oct. 3: With the exception of breaking down a few trees, the storm last Wednesday did no damage in his village but caused considerable on a line nearly from west to east about three miles south of here. A number of windmill wheels were blown off. Fences also suffered considerably and much timber was blown down in the grove.

Geo. W. Avery Jr. sold at auction the other day his residence and household goods; the house was bought by Anton Miller for \$196.

A child about 14 months old of Mr. Esch was buried last Thursday.

Ad. Armstrong thinks that a row of mountain ash should be planted along the walk to the cemetery; a good idea.

I am now convinced that I hit it right when I didn't go the whole length into Red Ribbonism, because John Wormley & Son are making now most excellent cider, and little John has on a liberal streak in the replenishment of my jug.

Haight has caused the construction of very substantial sidewalks and sewers around his store.

More or less improvements have been made on many of the private residences around town; Whit Cole and Miss Eliza Kennedy both have now very handsome and roomy houses; Capt. Mann is also continually improving his premises, having now an artificial lake on his place for his ducks and in the course of time will have some swans on it.

A number went to Aurora last evening to hear the great Beecher.

As Norman Ladiew [LaDew] was feeding a threshing machine the other day, his watch chain by some means was caught in the grain, jerking the watch from the pocket and down it went with the grain through the machine. That stopped the tick of that watch; a small fragment of the case was all seen of it afterwards.

Oct. 10: The funeral of Mrs. Hannah Barron took place Thursday from the house of Geo. W. Cooney and the burial at Plainfield. Mrs. B. was 70 years of age.

Wm. Kinley, another of our aged citizens, dropped of the stage of action last Thursday; he was 84 years old. The remains were taken to Wheatland for burial.

Surveyor Jenks was over the other day and laid out a new road up in AuSable Grove. I believe there has been little or no opposition to it.

Wils Briggs had a nice little race saddle with silver-plated steel stirrups stolen from his barn the other evening. Also learned that Mot Lamb had some of his staves abstracted.

Oct. 17: The playing of billiards, and billiard tables have become quite disreputable with a large class of the people owing to the general connection with the saloons; still the game is one of the most scientific and most of the tables are gotten up with much mechanical skill; one of the neatest I ever saw lately has been manufactured at Wm. Parker & Son's furniture factory and was bought by George Burghart.

Mrs. Lucy Avery with the children depart this morning to join her husband, and old George Avery at Utica, where they have been building a boat in which the party will embark for Florida or at least go in the same as far as New Orleans.

Majk Wilinger, a Bohemian, committed suicide at AuSable grove Friday evening by shooting himself with a pistol through the heart; he had been employed for several years by David Goudie and provided a very good hand until several months ago when his mother was murdered by his step father in Chicago; that event seemed to have caused a great change in him. He was in town Thursday, traded his watch with Doc Lester for a revolver, saying that he was going to Kansas and wanted that worse than the watch. He was buried yesterday in the NaAuSay Cemetery.

Henry G. Smith and Miss Josie Samse were married yesterday; did not learn any of the particulars.

Yorkville: Some boys at Batavia forked an eel out of the river which was 41 inches long and weighed 8 lbs.

Oct. 24: Majk Wilinger, a Bohemian, committed suicide at AuSable Grove Friday evening by shooting himself with a pistol through the heart. He had been employed for several years by David Goudie and proved a very good hand until several months ago when his mother was murdered by his step father in Chicago. That event seemed to have caused a great change in him. Goudie thinks it crazed his mind to some extent that besides the death of his mother at the hands of her husband, Majk had also advanced them much of his earnings to carry on their business, that of keeping a saloon. He became unsteady and unreliable, for which reason he was discharged a week or two ago, and since then he had stayed with a tenant on John Cherry's farm, spent much of the time in town under the influence of liquor. He was in town Thursday, traded his watch with Doc Lester for a revolver, saying he was going to Kansas and wanted that worse than the watch. On Friday he was out to a neighbor's and came home with some cider after the folks had gone to bed. He called to the man asking him if he wanted some, he declining the offer. Wilinger then said he would write a letter, but presently a shot and heavy fall was heard. The folks hurried out from the bedroom and found him expiring. The powder had set his clothes on fire. He was buried yesterday in the NaAuSay cemetery.

Oct. 31: Thursday, Don W. Winn was married to Miss Kate Smith. They went off on a trip. Wm. S. Dwyre to Miss Sarah Richard. Some days previous Ambrose Dorin to Miss Lizzie Nurnberg; and it may be mentioned, too, that Wm. B. Roberts, an Oswego boy, but who for a number of years has been residing in Chicago, was also married to a lady of Princeton.

November -- 1878

Nov. 7: The wedding of Miss Florence Budlong to Charles A. Doud of Falls City, Neb. was the only thing last week that excited special interest.

John Cowdrey was in town yesterday for the first time in a number of years; he is still railroading, and runs now on the southern end of the Illinois Central.

A very gentlemanly and good-looking chap by the name of Jacobs is now relieving Fred Sherman at the depot.

Peter Haag started this morning for Kansas.

The Secretary of the Weather for once seems to be favorably included towards the election. The day opened beautifully.

Nov. 14: A workingman at the ice house yesterday fell off the scaffolding a distance of 26 feet, apparently without sustaining material injury. He was placed under the professional care of Doc Lester.

John Sorg arrived yesterday from a wedding trip with a bride he has married in Aurora, she being the daughter of the German Minister of that city.

The latest institution in town is a meat market in the Sutherland building. Don't know whether John G. Knapp--who lately moved here from Will county--is the sold proprietor, or whether it is the Knapp Brothers.

There is some talk that the putting in of the foundation for the new hotel will soon be commenced.

A Mrs. Prior has set up a dressmaking establishment in the rooms with Maggie Shepard.

Elder Stoughton is commencing the ministrations of the Methodist Church here. [More information on Methodism in Oswego in 1878]

Yorkville: *Aurora Beacon*: Rev. Mr. Hicks, formerly pastor of the Newark Baptist church, is a little absent minded, but at the same time an energetic industrious man. One day last week he was in Mendota on his way to preach at Ottawa. Rising in the morning, he started on the CB&Q, leaving his pocket book in the bed he used the night before. At Aurora he placed his shawl, carpet bag, etc., on Kennedy's Streator strain, and while he was meditating, it moved off--with his goods. A telegram to Conductor Kennedy secured them, but Hicks wished to see some people in Yorkville, and footed it down to that village and thence he took the evening train to Ottawa, picking up his baggage on the way.

Nov. 21: The funeral of W.H. Coffin's little girl, about 10 months old, took place Wednesday.

L.N. Stoutemyer, an Oswego boy, now one of the editors and proprietors of the New Orleans Times, apparently has been the one that stood the hardest siege with the yellow fever without surrendering. About a week ago his friends here received word that for the first time in 43 days he sat up a little while.

Nov. 28: Miss Julia E. Davis was transformed into Mrs. Henry W. Churchill, that is, she was married to a gentleman by that name, of Lisle, DuPage County.

Troy, our suburb, has been growing much faster than Oswego the past year; ten new buildings 100x50 have been erected there by Esch Brothers, and Co.; they being ice houses; the whole number now being 14.

A new railroad bridge has been put across the Waubonsie.

The Ed Zimmerman blacksmith shop was moved to the opposite side of Jefferson Street.

The Congregational Church has been re-shingled.

The Avery family--consisting of Mr. and Mrs. Avery, their three little girls and old George, the General, also the cat and dog--who started from here some weeks ago to navigate to New Orleans on their own hook, when last heard from were in the Mississippi above St. Louis, all hale and hearty and in the best of spirits. George sent up a printed sermon to be shown to me from the well known text found in Jake 18, 26: "Whar de hen scratcheth, dar lieth de worm."

December -- 1878

Dec. 5: Thanksgiving was passed in this town most pleasantly; the weather was exceedingly nice, at the appointed time a goodly number representing the churches and outsiders, assembled at the Methodist church for united worship. The business places during the meeting were most all closed; a select choir rendered the music.

Aurora innocence abroad: The *Beacon* says: Two young men from Aurora, whose names we have been unable to learn, attended a dance at Oswego on Thursday night got into a row with the roughs of that village and were shockingly pounded.

A number of children are sick of scarlet fever.

Dec. 12: S.G. Minkler is attending the meeting of the Horticultural Society, which meets in the new State House at Springfield.

Our former townsman, Charles Bennett, the Democratic one, was here on a short visit.

Wm. Ladd is on the sick list but getting better.

Dwight Smith has returned home from Iowa.

Our hog buyers are down on the scrapers' strike.

It is Sweet's band of Plano--instead of a band from Plainfield as I said awhile ago--that is furnishing the excellent music for the club dances. Going there to look on a while a fellow almost wishes that he had been born again some 20 years ago so that he might participate in them.

Yorkville: Hough's railroad photograph car will be at Bristol Station after the 11th, for a short time. Give him a call.

Dec. 19: The wedding of Miss Celia Hues [Hughes] to Mr. Edmund Lucas, which took place one day of last week was doubtless a very joyous occasion; I was unable to get the particulars; the bridal couple were in town yesterday and Edmund was all smiles.

The drug store is now the centre of attraction. L.N. Hall has opened a large and very handsome stock of holiday goods.

The billiard table question is on the tapis, and a lawsuit in that respect was begun last week, but adjourned to some future day.

The most charming music now is the tinkling of the sleigh bells.

Dec. 26: Things in Oswego have begun to foment. Principles, antagonists to each other, are on a strife for mastery. The saloons for the past eight months have run the liquor business without restraint, and that in violation of town and state law. Not only the liquor law has been violated by the town ordinance against billiards has been set aside by about five of our public places. One of our citizens, in consequence of his minor sons being decoyed into one of these places, and the disposition of insolence manifested by one of the billiard men, commenced suit against the gentleman. It would seem that it is a starting point in stopping the lawlessness in our town.

Mr. Hallaben, the Congregational clergyman, has given a few lectures against billiards, dancing and beer. The result is that the dancers, billiard players, and beer drinkers are displeased. The Red Ribbon Society, that was organized as a temperance group, spends its time holding literary evenings. They seem to be doing but little in the way of temperance reform. A resolution was recently offered before that body, the substance of which was to sustain the enforcement of the liquor laws, but it was readily tabled. One of those influential members is often known to be in saloons. How does that correspond with the Red Ribbon pledge?

1879

January

Jan. 2: The holiday season in this burg and vicinity thus far has passed without any great sensation; everybody of course has been trying to make the best of circumstances for a merry Christmas; the only public doings of that day was a ball by "our club" which proved the largest dancing party in this town for some time, there being 80 couples in attendance; the best order prevailed and the music by the Plano band was most excellent; the dance took place in Chapman's hall.

The Congregational society on Christmas eve gave a supper to its Sunday school, which was to take place at the Town Hall [the old Kendall County Courthouse], but owing to the prevailing cold weather and the insufficient heating apparatus there, was changed to the church.

The only parties I heard of that have entered the matrimonial state from this vicinity the past two weeks were Miss Lurella Davis, who was married to Fred Gray, son of Rufus Gray, now residing in Aurora and Miss Matilda Koeslinger to Thomas Belchner.

Notwithstanding the many trials the people of New Orleans were subjected to the past season, the usual Christmas present, consisting of a box of oranges, was duly received by this individual from the Charles Clinton family of that city.

Cy. Cutter and Will Lester have come out from the Rush Medical College to spend the holidays at home.

Some old boys who ought to know better got into a little unpleasantness the other evening at one of the saloons.

Ezekiel S. Worthing came to the close of his manmade existence Saturday morning. Mr. Worthing was nearly 77 years of age, an old settler, a very peaceful and otherwise exemplary citizen, and in his religious belief for many years held to that of Spiritualism.

Raven lodge Masons, at their last regular communication, bestowed upon Geo. R. Schamp the high-sounding title of Worshipful Master. Kirk L. Walker was selected to manage the duties in the west; Cob Pearce to take the observations of things in the south; Henry Helle to hold the funds; and Gus Voss to keep the records.

Meeting Henry Wollenweber at the depot the other day he asked me to go with over to the yards and see the nicest lot of hogs raised in this congressional district; it consisted of 30; they were a little over 18 months old, and from which were raised 150 pigs--being all sows but one--and their average weight was 534. They were indeed a nice looking lot,

and Woolie called my attention to their fine qualities...They were raised by J.J. Dobbin, who, Woolie says, is the boss hog raiser in this region.

The billiard table suit was disposed of yesterday with a verdict of "not guilty." The question whether Frank Van Doozer's table, which is a small concern, comes within the meaning of the law, and some defects in the village ordinance seemed to have made it thus. Andy Dwyre was the victorious lawyer.

Yorkville: The case of Paul and Jabez Hawley of Oswego against the Agricultural Insurance Company, on trial in Aurora last week before Judge Annis, disagree, after being out 24 hours were discharged, It was a suit for the insurance on a barn burned in 1875.

Supt. Duffy and wife of Oswego drove down to Yorkville for a sleigh ride Tuesday.

Large quantities of coal are being hauled from Morris by the farmers north of the Fox River.

Those \$20 cutters made by Church are the best thing out. Call at the Yorkville Carriage Factory and see them.

Mercury 24° below zero this morning.

The Aurora Post of Saturday says: "Young Hawley of Oswego and Simpson of Aurora felt impelled by the cold weather to drive rapidly across the west side bridge this morning, but Mayor Earle and Commissioner Bevier were watching them and ordered both to stop. The ordinance against fast driving was explained and each pulled out and paid over \$5."

They lock female and male prisoners in the same cell at the same time in the Kendall county jai. They are heathens down in Yorkville. -- That is one of Herrington's yarns. Don't you believe it.

We have left out several columns of advertisements to get in what local matter we could get into type and have yet omitted accounts of the Marriage of Frank D. Pearce and Jennie Loucks in Oswego on New Year's Day. Silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Bronk, NaAuSay on the 28th of December. "Minooka Jottings."

And much Plano matter.

All will have a place in next issue.

Jan. 9: The wedding of Miss Jennie Loucks to Frank Pearce was the great society sensation of New Year's day. The guests in attendance numbered 125.

Another very pleasant feature of New years day was a dinner given by the Methodist society at Mrs. Ezra Smith's; a sleighride was given afterwards to the children to settle their dinner.

The beginning of the year, as usual, was the time of making resolves and the turning over of new leaves; partly stimulated to it by a recent lecture of Mr. Allabon, the resolves against the future use of tobacco were quite numerous, but the first of January being also resumption day, most all resumed again after breakfast.

The ice firm has been getting ready last week to commence the operation of housing the ice the beginning of this; the navigation of the canal with a big cake of ice had to be prosecuted during Sunday and also night times to prevent the freezing up of it. The force calculated to be employed is about 75 men.

Grandmother Passage died night before last at the ripe age of 86 years at the house of Jonathan Andrews her son-in-law.

The Honorable Alonzo B. Smith started yesterday morning for the State capitol to take his seat in the General Assembly...The first thing the people ought to insist upon is plain laws, laws which can be understood without the aid of lawyers.

Yorkville: Mr. Nate Loucks of Oswego was in Yorkville Tuesday looking happy.

Yorkville coal dealers are having coal hauled from the Morris mines, it being impossible to get any from Streator.

Jan. 16: The past has been a very quiet week in town; the spare men are most all employed at the ice harvest; great efforts are made there to fill the 14 houses this season; the company is prosecuting the work with the greatest energy and putting in all the time possible, no exception was made of Sunday.

Miss Julia E. Whiting has returned to this town and is now a student of Fred Sherman in the science of telegraphy.

Yorkville: The Military Court of Inquiry, appointed at the request of Maj. Reno for an investigation into his conduct at the battle of the Little Big Horn, June 25, 1876, in which occurred the terrible massacre of Gen. Custer and his command, assembled Monday in Chicago.

Writing under the pen name "Redman," his middle name, State Sen. John R. Marshall, *Kendall County Record* editor and publisher, wrote from Springfield: "On Friday were glad to meet J.J. Budlong of Oswego at the Leland [Hotel]; it was a face from home. He is going through the state establishing agencies for the sale of a patent pulverizing harrow.

Judge Caton met with the Republican members of the senate in Gov. Shuman's room Friday and shook hands. He told us the first court he ever held as a judge was in Yorkville in the old, old court house."

The double-headed girl at Union Hall Friday evening. Tickets on sale at the post office.

L.N. Hall, Esq., of Oswego drove down to Yorkville on Monday when the sheriff suddenly put him on the jury. He has been suffering with a very severe cold.

Jan. 23: The court at Yorkville and the ice harvest up in Troy did well nigh strip this town of its male inhabitants during daytime last week.

The death of Miss Louisa Gregory occurred last week and her remains were brought here from Kane County and buried with her ancestors in our cemetery.

Everybody will be welcomed at the Presbyterian donation Thursday evening.

Charles Roberts Jr. and wife have departed this morning for their new home in Champaign County.

Yorkville: Senator [John R.] Marshall has been appointed chairman of the committee on Federal Relations. What an honor! We'd rather be a grand jurymen.

Jan. 30: Elder Stoughton on the antiquity of the earth and man was not as clear and logical as his lectures generally are; his main endeavor was to harmonize the creation account of Moses with Geology; because Moses said "in the beginning," and not put a date there, he may have meant myriads of ages ago, and because he wrote right afterwards "These are the generations of the heavens and the earth," and as generations meant periods it was quite certain that Moses did not mean a week's time...I think we should discard altogether these geological notions; we should regard the fossils found away down in the earth as having been placed by the creator for the purpose of proving our faith in the scriptures.

Representative A.B. Smith has been home from the Legislature for a few days.

Will Ferris started this morning for college at Valparaiso, Ind.

The Odd Fellows and Masons of this town have made common cause as far as a place of meeting is concerned; the hall over the drug store is now jointly occupied by both the lodges.

The warm weather caused a suspension of the ice harvest; 11 houses are filled.

The dancing party of the "our Own Club" as usual was attended with much pleasure.

Redman, the Record's Springfield correspondent, should be notified to hereafter keep his clothes on when out at parties there, especially those in high life, or else not mention of the disrobing; my modesty sustained a shock by his letter.

Yorkville: The railing for the court house steps has been received by R.W. Willett. It is of cast iron.

A.B. Smith was at the court house on Friday attending to legal business. Springfield seems to agree with A.B.

Circuit Clerk Bennett is a delegate to the State encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, which is held at Springfield this week.

D.M. Haight, Esq., of Oswego has been appointed one of the organizers for the 7th Congressional district by the State National Greenback committee, which held a meeting in Chicago recently.

February -- 1879

Feb. 6: J.J. Budlong has entered the list of inventors from this town; a patent was granted to him for mangers.

The Wm. A. Hawley family have moved to Chicago. Mike Schweigen has emigrated to Kansas with his family; so too has Mike Crain.

Yorkville: Horse Protective Society

The meeting of the Kendall County Horse Protective Association was held in the grand jury room at the Court House on Saturday afternoon, Feb. 1st, with a very slim attendance.

Willie Ferris of Oswego has gone to Valparaiso, Indiana to attend school. He expects to be gone a year.

Superintendent Duffy examined six ladies at the Court House on Saturday for teachers' certificates.

While skating Friday night, G.W. Parker ran into some shell ice, which tripped him up. He wore a black eye for a day or two.

The Oswego Prairie Sunday school society of the German Evangelical church held their annual election Jan. 25, 1879, when the following officers were elected: Superintendent, Daniel Hemm; assistant superintendent, Peter Faust; secretary, John George Shilling [Schilling]; treasurer, Leonard Haag; librarian, Leonard Bower.

Feb. 13: There was a wedding--or *Hockzeit* as it is called in that neighborhood--out at Leonard Burkhardt's last Thursday: his daughter Maggie and Henry Bauer were the parties.

Lost, on the road between Henry Shoger's and Oswego a bandbox containing a lady's bonnet. The finder will please leave it at the postoffice.

Representative Smith has come home from Springfield; an attack of his old complaint, rheumatism, necessitated it.

Tom Beebe of Plano was in town and appeared the same hale and well met fellow as when running the depot here.

Another boy, the smallest of the two, has been added to the Frank Richards family.

The harbinger of spring, a robin, was seen one morning last week.

The English sparrow was with us through all of last winter; last fall, they came and looked around for a day or two and again departed; since then, nothing has been seen of them.

Yorkville: Mrs. J.R. Marshall of Bristol has gone to Springfield for a week to see the sights and take care of the Senator from the 18th District.

The days are getting longer at both ends, much to the joy of the printers. We will soon be able to get about without lighting up.

Feb. 20: Miss Emily Parkhurst was married last Tuesday to a Mr. Speers, a jeweler of Chicago.

Tom Seely has returned in a robust condition and high spirits from New Mexico where he has been prosecuting his profession, that of civil engineer.

Thomas Welling has departed his morning for Kansas.

That Oswego has the reputation abroad of being a hard place is no use to deny; the present generation, however, is not responsible for that.

Cy Cutter has returned from the Rush Medical College, the term having closes. Fred Lester remained there for the graduation examination and Will Lester is sick in Chicago. Doc Lester was there most all of last week to attend him.

Yorkville: Hank Smith, the operator at Montgomery, has been afflicted with the rheumatism.

Piper & Co. set a small gang of men at work filling the Yorkville ice houses on Monday morning.

Feb. 27: Charles Jolly is no more; his corpse was brought here Friday from Chicago for burial. Charlie was brought up in this town, was a member of the fourth Illinois Cavalry during the war and of late years resided in Chicago; he had many faults--horses well might heave a sigh of relief--but also some good streaks, prominent among which was the devotion to his mother. If anything would make him grateful, it was the befriending of his mother.

The little girl about a year old of James Collins was buried Saturday; funeral at the home.

M.C. Richards has invented and constructed a hydraulic apparatus which throws water so much higher than he had expected and the natural laws would seem to do that the only thing that bothers him now is in finding out what does it.

The corporation election will take place next Saturday and very likely will be contested upon the usual issues, the one side contending to grant no licenses for the selling of liquor and the other to get five good and true men that will cause the streets and sidewalks to be kept in good condition.

Mike Gallagher has again become a resident of this town, occupying the Charley Richards' house.

Yorkville: The ice company finished filling their houses in Yorkville on Sunday and on Monday shipped their men back to Chicago.

Another car has been added to the mail train on the Fox River Road, giving the express and mail each a car.

Samples of the [drainage] tile made at Millington can be seen at Willett & Welch's implement room in Yorkville. Farmers should examine it.

March -- 1879

March 6: The wedding of Miss Pauline Wayne to Kirk L. Walker occurred last Thursday at the residence of the bride's parents, Thos., D. Wayne.

The Methodists will give a donation festival at Chapman's hall next Thursday evening, which promises to be one of the most joyful events and to which everybody will be welcome. Don't anybody miss it for anything.

The coffee and doughnut festival of the Ribboners Wednesday evening was not very large but a hilarious affair, and the older the man the more boyish was his behavior.

The Fox River Creamery is now receiving daily 1,400 pounds of milk for which it pays \$1 per hundred and it has all the patrons it can carry through the season.

Mr. and Mrs. C.A. Doud departed yesterday for Winona, Minn.

Walt. Hunt is up from Dwight on business and to see his friends.

John Collins had the frame of a new barn raised yesterday.

There is probably no rural school district in Kendall that contains as much wealth as that which is called the Wormley district; but in one sense it is perhaps the poorest in the State; the other day one of their number, a tenant farmer, moved away and came pretty near taking the whole school with him. Louie Wormley was the only scholar left, and he is now taking his two-year-old sister to school with him for company.

At Van Dresen's, they had an orange tree in blossom a few days ago and now the oranges are growing very nicely.

The debaters Friday evening settled the question that the generations of this age are retrograding; this seems preposterous, but nevertheless the conclusion was fully verified by the next day's event, namely the corporation election, not that there wasn't a good board elected, but in the manner the election took place. When out of about 200 votes but 47 will go to the polls to vote for home officers, which was the cause Saturday, that certainly is proof of retrogression, at least in political interest. The five good and true men, viz: Capt Mann, Henry Helle, Thos. Greenfield, Charley Avery and Andrew Gray were elected with out any opposition. In the debate, Dwyre, Haight and Hall were the victors and Rank, Kelly, and Putt the vanquished.

Yorkville: Senator Marshall was home over Sunday.

We are a great admirer of spring, but we don't much like the mud we have to wade through to get to it.

The ground has been covered with snow for more than three months. How's that for a winter?

March came in very much like a sheep, didn't it? We hope it may continue. We've had winter enough.

Monday was a bad day for tramps. The sun was out all day and the clothes got dry so there were none left on the lines for them to steal.

We understand that Mr. Charles Black of Yorkville is now one of the members of the paper firm. Charlie ought to make a good business man.

The two-wheeled "go cart" of Mr. Wilson, the Platteville mail man, came into Yorkville Monday morning in good shape and we were glad to see it.

The article on "Things on Oswego" we shall have to omit. Oswego has a hard name already and this would only be adding to it.

On the docket of the city court of Aurora is a case entitled "Hanna Brothers vs. George W. Kellogg, assumpait." Also the case of Hawley Brothers of Oswego vs The Insurance Company, and a case of Paul G. Hawley vs. George W. Warner.

L. Rank Esq. of Oswego has received a patent on an "anti-friction bearing." What in thunder is that?

Tramps captured the town of Yorkville last week. On Friday, 13 tramps came in a gang and put up at the Tarbox hotel (R.R. tank) and at night Constable Weber gathered them into the "cooler" and took care of them. Fred put a lock on the water tank so they could not stay there and they have vacated.

A short time since, Mr. David Goudie of NaAuSay took a lot of his blooded stock to Chicago and sold it. Good prime lots that day were selling at \$3.50 to \$3.75, but Mr. Goudie received \$4.40 for his. The Chicago Tribune, of the next day, in speaking of the cattle market contained the following; "Feeders from the East and West were present in goodly numbers and sales were effected at higher figures than have heretofore prevailed, good to prime lots selling up to \$3.50 to \$3.75, while poor to ordinary droves were salable at \$2.75 to \$3.25. A choice lot of blooded young steers, averaging 1,091 lbs. was sold by St. John & Brown to an Ohio feeder at \$4.40. They were raised by David Goudie of Oswego, Ill. We mention the sale as showing the difference in the market value between blooded and native cattle.

March 13: The Methodist donation was somewhat damaged by the breaking up of winter; the roads had become quite soft, for which reason but few from the country were in attendance. Two sons, the oldest and youngest of H.J. Collins have been buried within a week; disease, scarlet fever. That family has been sorely afflicted with sickness during the last three weeks.

The funeral of the Rev. Jonah F. Page took place yesterday from the residence of his daughter, Mrs. Carrie young.

Fred Burkhart and family have moved west last week; their residence is now in Fayette Co., Iowa.

Another wedding has lately taken place at the residence of Leonard Burkhart; it was that of his daughter, Christina to Mr. John Hemm of NaAuSay.

Henry Sorg also got married last week to a Miss Tillie Eberlein. The wedding took place in Aurora, the bride's place of residence.

The resumption of legal whiskey in this town took place yesterday morning and like that other resumption has made some hearts glad and others apprehensive. George Burghart and George Troll are the licensed dispensers thus far, and now you can get your toddy without resorting to duplicity.

M.M. James has returned to his town and resumed work at the creamery and by the way it should have been 14,000 pounds of milk per day received there now instead of 1,400 as was stated last week.

Yorkville: The first thunder shower of the season occurred last week Wednesday night.

Gravel roads are the boss. They are dry and smooth, while the common roads are nearly impassible--in spots.

Frank Richards, of Oswego, was in Yorkville Monday putting some patent rollers on Ash Morton's new barn.

The ice went out of Black's pond Monday morning. It was very rotten and the water being very low didn't get up much of a stir.

Articles of association of Zion's society of the Evangelical Association of North America in Oswego were filed at the Court House on March 6th. The trustees are John Wolf, John Hafenrichter, Jacob Constantine, Lenard Haag, and Christian Hemm.

Passenger conductors on the Fox River road got \$159.99 for last month's pay and baggage and brakemen, \$129.98.

March 20: The funeral of Mrs. Samuel Hagerman took place Sunday forenoon from the Presbyterian church of which she was a member, the Rev. Mr. Galt performing the solemn rites, assisted by Elder Minard and the Rev. Mr. Allaben. The remains were afterwards conveyed and followed by a procession to the NaAuSay cemetery for burial. Mrs. Hagerman was a daughter of David C. Shepard of Kendall, and has been sick for some time, her disease being consumption.

On one of those pleasant days the forepart of last week a number of girls and among them Etta McKinney and Hattie Mullen, went down to the river and strolled along the bank of it. There was a boat there and Etta said she knew how to make a boat go, so she and Hattie got in and pushed it off and it do go down stream but they couldn't get it to shore again. The girls on shore took in the dangerous situation at once and ran to town and told Mrs. McKinney that Etta probably was already drowned, scaring that lady almost out of her wits. The boat with the two girls in the meantime was drifting with the current down stream; when below the cemetery Hattie jumped out and waded ashore; Etta however stuck to the boat, industriously singing Sunday school hymns. Hattie ran up to Mr. Cutter's for help and Watts went down and headed the boat by wading in and brought it

ashore. When again on land, Etta said she hadn't been scared a bit, that indeed it was the best boat ride she ever had.

Last Friday this town received a friendly visit from the Plainfield cornet band. They played a very stirring piece on the street after their arrival but the weather was too cold for outdoor playing. After dark, Chapman's hall was lighted up, they occupying one end of it and our band the other and then alternate playing was kept up until 10 o'clock.

The local editor of the *Record*, a short time since, wondered what in thunder "Anti-Friction Bearing" could be, an invention of and for which Rank was granted a patent. I have since interviewed that individual and was informed that it should be called "Anti-friction journal bearings," that the other appellation may mislead as to its use.

Mrs. Jane Davis has traded for other property her residence, known as the Edson place, to a Mr. Larkins, who now occupies the same. Several other new comers have taken up their abode among this community.

August Stolp of Grundy county, formerly a journeyman shoemaker here and son-in-law of John Foss, was in town the other day.

Died: at his residence in the town of Oswego, March 17, of heart disease, Mr. Gilbert Gaylord, aged 58 years. Funeral from his residence. Mr. Gaylord was several years ago engaged in business in this city.--Aurora Beacon.

Yorkville: Large quantities of ice went down the river Monday morning, the effects of the Sunday night freeze.

There was quite a juvenile snow storm Tuesday night.

Quite a number of farmers in Kendall county put in a day plowing last week, but at present the plow is back again under the shed.

Miss Whiting from Oswego is assisting Fred Tarbox in the Yorkville telegraph office.

L.G. Bennett and wife of Yorkville attended the fifth annual camp fire of the Aurora [GAR] Post last Wednesday.

March 27: Gilbert Gaylord was a native of the state of New York, came west and settled in this township in 1842, and has ever since been one of the prominent men of this community. A week ago yesterday he died without any premonition having apparently been in his usual health up to with a few minutes of death. The funeral took place Thursday from the house. The remains were enclosed in a very handsome metallic casket, and the procession that followed them to the grave was very large. The age of deceased was 58 years.

The funeral of Mrs. Anna Hopkins, widow of Gordon Hopkins, took place Sunday forenoon. The remains were brought to the Oswego cemetery for interment. Mrs. H. was 80 years of age. The Hopkins family moved to this part of the country about 25 years ago from Ohio.

Mr. and Mrs. K.L. Walker have returned from their bridal wanderings.

W.W. Wormley has been all winter separated from his wife, she being out in Nevada on a visit to their daughter, Lila Colver. The other day in company with Lila she returned, and the old boys of that neighborhood, always up for fun, turned out and charivariated the reunited couple. William had to come out with his good cider to stop the infernal music.

Yorkville: There were 273 arrests made in Aurora during the past year.

Surveyors have been engaged between Arlington and Mendota this week running lines for a double track on the CB&Q Railroad.

They are using new cans at the Oswego creamery. These cans are 19 inches high, 12 in diameter at the top and 10 and a half at the bottom provided with air tube in the center for rapid cooling of the milk. The covers are of tin and have a rubber band placed in the periphery of the cover, making the cans air-tight. The cans are provided with a glass gauge, inserted inside of the can, for measuring the depth. Cream is reckoned by the company by the inch as indicated by this gauge. The cans are so constructed as to preserve the milk in perfect condition for a remarkable length of time. In fair weather, the milk can be kept sweet for four days, and in warm weather for two days without the use of ice. The circulation through the center of the body of milk prevents center taint. The plan of this creamery consists in gathering the cream by its agents from the dairies and accounting to each dairy for the number of inches taken. The receipts of milk at the creamery are again steadily increasing; the average per day is now 18,000 pounds.

Snow fell Thursday and Friday nights, making the walking disagreeable, and the roads sloppy. Fine weather to catch cold.

C.C. Duffy, Esq., of Oswego, was in Yorkville on Saturday. Duffy is a good story teller and knows where to go to find ducks.

Senator Marshall is making a fine record in the senate. He has the reputation of being a careful legislator and gaining an influence, which will place him among the strong men of that body.

April -- 1879

April 3: The old settlers are passing away; Sunday afternoon the funeral of George Woolley took place Mr. W. was a native of England, came and settled near this village about 35 years ago, and with the exception of two years I think--when he had moved over

on the Big Rock creek--was living here ever since. He was a very successful farmer, has accumulated much property, and although somewhat of a contrary and rough disposition, yet had hosts of friends. For a year or more he had changed a good deal and manifested much interest in religion.

Horace Smith, commonly known as Deacon Smith, also an old settler, died Sunday morning. Mr. S. was 69 years of age, came originally from Massachusetts and settled in this township 28 years ago.

Eva, the youngest of the two little girls of Charles E. Hubbard, died yesterday.

Frank Van Doozer has caused the construction of a very handsome fence around his premises; Wollenweber is enlarging his garden by enclosing the low where once stood a prosperous hotel, the ----- tavern; Mrs. Schram is having her cellar walls rebuilt; Haight has completed the relocation of the wagon scales on Washington Street.

Orson S. Pearce and Miss Fannie Severance got married last week.

Seely was the President and Duffy the Secretary of the Republican caucus Saturday, and the nominations were Geo. Bristol for justice of the peace; E.G. Earle, supervisor; Dave Jeneson, town clerk; Dave Hall, assessor; Anton Miller, collector; and C.A. Davis, commissioner, the last four for reelection. At the election today the poor house farm will get a little support here and will likely be voted down in the county. The project of necessity must be unpopular outside of the towns of Kendall and Bristol. Still, I think that a well regulated farm would be the best and most economical method for maintaining the paupers. Many people are poor for the lack of the capacity to economize and by proper superintendence could be kept much better and cheaper than they can do it themselves. Besides, a fellow would have a home to fall back on.

Yorkville: The Bristol boys clubbed together and bought a foot-ball and now amuse themselves with it in the park.

A fractious horse driven by D.M. Haight of Oswego caused him trouble last week in this city and that pleasant gentleman narrowly escaped being assessed \$5 for fast driving across one of our bridges.--*Beacon*.

April 10: Thursday evening while George Parker was over in town to witness the canvass of the vote, his son, Willie, about 12 years old, stepped out doors and heard something about the barn; thinking it was his brother he called to him, but receiving no answer he went back in the house got a navy revolver and with it started to the barn and found a fellow just in the act of leading off their best span of horses, but abandoned them when he saw the boy coming; Willie shot at the thief and followed him up, but another one who apparently had been on top of a hay stack put in an appearance and snapped a pistol at Willie close by; Willie then retreated and before he could get reinforcement the fellows had cleared out and no further trace of them could be found.

L.N. Hall has recovered in Chicago a portion of his stolen goods.

Over half a million pounds of milk were received at the creamery during the month of March.

Nathan Loucks got his smoke house with all his nice hams burned up; he was glad, however that the fire was confined to that.

James Williams has returned from Chicago and again settled on the farm.

At the school meeting, Adam Armstrong was reelected director by one vote over Capt. Mann his competitor.

Yorkville: The poor farm question is settled--and it is settled so low that it won't be raised again in some time.

J.C. Shepard of Oswego has a new Furst & Bradley plow from Willett & Welch. Having tried both the Weir and the Furst & Bradley sulky plows, in heavy stalk ground and thoroughly testing them in every condition, he considers the Furst & Bradley plow to be the best and the lightest draft.

Money is still very scarce and hard to get at all.

April 17: The remains of uncle James Snook were brought here last Friday from Ottawa where he died, having been living there of late years with his son-in-law, J.S. Armstrong. The services were held at the Methodist church, the deceased having been an adherent to that persuasion, the pastor, Elder Stoughton performing the solemn rites.

Mr. James Hubbard, one of our merchants of over 30 years ago when this town was one of the most important points of Fox river, was in town the other day.

J.H. Eaton has moved to Aurora.

John G. Knapp has erected a new slaughter house near the mouth and on the south bank of the Waubonsie.

I was informed that from my account last week of Bertie Ashley's scalding it might be inferred that there was some negligence on the part of somebody, which would be entirely erroneous and that otherwise it was not correct, that the hot water was not for the use of the cows; that the boy had been playing with the dog and came running through the door and in suddenly turning fell in the half-full pail of hot water, and was instantly taken out by the hired man who had just put the kettle back on the stove, and the mother was in the room at the same time and that no blame attaches to anybody for the calamity.

Henry Helle is building an addition to his house and otherwise improving it.

Yorkville: The State dam at Dayton on Fox River has a fish-way that is about of as much utility as a flat-boat. It is so high above the water that fish cannot get on to it coming up. Saturday, Representative Brigham introduced a resolution in the House requiring the canal commissioners to remedy this evil. By the way, the other afternoon, Speaker James complimented Mr. Brigham by requesting him to preside over the House during the afternoon session.

Names of pupils in Mr. [Christopher C.] Duffy's room, Oswego, whose work was sent to Springfield: John Russell, Jerry Shepard, Willie Samse, Emma Young, Effie Parker, and Nora Shaver on high school work; Maggie Teller, Nellie Van Evra, and Alfred Hebert on grammar school work; Ed. Alaben and Lydian Avery on intermediate work. Mr. Duffy's were the only pupils in the county that did high school work on the examination. From Miss L. Russell's room the work of the following persons was sent: Willie Alaben, Lillie Van Driesen, Jennie Miller, and Blanche Coffin.

The Oswego public school employs one teacher at \$720 and two teachers at \$315 each, total, \$1,350. Number of pupils enrolled during the year, 184. Average tuition per pupil, \$7.33. This amount does not include cost of fuel, janitor, and other expense.

A bill has passed the [Illinois] House requiring the attendance of pupils under the age of 14 at public or private schools during 12 weeks every school year. Passed 87 to 48.

The elections are over. Thank goodness! We don't have another election until June. Judicial election.

The boys are catching some very large pike in the river this spring. Two were caught last week that weighed over seven pounds apiece.

After July 1st, a new man will carry the mail between Yorkville and Platteville. Mr. Wilson, the present carrier, put in the same bid as he did four years ago. Mr. Edmunds put in a bid, we understand, but a man from Kentucky offered to carry the mail for nothing--and board himself and he got the job.

All those intending to get pictures at the railroad car in Yorkville should do so at once. Will soon be off to Sheridan.

The NaAuSay election difficulty came to a sudden end last Thursday. Both parties came to Yorkville to have the case tried. Judge Parks of Aurora was attorney on one side and Paul Hawley on the other. Parks wanted to settle and so advised the "boys." Hawley said settle. All the participants were willing to settle, and the matter was left to John Cherry and Jim Goudie to settle, and they did settle--not only the election difficulty but everything else; the papers were drawn up and signed, the cases before Squire Ernst were dismissed, as were also the cases before the circuit court, and the Goudie and Cherry families went home on better terms than they have been for years, much to the joy of their many friends, and we hope peace and prosperity may attend them.

Little Edith Bennett, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L.G. Bennett, died in Yorkville Monday evening, April 14, after a short but very painful illness, aged about five years.

April 24: In a Winona (Minn.) paper I noticed that a wedding took place the 10th inst., at the residence of C.G. Doud of that city; that it was that of their daughter, Miss Carrie, to Geo. W. Howell, of Aurora, Ill.; that it was witnessed by about 50 guests... That the bridal couple took the afternoon train for their future home at Marysville, Mo. That the best wishes of many friends attend the newly wedded couple. The last clause contains the desire of many in this neighborhood, as Miss Carrie was a dearly admired Oswego girl.

Peter Haag was married last week to a Miss Bertha Miller of Aurora. The wedding took place at the residence of the bride's parents in that city.

Madison is now the most tony street in this place and especially that portion of it immediately north of the Baptist church. Mr. Larkin, a new comer, has put down a new sidewalk, constructed a new fence, furnished new blinds to the house and otherwise much improved it by lattice work, etc. The next neighbor, Mr. Shaver, has also caused the construction of a new fence and a change of his front yard by the removal of some of the trees. Next Mr. Mann always keeps his premises in the most stateful shape. On the corners of the opposite block are the two new residences of Supt. Duffy and Eliz. Kennedy all of which is giving that part of Oswego a very aristocratic appearance. There are also many improvements in progress in other parts of the town.

Wesley Edwards started this morning with his family and that of Peter Maxam for Kansas. Peter accompanied the goods a few days ago.

Martin Ashley last week also moved to Kansas with his family; Charlie Whitman went with them.

The Nets family is now moving to Washington, Ill., their future home. They have befriended themselves with most everybody while living among this community and Mr. N. has been one of the most efficient pastors of the German Methodist church. A rev. Mr. Goessele, I understand, is their new pastor coming here.

Yorkville: To the editor:

A young man from Oswego some time ago was indicted for stealing harness. By some collusion with the legal authorities (as it looks to me) the indictment was allowed to drop. And now, the same young man is again caught thieving, but by the influence and money of his father he is allowed to go free and prey on some one else. Is this law? Please copy the following from Saturday's *Aurora Beacon*.

GRANGER

From the *Aurora Beacon*:

Charley Hawley, son of Paul Hawley of Oswego, a young man who has been a passenger brakeman on the Fox River Road for a year or two past, was arrested at Streator Thursday morning as a thief, and has been relieved from duty. He has for a long time been engaged in plundering from the trunks of passengers, thieving from the men on his own train, and

whenever opportunity offered, robbing the express messenger, Frank Hackney, of valuable packages. Innocent parties were being severely censured in consequence, but suspicion centered upon Hawley and he was kept in close surveillance for a couple of weeks, falling readily into every trap laid for him by the boys until his rascality was established beyond a possibility of doubt. When arrested Thursday morning, he made no attempt to deny his guilt, but disgusted all present by blubbering like a child, and claiming that the theft of the plunder displayed before him was his first offense. He was brought up to Aurora and afterward allowed to return to his home in Oswego, since which time we understand he has surrendered a portion of the property stolen during the past few weeks. His father has expressed his readiness to pay all claims and will endeavor to save his erring son from prosecution.

Miss Emma C. Beane of Fox is attending school at Fowler Institute, Newark.

The very finest syrup and New Orleans molasses, and selling very cheap at the post office in Bristol.

The chicken law, which some of the 'boys' were quite anxious about, has been killed, and prairie chickens can be shot after August 15, where they can be found.

Hough, the photographer, found his car was not large enough for him, and has built an addition on it and put the door on the side.

May -- 1879

May 1: The funeral of James Stevenson took place Saturday afternoon from his residence down at Specie Grove. The remains were followed by a very large procession and were interred in the family lot in the Oswego cemetery. Mr. S. was a native of Scotland and has been a resident of this section and on the place where he died about 25 years.

Over seven thousand dollars was paid out at the creamery the last pay day and still money is very scarce about here.

Joseph Failing had his residence all repainted; Richard Constable did it. Helle's house was painted by Ed. Strossman. John Hem is doing very extensive repairs to his house in the village, which it is said will be occupied by the new German minister upon his arrival. Wollenweber is still improving his premises, setting out shade trees, etc. The harness-shop platform has been reconstructed.

A nice lot of fat steers were brought in yesterday for shipment; Wollenweber said they were the nicest he ever bought; they were bought of a Mr. Tom Stewart.

Yorkville: With this number of the paper, it is just 15 years since the Kendall County Record started on its pilgrimage through this vale of tears. It started with 300 subscribers, two-thirds of whom are still on our list and the rest are nearly all dead. Our list now

numbers over 1,600, and has grown strictly on its own merits, as no one has ever been personally asked to take it... With this issue quite a good many subscribers' time expires and we hope they will endeavor to pay up as promptly as possible, for, as we stated before, it takes a good deal of money to run the office and keep the editor in spending money at Springfield.

“Young Wonder”

This thorough-bred Spanish Jack will be found at the old stand, 1-1/2 miles north of Oswego on the Aurora road during the season.

J.H. WORMLEY

Cherry trees are in blossom

The Yorkville school reopened Monday morning.

Stephen Arnold caught a salmon at Ottawa last week that weighed eight pounds.

Mr. Wilson, the mail carrier between Yorkville and Minooka, has gone to Wisconsin on a two weeks' visit.

Last Wednesday the thermometer got up to 89 in the shade, and gave everybody the spring fever and most of them haven't got over it yet.

George Cowdry [Cowdrey] got the start of 'em planting corn. He planted ten acres Thursday and Friday. We hope he will not have to plant it over again.

Boys are commencing to fish by torch-light, but boats are not very plenty. We would be willing to lend them one of our shoes for a boat if they will give us a share of the fish.

While boat riding last Sunday, Ed. Moore went over Black's dam. He went down three or four times and had a narrow escape from being drowned. He was a badly used boy.

Mr. E.H. Gammon of the firm of Gammon & Deering, says he will withdraw from business this fall, and Mr. Deering will have full control of the Plano factories. Twenty-five years ago, Gammon was a poor Methodist minister in this country, and the writer bought the first piece of land he ever owned of him, paying him \$200 for 80 acres. It was a large sum to him then. Of late years, his firm has been making a profit of from \$100,000 to \$250,000 a year from the Marsh Harvester.--*Sycamore Republican*.

All the property of the Ottawa Water Power Company, including both the Illinois and Fox river dams and the lands and improvements connected therewith were sold Thursday at the court house in Ottawa under a mortgage of \$25,000 held by the Newark Savings' Institution of Newark, New Jersey, to Mr. G.W. Hubbell, a capitalist of Newark. The whole property brought \$4,035 to which there was \$920 of back taxes. The south dam in the Illinois river sold for \$150.

May 8: Gustavus Voss was taken sick the fore part of last week, turning into erysipelas and congestion of the lungs and resulting in his death Friday evening. The funeral took place Sunday forenoon. Mr. Voss was a German and a native of the State of Prussia; he came to his place about 23 years ago and first followed his trade, that of a painter. During the war he was a member of Company I of the 36th Illinois regiment, first being elected orderly Sergeant and shortly afterwards promoted to the Second Lieutenancy. After being mustered out he got married and since has made insurance his main business. He has served several terms on the board of village trustees and now had been holding the office of Justice of the Peace. He leaves a wife and three children in comfortable circumstances.

Prof. Bargess is making extensive arrangements for a musical concert next Friday evening at the town hall, which promises to be one of the highly enjoyable events.

August Kuehl and Wm. Lippold up on Van Buren and George Burghart down on Main street, had their houses newly painted.

Yorkville: A pickerel weighing 13-1/2 pounds was caught with a hook at Batavia last week.

The CB&Q water reservoir at Mendota will cover 13 acres.

May 15: An old Scotchman who makes tile laying for drainage a business, who had finished a job for Doc Woolley, started on his Mexican pony to go elsewhere, and as galloping along the pony stumbled and fell, throwing the old man forward and causing him to roll over a number of times. When he had picked himself up and returned to the pony, he found it as dead as a mackerel, having by the fall broken the neck.

Alfred Wormley's cow got a leg broken by being pushed off the railroad track by the engine of the 5:23 train coming in the other afternoon.

Miss Cora Samse is teaching the school in the Wormley district.

L.N. Hall is doing a big business this spring in the sale of oils and paint; there is much painting done; Troll is now getting his place painted. Bismarck is doing the job.

Yorkville: Joseph Tarbox is getting ready to make brick at his yard in Bristol.

The thermometer stood at 96 in the shade Monday afternoon.

Farmers here have taken advantage of the late fine weather and many of them have got their corn planted.

Fox River is very low, and not a drop of water is running over the dam.

These are the times that try (newspaper) men's souls. No items. A man who can get up a lively paper these times is a smart man.

The Kane County Court has been paying considerable attention to the case of C.W. Wormley vs. Lorinda B. Wormley the past week.

Another gang seined the river below Yorkville on Tuesday. There is hardly a fish of any kind near this place. Can't something be done to stop this? We suggest a society be formed and a fund raised to prosecute these fellows.

Repairs to the Yorkville Elevator are being made as rapidly as possible, and it will soon be able to handle grain as fast as any of them. A horse-power is being attached, there not being water enough in the river to run it and the mills together. Mr. McNett, the new manager, is a live business man and will make it an object for farmers to bring their grain in Yorkville.

Not satisfied with having dragged all the fish out of the river at Oswego, a lot of chaps from that town came down to Yorkville last Sunday and stole nearly a wagon load of our black bass and pickerel. We don't think this is right. This wholesale catching of fish with seines should be stopped entirely and we hope the legislature will pass a law to prevent it. There is no use trying to stock the river with fish while the law will allow persons to draw a seine.

May 22: The river now is lower than ever before and by the way what are the laws now in regard to seining and whose duty would it be to see them enforced?

Mrs. Lettie Seely and boy have gone to Topeka, Kansas, to join Thomas and thus bring the family together. Mrs. Emma Lynch also went to that state week before last to join her husband. Furthermore, Wm. K. Van Fleet has again gone out there to see to the running of his farm.

A new picket fence has been built on the road side of the cemetery. Dave Hall and Zeke Davis are taking great pride in keeping the grounds clean and in constructing graves in a perfect manner. The Gaylord lot has been graded and enclosed with cut stone and is now ready to receive the monument.

The mutual dissolution of the firm of Hunt & Tetzlaff took place last week. Hunt bought out the interest of Tetzlaff and the latter is going to Kansas.

Representative Smith was up from the legislature over Sunday. The Springfield atmosphere does not agree with him; he has been unwell much of the time during the session and looks worn out.

The few who have for several years decorated the graves of soldiers in the Oswego cemetery have decided to ask for assistance. They are not weary of the work, but do not wish to rob others of their share of duty and pleasure. All who will help in making decorations will please meet at Mrs. Helme's at 1 o'clock May 30th.

Last year as we worked at our wreaths and crosses, several parties passed laden with flowers, yet when we reached the cemetery, the mounds that should have been covered with those blossoms were bare. No, friends, please remember and teach our children that Decoration Day is the soldiers' day. You have 364 days in which to wreath the graves of your loved and lost, but May 30th belongs to the loyal dead and to them alone.

Yorkville: Fishermen should carefully read the law published in this issue of the paper, which has just passed the Legislature and is now in force owing to its being passed with the emergency clause and is now binding in all its provisions. It prevents all seining or catching fish by nets from the 15th of February till the 15th of June each year. The provisions are marked and the penalties severe. It is hoped the law may be enforced.

Dry--the cisterns.

Going down--the water in the river.

Rev. E.W. Hicks is conducting a Sunday School Institute at Waterman this week.

The best ice cream ever made in Yorkville can now be had at Cotton's bakery.

A great many of the farmers in Bristol are planting their corn over again. Cause, poor seed.

We have received a copy of the *Wabaunsee County News*, published at Alma, Kansas, by Mr. Abe Sellers, a nephew of Mrs. Robert McMurtrie of Bristol, and a man who will be remembered by many of the citizens of this place. It is a well-patronized paper.

Two wagon loads of young men came over Saturday night from Plainfield to fish in the raging Fox by torch light. The constable and others told them of the Fish Law and they went further down the river. They don't allow anything but a hook and line in this vicinity.

May 29: It has rained, and rained well.

Upon inquiry I was informed that the receipts of milk per day at the creamery are now about 19,000 pounds; that the same from May 1, 1878 to May 1, 1879 were upwards of 6,000,000 pounds and that during that time the amount of butter made was 177,000 pounds, and cheese 354,000 pounds or 11,800 boxes.

A company of gypsies went through town Saturday; they had a fine stock of dogs.

Whether or not the school house is in a perfectly safe condition is under investigation by the school authorities.

The Presbyterian folks have a new organ at their church, which is said to be a very nice and good one.

The residence of Wm. Strossman looks now quite tony; it was repainted and supplied with a portico.

The Methodist church is in rather an out of the way location--I do not mean it, but the wretched sidewalks over a good portion of the way there--it is the only place that now affords Sunday evening services, which are usually very interesting and many more would like to attend them but are afraid of breaking their necks by going over those walks in the dark. These walks could be reconstructed with little expense; the planks which are laid lengthwise, are mostly good enough; the same on new rests laid athwartly--the kind of walk introduced by Rank some years ago--would make them better than ever before. But our people should go in for more substantial sidewalks; there is any amount of nice flagging stone of most any size to be had out at Elijah Hopkins', at a reasonable price which would make durable walks and be the cheapest in the long run.

Put your affairs in such shape as to allow you to attend the decoration ceremonies Friday.

Yorkville: Miss Cora Samse has charge of the Wormley school for the summer term. Miss Samse was a faithful attendant of the summer institute last year.

Miss Kate Cliggitt of Oswego, we understand, is teaching somewhere in Seward. Miss Cliggitt is a teacher of large experience.

The sheep washing season has commenced. Kendall county has some fine flocks.

Jim Vinson of NaAuSay is planting over a 40-acre piece of corn this week. Poor seed.

Monday morning we hardly knew whether it was the Fox or Mississippi river that run through Yorkville. It was up booming.

We understand that the Kendall post office in NaAuSay has been opened again at the residence of the widow Johnson. This will be a great convenience to the people of that town[ship].

June -- 1879

June 5: Alexander Dano, commonly known as Old Aleck, died last week after a protracted illness. The funeral took place Friday according to the rites of the Catholic church, the services being at Aurora, and the burial in the cemetery of the French adherents to that faith near Montgomery. The deceased came to this town from Canada in 1848, having been the head of one of the French families that settled here that year. His age is said to have been 72 years; a wife and large number of children and grand children are surviving him.

You business men must be more diligent in attending your prayer meetings than you have been heretofore, especially at the last, if you mean to make any progress.

Mr. Hatch takes much delight in botany and is making his scholars quite efficient in that branch of study; he occupies now much of his leisure time in rambling through the woods gathering wild flowers, &c. for examination.

Parker & Sons new machine shop, quite a large building, and of which I was getting in plain sight of a number of times every day, still I didn't discover it until informed of it by the newspapers.

The decoration of the soldiers' graves was very appropriately performed by the ladies.

A new piano was received at L.B. Clark's the other day through the agent, Will Roberts.

The new organ at the Presbyterian church is a very nice article and the sound thereof is just as smooth and pleasant--don't know what to compare it with, say strawberries and cream. On organs, that church is now ahead of the others.

Yorkville: The rapid change in the weather Saturday night was most remarkable. The mercury fell about 50° in a few hours. There was a violent storm on Lake Michigan and a number of vessels were wrecked. Fires were very comfortable the first day of June 1879.

Supt. Duffy and Mr. Hatch, Oswego school teachers, drove down to Yorkville Tuesday evening.

The photograph car left the first of the week for Sheridan. Mr. Hough is a first-class photographer and had a big run of work while in this community.

Streator did not observe Decoration Day. That town, having been built since the war, they claim there are no soldiers buried there.

The Yorkville cheese factory is now buying milk. It did not come in fast enough to suit Mr. Wood. He now receives about 3,000 pounds a day.

Cyrus Cutter of Oswego played with the Kendall band on Decoration Day. Cy is a good musician and his assistance is appreciated by the band boys.

The CB&Q RR have reduced their rates on passenger fare to three cents a mile, where the passenger buys a ticket for the round trip. This will save passengers 18 cents between Yorkville and Millington and over 50 cents between Yorkville and Chicago.

June 12: M.J. Poage has built a new coal house occupying a part of his lower lumber yard.

One of the little girls of Mr. Larkin bought a slate pencil the other day and put in her mouth, in turning round she hit it against something and pushed it clear through her tongue; for a day or two she was quite bad off, that member having swollen much and liquids was the only nourishment she could take, but now she is all right again.

Mrs. Dewey, the hair fabricator, has departed his morning for Yorkville. We shall miss her at our Thursday evening prayer meetings.

The Samse residence is undergoing extensive alterations and repairs.

Another good entertainment was that of the Ribboners last week; the teachers Hatch, Lizzie Russell, and Cora Samse performed the greatest part of the doings.

Friend Gallagher has gone to Kansas to help operate the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad.

June 19: A law suit last week caused something of a sensation: a Jew peddler in going through the German settlement made himself quite free with the women he met and at one place his actions were taken for an attempt of rape upon a newly married lady. The peddler was accompanied by one of the prominent farmers of the neighborhood--who in the suit was the witness for the defense--and apparently they had been drinking a little too much hard cider together. Justice Newton after much deliberation decided the evidence was insufficient for the crime charge.

T.N. Stoutemyer, who had such a several and long wrestle with the yellow fever last year down in new Orleans from the effects of which he has not fully recovered yet is now here on a visit to his brother-in-law, W.H. McConnell.

Much propping had to be done to the ice houses; the immense weight tending to the front began to press out the same.

The business at the elevator has been very lively for the last month or so, much of the time over crowded the proprietors couldn't get enough cars to take off the grain.

The Richards gate roller is getting very popular and doubtless the company will soon establish a large business.

H.W. Farley has received a patent for an "Anti-friction journal box."

The bridge will be furnished with new planks; the laying of them commenced this morning.

J.S. Seely is building a new hay barn; Zoph Ketchum is the architect.

A man that was crossing the river on the railroad bridge above here yesterday was pushed off the trestle work on the west side by the morning passenger train; he was not much hurt.

Yorkville: H.W. Farley of Oswego has received a patent on a new car-axel bearing he has invented.

The Yorkville Paper Mills shipped their first car load of all straw paper to Chicago last Thursday.

At the River Street Marble Works, Mr. Andrus is just finishing up a handsome cottage monument for the grave of the late George Woolley of Oswego.

They don't have any jail or calaboose at Oswego, and when the constable arrests a man he has the pleasure of watching him until his trial takes place--sometimes nearly all day.

June 26: Michael Russell was one of our most substantial citizens and prosperous farmers. He was a native of Ireland but came to his country in his boyhood and for many years was living in Vermont, where he was married; after coming to Illinois he was living for several years in or near Chicago, and it is over 30 years ago since he settled near this village. The funeral took place Sunday, according to the rites of the Catholic church, the services were held at said church in Aurora, which were much commended for their impressiveness and especially the sermon was pronounced a very good one by our Protestants that attended the funeral. The burial also took place in the Catholic cemetery of that city. A procession of 53 carriages followed the remains from the house to Aurora.

There will be an excursion on the first of July down the road by special train to Wedron where a picnic and all usual summer recreations will take place under the auspices of Post no. 20 GAR of Aurora.

It is not T.N. as the Record said nor J.H. as the *Plano News* had it and neither J.N. as the Beacon said, but Isaac Newton Stoutemyer that is up from New Orleans rustivating.

Yorkville: Out of \$70,500 taxes levied in the County of Kendall for the year 1878, less than \$500 remain uncollected. This is what we call getting it down fine.

L.G. Bennett, our Circuit Clerk, has a fine collection of steel engravings, about 200 in number, of prominent persons both living and dead, which he intends having bound in a large book. They will make a handsome volume.

July -- 1879

July 3: Partly owing to pressure of business but more to indolence, I failed to write up the items this week; no tin wedding or other important events have occurred, however. The Sunday doings, especially the children's floral meeting at the Methodist church, a very

complete and pleasant affair; the special election for Justice of the Peace, at which Dave Jeneson was the successful candidate, and a number of visitors was about all that could be mentioned.

Yorkville: Among other decisions of the Supreme Court recently announced was one of interest to numerous victims along the line of the Fox River Road: Sheldon vs. Lewis. This was a case wherein E.N. Lewis, the attorney for the Ottawa, Oswego and Fox River Valley R.R. Co. sued Geo. Sheldon upon a note, which note had been given in settlement of a prior obligation given to the railroad company in question at the time when general subscriptions were made.

The manner in which these notes have been settled by the old Fox River Company is shameful. They took the notes on the plea that the road was to be an independent one, or was to be run by the Northwestern Company as a competing line, and stock was to be given the note subscribers in a line from Winona to Geneva. The Company then sold the lower end from Streator to Winona to the Alton road and leased the balance in perpetuity to the Burlington Company, by which, it is alleged, Washington Bushnell and Dwight Cameron filled their pickets very handsomely.

Then began the struggle to collect the notes. The company sued; the note-givers formed combinations to fight on the ground that the Company had failed to comply with the conditions. After several lawsuits, the combinations broke up under special settlements by the Company, with great injustice to the parties giving notes.

Cows are scarce up the streets of Bristol nowadays.

Mrs. E.W. Hicks has been visiting friends and relatives in Kendall county for the past week.

The Kendall County Horse Protective Association took in five new members Thursday morning before nine o'clock. The stealing the night before woke them up suddenly.

Last Wednesday night, thieves visited the barn of Joseph Tarbox in Bristol and took his span of work horses.

Friday night, a dispatch was received from City Marshal Cagwin of Joliet that the team had been found in the woods near there and would be brought to Yorkville in the morning, and sure enough about 10 o'clock he arrived with the team and wagon.

The Millington white sand bank is getting to be a nuisance. So much of the sand has been shipped away that dealers have got it mixed up with their white sugar, and it is almost impossible nowadays to tell whether you are buying sugar or sand. It's mighty tough on poor teeth, too.

At the commencement exercises of the East Aurora High school, Mr. Chas. G. Pearce took part and the Beacon speaks as follows of that young gentleman: Chas. G. Pearce was born in Oswego, Kendall County, Ill., May 25th, 1860, and attended school there some years. After spending four weeks in room No. 12, he was transferred to the High School,

in which he has passed four years. His oration was entitled, "Chinese Immigration Should Not be Restricted," and his knotty question was very carefully and logically considered.

The brick-yard started up again Monday morning, and the old horses worked just as well as though they hadn't been in the hands of thieves for several days.

NaAuSay: Oats look well, corn is indifferent, and hay is light.

July 10: The 4th in this town transpired very quietly; many had gone to other places to celebrate it, still quite a number had come in from the country to spend the day; there were but few drunks and those not demonstrative, the small boys were about the only ones that made any noise.

H.C. Cutter has returned from Massachusetts accompanied by a nephew from there by the name of Stephen Cutter.

L.F. Thayer and wife will start today for Nebraska, which they intend to make their home.

Our milliners, the Misses Shepard, have been called away by their sickness of their father.

It is said that a Mr. Pierpont, an Aurora merchant, preached at the Methodist church Sunday evening.

Everybody thinks we been having rain enough just now.

Old Bob was struck by lightning during the storm of Sunday afternoon and instantly killed; he was brought to this town 23 years ago by Lewis Fowler and was then a dapple grey--during all this long time he has been in active service and employed in every branch of horse work, for a number of years running on the hack to the old depot and although 27 years old could now perform his task with as much case as a horse in the prime of life. Bob was in the pasture when lightning laid him low, another horse belonging to George Switzer was near by and received a portion of the electric charge by which one eye was taken out, the ear on that side lopped down, and although alive yet will probably die from the effects of it.

Yorkville: The Monarch of the Field: World's Highest Honors Gained by the McCormick Harvester and Self-Binder in 1878 a front page editorial in the *Record* said.

Congress has abolished the duty on quinine, and fever and ague patients can have their bitters at less cost than heretofore. The druggists ought to give more for half a dollar.

July 17: Delos Dodge was in town for a few days for the first time in a number of years. He now resides at Mendota and is a doctor.

Andrew Gray has sold his residence on the Plainfield Avenue to Sam Herren.

Miss Mamie Jeneson, who had been left behind when the family moved here some weeks ago, arrived last week and joined it.

A soldiers' meeting is called for next Friday (July 18th) evening at the Red Ribbon hall; the object of it is for making arrangements to attend the forthcoming great encampment up in Kane county. All the ex-soldiers in the neighborhood are requested to attend surely.

Yorkville: Two cases of yellow fever at Memphis last Sunday.

Miss Sarah E. Raymond has been elected superintendent of the city schools of Bloomington for the sixth time. This worthy and accomplished lady is the daughter of the late Jonathan Raymond, who was Sheriff of Kendall county in 1856, and our county feels honored by the success of one who once was a school girls in its borders.

Judge Dickey amused a crowd with his inimitable stories in Yorkville Monday.

There are 194,420 acres of land in Kendall county.

Mr. O.E Judson and wife of Sandwich and a sister from the East passed through Yorkville Friday on his way to Oswego and Joliet.

Just think of it, farmers. A harvester and binder will save the wages and board of at least five men during harvest. What a relief that would be to your wife who does the cooking and makes up the beds.

Last Friday the thermometer was 100° in the shade. We run a job press all day by foot. Could we have had our choice between the press and the circus, we think we would have taken in the circus. But a poverty stricken printer has no choice.

July 24: Elijah Hopkins lost a valuable mare last week; valuable the more so from her adaptability of performing the horse service required in the stone quarry. During the night she apparently undertook to scratch her head with a hind foot and got it over the halter by which she was thrown and broke her neck.

John T. Wormley (that is, little john) had his birthday last Thursday. Some of his friends secured the cooperation of his wife and together provided a surprised for John.

Mr. and Mrs. Lauriston Walker are now towns-people; they moved in from the country about two weeks ago and with Eliza Kennedy are occupying her residence.

The Misses Emma and Helen Samse again returned to Chicago yesterday.

Our old friend, W.K. Beane, now pastor of a prosperous church in Omaha, will make this town a visit and officiate next Sunday at the Methodist church; Elder Stoughton will go out there and supply his place.

Yorkville: No steamers from below are allowed to land at Cairo; the city is in strict quarantine against yellow fever.

July 31: I have been told that notwithstanding an ordinance prohibiting cattle from running at large after sundown in this village, some unmannerly calves during Saturday night were around loose and took a decent calf from out of a yard and fastened it to the door-knob of the Methodist church.

An unusual large amount of eel grass is in the river this season, which some think is very injurious to the public health and consider its removal in the neighborhood of the town of the highest importance.

The Red Ribbon club, which has been dormant for some weeks past, resumed again active operation Wednesday evening.

The katydid's serenade was commenced Sunday evening.

The Kendall House barn is undergoing reshingling.

No fault could be found the past week with the mosquitoes for being inactive.

The mother of Mrs. W.W. Wormley--Mrs. VanSickle of Aurora--died last week; the funeral took place Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. W.K. Beane and their son, Lorenzo, were here on a visit and all of them in the best spirit. Mr. B., on Sunday, filled the pulpit of the Methodist church. He is a great favorite with our people; hence the church was crowded in the morning and full in the evening.

J.B. Hunt commenced this morning the removal of his store to the next building north--the Chapman building.

Yorkville: The Inter-Ocean says "both the silver and greenback dollar have come to stay," and all the people are satisfied. Let us drop finances in coming campaigns, for it is regulated, and save the country from its old enemies.

Hon. A.B. Smith of Oswego was in Yorkville Monday.

Circuit Clerk Bennett took in the Watson excursion to St. Paul, and has been enjoying himself in grand style.

The boys round these parts are getting excited over base ball, and the drug stores are quietly getting on a stock of arnica--there's millions in it. [Arnica is a plant in the sunflower family used in liniment and ointment for sprains, strains, and bruises]

The LaDow pulverizing harrow is to be manufactured in Aurora. Mr. J.J. Budlong of Oswego will have an interest in the new project.

The *DeKalb Chronicle*, the only Democratic paper in DeKalb County, is now owned by Jos. F. Glidden, and has been enlarged to a six column quarto. Mr. Glidden is a man of wealth, and can keep the paper going if it don't make a cent. Mr. Rosette remains as the editor.

### Mixing the Races

Kendall, July 26th

To the Editor:

The people of Lisbon have been somewhat excited and a good deal puzzled over the marriage of Lewis Tighlman of Morris, a black man, to Miss Ada Codner of Lisbon, a white woman. The marriage took place July 21st at Morris and the ceremony was performed by L.P. Lott, justice of the peace.

The affair is a very unfortunate one. The father of Miss Codner is a well-to-do farmer, a widower, and this was the only remaining child at home; the others have married well and respectably. Miss Codner seemed to be infatuated by the man Tighlman, who at one time worked for Mr. Codner, and later worked for a Mr. Moore in Lisbon. The father offered his daughter half his farm if she would give the colored man up, but she refused and she ran away with him to Morris and was married. There is no law against it, and the girl must abide by her action. Now, she may think she will be happy, but in a short time when she realizes that she has cut herself off from all old friends, she will have days and years of sorrow. She has wrecked the life of a father and brought shame to her kindred. Not that the man Tighlman is a bad man, but because public opinion frowns upon the mixture of the races, and we are not educated up to it, and never will be.

Said a prominent Morris Democrat to us--"The father has always been a black abolitionist and he is reaping the fruit of his teachings." That is the old Democratic cry: "How would you like to have your daughter marry a negro!" The thinnest argument ever advanced. A man may wish justice done to a Chinaman, an Indian, a Turk, or a horse, but he need not desire his daughter to marry either. It has been a Democratic policy in the South to mix the races without going through the form of a marriage, and there was never much said against it. If a race is good enough for concubines, it ought to be good enough for wives.

The affair is a very sad one, and no man should attempt to lay it to party or politics. It is not even a case to be funny over--the girl has committed an error, and if she was the only sufferer, it would not be so bad.

PLEBE

August -- 1879

August 7: The old depot over on the main line burned down one day last week; supposed the fire caught from a passing engine.

A.J. Ives being in Aurora the other evening started to return about 9 o'clock and just outside the city (east side) near Spring Lake cemetery overtook two men on foot, one of which grabbed the horse by the bit and the other poked a cocked pistol in the face of Ives with the request "throw up your hands you -----"; after appropriating his pocket book containing \$12 and watch and chain they wanted the ring on his finger but Ives got mad and declared to submit no further bulldozing even if it had to come to the worst; the robbers expressed admiration for his spunk and let him go; driving about two rods, Ives hallooed the name of a resident near there when the highwaymen fired two shots at him and then put for the woods; they were masked. Ives had left his pistol at home.

Tony Burnett is in town on a visit and he is as tony and affable as ever.

August Dehu, a young German, in the employ of the ice company, while engaged Saturday loading ice, in rolling over a cake was struck by it in the pelvic region, from the effect of which he died Sunday morning and was buried yesterday; it is said that he had no relatives in this country.

There was a little rough and tumble exercise, but more loud bragging what a fellow could do if he only had a fair chance on the west side of the business centre yesterday afternoon. Two men from the country got into a disagreement with one of the saloon proprietors.

See L.G. Bennett and get him to tell you about the Minnesota and Dakota wheat fields-- he is a perfect enthusiast about them. He saw a Mr. Hastings out in Minnesota who left Oswego 20 years ago a poor man, now he has 1,300 acres of wheat, and is worth nearly \$100,000.

Aug. 14: Ed Avery is preparing to emigrate to Florida; he sold his residence to Henry Gray. The Averys that went to that state early in the spring are delighted with that country.

The Police magistrate being on the sick list, the two countrymen for a breach of the peace last week were taken before Justice Jeneson yesterday where ht matter was compromised.

Cassius and Maggie Durand are down from Belle Plaine, Iowa on a visit.

By the appearance of a little girl on the stage of action, Don Winn was exalted to the high position of dad.

The most pleasant feature that constitutes a family, viz: a daughter, was added to the household of Clinton Gaylord.

Oswego, I think, is ahead in one thing, its business-men's prayer meeting. The last week's was an animated one; D.M. Haight presided.

C.C. Arnold, the little musician, was in town over Sunday.

Yorkville: The yellow fever still continues in Memphis, but is now extending its ravages to other places.

The officials in England have begun to investigate the cause of "commercial depression" (hard times) in that country, and the opinion is that it is from imprudent speculation. That is just about it.

Judge Wilson at Geneva has issued an injunction restraining Nathan Loucks, treasurer of the commissioners of highways of Oswego township, Kendall county from further using the public funds. He is charged with unlawful expenditure of such money.--Elgin Leader. Now that item might lead people to think that friend Loucks had been doing something wrong. Nothing of the kind. There is a bit of a road fight up at Oswego and Loucks is on one side of it. He don't perform to suit the lawyers on the other side. That's all.

Sergeant Schimerhorn will sell Major Bennett's "History of the 36th" at the Reunion next week.

The mercury last Friday morning arose to 60°, and fires were comfortable to take the chill off the air in-doors.

The Board of Health at Aurora put a mowing machine in Fox river to cut out the eel grass. It is said it will cost about \$60 to mow the river in the city limits.

Mr. William E. Smith of Oswego has bought a new threshing machine of Willett & Welch, and will run it with a steam engine. This is something new in this vicinity, but a threshing machine can be run by steam as well as by horse power. He expects to start it up today (Wednesday) if the weather is favorable. Willitt & Welch are having a good trade in the threshing machine line.

Died

Young.--Near Montgomery, in Kendall county, Aug. 11, 1879, of dropsy of the tissues, Cornelia Young, wife of Phillip Young, aged 78 years. Mr. Young and wife are pioneers of the county, having lived here since 1841.

Mrs. Young was the mother of Mr. James Young, and has a very large family connection in that vicinity. She was highly esteemed by a large circle of friends.

Aug. 21: A steam thresher is the latest enterprise added to the business institutions of this town; the proprietor of it is Wm. E. Smith. It was set to work Saturday out at Wm. Pearce's and being the first thing of the kind in this vicinity a large number went there to see its operation and all expressed themselves highly pleased with it except a few of

whose running horse-power machines, who of course saw disadvantages in it and predicted trouble.

The barbershop has been removed to the south corner of Main and Washington streets.

Charles A. Doud has returned from Nebraska. He contemplates running his father's farm hereafter.

About 60 of the veterans from this town and vicinity will fall in and fight mit Logan during the war at Aurora this week.

Yorkville: If reports are true, the Bristol Post Office will soon be a thing of the past.

The water in the river is so low that the paper mill had to shut down Tuesday.

The annual reunion of the 36th Illinois Infantry will take place at Sandwich on the 25th of September.

A country paper that can't scare up a rattlesnake story this summer fails in its mission.

Justice Jeneson of Oswego with Robert Stevenson of Specie Grove went hunting on the 15th and 21 [prairie] chickens fell to two guns. The Squire found the birds strong on the wing and well grown.

In all villages where a newspaper is published, every business man ought to advertise in it, even if it is nothing more than a card, stating his name and kind of business in which he is engaged. It helps sustain the paper and lets the people at a distance know that the village is full of business men. The paper finds its way into thousands of places where handbills cannot reach. A card in the paper is a traveling sign-board, and can be seen by every reader.

#### STEAM THRESHER ON FAIR GROUNDS

Smith's steam threshing machine will be on the Fair Grounds during the Fair in active operation. A large quantity of oats has been stacked ready for the machine. This will be a great curiosity to many of our people, to see grain threshed out so easily. Willett & Welch sold the machine to the Smith boys.

Aug. 28: Dr. Lester is now--and has been for several weeks past--sojourning in foreign lands; New Brunswick and Canada are the countries.

Mr. G.V. Miner of Wheaton--some 20 odd years ago a resident and merchant of this place--was in town the other day.

The Reunion was all the talk and excitement the past week; all of the Oswego folks are back, got washed up and have again settled down to business. On Friday for passage

there're, 253 tickets were sold at the depot and a string of vehicles was pouring through town during all of the forenoon.

Mrs. L.L. Lynch has returned from travels with her husband.

September -- 1879

Sept. 4: The usual straight running of affairs in this community has last week been somewhat interrupted; first, on Tuesday night John Lockwood's harness shop was entered from the back window and burglarized of about \$80 worth of manufactured goods. He offers a reward of \$50 for the recovery of the property and apprehension of the thieves, or \$25 without the latter.

Thursday night a couple of fellows went from a shed through an upper window into George Burghart's sleeping room and took his pants hanging up near where he slept and in the pockets of which was his money. Mrs. B. who occupied the adjoining room happened to wake and seeing the light the robbers had, the partition door being opened, halloed fire, which caused them to take a hasty retreat. The pants were dropped outside but the money, about \$50, was gone.

The fall term of school will commence next Monday; Supt. Duffy as principal will again take charge of the higher department.

Charley Coffin who has been sick for some time died yesterday morning; his funeral will take place this afternoon at the Congregational church; he was but 23 years of age.

The corpse of Wm. Benson, a former resident of this neighborhood, was brought here Tuesday from Iroquois county for burial. His wife at that time was on the ocean returning from England where she had been on a visit.

A little baby boy at home was the reason why John Schark put on extra airs when in town the other day.

The Richards tribe of this town--a quite numerous one--has been somewhat reduced, the Ed Richards family having moved to Batavia last week after many years residing in this town.

Dr. Putt and his father-in-law John D. Hall together are agoing to build a fine residence north of Bunn's namely the south corner of Main and Jefferson streets; commenced digging the cellar to-day.

Yorkville: The End of the Millington Narrow-Gauge Railroad

The Chicago, Burlington and Quincy railroad has secured possession of the Chicago, Millington and Western railroad, a narrow-gauge line running from Chicago to a point known as Brush Hill in DuPage county. The road was secured at a private sale and the

consideration in the neighborhood of \$75,000. The road was commenced in 1874, and was contemplated to extend to the Western limits of the state, but the scheme failed and nothing has been done toward extending the road beyond its present terminus since that time. The road begins at the bridewell and runs west, crossing the Burling road near Lawndale and thence to some gravel beds at Brush Hill. It is expected the Burlington Company will relay the tracks and use the road to transport gravel from the company's pits located near the present terminus of the line. The rolling stock and other machinery of the road was purchased by some parties interested in an eastern narrow-gauge road.--  
*Aurora Herald.*

Mr. Josiah Smith of Hinsdale, formerly of Oswego, was in Yorkville Monday.

After the paper mill shut down Sunday the water in Fox River at Yorkville came to a stand-still. It has been a long while since the river has been as low as it is now.

Levi Gorton above Bristol Station raised two and a quarter acres of winter wheat the past season, which he threshed last week and it yielded him 115 bushels. It is splendid wheat, and he will sell it for seed.

The city of Ottawa is suffering from its annual siege of malarial fevers and dysentery. The *Times* says that the people drink the poorest water to be found in the county. This is due to the fact that the soil is a porous sand through which the drainage of privies and cess pools percolates without purification and taint the waters of the wells.

*Aurora Beacon:* Until further orders, all C.B. & Q. engines, both freight and passenger, are to be painted a uniform black, without the relief of a single stripe or a shadow of gold. The interior of the cab will be green, the lettering yellow, as also the 18-inch figures on the sides and rear of tank--but everything else will be a somber hue. In carrying out this order, we understand a saving of about \$30 will be saved upon every engine painted--something over \$2,000 annually.

Sept. 11: Fred Sherman is off on a furlough, relieved by a stranger.

Otis Dodge, in the employ of Nate Loucks, the other day while fooling with a pistol, shot himself in the leg. It is but a flesh wound and he is able to be around again; the ball has not been extracted and probably will have to remain in.

Two first class pianos have lately been received in town, one for Mrs. J.B. Hunt and the other for Miss Blanche Cutter.

John Martin, years ago a young man of this town and also after marrying one of the Secoy girls moved to Tama county, Iowa, is here on a visit to his mother, Mrs. Buell, and other relatives. He says the country out there is very prosperous, that Jap Mudgett--famous here for conducting the hack a long while in times past--is getting along nicely and that everything else out there is lovely. John's physique shows prosperity.

Heard L.M. Woolley the other day bragging on a kind of oats he has been raising, and labor performing; the oats are the "White Schonen" of which he had 40 acres that yielded 2,000 bushels, which were cut and bound by him and his man without an extra river, in four days on a Marsh harvester. The oats were first introduced by a Mr. Brown of Somonauk, who procured a sample from the Agricultural bureau. Woolley thinks they are the most profitable crop that can be raised.

Yorkville: George Cowdrey has 40 acres of yellow hackberry corn, which is almost ready to husk. Some samples shown are hard as rock and full ears of plump grain.

There will be a plowing match on the farm of William King in Wheatland, Will county, just east of Oswego township Saturday, September 20th. Said match will be open to all residents of the town.

Straightness, neatness, and evenness of furrow to be considered. no plowing to be less than six inches deep.

Each plow will be required to finish three quarters of an acre in three and one-half hours. Plowing is to commence at 9 o'clock, a.m., sharp.

Sulky and gang plows will be exhibited by the agents of different manufactories and tested at 2 o'clock.

Judges of the walking plows: Henry Mussey, Thomas Stewart, George Leppert.

Judges of riding plows: Thomas Varley, Wm. Sillers, and Zach Fry.

Sept. 18: Wm. K. Van Fleet has returned from Kansas where he has been during the summer operating his farm in Sedgwick county of that state. His son, Albert, is out there now.

Dr. Lester has returned from the northern Atlantic coast and other parts of the British provinces in the best of health and spirits.

Charlie Teller has gone to Kansas to take a position on the Topeka & Santa Fe R.R., at Lauriston Walker's.

The scale suit in which Ham Cherry was plaintiff and Kirk Walker defendant was tried before Justice Jeneson resulting in a verdict of about \$200 for plaintiff. Kirk, however, was merely the figure head in the defense, the real being Fairbanks, Morse & Co.

Experience has established the fact that no young man can run the Oswego depot for any length of time without catching the appetency of getting married. Fred Sherman, the present agent, was married last Thursday to Miss Mary C. Clark, daughter of the late Henry A., a former resident and business man of this town.

Richards Bros. & Co., a firm lately organized for the manufacture of the Richards patent gate roller are doing a nice business; they occupy the Newton factory north of the Waubonsie and have a most complete set of machinery for the casting, punching and shaping the iron that enters into the work; all hands there are very busy and have been so since the enterprise started.

The foundation of the Putt-Hall residence is completed; it is agoing to be a large and very complete house with all the modern improvements for ease and convenience; one corner of the cellar is devoted to a very roomy cistern.

The new hardware store in the Shepard building of the brick block will be in operation in a few days.

John Lockwood has recovered his stolen property; it was stored in a hay stack near Aurora; Jason Reed knew just where it was; he is at present under surveillance.

Yorkville: The rebel editor of the Oklahona (Mississippi) *States* lectured in Chicago last week to about 200 people. He had opened his "yawp" for State Rights and secession. He was not mobbed, nor shot, nor hooted. Had a radical from the North of his timber gone South to lecture, he would have found the hereafter before the doors were opened. That's the difference between the North and the South.

A telephone line from DeKalb to Sycamore is talked of. Wish we had one from Yorkville to Plano.

Upshaw Hord of the Montgomery Mills is almost persuaded to be a Republican since the Maine and California elections. Upshaw will stump the state for Grant.

Sept. 25: Richards Bros. & Co. have no machinery for the "casting" of iron, but cutting and so forth.

Charles Clinton is up from New Orleans and Miss Amanda Hszlip down from Aurora visiting friends.

A little boy, 17 months old of Patrick Flavin, died yesterday.

The gate rollers are becoming a big business in town; Thomas Greenfield has what is called the "Boss roller."

Loren Bunker and Jason Reed of Aurora were arrested by Marshal Gates of that city for burglarizing Lockwood's harness shop some weeks ago; they were brought here and Wednesday underwent examination before Esquire Jeneson. Both prisoners were bound over under \$1,000 each to the Circuit court and in default of bail were taken to jail. The same night the depot was again burglarized.

Yorkville: Mr. McConnell of the Oswego Butter Factory, Mr. Roberts of Rantoul, and another gentleman whose name we have forgotten were in Yorkville Monday.

October -- 1879

Oct. 2: The wedding of Miss Lois McConnell to a gentleman by the name of S.M. Love, from Pennsylvania, which took place Wednesday at the residence of the bride's father, John C. McConnell was witnessed and the pleasures enjoyed by a large number of guests; the ceremony was performed by the minister of the Tamarack Presbyterian church.

The day before, namely Tuesday, occurred the wedding of Miss Nora Darby to Mr. Oscar Briggs that took place at the house of Mrs. Darby, the bride's mother.

Frank Cowdrey, who hadn't been home for quite a number of years, arrived Saturday in company with a bride. Frank is as good looking as ever and appeared very happy, and without having seen the bride, dare we say she is ditto.

Who does not like to be remembered and thought well of by the children? Was especially pleased to receive a letter from Allie Avery the other day with an alligator cuticle inclosed for a watch charm. The family went away from here over a year ago, spent the winter in Missouri, early in the spring went to Florida and chose Pensacola for their new home. Miss Allie also sent me a full record of the temperature of that locality for August, the hottest month they had, which shows the thermometer to have stood between 70 and 93 in the daytime, the latter point reached on the ninth; the average of the month at 7 a.m. was about 78, at noon 87, and 6 p.m. 80, and there were 12 days scattered through the month on which they had rain. Ed Avery, who sold out his house-hold goods and other effects Saturday, will also start for that region in a short time.

Seen Frank Van Doozer the other day having a potato that weighed a small fraction over two pounds; believe he called the California Bluff.

Yorkville: At the reunion of [the] Thirty-Sixth Regiment last Thursday in Sandwich, the long-neglected Olson Monument question came up again and a committee was appointed to confer with the Supervisors of Kendall County to solicit an appropriation from the county to build the monument in the court house square at Yorkville.

Joseph Tarbox burned his kiln of brick last week.

Seward farmers say the frost injured their corn badly--it was so late planted that there is hardly a field but was cut off two or three weeks too soon.

The *Aurora Herald* says a pension has been recently secured for Abel H. Kellogg of Kendall county on account of chronic diarrhea contracted while in the Mexican war more than 30 years ago.

J.J. Budlong of Oswego has purchased the Mix property on Lake street and has moved his family to Aurora. Mr. Budlong is engaged in the manufacture of pulverizing harrows and rotary corn cultivators.

Justice Jeneson, up at Oswego married a young couple the other day, and 20 minutes after the ceremony a child was born. Rather a remarkable event in marriages, but Brother Jeneson did his duty unflinchingly.

Mr. A.C. Smith and wife of Rochester, Minn. were visiting Major Bennett of Yorkville of Sunday. Mr. Smith moved from near Oswego to Minnesota some 27 years ago, he and Mr. Bennett being schoolmates. Mr. Smith is now a collector of internal revenue.

#### Marriage Register

Merritt J.S. Hall to Karen Jesperson.

Fremont Avery to Jessie Wilkinson.

S.M. Loe to Lois E. McConnell.

William C. Flemming to Mary Probert.

George O. Briggs to Nora C. Darby.

#### Birth Register.

Sept. 23. To Mrs. George O. Briggs, Oswego, a girl.

Sept. 22. To Mrs. Chester Ackley, Kendall, a boy.

Sept. 17. To Mrs. Edward Obman, Oswego, a boy.

Sept. 6. To Mrs. Wm. S. Dwyre, Oswego, a boy.

Aug. 31. To Mrs. John G. Shark, Oswego, a boy.

Sept. 16. To Mrs. Chas. A Russell, Plano, a boy.

#### Death Record

Sept. 1. Chas. H. Coffin, Oswego, age 23 years, 3 months, and 22 days.

Plano: Wednesday evening, Sept. 24, about 10 p.m. the alarm of fire was sounded and soon came the news that our reaper works were on fire. The excitement soon commenced and the streets were all alive with people hastening to the fire. The fire had originated in the boiler room among the shavings, which are conveyed there by a tunnel from the second story. The night watchman, Billy Mitchell, discovered the fire and adjusted the hose and tried to extinguish it but the hose did not work freely and soon the flames were leaping into the second story. A telegram was sent to George Alexander of Aurora to send a fire company, but a little delay was caused by not sending direct to the Fire Marshal as Alexander lives some distance from the depot. Aurora Fire Company, Engine No. 1 came about 11:40 p.m., but the fire was then under control. The Sandwich Hook and Ladder Company came and rendered such assistance as they could at that time. The burnt portion comprises the west end, containing office, canvass room, and saw rooms, and wood-workers in upper room, and planer, cutting room, iron machine shop, and boiler and engine rooms in the lower story and extending from Plain to James streets.

Oct. 9: Mr. Morris Cliggitt reached the end of life during Friday night and his funeral took place Sunday at Aurora under the auspices of the catholic church. Mr. C. was 70 years of age, a native of Ireland, came to America in 1836, for a number of years resided in Vermont where he got married, next moved to the State of New York, and in 1850

came west, stopping first in Illinois; subsequently moved to Wisconsin, but shortly after returned and bought a farm near this town and later another adjoining.

A prairie Granger wants to know who can beat this: Tom and John Edwards with their machine--a Pitts on which the boys put some improvements of their own--threshed some day last week for John Bower within ten hours 1,400 bushels of oats and 80 of wheat.

The new hardware store of J. Shepard & Co. was opened for business last week.

H.H. Walker of Indiana is with his family on a visit here to his sister, Mrs. McKinney.

James Cliggitt was up from ST. Louis to attend the funeral of his father.

One young man got mad enough at another so as to pick up a course gravel about the size of a fish and throwing it with full force, the stone struck the other obliquely in the back, glanced off and went through one of the large plate glass in the drug store windows. It don't pay to get mad, boys.

Public religious services will be resumed at the Lutheran church commencing next Sunday and will be held every Sunday at 2 o'clock p.m. thereafter. Rev. Mr. Krebs of Aurora is engaged to supply the church.

Yorkville: The river begins to look quite wet.

Tobacco chewers will find the best at the Bristol post office.

On Wednesday last, L.B. Judson of Aurora sold to D.M. Haight of Oswego the store building so long occupied by the latter gentleman in that village. The price paid of \$5,000.--*Beacon*.

Mr. James Shepard of Oswego was in town Tuesday and says the new hardware store of Shepard & Co. in the brick block, Oswego, is now open for business. Mr. C.B. Fisher is a member of the firm. Mr. Sam Haigh of Yorkville is employed as the tinner, and we all know Sam is a master of his trade.

Oswego is a no-license town, but a man carrying a beer keg is no uncommon sight.--*Aurora News*. Wrong again. Oswego is a license town, and beer is as plenty as water at a nickel a glass.

Oct. 16: There was a wedding over in Sugar Grove last week Wednesday at which one of the high contracting parties was Frank M. Putt, who more or less has been making this town his residence. The bride was a Miss Mertle A. Calkins of that place.

Ed Avery and family departed last Wednesday for Florida.

Notwithstanding the short crop of apples, John H. Wormley & Son have manufactured a large amount of cider for customers during the season and if it wasn't for fear of being bounced by the Ribboners, I would say that jugful brought by little John made me think that cider never was better than this year.

Friday evening as Ed Ferguson, a young man 19 years old and working for L.B. Clark, was on horseback going to a country evening entertainment, when near the NaAuSay church, the horse stumbled and fell with and atop him. He rallied and went to a house nearby and requested to be taken to James Vincent's place in that neighborhood which was done and a doctor sent for, but before the latter had time to arrive the injured man was dead. The deceased was an orphan, and had the best of reputations for steady habits and trustworthiness.

Samuel F. Case died yesterday morning and his funeral will take place this afternoon. Mr. Case was afflicted with consumption, which has been prettying on him for years. The deceased was 50 years old, born in Delhi, N.Y., and leaves no family.

The Putt-Hall new building is now all inclosed and will be the finest residence in town. If now the marble-front building would work down in the ground about 15 feet more, or else it be pulled down for the material that is in it, it would improve the view from this direction most wonderfully.

Yorkville: This is an October to be remembered. Ever since the first day of the month, we have had hot summer weather, with the mercury ranging in the 90s, and the air oppressively sultry. It is a month to be remembered thus far, this October 1879.

A new German paper has been started in DuPage county--published at Naperville.

A Wheatland farmer had 200 bushels new corn husked and cribbed before Oct. 1. The quality is good and the yield satisfactory.

Oct. 23: The Ribbon Club is now undergoing reanimation; next Friday evening there will be given under its auspices at the Baptist church a first class entertainment.

J.J. Budlong, who was one of our solid men, has moved to Aurora.

Dr. Joseph I. Pogue of Wiota, Iowa arrived here Saturday with a bride.

Rev. E.H. Beal who pastured the Methodist church three years ago was in town the other day.

Portions of the streets are now being graveled under the supervision of the village marshal.

Henry Helle is having made extensive additions to his premises, consisting of a new cellar, basement kitchen, cistern, &c.

W.W. Wormley has nearly completed a new large and handsome residence.

The new Methodist preacher, Rev. P.V.D. Vedder, commenced the ministration of that church Sunday.

Yorkville: There is a peat bog on the Kaneville and Batavia road which has been burning for three weeks.

Levi Hall of Oswego and his handsome black team passed through town Thursday. Levi is doing something in the school furniture and book business.

Oct. 30: The marriage of Joseph N. Wayne with Miss Emma Boutwell of Bristol came to pass last week Wednesday; that of Wm. R. Newton and Miss Louise Black, both of Yorkville on the evening of the same day at the residence of Esquire Newton of this town.

Lemuel Powers, an old time Oswegoan, was around for a few days seeing his friends; he is on his way from Minnesota to Texas, in which two states he makes his residence.

In the Wednesday evening debate, Sam VanDorston and Levi Hall argued that capital punishment should, and Dwyre and Haight that it should not be abolished. The former brace won.

E.C. Kilbourne, dentist, of Aurora will be at Oswego Saturday and Monday, November 1st and 3rd, prepared to do work for all needing the services of a dentist. Office with Dr. Van Deventer.

Yorkville: Our German friends who wish to consult a physician in their own language should call on Dr. McClelland of Yorkville. He is conversant with the German language.

The yellow fever in Memphis has run out--the cool weather staying the scourge. That city has been terribly afflicted the past season.

A train of 40 cars went down the Fox River road Monday afternoon.

Several Kendall County students are attending the Normal at Morris this term.

The NaAuSay post office is now in good running order. Mr. John Bronk received the appointment as mail distributor. The carrier completes his circuit twice a week, Tuesdays and Fridays.

Kendall county has a new post office, NaAuSay, and J.C. Carpenter is the first man to order his Record to the new office.

November -- 1879

Nov. 6: Miss Minnie Chapman got married last Wednesday to a Mr. B. Leroy English, of New York State. The wedding took place in Chicago at the residence of E.A. Lyons the bride's brother-in-law.

Miss Sophie Tatge was married to August Haag on the same day at the residence of the bride's parents, John Tatge. The bridal couple moved the next day to Ford county where they will establish their home.

Angie, the youngest child of John Young, died very suddenly Sunday night; been sick only a day.

Doc Woolley is happy because of the new help that has arrived in the shape of a small boy, and the boss boy, of course.

Owing to the existence of a little girl, Tom Belchner has been promoted to the rank of dad.

We are agoing to have a Ball alley; Dug Lowry is causing its construction connected with his building.

All our institutions are in a flourishing condition: all kinds of business--good, bad and indifferent--is booming.

Yorkville: The Blackberry mill pond was frozen over Friday. Black's pond on the river was skimmed over with ice Monday morning.

Fall of snow Saturday night covered the ground Sunday and made things look wintry. Mercury 10° above zero.

The Joliet steel company turns out 1,951 tons of steel railroad iron a week, 320 tons every 24 hours.

The third Yorkville base ball nine beat the Plattville nine last week. If they will send out their fourth nine, glory awaits the Yorkville balers. The first nine played 379 matches during the past summer and never won anything except a few broken noses and a couple of game legs. The Lockport club can't hold a candle to them. No, it could not hold a kerosene lantern.

Edward Hazel, a brakeman on Conductor Swan's train, fell between the cars at Riverside Saturday evening and was killed.

An Aux Sable man named George Watson was setting traps in the creek last Sunday--he had on a fur cap. A Morris hunter took him for an otter, fired away and landed 13 shot in the trapper's leg, one through his nose, and three or four in his scalp.

The Board of Supervisors have been asked by a committee appointed for the purpose to appropriate a sum of money to build a monument in memory of the late Colonel Olson, and the dead soldiers of Kendall County. There are already several hundred dollars in the hands of the Thirty-Sixth regiment for this purpose and that organization not being able to raise more have appealed to the County Board, and want the monument put in the court house yard.

Some of the members of the Board feel that they have no right to levy a tax for this purpose and suggest that contributions be solicited from the several towns and a memorial erected, one side of which shall be reserved for the Olson inscription, and the other three sides be used for all our soldier dead. We saw a monument of this kind in Springfield and you would be surprised to see how many names can be got on a column of reasonable height.

Kendall County needs some memorial of this kind. Other counties have them but no county had more worthy soldiers than ours, and none fell more bravely on the field nor died more resignedly in the hospital than our own boys. And shall they not be remembered? Shall we not have a white shaft rising from the earth, filled with names familiar to us all, where the children can go and pick out a name here and a name there in which they are interested by ties of blood and then remember that those relatives died that rebellion might be crushed and a Nation saved?

Nov. 13: Morris W. Gray, known as Mot Gray, was one of the healthiest looking, the largest and stoutest young men of his age (18 years) about here; about two weeks ago he was taken sick with the typhoid fever from which at one time he had nearly recovered, but a relapse running into a lung complaint caused his death. The funeral took place Saturday from the house of his parents--the latter being grievously afflicted, Mot having been their only child.

Shubel Mosley and family have moved to Batavia.

Dug Lowry has caused the re-shingling of his building, the construction of new chimneys and otherwise is repairing and improving the premises.

The James Chapman family have broken up housekeeping and will spend the winter abroad visiting with their children; they are now with Henry Strossman at Plano, where also Mr. and Mrs. English, the bridal couple, are on a visit. It is said that a family named Hurd has moved into the Chapman house.

A clothing store and gents furnishing goods is the latest addition of the business of Oswego, established in the Smith building, south corner of Main and Washington Streets.

By the way, we have a theater here for three evenings of this week, commenced with that of yesterday at which "Fanchon" was the play and it was excellently performed. The company is called the "Bryer's Dramatic Troupe," consisting of about nine or ten persons of real ladies and gentlemen; our folks were highly pleased with them.

Yorkville: Dennis Kearney is about to organize a league in San Francisco to be called the "Jacobins," whose duty it shall be to hang every merchant who shall employ our encourage Chinese labor. Now won't someone be so kind as to hang Kearney?

Walter Loucks has a few very fine Lincolnshire bucks for sale. They are blooded animals.

The CB&Q company are putting up a wind mill in Yorkville to fill their tank with water.

Call and see the new hardware store of J. Shepard & Co., Oswego. You can find anything you want. Tinware manufactured and repaired.

Wm. Cliggitt of Oswego takes charge of the Marysville school in NaAuSay.

We understand that the Budlong school in Oswego is to be kept by a Mr. Gooding of Aurora.

Those. Kerr of Oswego has charge of the Simons school.

Hough's Railroad Photograph Car is now in Yorkville and for a short time will be glad to receive the patronage of all classes. When you can get fine card photographs for \$1.50 a dozen it will pay you to attend to it when the opportunity offers.

Nov. 20: Will Ferris belongs now to the essential element of society, that is he is married; thought it happened nearly two weeks ago, I wasn't aware of it until the other day, when meeting the bride, a very intelligent and good looking young lady from Kankakee county, the happy result of Will's attending college in Indiana.

The "Grant boom" caused a portion of our citizens to visit Chicago last week; the "fat cattle show" another portion.

A drover was fined \$5 for violating the bridge ordinance--driving at once too many cattle on it.

The north half of the marble front building has been converted into a blacksmith shop; it is run by Roach Bros., new comers.

A billiard parlor, pure and simple, nothing else connected with it, is about to be opened; 50 feet of the Richard's hall has been appropriated for it; three tables have been put up; there is no better or more scientific play than billiards; Frank Parker and Tom Mundy, I understand are the originators.

A little Master White--that however is not the complexion of the little fellow--has been added to the family of Alexander White.

The Breyer Theatre Troupe came here...They came on Monday, nine in number and played that evening to just a tolerable audience but before they had gone far it became

evident they would be better patronized the two remaining evenings. Friday evening when Uncle Tom's Cabin was the play the hall was crammed full; Saturday not quite so crowded but a very full house the result of the week being a very successful engagement, and Mr. Breyer near the close expressed great pleasure derived from their visit to this town. [Other plays presented during the run were "Hidden Hand" and "Divorce."]

Yorkville: The Illinois and Michigan Canal is closed for the season.

Thanksgiving Day is set for next Thursday both by the President and Governor Cullom. Let be observed as a general holiday in remembrance of all the good bestowed by the Almighty Father.

Instructions given in photographing or retouching at railroad car at Yorkville.

Six o'clock, a.m., comes in the middle of the night nowadays.

The passenger rooms at the Aurora depot are now warmed by steam.

A good chance for an energetic man to take a half interest in the railroad photograph car now at Yorkville.

A sweepstake glass ball shoot at Oswego on Thanksgiving Day. Also plenty of tame pigeons. Open to all.

Will Flynn shot an owl last Thursday that measured 50 inches from tip to tip.

Lisle, near Naperville, has a milk canning establishment. The milk is to be brought twice a day without cooling. When it is delivered it is canned in air-tight glass jars, holding one quart. After it is canned, the jars are packed in crates and shipped to Chicago to be delivered by the establishment's own men.

Bulk oysters at Cotton's.

Nov. 27: There was no local excitement the past week in this community, but it was highly sensated by the Yorkville boom.

Tom Lewis was much bruised on numerous parts of his body by his team running away at the creamery; he caught the horses when starting, by the bit, but was knocked down and kicked and trampled upon.

Thomas Miller started the later part of the week for England; an inheritance is what called him there.

Yorkville: Page 2 headline: Bank Robbery

The Kendall County Bank the Victim!

The Safe Blown Open--The Burglar-Proof Safe Carried off and Recovered

The trustees of the Village of Oswego have refused to grant D.D. Lowry a saloon license.

This is Thanksgiving Day. We ought to write an editorial on it, but spare you the infliction. Stop all business today; go to church, meet at the family table, thank God for what you have, and remember the poor.

The Record office will be closed Thanksgiving day.

The boys commenced skating on Lane's pond Saturday. A few more cold nights and it will be perfectly safe.

Much trouble is being experienced for water on the Fox River Road, especially this side of Millington, though the company is building a tank at Yorkville which will somewhat remedy the difficulty. Millington is 24 miles southeast of here, and after taking water there, an engine hauls her train as far as possible, usually to Oswego or perhaps Montgomery, then cuts loose and runs up here for water or has a switch engine send town to haul in the train. —*Aurora Beacon*

The railroad company is building a new tank in Yorkville. The old one is played out--dry rot. A wind mill was put up and it was filled up, but the water would run out. Then the hoops were tightened up, but still she leaked. An examination proved that the old tank was played out, and so a new one is in course of erection.

December -- 1879

Dec. 4: In his fourth year, only son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles I. Smith died last week of scarlet fever; he was a very bright and good little boy.

Decoliar Herrick is back here from Boulder, Colo., and was in town the other day to take a look at the place of his boyhood.

Mrs. C.W. Rolfe, with her infant daughter, is on a visit to her folks, the Farleys.

Gradually we become more and more independent of Aurora; have now a clothing store at which goods can be bought as good and cheaper than elsewhere.

Mention was made that Thomas Miller had started for England, and so he had; he had gone to New York, was aboard the steamer and the time within 15 minutes of the same leaving the dock had arrived when he received a telegram from the British Consul at Oswego that the case calling Miller there was put over to February; consequently he returned home.

Miss Susie C. Chase has severed her connection with the Breyer troupe and returned to this town on a visit.

Thanksgiving morning it rained but stopped about the middle of the forenoon.

The usual private visits and big dinners of course formed an important part of Thanksgiving day's doings; and by the way--Charles D. Severance and Miss Minnie Reese made the day of extra occasion for thankfulness--thankful that the girls are endowed with love for the boys and vice versa, thereby impelling marriage--they made it their wedding day. The ceremony was performed in the evening at the residence of Squire Newton by Elder Stoughton.

Yorkville: A nice large photograph for Christmas present. The railroad car at Yorkville is the place to get one.

Old pictures copied to any size you want at the railroad car in Yorkville.

Scarlet fever is making itself known in different parts of the county. Every family should take extra precautions to prevent its spread.

Dec. 11: Nathan J. Smith and Eliza Doerfler, the latter of Bristol I believe, were married Wednesday evening.

Dr. Delos Dodge has been here on a flying visit.

Gracie Miller is getting better from the scarlet fever.

James Pearce--the one out in Iowa--has been very sick with the typhoid but came out of the struggle with it all right.

Queries the *Beacon* of Saturday as noticing a paragraph of mine last week: "If our Oswego neighbors are so independent of Aurora, why don't they let up on their opposition to the cut off road?" And now what makes the Aurora folks so exercised about a road in a township of another county, a road wanted merely by a few of the citizens of that township have soured on this village? If Aurora was to derive any benefit from that road as she claims she would--it would naturally have to be at the expense of this place; self preservation, &c. Aurora should dismiss that all the region round about was created for her special benefit. More direct roads to this place from sections of Kane county--so that people can better come here to do their business--may be wanted before long, in which Aurora perhaps will raise an opposition.

Business had been very brisk, especially that of hogs. Wollenweber & Knapp shipped 9 carloads last night; five from here and four from West Aurora.

Yorkville: One of the grand jurymen of the Grundy County Circuit Court was sent to jail for the night for being drunk on the 4th. His name is Wm. Sands.

Sixty different kinds of candy to select from, besides some of the finest products of the confectionery art, consisting of large and small hearts, fancy eggs, crystal baskets and other fine goods too numerous to mention. I have the only first class stock of staple and fancy confectionery in Kendall county. Call and examine. B.A. Cotton.

Mr. and Mrs. H.G. Smith of Montgomery were visiting relatives in Yorkville and vicinity Saturday.

The Aurora Evening Post has become one of the institutions of that city. The Constantine Brothers are energetic newspaper men.

Farmers were plowing last Friday, December 5th, and it was comfortable with windows and doors open at noon. Grass looked quite green. Mr. Willett sold a plow last week for present use.

Now then, we are surprised! Everyone supposed that the amiable postmaster at Oswego was a bachelor, and yet in the Naperville Clarion of last week we find this item: "Mrs. Margaret Rank lost her pocket-book on Thanksgiving Day."

S.G Minkler and wife left Saturday morning to visit friends at Mendota over Sunday. Mr. Minkler is attending the annual meeting of the state Horticultural Society at Bloomington this week, of which society he is the treasurer.

Dec. 18: Gently the beautiful is dropping.

James B. Poage wears a sealskin cap.

The holiday goods are again making the drug store the most visited place in town.

Tommy Gannon has come down from Lemars, Iowa on a visit.

Several were present from Montgomery Wednesday evening to assist in the formation of a division of the Sons of Temperance. The event, however, did not take place. The Ribboners didn't seem inclined to enter into anything calculated to weaken or break up the club and there wasn't enough temperance material outside of that order to establish the Division. Yes, one temperance organization and that an independent and open one is best for this town.

Yorkville: Toys of all kinds, dolls, vases, pocket books, autograph albums, and splendid candy for the holidays at L.N. Hall's, Oswego.

The lawsuit of Hawley vs. the Agricultural Insurance Co., an Oswego case which has been in the courts for years, was settled at Aurora last Friday by Hon. A.B. Smith, attorney for the Hawleys, and Judge Cody for the insurance company. Mr. Smith refused to tell us the basis of settlement, saying it was done "on the square."

Capt. James McCulloch, who served through the war as an officer in the 13th Illinois, committed suicide at Rock Island by taking laudanum. Out of employment and depression was the cause.

The ex-rebel General Joe Johnston, new in Congress, has been made chairman of a sub-committee on military affairs, whose duty it is to consider and report plans for the reorganization of the Federal Army! Shades of Lincoln and the Union dead! Is it any wonder the bloody shirt is swung to the breeze?

E.W. Trask, the Aurora jeweler, has just unpacked a large number of French clocks bought by him while in Paris expressly for the Aurora holiday trade.

A chunk of pure Lake Superior copper weighing 26 lbs. and supposed to be a relic of the glacial period was found some time ago by Mr. Johnson, who lives on Enoch Spradling's farm near Sheridan.

#### MARRIED

Faxon-Cherry. —In Aurora, Ill., Dec. 13th, by Rev. Wm. Aug. Smith, Mr. Edgar W. Faxon of Amboy, Ill. and Miss Ida E. Cherry of Oswego, Illinois.

Dec. 25: Nothing on the slate and have little in my mind in the shape of items which I care to report. There are, and have been, some visitors here, and some Oswegoans gone away on visits, but I'll forego the writing up a string of personals. First, have no taste for it and second, they frequently cause ill feelings. There are some that have a horror of seeing their names in print and sometimes objections are for other reasons. For instance, you may write, "Mr. So and So started today on a visit to Indiana." On his return and meeting you he will be as mad as the proverbial wet hen, saying it was just an advertisement for burglars, as much as saying "here is a family and property unprotected, and now is your chance to make a haul," and it has kept his folks in constant fear. Others again, if they have any doings and got overlooked will be made and charge the reporter with partiality, saying he is just favoring his own clique, &c. New Year will be here shortly and among the turning over of new leaves I may turn one, not to mention in these letters, any more names in connection with ordinary transactions, murder and treason excepted.

Like most everybody else, John H. Wormley has a birthday, which recently came around in regular order. A few of his friends made it the occasion of springing a surprise on him by the presentation of one of those large easy chairs, and have a good time in his company during the evening. John is highly elated over his present, and says he can now read the Record in the most comfortable manner imaginable.

Jarvis & Collins is the latest established business firm of this town; they are running the meat market formerly kept by Edwards.

Mr. Dalton, the Geneseo temperance agitator, was to give a lecture Saturday but proved unsuccessful for want of backing. The [Red] Ribboners opened their hall for him but

didn't do nothing more, the being not especially in sympathy with the project Mr. D. is pushing.

Yorkville: The Beacon correspondent says: "it is now stated that Doug. Lowry has succeeded in getting license against the wishes of a large proportion of the substantial inhabitants of the town. Oswego now has three saloons, one bowling saloon, one billiard hall, to about six or seven hundred inhabitants, and one resident minister."

1880

January

Jan. 1: The Christmas holiday was accompanied with more than usual joy and merriment; on the evening before the Congregational Sunday school had a very pleasant festival; a ball was given at Chapman's Hall on the evening of Christmas. That box of oranges from the family of the Hon. Charles Clinton of New Orleans comes as regular as Christmas itself, the most lasting friends I have ever known. Was also remembered by little Miss Mabel Davis away down at Vandalia.

A little girl nearly 3 years old of Joseph Foss died last week of scarlet fever.

Little Freddie, aged 2 years and 3 months, son of Frederick G. and Mary A. Burkhart of Fayette County, Ia., died Nov. 20th of croup and inflammation of the lungs; was sick but two days.

The lecture or big talk last evening of Captain Joseph Jenero, a Cheyenne Indian, prevented me from writing up a more full report for this week. The Captain appeared in full uniform and paint and though of course not a fluent orator, yet was quite interesting; he had many grievances to present and complaints to make against the pale faces.

Tom Miller has an auction sale next Friday of his farming stock, &c., this is in consequence of his having to be absent on business in England for some time shortly.

Christmas Presents at the  
Oswego School

The passing season excites a lively interest among us. In past ages the custom of sending gifts to favorite friends has been highly cherished, and we now see the usage widely honored throughout all nations at this merry time of Christmas. Though the grown-up people usually unite in securing happiness to the younger ones, yet the order is sometimes reversed, the children turning the tables, as it were, and taking their elders by storm. An occasion of this kind it is our pleasure to record.

Some of the young people of our town, quite confident of their own Christmas presents, resolved to assist Santa Claus in the proper distribution of his favors.

Mr. C.C. Duffy, Superintendent of Schools, has an excellent school in Oswego; and his pupils animated by their affection for their worthy instructor, and directed by the spirit of

the season, determined some weeks since to manifest their appreciation of Mr. Duffy's merits by presenting him with some appropriate tokens of their esteem. As all the preparation must be made in strict secrecy, the usual commotion before and after school, and during intermissions, undoubtedly puzzled the undisturbed head of this institution, and possible he ascribed the strange conference to an approaching debate, which occurred Wednesday afternoon. When Wednesday afternoon came, the mysterious appearances were doubtless explained. The A and B classes, through their committee, displayed some handsomely decorated china (coffee cup and saucer) on Mr. Duffy's desk, while the High School class ably assisted in surprising and gratifying their astonished teacher by presenting a fine edition of McCauley's History of England, in five volumes, an elegant Encyclopedia of Poetry, and a beautiful ebony and cut-glass inkstand with pen-rack. Mr. Duffy thanked his pupils in graceful words of acknowledgement, after which the numerous visitors gathered about to inspect and admire these substantial evidences of the deserved popularity of the efficient and meritorious principal.

Mr. Pierce was also remembered by the pupils of his department in whose regard he is firmly established. The little folks expressed their attachment by presenting him with an autograph album. Thus was happily anticipated a merry Christmas by the well-satisfied pupils and their esteemed teachers in our schools.

A PUPIL

Yorkville: The colored population of Kendall county is on the increase. See birth record.

Hubbard received some new furniture from Parker's factory at Oswego Monday.

The ice crop is being harvested in Yorkville. We don't know whether it will be a full crop or not, but presume it will.

H.G. Smith says there are five Kendall county students at the Champaign University.

Grundy county is to have a new poor house--brick, 80x60 two stories high, with cellar. The contract is for the building complete at a cost of \$2,974.

Mrs. Sarah E. Raymond, Superintendent City Schools, Bloomington, last week purchased the Hobbs place, three miles west of Gibson containing 160 acres.

#### Birth Register

Nov. 13. To Mrs. Alexander White (colored), Oswego, a boy.

Dec. 24. To Mrs. William Bradford (colored) NaAuSay, a girl. A Christmas present.

Oct. 24. To Mrs. Jacob Sauter, Millington, a boy.

Dec. 5. To Mrs. James E. Van Winkle, Fox, a boy.

Oct. 22. To Mrs. J.M. Riley, Bristol, a girl.

Dec. 12. To Mrs. Fred Weene, NaAuSay, a girl.

Dec. 3. To Mrs. J.H. Smith, Plano, a boy.

Dec. 23. To Mrs. A.H. Larson, Plano, a boy.

Oct. 9. To Mrs. Frank Hardin, Plano, a girl.

Dec. 13. To Mrs. Chas. D. Rounds, Plano, a boy.  
Dec. 22. To Mrs. John Gowran, Little Rock, a girl.  
Oct. 30. To Mrs. Aug. Kleinsmith, Plano, a girl.

Jan. 8: "Isn't it sad?" asked nearly everybody Wednesday morning as the report spread over town that Fred Hawley was dead. He had been skating a good deal during the holiday week, including the afternoon and evening before his death, and had met with two falls on different occasions but made no complaints of being hurt. Fred was 20 years of age and of a robust constitution; his sudden demise astonished this whole community. The funeral took place the next day afternoon from the Congregational church.

Charley Dew, about 5 years old, a very bright little fellow, died Saturday from scarlet fever.

Charles Suydam, having reached the good old age of four score, died at his residence over in NaAuSay last Friday and was buried at Plainfield.

The marriage of Peter Faust and Miss Theresa Hafenrichter occurred on new Years day at the residence of the bride's parents, Henry Hafenrichter's.

Charles T. Cherry and Miss Emma Clark were married last week Wednesday.

Mrs. C.W. Rolfe--nee Mattie Farley--who with her infant daughter has been here for some weeks on a visit, returned last evening with her husband to their home in Kankakee.

Business at the Fox River Creamery was entirely suspended on Christmas, an unusual occurrence, being the first halt made since its opening over three years ago during which time had not been missed a day's receipt of milk. All hands that day took a rest and furthermore the employees in order to show their esteem of the boss, made W.H. McConnell a present of one of Hobbs' fine large upholstered chairs.

The marble play season commenced early; the favorite ground on the south side of the harness shop was much occupied during the week of no school.

L.N. Hall was reelected president, Will Lester, Hube Ladd, and Annie Shepard vice presents; Maggie Teller, treasurer; and Jim Pogue and Viron VanDriesen secretary. The literary exercises consisted of the examination of a question box.

Yorkville: A joint discussion between the Union school, NaAuSay, and the Minkler school, Kendall, will be held at the Minkler school house Friday evening, Jan. 9th. There will also be other exercises.

We have had our January thaw very early. For more than a week, it has been warm, cloudy, and very moist. Tuesday afternoon, the ice broke loose on Black's pond and went down the river in small detachments without damage. The river is now clear of ice and full of water.

In the Oswego letter will be found an account of the sudden death of Fred Hawley and the memorial adopted by the Oswego school. We wish to add our testimony to Fred's well-known popularity and good qualities. He was a good boy and had the promise of being a useful man. He was a favorite with all. To the stricken mother we tender our warmest sympathy.

Jan. 15: Geo. J. Wormley was drowned towards evening last Wednesday under circumstances nearly as follows: He had been for some time in the employ of Wm. Parker & Sons working in the furniture factory and had to cross the river in going and returning from work; without coming down to the bridge the crossing had then to be effected by a boat below the dam as the ice in the pond was broken up and pushed together preventing the crossing on it either by boat or otherwise. About the centre of the river a short distance below the dam there is a sand bar which was several feet under water and caused considerable riffles and it was there where the most care had to be taken in not getting into the riffles on the one hand nor in the swell caused by the fall of the water over the dam on the other. After quitting work that afternoon, Wormley and George Pollard, another employee and much younger, had rowed over to the other side for supper, the last trip that day they were obliged to make, but meeting Miss Clara Pearce who had started to come over to town to attend the revival meetings they offered to bring her across and save her going around by the bridge...by which time it began to get dark and besides it was very foggy and at the sand bar before mentioned, Pollard says he told Wormley that he was getting too much into the receding current, the latter replying that he was all right, but he had hardly finished saying so when the boat was overturned, Pollard at the same time jumping out and happened to get on the sandbar where he secured a foothold and hallooed for help which was soon rendered. Wormley was missing and search was immediately instituted but had to be abandoned after awhile as the night was very dark...early the next morning the body was found about a half mile down the river. The deceased came here from Steuben County, N.Y. less than two years ago; he was 26 years of age, strong and robust and withal a very good oarsman.

On Saturday, Mr. Lewis Rickard down 'tother side the river, arrived at his three score years, which was remembered by her who shares his joys and sorrows by presenting him with a handsome easy chair. Mr. and Mrs. Walter Loucks happened there at the same time with their box of sardines.

A.L. Rice has departed from this vicinity and moved to Aurora.

The report of the death of Mrs. Wm. Fleming--nee Miss Mary Probert, of this neighborhood--was received the other day; surviving her is an infant but a few days old.

There was a fracas out there in NaAuSay among the American citizens of African descent in which Mr. Wm. Bradford was somewhat roughly used and for about a half day we had him dead here in town.

Yorkville: Hough's railroad photograph car is advertised to be in Oswego on Tuesday, Jan. 20th.

The debate advertised to take place at Minkler school house Friday evening came off as announced and the NaAuSay boys came out second best.

Jan. 22: James Pearce of LeMars, Ia., is here on a visit and looks none the worse from his grand wrestle awhile ago with the typhoid.

Charles Woolley is now prospecting in Texas about the region of San Antonio; he is contemplating changing his residence on account of his health.

N.T. Ferris has departed for his new home in the Mississippi bottoms, leaving his family behind for the present. Will is agoing to carry on the old place here.

A portable hay press has arrived and has been put in operation at H.C. Cutter's place.

James Collins has moved to Yorkville to engage in the butchering business.

A lawsuit growing out of a little unpleasantness at the Washington Street meat market a day or two ago was on trial last evening before Esquire Newton.

Yorkville: A week of gloomy, cloudy, warm, wet weather was relieved of some monotony on Friday morning by sharp reports of thunder and vivid lightning, with heavy showers. The roads are just awful in their muddiness.

When Yorkville ran four saloons, it had a bad name all through the country and was called a hard town. Now Oswego is getting the hard name and Yorkville is growing purer. Last week, the Oswego correspondent of the *Aurora Beacon* detailed the adventures of a Plattville man who was drunk in Oswego two or three days, started home, was thrown from his buggy, nearly frozen, and his horse wandered about the village all night. A licensed saloon is a terrible curse.

*Aurora Beacon*.--While changing the position of a piano on the rostrum in Music hall on Monday, Mr. L.B. Judson accidentally shoved it off the platform, completely capsizing the instrument. We have not learned the amount of damage.

It is said that the Hon. A.B. Smith will not be averse to going to Springfield again next winter if the minority party so will it. The honorable gentleman conducted himself well, and deserves further recognition.

Mark Beaubien, Chicago's old settler, and now nearly 80 years old, enjoys the evening of life in a quiet country home at Newark, Kendall county, and is as jovial and as ready with the fiddle as when he "kept tavern like h--" in Chicago 40 years ago.--Chicago Times.

Mr. Holmes has a fine gar-fish to stuff for preservation. It was found dead in the river by George Knight. This peculiar fish is a rarity here.

Jan. 29: The marriage of John G. Bower and Miss Anne M. Hettrich transpired last Tuesday at the residence of the bride's parents, John Hettrich.

There is a gradual gaining interest manifested in the revival meetings which have been in progress for several weeks.

The Breyer troupe what awhile ago made itself so popular in this community is again in town and will perform for several evenings. Last evening it reproduced "Fanchon" to a pretty fair house; the play tonight will be the "Two Orphans."

Five car loads of livestock shipped last night.

Yorkville: Mr. and Mrs. Dwight Ladd and Mrs. Bunn of Oswego were in Yorkville on Friday last.

Farmers took advantage of the beautiful roads Monday and brought in a large number of hogs.

It is Lodi, Kane County, no more. The name of the town has been changed to Maple Park. Cause: There is a Lodi in Iroquois County.

Sammy Specie, a lad about 11 years old, living at Aux Sable, was thrown from his horse last Wednesday morning and in the fall his shoulder blade was badly dislocated and his collar bone broken.

Married

Haag-Rink--Jan. 15th, by Rev. W. Keith, Mr. Otto Haag and Miss Minnie Rink, both of Oswego.

February -- 1880

Feb. 5: The past week was again a very quiet and orderly week for this community; a large number the first three evenings enjoyed the theatrical performances of the Breyer troupe; this company not only maintains its former prestige but gained in the favor with our people by this visit, they had full houses, especially the last, where the plays besides being excellently rendered contained highly valuable morals. Am aware that it is unmanly to cry, but in the "Two Orphans," when the blind one, Mrs. Mattie Williams-- who is a very nice little lady--was subjected to so much abuse, one couldn't help it. The "Ten Nights in a Bar Room" was the most impressive temperance lecture that could have been delivered.

Learned that Will Forbes, formerly one of us, but who now is established out in Lee keeping a drug and notion store--had an extraordinary run of custom the other night; robbers broke into his store and abstracted about \$50 worth of cutlery.

“Hardware and stoves,” a new sign put over the door of J. Shepard & Co’s, and which is the latest outside ornament to the brick block.

Some of our sidewalks need reconstructing awfully bad.

Yorkville: Snowed Tuesday.

S.G. Minkler returned home Friday from Elgin where he had been attending the session of the Horticultural Society.

Mr. Charles Bennett, who came here from Springfield, Mo. to visit friends, was taken down with a bilious fever some two weeks ago at his brother’s, L.G. Bennett’s and for 11 days was confined to his bed. He is now well again and expects to return to Missouri this week. He will remember Yorkville as the place of his first prolonged illness and for the excellent care he received.

Died. At the residence of his son, Ira P. Smith, in the town of Kendall, Wednesday night, Jan. 28th, 1880, Phineas Smith, in the 75th year of his age. Mr. Smith had lived in this county for about 27 years. He was the father of William, Ira, Miner, and H.G. Smith, and Mrs. O.W. Beebe. He had also a son living in Iowa, Dr. Smith. The deceased was stricken with paralysis about thanksgiving time and was an invalid till the time of his death. Wednesday night he was feeling quite well, got from his bed and was assisted to a chair; then his breathing became difficult and in a short time the spirit passed away. The remains were buried in the Pavilion Cemetery.

Feb. 12: A very nice specimen of the American Eagle may now be seen sitting up quietly at the drug store, the property of Fred Smith, who awhile ago shot it.

Received word the other day from the Oswegoans now residing in Florida by letter from Mrs. Lucy Avery in which she gave me a record of the temperature at Pensacola during January, the coldest month of the year, of which the following is the average of the thermometer: At 6 a.m., about 59; noon, 67; and 6 p.m., 63.

The old General, too, sends me his respects with the advice that this is the country for old chaps.

The James Keating family have departed for their new home in Kansas.

Feb. 19: George White has moved out east on the Webster farm.

Dr. Putt and John D. Hall have moved in their new residence, the best and most stylish now in town.

Henry Minard, who had been absent last week for a few days, returned Wednesday afternoon accompanied by a bride, namely Miss Anna Ray, of Minooka.

The little girl, about 3 years old of Lila Colver, died last week and was buried Wednesday in Aurora. Mrs. C. is here from Nevada visiting her folks, W.W. Wormley.

John G. Faust of Neosho Falls, Kan., was here for a few days. John looks well and says he has turned over a new leaf.

Charles Kimball and family have returned from Indiana and will again reside here.

Yorkville: The Aurora saloon keepers have been warned not to sell liquor to two Oswego inebriates.

Sheriff Newton took his prisoner, Burkhardt, who sold liquor to habitual drunkards at Oswego, to Geneva last Thursday and Judge Kellum discharged him. Cause: no property and ill health.

Feb. 26: Fred Sherman was relieved from the depot duties for a few days by a Mr. Hansell.

There was a wedding in Chicago last week and why it should be mentioned here is because the bridegroom was Mr. J. Perry Walker, an Oswego boy, who for several years has been engaged in business there with the firm of his brother-in-law, Wm. A. Fuller. Mr. and Mrs. Lauriston Walker, of course, went there to attend the wedding of their youngest child. The bride is a Chicago lady.

D.M Haight came to this town when business was almost dried up, but soon had established a good business for himself; others getting encouraged by his success followed suit. Afterwards he branched out into side businesses, the manufacture of vinegar, windmills, and an inventor. He was most active in the Greenback movement, has been one of the mainstays of the Red Ribbon Club, and latterly has entered the domain of religion in which his energies are most potent in the Sunday Schools having been for some time a teacher of a class in the Congregational Church. The Methodist Sunday School was pretty well run down, but Haight went there, and became the superintendent and immediately its condition was transformed into that of the most flourishing--it having now a very large attendance, and is full of spirit. Haight is the "great building up factor" of the community.

Yorkville: S.S. Wagner of Iowa is calling on his Oswego and Kendall friends. He likes his home near the Missouri river very much.

If you want to buy stone for building or for walks, read Mr. Wormley's advertisement.

Orrie Kelley went up to Oswego Monday night to look up one of Johnson's horses which a man had borrowed and forgotten to return.

March -- 1880

March 4: Notwithstanding the condition of the roads, the Presbyterian donation was a success; the amount taken in that evening was \$125.25; a little more added afterward cleared for the Rev. Mr. Galt.

A leap year party within a certain circle occurred at Hebert's the forepart of last week; to Henry it was a surprise.

Charles Woolley has returned from Texas; likes the climate and country but thinks it unfavorable for the bringing up of a family.

Mrs. Shumway and daughter Julia have moved into the Farley residence, where they keep the house and are boarding Mr. and Mrs. Farley.

Mrs. Teller has exchanged her old piano for a new one.

There are many changes in the occupancy of farms in the neighborhood and just now there wants to be much moving done, but in many cases the roads will cause a delay.

The slaughter house has been removed and is now situated on a line with Van Buren Street on the river bank.

The Bunn family have moved to Montgomery and the house vacated will immediately be occupied by Wm. K. Van Fleet.

Yorkville: Hon. A.K. Wheeler died at his home in NaAuSay Tuesday noon, aged 81 years. Will give further notice in next issue.

A meeting in the interest of the ship canal from Chicago to the Illinois river is called to be held at Ottawa on the 18th inst. It is expected that Gov. Cullom will be present. We do not know by whom it is called, but suspect it is a boom for some congressional aspirant.

Thomas Stewart, a large and successful farmer of Wheatland and Oswego townships, bought of Titsworth & Wright, of Aurora, the latest pattern of the Weir Sulky Plow; says "he has tried it this winter and likes it. The shape of it is the only one he ever saw that suited him."

March 11: Sanford Chase and Miss Hattie Miller have gone and done it.

The death of Mrs. Emeline Hunt took place Sunday morning at the residence of her son, J.B. Hunt, and the funeral Monday at the Congregational church. Mrs. H. was 65 years of age, has been sick for several months, and now, when much improved, died suddenly.

Was shown a Pennsylvania paper containing the death notice and a biographical sketch of Mrs. Margaret C. McKinney. The deceased above referred to was the widow of the Rev. John McKinney, the first pastor of the Oswego Presbyterian church.

Henry C. Strossman and family removed here from Plano and are occupying the James Chapman residence.

The Richards Bros. & Co's manufacturing establishment is being moved to Ottawa.

Miss Cora Samse closed her term of school out in the Squires district the other day with a very successful exhibition.

Charles Hubbard has severed his connection with the drug store and the place there made vacant is now filled by Bob Pogue.

The internal arrangements of the furniture store have been removed and much improved.

The Corporation election Saturday resulted in the reelection of the entire old board, the opposition was but a half way and that quite a tame affair.

Yorkville: We announced in the larger portion of last week's issue that Hon. A.K. Wheeler had died at his home in NaAuSay, and we now give a sketch of his life. He was born at Hubbardtown, Vt., April 28, 1799, and while very young, his parents moved to Casleton in the same state. March 7, 1821 he was married to Sarah Whitlock, the now aged wife who still survives him in her 80th year. In 1843 he came to Kendall county with O.C. Johnson and his son, Rollin Wheeler. They took up land and remained here, Mr. Wheeler returning East. In 1846 he came here with his family and located permanently on the farm where he died. He lived six years in Aurora some years ago, where two of his daughters were married. Mr. Wheeler was a very popular man with the people and held many offices of trust in his Vermont home. Coming here, he held the offices of assessor and supervisor of NaAuSay for a number of terms, and in 1854 represented the counties of Kendall and Kane in the State Legislature as a Republican where he helped make Lyman Trumbull U.S. Senator. It was a memorable session. He died March 2, 1880 and was buried from his home in the AuxSable cemetery, Rev. T.F. Jessup conducting the funeral services.

Mr. Wheeler leaves six children: Rollin M., Mrs. O.C. Johnson, Sheldon H., Mrs. Todd, John A., and Mrs. Henry Webber. It is one of the best-known and highly respected families in the county.

A.K. Wheeler was a man of mark in his active days, a staunch Union man, a true Republican, his opinions were often sought in political matters.

Mr. and Mrs. Ansel Reed returned from a long visit to their son in Kansas last Saturday. They enjoyed the trip very much, but still are very glad to get back to old Kendall.

Capt. W.S. Bunn has ordered his *Record* changed from Oswego to Montgomery where he has recently moved his family and is in charge of the large cheese factory there. The

removal of the Captain is a loss to the county, as he was one of our best and most respected citizens.

Mr. Thomas Wayne, the Oswego grain merchant, was in Yorkville Friday. He has his elevator full to the peak with grain and has been most fortunate in his sales.

The Aurora City Mills stakes its reputation on the Belle of Aurora, their choicest brand of flour.

March 18: To express your first, second, and third choice for President is now in order.

Andrew Gray has commenced the foundation for his new residence on the corner of Main and Van Buren streets.

The new shop buildings of John Young, on the corner of Madison and Tyler streets, are near completion.

There was an auction nearly every evening for the past week at the clothing store; the establishment is to be closed out.

Yorkville: The river above the dam was frozen over Saturday morning. We had very snug winter weather last Friday and Saturday.

John Lockwood of Oswego has a good stock of team harness on hand, made from selected material brought before the rise and will sell them at low figures.

March 25: The vacation having expired, school commenced again yesterday. Charles Pearce, who has charge of the intermediate department, was unable to resume his duties then, being sick at home in Aurora (a rumor became current and spread considerably in the afternoon that he was dead). Miss Ella Lester is for the present supplying in place.

A postal card to me says: "J.E. Schofield closed a very successful term of four months' school last Friday in District no. 6, or the German settlement. We hope the directors will retain Mr. Schofield as he is well liked here as a teacher. Signed, Scholars."

A lot of sixteen steers, coming three years old, most all thoroughbreds, average weight 1,650, were shipped the other day by Wollenweber & Knapp. They were from James Patterson of Wheatland.

The Rees family have moved to Hinckley.

The Dick Oglesby Troubadours performed to a rather small house Friday evening.

Yorkville: Every family in Kendall county should be informed as regards the taking of the census in June next. The government has prepared very elaborate lists of questions,

and every one should do all in their power to answer them correctly and promptly. It is an immense work, and will show our country's growth very minutely.

Mr. Myron Wormley of Oswego sowed his spring wheat last Friday and the land worked well.

David Goudie, Esq., is meeting with great success in short horn cattle business. He has many calls for young stock.

April -- 1880

April 1: L.N. Hall was reelected president of the Red Ribbon Club; D.M. Haight, Miss Fanny Parsons, and J.B. Pogue elected vice presidents; Miss Alice Lester, secretary; Miss Anna Shepard, treasurer; Fred Smith and John Russell, marshals.

A Mr. Charles Rink and family from New Jersey are stopping with Whit Cole.

Michael Crain has been back from Kansas for a few days and sold his place here.

Joseph Stafford, formerly of this town, but for many years a resident of Joliet, died last week in Chicago where he had been temporarily staying with Dr. Rel. Van Doozer, a brother-in-law. The corpse was brought here for burial, the funeral taking place Friday afternoon from the Methodist church; the deceased was 51 years of age.

Cora Samse commenced yesterday the teaching of another term in the Waubonsie district.

A musical and literary entertainment by the 'young peoples Club' will be given at the Town house in Oswego Saturday evening, April 3.

Yorkville: Black & Clark want all the old rags in the country, for which they will pay the highest price at the Yorkville paper mill.

H.W. Farley was in Yorkville Saturday. He says "We are all for Grant up our way." Superintendent Duffy broke in with, "No, we are not," and then the laugh was on Brother Farley.

April 8: Mrs. James Severson of Sugar Grove died yesterday morning and will be buried tomorrow.

Mrs. W.D. Chapin--nee Mary Foster--of Chicago is a guest at Lauriston Walker's

Miss Anna Brown is spending a portion of the vacation of her school at Ashton with her friends in this place.

Two caucuses were held Saturday denominated "Republican" and "People's," and the gentlemen selected to be voted for today are: For supervisor, Kirk L Walker and Wm. Parker; for town clerk, D.C. Jeneson and L.N. Hall; for assessor, David Hall; for collector, J.G. Andrews and Charles Lockwood; and for road commissioner, N. Loucks.

The raising of Doc Woolley's new barn took place one day last week.

Zopher W. Ketcham got so that this village couldn't hold him any longer and last week he moved to the city of Aurora. Zoph, in many respects, was a very useful citizen; he will be much missed in society doings, especially where music is required.

Came pretty near omitting the most important item of the week, namely the wedding last Tuesday of Miss Mary Shepard to Mr. Peter Johnson of Pavilion. It took place in Aurora at the residence of the Rev. Mr. Galt, who also performed the ceremonial part.

Bob Pogue got the measles and Jim supplies his place at the drug store.

Yorkville: *The DeKalb News* of March 31st says:--Henry Wormley, who would have been 90 years of age had he lived till next September, died suddenly on Saturday morning last. Deceased had lived here for many years and was quite a character in his way. For a long time, he had labored under the belief that he was the principal heir to a large fortune left the family year ago in the old country, anticipations of the same doubtless prolonging his life. He was in the War of 1812, as active in body as most men of 40, and with mental powers undimmed. On Friday evening he was feeling unusually well and chatted with his family until a late hour. Saturday morning he went to a neighbor's for a paid of water and starting to return was seen to fall. Friends went to his assistance, but he was too far gone to speak and breathed his last in ten minutes. We shall all miss Mr. Wormley's presence for he was generally jovial and always fond of a joke The unreal sermon was preached on Sunday and on Monday morning his remains were conveyed to Oswego, Kendall Co., Ill, for burial.

#### THE HISTORY OF Kendall COUNTY

The Last Chance to Obtain a Copy.

The History and The *Record* for Two Dollars.

Mr. Hicks, author of the History of Kendall County, has about 100 volumes not sold, and we have made arrangements with him by which we can club them with The *Record* on the most liberal terms. The book sold for \$1.75 per copy; we now offer it and The *Record* for one year for Two Dollars. If book is to be sent by mail, ten cents must be sent in addition for postage. The book is handsomely bound and is a most useful work. First come, first served. Address: John R. Marshall, Yorkville, Ill.

April 15: Our Postoffice has been authorized and supplied with the necessaries to transact international money order business, besides Germany, with Great Britain and Ireland, France, and Algeria.

Mrs. George C. [Olive M.] Inman died Sunday night from typhoid fever and her funeral will take place today from the Congregational church. The deceased was one of the Joel Warner children, and 41 years of age.

John H. Wormley has returned from a several weeks' visit with the Doud folks up in Minnesota.

Prof. Duffy was one of the board appointed for the examination of a cadet to West Point from this Congressional district; the same occurred last week in Morris and the successful competitor was a young man from LaSalle county.

There was a school trustees' election Saturday, which has become so entangled that it may require a Returning board and Commission to straighten it out. There has been a misconception the majority of the voters erroneously supposing that a vacancy was to be filled and voted in a man from the same district where the supposed vacating trustee resides. As there was no vacancy, and but one to be elected, which should be he who has received the highest number of votes but as no two trustees shall be from the same district, the question now is "Shall somebody be bounced in order to get the man in who has received the popular vote, or what?"

Yorkville: The CB&Q are putting in a new side track at Yorkville for the benefit of Messrs. Black & Clark, and the Yorkville mills.

April 22: A new barber shop has been opened by Cassius Mullenix in the Smith building on main street.

John H. Wormley, while engaged hauling posts for the grave yard near there fell off the lead and got hurt enough to keep him in the house for a few days.

By the big blow Sunday evening the windmill on the John D. Hall farm and that of Cowdrey and Ferris were blown down; in the latter the tower was overturned; the shingle shed in the lumber yard was upset, so too a number of out-houses in the village and neighborhood; the fences also sustained much damage, and a portion of the roof to the Montgomery bridge was taken off.

The business at the school meeting Saturday was the election of one director and the voting "for or against the building of new school house," the latter proposition was regarded as the taking the sense of the people whether they favored the building of a new school house or putting extensive repairs on the old, for one or the other will have to be done; nobody seemed to be sufficiently decided about it as to try and influence anybody else how to vote on it. The candidates for director were M.J. Pogue and Dr. Lester--the former for reelection--both are good men of high standing in this community and individually nothing was raised against either. From this it would seem that the school meeting should have been a tame affair, but not so, quite the contrary; it contained enough acridness and evolved enough rancor for sufficient spirit of a dozen school meetings. Into it entered the fighting over of old battles, the grievances of persons now

living in other parts of the country, the religion or want of religion of whose but remotely connected with the result, &c. The affair was caricatured and placarded days before the election (the illustrations abounding with allegories embracing the historical serpent that has caused so much unhappiness to the yahoo species) and has been most of the talk since.

Andrew Gray's new residence is nearly ready for plastering.

April 29: The measles are subsiding.

Now at last Charles Lockwood has stepped over into among the men of prominence, become a citizen of responsibility and deep interest in the state of society, that is, he has got married. The bride is Miss Rebecca Farndon, who has been living in the Larkin family. The event took place Tuesday in Aurora.

The possession of the old J.J. Cole place has changed from E.S.L. Richardson of Chicago to W.H. McConnell, who will get it fixed up for a residence; he traded Aurora property for it.

Mrs. J.H. Collins died last week and her funeral took place at the Methodist church Saturday. She was 30 years of age and had been sick for some time.

Alviran VanDriesen has an orange tree; a year ago, it blossomed and commenced bearing, but out of seven oranges only two matured, which dropped of the other day and weighed six ounces.

Two young wolves were captured in the Ervin neighborhood.

In the storm the other night Wm. Cooney had his barn struck by lightning shattering it considerably and his best horse killed.

The first news of the destruction of Marshfield, Mo., by a tornado caused quite a sensation here, being that several well known and prominent persons from this neighborhood are residing there. A telegram from Byron Morgan to his brother here soon however quieted many fears.

The utmost harmony prevailed at the caucus Saturday. Farley presided and Dave Jensen was secretary; the delegation was left unencumbered with pledges (will not give the list, as by a resolution the secretary was enjoined to furnish the *Record* with a report). I don't know how they stand towards the several individuals that now think it their duty to serve their country in this, that, or the other capacity, high or low, except as to the office of Circuit Clerk. On that, they are solid for me and as to the case of Gale, they are muchly mixed.

May -- 1880

May 6: Supposing that the *Record* would want all the space possible in the current number for the convention, I will govern myself accordingly and be brief.

The Yorkville Dramatic Club played here Thursday evening under the auspices of the Ribboners, and for non-professionals done extra well; the size of the audience, however, was but medium.

The Wormley cemetery is now inclosed with a good fence; John Yeigh performed the job.

Yorkville: On the inside of this issue we publish a list of names of the brave men who fell in the late war of the rebellion, who went from Kendall County, whose names are to be inscribed on the proposed monument to be erected in Yorkville. Great care has been taken by Mr. L.G. Bennett to prepare this list and he has it published for the purpose of everyone reading it and if anyone knows of a soldier killed, who went from this county, and his name is not on the list, they will do a favor and a kind act by notifying Mr. Bennett.

This monument is going to be erected, and every soldier's name, who it is known died for his country, will be engraved on this memorial shaft, and every person in the county is interested.

As to money: There is a fund of five or six hundred dollars in the hands of the Thirty-Sixth's Olson Monument treasurer, and some seven hundred has been subscribed by the towns. Some of the towns have done all they ought, others have done very little. Now the friends of the monument want you who have done nothing to put your hands in your pockets and pay over a small contribution to your town supervisor to aid this patriotic work. The shaft will stand in front of the court house and will be a memorial while time shall last of our brave Kendall men.

Mr. Hicks, author of the *History of Kendall County*, has about 100 volumes not sold and we have made arrangements with him by which we can club them with *The Record* on the most liberal terms. The book sold for \$1.75 per copy; we now offer it and *The Record* for one year for \$2. If the book is to be sent by mail, ten cents must be sent in addition for postage. This book is handsomely bound, and is a most useful work. First come, first served.

Fishing tackle, extra fine jointed poles, hooks, lines, and everything a fisherman wants at Seely & Newton's, Yorkville.

F.M. Hobbs has sold 65 Davis sewing machines during the past year. They are the best machines sold.

#### List of Soldiers

From Kendall County who died or were killed while  
in the service of their country:  
7th Regiment, Illinois Infantry

George Mitchell, Clark B. Alford, John B. Hubrecht, Joseph Sullivan, Ephraim Smith.  
10th Regiment Illinois Infantry

Kipps Baldwin

13th Regiment Illinois Infantry

Isaac P. Hunt, James T. Haywood, Joseph W. Judson, Aquilla W. Noe, Simon P. Scomp,  
Merrill L. Boomer, Thos. Darnell, Jefferson J. Eastman, Jacob Fifer, Wallace Henry.

20th Regiment Illinois Infantry

Lt. John R. McKeen, Edward P. Atkins, Theodore Austin, Wm. Bennett, Otis W. Charles,  
Sumner M. Cook, Steven Jennings, Walter A. Landon, Marcus E. Morton, Aaron P.  
Paxton, Joseph Springer, Robt. Taylor, Albert Wilcox, Andrew J. Wilson, Wm. M.  
Smith, James Creller, Benj. G. Adams, William Ashton, David L. Barrows, Wm. N.  
Crownor, Alfred A. Griswold, Greenbury Leech, Henry Mitchell, Geo. Mallory, Wm. F.  
Reed, George M. Sleezer, Curtis L. Wann, John Woodruff, Wm. Shoger.

36th Regiment Illinois Infantry

Lt. Col. P.C. Olson, Lt. Orson Smith, Lt. Sidney M. Abbott, Lt. Loren L. Olson, Adjt.  
Chas. F. Case, John Alston, Joseph Bushnell, Sam'l. J. Brownell, John Brace, Henry C.  
Baxter, Eugene Benoit, William Burgess, Henry D. Collman, John Cook, Seth Darling,  
Lander A. Ellis, Wm. H. Eastman, Ira O. Fuller, Ferdinand Ganor, Alfred H. Gaylord,  
Joseph W. Hinsdale, Luther Haskins, Augustus Kastine, John Lonagan, James M. Leech,  
Warren Marsh, Christ. Mall, Stephen Minan, John Miller, Edw. J. McMellen, Nels N.  
Nelson, Wm. Peck, Joseph Phipps, John Ray, Reuben Sweetland, Dwight Smith, Wm.  
Steward, Kimball Smith, James Scully, Chas. Seymour, Benj. Sayers, Ira Scofield, Thos.  
Thompson, Ezra Taylor, Aug. P. VanOrler, William J. Willett, Peter Witman, Wm. W.  
Keller, Edward Lars.

Also, Allen M. Alvord, Wm. C. Benedict, Michael Boomer, Comfort Brace, Jas. N. Bain,  
Erastus Beecher, Alfred Ballard, Hobart D. Carr, Michael Cliggitt, Wm. Daley, Michael  
Devine, Wm. Eyebrow, Clark W. Edwards, Marcalon B. Gaylord, John Grinnell, James  
Hurst, Oscar S. Howe, Raynard Halverson, Harvey Kimball, Hiram Lowry, Lars Larson,  
Anton Meyer, Frederick Miller, Ralph Miller, Nicholas Meham, David W. McKay.  
Lewis Olson, Asplan Peterson, Reuben W. Perrine, Martin Reinhart, Richard Spalding,  
Alex Stickles, Joseph A. Smith, Chas. Snyder, Charles H. Scofield, William Thompson,  
Harvey Tooley, James Thorp, D.M. VanDorster, Jacob Wolf, John H. Whitney,  
Demertius W. Cady, and Alfred Tomblin.

47th Regiment Illinois Infantry

Austin Willett

52d Regiment Illinois Infantry

Jas. C. Darnell, Henry Hatch

53d Regiment Illinois Infantry

Orrin Kennedy

57th Regiment Illinois Infantry

Wm. Wagner

69th Regiment Illinois Infantry

Jas. A. Codner

88th Regiment Illinois Infantry

Seneca L. Wing

89th Regiment Illinois Infantry

Capt. H.S. Willett, Capt. Wm. Harkness, Benson Aldrich, Heman Breese, Isaac T. Chittendon, Richard Field, Benjamin Haigh, James D. Hopkins, Henry Huggens, Ole H. Johnson, Geo. E. Phipps, John S. Ricketson, John B. Smith, Chancey B. Tallmage, Lewis Ashley, Edwin M. Booth, Frank Estergreen, Andrew S Godfrey, Thomas Holmes, James F. Howard, Chas. Haydon, Wm. H. Litsey, Geo. S. Robinson, Commodore P. Sage, Emery B. Taylor, Edgar H. Wood.

91st Regiment Illinois Infantry

Theodore Deland, Henry Georgeson, Andrew Johnson, Andrew Michaelson, Clement Redfield, Stephen L. Scofield, Wm. Thumb, John W. Weeks, Knud K. Ganstow, Thor Georgeson, Ephraim Lounsberry, Robert Reed, Flavius J. Sleezer, Torres W. Thompson, Jno. VanBuskirk, Henry Mott.

100th Regiment Illinois Infantry

Joseph Platt

101st Regiment Illinois Infantry

John Cox, Isaac Newton, Reuben Baldwin

127th Regiment Illinois Infantry

Rice Baxter, Wm. N. Bennett, Royal Butler, H.B. Carpenter, John H. Cox, Wm. Carnes, Rodney D. Maxon, Leonard L. Gaskill, Wm. A. Hopkins, Dwight Hawks, Jas. Kinnard, John Kuhlem, Wm. A. Lawton, Jas. M. Mighell, Albert Mosley, Alva M. McClain, Edson Needham, Thos. Pollard, John Pooley, Chas. Pinder, Jono. B. Stoutemeyer, John Smith, Henry Stone, David Springer, Henry Stiles, Edward Westover, Wm. White, John Beane, Edward Blanchard, Amon B. Case, John Carson, John G. Cromwell, Henry H. Clark, Thos. J. Ford, Ichabod Gurney, Binn Harrington, John S. Howard, Joseph S. Kenyon, Joseph C. Kehlem, Henry Lye, Darius Morrell, Alfred Murdock, Samuel O. McConnell, Reuben P. Parkhurst, Wm. Pooley, Leander Pettitt, H.M. Rockwell, Joseph E. Smith, John Summerville, Thos Sergent, Enoch Springer, Daniel Sullivan, Orville. P. Walker.

138th Regiment Illinois Infantry

Jas. A. Butter

146th Regiment Illinois Infantry

John A. Merrell

147th Regiment Illinois Infantry

Albert Chittenden, Chas. F. Butterfield

4th Regiment Illinois Cavalry

Henry Brokan, Enos C. Darby, Henry Eagle, Jas. Hopkins, Jono. S. Moore, Wm. H. Marion, Henry T. Smith, Nelson Leitch, Chas. E. Fox, Lorell S. Hastings

15th Regiment Illinois Cavalry

Chas. F. Winans, Levi Woodford, Nathum Robinson, Thos. Osman

2d Regiment Illinois Artillery

Theo Limburg, Lorenzo Pruyna

Michigan Cavalry

Montrose Budd

Regiment Unknown

John H. Weeks, Andrew Johnson, Mercelon B. Gaylord.

May 13: Lightning struck the south corner of Mrs. McKinney's residence Saturday afternoon; a grapevine fastened there was taken down and the casing torn off. It came within 10 feet of the lightning rod.

Mrs. George Faust has returned from a three-months' visit at Ackley, Ia.

August Schmidt had one of his big horses die.

Rush Walker has moved into the Kinney house.

L.N. Hall is enjoying a new phaeton.

Nellie VanEvra has commenced teaching school down the river in Bristol township; Blanche Cutter in the Budlong district; Belle Elliott, German; and Mattie Russell, Aux Sable grove.

Mrs. Emma Lynch has gone to Galesburg to join her husband.

Mrs. Dr. Jewell was called last week to Streator by the failing condition of her sick sister, Mrs. Geo. B. Lyon.

Charles E. Hubbard has returned from Kansas for recuperation, having become incapacitated for business by a fall.

Burton Briggs has come out from Chicago to visit the scenes of his boyhood.

Yorkville: Nice rain Saturday. The relief from wind and dust was most grateful.

Mrs. L.B. Judson of Aurora and son Fred have gone to Kansas on a visit.

The Yorkville cheese factory has put in a stock of juvenile swine to assist in using up its surplus whey.

The Plano Harvester Works furnish employment in the busy season for a great many men in the surrounding villages.

Black bass were lively last week and the boys had good success. Elder Smith caught one Friday morning that weighted five pounds.

A drunken brute in Ottawa named Pat Ryan attacked a cripple and bit his nose clean off.

On Saturday last, a lot of young black bass were deposited in Fox River at Aurora by the State Fish commission. Hon. L.H. Crooker was responsible for having it done.

The Yorkville cheese factory paid out \$966 for April milk on Monday. To prove that it pays to sell milk we would mention that Frank Seely got \$78 for 12 cows' milk; John

Roberts sends in the milk from 16 cows, and got \$116.04. We should think that was better than making butter.

In Aurora on Wednesday afternoon, several ladies and children narrowly escaped being seriously injured if not killed by maddened steers which were being driven through the streets by a couple of butchers.

May 20: John Knapp's meat market has received a new and substantial awning; Schwarz and Yeigh did the carpentering and Constable the painting.

The entire upstairs part of the D.M. Haight building in the brick block is undergoing remodeling, by which the dwelling facilities of the family will be much enlarged and made more convenient.

It is said that the name of Henry Getty, a member of the 4th Illinois cavalry, is not on the lately published list of the soldiers what died in the war.

Ladore Hill has nearly recovered from a severe kick of a horse about two weeks ago.

Some ladies are making an effort to have a big decoration this year.

Perry Walker and wife, a newly married and good looking couple, were out from Chicago on a visit to their relatives.

Fred G. Sherman is no longer with us, having resigned his position and gone to Plano. The depot is now run by Henry G. Smith from Montgomery.

The best entertainment for the money--2 cents--that ever took place here came off last evening; it was a little girls' enterprise, Mabel Haight, the Larkin's, Hunt's, and Wormley's little girls were the chief actors. Mrs. Haight was engaged as manager and Hattie Billings conducted the orchestra.

Yorkville: Mr. Morris Cliggitt of Oswego and Miss Lillian Lowry have been engaged to teach the Bristol village school for the next year beginning in September.

Mrs. VanDriesen has sued the school board and teachers of Oswego for \$1,000 damages; to appear next Monday before the circuit court.

The nail manufacturers boomed too soon and too heavily. They have now reduced the price to \$3.25 per keg. The iron trade is also falling off. A steady and sure market is better for the country than these sudden inflations and depressions. The iron men made a fortune in a short time.

May 27: Steve Fox had a horse stolen during Sunday night; he offers \$100 reward for the thief and horse.

This community is requested to meet at the Town hall Saturday at one o'clock and from there accompany the procession to the cemetery and take part in the decoration of the soldiers' graves.

Colvin Pearce had a barn raising the other day; it being the renewal and enlarging of the old Daniel Pearce barn, one of the first in the country. Van Evra is doing the job.

The *Record's* Oswego correspondent, noting that a proposal was at hand by the residents of Millington to spend an afternoon picnicking in a grove near the village which contained several Indian burial mounds and digging up the contents of the mound, suggested it was wrong to desecrate the graves, even though the ancient Indians in question had not been Christian. "The cemeteries of the present day may in time become subject to investigation--they are so already to a small extent--the silver plate of coffins and jewelry on corpses may prove more desirable relics than the arrow heads and other trinkets of the Aborigines. The setting of precedents should be discouraged."

June -- 1880

June 3: The season of washing sheep is at hand; the flocks of Squires and Elder Minard have been thus treated.

Mrs. Josie Hall has returned from a few days' visit out at Lee and that makes Levi again happy.

The Kendall house premises are to be re-fenced.

David Hall is our census taker and commenced business this morning; it will be in order now for you that are or should be ahead of the affairs to study up what you have got, what you are making, how you are making it, what it costs you in doing so, where you came from, what material you are composed of, and everything else about yourself and what belongs to you so as to be ready to answer the many questions that Dave will propound when he comes around.

Owing to the rain Saturday the decoration did not take place until Sunday afternoon, and although but little known that it would yet quite a number were in attendance. Mr. Haight made the address and some resolutions were adopted after the flowers had been placed on the graves.

There was considerable fighting talk shot off on the west side of the street yesterday afternoon; also some weeping done and it wasn't a simpering woman that did it, but a stalwart man that boohooed right out and it was that which lent solemnity to the occasion--the crying of an old boy is very affecting, especially on such an occasion. As to noise, however, the east side has nothing to brag of as the small boys this spring have made the evenings hideous around the post office; that play of police ought to have played out some time ago.

Yorkville: Mr. D. Pletcher caught a very fine eel in the river some distance above the dam on Friday last.

Susan B. Anthony lectured at Sandwich to a small audience. The receipts barely paid expenses.

Mr. G.R. Lee caught a veritable brook or speckled trout at the mouth of a brook running into the river just below Yorkville the other day. It weighed about half a pound.

June 10: Mrs. Don W. Winn, the youngest daughter of Mr. Samuel Smith, died early Monday morning and her funeral will take place this afternoon from the Congregational church. She was only 25 years of age.

Mr. and Mrs. O.E. Judson of Sandwich are for the present sojourning here.

Dr. Fred W. Lester has come back on a visit from Kansas.

The lecture Sunday evening on "Courtship and Marriage," by Elder Smith at the Methodist church was quite well attended. It was opposed to many of the modern customs and notices; condemned the idea of having the subject surrounded with an air of prudery which causes young people to experience confusion or a sense of shame in their first efforts in that direction.

Yorkville: Mr. Minkler of Rochelle is visiting his son, Smith Minkler, of Specie Grove. Mr. Minkler is over 90 years old but is well and hearty.

Last Wednesday the shops at Plano turned out 107 Harvesters, 68 Twine Binders, 16 Wire Binders, and 2 mowers, making in all 193, which is called a good day's work.

There will be a strawberry and ice cream festival at the Town House, Oswego, Friday eve, June 11th, under the auspices of the Red Ribbon Club.

The great world's circus will be in Aurora next Thursday. Kendall County will of course send an immense crowd to see it.

June 17: Sunday afternoon a number of boys were down a the river enjoying themselves with the shooting of a pistol; the pleasure however was cut short by the accidental shooting of Harley, son of Theron Richards, in the breast, when the pistol was in the hands of young George Burghart. The wound couldn't be probed far enough to extract the ball, which is a No. 22, and lodged in the upper part of the right lung. So far the effects have been of no serious nature. Dr. Putt is attending the case.

By a communication received signed "Scholars of district No. 8," I am requested to make it known that their highly valuable term of school closed Friday with a very pleasant exhibition, consisting of dialogues and declamations to the number of 25 pieces; that

there were four prizes at stake, which were awarded to Louise Simons, Sarah Constantine, Hattie Walker, and Frank Woolley; that 32 visitors were present and that T.P. Kerr has been a most efficient teacher and become much endeared to the scholars.

The Lutherans want me to announce that next Sunday at 2 o'clock they will have *Kirchweihe*, that is church consecration services in their meeting house in Oswego.

L.N. Hall has commenced the building of a most substantial "Fire proof vault," the door for the same was received yesterday from the Hall's Safe & Lock Co., as also a "burglar proof safe" for the vault. Levi seems to be bound to get secure.

It is said that the other day two tramps stopped at W.W. Wormley's went to the door closed by a wire screen and called for something to eat; Mrs. Wormley, who was there alone, told them she hadn't anything cooked, but there was a nice fresh baked cake in sight, and they said, 'well, give us that,' she said they couldn't have it; they said they would have it; she grabbed up a gun near by pointing it at them and said "get," they began to retreat, one of them saying "She is small, but, oh God."

Yorkville: S.G. Minkler will attend the meeting of the State Horticultural society at the Exposition building in Chicago this week.

The cheese factory at Kaneville was burned last week. Subscriptions are being made to build a new one.

Prof. Hallock and Miss Urie have closed their engagement in the Montgomery school and new teachers will be engaged for next fall.

June 24: The money order business with the Dominion of Canada has been extended to this post office commencing with July 1st.

Frank Darby has assumed the more important social relation, namely that of a husband. The marriage took place Wednesday at Yorkville, Miss Sarah Nahler being the bride.

Henry Judson of New Orleans was in town the other day accompanied by his daughter. He went out to the Grove to make a call on his special friend, Mrs. Ellen A. Davis.

Uncle Peter Minkler was on our streets one day last week; he is getting quite old, being in the nineties, but in appearance has changed little from that of 30 years ago when residing in this neighborhood.

For a change, Henry D. Hatch has gone to manufacturing tin ware; he has engaged to operate during vacation the tinshop of J. Shepard & co.

The building of the vault in the drug store is progressing nicely; Charles Avery is doing the job; that nobody ever can work his way in from the direction of China is as certain as can be.

Yesterday afternoon, Mrs. Teller and daughter Lucy went to Yorkville on a visit, leaving the house alone. This morning the kitchen door was seen standing open by Mrs. Avery, the nearest neighbor. Going over to find out the cause, it became apparent at once that the place had been burglarized. Hagerman, the police constable, was immediately notified of it and an effort made to get word to Mrs. Teller. Mrs. Teller lost all her papers, jewelry, and some money which was in a trunk; things of value to her, but of little use to the thief. She would gladly relinquish all claim to the money to get back the papers.

An attempt was made also last night to enter the post office; the back door to which was considerably bruised by trying to pry it open. The window was also tried. A good bit of stock was left behind.

Yorkville: The census taken by Mr. James Harkness gives Yorkville a much less population than many supposed. We have less than 400--a very poor showing for the county seat of Kendall county. It is more than probable that Bristol village has about 500, and the two towns together--which is really one place--has a population of 900. We should have more people here, both by obeying the scriptural injunction and by immigration.

July -- 1880

July 1: Miss Cora Samse completed her term of school in the Waubonsie district with a picnic in Pearce's woods Saturday afternoon.

Henry Hebert managed yesterday to cut off the four fingers on his left hand with a circular saw. Dr. Lester is attending the case.

The Rev. P.V.D. Veder abruptly closed his labors among us, the reason being that he intended to join the Des Moines conference and there being now a vacancy at a church in Osceola, which he was invited to fill.

The station agent wants it to be known that the small boys must be kept away from around the depot; some parents are requested to make a note of his. The post office is another place where no hanging around of the boys should be permitted.

Oswego like many other places in the taking of the census, falls short of what was supposed to be her population; it was an unfavorable time however for this place to make a good showing; the lightning rod men and tar roofers were most all out.

The Kendall house has been divided and the one half moved to the south line of the lot.

July 8: The celebration of the 4th in this town was mostly confined to the children and spread over much time, commencing about two weeks ago; it produced no booms, but Saturday all the small kinds of explosives were brought into requisition.

The funeral of Mrs. John Foss took place Sunday forenoon from the Methodist church.

Mr. Henry Pulver, away over in or near Seward, is building a new barn and came here to buy the lumber and hardware for it; he claims that Oswego is the place very time to buy all kinds of building material except brick.

A Mr. Sipes, from Canada, is on a visit to Wm. Parker's; he is an uncle of Mrs. P.

One of the objections raised against Hancock for President is that he has been too long a soldier, and against me for Circuit Clerk that of having been no soldier at all. As to Hancock, the reason may be good and sufficient for all I know or care, but in my case it can be readily explained away. In the first place it is not strictly true, my having been no soldier at all; did enlist under the first call and in the first company raised in this town; had then as well as now a passion for office and tried to become one of its officers, but my claim was not recognized till we came to the fourth corporal, then was tied by a competitor and defeated when drawing outs. The disappointment, though severe, did not deter me from going forward, which I did as a high private; the company had several drills down on the flat, was even ordered out once in the evening for a drill in the Kendall House ball room; on a Sunday we had to fall in and were marched to church, ordered to the front, where we took position in the center pews, and faced a war sermon from the Rev. Robert Rudd. After that the company honorably disbanded because it could not be accepted as the call was full and with that I quit soldiering. It is well that I didn't go any further for it proved that afterwards there had to be done a good deal of fighting and from a fight I should be counted out every time. My fighting experiences were always surrounded by a sort of fatality; not only did I get licked in every single-handed fight I had from the time of a little boy up, but the side I was on would invariably get cleaned out, and I have little doubt but the North would have been defeated had I been with its army. It was altogether for the best interests of the country that I didn't go to war, and the people of this county, when they are aware of it, will gladly reward me for staying out. And now, if they will give me the circuit clerk's office, I will call it even.

Yorkville; The CB& Q railroad company occupies 400 acres of land in Kendall county for tracks, depot grounds, etc.

Mr. Brockway, living in Oswego township, is nearly 97 years of age and he is quite active.

July 15: David C. Jenson received a telegram this morning containing the mournful information of the death of Maggie, his sister, Mrs. W. Wilkins of Austin, Cook county. Funeral tomorrow.

Thomas Miller has sold his farm to Charles Woolley.

Miss Lizzie M. Russell has been teaching in Cairo the past year and was one of a party that started to spend the hot months on the Rocky mountains; but on the way in Kansas

she was taken sick and had a very hard time of it, the ailment being typhoid fever. Julia, a sister, went to her assistance and has been out there for a number of weeks taking care of her.

L.N. Hall's vault is nearly done and will be the most complete safety receptacle in this region; no labor or expense has been saved to make it secure and perfect in every respect.

July 22: Mr. Farley is progressing nicely with the two dwellings he is getting constructed using for the main portions the old Kendall house. Dwellings of late have been in great demand; everything was occupied, and yet our population fell short 200 from what we thought it was.

Forgot to mention in my last that the young Democracy of this burg have organized a Hancock club with Thomas Cliggitt for its president. Our Democrats are full of faith and hope, but lack charity.

George Haag had another fall, which in all probability will be his last. It was once again from out of his buggy and on the way going home from town. It happened Saturday evening while returning from Aurora. he was found on the road by Ferdinand Shoger, who with the help of others, took him home. The principal injury is to the spine near the neck, causing the entire body to be paralyzed and void of feeling. Dr. Van Deventer is attending him at home.

Yorkville: To the People of Kendall County.

It is with reluctance that I take this method of announcing myself as a candidate for re-election to the office of Circuit Clerk; for if after a residence of over 30 years in the County and nine years faithful and honest discharge of the duties of the office, we are not sufficiently well acquainted, I fear the publicity of a newspaper introduction will avail but little

I do this as a final answer to many letters of enquiry relative to this matter that are being received, as well as to controvert erroneous reports which are being industriously circulated, to the effect that I 'would not under any circumstances become a candidate,' a statement which I have never made.

In making this announcement, I need not refer to the qualifications necessary to a proper discharge of the duties of the office, for if in any degree I possess them, they are well known to you. Nor will I refer to a long adherence both in peace and war to the Republican party, for if this [is] a sufficient reason to ask your support there are hundreds of others who have adhered to the party as long and faithfully as I. I have no claim to urge in my favor (except experience) which hundreds of others may not with equal propriety urge in their own behalf.

In short, no man can claim this or any other office as his right or as a reward for services to party where all are equally deserving. It is your province to bestow it upon whomsoever you will; and to your decision in Republican Convention assembled, whether for or against me, I shall heartily acquiesce.

L.G. BENNETT

July 29: George Haag died Friday from the injuries received a few days before on his way home from Aurora; the funeral took place Sunday from the church and the burial in the cemetery of the German settlement. Mr. Haag was nearly 58 years of age, a native of Germany, and came here with his parents about 36 years ago--they being among the first settlers of the neighborhood known as the German prairie. He soon set up a household for himself and has lived there ever since, having been a good citizen, a peaceful neighbor and prosperous farmer; being quite steady when at home, but had a weakness in controlling himself when off to a place where liquor was sold, for which cause he was hurt several times, once before quite severely, and now brought to an untimely end.

Michael Burke died last Sunday and was buried yesterday in Aurora under the auspices of the Catholic church. General debility may be said to have been the cause of his death.

A miniature tornado passed about three miles south of here Sunday afternoon; through there by Russell's it hailed very hard, and the corn leaves were whipped into fringes by the wind.

The spirit seems to be to return to the old time campaigning; both parties here commenced yesterday making preparations for raising liberty poles. The Hancockers had a meeting Saturday evening at which a mass meeting with big speakers was decided upon for Aug. 7th. Ain't our Democrats pushing things too fast; won't their wind give out at this rate before getting through?

The big Oleander in full blossom on the sidewalk at Shepard's store has been a nice ornament for that part of the street the past two or three weeks.

A handsome sign with appropriate devices is embellishing the marble front building; the sign shows that Tom Roach is keeping his blacksmith shop there.

Yorkville: A letter to the editor of the *Kendall County Record* signed "Boltwood," states: "James A. Garfield is the man suited to our taste. He is looked upon as a self-made man, a man that rose from the most humble walks of life, and whose record as a scholar, statesman, and an honest man defies successful contradiction."

The State Agricultural Report for July gives the following as the condition of crops in Kendall County:

"Corn is much above an average in condition; on well drained land, the crop will be immense; the growth is well advanced for the season, and in good state of cultivation except on wet lands; in some sections cutworms and chinch bugs have injured the crop. Broom corn and sorghum cane are up to an average in condition. The small area of winter wheat left standing will make three-fourths of an average yield per acre. Rye is up to an average in condition. The rust and chinch bugs have injured the prospects for winter wheat, and there will not be more than half an average yield per acre. Barley promises three-fourths of an average crop. Oats have made a rank growth of straw and fears of lodging are entertained; where the crop can be saved there will be more than an average yield per acre. Irish and sweet potatoes are above an average in condition. Owing to the

clover being winter-killed, the hay crop will not be up to an average in yield per acre; hay is not being saved in as good condition as usual owing to the frequent rains. There is much interest manifested in the improved condition of farm animals and the demand is increasing for the best breeds. Considerable tile is being laid, and there is much talk of the importance of thorough drainage.”

August -- 1880

Aug. 5: Our post office has been further authorized to transact Money Order business through Germany with Denmark, Sweden, Norway, the Netherlands and Luxemburg.

Wm. R. Van Fleet returned from his summer sojourn in Kansas.

The Garfield pole is on the ground.

Fresh green window blinds and repainted casings are the embellishments that have been made on the Dug Lowry building the past week. Wils Briggs did the job. The Jacob Brucks family has moved into the second story of it.

George Cowdry [Cowdrey] had another hog die of supposed hydrophobia.

Wm. Crothers of Ohio--who, about 20 years ago, when a boy and called Willie, was living here--is now on a visit to Mrs. Jolly's, she being his sister.

Aug. 12: Don't know just how it happened, but they were threshing at John Simons. Angus McDiarmid probably was the driver, at any rate, he got a foot caught in the horsepower and crushed. Dr. Lester was immediately called to render surgical aid and found it necessary to amputate the foot above the ankle. The injured man is about 27 years old and now maimed for life.

Mrs. D.M. Haight and her sister, Miss Hobson, together with little Mabel Haight and Yettie Sierp drove to Naperville Sunday for the purpose of spending it with relatives; having reached their destination within one block, and just when about to turn a corner, some strap about the harness broke, which lashed against the mare's legs causing her to start into a sudden sharp trot and thereby overturning the vehicle. Mrs. Haight had the lower bone of the forearm near the elbow broken; Miss Hobson sustained a general shock and was rather hurt the most, being rendered unconscious for awhile; Mabel received a few bruises on the face and Yettie was merely shaken up some. Haight went in and yesterday morning brought home all but Miss Hobson.

Dr. Putt woke up suddenly about two o'clock Sunday night and saw an arm protruding through his bedroom window having hold of a stick with which the attempt was made to extract his pants that lay on the floor and within reach of the stick. When the doctor began his speech of protest the arm immediately withdrew and there was a scampering over the fence. It was found that a slat had been cut out so as to unhook the blind; the

wire screen was then unfastened, and thus the opening affected. Apparently an attempt had also been made to gain entrance into Troll's as a ladder was found placed against the house to reach an upstairs window.

The Oswego Republicans got boomy on Saturday for the first time in this campaign; it was the occasion of the raising of the Garfield pole, which was very successfully accomplished about 3 p.m. The pole is a very handsome one; it consists of three pieces respectively painted red, white, and blue; the splicing took place in the forenoon and it is surmounted by a ball and arrow van, the height of it is 80 feet above the ground. The handsome Garfield and Arthur flag when run up was lustily cheered. The crowd subsequently went to the town hall and was addressed by the Hon. Mr. Canfield of Aurora and Mr. Evarts and Judge Parks of Yorkville. The band, which had been doing excellent service during the afternoon, was again on hand and preceded the meeting with a number of pieces of very stirring music, both in the street and at the hall.

The Hancock club also had a business meeting Saturday evening at which a permanent organization was effected. Capt. Mann was chosen President and Geo. D. Wormley secretary.

The Garfield and Arthur club will meet Saturday evening at headquarters, the Richards' hardware store, the main business being the election of officers.

For recreation, Mrs. J.B. Hunt with a party of friends is now on a pleasure voyage round the lakes from Chicago to Duluth and back.

Yorkville: Capt. Mann of Oswego drove a nice little pacer to Yorkville Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. O.E. Judson of Sandwich passed through Yorkville Thursday on their annual trip to visit friends in Oswego, Peotone and other towns south of here. They find it a very pleasant way to spend a month--traveling with a horse and top carriage.

While the editor and foreman went to Oswego Saturday afternoon, Mr. Minkler brought in a nice basket of apples. It is safe to say the chaps who went to Oswego didn't get any of them. Report says the three "devils" devoured the half bushel of apples in less than 20 minutes.

The colored people celebrated Emancipation Day in Aurora Aug. 2d. The *Beacon* says: "Appropriate speeches were made by Rev. Mr. Jones, pastor of the colored M.E. church here, and Mr. J.L. Johnson of Plano. The latter gentleman is a very fluent and pleasing speaker and though his remarks would have been thought somewhat rambling and disjointed by a cultured white audience, he made a very fine address, which was listened to with close attention throughout. He gave his people much excellent and timely advice, which we trust they will all profit by."

Aug. 19: Mrs. Anna Dew has left us and gone to Chicago to live.

Nate Loucks is riding in a new buggy.

The magical show Tuesday evening met with poor success.

Frank Clark and Miss Drusilla Hopkins were married last week.

Mrs. Josiah Smith is here on a visit; the family is now settled on the Mississippi bottom lands protected by the Suy levee and suffered but little in the overflow awhile ago, being above the break.

The Republican club met at its new headquarters, the Richards' store room, for the first time Saturday evening. The principal business transacted was the adoption of a constitution and the completion of the election of officers, viz: H. Helle, D. Ladd, and C.F. Shoger, vice presidents; W.H. Coffin, assistant secretary; J.B. Pogue, treasurer; H.S. Ladd, Watts Cutter, J.J. Dobbin, C.A. Doud, and S.E. Walker, the executive committee. Of the parade company, C.C. Duffy was elected captain, E.T. Sutherland first, and T.J. Carpenter second lieutenant. Saturday evening was chosen for regular meeting; the band enlivened the meeting with some rattling music.

The Hancock cub also held a meeting that evening at which Morris Cliggitt made an address. Clint Merrick of Yorkville was present and advanced a few remarks in favor of joint discussions. The Handcockers yesterday hauled in their pole, a hickory 56 feet long--too bad spoiling a nice hickory tree--it will be raised on the north corner of the old National lots.

Yorkville: S.G. Minkler of Kendall is agent for the Ragan cider presses, and their testimonials in another column should be read by all who think of purchasing a machine for themselves.

Aug. 26: Thomas Rowland, about 72 years old, a native of England, a soldier in the U.S. army during the late war, and of late a pensioner, died last week at the residence of James Lewis, where he had made his abode. The remains were taken to Plainfield for burial. [Actually buried in the AuSable Grove Cemetery]

Dr. Lester has gone to spend some time on the Atlantic coast in Canada and Maine for the purpose of escaping the hay fever.

With the exception of some being footsore, the Knights of this vicinity came back from the grand Conclave much elated with the event. Frank Parker secured a large number of handsome badges of different commanderies and a stack of cards of individual members.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph D. Kennedy (old Oswegoans) of Manchester, Ia., having been to the Conclave, are now taking in this region for the purpose of a visit to their friends. Joe has little changed in his habits, especially the extravagance of blacking boots.

Among the visitors here are the Misses Anna and Libbie Brown of Newark.

Henry Hafenrichter has returned from a trip through a portion of Iowa and is much delighted with the country; believe he has made some investments in land there.

W.H. McConnell & Company have purchased grounds and building in Bristol Station for establishing a creamery there. Mack has gone to Chicago now to buy boiler, engineer and other machinery for the same and the enterprise will be pushed to completion. The people of Bristol Station and surrounding country will find this an energetic firm, playing promptly and good prices.

Charles Clinton has been called back to New Orleans on business but will return here to spend the balance of his summer vacation.

A Bicycle, Bizycle, or however the thing may be spelled, was in town Sunday, the first that ever was; it probably had come down from Aurora and was run very handily by its driver a young fellow.

Yorkville: A nice shower Thursday night last ended the intense heat of the two previous days.

Rev. E.W. Hicks' excursion from Shabbona to Rockford was a paying trip. The gross receipts were \$1,300 and the Baptist church at Shabbona cleared \$650.

Peaches and Ice Cream

The young ladies of the NaAuSay church will hold a festival in the church next Friday evening, Aug. 27th.

September -- 1880

Sept. 2: The barn on Wm. Wagner's farm was struck by lightning during the storm of Friday evening and thereby consumed by fire. The tenant, Charles Stiefbold, is the greatest sufferer, he having merely time when the fire was discovered to get out three horses, losing one and the best; the other losses being about 50 tons of hay, all the straw, 500 bushels of oats, 25 bushels of wheat, two sets of harness, a cultivator, corn planter, hay rake and fork, and other implements and tools; his total loss will be between \$700 and \$800; his hired man also lost a top buggy, cutter, and harness. The rent was cash, which it is said Mr. Wagner has considerably reduced; and insurance of \$800 was on the barn.

John Wormley remodeled his cider mill and now has things fixed just right for customers to have their apples in lots of any size turned into cider on the shortest notice and best terms.

The uniforms and torches for the Garfield guards were received last Tuesday; towards evening the company donned them, filled and lit their lamps, and with the band started

for NaAuSay to attend a meeting; a heavy rain that set in soon afterwards caused them to turn about and return.

The W.K. Van Fleet family also became tired of rural life and have moved to the city of Aurora.

George W. Wormley's cow collided with the engine of the construction train yesterday afternoon; she was carried by the cowcatcher a short distance and dropped one side; after being helped to her feet she was able to walk off, apparently not materially hurt.

Some of our male citizens were in Aurora yesterday and towards evening came home somewhat demoralized, having had a falling out among themselves, but I couldn't get no head nor tail as to what was the matter.

Oswego now after all has been honored with the nomination of one of her sons for a Court House office, viz: Charles E Hubbard for Circuit Clerk, by the Democracy. Charley will run well hereabouts and better than anybody else could on that ticket; he is not a swaggering Democrat and does not dread to wear a clean shirt, but on the contrary is very quiet and keeps nicely fixed up, in fact most of the people here take to be a stalwart Republican. He has been in the army--a member of the 127th--and I have heard the Captain of the company say that he was the best man on a march he ever knew; that he would tie a string around the bottom of his pants to keep the flying gravel from injuring his body, then go it all day and at the end show no more fatigue than would a steamboat. Though the office is to be run for, being good on a march, he ought to do well on a run.

Yorkville: G.W. Cowdry [Cowdrey] has one of the finest orchards in the State on his farm in Kendall county. He raises fruit that can not be beaten anywhere.--*Aurora News*.

Sept. 9: Col. Long's temperance lecture did not transpire; there being some misunderstanding about the place of holding it. The temperance cause here has been quite feeble for the past year or more and apparently is getting worse.

The "Stuart Locomotive," an Iowa paper of recent date, contains a lengthy and very touching obituary notice of Mrs. Olive F. Hawley. The deceased was the wife of Wm. A. Hawley and prior to about two years ago were residents of this town.

The new school term opened a week ago; F.P. Kerr in charge of the middlings is the only new teacher; the other, Prof. Duffy and Fanny Parsons, served the previous term.

H.G. Smith, the station agent, kindly furnished me a statement of the business done at the depot during the month of August and the same is quite a fair showing for Oswego; the shipments were 124 carloads of ice, 11 of livestock, 11 of grain, and 725 cans of milk. The express receipts amounted to \$366.21; telegraphing, \$46.61; passenger tickets, \$208.23; milk shipped, \$145; on freight received, \$490.97; and freight forwarded, \$2,316.04; the total being \$3,473.09.

George Burghart has been building an addition to his house.

Mrs. Ashley of Amboy--being the widow of Daniel Ashley, known as young Daniel when living in this vicinity many years ago--is visiting with a grandson, her brother-in-law, Orson Ashley.

Frank Putt, who started out about a year ago on the upward course of human existence and settled down over about Jericho is getting along amazingly well; he has reached the position of being a father.

Sept. 16: Frost no. 1, this morning. [Sept. 14]

It was by L.N. Hall and in the Phoenix of Hartford that Wm. Wagner's barn was insured; the company had a man here on short notice, allowed the full amount, \$800, and put it in the way of immediate payment.

Pat Galligan came to Oswego several months ago and joined his family, which had been living here for some time. He was in the employ of the ice company and he had been drinking considerably, especially last Saturday. Sunday he kept to his bed apparently sleeping it off, but in the afternoon, he died. The coroner held an inquest and from what the deceased had been saying, his movements when up that morning, and the manner of his death, the jury reached the verdict that he had taken poison.

Received a letter from Ezekiel Pearce, who is now out in Iowa where, in company with some of his brothers, they are doing some extensive farming. He says: "The Pearce Brothers have now standing on their land 295 grain stacks; we expect to commence threshing tomorrow--small job, don't you think? We also have 790 acres of corn, good for 40 bushels per acre."

The 4th Illinois Cavalry will hold its reunion this year on the 24th of September at the Grand Pacific in Chicago.

The household goods of Mrs. Walter Pearce were sold at auction Saturday. Mrs. P. and her daughter, Jessie Kimball, will start tomorrow for Denver, Col, where hereafter they intend to reside.

Frank Van Doozer has raised his residence to two stories; in fact he is almost making a new house of it and a very handsome one at that.

Professor Duffy has been building an addition to his house; also a detached structure.

Clint Gaylord bicycled our streets Saturday; he came from home and returned in the same manner.

It is said that Ed. Avery with a part of his family while out boating in Pensacola bay was overtaken by the big storm down there and compelled to put into a cove where they had to remain all night; that another boatload in their company were drowned by capsizing.

Ed. Obman moved with his family to Aurora yesterday.

Sept. 23: A surprise under the leadership of Mrs. M.J. Poage was gotten up for Mrs. Caroline Dodge Saturday afternoon. . . quite number of ladies and a few gentlemen meeting the old lady at her house and presenting her a plentiful supply of winter clothing, some provisions, an a promise of having her house resingled in a few days.

The funeral of Jerome Dano took place Sunday; he died at his son-in-law's John Russell's residence near Morris. He was about 70 years of age, came to this town from Canada about 30 years ago, and was buried in the French Catholic cemetery near Montgomery.

David Jenson and a Mr. Ryburn have started with a wagon for the West, and somewhere on the Missouri river intend to meet Robert Stevenson, when together they will make a trip to Colorado for the latter's health.

Yorkville: Morris is dreadfully afflicted with diphtheria. The Independent of Friday last contains a sorrowful list of sick ones and several who have died.

The Oswego Guards mounted a handsome show at Aurora Friday and were excelled by one. Capt. Duffy may be proud of his company--Lt. Sutherland was one of the finest looking men in the line and Lt. Carpenter was in no way to be denied. The Oswego boys marched like veterans.

Sept. 30: Next Monday evening the great political wave of Republicanism will strike this burg in the shape of a mass meeting. The Hon. J.M. Hamilton, candidate for Lieut. Governor, will be the principal speaker; the Garfield guards of all the surrounding towns have been invited and for them a cold banquet will be provided by our Garfield ladies; the event is going to be a grand boom without a doubt.

George Schamp, with a force of carpenters, has been framing the new barn of Wm. Wagner, and it soon will be ready for raising.

Zeke Pearce has sent home from Iowa some specimens of his corn there, the ears are from 9 to 11 inches long and as full as they can stick.

The Russell family has been one of the most healthy in this neighborhood, but of late suffered great afflictions--no less than four sisters together are down on the sickbed. First, Lizzie was taken sick in Kansas while on her way to the mountains for recreation. Julia went out and took care of her, but after a few weeks was taken sick herself. When they came home, and upon their arrival, both were in a very precarious condition. Ella had been at home but returned to Chicago and there resumed her occupation of teaching, but soon after was taken sick also. Maggie, whose powers have been severely taxed in taking

care of the others, at last succumbed and during a part of last week was quite low. Kate, the only other girl, is in Chicago taking care of Ella. The ailment, I believe, is typhoid fever in each case. The last report was that all four are much improved.

George, four year old boy of Foster Warner, died and was buried the latter part of last week.

Sam Hopkins, an Oswegoan of renown in the olden times, was in town the other day for the first time in a number of years; he still smokes a clay pipe.

Dr. Lester has returned from his sojourn in the Dominion, looking much improved in physical appearances.

October -- 1880

Oct. 7: The raising of the Wm. Wagner new barn has taken place.

John H. Wormley has been suffering for about two months with erysipelas in one hand, which has become quite bad, being now broke.

A cotton batting factory is the latest enterprise in this town. It is established by Mr. Alschuler of Aurora, in the Newton building north of the Waubonsie.

The funeral of an infant of August Haag of Ford county, took place here yesterday afternoon.

The account given last week of the Russell family was a mile out of the way. Julia, who was included in the downsick, I met about an hour after it had been written in a hale and hardy condition. Maggie was represented as being quite low, when in fact there is no Maggie in that family--Mattie was meant.

The Republican mass meeting last evening was a complete success; the weather was excellent, the crowd immense, and enthusiasm bubbling up in everybody. Organized bodies of the Garfield guards were present from Yorkville, Millbrook, Millington, several companies from Aurora, among which was a colored and one mounted, and there were a number of bands of music.

Yorkville: A great deal of corn has been cut up by the farmers between Bristol and Oswego and put into shocks. The fodder will amply repay all the trouble.

A large number of the friends of Rev. E.W. Hicks and wife gathered at the Baptist parsonage on Tuesday evening, Sept. 28, to help the worthy couple celebrate their fifth wedding anniversary. The Cornet band was present and discoursed sweet music. F.W. Gilbert in behalf of the friends, presented them with a nice upholstered easy chair, a

whatnot, a clock, and a pair of wooden shoes for the Elder. They both made short speeches.

Horace Young caught a five pound pickerel in the river at Yorkville Monday.

Oct. 14: Mr. L.L. Lynch has returned from his travels, and Dwight Smith also.

The parties that started to go with Robert Stevenson to Colorado met in Missouri but separated again; Robert and his sister going on by rail to Emporia, Kansas, where they are again to be overtaken by Dave Jeneson and Ryburn with the team.

Wm. N.D. Bird is here from New York State visiting Mrs. Ellen A. Davis and others of AuxSable Grove, that being the place of his nativity. He is the son of the once well known Doctor Bird.

Somebody was kind enough to have it shown in print that I am not sound on the political goose; that I seem to think "there is but little difference between the Republicans and Democrats." Yes, the fellow is right about it; in order to be considered sound on politics now, you must be as crazy as a bedbug; on the one hand you must believe that if the Democrats should get in, they would take every damn thing from you and give it to the Rebs down South and on the other, if the Republicans should continue another term, everything will become centralized and ere long you won't be able to take an independent sneeze. The gentleman who thus exposed me is of course crazy enough to be sound politically.

Yorkville: The section men in this vicinity have been putting new steel rails on the Fox River railroad track. We are going to have the boss road.

Oct. 21: Miss Melissa Edwards was married to Mr. Robert Manley of Aurora last Thursday. The wedding took place at the residence of the bride's parents, Thomas Edwards.

The vacancy of a teacher in the primary department of our school caused by the resignation of Miss Fanny Parsons was filled by Miss Kate Cliggitt.

The grandest time yet enjoyed--the Garfield Guards say--was going to Newark Friday night.

Now is the time to see that pumps are in good working order. The well on the old National [hotel] premises, the most public in town, should receive attention in regard to its hand pump; the windmill apparatus cannot be depended upon, especially in cold weather.

A new company of Garfield guards, made up of boys under 12 years old, was parading with lamps, banners and by its own music last night; the boys made quite a show and behaved pretty well; they were uniformed from the milliner shop.

Yorkville: Nate Loucks says Oswego will give 200 majority for the straight Republican ticket. That's the way they feel up there.

Oct. 28: Miss Christie A. McDiarmid was married last Wednesday to a Mr. David Finley of Plainfield.

Charles W. Samse has returned after an absence of nearly one year and traveling over the biggest part of the Northwestern States.

The Republican meeting Tuesday evening partook of the usual form, the street parade and music preceding the speaking; the youth's Garfield guards (same might be called the Maggie Shepard company, as she is the funder of it) elicited much attention while on duty in forming the rear of the parade.

The Garfield guards, both large and small, went to a meeting Wednesday evening at NaAuSay.

The Greenback meeting Thursday evening took place at Chapman's hall and wasn't a large nor jubilant affair. The speaker, Herman Humphrey of Huntsville, Ala., however made quite a lengthy speech and doubtless gave a very fair statement of the affairs in Alabama and the South generally. The main drift of his utterances was that owing to the reconstruction measures and the carpet bag governments imposed upon, and that have played such smash with the southern people, they have so soured on the Republican party that it never can make any inroad on the whites of the south; they will always remain solid Democratic against Republicanism.

Saturday was a busy day for Oswego; a great deal of hard physical campaign labor was performed. The Democrats performed their long delayed job, the raising of the Hancock pole, and they did it well and without any outside help; it is said to be 104 feet high above ground and it required much power to raise it, the lower section being green hickory, but by the use of a capstan and everything well arranged they got along exceedingly well, but for the last thing, the staying of the top pole, would have accomplished the job. The stays were of 3/8 iron rod, two of which broke when tightened up and the top pole had to be again lowered and left so till now--just commenced to fix it.

The Republicans also had a big tussle with their pole; during the windy days the flag rope was chafed in two by one of the iron binders, leaving the end dangling down about 20 feet from the top. Willie Briggs, being a painter and used to elevation, undertook to climb up and readjust the rope. The time he chose for it was Friday evening about 8 o'clock; it was cloudy and quite dark and all that were cognizant of it agreed that it was a most opportune time for it as one couldn't see to get dizzy; he ascended to the very top nicely but it appears what while trying to free the pulley of fragments of a worn out streamer that had been drawn in his feet, which were provided with climbers, slipped causing him to slide down the upper section and securing a hold on the binders where spliced; that this occurrence had the effect of unnerving him, and instead of trying to complete the

undertaking he worked to come down; over the middle section he came very slowly and stopped on the splice, apparently resting but all of a sudden dropped, the distance is said to be thirty-eight feet; he was picked up and carried to Dr. Van Deventer's office and it was found that one ankle was badly sprained.

Just learned that Frank Parker was married last week; the bride is a Miss Catie Maunsell of Chicago.

Frank Richards has resumed the tin business at the old place.

The Hancocks, in full uniform, went to Aurora last night to do duty.

November -- 1880

Nov. 4: It is hoped that there may be a change; a change in reading matter, a change of doings, of thinking, of will towards each other; that there may be less demand for political duties, the safety of the country require less of the burning of petroleum, and that people may become once more persuaded that they won't be eaten raw no matter who is President.

"How many torches were there?" is the first question that is asked about political meetings; the number is the index of success. The Democratic meeting last week was a failure, the torches numbering less than a hundred.

The poles have been a heap of botheration; the Hancock pole had been made complete Tuesday morning, the streamer and flag run up, and they waved majestically; after the blow out, the flag was taken down but the streamer left to wave on and it do so very nicely all the next day but during Thursday it was blown up so as to catch on the sharp point surmounting the arrow vane on top of the pole; the name of Hancock by this was folded in, leaving English waving alone; in getting it off the point was bent down.

Gotfried Schwarz has moved to town and is occupying the house of Mrs. Fowler on Jefferson street.

The Gaylord monument was erected on Jefferson street, and is now the most imposing object in the cemetery; it is a very massive one, and resting on a very solid base; the monument is made of the Hurricane No. 1 Granite, by J.H. Anderson of Chicago and I heard him say that he charged \$900 for it, but should refuse to duplicate it.

The intelligence of the death of Robert Stevenson at a place called Air, in Kansas, was received Friday; the corpse accompanied by his sister, Eliza, was met yesterday at Aurora and conveyed to Specie Grove.

Mrs. Kirk L. Walker died very unexpected, and Miss Mary Whitman dropped dead on P.G. Hawley's stoop while there on an errand yesterday.

Yorkville; Tuesday's election is a Waterloo to the Democratic party. Garfield and Arthur have secured 219 electoral votes, New Jersey and Nevada being in doubt. Hancock and English have the solid south, 138 votes, although Florida is claimed by the Republican national committee.

Nov. 11: A new pump is on the National well.

The first carload of cotton for the new firm of J. Alshuler & Co. in the new enterprise, the manufacturing of cotton batting, was received from St. Louis Saturday.

The funeral of Robert Stevenson took place Wednesday, the services being held at the house. The case of the deceased partook of more than ordinary sadness; first he was a very exemplary young man, and then the family has been reduced by death so rapidly--within little more than 18 months father, mother, and son were gathered in, leaving but two sisters, young ladies, as the remnant of the Stevenson family.

Brief mention was made last week of the death of Mrs. Kirk L. Walker--nee Paulina Wayne--and Miss Mary Whitman, Tuesday forenoon. Both were so sudden and close to each other that for awhile they became the general topic at the town house where the election was in progress. Mrs. Walker was sick, but her complaint was regarded as but of an ordinary nature--her mother, Mrs. Wayne, was there but as there was no apprehension of any danger, she returned to her home with Kirk, who came to town to vote and it was only a short time after their arrival that a messenger came from the home with the intelligence of the death of Mrs. Walker. Her funeral took place Thursday afternoon from the Congregational church. With Mary Whitman, death was only a question of time, she being afflicted with consumption; it was merely the suddenness that caused any surprise. She felt extra well that morning, started to go up town and on the way called in at Hawley's to see Carrie, her sister, who is employed there; on leaving there and having stepped from the kitchen out on the stoop, she began to cough and then immediately died in the arms of Carrie, who had run to her assistance. The funeral was Thursday forenoon, and also at the Congregational church.

Though no organized, but much of the spontaneous, jollifying has been had over the result of the election. John Chapman, theretofore the most incorrigible Bourbon, immediately upon the receipt of the new declared that henceforth and for the time being, he shall be a Republican and on the average he drank as often, smoked as many cigars, and jollied as lustily as anybody. He is now talked of for our next Supervisor.

The Rev. Mr. Colgrove moved his family from Freeport to this town last week. Miss Mary, one of the members, is a very healthful and good looking young lady, and will make a valuable addition to the social circles of our young people.

Mr. A.J. Goodier was in town Saturday, and from him I learned that he has returned to this county to teach, having taken the school at Lisbon. Mr. G., some years ago, taught the school in the Fox district, and as a teacher and gentleman, was liked very much.

During one night of last week a black streamer was raised on the Hancock pole, and of course the presumption is that it was done by some one or more of the opposite party, and there are some that think it was Miss Maggie Shepard that did it, which, however, is not very likely to be the case. Maggie was extra zealous in the campaign, and she may have exhibited undue partisan spirit, but I don't believe she hoisted that flag; no, I won't believe it.

The preaching Sunday evening at the Methodist church was by Miss Libbie Smith, the lady revivalist, now here on a visit.

Yorkville: The first snow of the season, in this locality, came Saturday morning. We don't like snow.

Read Mr. Anton Miller's advertisement in this issue. He will take corn, oats, and all kinds of farm produce in exchange for goods at his store in Oswego.

Mrs. Young of Kendall county, who has been visiting her daughter, Mrs. E.W. Hicks for the last two weeks, returned home on Thursday, Mrs. Hicks accompanying her.--  
*Shabbona Express.*

Circuit Clerk Bennett breaks up housekeeping this week. Mrs. Bennett will go to Chicago to visit friends till L.G. gets ready to go to Missouri. We lose one of our best families, and there is a general regret that these good people are to leave Yorkville.

Strayed or stolen from the house of L.G. Bennett, on the night of the 3d, a quarter section of cream cake, on which was the name of J.R. Marshall. As it was a perishable article, we fear it is beyond a reward.

Nov. 18: The intelligence of the death of Mrs. George Howell, nee Miss Carrie Doud, which occurred the first part of last week at her new home in Kansas was painful to a large portion of this community. Carrie was an Oswego girl, and esteemed by all her acquaintances, and then she was yet so young, only about 20. It is said that at her death, a baby about two weeks old was surviving her. The remains were brought to Aurora for interment.

The cotton batting factory is now in full operation but so far I have not found it opportune to go and see it work.

Esquire Jeneson has returned from his trip out west.

The Arion Bell Ringers performed here Friday evening to a pretty good house, and were well liked.

Yorkville: L.B. Judson was 74 years old on the 13th. And he doesn't look over 60.

Farmers say they can get no help husking corn. Where is everybody?

Thomas Greenfield of Oswego has a fine farm for sale.

J.G. Schilling of Oswego called at the *Record* office Monday for a History of Kendall County.

Nov. 25: Thomas W. Lewis and Miss Emma Hawley were married last week; it took place in Aurora.

The strutting of Hank Minard the last few days is now explained; he is a dad and it is a boy at that.

Miss Cora Samse went to Chicago for the purpose of attending school there during the winter.

James S. Hoyt and his family are today moving to Plymouth County, Ia., to take charge of the farm of his father-in-law, Ezekiel Pearce.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Darby have lost by death their baby last week.

About two weeks ago Mrs. Wm. Santry--nee Kate Rowan--returned with her children from Texas after residing there about two years. The country did not agree with her health; otherwise, however, she liked it well.

The funeral of Mrs. Alexander Dano took place Sunday under the auspices of the French Catholic society of Aurora. Mrs. D. had reached the age of 74 years; she was the mother of a large number of hardy children; the family came to Oswego from Canada 32 years ago.

The tar roofers have returned and going into winter quarters and so have most of the lightning rod men come in.

The M.C. Richards family, all but Nellie, moved Saturday to Ottawa.

The cold snap has been having a depressing effect on many things, especially early rising and consequently this report is not better nor more extensive.

Yorkville: Two Kendall County suits were decided by the Supreme Court at Ottawa last week. The case of L.G. Bennett vs. Van Fleet, which has been dragging along for some years, was affirmed. The case of the Town of Fox vs. the Town of Kendall for the support of a pauper was affirmed, and Fox will pay Mr. Mallory's expenses.

Mrs. L.G. Bennett of Yorkville and her daughter Carrie are visiting with Mr. and Mrs. L.B. Judson for a day or two. Next week they leave Yorkville for Springfield, Mo., where they intend to reside hereafter.

Married

Lewis-Hawley--On the 18th inst., by Rev. N.A. Prentice at the residence of the officiating clergyman, Mr. Thomas W. Lewis and Miss Emma D. Hawley, both of Oswego.

December -- 1880

Dec. 2: The mill pond was illuminated last night, it being the occasion of a skating party upon it.

Now subscription time, and all newspapers and magazines can be procured through the Postmaster as cheap as from any other source.

Dec. 9: John W. Chapman had 72 nice chickens and a part of his chores was to feed them, which he promised to do the other morning, but when coming to the coop, he found that it was empty. A little investigation showed that they had been stolen.

Ike McCullough, of Livingston county, was in town the other day calling on the writer for a few minutes, during which Ike briefly related his prosperity in family and property, and also referring to a number of reminiscences of 23 years ago when both of us were inhabitants of Plattville. He had not forgotten the present made him at the sore the day after his marriage.

For the purpose of forming acquaintances, &c., the lately arrived family of the Rev. Mr. Colgrove was subjected to a surprise visit one evening last week by a number of our people, especially those of the Methodist society.

A German concert was a part of the amusements last week, which, however, I did not witness; there appeared to be no distribution of complimentaries.

Elder Minard has gone to Missouri and Kansas to look after his interest in those states. Old Rab--which is the short of Arabian--the family horse of Elder Minard, disappeared the night after the Elder's departure. Was old Rab stolen or has he strayed away is the query.

The boarding house, a two story, and the stable constructed by Esch Bros. & Rabe [in Troy] for the accommodation of the men and horses necessary for the ice harvest are completed and doubtless the operation of cutting and storing the ice will commence immediately.

The Rev. Henry Minard of Oswego has a cow that within the last ten months has furnished his family of four persons, besides a large number of comers and goers, with all the milk, cream, and butter wanted. In the same time, she has raised her calf, which took just one half of the milk for the first four months, and he has sold butter enough--made

from the milk of the same cow--to come to \$41.40. Who has got a better cow? Mr. M. has frequently weighed the milk obtained in a day, which amounted to over 50 pounds.

Yorkville: Fresh oysters at the Bristol post office.

A.B. Platt is buying hides, furs, and pelts again this winter. He will pay you the highest market price for them in cash.

L.G. Bennett loaded up a car with household goods on Monday and leaves Yorkville for a permanent home in Missouri--near Springfield. Games A. Godard is now Clerk of the Circuit Court and *Recorder*.

Dec. 16: Miss Georgia Hilderbrand, after number of years' absence in Indiana, has returned.

Mrs. Roberts (nee Sarah Beaupre) and daughters of DeKalb; Mrs. Beaupre and Wm. S. Beaupre and wife of Aurora were visiting the Newton family last week.

L.N. Hall has just commenced opening his stock of holiday goods, the best selection he ever had.

It is on the north of the Waubonsie, in the suburbs where the most enterprise is manifested; there are the two flourishing establishments, the cotton batting factory and the Fox River Creamery; but it is up in Troy where just now the great industrial boom is experienced, occasioned by the ice harvest; the company this year is using steam for the hoisting of the ice and the arrangements are most completed for the taking of it in rapidly. They are now working about 75 men.

Wm. Parker & Son, besides the addition made to their furniture factory, have just completed the construction of an upper story to the saw mill; the mill itself has undergone a general overhauling, the logway, gates, and many other parts have been renewed.

Because of being continually in the way of each other, many good and great doings are not accomplished. There are doubtless more than enough items that might have been picked up here and there by an energetic correspondent to make an interesting and respectable-sized letter. I have been Oswego's representative in the *Record* these number of years and during all that time been in the way of somebody more adapted and better qualified. There is now a good deal of retiring going on; some of the army generals have been retired; some Supreme judges are to be retired, and that I ought to be retired, especially under existing circumstances is quite certain, for Oswego society has fully returned to its normal condition, namely that of church societies, private circles and the saloon fraternity. I am on the outside of everything there is. Let the editor invite some other correspondent, one from the inside of one or more circles and who is up with the times; there are doubtless someone who would take great pride in it, make their communication racy, take great pains in the selection of language to dress them with, and thus greatly benefit the *Record* by the change.

U.R. Strooley

(There is no use in Brother "Strooley" talking about resigning--he is the one element that gives character to the *Record*. He is dignified in manner, cool and collected in difficulty, of irreproachable conduct, can argue either side of a question with equal ability and faith, and the public can't spare him. He stands without the circle, on the highest seat of the amphitheatre, he looks over the whole scene, and is able to judge society, churches and--saloons. No! "Strooley" must continue or Oswego is lost.--Editor.)

Yorkville: The Hord Brothers of the Montgomery Mills have bought Gristen's mill near Joliet.

Circuit Clerk Godard had had his hands full the past week. Besides learning the ropes, he had had to prepare an abstract in the Oswego road suit for the Appellate Court, which is very long. He is equal to the emergency.

Thursday, Dec. 23, 1880, on the McKenney farm three miles southeast of Oswego, M.B. Poage will sell a lot of personal property, such as horses, cattle, hogs, hay, wagons, farming implements, six stand of bees, etc. Terms, over \$10 on ten months' time. David Hall auctioneer.

Mark Twain's scrap book, photograph and autograph album at Hall's, Oswego.

As usual, L.N. Hall has an immense stock of holiday goods at Oswego.

"Mr. R.W. Marshall, of the Kendall Co. *Record*, is escorting a couple of fine-looking ladies about town today." *Aurora News*, Monday. (Well, he's a fraud. Whenever you see or hear of any R.W. Marshall hailing from the *Record* office, shoot him on the spot. There is no doubt, however, about the fine looking ladies.)

Dec 23: No Oswego news column.

Dec. 30: The funeral of Robert Graham, whose tragic death has already been mentioned in the *Record*, took place Friday, the services being at the house. The burial was under the auspices of the Masonic Lodge, the deceased having been a member of it. Barring the last act, Mr. Graham has been one of the most exemplary men in this community.

The temperance cause in Oswego is at a very low ebb. We have three saloons and all running under the cover of license. Notwithstanding the cover of authority, there is not a day goes by without some violation of the law, and yet it is calmly submitted to by the authorities. The facts are, the people have no confidence in the powers of their own creation, and things are left at loose ends. Oswego, in order to redeem herself, must take two important steps at her coming municipal and town elections; Elect a board of trustees that will not give license and a supervisor that will not select such grand jurymen as will not make presentments against saloon men for violation of law..

Yorkville: A.B. Platt, the boss flour merchant of Plattville, was in Yorkville Thursday last. He gives bottom prices on flour.

The abstracts for the Oswego Road suit, now being prepared for the Appellate court, cost \$317. That is, the Circuit Clerk's work, only.

The private cemetery belonging to E. Darnell, beautifully situated on a bluff overlooking Fox River, has recently been enlarged and beautified. A company has been organized to take charge of it, and received its charter from the State dated December 20, and is to be known under the name of the Sacred Bluff Cemetery Association. Following are the directors for the first year: Enoch Darnell, Francis M. Darnell, Samuel N. Darnell, Davis N. Darnell, and George W. Greenfield.

On Wednesday, Jan. 5th, 1881, John H. Hafenrichter, at his residence in the German settlement, three miles south-east of Oswego, will sell a lot of fine stock, hay, oats, corn, farming implements, harnesses, household furniture, etc. David Hall, Auctioneer.

#### *Birth Record*

Dec. 22. To Mrs. John W. Cherry, NaAuSay, a girl.

Nov. 17. To Mrs. Henry Minard, Oswego, a boy.

#### *Death Record*

Nov. 30. Ella Wormley, Oswego, aged 17 days.

Nov. 2. Pauline Walker, Oswego, age 33 years.

Dec. 5. Henry Gabel, Kendall, aged 68 years, 1 month, and 5 days.

Dec. 19. Levi A. Whitlock, NaAuSay, aged 57 years, 9 months, and 27 days.

1881

January

Jan. 6: 1880 is past; the leap year is ended, and we are...left.

The introduction of receiving and making New Year's calls proved a success; it was attended to quite generally and with much formality.

Not only do the Germans fall in with many of the modern social conventionalities but they will carry them out to all intents and purposes; when therefore they have a surprise, it will be one not merely nominal. It was ten years since George Hafenrichter and Maggie Haag were married, and so a number of their relatives and most intimate friends provided a surprise celebration of that event.

The time for the spring elections is drawing near; that of the corporation will be first, and issues upon which to contest it are in order now. I would suggest to the license party that it put into its platform these two planks: First in favor of an ordinance, that teams after

standing hitched three hours in the street shall be removed and taken care of at the owner's expense, and second that no man drunk up to the degree of feeling sleepy shall be allowed to undertake driving home alone.

The remains of Wm. Herrick were brought to this place for burial last week. The deceased was raised in Oswego and had been settled in the southern part of DeKalb county.

The intelligence was received of the recent death of Amos Holt, of Akron, Ohio. He had been an inhabitant of Oswego in the long ago.

Yorkville: Senator J.R. Marshall left Yorkville Saturday morning for Springfield to look after the interests of the people of the 13th district in the State Senate.

#### Married

Turner-Warner. --In Aurora at the residence of the officiating clergyman, Dec. 24th, 1880 by Rev. John L. Jackson, Mr. Alven Turner and Miss Ida Warner, both of Oswego.

When the mercury was 26 below zero in Yorkville on Wednesday of last week we received a letter from Santa Barbara, Calif., fresh with the odor of violets, a number of the blossoms being enclosed therein. It was from our former Oswego friend, J.A. Kenney, who wants the *Record* to visit him in his genial home.

Black & Clark have put a new 20-horsepower engine into the paper mill to help them out when the water is low. The river at this season of the year is so low that they were forced to resort to this means in order to keep the mill running.

Jan. 13: The wedding of Miss Clara B. Pearce to a Mr. Henry Sanders occurred last week Wednesday at the bride's parents Ezra Pearce.

It is said Oswego is to have another creamery; what is known as the old cooper shop is to be turned into one, and a man from Millington is to do it.

A family by the name of McKay, hailing from NaAuSay, have moved into and are occupying a part of the house of Miss Eliza Kennedy. The men folks I believe are blacksmiths and are working for Henry Hebert.

Many of the cisterns of this town are dry, too, and ice also is brought from the river for household purposes.

A paragraph appeared in the neighborhood papers that Miss Annie Ferris formerly of Oswego was recently married at Quincy to a Mr. Homer Doud. I presume it means Miss Carrie, daughter of Norman T. Ferris of Hannibal, Mo.

Thomas Miller has bought of J.C. Shepard 10 acres of land adjoining the village on the southeast for \$800; the land is close to Miller's residence.

The total receipts from all sources at the depot during 1880 were \$27,000; total number of cars received and forwarded 932; cars of ice shipped 581; 401 cars include stock, grain, coal, lumber, feed, wheat, cotton, granite and tile; there were 5,073 passenger tickets sold; 5,785 cans of milk were shipped, mostly by W.H. McConnell & co.; M.J. Poage & Co. received 94 cars of coal and 72 of lumber; Wollenweber & Knapp shipped 108 cars of stock; Wm. Parker & Son received 6 cars of wheat and 2,500 pounds of fire and burglar proof safe.

Yorkville: 1,496 freight trains with 33,661 cars have been run from Aurora to Streator over the Fox River road during the past year, and about the same number returned.

Married

Sanders-Pearce. --January 5th, at the residence of Ezra Pearce, the bride's father, by Elder Minard of Oswego, Henry Sanders and Miss Clara B. Pearce, all of Bristol.

Jan. 20: It would be superfluous to say anything about the cold weather we have been having, the bountiful supply of the beautiful snow bestowed, the merry jingling of the sleigh bells and the delight of the small boy in hitching on; for most readers of the *Record* doubtless have experienced the same things.

There was a meeting held Saturday evening at the Richards store room--Andrew Gray being the chairman--the object being to examine into the status of our village. It happens sometimes; that when the village board undertakes to carry out certain measures, some individuals defiantly boast that they won't pay any attention to it, that the corporation isn't worth a continental, &c. It was to look into the matter and ascertain whether really there was anything crooked about it; the feeling of the meeting however seemed to be in favor of throwing up the old charter anyhow and reorganizing under the latest law on the subject. A committee consisting of W.H. McConnell, D.M. Haight and Geo. R. Schamp was appointed to ascertain what steps are necessary to bring such about and report to a meeting called for next Saturday evening at the same place.

Frank Andrews and Miss Ettie Pearce were married last week.

It appears like old times to see Mrs. Welch of Little Rock--nee Alice Loucks--around town.

Frank Van Doozer's place--the barber shop--was entered one night of last week by prying open the back door and about \$7 worth of cigars and plug tobacco stolen. Frank doesn't at all feel hard towards the thief, but rather eulogizes his generosity, being he took no more and the poorest quality of the goods.

It appears we now have a "Dramatic club;" posters are out that they will exhibit Thursday and Friday evenings at the Red ribbon hall.

Hube Ladd is now the head clerk in Hunt's store.

Yorkville: The *Record* office has just printed a 20 page brief for Mr. B.F. Herrington in the Oswego Road suit, which is now in the Appellate Court at Ottawa. Considering our facilities and the amount of other job work done during the time, we think we did pretty well.

A heavy snow storm visited this section Saturday and Sunday, some six or eight inches of snow falling and now everybody (except the printers) are enjoying the sleighing and the air is full of the music of the bells. (Well, we don't care--when we get rich, we'll have a cutter, and a horse, etc.)

Jan. 27: The Dramatic club met with success in exhibiting "Down by the Sea" Thursday and Friday evenings, having a full house each time and realizing nearly \$30. The Misses Kate and Allie Lester and Mary Colgrove, James Poage, Hube Ladd, Watts Cutter and Hank Smith were the performers.

The opportunity for pleasure now afforded by the fine sleighing has been much improved by L.N. Hall in his stylish rig, and a number of his friends--mostly ladies--shared the enjoyment.

Kate Lester has for a good while very faithfully acted in the capacity of organist at the Methodist church.

The Readjusters' adjourned meeting duly convened Saturday at the Richards' store room to hear the report of the committee; the latter however was not prepared to offer one, giving for an excuse "the inability of getting legal advice; owing to the circuit court, lawyers were too busy." The time was then extended and the subject of readjusting the municipal government discussed pro and con; John Chapman intimated that it was a ring movement and a partisan at that; the other side claimed that there was nothing to show that this is an incorporated village, no record of it in the County clerk's office nor anywhere else. The opponents to the movement are generally the old settlers, indeed they claim the act of incorporating this village as one of the greatest legislative achievements, placing Oswego and Newark ahead of anything in the state; I believe it was procured through John Crothers when representative, and lobbied by Chapman and others; these men regarded it as a monument of their greatness and now when new comers come up and say "you old fogies didn't know what you were about," it don't set good; said Fred Coffin through the discussion, "Take the Fat book and there on page 1,328 you will find the thing in full splendor." I have hunted up the said "fat book" and sure enough just as he said there it is, "An act to extend the jurisdiction and powers of the president and trustees and constables of the towns of Oswego and Newark, in the county of Kendall," and then going on specifying at length what those extra powers are, the most prominent of which are: the maintainment of a calaboose, the acquiring of real estate, and of such outside of the corporation for a cemetery and potters field; the authorization of erecting public buildings, the regulation of all public grounds and their ornamentation, the regulation of the liquor traffic, the sale of powder etc., contagious diseases, cattle running at large, examination of dogs, suppression of vagrancy, begging and drunkenness, the inspection

of weight and measures, adulterated food and drink, gaming, lotteries, houses of ill fame, loud noise and disorderly conduct of any kind are to be suppressed. So far but two parties have come to the surface, those who want to do away with the old corporation and immediately reorganize anew, the other wants to maintain the old institutions; a third party to which I shall belong will appear in due time, favoring the abrogation of the corporation and falling back on the township government.

Yorkville: The last one of our "History of Kendall County" has gone and Mr. Heap Benson of Francisville, Ind., got it. Mr. Benson used to live a few miles south of Yorkville.

February -- 1881

Feb. 3: The family reunion at the house of John H. Wormley, January 25, is among the notable social events of the season. About thirty-five guests, representing four generations of the pioneer host came together.

Dwight Ladd is on the sick list.

The family of Alexander Dano--with the exception of two of the girls who I believe got married there--have returned from Missouri. They didn't like it there.

The marriage of George Brown and Christine McCloy should have been mentioned a week or two ago.

The Readjusters committee called a meeting for Tuesday evening to offer their report, but instead presented an attorney, Mr. F.B. Harrington. He pointed out the steps necessary toward reorganization, the obstructions most likely in the way and the means for their removal--referring to the precedents and citing law and judicial decisions. A petition to the board of trustees, praying to call a special election for voting upon the question of reorganization was presented and signed by nearly everybody present--the assembly not being large and most all were in favor of the movement. There were some who thought they saw a weak point, namely if there is a cloud over the present organization as charged if the acts of the board are invalid, it must follow that the election which they were to call would be an invalid act also and the government base upon it could not be any better than the one calling it into existence; this however has been all cleared away; it has been explained that the present board is at least a corporation de facto, and therefore their acts are valid if once done; that is to say if they order you to work on the road and you cheerfully do it you have violated no law and are not liable, and what you have done shall be considered as good as lawful labor; but on the other hand they not being a corporative de jure, hence you see they cannot compel you to observe their ordinance, if they undertake it, just come the que warrants on them. The voting done at the election called by them will be on the same footing as the road work, both good if once performed but neither can be forced and as afar as the election is concerned the less there are that will vote the easier the will of the people can be determined.

The weather Thursday night was intensely cold but nevertheless the Presbyterian donation was a success; the proceeds amounted to over \$130.

Yorkville: Capt. Ed. Mann of Oswego was in Yorkville Monday and stopping at the *Record* office gave us an interesting account of printing when he was a boy. The Captain was an apprentice in a printing office in the days of his youth.

A postal card from L.G. Bennett at Springfield, Mos. says: We have found the term "Sunny South" as applied to Missouri to be a myth. Six weeks of good sleighing, with the thermometer skirmishing around among the 20s would make a Laplander smile. We had a fearful storm of rain and sleet the 21st inst., which freezing to the trees has nearly ruined some orchards and broken down many large forest trees.

Feb. 10: A gloom was cast over this entire community by the death of Dwight Ladd, who was yet in the prime of life, only 55 years of age, apparently of a robust constitution and a man of the most exemplary habits. He was one of the old inhabitants, came here from Smyrna, N.Y. when a mere boy. In 1849 he went to California; a few years after he returned, got married for several years was residing in the village and about 17 years ago moved on the farm where he has been living ever since.

One of the enterprises that D.M. Haight is engaged in is the manufacture of cider vinegar, for which purpose he requires a good deal of cellar room; he has just completed a new cellar of which he is very proud, and well he might be, for it is a neat and most substantial job--its door casings are of cut stone, its walls are plastered and finished with a smooth coat, it contains a brick floor, &c. Charles Avery did the mason work and Keihl the excavating.

Feb. 17: Wollenweber & Knapp shipped the other day a choice lot of 200 hogs; 120 were from Deacon Small that averaged 412 pounds and brought the Deacon nearly \$2,500.

A surprise wood wedding was imposed upon Dr. Putt and wife last Thursday evening.

The alarm of "Fire!" was sounded during yesterday forenoon; volunteer firemen responded promptly but upon investigation found it to be only the vapor arising from the wet shingles caused by the sun.

Mr. Edward Burrell and wife, the latter nee Betsey Parker, of New York State are on a visit to their relatives here, the Parkers.

The Valentine business this year was run into a mania by the school children; it threatened to leave me no time at all to write up anything.

It appears that it is up in the Wormley district where the great social doings are taking place. A party given at the residence of W.W. Wormley the other evening is said to have been the grandest of the season. There were a hundred guests in attendance, all imbued

with gaiety and fun, in short it was an event of extreme happiness to all in attendance. The principal entertainment being the tripping of the fantastic toe to the music of the Howard And Weston Band. The party was for the Misses Ida Wormley and Lottie Davis.

Feb. 24: Early risers last Wednesday enjoyed the opportunity of seeing the sun accompanied by two splendid dogs; real big fellows.

It should have been mentioned heretofore that Oswego has made another progressive step and reached a very important business acquisition namely that of a bank. L.N. Hall in connection with his store is now doing a general banking business, and he has the best facilities for conducting it.

The time has arrived for making up the issues for the corporation election, as the same will take place a week from next Saturday. Some that have looked into the statutes upon which the corporation is founded say that the same can be voted down at any regular election for trustees without previous notice having been given. If that is the case, let us do it.

The *Record's* Oswego correspondent (Lorenzo Rank, who signed himself "Ur Strooley") wrote a commentary objecting to the Compulsory Education Bill being discussed by the Illinois General Assembly, He noted Republicans were generally for the new law; Democrats were proposed. The correspondent said he objected to the philosophy behind the bills: "It is altogether un-American; personal liberty should never be ignored in American laws; there is a wide difference between the 'compelling to do' and the 'preventing from doing;' the person prevented from doing a thing the same time is at liberty to choose some other engagement but when compelled to do a thing, his personal liberty is entirely gone...compulsory laws should only be resorted to when touching the criminal classes or when effecting the public in general, such as 'compelling to pay taxes' or 'work on the road.' The asserting that such law would improve the morals and therefore be of general benefit is now well founded; education is employed for the bad as well as the good; the danger of many criminals lays in their excellent education."

March -- 1881

March 3: A big transaction in real estate took place Saturday; G.W. Combs sold his farm, with all its stock, utensils and everything upon it; it is what is known as the "old Judson Place" and contains 410 acres. The price paid for it is said to be \$25,000.

Dr. Fred W. Lester was last Thursday married to Miss Libbie Budlong.

Wm. Ladd was married last Tuesday at Sandwich to Mrs. Lydia Cole.

Frank Richards has moved into the new house of Mr. Farley, corner of Jackson and Madison streets.

The burial of old Mrs. Bull took place in the Oswego cemetery Sunday. Mrs. B. was one of the oldest persons, likely well up in the eighties and of late years has been living in the family of Thomas Lumbar in the vicinity of Aurora.

The "Compulsory Education Bill" is to likely become a law, it having already passed the Senate and the *Tribune* said that none but a few Bourbons opposed it--it would appear that I have opened my mouth to put the foot in it, so to speak....The over doing of a good thing is sometimes worse than the neglect of doing it at all. Many of the most laudable things in the beginning have in time become instruments of oppression.

March 10: All business was dull the latter part of last week except shoveling snow.

During the thunderstorms a week ago Saturday after a heavy clap a lot of hogs, 27 in number, which were under a shed at L.M. Woolley's, commenced squealing very vigorously; Mr. W. went out to see what was the matter, and found some lying still, a number considerably lamed dragging the hind legs and most all were more or less stunned; three were dead, the others recovered. The lightning left no marks elsewhere.

Partridge, the new creamery people, moved here from Millington last week.

Out at Russell's last Wednesday they were moving a building, having hitched to it three span of horses; James Leary one of the hired men was driving one of the outside teams and walking alongside of the building; at a slippery place the building slued towards Leary and he was caught between it and the fence by which one side of his breast was crushed in and from the effects he died the next morning. The remains were to be taken to New York State but owing to the snow blockade they were buried in the Catholic cemetery at Aurora.

Frank I. Wilson of Chicago came down from Geneva Thursday on horseback; in the vicinity of Montgomery he got into a drift from which his mare was unable to get out again; he went and got some section men to shovel her out but if he hadn't marked the location well might have had difficulty in finding her as she had been completely covered by the snow.

The new set of corporation trustees elected last Saturday are W.H. McConnell, Geo. M. Schamp, Andrew Gray, Henry Helle and Henry Wollenweber; all readjusters but the last named.

March 17: Sam Hagerman has not yet returned from the Presidential inauguration, and it is said that he won't, right away, as he is trying to have some of the inaugurating business of his own, that is to inaugurate himself into the good graces of a certain party down there for the purpose of securing a position--not in the civil service, however.

The snow blockade week before last caused much disarrangement in routine matters, especially that of reading. Papers due Friday and Saturday were not received until

Monday and on that day, as for myself, I had no time to read being all torn up. Tuesday morning I was very busy completing my letter to the *Record*.

Milton B. Poage has moved with his family to Aurora. Anderson is the name of another Jerseyman arrived here.

Anderson is the name of another Jerseyman arrived here.

M.C. Chapman's meat market is now on the corner where the harness shop has been, which has been moved to the opposite corner, over Van Doozer's barber shop.

Somebody wrote to the *Aurora Beacon* week before last that D.M. Haight is extending his vinegar trade to places further up the river and some other items about this town.

The intelligence of the death of Mrs. Rutherford, a sister of the Jarvis brothers, and many years ago an inhabitant of this town, was received the other day; she resided in Iowa.

Richards and Strossman, a cooper firm, is one of the late business additions.

The inauguration of the new administration of our village government took place last evening at the office of police magistrate Newton; Andrew Gray was made the president, Henry Helle the treasurer, Asshul Newton was appointed clerk, and Ed. Strossman constable. The preliminary steps towards reorganization and some other matters were briefly discussed but no action taken on anything.

The residence of Henry C. Cutter, about half mile below town on the river road built only a few years ago and which was one of the nicest in this section was totally destroyed by fire last night.

Yorkville: Before the Supreme Court last week in the case of Town of Oswego vs. Kellogg, appellee made motion to dismiss appeal for want of jurisdiction. Mr. Charles Wheaton says that should Mr. Herrington win the Oswego road suit before the Supreme Court, he ought to receive \$3,000 fee. If Herrington gets that much, he's going to lead it to "we."

The Aurora city council being unable to decide on what kind of light they will use for lighting the streets, are now talking of putting a red-headed girl on each corner to see how they would illuminate the way.

March 24: The [cotton] batting factory which had shut down for awhile is again in operation.

The bridal couple, namely Samuel Hagerman and wife arrived here last Thursday from Pennsylvania.

Aunt Nellie Van Fleet was well known in this neighborhood and in some respects was a most remarkable person, especially in that of determination. Old ladies in the nineties, or even in the eighties usually seek repose, stay at home, and let others attend to their business, but not so with her. She would do her own business, and when any to transact would come to town (from Wm. M. Wormley's, her son-in-law, with whom she was living) a mile and a half on foot, accepting no assistance from anybody. About two years ago she was somewhat disabled by a paralytic stroke and afterwards compelled to use a crutch more or less but no matter how hard the work her visits to town she would have. Most always, having business at the post office, principally consisting in sending preserved papers and periodicals to her children, which are scattered all over the Union, some in the remotest corners. Else once in awhile she would send them socks or stockings of her own knitting. But she has made her last trip; she has transacted her last business; from another attack of paralysis she died last week in her 95th year, the funeral taking place Saturday. The first part of her life was spent in Hunterdon county, New Jersey (John D. Hall grew up alongside of some of her children, and comparing their ages with his, he thinks that either she must have been several years older, or else was married when very young) for awhile she lived in New York State, and for 48 years in this section.

Anton Miller has shown me a stereoscopic view of Mr. J.A. Kenney's residence in California and its surroundings. It is a neat and airy looking building; in front of it, a delightful looking yard, the trees, shrubbery, and fence all very beautiful.

There was considerable shooting heard up in the direction of upper Washington street some time after 10 o'clock one night last week; it appears that for a certain purpose, a certain fellow kept hanging round a certain house, the proprietor of which went out with his revolver and popped away at the fellow who immediately concluded that he best thing to do was to git.

Those that keep diaries want to put down Saturday as the boss snow storm in 17 years.

A young journeyman blacksmith named John C. Anderson is engaged in Bartlett's shop.

The destruction by fire of the residence of Henry Cutter was not only a severe private, but to some extent public, loss for most everybody admires and feels a pride in the nice things of his neighborhood. To Cutter, however, the loss is severe pecuniarily; the insurance on it--in the Agricultural--was but little more than half of what it had cost and then but very little of the household goods were saved. By great exertion the daughter's piano was gotten out; the boys were somewhat scorched while engaged in removing some of the things, and Mrs. Cutter became quite sick the next day. The shock and exposure being too much for her constitution. She has since, however, fully recovered. The change of that family's habitation indeed has been very great and sudden; from an elegant mansion with luxuriously furnished parlor and most comfortable apartments otherwise, it has been turned into a shanty--a corn crib has been improvised for a dwelling--but of course they ain't agoing to stay there; preparations for rebuilding are already underway.

Vanderlip's auction sale will take place next Saturday.

Yorkville: The *Ottawa Free Trader* of last Saturday says the ice in the rivers began moving yesterday afternoon, and has since been running at times heavily. The chief damage done was to the trestle work at the south end of the public bridge over the Illinois river here. Some props were knocked out, rendering some 30 feet of the roadway dangerous. Repairs were begun immediately. The iron armor of one pier of the same bridge was also knocked off.

Mr. Herrington has his residence and office in Yorkville connected by a telephone. Nothing like having things handy.

The Fox River railroad was blocked up by snow between Millbrook and Sheridan Monday morning, delaying the regular trains considerably.

The *Record's* horse and cutter got stuck in a snow drift in front of the office Saturday afternoon--that is, the cutter got stuck--the horse went on through the drift, breaking the whiffletree and harness, but doing no serious damage.

Monday's *Aurora News*, in speaking of the railroad blockade, says: The snow plow went west on Saturday and went through to Mendota. After it left Plano, going west, freight train No. 47 left Plano for the east. Before it reached Bristol it was stalled and the snow began piling up against it. On one side, the snow was as high as the cars and on the other about four feet deep. All the space under the cars was filled. This entirely blocked the road then. All attempts to move the train or dig it out on Saturday were in vain, as the snow blew in as fast as it was dug out. Mr. Olsen, with a gang of men and three engines, left here this morning to clear the north track between here and Mendota. When near Bristol two of the engines left the track and blockaded the track that had been cleared of snow. The wrecker went down to straighten things out.

March 31: John H. Wormley has returned from Winona, Minn., and was accompanied by Mrs. C.G. Doud and Mrs. Eliza Devor, who are now visiting their friends in this region

David C. Jeneson is up from Springfield.

Isaac Pearce has returned home; he had been snowed in for some time in northwestern Iowa. He is, however, making preparations to go there again, and Jeff Carpenter and Tom Brace with their families will go also.

Plano: THE PLANO BLAZE

The Ruthless Destroyer Levels Another Row--Seven Buildings a Total Loss--Damage, \$15,000.

NaAuSay: Having occasion to go down to Northern Seward, we had the pleasure of seeing "Juan" making soap, as it was rather soft under foot we suppose he thought of

using the time by employing the paddle. He was so heavily clothed that it was hard to tell whether it was a man or not, but by looking closely, observed a bunch of grayish tinted whiskers, we made out who it was.

Mr. Holt from New York has rented 80 acres of Mr. W. Bingham. We have a happy lot of New Yorkers here.

Yorkville: The thermometer was at 60 degrees at 1 o'clock Sunday.

High water carried away 12,000 feet of lumber for a lumber firm at Marseilles last week.

The Woolley Brothers bought the Vanderlip farm at the Court House last Friday, paying \$45.75 per acre for the same. Dave Hall was auctioneer.

The Chicago *Tribune* of Friday morning says Mark Beaubien, the historic tavern keeper and fiddler, so well known in Kendall county and once a resident of Newark, lies in a dying condition at Kankakee. The old gentleman is the father of 23 children. The Tribune gave a biographical sketch of a column of Mark.

April -- 1881

April 7: The old settlers hereabouts don't agree on the date when the ice went out of the river in the spring of 1843, they have it all the way from the 4th to the 14th of April; perhaps there are some elsewhere that can fix the date definitely, and by the way, cannot we manage to best it this season.

A little exodus from this place came to pass last week; Wednesday there departed for Iowa with several car loads of stock and household goods--Jeff Carpenter, Tom Brace, Tom Gannon, Stephen Brace, Levi Avery and Henry Sanders, and they were followed the next day by Zeke Pearce and Tom Goudie with the families of Carpenter and Tom Brace--both somewhat extensive--making in all somewhere near 25 persons that have exodused, and they will be followed by more in the near future. They all have gone on the land of the Pearce brothers in Plymouth county near Lemars, who own there the biggest part of a township.

Wm. Wesley Winn died last week Tuesday. The remains were buried in the Cowdrey Cemetery. The deceased has been one of the prominent men of this township. He moved here from Columbia county, N.Y. about 40 years ago marrying afterwards one of Stephen Ashley's daughters and settling down near Specie Grove. He was in his 67th year.

The Agricultural Insurance Co., represented by the McWethy Bros. of Aurora, settled within seven days after the burning of H.C. Cutter's residence, all claims against it from said fire. It paid the full insurance, \$3,500, on the house and \$50 damage to the piano. Mr. Cutter was much pleased with the company's dealings.

Frank Albee has moved to town.

It is said we are going to have a first class calaboose.

April 14: Wednesday forenoon little after 10 the residence of J.B. Hunt was discovered to be on fire. The insurance on the building was \$600, on the furniture \$200 not including the piano which was insured extra and saved. The family has now moved in with Mrs. McKinney.

Isaac Pearce and his boys have also moved to Iowa. Because of a new baby, Mrs. Pearce and daughter will remain here awhile longer.

The most interesting measure that came before the town meeting during the deliberative proceedings was the proposition of transferring the town block to the school district No. 4. A committee from outside of said district was appointed to confer with the school authorities as to the terms and conditions upon which such a transfer could be effected.

Chas. Lehman completed yesterday three years employment in the creamery, during most all of which he has been Mac's right hand man. Charley has now gone to Amboy to engage with George Keeling in his hardware store.

The old settlers are becoming somewhat alarmed about getting one of their guns spiked, namely their celebrated late spring of 1843 [when the ice went out of the Fox River, causing flood and destruction].

Coon Lehreneckel became disgusted with this snowy region and this morning started on his return to that delightful country, Nebraska.

Edward Mann was elected Saturday to succeed Asahel Newton, and W.W. Wormley to fill the vacancy caused by the removal of Henry Wormley, as school trustee.

Montgomery: Montgomery Division No. 726 Sons of Temperance elected Mrs. L.D. Mead Patriarch; Giles Young, Worthy Associate; Charles A. Young, *Recording* Scribe; James Young, assistant *Recording* Scribe; Daniel Keck, Financial Scribe; James Young, Treasurer; Henry S. Voorhees, Chaplain; Mary Coryelle, Conductor; Mary Mead, Assistant Conductor; Ida M. Vorhees, Inside Sentinel; Joseph W. Collman, Outside Sentinel. This division has elected a very efficient corps of officers for this quarter and expect to make a successful fight for temperance. Any communications from other temperance societies cheerfully answered by the *Recording* Secretary.

Two locomotives were wrecked near here while engaged in cleaning snow off the track. The engineer and fireman of engine 83 escaped from the engine by jumping out of the cab windows. They evidently did not like Van Race's lively shoving; he was behind them and caused most of the wreck.

Grangers are getting "squared around" for spring's work.

School was out Friday. Mr. Allen will spend his vacation with friends in Oregon, Ill.

Mr. W.S. Bunn, formerly of Oswego, has moved into Mr. Stephenson's house.

The farm owned by Dr. Theodore Canisins is for sale. There are 170 acres in it. It is now occupied by Frank Reising.

Will Jameson is the owner of an infant card printing press.

Joe Pinkley is here from Fenton, Ill, learning to "sling lightning" with his cousin, Al, who is day operator.

The Montgomery Cemetery Association held a meeting in Vaughn's store Saturday night. The trustees elected were F.A. Beheir, C.B. Vaughn, Richard Loucks, John Lilly, and Sam VanAlstine. The cemetery is certainly as attractive as a burial place for our dead can be made.

Miss Ida Wormley has been retained as teacher in District No. 3, Oswego. She is a splendid teacher.

Yorkville: Heavy snowstorm all day Monday. Will we ever have spring?

This is the last month with an "R," so it behooves you to get what oysters you may want. Of course, Cotton's bakery is the place to get them.

About 100 feet of Black & Clark's dam at Yorkville went out last Friday. It seemed to sink. It will be repaired as soon as possible.

The situation is anything but pleasant. The ice broke up Sunday in the river below the dam but blocked just opposite the Blackberry mill. It took the props out from under the Yorkville bridge, and the commissioners shut up that institution, thus stopping travel by teams between our great commercial centers, Yorkville and Bristol. Tuesday afternoon, the commissioners took steps to have the props put back but will take up some of the planks so as to prevent travel over it. The river has been very high at this point, but is now going down. We see no signs of spring yet. The wind sticks to the north, and it has snowed two days this week. We are about ready to cry with Hancock, "Give us a change!"

April 21: The ice went out Saturday; make a note of it and hand it down to the coming generations.

That peculiar sounding bell you've been hearing lately is at Seely's; it is a new bell put up there.

Young Leonard Burkhart and Miss Delia Lang were married last week.

Nimrod Keck has moved to Montgomery.

It is said that Prof. Skinner's lecture on Phrenology and exposition of spiritualism was not largely attended; that Haight, Will Kelley and Dwight Smith had the exterior of their knowledge boxes examined for the benefit of the audience.

David Hall was elected school director Saturday, receiving 92 votes out of a total of 154, Andrew Gray being his competitor. Dave succeeded C.F. Shaver.

The river is booming this morning, covering a large part of the flats.

Cyrus H. Cutter, lately graduated to a full-fledged M.D., has located at Trempealeau, Wis.

Dwight Smith started out this morning on the lightning rod business in southern Illinois.

But very few farmers have tried ploughing so far in this vicinity.

Yorkville: Mark Beaubien, another very early settler, died last week at his home in Kankakee. He came to Chicago from Michigan in 1826 at the invitation of his brother, John, who had settled here some time before. He opened a tavern in a small hut and as he remarked himself, "Kept tavern like hell," an expression which was current for many years in Chicago. Relating some of his experience as a hotel-keeper, he once said, "I had no ped, but when traveler come for lodging I gave him planket to cover himself up in on de floor, and tell him to look out, for Ingun steal it. Den when he gets asleep, I take de planket away carefully and give it to noder man, an' tell him same, so I always have peds for all that want 'em."

In 1831, he enlarged his hotel to "a two-story building with green blinds," as Blanchard's history describes the structure, and called it the Sagaunash House, after a friend of his, Bill Caldwell, whose Indian name was Sagaunash. Mr. Beaubien was conspicuously identified for many years with Chicago's early history. Subsequently, he removed to Newark and thence to Kankakee, where he died. He was the father of 23 children, 16 by his first wife, whom he married at Detroit, and seven by his second wife. He was a man of generous impulses and was liked by all who knew him. He was a genial companion, and was a humorous and interesting talker. Thus one by one pass away the early settlers of this great country.

L.B. Judson Sr. says he remembers well when the ice went out of the river in 1843. The people of Yorkville and Bristol together were going to build a bridge over Fox river, and after getting it framed, they found they could not finish it, so the timber was sold at auction. Mr. Judson purchased the timber and with it was built a bridge at Oswego, so a dozen or more teams went down to Yorkville on the ice to draw the timber up. That was on the 11th of April. It began to rain that night and rained all the next day; the ice went out on the 14th. Sleighing was good to Chicago this time of the month that year.--Aurora News

Saturday was the first spring day of the season.

Thomas Belschner of Oswego began plowing last Thursday, April 14th.

The ice went out of Black's dam Saturday, April 16, 1881. Cut this out and paste it in your scrap book.

The roads out in the country are almost impassable. The mud goes to the wheel hubs.

Black & Clark will connect their residence, grist and paper mill with their office by means of telephones. Mr. Herrington will put the lines up for them.

The center of the North Aurora dam was washed out Sunday night by high water.

#### Little Rock Cheese Factory

Uriah Foster thinks he had a good thing last year; his account with 20 cows stands thus: 112,915 pounds of milk delivered at the cheese factory, net cash, \$1,176.28; milk sold in town, \$23.80, 17 calves sold, \$39.25; total, \$1,239.33; making an average of \$61.96 per cow. And he paid out for butter during the year, \$66.86.

April 28: The water in Fox river at this point has been seen a good deal higher on a number of occasions during freshets than at any time this season; but that was caused by the ice having formed a gorge on the island just below town, thus damming up the water. It is quite certain however that no old settler ever saw so much water run down the river in one week before as there has been the past.

Mrs. A.C. Leigh--nee Carrie Knapp--died during Sunday night following her babe which was buried several days ago. She was quite young, said to have been not quite 16.

The building of Henry C. Cutter's new house is being pushed forward very rapidly; Theron Richards is the boss architect and White Cole, Ed. Strossman and Sanford Chase assistants. The frame is up and partly inclosed; it will be somewhat smaller but a more elegant looking structure than the one burned down; as one of the new features it will have a front tower which not only adds much to the outside appearance but be of greater value to the internal arrangement as it will contain a winding staircase and take the place of all halls. There is otherwise much building going on and all the mechanics in that line are busy as they can be; George Schamp is building a new house for Charles Woolley; Schwarz, a barn for Ferdinand Shoger; Nate Loucks also commenced the building of a new barn.

Last Wednesday, a special election for or against the reorganization of the corporation was held; the vote was light, the Readjusters casting 81 and the Bourbons 10; the Nihilists kept aloof from it altogether.

The return of the martins took place quite early this spring; they have been here for several days.

It is now over a week since the flat has been overflowed and the water running over the road between the village and the bridge from two to three feet deep at the lowest places. Sunday afternoon as the Rev. Mr. Colgrove and wife undertook to ford for the purpose of going to Montgomery where he was to preach--for some cause his horse became unmanageable, left the road, plunged into the ditch, by with the buggy was upset and the occupants thrown into the water; Mr. C. hung to the lines and was carried some distance further from where his wife had been deposited and thus they had become separated. As Methodists are not of the kind that take well to the water, they were anxious to get out of it as soon as possible, especially Mrs. Colgrove. Will Smith and one of the Foss boys were the first on the ground and waded in and helped Mrs. C. out; she was in delicate health having just sufficiently recovered from a spell of sickness again to be out, the shock therefore was quite hard on her; she was taken to Smith's house where some of the sisters came to her assistance. Mr. C. got out alright with the rig and though he couldn't fill his Montgomery appointment was on hand in the evening and preached as usual a very good sermon.

Mrs. Thomas Goudie departed last week for Iowa to join her husband.

Charles Lockwood will become one of the operatives of the new creamery.

Farmers have now commenced in earnest putting in their small grains.

Yorkville: Pie pant [rhubarb] at Cotton's [store].

The Kendall County circuit court room has a handsome new book case. Alderman Chappell made it.

Black & Clark's new engine for the paper mill arrived Sunday night. It's a whopper.

It is estimated that the damages done by floods and ice on the Fox river this spring amount to \$300,000.

Tim Chase, an old main line conductor, run one of the Fox River passenger trains last week, and Dave Williams the other.

We had to send our old horse around by Oswego Saturday in order to get him over the river to print this week's paper.

Wm. Graham, who is good authority, says the abutments to the Bristol and Yorkville bridges were built in 1852. The Bristol bridge will have a new abutment in 1881.

The high water of last week washed out all the stone work to the south abutment of the Bristol bridge, and that structure is now resting on a temporary support put in by the

commissioners. The floor has been taken up, and travel by team has been stopped entirely.

May -- 1881

May 5: The funeral of Mrs. A.C. Leigh last Wednesday was extra large, the procession coming from the house numbered about 50 carriages and the Congregational church, where the services took place, was filled to its utmost capacity; a clergyman from Aurora--by whom she was married--preached the sermon--the same being in German...The death of Mrs. Leigh was especially a mournful event she having been the only child of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Knapp.

The 62nd anniversary of the Order of Odd Fellows was celebrated by the brethren of this town in a somewhat unique manner instead of the usual practice of joining with other lodges and undertaking to make a big show, they came together with their families and enough other invited villagers to fill the hall.

Towards evening Sunday another very sad death occurred namely that of Mrs. Frank Albee--nee Orpha Ashley.

The water has receded to within the banks of the river hereabouts.

Yorkville: The Elgin Disaster

One of the greatest calamities that has ever happened in Kane county occurred at Elgin last Thursday morning, the sinking of a ferry boat, hastily and poorly constructed to temporarily take the place of the bridge washed out a week since. It was built at the direction of the city authorities, and was manned by Pat Sullivan and Thos. Murphy, the latter being among the drowned. It left the west bank of the river at 8 o'clock with about 25 persons on board. When near the middle of the stream the scow dipped water, the passengers becoming frightened, rushed to the opposite side when it immediately filled with water and sank. When the boat went down the poor victims shrieked with despair and the banks of the river were soon lined with excited people. The less excited ones set about rescuing the drowning ones, and many were saved just as they were about disappearing beneath the angry flood.

Latest reports set the number drowned at not less than eight. Another report gave the cause of the accident to be the breaking of the wire cable to which the scow was attached, but all reports seem to agree that the scow was overloaded and was at best unsafe, poorly constructed, and totally unfit for the purpose for which it was so fatally used.

Supt. Duffy said Saturday that there was only one snow drift left between Oswego and Yorkville. He was in Yorkville attending the Institute.

Squire Dolph has purchased a large boat in Chicago, which arrived last week, to be run on the river while the bridge is being built.

Miller & Sencenbaugh of Aurora are offering unequalled attraction with their new stock of dress goods and novelties just received.

The Blackberry Mills, Bristol, are now running at full force. Plenty of good wheat, which makes splendid flour.

May 12: The funeral of Mrs. Frank Albee took place Wednesday, the services being at the house of her parents, Orson Ashley, the Rev. Mr. Savage, Universalist minister of Aurora performing the solemn duties. The deceased was 27 years of age and a native of this township.

Martin L. Ashley has been here from Kansas for a number of days; the death of his sister, Orpha--Mrs. Albee--called him here.

David Goudie has gone to Plymouth county, Iowa; he took 80 head of yearling cattle out to his son, Tom.

Charles E. Severance and wife have moved to Hinckley.

Mrs. Mullenix and the younger children moved last week to Fairfield, Ia. to join Mr. M., who has been there for some time in business.

The new butter factory, that of Partridge, commenced operation the fore part of last week and is said to be running in excellent order turning out the best kind of butter.

Eugene Minard, C.B. Smith, and Albert Reed are among those running wagons in gathering the cream for the Partridge factory.

The Fox River Creamery is also continually increasing in the amount of business. Mac has recently bought out the Montgomery cheese factory and is running it in connection with the creamery here. The butter business here is booming.

Henry Hebert has gone to Nashville, Tenn. to bring into notice at a big fair there the "Hebert wagon tongue supporter."

The washout on the road to the bridge has been repaired.

Yorkville: White & Todd on Wednesday sold lumber to Mr. Black of Yorkville for the construction of a ferry boat, for service between Yorkville and Bristol.--Beacon.

Gus Darfler was up the river Sunday afternoon and caught an eel about two and a half feet long. This kind of fish seems to be getting quite numerous around here.

Mr. W.E. Smith of Oswego has been shelling corn for Clark & Black the past week, with his steam sheller. Mr. Ashley, who was feeding, caught his finger in the sheller and had it badly mutilated; Dr. Hopkins being obliged to remove the end of it.

Monday, George Cowdry [Cowdrey] brought to the *Record* office a copy of the *Daily Citizen*, published at Vicksburg, Miss., July 2d, 1863, which is printed on wall paper and is the issue of the day that Gen. Grant "caught the rabbit and ate it in that city." George will place the paper in Memorial Hall, Aurora, for preservation. George was there to help eat that rabbit.

May 19: Mr. Hamilton and Elmer Avery were carried over the dam Tuesday but with the assistance of Mr. Vaughn from the furniture factory and some fishermen about there, both got out all right. One of them for the purpose of saving himself on the same jumped from the boat before going over, but was taken along by the current as fast as otherwise. The boat was all broken up in the swell below the dam.

The little baby of Frank Albee followed its mother and was buried Saturday.

Ezekiel Pearce and David Goudie together have returned from Iowa.

A caravan of Gypsies went through town Friday.

Mrs. Granger--nee Stella Hopkins--and a Miss Little are out from Chicago on a visit to friends.

George Schamp with the assistance of Greenfield commenced yesterday in Poage's lumber yard the framing of what may turn out to be the boss barn in Kendall county. It is for Gabe Roe, out in Kendall and its dimensions will be 34 by 112 and 26 feet high.

The Haag team yesterday driven by a boy and bringing a load of milk to the creamery started to run away near there, ran into another milk wagon, that of Joseph Ervin's and threw the wagon, mules, the driver--Mr. Ervin himself--all into a heap by which the wagon was pretty much demolished, several cans smashed and pretty near all the milk spilled.

Carrie, 12 year old daughter of J.P. Warner, died after a short sickness; the funeral will take place this afternoon.

One of the measures under consideration by the town[ship] trustees at their meeting Saturday evening was the condition of the upper Waubonsie bridge, which apparently is becoming unsafe. Now there has been a number of mistakes made in the formation of Oswego, and the road leading out of it by that bridge is one of them. Starting from the business part of the village a stranger is bothered to find the way out there; he may have been directed to turn to the right at the end of Main street, go one block and then turn to the left, and he may follow the direction explicitly and still get on the wrong road, as two roads there are turning of to the left, the angle of one meant is so sharp--about 65 degrees--he would be apt not to notice it. Now would be the time to rectify this by changing the road and making it on a straight line with Main street; there ought to be enough subscribed by those most interested to buy the right of way through there and the

bridge wouldn't cost much more than the rebuilding of it at the old crossing; being that it will have to be entirely new if done proper, as the remaining abutment, though in good condition, is outside of the road altogether, and therefore must be on somebody's land. I would suggest a citizen's meeting to consider this matter before the board commences expending any money on that bridge.

Yorkville: A ten-pound pickerel was caught at Oswego the other day.

The Yorkville and Bristol bridges have been repaired and are now as safe as--as--they're safe, anyhow. Come over and see us.

Mr. A.P. Kennedy, who committed suicide at Downers' Grove some two weeks ago, was a former resident of Fox tp., in this county. He threw himself into a well.

It's awful nice--is that ice cream of Cotton's, and as we've tried it we feel capable of judging.

Willett & Welch sold 30 check rowers [corn planters] last Thursday, 25 of them having been sent out before 7 o'clock--and it wasn't a very good day for check rowers, either.

Brother Minkler has been treating the *Aurora Herald* boys to some more apples, and the editor says: Some people tell us that this is not a good apple country, but Mr. Minkler's success denies the assertion. Either the rest of us don't get the right varieties of apples or we do not know how to manage the trees; perhaps both.

Arthur Hill tumbled to the ague--too much fishing.

Those who waited till last Sunday to take off their underclothing concluded to wait another week. A cold west wind is not favorable to removing of underwear.

May 26: Decoration programme at the cemetery: 1. Music by the band; 2. Prayer by Rev. Colgrove; 3. Vocal music; 4. Select reading by Mrs. I.F. Reed; 6. Address by Prof. Duffy; 7. Vocal music; 8. Select reading by D.M. Haight; 9. Vocal music; 10. Decoration of the graves

Capt. Mann at the same time will give a short army sketch of each of the buried soldiers; 11. Music by the band. The exercises to commence at two o'clock, and it is desirable and the committee so request that business men may close their doors from 2 to 4 p.m. on that day.

Mrs. S.E. Whitney departed last week for Michigan to join her husband.

Said last week that Emma Minard had some out from Chicago to enjoy pure water for awhile; but no, it was for a different object altogether; it was to get married. K.C. Hill is the bridegroom's name.

D.D. Lowry has moved into the Albert Hawley dwelling.

Doc Woolley felt elated for beating his neighbors getting in the corn; he has planted 90 acres.

Will Lockwood has left Serena and is temporarily stopping here with his folks.

Mention was made last week that Mrs. Joseph Graham had come out from Chicago on a visit to her mother; she brought with her her twin babies; one of them has since died and was buried yesterday and the other is also very sick.

Barney McKanna from over in Seward was in town yesterday, being on his way to circuit court. From him, I learned that Emma Young has commenced teaching school in their district.

The farmers and builders are now just as busy as can be, which makes the town somewhat lonely, being that all of the building going on is out in the country.

There are farmers about here that have not yet finished husking corn.

Why cannot we have a meeting to see what might be done about moving that Waubonsie bridge?

Several years ago the corporation trustees of this village caused the construction of a windmill over the old National well by which a tank on the street below was to be supplied with water. For a little while everybody felt proud of it and said that it was the best thing Oswego ever established, and for awhile there were some that occasionally would clean out the tank, but all this did not last long. during the winters it was always entirely froze up and very frequently would fail during the summer season when people would drive up to water their horses and only found their trouble for nothing. No dependence could be placed upon it for a steady supply of water and when there was a supply the water in the trough would be left to become so foul and slimy as to be unfit for any use, and the thing became the source of immeasurable sufferings to horses--many had to take that or none, as the watering of horses is mostly done by boys. Being that the concern was public property, everybody felt it his duty to keep tinkering it, and what one would fix the other would spoil so the thing never could be got into entire order. Now besides having been frozen up during the winter, the pumping apparatus was broken, so that since last fall the only thing the windmill has done is to produce noise. There is always someone that thinks that the windmill should go anyway; it is what it is there for, and so will throw it into gear to run. Heretofore, whenever the noise became unbearable, one could to and shut down the mill, but the other day someone climbed up and fixed it so that that cannot be done any more; the harsh rattling noise is now continuous so long as there is a bit of breeze, and is enough to drive everything crazy in the neighborhood. Talk about cat serenades; why, the very loudest of them are lullabies to sleep by compared with the infernal noise of this windmill.

Yorkville: Only three divorce suits ornament the docket this term.

Judge Sheldon has granted a rehearing in the mandamus portion of the Oswego road suit.

Black & Clark received a new boat to be run on the river this summer, last week. She's a daisy.

Howard Shortman caught a large garfish in the river at Yorkville last Friday. They are seldom caught here.

The *Aurora Beacon* says: Fred Guyer is building the iron bridge to be put up by the company near Plano.

Joe Jenkinson has bought Hobbs' machine wagon and is now drawing milk for the Yorkville cheese factory.

Friend Minkler treated the *Record* boys to some nice apples Monday morning. We thank him.

Joseph Tarbox of Bristol is now making 5,000 bricks a day. He will burn a large kiln this summer.

G.W. Kellogg of NaAuSay, a white-haired old gentleman of about 70 years, and who has lived in Illinois 46 years, was in the city yesterday and made some purchases at D.W. Ifurd's. Some oil he had put into an ancient looking jug, remarking that it was the identical jug with which, when a very small boy in Vermont, his father sent him to the village for molasses--the jug in one end of a bag and a stone in the other to balance, thrown over the back of a horse. Some years ago it was loaned to a neighbor, who accidentally broke off the handle, but still the old gentleman affectionately clings to the old brown jug as a valued relic.--*Aurora Beacon*.

June -- 1881

June 2: The decoration was a decided success, the turnout being good, the farmers from the surrounding country were quite generally represented.

David C. Jeneson has returned from Springfield in a very good condition.

The windmill is all right; it has been put in running order and its noises stopped.

L.N. Hall is doing this season an extraordinary large insurance business and does it without solicitation.

J.H. Talmadge has been out from Chicago and disposed of his real estate, viz: the old National premises and some lots on the flat.

June 9: There was a picnic down at George Cowdrey's the other day consisting of a large company, quite a number being from Aurora; it is said to have been a very joyous affair but was somewhat curtailed by a rain. The Oswego band was there to enliven it with music.

Pat Flavin, Prof. Duffy Dave Hall, and five more of our truly good men whose names I didn't learn went Saturday and hoed the garden of Ladore Hill, a sick man.

John Lockwood's harness shop is again at the old place on Chapman's corner. The building has been extensively repaired; the place now is a very neat one and contains a handsome stock of goods.

Tom Goudie is prospering nicely out there in Iowa.

By an attempted runaway, Fred Smith got his buggy somewhat damaged; the horse had become frightened in the street.

A team belonging to a man out in NaAuSay hitched at Partridge's creamery, broke loose having been scared by the cars and ran through town at a lively rate; in turning the corner it came in collision with the hitching posts at Haight's and was stopped; not much damage was done.

George Mullen is around on crutches having a sprained ankle caused by the running away somewhere about Bristol Station of one of the McConnell milk teams he was driving.

The sewer across main street at Haight's is to be relaid--the need of it is felt just now--the stone for it are already on the ground.

Nate Loucks' new barn was raised one day of last week. Van Evra is the builder of it, and is assisted by Charles Carpenter and H.C. Strossman.

Old Father Brockway died and was buried last week. He had been living with his son over near Tamarack and was perhaps the oldest person in this township, being upwards of 97 years of age; it is said he has been an inveterate tobacco chewer.

Willard Stahl, who went out from among us, is getting to be a man of wealth; the Hinckley papers say that he is buying up real estate in that town.

George Race must have thought of me way down there in Texas; he sent me a *Houston Post*; a large and newsy paper.

105 excursion tickets to the circus were sold at the depot yesterday.

Yorkville: Two colored men were hung for murder in the South of Friday last. They probably didn't have money enough to prove they were insane.

Six elephants, a camel, and several heavy wagons "in a bunch" tested the iron bridge over Fox River at Ottawa on circus day.

The cisterns are full--so are the fields.

Plainfield is to have a new school house, 46x70 feet, two stories, with a stone basement.

Monday was circus day in Aurora. Agent Smith sold 102 tickets at Oswego and Agent Tarbox 70 at Yorkville.

Kendall boys graduate from Jennings' Seminary, Aurora, today: Walter B. McOwan, Bristol Station, classical course; George Mewhirter, Bristol Station, Latin scientific course; George M. Hartman, Plano, commercial course; Miss Lydia E. Case, formerly of Plano, the eclectic course.

A new record of the marriages which have taken place in this county since its organization is being made in the County Clerk's office. The date of the first license issued is 1841.

Two years ago, Brother A.B. Smith represented the granger, greenback, anti-monopoly party of this county in the State legislature. Last week, he defended a railroad corporation suit in our circuit court. Was he after the fees in both cases?

June 16: County Surveyor Phillips has been surveying the corporation.

Mrs. Roberts of DeKalb--nee Sallie Beaupre--and her mother, Mrs. Beaupre of Aurora, were visiting at Newton's.

Goudie had a heifer killed by lightning in the Sunday night storm. It was insured by L.N. Hall.

The glorious 4th will be celebrated out in AuxSable Grove at L.B. Clark's in regular order and more too.

The annual *Kirchweihe* will take place at the German Lutheran church next Sunday, 2 p.m.

A force with Bill Dwyre as boss and Baker as master mechanic is now engaged in the construction of a new sewer across Main street.

The attraction by burglars from Van Doozer's shop the other night was 19 razors--seven of which belonged to customers--his shears and clippers and also a box of cigars.

Kussmaul's team yesterday standing at Haight's took fright from the cars and ran three miles on the Grove road towards home. The wagon was scattered along the road.

Butter making in Oswego is very brisk; both factories are doing a good business; the other day for the first time I looked around a little in the Partridge factory, which in arrangement seems to be a most complete institution--it almost runs itself and needs but little of watching; the cream is poured in at one place and not touched again until converted into butter; everything is carried from place to place through pipes and all the arrangements are most convenient.

A small number of the Red Ribboners [a temperance organization] met the other evening and appointed themselves a committee to wind up the club; that is, to collect all the property belonging to it findable and dispose of the same, the proceeds to be used for the paying of the back rent and other unpaid bills. This is the worst place in existence for anything of a public nature; if only the temperance people could and would get the saloon business out of private hands and make it a public affair, it would be the most effective thing they could do for the cause.

Charles M. Ball, who has been for some time in the employ of the Fox River Creamery, will start today for his old home in New Jersey.

Yorkville: Five cases of small-pox in Joliet.

Mr. Andrus is setting up in Spring Lake cemetery a handsome family monument for Walter Loucks--and another at Oswego for Wm. Winn.--*Beacon*.

What would the printers do without Smith Minkler? He's a friend indeed, and those fine strawberries he left with us on Wednesday morning shows his thrift as a horticulturalist.

L.N. Hall of Oswego has won the special commendation of the Phoenix Insurance Company for his great success as an agent. A circular has been issued from the headquarters of the company stating that Mr. Hall's agency did the best business during the month of May of any agency of like territory in the country. Levi is an energetic business man.

June 23: The Chapin family--the lady of which used to be Miss Mary Foster of this place--are here from Chicago and it is said that they have rented the Forbes house and will make it their summer residence.

A spiked team--two mules and a horse--hitched to a wagon with a big box full of shelled corn and driven by G.H. Switzer, had started to run away the other day but George is stout and a good horseman and brought them to.

A light of glass was cut out of Coffin's front door during Thursday night, and through the opening thus made somebody entered and stole a lot of cigars, plug tobacco, and smoking pipes.

From but a small bed, that is from six rows thirty-three feet long, of last spring's settings, Dr. Putt has picked ninety-eight quarts of strawberries, which he thinks was a pretty good yield.

Wm. B. Crothers of Springfield, Ohio, is stopping for a few days with his relatives in this town.

A diminutive tornado dropped down on us Saturday just long enough to raise a big dust which for a second blinded everything, and during which some loud crackling was heard; when again it became clear it was found that the upper section of the Hancock pole had some down and was broken up into a half dozen pieces.

George C. Inman--Wm. Parker & Son's transporter--made a big sale for that firm the other day while in Joliet selling to one man there 200 tables. The bill amounted to nearly \$1,200.

The lot where Mrs. A.C. Leigh (nee Carrie Knapp) is buried was made one of the most attractive places in the cemetery. The monument erected to her memory cost \$300, and the coping around the lot, finished Saturday, cost \$250.

Yorkville: C.W. Rolfe, who has been in charge of the public schools in Kankakee for the past three years will, after the present school year is ended, no longer serve in that capacity, having accepted a position as instructor in mathematics and botany in the Illinois Industrial University in Champaign. (Mr. Rolfe is a son-in-law of H.W. Farley, Esq., of Oswego).

Persons in want of stone or flagging should read George D. Wormley's card in another column.

June 30: A meeting will be held next Saturday evening at the ex-Red Ribbon hall to which everybody is invited, but more especially the soldiers; the object being to form a permanent organization, which might be called the "Soldiers' Memorial Society," and whose duty it shall be to collect and preserve the war records of the boys that went from here and to take charge of the annual decoration of the Soldiers' graves.

Charles Lehman has returned from Amboy and resumed his position at the Fox River creamery, which he has been occupying steadily three years heretofore.

Thomas Deveny has returned from college at Bourbonnais.

Bristol Station drovers when through town Saturday with a large drove of cattle.

Two brutish foreign white men, with quite a decent American brown bear, were in town the other day; the bear is made to earn a living and other expenses for the two men by dancing, turning summersaults, climbing, &c.; by climbing the two liberty poles here he had to suffer much abuse.

Comets usually are heralded days and even weeks before they can be seen with the naked eye, but the one now on exhibition came like the "thief in the night," unannounced; early one morning it was there plainly visible and immediately became so in the evening.

Yorkville: The grass in the Bristol park will be sold to the highest and best bidder for cash at 7,30 o'clock Saturday evening of this week, July 2d.

The young men and boys who go swimming near the Bristol bridge need not parade their nakedness to any great extent on the island, even though it be dusk. ladies do not like to pass along under such circumstances.

Some boys in Bristol take pleasure in breaking the windows of the school house and otherwise damaging the property. Some of the boys are known, an their parents may have a little bill of damages to pay. A boy in Ottawa was sent to jail last week for breaking into the high school building.

A terrific hurricane struck this part of Fox River at 2:25 Wednesday morning following the extreme heat of the 24 hours previous. The railroad windmill was blown down, the Yorkville bridge was badly twisted, trees were bereft of branches, and people feared a Kansas cyclone.

July -- 1881

#### July 7: THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT GARFIELD

Particulars of the Terrible Crime--The Dastardly Deed Committed by One Charles J. Guiteau, Formerly of Chicago.

People are not now in a frame of mind to peruse the common place reports of a neighboring village, and the writing up of anything this week might have as well been dispensed with altogether.

The big blow the other night did more or less injury to shade trees all over town, a number being broken down altogether; one tree was thrown on Mrs. Curtis's residence damaging it somewhat; the point to the Congregational church steeple was left in a tipping position; the windmills at both Seely's and George Parker's were partly blown down and the new barn of the latter's now building, was a little displaced. Some people were scared a little.

Ed Mann was chosen president, Hagerman vice president, Haight secretary, Duffy, Hank Smith, Cob Pearce, Kirk Walker and Rush Walker the executive committee of the Oswego memoir society organized Saturday evening.

The Fourth was celebrated all day long the usual way by the boys. The Band, on leaving for the grove celebration, played a few pieces in the street. A good many Roman candles were shot off in the evening.

Yorkville: Whew! Ain't this hot weather?

The Minkler school closed last week for its summer vacation and Miss Nevins is enjoying herself at home. Mr. Nevins feels quite proud of his daughters, Mary and Maggie, both of whom are having good success as school teachers.

J.P. Mullenix, formerly of Oswego, now gets the Record at Fairfield, Iowa. In a letter of June 30, he says all the flat lands in that neighborhood are flooded by the frequent rains and corn is looking very poor. He says it has been a hard season on tornado insurance companies, there has been so much damage from storms. He is connected with the Cedar Rapids Insurance company.

"Stone! Stone!" an advertisement in the *Kendall County Record* and signed by George D. Wormley announced. At his quarry located one mile north of Oswego on the west side of the river, Wormley stated: "I am getting out some very fine stone and will try and get enough to go around. Come and see for yourselves. Also flagging. Can get stone to cover culverts almost any time." [The Wormley quarry is now the location of Quarry Ledge Camp.]

July 14: John Pearce, one of the oldest settlers, died and was buried last week, the funeral being at the house. The deceased was 64 years of age.

Mr. and Mrs. E.A. Hopkins have returned from their visit in Ohio.

Wm. Briggs, an Oswego boy of long ago, with his wife, was out from Chicago on a visit to friends.

Miss Anna Brown is for the present sojourning in this place.

Prof' Rolfe with his family is now spending a portion of his vacation in this town.

The road work in general and the Waubonsie bridge in particular some old bills, the result of lawsuits, and several other measures were before the common council Saturday evening.

Yorkville: Death of John Pearce: Mr. John Pearce was born near Urbana, Ohio, July 5, 1817. He moved to Illinois in 1833 and settled on a farm near Oswego where he closed his useful life in the full hope of blissful immortality on July 6, 1881. He was married to Miss Marietta Marion Warner on Dec. 24, 1841, who preceded him to the spirit land on Sept. 8, 1851. He was then married to Mrs. Francis Ann Harris on Nov. 23, 1860. A wife and nine children survive him; but their loss is his eternal gain.

Mr. Pearce was a positive man; integrity, industry and frugality were his leading characteristics; he was frank and open in all of his transactions with his fellow man; he was a strong advocate of the temperance cause, and for more than 40 years was a consistent and faithful member of the Methodist Church and most of that time was a member of the official board; he was a trustee at the time of his death. He was a quiet, unobtrusive man, but a positive Christian and contributed liberally.

For over a year he has been greatly afflicted; for the last three months he has been confined to the house, and most of the time to his room. His disease can be summed up in a few words--prostration and general debility. He took but little food and literally starved to death, but not a word of complaint ever escaped him.

Mr. Pearce was a good citizen, a kind husband and father, an obliging neighbor, a genial companion, and a true and trusty friend.

Farm help is very scarce.

S.G. Minkler, Hon. G.M. Hollenback, Jas. S. Cornell and John A. Newell met at the courthouse Saturday to make the preliminary arrangements for the Old Settlers picnic.

Mr. Chris Herren from Oswego was at the county seat Monday. He says the hot weather pushed the corn along fast.

Squire Kellogg of NaAuSay was in Yorkville Tuesday and speaks well of the crops out this way. One of his sons had been cutting a field of rye with a McCormick twine binder machine and they were all wonderfully pleased with it.

President Garfield

The news from the President since our last issue has continued to be good and there is every indication that he will get well. The ball has not yet been extracted and the wound has supplicated, discharging pus thro a rubber tube which has been inserted.

July 21: The damaged windmills by the big blow are all repaired.

John Hem is building a large new barn.

In cutting grass the other day, Will Ferris struck a bumblebees nest wish caused the horses to move away in a greater hurry than Will would let them, and in the tussle he got his feet caught in the mower. Luckily it was not serious.

Rev. Samuel Crothers, from California, or at least lately from there, is here on a visit to his aunt, Mrs. Jolly, and other relatives. He is the son of John M. Crothers, well known to the older settlers of this county as a lawyer, the circuit clerk, and their representative in the legislature. Young C. was taken away from here when three years old and this is the first return to his native place.

A string of cars loaded with lumber and hard coal for M.J. Poage & Sons are on the side track this morning.

Yorkville: The drought in Naperville is painful. The *Clarion* says: An ordinance should be passed prohibiting the cows from drinking the water out of the river. If it is not soon stopped or soon rains, this town will be minus that which constitutes a river.

A small striped worm is found in nearly every ear of sweet corn picked and it is ruining everyone's appetite for green corn. All on account of the comet.

There are no visible evidences as yet that the bridges at Yorkville and Bristol are to be rebuilt this summer. It is hoped they will not begin about Fair time and have both down. Some action is necessary at once.

Bradford, a NaAuSay colored man, is in jail for threatening to shoot a woman. The warrant was issued by Squire Ernst and Officer Ackerman made the arrest. Unless he finds a bondsman for \$300 he will stay in jail till court sets. Bradford was two years in the Juliet prison.

According to the *Aurora News*: L.B. Judson Sr. has purchased the McWethy place on the Jericho road for \$4,000.

The dairy interests of this part of Kendall county continue to grow rapidly. Friday morning, the shipments by express from Yorkville and Oswego detained the train at each station to load milk, butter, and though not a dairy product, eggs. From Oswego, half a ton of butter was shipped for New Orleans. There are two cheese and butter factories at Oswego one at Bristol Station, one at Yorkville, and a butter factory at Plattville.

July 28: Being unwell, H.G. Smith is going to lay off for a week or two and in the mean time Bob Pogue will run the depot.

August Schmidt's team ran away Saturday from the mill; it was stopped on coming into town; no damage done.

Jacob Constantine has got a nice span of mules; they are well broke and very gentle and they ought to be, as one is named Moody and the other Sankey. They were used yesterday on the self rakes, cutting grain, and driven by his daughter, Sarah, but for some cause got frightened and ran away; the folks were greatly alarmed about the safety of the driver but it was found that with the exception of her clothes, which were badly torn, and a few slight scratches, she was alright. The mules were unhurt, but the machine was a wreck.

Haight got a new awning and wire screen doors.

The harvesting of the oats was hurried on some farms in the neighborhood on account of the consuming propensities of the army worm to the extent that the customs of the Sunday were somewhat violated. The appearance of the pest about here was not general and their number and destructiveness also varied much in different localities.

August -- 1881

Aug. 4: I.N. Stoutemyer of the *New Orleans Times* has come north to spend the hot season and during last week was here with his brother-in-law, Hugh McConnell.

Charles Knapp and wife returned yesterday from their visit to Germany.

Yesterday was a very lively day; many hogs were brought to town for shipment; at one time the street was pretty filled with hog wagons.

Among the shipments from Oswego during July, there were 1,150 cases of buttermilk.

Bob Pogue has been ordered to perform a few weeks relief duty at the Walnut depot in Bureau county.

The upper bridge on the Waubonsie has been reconstructed. The building of another bridge, namely over the run on Adams street near the Partridge butter factory, has been the topic more or less the past week.

The Rev. Mr. Crothers is making his visit here beneficial to our people; Sunday morning he preached at the Congregational church and in the afternoon at the Presbyterian.

The past week's developments would furnish much material for moralizing purposes if a fellow was only in the right frame of mind for it, and commenced in time doing it. Whiskey especially has been prolific in the production of fruits, and query is: Why does whiskey make men cut up so much just now? Is there an extra fighting quality on tap; does it work different on men during the dog days than at other times; or have the comments anything to do with it, or what?

Miss Mamie Jenson's private school will be closed with an exhibition on the evening of the 12th inst. at the Red Ribbon hall.

Yorkville: Six columns of advertising dropped suddenly out of a country paper makes a hole in its columns that accrues to the benefit of the readers. Harvest is over and the implement men deserted us in a body till next season.

From the *Morris Herald*: The body of Fred Tillman, a colored man from Lisbon, was found in a mangled condition upon the round house track at Braidwood on Thursday night of last week. He was discovered by an engineer who was running an engine into the round house, lying on the track, but before the engineer could stop his engine the man was struck. On examination, however, the body was found to be cold and had apparently been dead some time, and it is supposed he was murdered and thrown upon the track as a blind by his unknown murderers. Tillman was a brother of the man who was married to a

white girl from Lisbon in this city about a year ago, and has worked for a number of farmers in this vicinity.

The Yorkville paper mill is now making paper for wrapping and packing tobacco. It is a good article.

Aug. 11: L.N. Hall is always foremost of this community keeping up with the times; he has now his store and residence--which are six blocks apart--connected with telephone, not yet however in talking order.

L.J. Tobias, the pastor of the Methodist church here seven years ago, was in town one day of last week, but instead of looking after the spiritual wants of the people, he was taking orders from our merchants for material things; that is he has quit preaching and gone into the mercantile business.

George Ernst, a young fellow, and the Sorg boys--small boys--bound and shocked 35 acres of oats in five days in Michael Sorg's farm.

On his return from Germany, Charley Knapp brought with him a sister and her four children.

Yorkville: President Garfield is still lingering very near the gates of death. For nearly six weeks he has lain prostrate, suffering from fever and the pain of his wound.

Aug. 18: Saturday evening a dispute arose between Henry Sanders, who had been drinking, and Cash Mullenix, and it is alleged that in order to emphasize his points, the former exhibited a pistol which caused his arrest and lodgment in the town house; during the night somebody released him by breaking out a part of a window and cutting open the door of the cell. The authorities seemed to be aware that he had gone to Mr. Minich's house and about 10 o'clock Sunday a posse went there and upon their approach Henry left the house and ran to the river, and a few steps into it where the water was shallow but then surrendered. Ambrose Darby who had been with Henry and who, too, started to run, was also arrested. In coming up before Squire Newton for a judicial investigation yesterday and case of Henry was quickly disposed of, he pleading guilty to the charge of carrying concealed weapons for which he was fined \$3 and costs. The case of Ambrose is taking a wider range; after working on it all the afternoon yesterday it was postponed to 8 o'clock this morning. Lawyer Herrington of Yorkville is prosecuting and Smith and Hawley defending.

L. L. Lynch has come home; also Charles Kimball.

Dr. Putt has raised a 2-1/2 ounce tomato.

L.N Hall's telephone has been completed and works like a charm.

The Cutter family have moved into their new house several weeks ago.

Yorkville: That loud startling, jerky music heard on the line of the Fox River road Tuesday night was not a "monkey and a hand-organ," nor a brass band, but a Calliope attached to the advertising car of Barnum's circus, which went down to Ottawa on the evening train to bill that town. It is a combination of steam whistles operated like a pipe organ, only steam instead of wind makes the tone.

Ed Strossman was down from Oswego Monday morning after a couple of birds he had put in the courthouse for safe keeping.

Capt. Ed Mann of Oswego has engaged eight stalls on the Fair grounds in which to keep his stud of horses during the Fair. The Captain is going to do his level best this year.

Aug. 25: George Croushorn and wife have moved to Montgomery.

H.G. Smith will move into the house vacated by Croushorn.

Bob Pogue has received a regular appointment by the CB&Q, being that of night operator at Riverside, and went there yesterday.

The interest in the coming county fair apparently is much greater hereabouts than for years past.

Proceedings against Tom Roach were again instituted for the fun in his shop (drinking whiskey) and this time it went hard with Tom, \$5 and costs.

David C. Jeneson received the appointment of clerk of the committee of railroads, State Board of Equalization, and went to Springfield several days ago.

September -- 1881

Sept. 1: School commenced yesterday. The teachers C.C. Duffy, Kate Cliggitt, and Fanny Parsons all been engaged here before.

N. Larkin has been raising some nice big potatoes. They go 75 bushels to the acre.

H.G. Smith the station agent is out of trim. James Pogue was assisting and Bob has been returned to relieve him.

Roberts' men one day last week set a heap of hedge trimmings laying in the road on fire to burn it up. The fire got through the hedge into a field and spread over about twenty acres. It took considerable exertion to keep it from going further and saving J.S. Seeley's premises.

A fire originated from a passing engine yesterday over on the main line burned over quite a tract of land destroying several haystacks and a lot of fences. It touched several farms including that of Henry Shoger and Keck.

Our public watering tank is a nuisance; the correspondent of the *Record* to the contrary notwithstanding. Facts are facts. The thing is either dry or else it will contain some water slimy enough to make an alligator puke to drink it.

Sept. 8: There was a disappointed crowd at the depot yesterday on the arrival of the 9 o'clock train, which only afforded the hanging of a few male passengers on the outside; the extra, of course, was too late for the grand parade.

Our stone quarries have been doing a good business of late; the demand for building stone was sometimes greater than the supply.

Sept. 15: The establishment of Cash Mullenix, including a barber shop, billiard table and cigar and tobacco stand was entered one night of last week and despoiled of everything that could be readily carried; the whole loss amounted to about \$150.

Prof. Duffy with his 50 scholars, making two loads, went to the fair Wednesday to help swell the crowd on that day and her and see the Governor.

Between the time Morris Cliggitt untied his mare and getting into the buggy, the other morning on the street, she lit out. Morris clung to the buggy for two or three rods and then was left, the rig moving towards home at a lively clip. At the Cutters the lines got caught in the wheels and by the winding up of the same the mare was stopped.

Thomas J. Seely is advancing in the railroad service; according to the Los Vegas Gazette, he has been promoted to Division Superintendent between Raton and Wallace, New Mexico.

Sept. 22: With thick black rules on its front page, the *Kendall County Record* announced "Garfield is Dead!" "it is with tears and a full heart that we write the words. James Abram Garfield, the nation's choice for president is no more."

The lighted up horizon in a south easterly direction was due to the burning of two barns of a Mr. Brown near Tamarack with all their contents embracing five horses and a large amount of grain and farm utensils.

Sept. 29: L.G. Bennett was in town the other day and apparently the climate of Missouri agrees with him.

The Leisure Moments Club, an organization of young men has been brought into being during the last week.

The wedding of Miss Maggie Teller and Fred Smith occurred last week Wednesday at the residence of the bride's mother.

Oswego residents held a service to commemorate the death of President James A. Garfield. The procession marched from the old Kendall County Courthouse to the Congregational Church on South Main Street, and included the community's school children, fellow Civil War veterans, and civic and fraternal organizations.

October -- 1881

Oct. 6: Mrs. David Goudie is out in Iowa on a visit to her son, Tom.

The corpse of Mrs. Frank Darby was brought here Sunday from Plano for burial.

Mrs. James McLean, formerly residing in NaAuSay, will be buried tomorrow in that cemetery.

James Minard of Iowa passing through town one day last week stopped over one day to see his relatives, none of whom he had seen in 28 years, that being the time when he moved away from here. His brother, the Elder, however, was absent in Missouri.

The typhoid patients are all on the gain except Jennie Hubbard, whose case is said to be precarious; her mother, Mrs. C.E. Hubbard, is convalescent; Mr. and Mrs. H.G. Smith are improving slowly; James C. Shepard, who has been down from general debility for some time is sufficiently restored to be riding out again.

Yorkville: George Cowdrey is back from his first visit to New York, and while he had a splendid time, he was glad to strike Fox River again. He left Frank Seely in the Orange county just smothered in the cream of kindness--and it is thought Frank never will get away.

Oct. 13: The celebration of the 20th anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. David Hall's marriage took place last evening at their residence.

Fred Leigh Jr. and Miss Tillie Lippold were married last week Thursday. It took place at Naperville and from there the bridal couple went on a visit to friends in Chicago.

Charles Teller started today on his return to New Mexico to resume his place on the Santa Fe railroad.

The family of M.C. Richards have moved to Aurora, where Mr. R is engaged in business.

In order to reduce affairs, Mrs. Teller sold a portion of her household goods at public sale last week.

Also, Thomas Roach sold his tools and a portion of his household goods Saturday afternoon, with a view of departing.

J.M. McConihe and wife, who have been temporarily stopping here, moved yesterday to Plano.

The newly married couple, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Smith, have returned.

Yorkville: Lawrence Hafenrichter took a vacation last week. Lyme Lane, his partner, wouldn't tell us whether he was off on a wedding tour or not.

Oct. 20: Mrs. Nathan Loucks was called to New York State by the death of her youngest brother.

Morris Gray was taken very sick last week but is again on the way of recovery.

Peter Grant has gone back to old Virginia.

Evan T. Edwards has come back on a visit from Kansas.

Mrs. Thos. J. Seely departed the other day for Las Vegas, N.M. to join her husband.

Word has been received that Peter Minkler of Rochelle, formerly of this neighborhood, is sick and near death.

A son is now in the family of Oscar Briggs.

Oswego has become one of the foremost places for organizing churches.

Yorkville: L.N. Hall of Oswego was at the county seat Friday. He is one of the leading business men of the county--runs a bank, a drug store, and dos a large insurance visit.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Stiefbolt of Oswego were visiting with R.J. Slack over Sunday. Charles was a member of the invincible 7th Illinois Infantry, assisted the Editor in quelling the great rebellion, and left a finger down south: *Naperville Clarion*.

#### MARRIED

Smith--Hughes: Robert Smith of Chicago to Mrs. L. Hughes of Oswego, Kendall Co. by the Rev. Wm. H. Webster in the Third Baptist church of Aurora on October 12th.

Oct. 27: The dedication of the "Leisure Moments hall" will take place next Friday evening, and to which a general invitation is extended; the exercises will consist of an oration, recitations, reading, music, etc. The fixing up and furnishing of the hall is nearly completed, and is much more tasteful than anything of the kind had heretofore. The hall has been all repainted and nicely papered, and the walls are adorned with large pictures and mirrors.

Miss Sarah A. (Sadie) Smith was married last Thursday to Charles Bennett of Springfield, Mo. They started immediately on a visiting tour to relatives in Iowa and Kansas.

Arthie, four years old son of Henry Shoger, was buried yesterday.

The funeral of Mrs. Alonzo Andrews took place yesterday at Plainfield. The family formerly resided in this neighborhood.

The misses Emma and Helen Samse were out from Chicago over Sunday and Monday and each accompanied by a friend. Mr. and Mrs. H.G. Smith returned from a visit with them.

Peter Porter Wiggins, on his way from the east to Minnesota, made this town a flying visit. He was accompanied by his son, who was a little boy when the family moved from here 16 years ago, but who now is much the taller of the two.

Miss Nannie Ladiew [LaDew] is studying millinery with Maggie Shepard.

Ellis Minkler is giving away apples that weigh a pound and measure 14 inches in circumference.

James Jarvis has moved into what is called the Snook house; Charles Kimball is occupying the M.C. Richards residence, and George Brown the lower Edwards house on Washington street.

Dug Lowry has now the boss sidewalk in front of his saloon.

The Richards building in the brick block has been covered with a new pitch and gravel roof, one that is to be lasting.

D.M. Haight has caused the repainting of the outside of his store building. Dick Constable did it.

Mann & Son are going to enlarge their stables; they want to get nearly as much more room as they have already.

During a thunder storm the other morning, the lightning struck and killed a cow belonging to George Schilling out in the German settlement.

The west river road below the bridge is being vigorously worked; Nate Loucks is bossing it.

Yorkville: The Shepard Bros. of Oswego are doing a fine business in the hardware line this fall, and will have a full line of stoves for winter.

Lawrence Hafenrichter and Lyme Lane indulged in wedding cake to their heart's content Thursday morning, and were not sure it was wedding cake, wither.

We accidentally dropped into McConnell's creamery on Friday of last week and was not a little surprised to see the amount of business going on in this Oswego institution. Mr. David Hall, the popular auctioneer, is engineer, and under his guidance we took in the "regions dark" -- the milk room, the cheese room, the butter room, and other places. Mr. McConnell is making three kinds of cheese--Limburger, skim milk, and hand cheese, and he finds ready sale for all of it. McConnell keeps his milk in a long, dark room in small deep cans. He says that in the past two or three weeks, his receipts of milk has increased some 4,000 pounds, and is still increasing. Dave Hall has been with him some four months and is a first-class man to have around.

Montgomery: The Grand Division, Sons of Temperance meets here this week.

E.J. Pease received a carload of potatoes this week, which he sold readily for \$1.10 per bushel. The potato crop is very poor in this section.

A train pulled by engine No. 403 ran into train No. 73 of the Fox River Branch Thursday evening last. Conductor Merritt's way car and three coal dumps were demolished; the engine was considerably damaged.

Work on the mill is progressing favorably. Hord & Co. are putting in rollers instead of burrs to grind with. This necessitates the entire remodeling of the mill. The work is under the supervision of Mr. Jameson of Wisconsin.

November -- 1881

Nov. 3: The funeral of Mrs. Betsy Smith will take place from the Presbyterian church to-day. She was the mother of Mrs. VanDriesen, and had her home in that family. Old age being the cause of her demise, having reached nearly 87 years.

There is a new girl in the family of Doc Woolley.

Henry Hebert has returned; he was one of the expositors at the Chicago Exposition throughout its duration.

Mrs. W.S. Bunn and Mrs. Bessie Hord were down from Montgomery one day last week on a visit.

String beans for dinner on the last of October would seem rather out of season.

The Oswego corn starch is a celebrated article, and the Oswego cotton batting is following suit.

A Mrs. Peckham of California is now agitating the temperance question in this town, the organization of a division of the Sons is the main object. She has lectured Sunday and Monday evenings at the Methodist church...Mrs. P is a professional and thoroughly understands the business; she is a ready talker and not timid about pressing her claims.

The information was received yesterday by his wife and brother that George W. Avery, "the Old General," who several years ago in company with his son went to Pensacola, Florida died there very suddenly. The bell was tolled for him this morning.

Henry G. Smith moved yesterday into his new residence.

Yorkville: Mr. John Wheeler, son of Mr. and Mrs. C.A. Wheeler of Little Rock twp., is again teaching in the old "Gravel school house" district, where he taught last winter. He gives his whole attention to his work, consequently is successful.

Squire Kellogg in Vermont  
Fairhaven, Vt., *Era*

Mr. George W. Kellogg of NaAuSay, Kendall county, Illinois, is in town for a few days and is stopping at the Bomoseen house. Mr. Kellogg is a native of Casleton, but has been gone from here 46 years. He finds but few of the companions of his youth remaining. His family were once quite numerous here, three Kellogg brothers, Sherman, Elisha, and Sexton, located here at an early day, Sherman near the pencil mill on what is known as the H.O. Brown farm, Elisha on the place now owned by James Duffy, and Sexton on the farm now owned by Hale Tomlinson. Their descendants became quite numerous and influential in our town, but to our knowledge not one of the name lingers. Mr. Kellogg informs us that his cousin, Charles, once a noted school master in this section, died in Iowa 15 years since. His cousin, Sherman Kellogg, once a well-known clergyman in this section, has long since been gathered to his Father's, and his son, Wm. Pitt Kellogg, is now a U.S. Senator from Louisiana. Mr. K. is a very intelligent and pleasant old gentleman and his appearance indicates that his struggle on the "world's broad field of battle" has resulted in substantial victory.

Nov. 10: It is said that by the presence of a little 8-pound girl in the household of Luman Morgan, he had become a daddy; likewise that Will Williams has become a dad too, and that also on account of a little girl.

Mrs. T.P. [Temperance (Bruce)] Edson, the widow of the Rev. Ambler Edson, one of the early ministers of this town, is here from Massachusetts on a visit to friends and relatives, also looking after her interests being still the owner of her residence when living here.

Bob Pogue has been sent to do station work at Leland.

The Partridge creamery has been reshingled.

There was a boom in the shipping of hogs one day of last week; street room for the hog wagons began to get scarce.

Will somebody what knows please tell how the name of the new Secretary of the Treasury is pronounced? Whether the "g" is hard or soft; that is, whether the syllable "ger" is pronounced as in stronger or as in stranger. [Charles James Folger appointed Nov. 14, 1881 to replace William Windom, who resigned to assume the office of U.S. Senator from Minnesota, to which he had been elected to fill his own vacancy after being appointed Secretary of the Treasury the previous March].

The people of Oswego are not yet united upon the subject of sidewalks, and not likely ever will be.

The meat market has changed proprietors; the new firm I believe is Zorn & Schweigert.

Montgomery: Mrs. Peckham and Rev. C. Stoughton lectured here Wednesday evening. After the lecture, the Division here received five new members.

The Division of the Sons of Temperance here has a membership of 60. How is that for a town of about 200 inhabitants?

Mr. L.C. Breese has leaded his farm to John Selvey and he will move to the city of Aurora.

Irve Drain has leased the Mrs. Cheney farm for a year.

Mr. A. Drain has sold his farm to a man from Aurora.

A coffer dam was erected here to facilitate the building of the fish shute. The dam was taken out by the high water. We have got a silver dollar to bet that the fish will have the biggest job before them that they ever had when the get over the shute.

A switch rail was broken here by a Fox River Branch train on Saturday evening. No damage done to cars.

Peas, Hord & Co. have shipped their engine to some other point; we are glad to say that they have failed to plant a malt-house here. They will use the old depot for an elevator for awhile yet, we understand.

Corn husking is progressing slowly. The average yield is about half a crop, but what there is, is of good quality.

Yorkville: The butterine factories of Chicago are in full operation now, and it is said that half the retail grocers of Chicago are vending the product to their customers. It appears there are two grades of butterine--the "dairy," which sells at 22 cents per pound, and the "creamery," which sells at 28 cents. Genuine butter retails at 43 cents per pound.

Nov. 17: Mr. and Mrs. L.N. Hall went to Springfield yesterday to attend the Grand lodge of Odd Fellows.

Mrs. Carrie E Young has the agency for selling a book entitled, "The Growing World," apparently a very good and useful work; it is profusely illustrated.

L.B. Judson was in town the other day.

Wm. H. Kelly has gone down to and is teaching at Northville.

Henry Sanders is now and has been for some time engaged on a railroad in Texas.

Although the apple crop has been a failure, yet John T. Wormley is giving away tiptop good cider by the jug full.

Oh how it rained here all day Friday.

The Kullman place in the north division was sold lately to Alex. White.

What a setback it would be to this world of Mr. D.M. Haight should either voluntarily or otherwise retire. He runs a general store and the largest in this town; he is the manufacturer of the celebrated Haight's cider vinegar; he is an extensive inventor and his patents meet with the best of success; he is our most apt orator, spicy writer, and deepest reader; he is one of the live political economists of the new school and an active reformer, not only of the civil service and the morals society, but of everything that needs reforming, and he makes his influence felt far and near.

It would appear that that other fellow who writes for the *Beacon* is exercised about Folger's honesty, ability, independence of bosses and Wall street robbers, &c., while I merely wish to know how his name is pronounced; well that's the difference in fellows and the fact is I cared very little even about that merely had heard the question raised as to which pronunciation was right.

Myron Atwood was in town over Sunday. He is telegraph operator at Riverside.

Montgomery: Last week, we stated that A.J. Wormley had been sick. He is afflicted with erysipelas, which took a turn for the worse, after our writing last week. He will soon be out again if he is very careful.

Notwithstanding the terrible snow storm of last Sunday a large number attended the Sunday School.

Quite a number attended the first meeting of the Oswego division, S of T, on Tuesday evening last.

Myron Atwood was in town over Sunday. He is telegraph operator at Riverside, and the girls say "that mustache is just too sweet for anything."

Nov. 24: On Wednesday occurred the wedding of Miss Emma Samse to a Mr. Frank Fullen of Chicago.

On Sunday afternoon Miss Etta Curtis was married to Fred Morris, a brakeman on the Fox river line and originally hailing from Iowa.

Dr. Cyrus H. Cutter will marry Miss Hattie M. Billings.

They have got a new organ in the church out in the German settlement and there is a very prosperous Sunday school connected with that church.

The Aurora electric lights can also be seen from this place--at least one of them--by looking out of the upper windows in houses on the most elevated ground.

There were a series of rows by different sets of excited yahoos Saturday evening on the saloon side of the street closely following each other.

December -- 1881

Dec. 1: The wedding of Miss Hattie M. Billings and Dr. Cyrus H. Cutter, which occurred last Wednesday, differed from the usual mode in that the ceremony was made a public affair and took place at the church--perhaps this was done mostly because of the bride having been from a little girl up to the present the organist of that church, the Congregational--and the new feature was highly honored.

Thanksgiving here with one exception was perhaps more fully observed than most of the places; the exception however was an important one. The Leisure Moments Club held a large reception with more than 60 attending.

A pair of lost wool mittens; in one of them a package of medicine; may be found at the post office.

Charles Richards received a telegram that his son's wife at Vandalia had died Sunday morning; they had been married about a year.

Hebert & Sons are now operating an engine.

Dec. 8: While sawing wood with a buzz saw, Will, son of Wm. Cooney, stumbled against the saw, cutting open his right arm from the elbow to the wrist, and severing the hand back of the knuckles leaving the thumb uninjured. Dr. Van Deventer is attending the case, which is said to be doing nicely.

Dave Hall came near getting extinguished Sunday at the Fox River Creamery; in fact, he had his upper understanding made a blank, and the lower rendered useless for some minutes; just how it happened I didn't hear, but something heavy dropped on him. His existence now as an animated object he says is due to Oliver Hebert, who was present and rescued Dave.

Ferris & Merwin is a new firm engaged in the hay pressing business. They received a new press the other day.

Mrs. Peckham's temperance lecture was much retarded by the evening it took place.

There is a new stove in the drug store, which for beauty and accomplishments is ahead of anything in town.

Dec. 15: Hogs are booming; six carloads were shipped last night.

Mr. Brownell of Peoria, years ago an inhabitant of this town is here visiting his mother, Mrs. Burr and sister, Mrs. Ezekiel Pearce.

The Breyer Comedy Company will hold forth several evenings next week, commencing with Monday. They have heretofore been Oswego's favorite troupe.

The *New Orleans Times* was received some days ago with its valedictory, showing that it had been merged into the Democrat of that city. The Times has come regularly for years to parties here and was of more interest to our people generally than other Southern papers because it was run by Oswegoans. Newt. Stoutemyer was its principal editor; Charles Clinton its largest stockholder, and Henry Judson had been for a long time its business manager.

Yorkville; Two carloads, containing 24 live elk, from the farm of Judge Caton, Ottawa, passed through Chicago Friday en route to Europe via New York.

California grapes at Cotton's

Dec. 22: A.J. Ives got two fingers lacerated by getting them in contact with a saw.

Some of the young people who several years ago left the German settlement here and went to Iowa to help build up that State, have returned with others on a visit; among them are Fred and Henry Jorg, and both of their wives; a Miss Maggie Springer, who is visiting at Hettrich's; two Misses Leigh at John Wolf's, and Mrs. Christina Hem at her folks, Leonard Burkhart's.

The Breyer troupe opened their performance last evening with "Dora." the attendance was but fair; it was too fearful dark for people to come out.

Bristol Post Office Discontinued

On Saturday last, Mr. Moore, the postmaster at Yorkville, received notice that the post office in Bristol village was discontinued and orders to go there and take possession of the mail and effects. All mail for Bristol will hereafter be held at the Yorkville office. It is only by sufferance that the office has been allowed to exist as long as it had--only a few rods from the Yorkville office; but no one has ever seen fit to complain to the Department. A few weeks ago as special agent of the mail service was here and reported the matter to headquarters, hence this action.

The Bristol office is one of the oldest in the county, but of late years its business has been very small. The Yorkville office will be a much better paying concern with the Bristol office abolished.

Dec. 29: The corpse of Mrs. Elisha Doud arrived Saturday from Winona, Minn., accompanied by her son, Charles G. Doud. The funeral took place Sunday from the residence of the grandson, C.A. Doud--the attendance of it is said to have been quite general. The deceased was 87 years of age; she was of a family notable for their longevity, her father, Zaphus Higby--whom I yet remember quite well--lived to the age of 98 years.

The funeral of George Poor, son-in-law of J.F. Warner, took place yesterday at Streator, to which place he moved from here several years ago and followed the occupation of mining. He died from consumption.

From the daily papers we learned that Mrs. John Hinchman of Chicago has lately died from small pox and in a condition uncommonly sad.

T.W. Lewis had a nice and extra valuable mare which got a leg broken probably by a kick from another horse. A good deal of hard work and watching was expended trying to save her, but she died; a hard blow to the owner.

The Breyer Comedy Company performed here all of last week and considering the very dark nights and bad weather the forepart of the week and other doings the latter they met with tolerable success.

Yorkville; A good square meal at Ira Lozier's, Yorkville, for 25 cents.

The paper mill had been closed several days owing to the lack of material. The roads have been so bad that no straw can be hauled and the stock on hand is exhausted. It started up again Monday on baled straw coming by rail.

1882

January

Jan. 5: Miss Hattie Kerr was married last week to a man said to reside in Iowa; it took place at her brother's (Henry) residence, and the Rev. Mr. Galt officiated.

M.H. James and family have moved to Aurora. Mr. J. will be foreman at the new creamery there.

A sewing machine exposition was established for several days at the post office.

Henry C. Hopkins was in town yesterday and so was Henry M., too.

Yorkville: D.M. Haight and F. Strossman of Oswego have got another patent on a mitten.

Capt. W.S. Bunn, formerly of Oswego, has purchased the cheese factory at Leland. We are all sorry to have the Captain and his good wife leave our county permanently.

#### The Bristol Post-Office--Its Discontinuance

As you doubtless are aware, the most of the patrons of the old Bristol Post-Office are greatly incensed at the unwanton outrage of the taking away of their post-office.

The history of the case is about like this: About June 1863, the new court house was finished and the records moved thither from Oswego. This accomplished, the Yorkvillians concluded that, because county seats were entitled by law to a post-office, they must have one, although the Bristol office was then kept within 100 rods of the court house. They petitioned the Post office Department for an office, leaving out the fact above mentioned, of the nearness of the Bristol office to the court house, and that the greater share of the merchants of Yorkville at that time living on the Bristol side--as they still do today; and a majority of the county officers have, too, all the time lived in Bristol. The county officers having to pass the Bristol office in going to and from the court house every day. The population is yet the greater in Bristol and most of the out of town patrons would have been content with the office where it was.

The Yorkville office had but few patrons for a long time, until there was a prospect for the Fox River railroad, then the Yorkville people put in another petition for Yorkville to be made the distributing office for mail matter for the interior of Kendall County. This was granted because the Department at Washington knew nothing about the facts of the case--of the distance from the parent office in Bristol. Very soon, having succeeded in getting the distributing office, they coveted the whole thing--a thing they were then ashamed to ask for. Hence the sufferance of which the *Record* speaks. We will quote from the *Record* of December 22d:

"It is only by sufferance that the office has been allowed to exist as long as it has--only a few rods from the Yorkville office; but no one has ever seen fit to complain to the Department. A few weeks ago a special agent of the mail service was here and reported the matter to headquarters, hence this action.

"The Bristol office is one of the oldest in the county, but of late years its business had been very small. The Yorkville office will be a much better paying concern with the Bristol office abolished."

It is by sufferance that the Bristol office was allowed life so long when the court house was but a few rods further away from the Bristol office than the Yorkville office from the

Bristol office, with, as we said above, the majority of the county officers and a large number of the Yorkville merchants living in Bristol, having to pass the door of the Bristol office every time they went to and from the court house and their business in Yorkville. It seems a little strange that they could not have been content with the old office. But that is not all of it. The special agent of the mail service here a few weeks ago reporting, etc. The people of Bristol would like to know by whose invitation he came to be here. Many of them believe such an invitation was given...

The better way would have been for our neighbors on the south side as well as for us in Bristol to have united the villages under one name, as well as the school districts, at or about the time the courthouse was built, placing the post office in a permanent home at the north branch of the river, where also the business houses should have been put; with a good school house near it, too, or so that the Bristol common should be occupied for a play-ground.

James. M. Gale

Jan. 12: Street lamps; yes, indeed, Oswego has street lamps. This radical step toward greatness was taken Saturday afternoon when posts and lamps were erected on the corners at Henry Helle's and Frank Van Doozer's, and that foggy night the people of Oswego, for the first time, enjoyed the pleasure of street lights. They are lamps burning naphtha and were put up for trial.

The Oswego Post office is now authorized to transact International Money Order business with all the countries with which it is established. The last to which it has been extended with the beginning of the year are Switzerland, Jamaica, New South Wales, Victoria, and New Zealand.

John Schilling returned this morning from Iowa where he has been to see a sick uncle; he says there are several inches of snow on the ground out there.

R.B. Murphy was up from Mobile, Ala. where he is one of the live businessmen and made a flying visit to Oswego, his native place. The production of an odd style of whiskers changed his appearance so much that the most of his acquaintances would not recognize him, and Bob had some fun out of it.

Frank Boardman of East Wheatland paid his sister, Mrs. Moore, a visit.

George Barnard and family have moved to Aurora. Also the A.S. Hopkins family.

Yorkville: The Bristol Post Office

In a letter to the *Record* last week, Mr. James M. Gale rather insinuates that J.R. Marshall had something to do with the discontinuance of the Bristol post office. If Mr. Gale believes that to be a fact, we have no wish to change his opinion. But to others in Bristol who may have found that notion floating in their minds, we will say that Mr. Marshall had nothing to do with the matter and never suspected such a thing was in contemplation till an agent of the Department came into the *Record* office one day from the ten o'clock train, he being an old Springfield acquaintance of the publisher's, and that it all we knew

about his coming. Mr. Gale further charges Yorkville with conspiring to rob Bristol of its office. We can say again to the Bristol people that Yorkville had nothing to do with the matter whatever, and no one connected with the *Record* office nor any one living in Yorkville ever had anything to do with nor knew anything about the discontinuance of the office. It was a part of the "star route" system, and offices in that list are watched.

Jan. 19: A little after 10 o'clock Friday night, when Alex White was going home, crossing the Waubonsie on the railroad bridge, he discovered a dead person having been run over by a freight train that had passed a little while before. They found the remains to be that of a man, much cut up and scattered along the track for a number of rods. The first effort made was identification; there was one leg and one arm with the shoulder cut off; the head was also off and then only half of it remaining, the other being crushed away lengthwise leaving half of the fact, but by that none present were able to identify him. In gathering up the fragments of the body and clothing they found a package of papers by which they learned it was James Rowan; another thing found in a pocket was a bottle of whiskey intact. The deceased, brought up in the village, or rather on the "Patch," a suburb [Troy], usually designated by that appellation, but for the last year or so he has been living in Aurora, and it appears he had come down that evening to get something done to papers for a pension application. The coroner's verdict was that the man probably laid down on the track while in a state of intoxication, exonerating the railroad men of all blame. The accident is charged to whiskey.

Nate Loucks sold six hogs for \$200; they were a year old last August and had pigs in June; averaged 550 and were pronounced the nicest sold in this market this season.

Peter Cooney, his wife, and youngest daughter were found the other morning by other members of the family in a precarious situation and unconscious, especially Peter who was very near past the raising point. The stove had been left open and the gas escaped into the room. The windows were thrown open. Doc Van Doozer was sent for in a hurry, and in a day or two all were okay again.

The Fox River Creamery office has been moved to town and is established in the adjoining room to the barber shop.

The mill pond looked very nice from town Sunday night; the ice men had become alarmed about losing what ice there was there, and so commenced in earnest gathering it, intending to work all night and for which reason had placed a good many lights upon the pond.

Yorkville: Oswego and Kendall County are being pretty well advertised throughout the State on account of the Hawley divorce case. They make Paul out a pretty bad man.

After getting through with the divorce suit Tuesday afternoon, Bradford made an attack on his brother-in-law, Lucas, while he was hitching up his team and was badly hurt. There was no officer about to make an arrest. Bradford has the reputation of being a dangerous man. We have since learned that if Brother Hawkins had not separated the

combatants, Lucas would have given Bradford more than he could have carried. But Brother Hawkins said he did not want to see colored gentlemen disgrace themselves.

Common Law, case No. 13. Lillie VanDriesen by Amarilla Van Driesen vs. Charles Pearce, Chris. C. Duffy, Charles Shaver, and J.M. Pogue; case. Suit to compel the Oswego public school to advance plaintiff to higher grade. Jury waived--submitted to court.

Jan. 26: Mike Keating has moved his family to Streator, where previously he has been for some time.

James S. Hoyt has returned from Plymouth county, Iowa, on a visit; he likes it there ever so much.

The Methodist donation will come to pass on Thursday evening of next week, that is Feb. 2d--a very appropriate time, too, it being Candlemasday--at Chapman's hall and to which everybody is cordially invited.

A revival in singing is now in progress at the Leisure Moments hall; it is conducted by a Prof. Leland of Carroll county, commencing Saturday with a preliminary meeting, and last evening a class was formed, 60 being the number it then had reached. The term will be closed with a public rendering of the cantata, "Queen Esther."

Yorkville: There are 100 saloons in Joliet.

The pay-roll of the Joliet iron and steel mills for the past month amounts to \$128,987.

The small-pox case in Bristol is ended and it was not much of an affair after all. Mr. Peterson was confined to his bed but a short time he only having the varioloid.

At the Kendall County court last Thursday the grand jury petitioned Judge Kellum to have their foreman resign because he was too drunk to attend to business. The foreman was not too drunk to take so gentle a hint, and resigned without further kicking.

The ice harvest has been carried on the past week with energy--the workmen even forgetting when Sunday came. The large ice houses above Yorkville are nearly filled and great quantities have been shipped to Chicago for storing. Beck, Sullivan, Churchill, and Starr have all filled their houses, so we can keep cool next summer. The ice is fair--some of it extra good being from nine to eleven inches thick.

Small-pox is raging in Braidwood, Will county.

February -- 1882

Feb. 2: The wedding of Miss Lottie M. Davis at the residence of her grandfather, John H. Wormley, or rather at her uncle's John T. Wormley--it is young John that keeps the house--that Frank Lilly was the other of the contracting parties.

Henry Sanders has come home from Texas on a two weeks' furlough; he is there railroading under Jep Vosberg, and says that Jep has lost one of his fingers.

Mrs. Abraham V. Wormley is here from Missouri in a visit to her folks, John Sanders.

Henry Sanders has come home from Texas on a two weeks' furlough; he is there railroading under Jep Vosberg and says that Jep has lost one of his fingers.

Oswego never was much on corners; with a few exceptions the best corners in the business part of the town contains the most insignificant buildings. There never before was any building on the north corner of block seven and the Weese blacksmith shop moved there now, won't improve the look of things.

Yorkville: At 4.40 o'clock in the afternoon of Wednesday, Jan. 25, 1882, the jury in the Guiteau trial for the murder of President Garfield retired to their room to make up a verdict and in half an hour returned, finding the prisoner guilty of murder in the first degree.

W.H. Kelly of Oswego, teaching at Northville, is taking a short vacation on account of small pox symptoms in the neighborhood of his school.

From the *Free Trader* we learn that Doug Lowry of Oswego was fined \$30 in the Circuit Court at Ottawa for the illegal sale of liquor.

O.E. Judson of Sandwich on Wednesday was the recipient of a nice whalebone whip with gold mounted ferules, from his nephew, L.O. Judson of Westfield, Mass.

L.N. Hall of Oswego has commenced the transaction of a banking business in that village and is prepared to take deposits and deal in exchange. He has put in a vault and will soon receive a splendid new safe and time locks. Mr. Hall is well known in this vicinity, having been in the drug business in Oswego for 16 years and built up a first rate reputation for promptness, reliability, an responsibility. In his banking business, he will be assisted by Mr. C.E. Hubbard, with whom the people of Oswego are also very well and very favorably acquainted. The bank is a necessity for Oswego and will be appreciated. – *Aurora Beacon News*

The Horse Protection Association

The annual meeting of the Kendall County Horse Protective Association held at the court-house, Yorkville, on Saturday, Jan. 28, and was called to order by the president, R.W. Willett.

Feb. 9: The past was a week of unusual activity in social matters; there were four marriages, of which all the parties were Oswegoans, unless an exception is made of Lawrence Hafenrichter, who now resides in Yorkville: Edgar H. Luce and Edith Warner at the home of Esquire Newton; William D. Luce and Julia P. Pearce at the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ezra Pearce; Lawrence Hafenrichter and Lottie Shibley married in Aurora; and Mary Colgrove to Watts Cutter, performed by the Rev. Mr. Colgrove the bride's stepfather.

Mrs. Frank Van Doozer's death occurred Saturday night and was the first natural [death] of the year.

Prof. Duffy was visited for a day or two by his old friend, J.R. Combs, the clerk of the Appellate court at Ottawa, accompanied by Mrs. Combs.

20 teams have been at work some of these days extending the graveled road to Plainfield. Nate Loucks is the boss of the job.

Charles G. Austin, after many years of residence in this neighborhood, has become dissatisfied and is now on moving to Jasper county, Indiana.

Yesterday afternoon was quite warm and besides being around a hot stove a good deal a lot of fellers became so heated up that two of them were spoiling for a fight and the rest for a desire to see it; they jumped into a lumber wagon, the hottest being in their shirt sleeves and drove outside the corporation into more free territory for the purpose of having it, but by the time they got to the place they had cooled down to a normal condition and there was no fight. The most of the crowd was slightly inebriated.

Yorkville: Milton Hawkins, of Oswego, a former resident of Elgin, is smiling on his old friends. So says the Elgin *Frank*.

It is rumored that the citizens of Will, Grundy, and Kankakee propose a division forming an extra county in the coal field, making Braidwood the county seat.--*Gardner Enterprise*.

Nate Loucks of Oswego (people call his "Nate" because he is so good-natured) believes cows pay when properly attended to. His receipts in November at McConnell's cheese factory were \$78 for milk from 14 cows. Besides attending to this he is graveling the Oswego and Plainfield road and the neighbors say he is one of the best road makers in the state.

#### Oswego Creamery

This factory started last May to collect cream on the Fairlamb system. The cans used seem to have proved very popular with the farmers, and they claim they can get almost as much money for their cream as for their milk, besides having the skim milk left on the farm in good condition for feeding, an important item with the farmer. Mr. Partridge has over eight hundred cans which have been distributed among one hundred and seventy

patrons with a prospect of a large increase the present season. The figures given below show that a good business has been done since starting and but for the drought of last summer would have been much larger. Total number of cream cans received: 88,253; Total pounds of butter made, 88,007; Cash received: 21,408.25; Cash paid patrons, 17,604.66; Butter drawn out by the patrons for own use, 6,013; Average pounds of butter made per day, 400.

Feb. 16: At Mrs. Frank Van Doozer's funeral last week the congregational church was crowded; the event was one of the saddest in this community for a long while. The deceased had been but 33 years of age.

Gracie, 3-1/2 years old, the youngest child of Adam Armstrong, and the pet in the family, died last week, the funeral taking place Thursday.

The old folks' dance Wednesday evening was not a large affair, but good what there was of it.

There was a partial reunion of the Samse family; James and Will came out from Chicago, Charles up from Kokomo, Indiana, and a cousin, George W. Sutherland, down from Wisconsin. The latter came to Oswego when a chunk of a boy from New York State and has been away now ever since the war. When a boy, he served as a page in the New York legislature. He has now rounded out into a full Wisconsin politician being assistant sergeant-at-arms of the legislature there, and also being a committee clerk.

Blanche, the little 3 year old girl of Charles Kimball, is very sick.

Nate Loucks says that what was said about his milk business in the *Record* of last week was all wrong; that instead of November and 14 cows, it was during December and only 10 cows, of which but four were new milkers, he sold \$78 worth of milk.

Miss Effie Parker is on a visit in New York State.

Byron Morgan, Tom Goudie, Burt L. Still, and Fred G. Burkhart are among the former Oswegoans that are here or have been the past week.

Cob [Colvin] Pearce and Jake Meckel the hired man started this morning for Plymouth, Iowa where Cob has a big farm and which he will operate the coming season; the family will follow soon.

Yorkville: A son of L.B. Judson has gone into the news business at Aurora.

Miss VanEvra of Oswego impersonated Little Red Riding hood at the Windsor Club masquerade in Aurora the 8th.

Wm. Andrews of Oswego moves to Audubon, Iowa this week.

At the Aurora Silver Plate factory, a hippopotamus hide weighing 125 pounds was received the other day. It was a trimmed hide three by nine feet in size and an inch and three quarters thick, and before being sawed up looked more like a great wide board than anything else. It is used for buffs for cleaning the ware preparatory to plating and is the most suitable material yet found for that purpose, being of a spongy texture, sufficiently soft to preclude scratching and yet exceedingly durable.

Feb. 23: Miss Annie Gannon was married last week to a Mr. Marvin Ramsey of Chicago.

Henry Minard (not the Elder) and family have moved to Kansas.

Mrs. Polly Boot, the mother of Mrs. Colgrove, died Saturday morning after but a few days sickness. The deceased was 81 years of age and the remains were taken to Ann Arbor, Mich. For burial.

Noah Carpenter's family, who several years ago moved to Iowa, joining there the Pearce Colony in Plymouth county, have now a hard time of it. There were nine children, all of which were taken down with the diphtheria; four have died and the rest are sick yet.

The burial of Mrs. Alfred Kenyon of Batavia took place the other day at the cemetery in the German settlement. She was a daughter of the late Nicholas Hafenrichter.

Ed Walker is building a new barn, and it is going to be the boss barn in that section; the main part of it is 58 by 36. Theron Richards is building it.

Yorkville: While we are going to lose the old grist mill in Yorkville, it will certainly be an advantage to the town to have another paper mill, and that is what Black & Clark are now working at. The machinery for the new mill has been ordered and while it is being put up, the old grist mill will be remodeled inside for the pulping engines; bleaching sheds will be built in front and on the west side will be built a machine room 36 x 89 feet, in which will be set up brand new machinery of latest improvements.

ROOT.

Mrs. Polly Root, mother of Mrs. Rev. George Colegrove, died at the M.E. Parsonage in Oswego February 18, 1882, aged 81 years and 14 days. She was born in Hamilton, N.Y.; emigrated to Ann Arbor, Mich., in 1829, where she lived 52 years. Two husbands and four children precede her; Mrs. Colegrove is the only surviving child and though feeling deeply the loss of her faithful, loving mother, is comforted with the thought of meeting her again in heaven.

The list of criminals before the Kane County Circuit Court is fearfully long; it is hoped most of them will find a place at Joliet.

Charley Weber has been engaged in taking the machinery out of the old grist mill.

March -- 1882

March 2: Fred Haag and Miss Anna Constantine were married last week Also Leonard Rieger Jr. and Emma Burghart--quite a youthful couple.

The Milt. Pogue family is coming back to Oswego to live. Milt himself is said to be going west prospecting.

A new daughter is at C.A. Doud's.

A little foray was made into our town Sunday towards evening by several carriages of Yorkvillians; first their driving was much faster than is allowed by our ordinances, and after coming to a stop, a fight ensued among themselves. When the police appeared upon the scene there was a scattering; the one that had done the knocking down lit out, but the loud talker was nabbed, and afterwards arranged to appear next day or forfeit \$3, which of course he meant to. The affair may be chargeable to Yorkville pop, an article which is gaining much celebrity. Temperance lectures when recounting the sufferings entailed by inebriety should once in awhile include the horses; it would be a variation worth recognition, and nothing at all unbecoming.

Yorkville: The Oswego correspondent of the *Aurora Herald* says: some one in your last week's issue has made an attack upon Mr. Strooly's temperance principles. We have always regarded Mr. Strooly as a practical temperance man. The worst that can be said of him is, that he is a bachelor, and we presume he is not to blame for that.

March 9: Mrs. Colvin Pearce, with the children, has followed her husband to Plymouth co., Iowa.

The Arion Bell-ringers held forth Thursday evening and produced lots of fun to a fair house.

The Dwight Ladd family have moved into town and are occupying the John Hem house.

Peter Faust has sold his farm to Michael Shoger, out of which a large public sale will result. Pete is headed for Iowa.

E.Y. Ketchum was the first this season in starting on building; he has a new barn up and enclosed.

Sam Hagerman has begun the building of a new residence.

Yorkville: Our photographer, Mr. Winne, is obliged to leave Yorkville because he cannot get a place for his business. Mr. Hopkins will re-roof his building in a few weeks and do away with the skylight, and Fred is out of a place. Till then, he wants to do all the work he can and he is a good workman; those wanting pictures should call and "get taken."

March 16: Mrs. James Murphy died last week of dropsy at the age of 65; the burial took place Tuesday at Aurora and according to the rites of the Catholic Church.

Wm. Findley & Bro. are agoing to set out 12,000 catalpa seedlings the coming spring. The catalpa tree is considered the most durable timber for fence posts and railroad ties.

Arthur Ladd is now at the depot learning telegraphy and acting the junior agent.

Some fellows went through the depot office--gaining entrance by a window--one night of this week, but didn't find anything they wanted.

Prof. C.J. Dempsey has commenced the teaching of a class in the science of elocution at the Leisure moment hall.

Henry Colver has moved here from Chicago and will run father-in-law W. W. Wormley's farm the coming season.

George Squires, who is living east of here, is now sheepranging on a large scale out in Nebraska; he has shipped lately 34 car loads containing over 2,700 sheep to Chicago and has over 1,300 there yet to ship. Besides himself and son, Frank Eggleston is one of their main men in conducting the business.

Yorkville: Mr. Joseph Failing of Oswego was in Yorkville Friday. We judge he is an old settler, as he and Squire Minkler were talking of high water on the Fox in 1839.

Mr. John Cliggitt, formerly of Oswego, was elected Mayor of Mason City, Iowa last week on the license ticket by a majority of 70 votes. The Hon. John is a Democrat, but will make a good Mayor; but how is it he is a license man?

March 23: I.B. Chattle, some weeks ago, retired from farming and moved to Aurora for the enjoyment of ease; Henry Hafenrichter has done likewise. This is a good region for people to get rich in but they have to move somewhere else to luxuriate.

Peter Faust has moved to Randalia, Iowa.

Ed. S.L. Richardson arrived yesterday from Chicago with the remains of a sister to his wife, and had them conveyed to the NaAuSay cemetery for burial.

The corpse of the little child of Mrs. Robert Graham was brought down from Aurora for burial.

Yorkville: The *Record* boys indulged in some nice maple sugar Monday morning, direct from Deacon Sleezer's sap-bush in Big Grove. If the "Boys" have a failing for anything, it's maple sugar.

The new paper mill is being pushed forward as fast as possible.

March 30: The Watts D. Cutter family have moved into their residence and commenced housekeeping.

Though rainy Sunday evening, yet there were quite a number out to hear Dr. Lester on temperance.

Charles Woolley of Oswego sold on Thursday at his farm, 16 head of steers for \$1,400 cash.

Mr. James G. Andrews of Oswego informs us that he expects to be a candidate for country treasurer this fall.

On Saturday last, Mr. G.P. Boessenecker of Oswego bought the old Satterly farm in NaAuSay of Hamilton Cherry of Aurora, paying him \$8,000 cash for the same. The farm contains 151 acres of land and is one of the best farms in NaAuSay.

Catalpa Trees for Sale.

If you want a handsome flowering shade tree in your yard, get a Catalpa; it is a rapid growing, large leaved, flowering tree of good shape. James M. Gale, Bristol, has a few to sell as he is cleaning off the ground.

April -- 1882

April 6: There is agoing to be a lively squabble over the getting of office today.

Mrs. Geo. W. Orendorf departed the other day for New York State where her husband preceded her last fall.

Miss Anna Brown is improving her school vacation out in Lee county to make a visit to the Lester family of this town.

Several Wurttemburger Germans arrived here the other day; they being young men and are relatives, or at least one of them, of George Burghart.

Eugene Jewell being somewhat incapacitated for his business, a pistol ball having been shot accidentally into his leg, paid his grandfather here, the Doctor a visit.

Dr. William A. Lester has returned from Whitehall, Wis. For the first time on a visit since being established there.

Gust Shoger has got his residence reroofed.

Pat Daly is building an addition to his house.

The corporation election will be in two weeks from to-day; under the new regime the number of trustees is increased to six and there will also be a Clerk and Magistrate elected. It is none too soon to cast about for available material; what is wanted, is timber for extensive work, and the more positive the quality the better.

Yorkville: The records at the court house show that there have been 50 births in Kendall county since January 1st, and 22 deaths.

Mrs. D.M. Haight of Oswego read an extended address before a large audience in Union Hall Sunday night on the temperance question. At the close, a vote of thanks was tendered to her.

Theo Lumbard, one of the first settlers of Kendall Co., and a resident of the town of Oswego for 35 years, but lately removed to Wheatland, Will Co., has been laying in a very critical condition for a month past, and there is not much hopes of his recovery. His complaint is general debility and old age, he being 73 years old.

April 13: A week from to-day will occur the corporation election; heretofore these elections have been conducted upon one or the other of two principles; the one was by drawing lines on the license question and the other by ignoring that question and merely selecting the best men. The best men principle invariably resulted in the granting of license.

Quarterly meeting was the order at the Methodist church Sunday forenoon, at which the Presiding Elder Washburn officiated as principal.

The Lutherans had Easter services at their church Sunday afternoon.

At the Congregational in the evening Mr. Farley delivered a temperance lecture to a pretty good audience. The license question from a moral standpoint was the principal import of it.

Yorkville: Sunday was a bad day for Easter bonnets.

The Yorkville paper mill has been shut down the past week, there being too much paper on the market.

There is a great demand in Ottawa for residences for mechanics and laborers having moderate incomes. Never in the history of the city was there such a demand for houses which rent for from \$6 to \$15 per month.

#### Fox River Railroad Bonds

Unless something unforeseen has happened we may soon expect a decision as to whether we will have to pay the Ottawa town bonds. The Inter Ocean of last week contains the following dispatch:

Washington, April 2.--The cases of the Amoskeag National Band vs. The City of Ottawa, and Augustus T. Post vs. The County of Kendall, Ill., being the case of the Fox River Valley Railway bonds, will be argued also. Dave Litter of Springfield; S.B. Perry of Chicago and G.S. Eldredge of Ottawa appear for the defendants in error and T. Lyle Dickey for the other side.--*Ottawa Times*.

Something new at the photograph gallery in the shape of "Osborne's patent picturesque foregrounds," which produce elaborate and beautiful balcony, window, and other like effects in portraiture hitherto only obtained by the use of solid wood studio accessories. Also Osborne's patent statue pedestal photographs. Having bought the right to make the above work I make cabinets and larger without extra charges, prices same as regular work. Call and see samples. Fred G. Winne.

April 20: The wedding of Miss Delia E. Shumway to Henry C. Kerr took place Thursday evening at the residence of the bride's mother.

A number of parties are improving their premises, principally Mrs. Helme, who is getting her residence repainted and L.N. Hall, who has caused the removal of a number of trees about the house and is repairing same.

W.W. and Fred Wormley--father and son--have gone to Idaho, the former with the intention of prospecting, and the latter of going into a store with a relative there.

Esquire Newton has severed his connection with the batting factory by mutual consent and now has the agency of the "White Bronze Monumental Works" manufactured in New York State and is a new thing about here. The metal looks very beautiful, can be cast in the neatest manner, is said to outlast marble ever so long, and comes much cheaper.

Nellie Van Evra felt very proud Saturday afternoon for having caught a 10-inch long black bass.

J.B. Hunt was elected school director and the proposition for buying the old court house premises for a schoolhouse was also carried at the same time.

April 27: The corporation election was one of the most lovely events that has ever occurred in this town; first it was entirely free from any wrangling either at the place of voting or elsewhere--the usual discussions by a crowd at the polls or on the street were wanting altogether, the voters went and voted and then returned to their business; there was very little of the hanging around where the voting took place. It wasn't known until after the canvass that a majority of the saloon keepers and a number of the hardest drinkers had voted the temperance ticket. There had been a great deal of scratching causing a mixed result, namely electing four trustees on the temperance and two on the other ticket, viz: Farley, Armstrong, Putt, Greenfield, Duffy and McConnell. There was no opposition to J.B. Pogue and Capt. Mann, respectively for clerk and police magistrate. The result surprised everybody and all felt good and have kept on feeling good ever since. The new board qualified and held a meeting last evening for organization, which

was but partially effected. Farley was chosen the President, and J.B. Hunt, Treasurer. In drawing lots for the long and short term, Farley, Armstrong and Duffy drew the long. The salary for the members was by resolution fixed at \$10 per annum. It was decided the offices of street commissioner and constable be consolidated in one man.

Mat. Pogue's cow, a new milk and extra good one, was thrown off the track by the special with one passenger car that went up about 6 p.m. yesterday. The cow had to be killed having three legs broken.

The ice company's office up in Troy has been connected with the depot by telephone, which is said to work admirably.

L.N. Hall is not only always up with the times, but also means to be on time prepared for emergencies, if a first rate "time lock safe" will do it. Saturday he received and put in his vault such a safe for his banking business and now sleeps very easy. The safe is a beauty, of the best that are manufactured and contains the latest improvements of burglar proof capacity.

All who are interested will please meet in Shepard's Hall Saturday evening April 29 to make suitable arrangements for memorial services for our honored dead. Capt. Ed. Mann, president; D.M. Haight, secretary; S. Hagerman, vice-president; C.C. Duffy, H.G. Smith, Kirk Walker, Rush Walker, executive committee.

May -- 1882

May 4: The new administration of this village thus far has been running quite smoothly. The board has had three meetings since my last letter at which Larkin on the 36th ballot was elected street commissioner and constable; the giving and acceptance of bonds transacted; salaries fixed; the clerk is getting \$40 per annum; the constable \$100 and his fees as commissioner \$1.75 per diem for ten hours road work. There have been four applications for license to sell liquor, all of which were refused and one by Michael Wolff for keeping a billiard saloon which was granted at \$25 per table. Some unadjusted claims against the village have been receiving attention, of which that of Mr. Herrington of Yorkville for drafting ordinances has been the most difficult to dispose of. The regular meetings were fixed for the first Monday of each month.

Mrs. Cherry, widow of the late Moses Cherry, died last Thursday.

Mrs. C.G. Doud and her mother, Mrs. Eliza Devoe, are here from Winona, Minn. visiting their relatives. It is said that Mrs. Doud has become indisposed since their arrival.

Rev. W. Schweiker, the pastor of the German Methodist church, is the latest prominent new comer; he has moved into Mrs. Teller's house, occupying a part of the same.

The Fox River Creamery has received a big milk cooler.

Oswego is getting the reputation of producing the best road carts in existence; Hebert and Sons are the manufacturers.

George Parker probably has the nicest herd of blooded cattle (Durham) in this region. He has several imported cows which are beauties; his bull Eclipse is acknowledged by all judges to stand at the head of the bovines on all essential points, and he is gentle as a lamb. Mr. Parker has gone extensively into the breeding of fine stock.

Yorkville: The Aurora Post says: Peter Weiland, one of our saloon-keepers, will remove to Yorkville, as that is a license town now.

The election of school directors for the new district made out of Yorkville and Bristol takes place at Union Hall, Saturday afternoon, May 13th.

Cold nights, cloudy days, ice Tuesday morning.

Mrs. Sarah Ann Cherry, widow of the late Moses Cherry, died at her residence in NaAuSay last Thursday morning from paralysis, aged 69 years. The funeral services were held at her late residence Saturday.

May 11: The usual even-going of this community was suddenly changed to a sensation early Friday afternoon by the report of "A man shot dead." William Bradford, a negro of medium size, compact and stoutly built, and the toughest material, with a constitution like an alligator, and said to be a hard case to handle was well known in this vicinity having been living about here for ten years or more, married into a colored family over in NaAuSay, but his wife got divorced from him a year or so ago. His reputation as a thief was notorious and he has served a term of one and a half years in Joliet. He had frequent difficulties with both whites and blacks, and numbers of his own race about here were on unfriendly terms with him. About two weeks ago a warrant was procured for his arrest being charged with stealing grain from Robert Thompson out in NaAuSay; it was placed in the hands of N. Larkin for execution. Bradford kept out of the way and was reported to be skulking around Specie Grove. Larkin went there one night and not being acquainted with the locality prevailed upon Don Winn to go with him. And for this act it appears Winn brought upon himself the deadly animosity of Bradford; the search however had proved futile. Subsequently it was learned that B. was in Aurora. Thursday Larkin went there, found and after considerable resistance arrested B.; he was brought here then taken to the Yorkville jail and kept over night and Friday returned for his examination which commenced before Newton about one o'clock. During his intercourse with Larkin, B. made dire threats against several individuals, including Don Winn, saying that as soon as these were killed he wouldn't care what then became of him. Winn came to town and was cautioned to look out for himself. Winn bought a pistol, loaded and put it in his pocket. Afterwards he went to the justice's office where Bradford's trial was under way; upon stopping inside the door, B. though handcuffed immediately made a rush for Winn and according to the preponderance of testimony, caught him by the neck and pushed him back against the wall and Winn not being the coolest man in the world immediately drew

his pistol and shot B. in the left breast; the struggle then soon was over and B. in a few minutes a dead man; all this happened in a room crowded with men; there was a scattering however when the shot was fired. Outside in front of the door was sitting in his wagon S.A. Long, a colored man with a broken spine and consequently no use of his legs, with whom Bradford had been making his abode. Winn charged that Long was there for an evil purpose; and a loaded navy revolver was found upon him upon search by the officer, which looked suspicious and caused much feeling and some threats against him. He was immediately tried and fined \$1 for carrying concealed weapons. The verdict of the coroner's jury was that the killing was done in self-defense. The deceased was buried next day in the cemetery without any ceremony.

Mrs. Josephine Hagerman died very suddenly Thursday night; upon retiring she was in her usual health; but shortly afterwards suddenly complained of several pain about the heart; before her husband could summon a doctor she was a corpse. The case is a very sad one; she was but 37 years of age, married to Mr. Hagerman only about 14 months ago, was soon to be a mother.

Andrew Lang likes good horses; he keeps good horses, and takes the best kind of care of them; he makes it pay, too. The other day he sold a span of coming four-year-old colts to the ice company for \$400.

Some parties wanted me to state with emphasis, that whiskey was entirely innocent from any blame in the late shooting affair.

Yorkville: A good many naughty boys spent Sunday fishing. One of them caught a black bass that weighed 4-1/2 pounds, and another one that weighed 3 pounds.

Experienced judges say that Fox river is literally alive with fish as they have noticed them from boats and bridges making their way up stream.

A smoke stack, 75 feet long, for the new paper mill was raised Monday without accident.

Keep your seine out of the river. The Fox River Game and Fish Association offer a reward of 20 dollars for the detection and conviction of any violation of the fish laws.

#### The Oswego Creameries

The Oswego correspondent of the *Aurora Beacon* thus writes up a growing industry: W.H. McConnell & Co. are receiving 15,000 pounds of milk per day and making it into butter, limburger cheese, and smearcase and are this week hanging a kettle in which to make imitation Swiss cheese. They are daily turning out over 600 pounds of limburger cheese and 15 barrels of smearcase a week, which they send to Chicago. They have just put in a new milk cooler, which in half a minute of time lowers the temperature of fresh milk to 50 degrees. It is the simplest contrivance we ever saw, consisting of a succession of brass tubs two inches in diameter and laid one above the other with a small space between and connected at the ends through which continually passes a stream of col water. The milk is poured into a receiver above these tubes and allowed to run over them

to the vat below in a thin sheet and by the time it leaves the last tube it is cold. They are hard pressed for room and will next week have moved their engine to another building, and take out the partition between the main room and the engine room

S.H. Partridge at the Oswego Creamery is making 350 pounds of butter daily and has six teams out gathering cream. He does not buy milk, but simply takes the cream and leaves the milk for the farmers. Business is increasing so that they intend to put in another churn soon. He ships most of his butter to the New Orleans market.

May 18: A "Scrap" in the Common Council.--Three Chairmen in one Night.--A License Granted.--J.H. Wormley Hurt.--Personal Mention.

John H. Wormley was jerked out of the wagon near Seely's by a horse he was leading Saturday when on his way to town and hurt in the side and shoulder...and it is said that he will be getting over it in a few days.

Lawrence Hafenrichter and wife have returned from their extensive bridal visit in Kentucky.

Harp. Hopkins was out from Chicago several days to fix up a home in town for the old folks, namely Mr. and Mrs. Wm. W. Wormley, who since have moved into it.

There will be a necktie sociable given under the auspices of the temperance people at their hall next Friday evening, where it will cost nothing to get in and where ice cream and cake will be served.

The efficacy of prayer has been most signally demonstrated in this village within the past week--meaning secular prayer. Among the first things presented to the new board of trustees were several petitions for license to sell liquor, which the board refused to grant. Additional petitions would come up at subsequent meetings and some of the rejected make a second trial but all were sat down upon. The meetings were quite frequent and becoming more so after the departure of Farley the president on a visit abroad and the petitions for license more zealous than ever before. On the evening of Wednesday three petitions were granted, and the license fixed at \$300. Armstrong the presiding pro tem gave notice that he would veto the act of granting license and bring in his message in due time. The board and everything connected with it has been so mixed one cannot tell what is which or vice versa; as it has been said already heretofore, that the election of the four members of the board on the temperance ticket was effected by the aid of the saloon-keepers and thorough drinkers and now at that meeting the majority of those who voted for license had been elected on the temperance ticket, while all that voted against it on the license ticket. It might well be asked in the language of a former notable citizen of Oswego, "Now did you ever see such devilment?" But the most extraordinary meeting was held Saturday evening. It sometimes happens that in a political caucus where strong factions are represented, they will get two chairmen, but that a body of only five men should have three separate and distinct presidents, taken from their own number, at one and the same meeting has perhaps never been equaled. Let me present an epitome of it. The meeting was held at McConnell's office; the members of the board were tardy getting

there, standing around on the sidewalks counseling each other in low breath, but when they did put in an appearance they meant business. Armstrong immediately grabbed a chair and placed himself in position to preside; McConnell moved that Greenfield be president pro tem; Armstrong declared the motion seditious and out of order, saying he was the legally constituted president pro tem during the absence of Mr. Farley. McConnell said "it was no such thing," and put his own motion to vote, which was carried. Greenfield was called upon to take the chair but was reminded by Armstrong of the consequences of high treason. Duffy explained by linguistical science that Armstrong's claim was not tenable and Putt put in a word here and there, using the terms "usurpation" and "bull-dozing." Greenfield wanted the law on the case; the statue was produced and Armstrong read the portion which he claimed established his title. John Chapman, an outsider wanted to make a speech for the good of the board, saying that he was an old citizen, had the good of the town at heart, that by a life of much experience he had evolved ideas which, if imparted to the board, would do them much good, but he had to dry up. After some further wrangling, a season of perfect quietness set in--with one accord all seemed to be taken with a waiting spell for the sprit to move--during which intervals the voice of Armstrong would be heard calmly uttering the words, "Gentlemen, if you have any business it is time to proceed." After some consultations with his colleagues and presumably with parties outdoors, Greenfield declined to preside under the circumstances whereupon Putt was nominated and voted in as another president pro tem, and he took his place to preside at the other end of the table, Armstrong declaring the act revolutionary; business then commenced; after the reading of the minutes the license bonds were taken up. That of G. Burghart was accepted and that of Kimball & Pearce was laid on the table, it containing features of nonconformance--Armstrong cautioned Burghart, who was present, to beware how he sells liquor under such a license. Duffy made a heated speech on the general situation; likewise Putt, who had called another member to his chair while addressing the board. Armstrong next presented his Veto Message as a part of the records of the board; it was not read but some one slurringly intimated that it was written rhyme, A. being quite a poet. During the proceedings, Armstrong was encouraged "to hold the fort" by the temperance men present, but the crowd in general was with the other side. Near 11 o'clock the meeting adjourned.

Yorkville: The [Illinois] Supreme Court at Ottawa has denied the writ of mandamus prayed for, to compel the Commissioners of the town of Oswego to open the "cut-off" road from Mr. Boessenecker to the Squires farm, a case that has been in litigation for some time, and has cost a large sum of money. The court holds that the decision of the three supervisors to whom an appeal was taken, held only for one year and after that time, if the commissioners thought the damages and cost of the road was an excessive burden on the taxpayers of the town, they could revoke all proceedings and the road need not be opened. The decision is a victory for the Highway Commissioners. Justices Dickey and Schofield dissented from the opinion of the majority.

The Aurora News in an article on the decision in the Fox River Bond case, says: "To-day, we stand in the position of repudiators, and it is galling to fair-minded men." And that is about the honest sentiment of all.

The amount due from the town of Ottawa on the Fox River Railroad bonds, principal and interest, was \$375,000, and the people there are greatly rejoiced that the burden has been removed by the Supreme Court. Judge Dickey is to receive \$15,000 for his services in the case and Mr. Phillips, the Washington lawyer, \$8,000.

The amount due from Kendall County, the towns of Oswego, Kendall, and Fox, would have been about \$300,000. The face of the bonds amounting to \$140,000, with 12 years' interest at 10 percent. This is approximately--not the exact figures.

Decoration Day Tuesday, the 30th.

Leonard Burkhart, Esq., was in Yorkville Tuesday. He is one of Oswego's solid men.

Monday came in clear and cool, and farmers were feeling better. Corn will soon be planted. Heavy frost Tuesday morning.

May 25: Doc. Van Deventer, is back from New Jersey where he attended the death of his father.

F.O. White of Aurora has been engaged as orator on Decoration day. The committee are doing their level best to have everything ready and in perfectly order for a first-class celebration and it is hoped that there will be a general turn-out. The procession will form in the court house yard at 1:30; from there march to the Congregational church where the speaking and vocal music will take place, and subsequently proceed to the cemetery and perform the decoration ceremony.

The village board had several meetings, kept rather close; the business of them is said to have been mainly in regard to saloons. Now Mr. Farley has returned and again will preside over that impetuous body.

Saturday, before Esq. Newton, the suit against D.D. Lowry for selling liquor without a license was tried--Searls of Aurora for prosecution; Hawley, defendant; verdict, \$20 and costs.

A sewer on Jackson street, below the railroad track is under way of construction.

It snowed here this morning.

NaAuSay: Edmund Satterlee has moved his house further back in to the woods where he has a nice site for it.

A collection was taken a week ago last Sunday to reshingled the parsonage, and strange as it may seem, the pastor said he had no objection.

The farmers in this vicinity are very busy plowing and planting; a few have finished plowing while others are not half through.

Yorkville: Guiteau must hand. The court of the District of Columbia, sitting in banc, has decided that Garfield's assassin had a fair and impartial trial in a court of proper jurisdiction and that he is properly sentenced to death. The decision is unanimous, and the dreadful scoundrel must pay the penalty of his crime at the end of a rope on the 30th of June.

There was a lively snow flurry from the northwest Tuesday morning, and air raw and cold. For the 23d of May it was rather unseasonable weather. But there is a bright side to the cloud.

The Oswego correspondent of the *Aurora Herald* says: "The *Kendall County Record*, we believe, was prompt to vouch for Duffy against license and it is true he did not vote directly for it, but did vote to remove the only obstacle in the way of granting it, and then voted for the approval of the bond that must go with it." The *Record* was certainly honest when it vouched for Superintendent Duffy as a no-license man. It may have been mistaken, but we think not.

June -- 1882

June 1: A brother from New Jersey of John A. Young is on a visit to the latter.

A suit about some hay between C.F. Andrews and W.W. Ferris was begun Saturday.

Henry Sanders and James Murphy Jr. were before the police court yesterday and severally fined \$5 and costs for disorderly conduct after returning from the beer garden Sunday evening. It is said they were the cause of George Parker's hired man breaking an arm, being pulled out of the buggy by them.

Yorkville: Mr. White of Oswego, the colored juryman, wished to be excused from duty at the beginning of the term, giving as a reason "that he did not know anything." "You are just the man they want for a juryman," replied the Judge, and he was not excused.

The building of the Fox River Paper Company's mill has taken about all the available help about these villages, and it is a busy place... An engine room is being built to the new mill on the west side for a horizontal engine of 40 horsepower.

Montgomery: On the 29th day of April a special election was held in R. Loucks' coal office for the purpose of entertaining whether the majority of the voters desired cattle, etc. To run at large upon our streets. Thirty-three votes were cast; twenty-three against cattle as free commoners, and ten for. On the 10th of May the ordinance went into effect. Those who own cows have resolved themselves into a "milk brigade," and will refuse to sell or give milk to the families of those who voted against the cows.

The cow pound is located just north of the cheese factory.

The village council recently appointed Mr. Crane police justice; Jas. Yard, police constable, and John Smith, poundmaster.

Harvey Keck received a beautiful watch for a birthday present.

We had a little rain last Wednesday and then it turned warm; this will give the half frozen vegetation quite a "send off." Oats are growing splendidly, being from three to five inches high, winter rye is headed out, corn is coming up, some are ready to plow, and the "Granger" is happy.

Hord & Co. are still making that famous White Rose flour. Their mill has been rebuilt, and the roller system of grinding introduced. They make three brands besides the White Rose, viz.: Lily White, Daisy and Minnesota. [The business operated at Gray's Mill.]

The depot was entered by burglars recently. Nothing of value was stolen.

Union Hall has been repainted and otherwise repaired. Mr. C.B. Vaughn is still there with a complete stock of fancy and staple groceries which he is selling at the very lowest prices.

George Wormley has purchased the old W.M. Wormley estate of his sister, Mrs. O.H. Hopkins, giving \$62 per acre.

June 8: The first regular meeting of the corporation board was held last evening; it was a long session but mainly occupied with debate. If they cannot get along any faster in passing on minutes than they did last night, then there is on hand already more proceedings--that of four meetings--than they will be able to work off during their term of office. The meeting was good-naturedly inharmonious.

The unexpected prevailing cold weather found some of us inprovided with fuel and rather than to suffer with cold we would, late at night, go to Pogue's coal sheds and get a bag full; this caused them to sleep with one ear open--the sheds are near the house. During Wednesday night, Jim heard a noise, got up, and looked out, but instead of any of us being around he noticed two fellows working themselves into the depot through a window... The raiders, however, had found out they were discovered and came piling out in a hurry and run, the Pagues following crying "halt," and shooting. Matt fired but once; he soon fell behind, but Jim closely pursued them down the railroad track for two blocks firing at them five times. The burglars had burst a hole through the side of a large nice trunk which belonged to a Miss Emma Shumway, who had come here on a visit to the Shumway families of this town, through which they reached and tore off the lock.

In the neighborhood of \$100 has been subscribed for 4th of July celebration purposes.

George Troll is building a large addition to his house; said to be with the intention of keeping hotel.

Yorkville: L.H. Partridge & Son are operating the Millington creamery.

Five dollars fine for riding or driving over the Bristol bridge faster than a walk.

The grave of Shaubanee [Shabbona], the Indian chief, was not forgotten on Decoration Day, says the Morris Independent. Mr. George Taylor Sr., with his hired man, went to the cemetery at 3 o'clock Tuesday morning and with a load of earth and sod built up the sunken grave of the old chief, and later in the day that best of friend of the kind departed old chief, Miss Jennie Bross, decorated it with a handsome cross of flowers and a flag bearing the name of the occupant of that narrow spot.

#### Millington Creamery

The Millington Creamery will be operated this season under the management of L.H. Partridge & Son. The factory was leased by Mr. Partridge nearly two years since to Messrs. Weston & Brown, who have lately relinquished their claim. The proprietors will have teams on the road immediately for collecting cream, which will be bought by the inch or made up by the pound on the pro-rata system, paying each week for that bought and cash advances made when called for on cream sent to be made up. Cans will be furnished upon application.

Cotton's bread wagon will be in Oswego three days every week, viz: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

Mrs. Blackman and her son, Willis, arrived in Yorkville from Bristol, Wis. Friday evening and passed the night at Mr. Shaw's. Saturday, Mr. Blackman came for them in a carriage and took them home. Willis had a severe attack of lung fever and as soon as he was able to move, his mother brought him home.

Friday morning last, about 7 o'clock as Mr. Wm. Finlayson was coming across the Bristol bridge, there was a sudden crack and a crash, and down went the south span into the river, some 15 feet below and Mr. F. with it. He kept on top, however, and barring a good wetting and a little jar to his mental feelings he was not injured.

June 15: Although the trustees of this village are a disagreeable set, yet they cause a good deal of good street work to be performed, and though their commissioner is not the most refined individual in the world, yet he seems to understand road work pretty well.

The school closed last Tuesday with appropriate exercises said to have been very interesting.

George W. Moore was brought up in this town; in 1859 as a young man he went to California; there he pursued the occupation of farming, got married, and was prosperous; last week the information of his death was received by the folks here.

Dave Hall brags on the success of the Cherry sale, as having things sold well, gone through with it in four hours and ten minutes, and the amount reaching nearly \$6,000. A yearling colt sired by Captain Mann's "Gilbert" sold for \$142.

A.J. Hopkins, the eloquent Aurora barrister, will be the orator at our 4th of July celebration.

A party of about eight, such as Hank Smith, Hugh McConnell, and that stripe, went on the 6:40 yesterday down to Dayton on a fishing excursion. They came back this morning in tolerable good order, but discouraged in the business of fishing.

At the [village] trustees' meeting Saturday the first business was a statement of the President in regard to certain rulings about the "disposition of minutes on which he had asked for time to consider--which was to the effect that in his views then he had been partly right and partly wrong; the board thereupon contrary to the former spirit lumped off all the unapproved minutes of previous meetings--four in number--without even having them read. The commissioner's report as amended by the committee was accepted. The sidewalk committee reported that there were about 350 rods of sidewalk to be built; and recommended that about the half of it be merely reconstructed using the old material as far as available; the other to be made of flag stones properly graded. One member argued against the flagstone and in favor of the narrow inch board walks--not to be planted down on the ground but raised up to keep them from rotting. Right here I want to put myself on record in favor of stone walks; board and plank walks are too apt to get out of repairs. Sidewalk accidents are most all from defective wooden walks; they afford a good harbor for rats and mice; they cause foul air and the generating of noxious gases, some of the nails in them are apt to work up and bring women to a sudden halt, or cause dilapidated skirt facings. The setting of wooden walks up higher than they are now would make them objectionable in other respects, in dark nights persons are apt to run off and to step abruptly down any distance is very jarring to one's provision receptacle; furthermore, these walks are only to be four feet wide, which is not space enough for the navigation of a fellow well-laden with tangle-foot, even in bright daylight, because sidewalks should be raised but little above the adjacent ground. The matter was dropped without any decisive action being taken. So far, it appeared that the "letting of bygones be bygones" had been reached; but not so, the old sore had to be opened and set to bleeding for a little while before adjournment. Will it ever be left to heal up?

Fred Partridge was up from Millington over Sunday and Monday. The girls here "don't like it" that Fred has been sent down there. Why didn't the old man go there, and let Fred run the business here?

Montgomery: Mr. J.L. Broadhead, of Kentucky, who is a member of the milling firm of Hord, Broadhead & Co., was in town on Thursday of last week.

An accident occurred to train No 69 on the Fox River branch on Thursday of last week. It appears that the rails of the cross-over spread apart, thus letting the engine off the track. The engine No. 205 was partially wrecked, but no cars were damaged though several

were off the track. No blame can be attached to the operator, as he discharged his duty efficiently.

There is a small girl at Croushorn's.

Our Oswego friends are having lots of fun. Some of their councilmen are ashamed of the proceedings and want portions of the record expunged. L. Rank was clerk, and he says he thought it was his duty to keep a "fair and impartial" record. Now he wants to know what to do about it. Well, friend Rank, you will have to resurrect old Tom Benton or leave the record alone, we think.

John Seely has the best piece of rye in that section.

A.J. Wormley has the best piece in our section of country. Some of the straw measures seven feet. This piece will puzzle one of their vaunted self-binders exceedingly.

M.C. Atwood was in Oswego recently to see those two little girls there. Myron is night operator at the Junction.

Yorkville: Stealing corn from farmers' cribs by the wagon load is a new industry in the vicinity of Ottawa.

Mr. Smith, colored brother at Oswego, sends us a letter nominating Mr. Donn Winn for Sheriff.

The Supervisors of Joliet and Lockport [townships, Will County] publish a pauper report each month in the local papers giving names and amounts of each person assisted.

If men and boys only knew how disgusting profane and obscene words were, they would never use them. It is not manly--it is a sign of moral degeneration.

If mothers could see young boys gloating over the pictures and criminal news in the police gazettes and journals in some of the stores, they would not want their boys to frequent the stores.

From Superintendent Moran we learn that the paper mill averaged 4,800 pounds of paper manufactured for every 12 hours of last week. This is considered a big week's work by paper-makers. The engine in the new mill has been started up as well as the new steam engine and everything works nicely.

Charley LaSure is doing a very handsome job of painting and graining at the Hopkins residence in Bristol, and it will make the inside of that place the handsomest in the village.

June 22: Dr. Putt and his brother Frank have taken a trip west embracing Nebraska and Dakota.

Mrs. Wm. Boil, nee Etta Lamb, accompanied by her husband and children was on a visit to her grandfather S.L. Bartlett and other relatives.

Had the pleasure last week of meeting the Rev. and Mrs. Rufus Congdon; they were both once Oswegoans, but at that time far differently situated. He was a good looking journeyman cooper, and she the accomplished Miss Delia Miner. The latter's father, Dr. Miner, once one of our merchants, was also in town last week.

Fritz Kraft was one of the emigrants from Germany that arrived here about two weeks ago; he got homesick and so much so that he became unmanageable; his friends--principally Fred Leigh--were compelled to pay his passage and send him back to the Vaterland.

Among Oswego's young folks of long ago was a fellow by the name of James Nelson and a girl named Mary Boss. James, in the spring of '48, went to the Mexican war, going with the last lot, and in about five months returned with most all of the rest, the war having been closed. Not long afterwards, John and Mary got married, and it was myself that boarded with them for awhile after they got to keeping house. Sometime after that they moved away and have been living in Michigan for ever so many years. They are here now on a visit to her folks, Marcius S. Richards.

Troll's place looks now very neat. Dick Constable painted it.

John H. Wormley has sold his Jack [male mule] and there will be now less vocal music in that neighborhood.

There was a 4th of July meeting at the L.M. [Leisure Moments] club last Saturday evening, Captain Mann presiding, and at which it was determined that the celebration shall take place on the courthouse grounds, which will be suitably fixed up for it.

#### Yorkville: BOND DECISION

Following is the opinion in full of the Supreme Court of the United States in the case of The Amoskeug National Bank vs. The Town of Ottawa, involving the validity of the bonds that had been issued by the town in favor of the Ottawa, Oswego & Fox River Valley Railroad. Mr. Justice Greg of Mass. Delivered the opinion of the court:

[The court ruled that the charter under which the bonds were issued was invalid since state law concerning the establishment of such charters was not followed. The court concluded:]

For these reasons, the act of February 18, 1857, under which all the bonds in suit purport to have been issued must be held to be of no force or effect, and the plaintiffs can maintain no action on the bonds. Upon the attempt made at the argument to support their validity in the first case under the statute of March 6, 1867, and in the second case under the statute of November 6, 1849, it is enough to say that there is nothing in the record to show that either of those statutes was ever complied with by the defendant in issuing the bonds or relied on by the plaintiff in purchasing them.

Mr. B.F. Herrington sued the Village of Oswego for attorney's fees before Justice Fitzgerald, and the case was heard in Yorkville Monday. The Village claims that Mr. Herrington was engaged to prepare the ordinances for a stipulated sum; Mr. Herrington denies this. The Justice will render his decision next week.

Aurora Post: Joseph Adams, the old bum from Oswego who recently had his arm broken at the beer garden, is in town intoxicated and has been creating a disturbance for the purpose of being locked up and boarded by the city, as he has no means and is not anxious to toil.

June 29: Wellington Weese, Sunday morning, while sitting around with others on the shady side of the street, commenced complaining of pain in the side; shortly afterwards he consulted a doctor, went to his abode and laid down; at 9 o'clock in the evening he was a corpse. Weese, like the most of us, had his faults, but unlike many, instead of abusing others for his benefit, he abused himself for the benefit of others. His brother William came yesterday and had the remains conveyed to Plattville for burial.

The hurricane Saturday did a very good thing by annihilating that nuisance, the town windmill; it tipped the tower over on the roof of the stone barn, the tank house was upset with it, and the whole of the work is now reduced to kindling wood, except the tanks, the lower of which should be moved as soon as possible so that people may no longer be lured to drive up to it for the purpose of watering horses.

The preparations for the celebration of the 4th are progressing very favorably. The L.M. club will give a ball in the evening, at which Put. Howard of Aurora will furnish the music.

They are getting quite tony across the street; Sutherland's restaurant has been highly improved by repainting; papering, &c. Coffin's front has also received a fresh coat of paint.

The Murdock residence is undergoing considerable repairs.

H.C. Cutter has returned from a visit to his son, Cyrus, up in Trempealeau, Wis. He was much pleased with the looks of the country up there, and Cyrus's situation and prosperity.

One of them caught a black bass weighing 4-1/2 pounds and another weighing 3 pounds.

Bristol Station: A petition to the P.M. General has been circulated here for signatures and almost everybody signed it praying that the "Station" be dropped from our post office and that it be known as "Bristol." All mail matter now addressed for Bristol, while this is Bristol Station, goes to Yorkville and many times parties addressing letters fail to put the Station on and the letters are sent to Yorkville.

Yorkville: One year ago next Sunday, President Garfield was shot by a vile assassin.

Mr. Giteau will be hung Friday and a bad man thus gets his deserts in this world.

Summer is here.

The Morris Independent never uses vulgar language. It calls forth-rod whiskey "rot-intestine." Correct.

Fifteen hundred workmen in the employ of the Joliet Iron and Steel Rolling Mills have been thrown out of employment by the shutting down of one of the steel mills on account of dull times.

The weather is hot, but just take it easy and let the corn grow.

The Fox River [branch rail] road was washed out Saturday and Sunday evenings near Dayton and Serena in five different places, three bridges being swept away. Construction trains from Streator and Aurora worked at the wash-outs all night and this morning the passenger train went over safely.

The Fox River Paper Mill went into commission Monday and soon will be running smoothly. The new 40-horse engine runs the calendar machine and its belongings with but little effort. The pulping engines are run by the turbine waterwheels. Brown wrapping paper was made Monday. The appointments about the mill are of the latest kinds.

Oswego, Ill., June 14, 1882

To the Editor:

The Oswego correspondent of the Aurora Beacon, D.M. Haight, makes a great ado about our action at the regular meeting of the trustees held June 5th. Many of the readers of the Beacon, not knowing who the correspondent is, might infer, from his insinuations that there was something in the minutes of our special meeting of the 13th ult., that would criminate the members of the board.

A majority of the board thought that the clauses in the minutes placed in brackets were irrelevant, and moved that they be stricken out. The President wouldn't entertain the motion, nor would he entertain an appeal from his decision, holding that we could not amend our minutes.

As the records of the meeting of the 13th ult. are the ones that the Beacon has called for so frantically, you will confer a favor, not only on the undersigned, but on a large majority of our citizens by publishing the inclosed certified copy.

Signed: C.C. Duffy,  
Thos. Greenfield,  
W.H. McConnell,  
W.T. Putt, Trustees.

Jas. B. Pogue, Clerk.

Oswego, Ill., May 13, 1882

The board of trustees for the village of Oswego met in special session at the office of W.H. McConnell on the evening of May 13, 1882, pursuant to call.

The trustees present were: A. Armstrong, C.C. Duffy, Thomas Greenfield, W.H. McConnell, and W.T. Putt.

[Trustee Armstrong, the previously elected and acting president pro tempore, took the chair.]

McConnell made the motion, which was seconded by another member, that Trustee Greenfield act as president pro tem.

[Armstrong declared the motion out of order and announced the meeting open for business.]

The aforesaid motion, not being entertained by Armstrong, was put to vote by McConnell and declared carried. [Armstrong declaring it out of order and void, claiming that he was the acting president during the absence of Parley, the regular president.]

[A wrangle about the office of president pro tem ensued. The statute was produced and Armstrong showed the authority of his title to being the presiding officer of the board during the president's absence, be the same long or short. Outsiders offered to make remarks which were respectfully declined.]

[After a long session of hesitation and private counseling--during which Armstrong occasionally would say, "Gentlemen, if you have any business, it is time to Proceed."]  
Greenfield declined to assume the responsibility of acting as presiding officer of the meeting under the circumstances, whereupon McConnell said he would withdraw his former motion and moved that Putt be the president pro tem. The motion was seconded and put to vote by one of the members and declared carried.

Armstrong declared it out of order and illegal.

Putt then took the chair and presided.

A motion was adopted that L. [Postmaster Lorenzo] Rank serve as secretary pro tem.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved, Armstrong objecting.

A motion was then adopted that the bonds of the petitioners for licenses be taken up for action and the reading of the same called for.

The bond of Geo. Burghart was read and upon motion, accepted.

The bond of Kimball and Pearce was read and its acceptance objected to because of the securities not being residents of Kendall County; it was there upon, on motion, laid on the table. Armstrong declared all the proceedings of the meeting out of order and illegal.

Armstrong presented to the clerk a paper called "VETO" for file as a part of the records of the board.

Upon motion, the board adjourned.

L. RANK Sec. pro tem

July -- 1882

July 6: The glorious racket was commenced early this morning with thirteen anvils before sunrise; the weather was gloriously chilly; the Garfield pole was lowered yesterday, the rope adjusted and from it the glorious old flag is now waving.

The German Methodist church [at Madison and Washington] has undergone a great change in appearance. The outside has been entirely painted, including the stone wall, and it has received a new roof too.

Mrs. Teller's house has also been resingled.

A strawberry the size of an apple was brought in by Ellis Minkler, and put on exhibition at the drug store. Doc Putt, however had the nicest strawberries to my liking, and lots of them. The doctor has returned from the west, having located his farm in Hall county, Nebraska.

A hair dressing institution and fruit stand has been established in the building that was known as the Union Meat Market by some colored people lately moved here.

Thomas Deveny has come home from the Bourbonnais college; it is said that he is preparing himself for the priesthood in the Catholic church, and he will make a good looking one.

Among the Fourth of July visitors was Merritt Clark of Baileyville.

A hen over at W.W. Wormley's took a new departure; she made a nest up in a willow tree and then hatched a brood of 11 chicks.

The Wormley school house was struck by lightning Thursday night, knocking off a lot of plastering, destroying the stove pipes, etc.

Bristol: By authority of Assistant Post Master General Frank Hatton, Bristol Station Post office will ever after July 1st, 1882, be known only as Bristol post office. So says postmaster Young; so please let everybody govern themselves accordingly. But to distinguish in other respects from the "city over the river," it will be known and recognized as Bristol Station.

Yorkville: Bristol Station is no more as a post office. By authority of the Postmaster General, that office will hereafter be known as Bristol, thus completely wiping out what has been known as the village of Bristol on the right bank of the Fox river. It is now proper to suggest that old Bristol become wedded to Yorkville, taking the name and becoming part and parcel of the county seat.

Guiteau is dead! He paid the penalty of his awful crime on the scaffold...he was a dangerous man and sane or insane, the world is better without him.

Col. Greusel of the old 36th passed through Yorkville Monday afternoon.

Hamilton Cherry reached home Thursday after an absence of some weeks on the Iowa trotting circuit. Last week, he sold his well-known horse, Little Joe, for \$2,000.

July 13: The death of Mrs. Catharine J. Cowdrey occurred Thursday at the residence of her son-in-law, A.J. Ives where she had been staying. Mr. House, an undertaker from Aurora, had charge of the funeral; the hearse, also the carriages for the conveyance of the mourners were from Aurora. The Cowdrey family was one of the best known; they were among the early settlers. The deceased had reached the age of 71 years, has been in widowhood about 13 years.

Our board of trustees is pleasingly harmonious. May they continue in that spirit. Well they had a meeting Saturday evening; sidewalks and streets were the principle subjects under consideration; it was a very decorous session, though the latter part was somewhat extraordinary. There were but five present--Armstrong being out of town--which made three constitute a majority. The bond of Pearce & Kimball for keeping a saloon was presented and a motion made for its acceptance; when it came to the putting of the motion to vote, Farley, the president, stepped out to cool off a little and after leaning up against the awning post for a few moments, went home. The board after viewing the situation a bit, at which all seemed anxious of having one thing or other disposed of--Duffy wanted to tender his resignation--had recourse to a president pro tem. Dr. Putt was assigned the position and took the chair; Duffy then tendered his resignation; another member objected to the introduction of it at that time, as there was already a motion before the board, namely that of the acceptance of the bond, which must be disposed of first; Duffy then took his hat and filibustered out, which broke the quorum and board and spectators dispersed; subsequently the four trustees hunted for each other around town, and after having found themselves, returned, lighted up again, withdrew the bond motion, accepted Duffy's resignation, and adjourned. Whether Farley should be impeached, or whether Spaulding's glue should be used to make him stick when getting in a tight place is an open question.

Milt Pogue has strayed out into Utah; he sent me the *Deseret News*, that I might see what the Mormons had to say for themselves.

A bridge has been built over Bartlett's run on Tyler street, and the same graded down to make it passable.

Hebert & Sons shipped a road cart yesterday to Chicago for Dr. Rel. Van Doozer, that weighted but 65 pounds; claimed to be the lightest extant.

Yorkville: The remains of Garfield's assassin have been taken from the grave in the jail to the Army Medical Museum in Washington where the skeleton will be hung as a curiosity. Dr. Hicks gave the body to the museum.

Miss Sarah Raymond has been again elected to superintend the city schools of Bloomington for the ninth year. As Bloomington is one of the most cultured cities in Illinois, it speaks well for the efficiency of Miss Raymond and as the lady is from Kendall county, we all feel very proud of her success.

John R. Simons of Oswego is going to run for Sheriff; he is going to run hard. John is a worker, wherever you put him; he is a "stayer" in any contest he engages in, and the other candidates will find John up early and late to see the people of the county. He is a farmer, has worked hard all his life, and now wants to live four years in the Court house till he has a rest. Consider his case.

Bristol Station: Now is the time to take a ride. Everything is in perfection. Take, for instance, the one from our place to Sugar Grove and so on to Aurora along on what is called the ridge. Everything indicates wealth and prosperity. Nice houses, comfortable barns, blooded stock. Farmers on all sides are putting in tile drainage, which helps vastly to improve the farms and the roads, too, which is of no small importance.

July 20: The [Fox River] bridge has been repainted, receiving new signs against fast driving over it, and is undergoing other repairs.

Mrs. Shumway has bought the Duffy place.

Mrs. L.F. Arnold, of Chicago, one of the "long ago" inhabitants of Oswego, being the wife of its first postmaster, viz: from 1837 to '45, was on a visit to S.G. Minkler, Dr. Jewell and Mrs. J.J. Cole.

Another, Mrs. A.S. Reynolds, the wife of one of Oswego's early merchants, is visiting with Miss Eliza Kennedy.

L.N. Stoutemeyer is up from New Orleans and was in town the other day.

W.H. McConnell is driving now a team of the mustang specie.

James Cornell was in town yesterday; his presence would remind one of olden times, when he was here Sherifing; when occasionally it would happen that some of us boys had to be dodging around to keep out of his sight.

The inside as well as the outside of the German Methodist church has undergone a complete renovation; the walls have been papered, the ceiling kalsomined, all the wood work repainted and grained, the floor covered with Brussels carpets, and everything else toned up.

The [village] board had a meeting Saturday evening, at which reports from the treasurer, commissioner and sidewalk committee were received and accepted; the necessary work on the Grove road considered; a tax levy to meet the expenses for same proposed but not favorably received; the subject was disposed of by authorizing the President to use the credit of the village to the extent of \$500 in regard to it. The acceptance of Pearce & Kimball's bond for keeping saloon was then again moved; Farley the president said he would have to leave, and began buttoning up his coat; McConnell the mover then put the motion to vote himself, before the opposition had time to get away, and declared the same as valid. Farley and Armstrong retired, which broke the quorum, and the meeting

stands adjourned. The more one studies "our board," the more convinced he becomes that self-government is a failure. Oswego ought to advertise for a little monarch to come and govern it.

A bridge has been built over the run on Adams street, that is at the Partridge creamery.

The building of sidewalks have commenced from the corner at Whitman's towards the centre of town.

We of Oswego want that courthouse ring bursted all to slivers, and we want mostly Oswego material to do it with. We want the sheriff and treasurer bad, we probably shall present a candidate for clerk, but don't expect to get it. The judge, we don't want, we just as leave let that remain where it is.

Advertisement

OSWEGO BANK

Oswego, Illinois

General banking business transacted. Exchange bought and sold at reasonable rates.

Special attention to the collection of notes.

Bank boxes to rent by the month or year for the safe keeping of valuable papers.

Call and see them.

Yorkville: Mrs. Abraham Lincoln died at the residence of her sister in Springfield Sunday evening, aged 64 years. Mrs. Lincoln has been a great sufferer since the death of her husband, the President--the great Lincoln; his assassination gave her a shock from which she never fully recovered. The only remaining member of the family is Robert Lincoln, Secretary of War.

Incorporating Yorkville and the village on the north side is the question for discussion at the reading room this Wednesday evening. Come out and hear it.

The town of Dayton has again been sued on account of the Fox River [rail] road bonds. The pleadings have not been filed yet, but the attorneys for the bond holders announce they have discovered a "new" point.

The announcement of the Oswego Bank will be found among the advertisements. This is an institution Oswego can be proud of. Mr. Hall has a splendid fire-proof vault and burglar-proof safe, with time-lock and all modern improvements; and he is doing a large business.

July 27: Grandma Cass has moved to Aurora to live with her daughter, Mrs. M.C. Collins.

George Barnard has returned here from Aurora and is operating the National Blacksmith Shop.

There was an election held Saturday in this school district, the issue being "whether or not the district should give its bond to the amount of \$9,000 for the purpose of buying a new site and building a new school house." The subject didn't seem to awaken any interest, hardly had been mentioned until the voting commenced, when suddenly a formidable opposition developed itself, defeating the project by 12 majority. The boss spirit had much to do with the result.

The boys that went to Plano Saturday on a base ball excursion returned not over jubilant and yet quite satisfied with the result. They reported that in the first of the game, the Planos walked right away from them, but that after our boys got over their nervousness, and on the home stretch, they caught up, making it a game, each side having scored 25.

Our village authorities are out with each other more than ever before; the situation is getting to be worse and worse and of course neither side can see any blame on their part.

August -- 1882

Aug. 3: A new sign is adorning the restaurant.

Mrs. Helle has again a very nice flower garden.

Out of \$1,557.72 freight paid at the depot during July, M.J. Poage & Co. paid \$1,154.26.

The Railroad Company has a standing rule that "small boys must be kept away from depots and cars," which their agents are to enforce. Smith says that he has tried all he could to do so, but utterly failed; that he has inquired at headquarters what to do, and been instructed to cause the arrest of all boys violating this rule, for protection. Smith wants the boys and their parents to know what may be expected hereafter.

The reconstruction of sidewalks is still progressing.

Aug. 10: Advertisement: Oswego Bank, Oswego, Illinois. General banking business transacted. Exchange bought and sold at reasonable rates. Special attention to the collection of notes. Bond boxes to rent by the month or year for the safe keeping of valuable papers. Call and see them. Lock and key to each. Business hours, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. L.N. Hall, Banker.

Mrs. Cora Samse reached the end of life's journey Saturday. Cora has been a great favorite in this community; she was born and brought up here and had been a prominent factor in musical doings; her age was 21, and consumption the diminisher of her existence.

The remains of Thomas Lumbard were brought here from Wheatland for burial last week. Mr. L. was 74 years old and a native of England. He settled near this village at an early

day and lived here until about six years ago when he moved to his new home where he died.

The railroad company have put up a street lamp at the depot.

Prof. C.C. Duffy and family removed from here to Plano last week.

There are some sheep killing dogs around; their owners better sell them for exportation. Ezra Pearce had some sheep killed and Fred Smith some injured the other night.

Aug. 17: A week ago Saturday a Yorkville base ball club came up and played our boys, when Yorkville got badly waxed, they making 21 to Oswego's 61. Last Saturday our boys went to Yorkville and played with the same club there, they returned with all due respect for the Yorkville boys, but with less tender regard for their feelings. The game was said to have stood 18 to 17; the one score in favor of Yorkville was made by the playing off of a tie game.

The County Fair will be upon us before we shall know it, everybody should make preparation for it in good season.

The sidewalk building is progressing finely.

L. Rank came onto a 5-foot rattlesnake up near the woods Sunday afternoon. The snake didn't bite him and he didn't kill it; they were afraid of each other.

Aug. 24: Miss Em Young has returned from teaching a successful term of quite a large school--nearly 50 scholars--over in Seward.

Two of our prominent men in telling each other yesterday what they thought of each other didn't use parliamentary language.

The dogs killed four sheep and wounded four more for J.S. Seely Saturday night.

Aug. 31: Dr. Jewell, of Oswego, is one of the earliest comers to this county; was present at its organization, and can tell some good stories of the old days. He even remembers seeing when a boy the engagement in Casco Bay between the *Enterprise* and *Boxer* in the War of 1812.

The wife and daughters of Mr. H.G. Smith have returned from Ottawa, and not only did they have a good visit with relatives there, but also met with adventures.

Mrs. W.B. [should be W.S.] Bunn is here on a visit to her sister, Mrs. D. Ladd. Mr. Bunn was here also the other day and departed on a trip down east. Mrs. B. is in poor health.

Another disagreeable truth is being forced on us; it is that of the little I amount to. Being the oldest newspaper correspondent in town, one would naturally suppose that in starting

in the same a paper, I would be consulted, my services on it solicited &c., but no they are going right on with that paper, never saying to me a word about it.

September -- 1882

Sept. 7: Quite a number went on an excursion to Nebraska the other day; among them were Dr. Putt (who went out there for the second time this season), Dave Hall, Joe Gettensberg, Norman Ladiew [LaDew] , Chas. Address, and Alfred Linegar.

School commenced yesterday; the teachers are principal. W.M. McFarlane; assistants Ella Kerr and Kate Cliggitt; the latter is of the old administration.

The summer term of the Wormley school is to close today with a picnic in the Myron Wormley Park. Mrs. Otis, the school marm, is much thought of by her scholars and folks over there.

A new chimney is being put on Helle's shop.

Wm. M. Forbes fell off the roof of the Varner house on which he had been at work sustaining a shaking up.

Mr. and Mrs. L.N. Hall have started this morning on a pleasure trip to Geneva lake.

Sept. 14: The Odd Fellows hall is undergoing renovation; some Aurora painters are engaged in it.

Wm. Varner has been building an addition to his residence and otherwise improving it.

It was them uniforms that beat our base ball boys down at Yorkville; they hadn't got used to such.

Hubert S. Ladd has quit his position at Hunt's store, at least for the present.

Which shall we have first, the hotel or the newspaper?

Mrs. L.L. Lynch has returned in excellent health from her summer's travels.

Advertisement: Oswego Bank, Oswego, Illinois. General banking business transacted; exchange bought and sold at reasonable rates. Special attention to the collection of notes. Bond boxes to rent by the month or year for the safe keeping of valuable papers. Call and see them. Lock and key to each. Business hours 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. L.N. Hall, Banker

Sept. 21: Burglaring has been somewhat actively carried on here of late; one night Myron Wormley's house was gone through, his pants removed from near his head, from which was taken a new stem winder watch, about \$14 in money, and a pocket knife. Tuesday

night, W.H. McConnell's residence was entered and from near where they were sweetly sleeping his pants taken out doors and his pocket book emptied of about \$30. The same night the Jeneson house was entered and David's wallet abstracted; about 50 cents worth of postage stamps was, however, all the valuables it contained.

Henry Sanders had the index finger on his left hand taken off by coupling cars.

Our base ball boys went to Aurora and played one of the clubs there the other day; the score stood at 19 to 16 in favor of our boys, the result making them feel better.

Met Uncle John H. Wormley the other day just after his return from Minnesota, where he, in company with his son William and niece Susie Gorton, had been visiting the Doud family in Winona.

Montgomery: School opened Monday, September 4th, with O.A. Holcomb of Aurora as principal and Ida Staley of his place as assistant.

Intelligence was received here recently of the death of Mrs. J.H. Taylor, nee Addie Glyde, which occurred at Kewanee.

There has been considerable talk of organizing a literary society here and on Wednesday evening a meeting was held for that purpose. Twenty-seven members were received.

Myron Wormley's residence was burglarized recently. The thieves secured some cash and a valuable watch.

The Smith Brothers, who have been threshing for Coryell and Lilley, broke their engine Friday, thus delaying them several days.

Sept. 28: Notice is up for a special election on October 14th to fill the vacancies on the village board caused by the resignation of Duffy and McConnell.

Judge Walker, a well-known and prominent man of Kendall county in a former generation, was in town the other day, and hailing from Missouri. It looked like olden times to see him around the streets gassing with the old inhabitants.

The John Wormley cider mill is again in operation. The cider this year is better than ever.

Two Aurora base ball clubs were down here during the last week and played with our boys. The first game came out 19 to 16 in favor of the Aurora club. The second game with the Aurora Ponies, went in favor of our boys 22 to 15.

Troy, the suburb of Oswego, is improving very much; besides the building of some private residences, the ice company is putting up six new ice houses. They being much larger than the old, 150 feet long and also higher--covering quite a tract of ground. The

company also has a brand new [steam] engine, which is now run by Dave Hall, and for the present is sitting out doors; the engine house will be built over it hereafter.

A.J. Ives, the foreman in the [Parker] furniture factory, has taken a vacation, and started this morning to go home to Audubon, Iowa with his brother-in-law, John Cowdrey.

October -- 1882

Oct. 5: The marriage of Frederick E. Ward and Miss Nellie Maud Davis occurred at the home of the bride at Aux Sable Grove near Oswego Wednesday afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Alex Dano was killed as the result of a runaway while in Aurora. The funeral took place Saturday at the Oswego cemetery. The deceased was 44 years of age, of French descent, came here from Canada when a small boy with his parents in 1848.

Clara Inman, a consumptive, is getting quite low.

Sam Roberts and wife have moved to Plano, and by the way isn't Plano drawing rather heavy on us for population?

Fresh bread from Cotton's Yorkville Bakery for sale at A. Miller's grocery store.

John L. Gaylord started for Nebraska this morning.

Charles, one of the Dexter Shaw boys, was here from Iowa last week.

Montgomery: The Literary is flourishing--big attendance at every session. It now has 27 members. The programme for Wednesday evening is as follows: Orator, L.D. Mead: Essayist, Mina Smith. Question for debate: "Resolved, that the Indian has more cause for complaint than the Negro." Affirmative, Rufus Gray; negative, O.A. Holcomb.

S.B. Hallock was in town over Sunday. S.B. is one of our old teachers and is the most popular one that we ever had. He is a candidate for County Superintendent in Kendall county. We hope he succeeds.

Harvey Keck is operating the feed mill for Mr. Kurtz.

C.B. Vaughn has been notified by the Hall trustees to move out of the store within sixty days. Mr. Vaughn is a stockholder and has possession. Should he choose to remain where he is it will be impossible to remove him.

W.L. Gorton has had one of his calendars manufactured.

Yorkville: A moighty foine crop of weeds on the hill below the court house. Somebody will get lost in them yet.

The mail train Saturday morning saved George Churchill the trouble of killing three pigs.

Miss Elizabeth Murphy, formerly of Oswego, died of diphtheria at Blackberry Tuesday evening and was buried in the Catholic cemetery in Aurora.

Mr. W.T. Linn of Kendall was making cider Tuesday and on his way home left a jug full at the Record office. When the editor came round at night to see if it would make good vinegar, it had all evaporated(?) Those awful boys!

Charley Smith, formerly of Oswego was in Yorkville Wednesday. He is now at Plano, and with Hubert Ladd runs the Plano Creamery.

Oct. 12: The penalty by law for attempting to use a postage stamp that had been previously used is from six months to one year's imprisonment, or a fine from \$100 to \$500.

The German Methodists' church services Sunday were of an extra nature, being quarterly Versammlung. The Rev. D.B.B. Byers of Naperville, Presiding Elder, officiated, preaching in their church on the Prairie in the morning, and that in town in the afternoon.

Mr. Haight read the sermon at the Congregational church in the morning, and Mr. Farley in the evening.

The corporation, when commencing road work, opened a gravel pit in the upper road between town and the Fox River creamery. It would seem that the gravel was taken and without much regard as to what shape it left the road or what damage it might do to adjoining property; in the road a basin was made and there is now a fine pool around which there isn't sufficient room to drive, and which remains there except in extreme dry weather; on the side of Mrs. Thomas Smith's pasture the pit has been extended so near that the bank has already caved in exposing the bottom ends of the fence posts. Mrs. Smith wants to know how she can stop the encroachments upon her property, but it is too late now, when will have a number of rods of fence cave down with the going out of the frost next spring. The corporation ought to respect private rights.

L.N. Hall received the other day another nice piece of bank furniture, namely a case of "safety deposit boxes." They are calculated for renting to private parties and seldom found in country banks.

The town[ship] auditors and Judge Dickey had a meeting last week about the latter's [railroad] bond suit fees, but didn't come to an agreement.

The lost are found and the dead have come to life. Johnny Tigue, about a dozen years ago, strayed out in Nebraska and from there was frequently heard from. Next, he pulled up stakes for the Black Hills and subsequently an indirect report came that he had been killed by the Indians. A good while after that information was received by his folks that

he was in California sick. They sent him money to come home with, but it was returned; he declined to come. The other day he arrived safe and sound and in the best of condition, having been all over the territories and a portion of the Pacific coast.

L.B. Schofield is repairing his home, as is also Mr. L. Gillette.

James N. Young is working in Hoyt & Bros. paint shop in Aurora.

Mrs. L.B. Wormley has been adjudged insane by the Kane county courts. She had become an intolerable nuisance and people refused to stand it any longer. She was thrown from the track near the Fox River bridge and narrowly escaped a horrific death.

Yorkville: Conductor Kennedy has a fine new car on his Fox River train. It is a beauty.

Rainy weather this week.

She who was Mrs. Clark Wormley has been adjudged insane by the Kane County Court and will be sent to an asylum.

The Odd Fellows at Oswego have been refitting their hall, and it is as nice as any odd fellow or even one either could wish. Walls and ceiling nicely frescoed; floor carpeted, new curtains to windows, and a good straw bed for the goat. The order must be flourishing in Oswego.

Oct. 19: The two Coffin families have been consolidated into one, that of Wm. H. moving in the residence with the old folks and the apartments they vacated are now occupied by a family of newcomers named Teston.

Mr. L.L. Lynch has returned; also Dave and Charles Severance and H.A. Prentiss, the partner of C.A. Davis.

Ezekiel Pearce has come home in fine spirits from several months' attendance to his Iowa possessions.

Capt. Wm. S. Bunn is out from Chicago; his wife is still sick at her sister's, Mrs. D. Ladd.

The sad intelligence was received last week that Ed Avery had died at Pensacola, Florida from yellow fever. Both Avery families from here were having the plague, and all more or less afflicted, but were then on the way of recovery. They wrote that they had very good care.

There was an election Saturday to fill two vacancies on the board of village trustees and like everything else done here, we overdid it, filled them too much; there are now three that claim to have been chosen to fill them.

The Pearce Cemetery is quite well fixed up; it has received a new fence and there has been erected a very nice monument to Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Pearce.

Mrs. Reed at the Congregational church Sunday morning read a truly good sermon; it was by Tallmadge on the subject of "Fairness."

The money, a little less than \$15, left over from the 4th of July celebration, was by a meeting of contributors donated to the Leisure Moments club. They promised that it should be made the starting fund for a library.

Yorkville: Mr. Tarbox of the Yorkville brickyard, has sold 300,000 bricks for the new cotton factory at Aurora.

There was a bit of a freeze Tuesday morning, and we guess it effects vegetation materially. There was a heavy frost and a very cool morning.

Oct. 26: The board of trustees were to meet Saturday evening to accept the new members for filling the vacancies, but for some reason didn't do it; they met however early yesterday morning and accomplished by taking in Helle and McConnell--Rush Walker was counted out. It looked a little bit like the playing of a snap game on Rush--doing up the thing before he had to be around.

It is said that the best sociable the Presbyterian people have had yet was that of last week at Oliver Hebert's.

Miss Clara Inman died last week. The funeral was Saturday from the Congregational church.

George--the youngest of the Dr. Davis children--usually called Dickie, and who had been living in the John D. Hall family for some time, died at his mother's in Aurora and will be buried today.

A game of base ball played here the other day by our boys with a club from Plainfield and was won by O.B. [Our Boys] 26-13.

Yorkville: Fred Leigh from up the river was visiting in Yorkville Saturday. Fred has a fine lot of corn, and is resting awhile till it is dry enough to husk.

*Aurora Post:* Mr. L.B. Judson has been fitting up an elegant carpet and cloak room for Hanna, Scott, McMillan & Co. over their dry goods and millinery establishment. Geo. R. Lee will occupy the basement of the Bishop store on South River street for a wholesale paper warehouse.

We are very grateful to Uncle Thomas Penman for a sack of fine potatoes.

Montgomery: No preaching was held on last Sabbath, the Rev. Mr. Colgrove having closed his pastorate. The pulpit here is to be supplied by whom we are not informed.

A number of the representatives from our division, Sons of Temperance went to Lake View to attend the annual session of the Grand Division. Among them were James Young, Rufus Gray, and Daniel Keck.

November -- 1882

Nov. 2: The Odd Fellows Hall has been entirely renovated and is now by all odds the handsomest place of the kind ever established in Oswego. The ceiling and wall fresco work is an extra neat job and the colors congruous. I believe the components of the unique order had a sort of a private festival there last evening.

The hall over Hunt's store (Chapman's hall) is being converted into apartments for Hunt's family to occupy for a dwelling.

The Rev. H.D. Wiard was here and preached at the Congregational church both morning and evening to full houses. Mr. W. is held in high esteem in this community, and the word's as well as the church people turned out to greet him by their presence.

Rev. O.W. Shepard, a young Aurora clergyman, preached at the Methodist church Sunday morning.

The Webster family from the northeast part of this township have moved to Jefferson county, Nebraska.

Uncle Frank Alumbaugh's temperance lecture the other evening took well with the general run, but was hardly smooth enough for the esthetes.

Yorkville: We had rain, thunder and lightning on Monday. Quite spring-like.

Paul Dearborn has been putting chimneys on the new paper mill.

October 1882 was a month to be remembered; clear, dry, cool, charming. No one complained of the weather the whole month. The two fall months were remarkably fine, and it has been a pleasure to living in such an atmosphere.

Aurora News: Sanford Houghton, an employee of the Montgomery mills, had his left arm caught in the gearing at the mill Saturday morning and it was so badly crushed that Dr. Hard and Murphy had to amputate it above the elbow.

Notice has been served on the owners of all dams on Fox river asking them to put in fishways, and the owners refuse. The State Fish Commissioners will begin suits in the

courts, which the mill men will contest to test the constitutionality of the law. The dam-owners have formed a league and employed Hopkins & Aldrich as their attorneys.

Levi N. Hall, the Oswego banker and druggist, was in Yorkville last week. He is a man full of business and is doing well, as he deserves.

Aurora Herald: J.J. Budlong has sold his old homestead at Oswego, formerly known as the Gordon farm, consisting of 200 acres, for \$15,000 cash. He now owns what was known as the Ferris farm of 100 acres, and is building new barns and outbuildings and fitting it up in good shape.

“Bob” Smith of Oswego was in Plano Thursday. He worked at the Williams’ Bros’ farm this year, raised 50 acres of corn and 600 bushel of oats. He has been cutting and shocking corn for 5 cents a shock. He puts up 70 shocks in a day, which brings him \$3.50. He formerly worked for Christopher Wheeler of this township for 12 years.--*Plano News*.

Nov. 9: Mrs. Wm. S. Bunn, who has been sick for some time at the residence of her sister, Mrs. D. Ladd, died yesterday afternoon.

Alfred M. Wormley has returned from a several weeks sojourn in Nebraska, and liked that country well enough so as to buy land for a farm.

Luman H. Morgan has returned form a tour out west. Likewise John L. Gaylord.

Lewis Richard Jr. of Bristol has gone to New York State to get married.

The bridal couple, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Ward, have returned from their down east visit.

Mrs. L.L. Lynch will start to-day for Kansas City to join her husband there.

Miss Grace Squires has returned in the best of health and spirits from Utah and neighboring territories where she has been during the summer with the rest of the family. Squires is largely interested in sheep farming out there.

The contract for repairing the Grove road as far as the corporation is concerned has been awarded to Nate Loucks for \$4.60 per rod, to be done within 20 days and he is to put two yards of stone to the rod in the center of the road, 8 feet wide, covered with four yards of gravel.

A "Livery and Feed Stable" sign has been erected on Main street.

The election commenced this morning in due time and so far has been a tame enough affair--26 votes being cast a little while ago. It is an election of far more significance than what appears on the surface; calculated to seal the fate of many prominent politicians, dry

up the nourishing sources of factions and a defeat will be regarded by many as a victory in disguise.

Yorkville: Nate Lucks of Oswego was in Yorkville Monday limping with the rheumatism. He has taken a contract to gravel a road in the Oswego corporation, and has ten men and teams hauling chips and gravel on the job.

Supervisor Parker has a charter from the state for his dam at Oswego given in 1857, and he is going to see whether Mr. McDole, the Sugar Grove fish commissioner, is a bigger man than the Governor and State Legislature. Mr. Parker will not put a "cob house" in his dam unless the courts are all against him.

The Aurora News of the 1st says: Engine No. 127 was considerably smashed up by running into engine No. 60 at Millbrook Tuesday afternoon.

Died: BUNN.--At the residence of her sister, Mrs. Dwight Ladd, in Oswego Monday, Nov. 6, 1882, Mrs. Sarah P. Bunn, wife of Captain Wm. S. Bunn, aged 58 years. "And He giveth His beloved rest."

Nov. 16: The funeral of Mrs. W.S. Bunn took place last Wednesday afternoon from the Congregational church, a clergyman from Aurora performing the rites.

Mary Stockton, long ago and for a number of years the most important attaché to the National Hotel, that of head cook, was here during last week visiting with the old inhabitants of her acquaintance.

Mrs. D.M. Haight is prepared to give lessons on the piano and organ. Terms, \$10 for twenty-four lessons.

An Aurora borealis was seen on Sunday evening.

Quite an effort is now being made to put the entire Grove road in a lasting good condition by the use of stone and gravel.

Yorkville: Woman's suffrage was defeated in Nebraska by 20,000 majority. It was not a popular measure.

The Wheatland correspondent of the Aurora Blade says: Chris Schaal has bought of Nicholas Schlapp 80 acres of land, paying \$55 per acre. Mr. Schlapp will move to Oswego, having purchased a part of the Henry A. Clark farm.

Mr. S.E. Walker of Oswego was in Yorkville Thursday after his back tax. Among some other papers he had was a tax receipt given to his father, Seth Walker, in Massachusetts in 1820. It was a bit of paper with very plain printing, and not much style. The different items of tax enumerated and among them is "Minister, 49 cents," which shows that church and state worked together in those days.

Nov. 23 The death of Alfred Lucas occurred last Tuesday and the funeral on Thursday; the services were held at the house; Rev. Mr. Williams, pastor of the Aurora AME church was the officiating clergyman and was assisted by the Rev. J.T. Nees--the funeral was quite largely attended. Mr. Lucas was 70 years of age; was born in Culpepper county, Va.; when about 16 years old was taken to Missouri, where he lived up to 1862--in the meantime deriving a family and up to which time he had been a slave--when he came to this state and neighborhood where he has been living ever since and was always well liked by his neighbors. The family wish to express public thanks for the many favors received from their neighbors in this grievous emergency.

Doc Woolley is bragging on a new corn crib and hog pen 28 by 62 he just finished. In the construction of it special attention was given to keep the hogs nice and dry and to guard against rats. The crib stands on 5-1/2 foot wall; the feeding floor in the pen, composed of flag stones, is raised two feet from the ground and everything is arranged for the greatest convenience.

Mrs. J.S. Seely, Garrie, her grandson, and Miss Lucy Teller went last week to Las Vegas, New Mexico, on a visit to the T.J. Seely family,. That family expects soon to move to Hermosillo in Old Mexico, a city on the Sonora Railroad, of which Thomas Seely is the superintendent. Mrs. Seely probably will see them established in their new home of a foreign country.

Luman Morgan received a telegram yesterday that his sister, Mrs. Phelps, nee Loderia Morgan, out in Missouri, was dead. She had been in poor health for some time.

Frank Woolley shot a very large wild goose in a slough the other day; its wings were three feet long.

Mr. Boardman, the east Wheatland postmaster, was over on a visit to his sister, Mrs. Moore.

The prohibition question will be discussed pro and con by the Leisure Moment boys at their hall next Friday evening.

Mrs. D.M. Haight is prepared to give lessons on the piano and organ. Terms, \$10 for 24 lessons.

Yorkville: New stone steps have been put in at the north entrance to the court house square.

Lewis Steward has sold the Plano Hotel and hall to H.W. Kendall, and now intends to invest the proceeds and more if necessary in the erection of a large brick building on the corner of the next block east. The new building will contain an opera house, town hall, and rooms and vaults for the various offices and departments.

The R.R. Bridge across Big Rock Creek is now nearly or quite completed and consists of two independent iron bridges across the stream--one for each track; is so arranged that if one should break or get out of order the semaphore may be replaced and trains from both ways cross the other. The bridges have been built at a prodigious cost and of the most tried material and it now completes the double track between Plano and Chicago.

The Plano Manufacturing Company are now rapidly receiving orders for next year's machines, and can sell all they can possibly made; but the delay in getting iron is a serious hindrance to their work.

The fish commissioners of the State of Illinois have finally discovered that Big Rock creek is one of the finest streams in the State for the cultivation of fish and after several visits and carefully examining the stream for several miles, S.P. Dole, one of their number, commenced several days ago to send consignments of several varieties of fish, mostly carp. To Lewis Steward. They were received in good order and were placed in the creek at various available points selected by him. We have no doubt but that the experiment will be successful. The creek is uniformly a large stream fed by many large springs issuing from the high bluffs adjacent, and it is a well known fact that for a long distance below these springs the creek does not freeze over in the winter even in the coldest weather, while in the summer the water is colder than that in other streams in this section.

Nov. 30: No Oswego news column

December -- 1882

Dec. 7: Thanksgiving was passed rather quietly. The congregation at the church was tolerable as to size, but choice in quality. The Rev. Mr. Galt preached a somewhat unique sermon; it contained nothing about Plymouth Rock, the planting of tree of liberty, and nothing about the special blessings enjoyed by Americans, but rather was a showing of what God had done for mankind in general, placing the obligation for thankfulness on all alike. The dance in the evening was also a quiet but pleasant affair.

Elder Minard and wife the other day in going home, and when on the bridge near Constantine's, the horse became scared at something and backed off the bridge, the whole of it being thrown in a heap and the horse keeping up a lively kicking. The aged couple were picked up and returned to town for medical aid. The Elder had several cuts in his head; both were pretty well jarred and bruised, but neither had any bones broken--the carriage, however, is badly wrecked.

The same day Frank Parker's little boy, about a year old, was shown by the folks the working of a clothes wringer, when suddenly he thrust his hand in, mashing two of the fingers.

Fishing on Sunday is very bad, but I suppose when a fellow catches a 10-1/2 pound pike much of the curse is excusable, especially by those who get the eating of the fish. This is

what Walter Pearce did last Sunday at the bridge with the use of the snare. It was a noble looking fish.

Our corporation has a new and unique way of enforcing their ordinance against leading horses across sidewalks into vacant lots; it is by fencing in the street, so as to keep them from getting to the sidewalks.

Frank Parker had two buffalo robes taken when temporarily left at the foot of the stairs leading to the hall where a dance was had Thanksgiving night. Frank declared there would be a fuss made unless the robes were restored to him and sure enough Monday morning he found them deposited on his porch.

Our corporation has a new and unique way of enforcing their ordinance against leading horses across sidewalks into vacant lots; it is by fencing in the street, so as to keep them from getting to the sidewalks.

Yorkville: FRANK JAMES, THE BANDIT

L.L. Lynch, of Oswego, Gives a Long Letter About Him.

Kansas City, Mo., Nov. 27th, 1882.

To the Editor.

To-day, Kansas City is in a state of wild excitement, its cause being the appearance here of Frank James, the "last of the Bandits," brought from Independence jail to be arraigned upon the charges of robbery and murder.

Reflecting upon the events of the day it seems to me that a brief letter to the Record from one who was, for more reasons than one, an interested eye witness, may not be amiss. There has been much said by the newspapers concerning the luxury in which the outlaw has passed the days of his voluntary confinement, and many wild extravagances circulated concerning the man himself. A personal investigation has proven most of these accusations monstrously exaggerated, when not utterly untrue.

A visit to Independence, a very pretty town by the way, ten miles distant from Kansas City, brings us to Frank James; for, mark you, there is nothing, and no one, in Independence, nor has there been for weeks, save Frank James. He fills the town. His name salutes you at every corner. He is served to you at breakfast, dinner, and tea. If you are not an attorney, not a witness, not a personal friend, or a mortal enemy, it grows wearisome. You will visit the jail, take an amazed look at the mild visage outlaw, shake his hand if you don't object to it (he is very affable) and then take the first train out of the town, mentally exclaiming, "hang Frank James." It will be wise to utter this pious ejaculated sotto voce, for if your elbow neighbor is not his mortal enemy, he is sure to be a personal friend. This latter class, to the shame of Missouri be it said, is by no means small in number; and, when Frank James is the subject, there is here no neutral ground. If you visit the jail you will be received by Jailor Holland. He is always "at home," now, and you will probably be ushered into the family parlor (you are supposed to go properly "qualified" and not as an unknown sight-see'er.) You will possibly meet there Mrs. Frank James, a woman of intelligent countenance and pleasing manners, and her little son, a child of 4 years, sturdy, tow-headed, full of antics, and happily unconscious of the cloud that must shadow his whole existence. Mrs. James greets all interviewers with politeness

and a calm front. She declares that the indictments now standing against her husband cannot be proven, and does not believe that others will be found. Her favorite phrase seems to be "We are not afraid." She talks freely of the approaching trial and on general topics, but concerning her husband's past career, or the personal trials that have left their traces in her face, she will say nothing. "We have nothing to tell," she says, seldom speaking in the first person, singular.

Personally, Frank James is not the ideal bandit, as he is described in accusational literature, and believed in by the youth of the land. He is of medium height and somewhat attenuated by sickness, with light complexion, dull brown hair, and sharp steely blue eyes somewhat indrawn at the corners. He has a large nose and high forehead, the temples slightly sunken and the brows prominent and overhanging, giving his eyes at times an expression of great shrewdness and cunning. He is mild of manner and speech and an ordinary observer would set him own as a very uninteresting, harmless individual. But a close student of human nature sees the possibilities in the quiet face, notes the intellectual development, the iron will, the fund of tact and obstinacy, that, combined with worse qualities, make of Frank James the man he is.

He, like his wife, converses freely and intelligently on ordinary topics, but is dumb concerning himself. He professes great respect for religion and may be interesting to strict sectarians to know that he holds Bob Ingersoll and his creed in abhorrence. He says that he never associated for "business purposes" with a man who drank, affirming that when one has anything of importance to do he should never touch alcohol. Altogether, he is an utterer of fine moral sentiments, and might pass among strangers for a pedagogue out of health. Unfortunately, too, his platitudes have their effect and red-handed villain as he is, doubly dangerous because of his superior mental endowments, he has many sympathetic admirers. These, however, are not, like himself, anti-Ingersoll high moralists; they are for the most part characters of the "doubtful" order, and common type. Since his surrender, the outlaw has occupied a cell 9 feet long by 6, sleeping in an excellent bed furnished by friends. He has not lived upon prison fare, but fed on dainties cooked and served him by his wife. His cell contains a fine rug, furnished him, it is said, by an enterprising restaurateur of this city,--the walls are adorned with cheap paint. While he has not lived sumptuously, he has been and is exceedingly comfortable.

Leaving Independence early this morning, Frank James made the journey to Kansas City "escorted" by Deputy Marshal Wig Keshlear, and Jailer Holland, and "accompanied" by Major Ralston, the father of Mrs. James. They came by the Missouri and Pacific Railroad, a ten miles journey made dangerous in other days by the very man now under "escort."

At the depot at 7:30 a.m., a vast crowd awaited the coming train, a hard-looking crowd made up of toughs and sensation hunters, all eager to get the first peep at the prisoner, who manifested considerable uneasiness and a desire to avoid so much attention. He was hurried from the train, getting off on the side opposite the platform, and the crowd, and into a carriage followed by hoots and yells and a howling multitude.

The court room, and the space about the building was packed all day, notwithstanding the fact that the prisoner was not brought into court until late in the afternoon. He was pale and manifestly nervous; he had endured the numberless visits to his cell with perfect equanimity--but that eager, surging, grasping crowd was not to his taste.

The first indictment against him is for the robbery of the Independence bank, November 27th, 1867. The second for the murder of Joseph Wicher, who was found dead near Independence March 19th, 1874. Three others have been indicted on the first charge-- Doc Fox, Jim Cummings, and Jesse James.

Jesse James has received his just deserts irregularly administered. Jim Cummings is in secure hiding, and Doc Fox was arrested two years ago, imprisoned and then released from lack of evidence against him.

And this farce, it is to be feared, may be repeated in the case of Frank James; there is no more proof against him now than there was against Fox 26 months ago. It is true the officials may grow desperate and ask for the release of Bill Ryan and Clarence Hite. They count upon Dick Little as a witness; but first, that worthy must be got out of Huntsville jail. The Ford boys will figure conspicuously, but after all, the result is doubtful.

And yet the blood of Lull and Wicher, Heywood and Martin, Mullens, Agnew, and Billy Westfall cries out against him--against the man who furnished the head, the brains of the bandit gang, who planned their schemes, invented their means of security, and their methods of vengeance.

Even as I write I see the face of poor Wicher, a personal friend and brother officer, exultant, enthusiastic, hopeful--leaving Chicago full of fire and courage, eager to meet the outlaws and to measure his strength with theirs. I see him again, bound, gagged, helpless, riddled with bullets, left deaf on the highway. Thinking of his fate, I look upon Frank James and say--another Robert Ford, another bullet in the back is honor enough for him. Justice is too slow, and to our shame, too uncertain.

The trail of the outlaw is set for the fourth Monday in January, both counts for the same day. Bail is admissible in robbery case. The prosecuting attorney was not sufficiently familiar with the evidence in the murder case to decide upon that. He takes two weeks to investigate and probably at the end of that time James will be at large on bail.

Meantime, the enterprising public makes capital of all this notoriety. Independence swarms with the curious and hotels and restaurants reap a rich harvest. You step on board a Kansas City street car and the name of Jesse James in glaring letters stares you in the face, drawing your attention to some tradesman's advertisement below.

A photograph of Jesse James brings to your notice the fact that "Custom made clothing at cost" can be bought at a certain corner. To-night the Theatre Comique draws a throng by advertising there the appearance of Frank James, notwithstanding the fact that James fearing to remain over night in Kansas City is now on his way back to Independence jail.

At Kearney, 20 miles distant, the widow and the mother of Jesse James are living curiosities, notwithstanding the fact that they are in appearance the most common-place of women. The James farm, Jesse's grave, the spot where Wicher was found, the place Lull fell, are show places and there are Missourians who are openly and unblushingly proud of "The James Gang."

There is a better element, a worthy minority, strong in its demand for speedy and complete justice, and these may console themselves with the thought that Missouri justice failing them, Minnesota stands grimly watchful, with fingers ready and eager to clutch Frank James and deposit him safely inside the walls of Stillwater penitentiary, where his kindred spirits, Bob and Cole, and Jim Younger await him.

L.L. Lynch

[Frank James was acquitted (the jury deliberated for only five minutes), and after the trial went to Oklahoma to live with his mother.]

The Blackberry mill is now running again and farmers can get their grinding done on short notice.

Dec. 14: The coming into existence of a little girl this morning has raised Watts Cutter to the dignity of dad and of course makes him feel proud.

Friebele's team, having broken loose somewhere yesterday toward evening with a lumber wagon, turned in and took the sidewalk, running under the awnings of Troll, the meat market, and Coffin, and turning a short corner down the alley in which they were stopped. The affair was most peculiar in that they went through there without hitting or breaking anything.

The temperance society give a musical and literary entertainment at Shepard's hall Friday evening, Dec. 15. Admission 10 cents.

Sam and Helen Dietel, brother and sister, of West Union, Iowa, are on a visit here to their uncle George Schilling. It is their first visit to Illinois.

The holiday goods have arrived at the drug store.

The graveling of the Grove road is now being pushed with the utmost vigor stopping for no kind of weather; that cold day last week John Russell was more or less frost bitten in several parts while engaged in hauling.

Yorkville: Who wants to live in Dakota? On the morning of the 7th, the thermometer at Fargo showed 47 degrees below zero. At Winnipeg in Manitoba, it was worse yet--67 below.

Bulk oysters, 35 cents per quart at Cotton's.

Sandwich *Argus*: We were shocked on Tuesday to be told that Henry Hillard was dead. Mr. Hillard had not been well for some months, yet he had been about more or less; only a few days ago we met him when he said he was slowly gaining, and yet he seemed to drop away all at once. His remains were taken to Oswego for interment.

Over two tons of paper was made at the new mill on Tuesday night; it was a big run. E. Ellis run the engines.

The widow of Mark Beaubien, the pioneer hotel-keeper of Chicago, has recently been married! She is 62 and her husband 77!

Winter came with great suddenness on the night of the 6th with a snowstorm and violent wind from the northwest. Thursday morning the mercury was 14 degrees below zero, and it was very cold all day, as was Friday.

Dec. 21: The house of Fred Smith a mile below town was burned down Thursday afternoon; the fire probably originated from a defective flue.

The line of corporation hitching posts has been finished and it is a good job.

The latest business addition is the reopening of the Union meat market by Chris Jarvis.

The marriage of Miss Ida S. Wormley was first made known to me through the Plano News; she has married a Mr. Germain of Chicago, and has returned to Oswego for the present.

When August Keihl returned to New Mexico the other day, he took his brother Carley with him. Oswego is getting pretty well represented out there.

A sort of kidnapping case occurred here last week; it was that of little Georgia Pearce whose father and mother don't live together, the latter living in Chicago; Georgia was called out of school and it is said was taken in a carriage to Aurora. The mother of course was the abductor, or cause it to be done.

A Christmas house will be enjoyed by the Presbyterian Sunday school at the church next Sunday evening and a Christmas tree by the German Methodist Sunday school at their church.

Mr. B.L. English (and wife, I believe) from Corning, N.Y., has arrived here on a visit to his father-in-law, Mr. James M. Chapman, and by the way the latter whose mind has been affected for some time, has been getting much worse within the last two weeks.

Yorkville: Yorkville has quite an acquisition to its society in the persons of Mrs. George Squires, her sister, Miss Bent, and daughter, Miss Grace Squires, who will spend the winter as a part of the family of B.F. Herrington, Esq. Mr. Squires and his son John will care for the sheep ranch in Nebraska and see that there are no lost sheep in that locality. Mr. Squires has 10,000 sheep in winter quarters at Grand Island.

At the meeting of the State Horticultural Society in Kankakee last week, O.B. Galusha of Morris was elected president and S.G. Minkler of Kendall re-elected treasurer, though he refused the office twice.

L.N. Hall, the Oswego banker, was in Yorkville Friday. With bank, drug store, insurance, etc., Levi continues to find enough for hands and brains to do.

For 17 years L.N. Hall's Oswego store has been the great central depot for toys.

Dec. 28: Blanche, three years old, a nice and smart little girl, the youngest of Charles Kimball's children, died last week of diphtheria, a grievous blow to the parents.

Great energy has been displayed in the working of the Grove road.

The Christmas doings were all performed Saturday evening, and it was a luck hit that that time was chosen, for the weather couldn't have been any better.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Smith were burned out of house and home, and Mr. J.S. Seely just now is a sort of grass widow (Mrs. S. is away down in Mexico on a visit), but by consolidating their household affairs--the Smiths moving in with Mr. Seely--all are now enjoying the greatest comfort.

With the exception of the reports of guns in the barbarous sport of a chicken shoot, Christmas passed very quietly.

The school exercises at the close of the fall term last Friday are said to have been most efficient and interesting.

1883

January

Jan. 4: The number of New Year's visitors here was large.

Benjamin Franklin, a son-in-law of George Washington, has moved here from Alabama.

Prof. Rolfe and family have returned to Champaign from their visit here, and there was one more to go away (a young lady, very young) than there had come.

The Rev. Mr. Hill began his ministrations at the Congregational church Sunday.

Religious services are being held in the Ament school house--five miles south of here--every Sunday at 2:30 p.m. until further notice.

There was an altercation in the street the other evening between George Inman and James Morrison. George was on the affirmative side and Jim on the negative.

Yorkville: Prof. Rolfe and family have returned to Champaign from their visit here, and there was one more to go away (a young lady, very young) than there had come.

Dr. Jewell of Oswego was in Yorkville Friday bearing the honors of a great grandfather.

At Hamilton Cherry's restaurant, Fox street, Aurora, you can be served with a full meal or cold at any hour, day or night, and be assured of the best the market affords. Fresh shell oysters received dally and clams, all kinds of meats and all the delicacies of the season served in the best manner.

Jan. 11: The Rev. Mr. Hill and family have moved here from Big Rock last week.

Harry VanEvra is out form Pullman; he had the misfortune of getting a finger on his right hand sawed off, and the balance more or less injured.

It is at and about the ice houses where activity is now displayed--the ice being taken in at a rapid rate. The company has 90 men employed, most all having been brought out from Chicago.

It is said that the Hafenrichter Brothers have bought the Brockway farm out there for \$85 per acre.

Old settlers, especially over in NaAuSay, will remember Mary Titsworth; subsequently she became Mrs. J.E. Boyle. The Fayette County (Iowa) *Clarion* of a late date gave a long and laudatory obituary notice of her.

At the Methodist church Sunday, the pastor not appearing, Elder Minard officiated instead, both morning and evening. The church concluded to make a demonstration of regard to Miss Kate Lester for her untiring devotion in supplying music both by voice and by organ, and presented her with \$20.

The A.H. Hawes family started this morning for Kansas.

Isaac F. Arnold, who moved from her about a year ago to near Lemont was robbed last Wednesday evening of \$1,100 by Chicago gentry.

Yorkville: A.T. Seely rides a tony cutter.

There was a large attendance at the court house on Monday and things were lively. Fine day and good sleighing.

*Batavia News*: The paper mill was lighted by the electric light for the first time Wednesday night. They have a 60 light machine but are using only 37 lights at present. They have one in the office, which is quite a large room but the light is all sufficient. It does not hurt the eyes, is steady and beautiful.

*Aurora Beacon*: We have neglected to mention that in the suit commenced by the Fish Commissioners against Messrs. Hord, Broadhead & Co., owners of the Montgomery Dam, the case was regularly placed before justice Baldwin, when the defendants allowed a judgment to be taken. From this they appealed to the Circuit Court--and from thence they say they will pursue it through the higher courts. A prominent point they propose to

make is the indefiniteness of the law, which makes no provision as to what shall constitute a fish way, or how it shall be constructed.

There was another snow storm from the northwest Wednesday morning. Good sleighing.

Hamilton Cherry wants to sell his farm near the NaAuSay town house.

H.W. Farley, Esq., of Oswego, bought the Mullenix property at mortgage sale Tuesday. B.F. Herrington was the attorney making the sale.

Jan. 18: The spell of sleighing now enjoyed is an extra lucky thing for those of our citizens who had provided themselves with the latest style of cutters, and that they took the first opportunity to show off in them need not be mentioned. Doc Van Deventer takes the lead on tony cutters.

The corpse of Miss Lois Richards was brought here for burial from St. Charles last Thursday, accompanied by most of the family, namely that of Edward Richards, who moved from here several years ago. The deceased had been sick a long while and undergone much suffering.

The Mullenix premises are now owned by H.W. Farley.

The Smiths--Ed and Will--received the information the other day that their brother-in-law, Mr. Morey, over in Wilmington got killed by a horse.

A.L. Rice has again moved to this neighborhood and again is occupying the Knapp farm.

The Plymouth county (Iowa) folks have come down upon us in force. Cob, Jim and Dan Pearce, Tom Houdie and Jim Hoyt, a solid and able bodied lot of fellows, all came together in a body, and all wore buffalo overcoats except Cob; he perhaps cannot afford such a luxury.

Mrs. Charles of Chicago, better know to our people by the name of Emily Holt, has been here on a visit to her friends for the first time in many years; she was accompanied by her daughter, a handsome young lady, and Em by the way is still very good looking.

The Masons of the Raven lodge have again set up a Hall by themselves; they have moved back to their old quarters, namely fixed up again the up stairs of Coffin's for a hall.

Yorkville: The place to get the best photographs is at Fred Winne's, Yorkville.

Cornell & Biggur have been hauling lumber over the river for Tarbox's new tile factory.

A fine 25-horse steam engine and boiler, weighing 10,500 pounds, arrived in Yorkville Monday for W.W. VanEmon, Esq., to run his saw mill.

Dr. Lester of Oswego was in Yorkville Thursday.

Our local ice houses are being filled with solid, thick, clear ice.

Married: At the residence of A. Waite Dec. 28, 1882, by Rev. Asa Prescott, Fred J. Beane of Fox to Rhoda E. Waite of Long Grove.

Montgomery: The Sabbath school is in a flourishing condition; the annual report of the secretary shows the total attendance for the year to have been 2,390. Average attendance per week 49, and average contributions per week, 63 cents. The total receipts for the year were \$37.59 and the expenditures \$32.83. The officers are Theodore Staley, Supt.; H.S. Voorhees, Asst. Supt.; Carlos Young, Sec'y; Anna Pearce, Treas.; Harvey Keck, Librarian.

After considerable dickering, hair pulling and back-biting, the sale of the Union Hall has been consummated. F.A. Beher is the purchaser. Mr. Vaughn retains possession until April 1st, and the Odds and Sons one year or until September 1st, '83. Enough money has been subscribed to build another hall should it be necessary.

Mrs. H.S. Voorhees died recently of typhoid pneumonia. Her daughter Ida is at present very ill with the same disease contracted by over-exertion during her mother's illness.

Orlando Young recently returned from Nebraska where he has been in search of a farm. He says he has leased one and proposes moving there in the spring.

Jan. 25: About all one would hear lately was about "It's being cold;" one would call it dreadful cold; another outrageously; still another, fearful or terrible. On the thermometer the lowest we got at any time was 32 below zero, and the more conservative didn't get any lower than 26. Sunday it kept below 8 below all day long.

The railroad folks had a heap of trouble about here with the snow.

The Tom Belschner sale the other day is said to have been the most booming of the season. The crowd was large, Dave Hall enthusiastic, and the bidding lively. Belschner is moving to Aurora--the family went there on the 5:23 train yesterday.

Dr. Putt has been in Joliet now for several weeks attending a sick relative.

Joseph Gentensberg and family have returned from Rockford. There is no place like Oswego after all.

The church doings Sunday were somewhat retarded by the cold weather.

It is most cruel to leave a horse tied in the street for any length of time such nights as Saturday and Sunday.

## THE OSWEGO ICE COMPANY

Correspondence *Aurora Beacon*

Our enterprising ice company merits especial mention. Messrs. Esch Bros. & Rabe understand their business, and do not hesitate to put money and energy into it. Their houses are twenty in number, and are located some three-quarters of a mile north from the depot, and connected therewith by telephone. They and the men in their employ compose nearly the entire population of Troy, a suburb of this village, and since they have been there that locality has vastly improved. Fourteen of their houses are in one block and joining James Murphy's place on the north, and cover an area of 100 by 400 feet with twenty-five foot posts. These were built four years ago. Last year they determined to increase their storage, and tried to buy out Murphy and extend their houses in one continuous line to the street several hundred feet, and running east and west. They offered Murphy twice the value of the property, but he would not sell, only at exorbitant figures. They then secured the entire block south of Murphy's and went immediately at work moving off the buildings and grading it for the reception of their new houses. Last fall they erected six enormous houses 150 by 180 feet with thirty foot posts thereon. This puts Murphy in bad shape--with a long row of high ice houses on the north of him, and another still higher shading him on the south, with the trestle work and machinery for hoisting and filling the houses still higher on the west, and all in close proximity, the railroad and side track in addition cutting him closely on the east, all of which hems him completely in, and renders his property of but little value. This company also owns a number of tenant houses for those in their employ, and two large boarding houses, where they board those temporarily, in their employ while harvesting the crop. The arrangements for gathering the crop is in every way complete--an engine, with thirty-five horsepower, with endless chain, and so perfectly adapted to the work that they can, with ease, house 1,000 tons of ice daily. The ice is gathered from Parker's mill pond, and is of superior quality, fifteen inches thick and perfectly free of anything but solid crystal ice. At the present writing their houses are about half filled, and fifteen days of good weather will complete the work of filling. It will be seen at a glance that this company will do a large shipping business next summer, and if the Northwestern R.R. Company want their share of it, they should get their branch down through here as soon as possible. It is not too much to say that Messrs. Esch Bros. & Rabe's freight bills the coming season will amount to \$50,000. Success to this enterprising company. May their shadow never be less.

Yorkville: The cold wave created a havoc among the house plants.

The Joliet Steel Mills are closed down and will so remain till April 1st.

The paper mills were closed down Monday night because of the scarcity of water. They will run whenever there is head enough--a few hours a day, possibly

The paper mills have been running on half-time because the ice is so near the bottom of the river.

February -- 1883

Feb. 1: The freight business at this station for 1882 was 1,170 carloads received and forwarded. This is exclusive of the Express business.

The marriage of Miss Marie Goudie to T.C. MacMillan, an *Inter Ocean* editor, occurred last Wednesday.

There was a dance and oyster supper out at Doc Woolley's Wednesday evening. Austin & Grundy of Plainfield furnished the music.

The funeral of Mrs. Joseph Graham will take place this forenoon at the Congregational church. Mrs. G. died Saturday at the age of 35 and after a long and painful sickness--an ulcerous affliction--having been confined to her bed the most of the time for the last two years.

Si Wagner and someone else have loaded to cars yesterday with their household goods for removal to Nebraska.

Feb. 8: Though the weather last Wednesday evening was very inclement, the pound surprise party for the Rev. Mr. Hill and family by the Congregational society is said to have been a fair success.

Today, twenty years ago, Elnathan Ketchum, out in NaAuSay, is said to have been married.

Prof. Straub of Chicago commenced here yesterday a course of instruction in music.

At the Fox River Creamery there is a new washing machine which is said to beat anything in creation for doing its work and doing it fast. George Inman washed with it 100 milk sets in six minutes by the watch.

Bristol: The worst snow storm of the season on Friday last, with the mercury 20 degrees below on Thursday and our coal dealer clean out of coal. Some were necessitated to go to Yorkville through the driving storm to procure coal to keep from freezing out altogether. Coal dealers in Streator telegraphed dealers here that they could not get cars to ship; too bad that the CB&Q Company are limited on their line in transportation.

Yorkville: The cold weather has been distressing since our last issue for everyone that has had any outdoor business to attend to. On Friday there was a heavy storm of snow and sleet with thunder and lightning in the evening and the mercury in the vicinity of zero. Saturday, hail and sleet fell at intervals all day and it was of such a character as to give the railroads almost insurmountable trouble; the sleet rolled in on the tracks like sand and the rails were covered with ice.

A number of men came to Yorkville Tuesday with horses and implements and are now engaged in cutting ice and filling the big houses above the dam.

Mr. Jonas Bronk of NaAuSay was in Yorkville Friday after sale bills. He has sold his farm to a grandson of Benj. DeLong's and will move to Plainfield where he bought a nice residence. Mr. Bronk went to the mountains in December--to Denver, Greeley, and other villages, and had a pleasant trip.

Feb. 15: The marriage fever has struck the AuxSable grove neighborhood; James Goudie and Miss Mattie Russell were the last victims; they were married Tuesday at the residence of the bride's bother.

Mrs. J.J. Coles, one of the oldest inhabitants of this county, died yesterday afternoon at the residence of J.S. Seely, where she has been making her home.

Mr. George Squires of Oswego, while looking after his flocks of sheep in Nebraska was caught out in one of the recent severe storms and was seriously chilled. Rheumatism set in with great severity, and he hastened to Hot Springs, Arkansas, as speedily as possible. J.G. Stolp received a letter from Gen. S.B. Shearer Thursday in which he said it was thought for a time after Mr. Squires' arrived there that he must die but he is now improving under the treatment.

The youngest son of Harrison Young died at his home in Montgomery Wednesday morning of quick consumption. The remains were consigned to the Keck burying ground yesterday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. L.B. Judson were summoned to Peotone yesterday by a telegram announcing their daughter, Mrs. A.P. Loomis, was dying.

#### Oswego Public School

The following is the report of Oswego Public School for month ending February 7th, 1883: Primary department, H. Ella Kerr, teacher. No. enrolled, 50. Average attendance, 39. Roll of Honor: Edith Schamp, Mabel Cooney, Jimmie Dwyre, George Lippold, Jay Richards, Charlie Willis.

Intermediate department, Kate Cliggitt, teacher. No. of pupils enrolled, 63; average daily attendance, 55. Roll of Honor: Martha Potter, Emma Sierp, Allie Switzer, Fanny Varner, Gracie Miller, Emma Haines, Harvey Dickerson, Paul McConnell, Henry Miller, Earl Mullen, Arthur Switzer, Pearce Wormley.

W. McFarlane's Room. No. of pupils in attendance, 49; average daily attendance, 44.13. Roll of Honor: Libbie Andrews, Adda Van Evers, Jesse Hill, Will Cooney Harry Minkler, Charles Herren, George Hill.

Yorkville: Both paper mills were shut down on Monday They run all day Sunday and used all the available water in the river.

Wednesday was a rainy day. It is hoped the snow and ice will move off gently.

The *Record* office met with a catastrophe Wednesday morning. The snow on the horsepower shed gathered weight from the rain Tuesday night and the roof came down with a crash, making a ruin for awhile. The old power was badly busted and we haven't money enough to buy a steam engine.

Mr. George Squires of Oswego, while looking after his flocks of sheep in Nebraska was caught out in one of the recent severe storms and was seriously chilled. Rheumatism set in with great severity and he hastened to Hot Springs, Arkansas as speedily as possible. J.G. Stolp received a letter from Gen. S.B. Shearer Thursday in which he said it was thought for a time after Mr. Squires' arrival there that he must die but he is now improving under the treatment.

Mr. and Mrs. L.B. Judson were summoned to Peotone yesterday by a telegram announcing that their daughter Mrs. A.P. Loomis was dying.

Feb. 22: The funeral of Mrs. Cole took place Wednesday. The deceased was 76 years of age, and was buried in the cemetery beside her husband who preceded her there about 20 years ago.

The soldiers in this vicinity are talking about forming a Post of the Grand Army of the Republic in this town and for the purpose they have called a meeting for next Saturday evening to which all the ex-soldiers of this neighborhood are invited.

There has been a scarcity of dwellings and rooms for shops and offices here all winter; somebody ought to go at building and supply this want.

Thomas Belschner enjoyed his new occupation, that of railroading, but very little while. He acted as a brakeman on the C.I.R.R., and last week was very badly hurt while coupling cars.

The 16th of February, '82, may be remembered and pointed to as an extraordinarily weathery day. The fog was thicker than ever known before, and about 4 o'clock vanished almost in an instant. The creeks were booming; the river was rising quite rapidly, and the ice began breaking up. The lower Waubonsie bridge was submerged for quite a while, the water rushing over, under, and around it, but it remained intact, and no damage was done otherwise.

Clinton G. Gaylord has moved to town and is occupying the Methodist parsonage, which was vacant. Clint will do for an alderman.

Charles Woolley had a dance at his house last Wednesday; owing to the bad going the company was not very large.

D.D. Lowry keeps now the Union meat market.

Andrew Shoger has returned from Livingston county and is occupying the McKenney farm.

Aurora is to have a "Humane society," and by the way, that institution to my idea is the most effectual of any there is for the improvement of mankind. If I was a millionaire and wanted to put my surplus wealth where it would do the most good, I think there is where I would place it. It has no other sentiment but that "You must be kind," and if not voluntarily observed, legal force against the abuse of the same is to be employed.

Yorkville: Amid the death and destruction that has come by fire and water this winter no casualty is more terrible than one happening at Braidwood in Will County on Friday last. This town is the center of great coal mines, and the population is mostly made up of miners and their families. The face of the country there is a great level prairie with many pond holes.

The flood of Friday covered this prairie with an immense body of water, filling the sloughs with great weight. At the Diamond mine, about two miles northwest of Braidwood, some 80 acres are tunneled for coal. On Friday, 300 men were working there about 100 feet below the surface; at one point is a deep slough, and here the water gathered; the frost was thawed from the ground, the water began to seep through, the earth became sodden and heavy, and a great piece fell into the mine letting an avalanche of water upon the unfortunates below.

It is thought that 75 men were drowned. Seventy-five men without a moment's warning drowned in the dismal hole! Widows and orphans made by scores in a moment. It was impossible to give any aid as the water filled the mines and still covered the surface and it will be a long time before the bodies of these unfortunates can be recovered.

A switch engine came up from Streator Tuesday without a smokestack--lost in a collision--and it looked funny enough as it steamed through Yorkville. Went to Aurora for a new chimney.

*Aurora Beacon:* Last Monday night at Oregon, Thomas Belschner, a new brakeman, while attempting to make a coupling on foreign cars with which he was unacquainted, was very badly injured, having his collar one broken and his right should and left hip severely hurt. For years, Belschner was a water boy and then a helper in Walkers' blacksmith shop, but about six years ago he engaged in farming, going on a rented farm a few miles from Oswego. He found a wife in that vicinity, and being an industrious, hard working young man succeeded nicely, gradually accumulating considerable property. But he became dissatisfied with farming, finally deciding to come back to town and secure a job at braking, for which he always had a mania while in the shops here. At a sale of his personal effects in January after settling all his bills and paying a few outstanding debts he found himself in possession of about \$2,200 besides his household goods, himself and family also being well-clothed. As he had commenced with nothing, this showed a clear profit of at least \$2,500 over and above all expenses in six years, a handsomer accumulation than one skilled mechanic in a hundred could boast under the most favorable circumstances and with constant work.

March -- 1883

March 1: Thomas P. Kerr and Miss Mattie Ladiew [LaDew] entered the matrimonial state Thursday.

At Clarence Shumway's sale the farm was sold to John Collins for \$67.62-1/2 per acre.

We haven't got near through the road troubles yet; there is now started in litigation a "cut-off No. 2," and the funny thing of it is that those that were not for the first are down on the second, and vice versa. The best thing would be to defer such road for a few years more so as to have a chance for cooling off.

Mr. and Mrs. George Cowdrey were badly injured when their buggy went off a bridge.

M.W. Kean is operating the Montgomery junction.

Joshua Peckett will go to Nebraska this week; so too Clarence J. Shumway.

The Richards store is being fixed up very nicely for the occupation of a hardware and grocery store combined. W.H. McConnell have moved their office there.

Yorkville: The *Aurora Daily News* is now a morning paper, and is as fresh and sprightly as a metropolitan journal.

A bill has been introduced into the State Legislature to make a county pay for all bridges that cost over \$1,000.

The people of Aurora did a nice thing for the Braidwood sufferers Monday evening; an entertainment at the Opera House netted \$440 for this purpose.

The widows and orphans at Braidwood are deserving the financial aid of the people of Illinois and are receiving it. Kendall County is always ready to help the needy, and some one in each town should make an effort to take a collection for the bereaved ones.

Another lot of that popular cup and saucer coffee just received at Cotton's.

Mrs. Dwight Lad and Mrs. H. Makinnie of Oswego visited friends in Yorkville Monday.

Mr. George Parker, the short horn breeder of Oswego, has a fine thoroughbred cow that weighs 2,060 pounds and her calf, when two months old, weighed 275 pounds.

The Bristol and Millington bridges across the Fox river took a final leap into the river last Saturday.--*Morris Herald*.--(Correct as to Millington but the old Bristol rattletrap still

stands, but is expected to go with the next break-up. It is a standing monument for a few days longer of the law's delay.)

Aurora Beacon: The suit between the Town of Bristol and the County of Kendall, wherein the former desires to compel the latter to pay one-half of the expenses of building a bridge at Bristol, as the law provides, has been sent back from the Appellate Court on a technicality.

March 8: The wedding of Miss Nora Shaver to John Fitzgerald of Yorkville occurred Wednesday.

H.B. Read has moved from Aurora to this place and is occupying the house vacated by Mrs. D. Ladd, who has moved into the Farley house.

Wm. Rees has returned from Hinckley and moved on his own farm--that lately owned by W.K. VanFleet. Rees will now be a permanent resident.

The Ladiew [LaDew] family have left the place here now occupied by Rees, and moved to Hinckley on the place vacated by Rees; or in other words, Ladiew and Rees have exchanged places.

The funeral of Mrs. L.B. Clark took place Wednesday from the house and the burial in the Oswego cemetery.

Mrs. L.L. Lynch has returned from an eight months sojourn in Kansas City.

Miss Maggie Shepard's millinery establishment has been removed to the house heretofore occupied by Irene Billings.

Clarence Shumway and Alfred Linegar left for Nebraska with their goods and stock--in carloads--last Wednesday. Mrs. Shumway and children followed some days afterwards. Today, Alfred Wormley will start for the same destination; August Schmidt for Dakota; and James Gannon to Iowa with the effects and others are getting ready for going west. If this exodus will continue much longer, there won't be enough left of us for a quorum.

The so-called Child farm, lately bought by John Collins, is now occupied by his son, James.

Bob Pogue has been appointed station agent at Yorkville, and Kean has been sent to Sheridan on relief duty.

The river at this point raised very rapidly Friday afternoon; it was caused by the moving of the ice between the bridge and dam, and lodging below; the entire flats were covered with water, and for awhile the reaching of the bridge was almost impossible; large cakes of ice had by grounding lodged on the road thus blocking it. Now the water has nearly receded to its usual boundaries.

Yorkville: Gov. Hamilton has appointed Joe Roberts, a great big, overfat country editor down in Egypt as one of the Commissioners of the Chester Penitentiary. Joe is a good fellow to hang around hotel lobbies and swap old stories and questionable jokes, but he is not the best man for an important office.

Mr. Charley Spellman came from York, Neb. Last week and passed a few days with Oswego friends. The country there agrees with him.

A soap fakir was allowed to pursue his swindling performance on Bridge street in Yorkville Saturday--selling a bit of soap and a greenback in boxes for a small sum.

The Bristol bridge has been closed to teams since last Friday, greatly to the detriment of the business of our villages and it looks as if it might be closed for some days yet--till all the ice has gone out at least. And farmers from the north side complain that they cannot ship their hogs from Yorkville; the Blackberry mill is shut out from the south side trade, and parties in Bristol will not contract grain in Yorkville for fear the bridge will be in such a condition as to prevent delivery.

Mr. Bob Pogue of Oswego is now in charge of the Yorkville railway station. For the past year he has been in the Company's Chicago office and his experience there makes him a competent railroad man.

Our chief industry in Yorkville are the two paper mills and much attention has been given them the past week--many fearing they would be closed down. For the past week they have not run on account of the high water in the river--the ice being gorged below for several days and backed up the water so that there was no power. As soon as the water subsides the mills will start up under the management of Charley Black, who will emerge from the general wreck in comparatively good shape. He has a good knowledge of the paper business and his experience in the recent disaster will be worth thousands to him.

A new cheese factory has been started at Wheatland, Will county.

The first day of March 1883 was a lovely spring day, bright, warm and balmy.

The Aurora Blade says that while the Montgomery mills were obliged to close down because of high water, "Upshaw Hord manages to keep his mouth above the flood."

March 15: Henry Case is being visited by a brother.

George and Irene Putt of Joliet are visiting at Dr. Putt's and Mrs. Mary E. Snow is visiting her mother, Mrs. Esther Ferris.

T. Ellis Minkler is about to quit the living in the country by moving to the city of Aurora.

By the moving away of the Gannon family we have lost a lot of very nice girls.

The John Smith family have moved in with Mrs. Carrie E. Young.

Mrs. Burr has broken up keeping house and probably will stay most of the time with her daughter, Mrs. Ezekiel Pearce.

The Richards store, which for several years has been almost vacant, will now be made a busy place; a stock of hardware, groceries and provisions is now being opened by W.H. McConnell & Co. The hardware department will be in charge of H.B. Reed, formerly of the firm of Reed & Wentworth, Aurora. M.S. Love, also of that city, will have charge of the groceries and provisions and the tin shop in connection with it will be run by Frank Richards in the rear department.

The "Gaylord Bros." have established a farm implement warehouse in the Ezra Smith building and are now receiving large supplies of such articles which the farmers will want at the opening of the season.

Yorkville: Mr. Wm. M. Wormley was in Yorkville Tuesday. He has been in bad health all winter, but is now hoping the warmer weather will bring him all right again.

March 22: The wedding of Miss Emma Pearce to Frank Van Doozer materialized Thursday at the residence of the bride's mother, Mrs. Frances A. Pearce.

Dr. Putt's office was burned down between 2 and 3 o'clock Saturday morning. The fire was first discovered by Mrs. Putt and then one entire side was already ablaze; nothing could be removed when the place was reached and the doctor lost most all of his books, a part of his instruments, and numerous other things of more or less value.

John C. Turpin has moved back again to his neighborhood.

The population of Oswego probably would be larger and its business establishments more numerous were there accommodations for such. There have been doctors, barbers, dressmakers here trying to establish themselves in business but neither could find office and shop rooms, nor dwellings.

Yorkville: The Bristol bridge suit is now in the Supreme court, and that august body directed the Supervisors of Kendall county to answer at the next term why they have not granted the prayer of the petitioners. We now have two suits pending.

The river was full of floating ice Monday morning.

Winter lingered in the lap of Spring to a considerable extent the first days of the week.

The Aurora Herald says L.B. Judson is having his country residence on the Jericho road remodeled, preparatory to moving in.

The Yorkville *Record* will hereafter be printed by steam. A.S. Darling has been down there some days putting up shafting and putting up a steam engine and we congratulate brother Marshall upon having discarded that troublesome horse-power by which his presses were formerly driven.--Aurora *Beacon*.

John R. King of Wheatland and Miss Jennie Fikus were married at Plainfield on the 7th.

The ice went out from off the pond Wednesday afternoon, March 14th, and the Bristol bridge still stands.

Phi. Rice, a former Aurora merchant, took laudanum and died at the Preemption House in Naperville on the 14th. Suicide. He was formerly a partner of Ham Cherry's in the grocery business.

March 29: The bell has tolled this morning; John W. Chapman is dead at the age of 75. He was one of the old settlers and a prominent man in the community for many years. In this town he used to be ahead in every enterprise, identified with everything of a public nature, and his advice was sought on all matters of importance. The mercantile was his principal business in the early days, but he engaged in many things--dealing in real estate, buying grain, etc. He was the principal contractor hereabouts in the building of bridges and other public works--the old courthouse here is one of his jobs. After the fire, he was the most energetic in getting the brick block started, securing a lot and building one of the stores. He served the town as supervisor, the village as a trustee, and was postmaster for about six years--a portion under Frank Pierce and the full term under Buchanan's administration. When the Fox River railroad project was started, he became the most active in pushing it, and that was about the last of his active business engagements. Since then he has been pretty much in retirement. He was very indulgent to his family, his domestic habits were most exemplary, he had his strong and his weak points; good judgment in most things yet the opposite in other; his voyage through life was not altogether on a smooth sea, and now he has gone to that bourne from whence no traveler returns.

S.M. Love has moved into the house vacated by Frank Richards, who has moved in with the old folks, M.S. Richards.

The Malone family have moved into the Shibley house.

Walter S. Hunt is up from Livingston county, rendering his annual visit.

Leonard and Ferdinand Shoger together have bought the Ezra Pearce farm.

August Hornkohl was loading yesterday a car with his effects for Dakota.

Joe Miller is now the assistant at the depot.

A Wheatland reporter to an Aurora paper got Miss Jennie McConnell of this place married to someone over there, and furthermore got the newly married couple going immediately at housekeeping. Miss Jennie was amazingly surprised at being married and having the responsibilities of a household resting upon her without her knowing anything about it.

Yorkville: The water in the mines at Braidwood was so much reduced on Sunday that a party went down to the shaft to look for the bodies of the drowned miners. Six bodies were found so badly decomposed as to be unrecognizable, and the stench sickened the men who were looking for them.

Twenty-one bodies were recovered from the Braidwood mines on Monday. The sights about the main shaft is pitiable; bereaved widows and orphans in agony over the disfigured remains.

The supervisors of Kane county have reduced the wolf bounty to \$5.

The Wheatland correspondent of the *Aurora Blade* records the following marriages: Mr. William Brown and Miss Marian Finley; Mr. Wallace Myers and Miss Aggie Fairweather.

The Republican voters of Oswego township will meet in caucus at the town hall on Saturday next, the 31st inst., at 2 p.m. to nominate officers for the ensuing year.

April -- 1883

April 5: The death of Mrs. Eliza D. Race occurred Sunday morning and the funeral will take place this afternoon from the house of Capt. Mann, where she had made her home. The deceased was 73 years of age and more than half of her life was spent in this place and vicinity. George A. Race, the only son, arrived here from Houston, Texas the fore part of last week and his presence during the last days of her life were very comforting.

Mrs. Anton Miller died yesterday after a long and painful sickness in her 38th year. Her death is especially deplorable because there are six children left motherless and most all of them small.

John W. Chapman's funeral took place Thursday from the house. The Rev. George Hill officiated.

A.S. Reynolds and wife were out from Chicago attending Chapman's funeral. Besides being somewhat related, "Chapman & Reynolds" was a firm that flourished in Oswego 35 years ago. Reynolds has been for ever so many years in the mail service, most of the time in the Chicago postoffice where he is now and he has preserved himself extra well.

L. L. Lynch was at home and may be yet.

Mrs. Lizzie Danforth has gone to Millbrook teaching.

Bill Parker is going to be our supervisor again and Lehman the clerk.

Yorkville: The Yorkville *Record* is now printed by steam, Marshall having traded his horse-power for an engine. He will now be able to run the printing business on a high-pressure basis.--*Naperville Clarion*.

Traded that horse-power for an engine! Dave, when we got through with that horse-power, you couldn't have traded it for an old broken down sawbuck. No sir; we borrowed money and bought that engine.

Mr. Douglas Lowry of Oswego was in Yorkville Friday. It is said he expects to get a license to open a saloon here if the license ticket wins in the village election on the 17th. Several other parties are also ready to take out licenses if the saloon element wins the election.

County Surveyor Phillips was in town Tuesday. He also has the Dakota fever.

We have just hear that lawyer Cassem is in Dakota looking up land investments.

The Streator coal miners are on strike; no coal at the paper mills here, and our boys are taking an enforced vacation.

We have received a copy of the Son, published at Montgomery by Carlos Young. It is a temperance paper, and handsome.

April 12: The new firm of Ketchum & Lockwood, who are operating the Oswego Creamery, should have been mentioned several weeks ago.

The funeral services of Mrs. Anton Miller last week took place at the Congregational church and were performed jointly by the Reverends George Hill and Wm. Schweiker, partly in the English and German vernaculars. Mrs. Black, a sister of the deceased, on returning to her home in Indiana took two of the children, including the youngest, with her; the little girl next to the youngest was taken by the Helle family.

The minstrel entertainments were a great success. Some of the music was better than that of the average professionals. The mechanical part of it was also first-rate; the acting of negroes otherwise however was overdone.

Yorkville: DuPage County is to have a "poor farm;" it was so voted at the town elections on the 3d. We believe it would pay Kendall County to adopt the same plan; there would be more concentration in caring for the poor and less annoyance to Supervisors.

Charlie Sabin has the mumps.

The paper mills received three car loads of coal from the Alton road Monday night and are running again.

Plainfield Advertiser: Rev. S.R. Beggs, 82 years of age, preached his anniversary sermon at the Methodist church last Sunday. He spoke to an attentive audience about 60 minutes. Father Beggs preached for the first time in Plainfield in June 1831 nearly 52 years ago.

April 19: Miss Jennie, the last of the McConnell girls was married last Tuesday to a Mr. Ferguson of Tamarack. The wedding took place at her brother's, W.H. McConnell's.

Larkin caught an 8-1/2 pound pickerel yesterday.

Little Gretchen, the joy in the Watts Cutter household, died yesterday morning of cholera infantum. It's too bad.

The measles are taking in the old, the young, and the middle aged. Mrs. Ezekiel Pearce got them; likewise Prof. McFarlane; ditto Nellie Smith and a number of children.

H.C. Cutter was reelected school trustee the other day.

Yorkville: The [I&M] canal was opened for boats last week.

Oswego elected a fall license board on Tuesday.

Mr. Jno. Hemm of Oswego bought a Gilpin sulky plow of Willett & Welch, and says he can run it with two common-sized horses and thinks it the boss plow.

Mr. George Squires has been in Yorkville some days visiting his family at Mr. Harrington's. He has been shipping the sheep he wintered at Grand Island, Neb. To Chicago and the East; he has already arranged to buy several thousand more sheep and will spend the summer on the Plains. He likes the business.

Montgomery: The annual election of village trustees has come and gone. There was but little opposition. W. Ford and A. Filkins being the only candidates for trustees on the independent ticket. The entire 'regular ticket' was elected. C.B. Atwood, E.F. Sawyer, D. Keck, George Coryell, and George Day, trustees. C.E. Simmons street commissioner. The issue of the election was whether cattle should be allowed to run at large or be shut up and the 'at large' faction got badly left.

C.E. Simmons is our new pound master and James Yard, village constable.

M.C. Atwood has been at Leland as station agent but got home sick and is again at the Junction.

The Postoffice war has lately broken out afresh. The last attack was brought on by Mr. C.B. Vaughn being notified that he had received the appointment for the position. Upon

receipt of the notice, Mr. Vaughn applied for permission to remove the Postoffice from the hall to his place of business; his enemies hearing of this started a remonstrance, ostensibly to have the postoffice remain where it is, but in reality instead of being a remonstrance it was a petition to have Vaughn removed and F.A. Beher substituted as postmaster.

April 26: Mrs. Schram will have quite a large and imposing residence when completed.

Mrs. Teller and daughter Lucy have returned in the best of condition from a nine months' sojourn at Guaymas in Mexico, located on the Gulf of California.

A new comer who, when big enough, will call Gene Minard pa, and tease him for money to buy firecrackers with for the Fourth of July--not the next 4th, however.

Dr. Putt starts today for Nebraska for the purpose of planting a lot of trees on his land, which he is taking out with him from here; that is the trees not the land.

Miss Ellen Devereaux of Plattville is assistant milliner at Maggie Shepard's establishment.

The school is again being run fully; the teachers having recovered from the measles and returned to their posts.

Charles Zorn came down the Grove road the other day with a hog and calf in the wagon. The rack gate had become unfastened, he stopped, jumped off and went back to fix it, but before he could do so, the horses lit out and left Charley. The team came running into town at their best speed, and made for the stable, but were stopped before quite reaching it. The hog and calf rode through all right.

The bell was tolled this morning for Mrs. Ezekiel Pearce. Her age was 57; death had occurred last evening.

Yorkville: Rev. E.W. Hicks is now pastor of the Baptist church at Sandwich. We know him to be an earnest working clergyman and a good preacher, too.

At Montgomery on Tuesday a lad named Edwards, son of Thomas Edwards of that place, had the misfortune to have a fish hook lodged in one of his eyes. A doctor took the hook out.

We hear that the town of Oswego has paid--or will pay--Judge Dickey \$7,500 as his fees for beating the Fox River R.R. bonds. Oswego had issued \$50,000 in bonds.

NaAuSay: The seed corn agitation is over for the time being. Farmers have either bought western seed or sorted their own over year after ear. The latter plan is rather tedious, but those who have followed it believe in the proverb, "a stitch in times saves nine."

May -- 1883

May 3: The building of new sidewalks in front of the drug and adjoining store is underway.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Clinton are up from the South; they have been living in Tennessee lately where Mr. C. is engaged in railroading, being the president of a road there.

Rev. Augustus Riemenschneider, the new pastor of the German Methodist church, has arrived here with his family and moved into the James Chapman house.

Wm. Parker & Son have not rented their flouring mill to Chicago parties or any other man.

The funeral of Mrs. Ezekiel Pearce took place Wednesday; the services were at the house. The remains were buried in the Pearce's cemetery. Besides Mrs. Thomas Goudie, the daughter of deceased, Mrs. Colvin Pearce and Mrs. James Pearce had come down to see their sick sister-in-law, and attended the funeral.

The youngest child, about 1-1/2 years old--of Patrick Flavin died last week and was buried in Aurora.

Hugh McConnell is the new school director.

Of the reorganized corporation board, W.H. McConnell has been reelected president. At the meeting last evening is said that the temperance members moved that the licenses shall be \$500, which was adopted. At a meeting held this morning licenses was granted to George Burghart and the Testin Brothers; the former gave bond, which was accepted.

Yorkville: We had two of the oldest settlers in the office Thursday morning swapping stores of early days, Mr. Ansel Reed, who settled in this county in 1827, and Mr. John A. Newell, who came in 1834. They could make a mighty interesting book on old times.

May 10: The past week was prolific, with evening doings. On Tuesday, the Ladies Glee Club gave one of their popular concerts, which was fairly attended and universally commended.

There was also a debate Tuesday evening at the Temperance hall between members of the local division and that of Montgomery, "Educational qualification for voting" being the question.

Wednesday evening at the Presbyterian church, Mrs. Galt delivered her lecture on "Witchcraft and Superstition," which was quite interesting. It is principally a collection of information, quite large in scope, as to where, when, among whom, and to what extent witchcraft existed and the treatment. The recital of the enormities practiced upon the victim did not make one feel proud for belonging to the human species, nor bestow any credit on the religion under which they were enacted.

Mrs. Ellen A. Davis lives at present at her home at the Grove; she has spent the winter in New Mexico and likes that country ever so much.

Miss Louise Schumann has gone for the summer to reside in Iowa.

Capt. Bunn was in town over Sunday.

Yorkville: The Oswego "cut-off" road suit before Justice Dolph closed on Friday last. The jury assessed John R. Simons' damages at \$601 and Mr. Walker's at \$655.

Captain Bunn of Chicago dropped in on Yorkville friends Monday. He is of the commission firm of Durand & Co., 180 South Water St., and they do a large business in county produce. The Captain is looking remarkably well.

Our photographer, Fred Winne, has taken a fine view of Yorkville from the court house cupola, and it makes a fine picture. Bridge street, the river, and the residences on the north side show up nicely. Every family here should have one of these pictures, and they make nice presents for friends away. Mr. Winne is a first-class artist, and makes as good pictures as the more pretentious city photographers. Call in and "get your picture took." Over Hobbs' store, Yorkville.

"The newspaper is a mirror into which people look to see something of themselves reflected." So says an exchange. And people like to look into the mirror so long as it reflects only smiles, but when frowns come in the way of a word of censure, then "oh then, the paper is horrid."

May 17: With the exception of upsetting a few decaying apple trees, the big blow the other day did no damage in town; in the surrounding country more or less of old board fences were blown down and a portion of Ed Smith's windmill was destroyed.

Mr. and Mrs. John D. Hall have returned in the best of health and spirits from an eight months' visit in New Jersey, their native State. A young lady from there, named Julie Barton, has arrived with them.

Charles Link and family have also returned from New Jersey, but it is said that they will now make Aurora their home.

It is said that Miss Ida McKinney, who awhile ago went to Iowa on a visit, got married there to a Dr. Fosgate of Davenport.

In speaking of a "great-grandfather," the mind would naturally portray a tottering old man, who when walking at all would do it with difficulty and the assistance of a cane. None of such, however, was the case with Dr. Jewell the other day upon the arrival of his great-granddaughter from Wisconsin--the going about with a hop and skip would have been just fun for him, had it been only appropriate. The said great-granddaughter is a very

nice baby of course, being the child of Dr. and Mrs. Cyrus H. Cutter, all of whom are now here on a visit.

The new board of school directors some days ago visited the school house for the purpose of inspection as to repairs but before leaving they rehired the present corps of teachers for another year, as they found every department in good working order.

H.W. Farley and D.M. Haight have commenced Sabbath services--officiating alternately--at the Wilcox school house. A Sunday school will also be organized.

Mr. Ale [Alexander] Skee, the miller, is agoing to move to Oregon. Dave Hall will sell the family household effects next Saturday afternoon.

Numbers have been beginning to praise the exemplary conduct of Mr. VanEvra, but he again spoiled it all yesterday, besides paying \$3.65.

A couple of fellows were arrested in Aurora yesterday and brought here for commitment to the grand jury; assault I believe is the charge, and was committed out on the Patterson place.

The New York Standard Comedy Company is in town performing three nights for which they have engaged the Temperance Hall.

Yorkville: Aurora is deeply in debt and how to get out is a question with the authorities of the city. There are unpaid orders issued amounting to \$10,000 and \$5,500 due for repairing the court house and city hall.

Yorkville: Yorkville now has two licensed saloons open--at \$500 a year each. Fred Johnson and John Kellett keep one in the old Sullivan building near the bridge; the other is in the Fox River House by P. Wiland. George Beck is very low from gangrene of the foot and will not take out a license at present.

#### Who Hit Patterson

##### *Aurora News*

Arthur Whitney, who has worked on a farm for the Patterson Brothers, and who has been picked out of the gutter by them three or four times, took his brother George and Fred Martin down to the Patterson place on Saturday last and threatened to "clean out the farm." he claimed that his clothes were lined with sheet iron and that he was a bad man. One of the Pattersons kept the crowd at bay by presenting a loaded revolver. The lady of the house wanted to come to this city for officers, but the Whitney crowd threatened to shoot her if she did. When they left, Patterson drove ahead of them and when they arrived here they were arrested and placed in jail. They were brought before Esquire Lord for a hearing yesterday, but he discharged them, as he had no jurisdiction, the affair occurring in Kendall county. Officer Schoger of Oswego was present with a warrant from Kendall county and he placed them under arrest and took them to that county last evening.

May 24: Lizzie Dano, 15 years of age, died last week of diphtheria.

Dr. S.P. Ives has moved here and is occupying the Shaver house. He has been once before living here for a short time, but more than 30 years ago.

Dr. Putt has returned from Nebraska.

Richard Young and Miss Mary Burghart have together entered the matrimonial state. They became one last Thursday, and the Rev. Mr. Hill performed the compounding process.

Will F. Young has returned; he has been lately in New Orleans.

Mrs. Kenyon is getting to be a large real estate owner; she just now has bought the John Hem place adjoining her own.

J.B. Hunt has had constructed additional dwelling facilities.

The report in circulation that Burkie caught a 41 lb. buffalo fish was a fish story. The figures were turned about, the fish only weighted 14 lbs. A 5 lb. Eel was also caught lately.

The Comedy Company performed here every evening last week and were well liked.

Yorkville: George and Arthur Whitney had a trial in Oswego for an assault on John W. Patterson near Aurora as mentioned in last week's paper, and George was discharged. Arthur was held in \$200 bonds to keep the peace and failing to furnish bail was committed. He says he was drunk when he committed the assault. It is not the Pattersons of Bristol Station but another family where the assault occurred. Arthur is now in jail at Yorkville.

May 31: Amos Parkhurst, of course, feels highly elated over his multiplied family treasures: Mrs. P. is getting along nicely, and the two sons--which weighed 17 pounds collectively when weighed for the first time--are smart and resolute for boys of their age.

J. Rush Walker has sold his residence to Mrs. Kesslinger.

Charles Knapp has bought of Mrs. Mary A. Smith the brick building on the west side of Main Street; it is now undergoing repairs and the fitting up for a saloon and when in operation will again make the saloon row intact.

The Odd Fellows presented their brother, Alex Skee, with a nice gold seal and locket--at watch chain ornament. The presentation was made while on a visit to the Bristol lodge Saturday evening, it being the best opportunity before Skee's departure. Mr. and Mrs. Skee are a very social and friendly couple of Scotch people, and have made friends with

everybody they became acquainted in this community. They will go to Oregon to join two sons that went out there a year or so ago.

New sidewalks have been constructed in front of Mrs. Tellers and the Congregational church.

Yorkville: The great bridge between New York and Brooklyn opened for travel on the 24th. Cost \$15,337,057, paid by the cities it unites. It is the greatest piece of mechanical work in the world. It was commenced in 1870.

E.W. Sexton and Dave Ferris drove a fine lot of stock cattle through Yorkville last week.

A number of emigrants from Denmark and Sweden arrived in Yorkville last week.

June -- 1883

June 7: The programme of the decoration was carried out, though in a somewhat curtailed for, owing to the wet blanket thrown over it by the weather department.

Henry S., but better known as Col. Clark, is one of the spreading out farmers; he has just bought his brother's farm of 170 acres for \$10,200.

Dr. Lester has bought the several lots with the buildings of Mrs. Burke, who has moved to Chicago and is contemplating back to Ould Ireland.

The Wm. Pearce family are now residing in the Alfred Wormley house.

A gentleman was here yesterday to establish a public library; the plan was to form an association to which the books are to be rented for a certain time. It was left incomplete and by the way, the gentleman is the son of one of Oswego's early merchants, namely Joseph Wilson of the firm of Wilson & Fridley who kept a store of general merchandise where Anton Miller now is, and his mother ha been Miss Mary Corbett, one of the most accomplished young ladies of Oswego along in 2848 and thereabouts.

Will H. Parker has returned from the Champaign University.

Yorkville: The capital of Dakota has been located at Bismarck.

Aurora is to have a watch factory. Stock is all taken to the amount of \$250,000.

Fred Tarbox of Aurora threshed the river here Saturday with a fish-line.

The colored peoples' church in Aurora was burned down abut 2 o'clock Sunday morning. It is thought it was set on fire.

John Kellett caught a pickerel in the river at Yorkville Thursday that weighed 14-1/4 pounds.

Aurora Beacon: At the River street marble works, J.M. Andrus is at the present at work upon some handsome granite monuments.

Mr. J.H Best loaded a car with farm fixings and Monday night departed for his new home in Dakota.

June 14: Charles Knapp has had his residence repainted and M.J. Pogue is at the repainting of his.

The new saloon, that of Pearce & Kimball, is now in operation and is quite nicely painted up both in and outside; the entire front of the adjoining saloon, that of the Testin Bros., has also been painted. Under the \$500 licenses our saloons are becoming airy.

John Tatge has sold his place to J.W. Roberts. The Tatge family is going to move to Iowa.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Clinton are in town.

Rush Walker has moved out on the Cyrus Cass place. We are getting mighty hard up here in town for men to argue politics.

Yorkville: The city of Aurora is out of money and city orders do not meet the requirements of the laboring men who do the city's work.

Big rain Friday night.

There is a heavy crop of grass in some of the streets in Bristol.

There are too many divorce suits on our court dockets for a staid and moral county like Kendall.

Many of our country exchanges the past week have contained notices of high school commencements and graduating classes in villages round about; many of them smaller than Yorkville. But there is no such thing as graduating classes here--the schools are not even graded. It is not pleasing to the local pride of our people that the county seat of Kendall affords only a common district school.

Mr. Tarbox is more than pleased with his first kiln of tile. It was opened Tuesday and is first class in every respect. Farmers should call and see Mr. Tarbox at the brick yard, Bristol.

June 21: School closed Friday with an appropriate exhibition. The term has been a very smooth and satisfactory one. The teaches have all departed for their old homes--Mr. and

Mrs. McFarlane have gone to New York State; Ella Kerr, Ohio; and Kate Cliggitt to her folks on the farm. All of them have been re-engaged for the next term.

It is said that Mae Jenson is about to open a private school for a primary class at the old court house.

Morris Cliggitt is at home now having returned from Chicago where he completed a most successful course of study for the legal profession.

The first base balling of the season here was a game with a club from NaAuSay who won it. The outcome being, NaAuSay 9, Oswego 8.

Levi Platt, the Plattville P.M., merchant, creamery operator, etc. was in town Friday.

The international money order business between the United States and Portugal will commence July 2d. Portuguese hereabouts that want to send their money to their friends in the old country can do so through the Oswego post office.

Yorkville: LaSalle county has an indebtedness of \$80,000 caused by the new court house and other improvements.

There were two murders in Chicago last Sunday. There is not a Sunday in that wicked city but what someone is murdered or so badly injured as to be maimed for life. Generally these crimes are in the vicious districts, and most always connected with saloons.

The High License bill has become a law. On July 1st it will become a law. After that, no spirituous or vinous liquors can be sold in dram-shops for a less license than \$500 a year, nor beer for less than \$150 a year, on licenses issued after next month.

Morris Cliggitt of Oswego has given Kendall county a most honorable mention in the Chicago dailies. He was a student in the law school in that city and graduated last week. A law publishing firm had offered a prize of \$100 in cash for the best scholar in all branches and Morris Cliggitt took the prize. William H. Tatge of Joliet took second prize for the best thesis.

Mrs. Putman, wife of the editor of the Aurora Blade, fires a shot equal to her husband, and the other day, seeing some kind of a wild animal under the back porch, shot it between the eyes with a revolver. An investigation proved the animal to be a 12-pound woodchuck. It is not every city that can furnish such an opportunity for a display of marksmanship.

A properly graded school for Yorkville and Bristol would greatly enhance the business and value of property in our villages.

Dr. S.P. Ives and his son, A.J. Ives of Oswego were in Yorkville Monday. The doctor lived where Fox Station is 30 years ago and was a well-known medical man. Since then, he has been practicing at St. Louis. He has now returned to Kendall county and located at Oswego, where he will be always ready to attend calls to relieve the sick.

June 28: Pitching quoits has been revived here and is being much practiced this season on the old National Hotel grounds.

Elmer Avery is the boss ball thrower.

Some think that the sweet clover growing on the streets should be cut. There is a good crop of it.

There are no resident dudes in this town.

The boys have commenced the fourth of July torpedo racket.

H.S. Humphrey, the publisher of the first newspaper in Oswego, the *Kendall County Courier*, started in 1852, and afterwards the *Free Press* from 1856-1864, was here on a visit last week. Mr. H. has changed but little and that for the better; he now wears extra good clothes, has quit the clay pipe and is smoking Havana cigars. He is keeping his own well in leanness and youthful appearance, and his faith in Republicanism is as strong as ever.

A month or so ago a telephone was established between the Fox River creamery and its office down town.

The weather is oppressively cold this morning.

Fred Sierp returned yesterday from an extensive professional trip west.

Frank Pearce has finished the building of a new barn or rather an addition of 3x42 to the old--Van Evra did the job. Frank also got his house painted and his place now is the toniest in that neighborhood.

The band Saturday evening produced a good deal of stirring music on the street.

The house of Thomas Miller was entered by burglars one night of last week and it is said that the amount of money taken was \$3 and that other houses had been tried around town that night but no entrance effected.

Yorkville: The work of stocking the United States with paupers from the workhouses of Ireland is being continued by the English government. The *Chicago Times* of Monday says: "No less than 300 persons out of a cargo of immigrants who landed Saturday at New York were found to have been assisted. Several have been inmates of a workhouse in County Kerry. The commissioners of Castle Garden [the port of entry for immigrants

before Ellis Island opened] will take steps to at once send some of the party back under the law forbidding the landing of paupers.

Wm. H. Hopkins and wife have gone to Dakota, where doubtless "Bud" will go into politics and may get to Congress--as a Republican!

An effort is being made to build a bridge across the river near Post's Mills. It is to be built by subscription, we hear--half by Plano and by the Fox people interested.

July -- 1883

July 5: Charles E. Hunt and Miss Carrie McKinney were married Thursday at the residence of the bride's mother.

After five years of residence in Pensacola, Florida, a Gulf city, Mr. and Mrs. George W. Avery have returned on a visit in the best of health and spirits and will spend the hot season here. Some street repairing has been going on.

Some street repairing has been going on.

August Keihl dug a new potato some days ago that weighed nine ounces, and Hank Smith has been living on new potatoes the last week and green peas the week before that.

J.B. Hunt has a nice new buggy.

Bernard Heutkoetter has bought the former Ed. Richard's place.

Ten loads of hogs, 50 in number and an extra choice lot, arrived here this morning for delivery. They being the property of John Bronk and a part of the NaAuSay syndicate contract.

Yorkville: The Aurora Beacon says that General Logan's son Manning has been appointed a cadet at West Point. With his son-in-law as a paymaster in the army the General's family is pretty well provided for.

The railroad authorities would make the Record folks always grateful if they would get the mail to the post office awful early on Wednesday mornings.

Aurora Blade: Wednesday afternoon J.R. Simons of Oswego and Joseph Rising and Wm. Bishop were busily engaged on River street telling fish yarns. The two Aurora men would each tell a tale and think Simons would not come to time. But the delegate from Oswego was right there, and he had the floor at the time the shades of night were drawing about. A reporter passed them about 8 o'clock and he heard Simons say: "Now I'll tell

you a true story that happened to me when a boy." An ordinary liar would stand no chance in that crowd.

The Kendall County Fair begins Tuesday, Sept. 11, continuing four days.

Hugh Henning was over from Plano Monday on business for the Harvester Works.

Plainfield Advertiser: We regret to hear that Mr. Thos. King, a well known and wealthy farmer near Tamarack has met with a very serious accident. He had loaded a lot of building material at the sash factory in Aurora Thursday last and had just mounted the wagon to start when the whistle blew, and his team starting off very soddenly threw him off the wagon, and while falling his leg caught in the wheel, and he was carried some distance before the team was stopped, breaking his leg terribly and otherwise inuring him severely.

July 12: Burglars entered the residence of T.J. Pigott one night of last week.

J.P Brown, one of the NaAuSay syndicate, has received the premium, \$15, for the finest lot of young hogs, 40 in number, averaging within a small fraction of 400 pounds.

Mae Jennesson's private school is now in full operation.

The Pearce & Kimball saloon has now the toniest lager beer signs.

Work on the streets in the village is progressing.

Charley Cherry has sold a two months' old colt to Joseph Childs, of Elgin, for \$150, and Maxam has sold his yearling colt to the Patterson Brothers for \$100. Both colts were sired by Capt. Mann's celebrated horse "Gilbert."

The production of noise on the 4th was quite ample: 13 anvil guns that made the surroundings tremble were fired at 12 o'clock at night and 38 at sunrise, Lew. Phillips being the artillery captain.

The carpet weaving establishment of John Foss has been moved into the stone house by the railroad tracks.

Haight is putting a metal roof on his building and he don't want it to rain until he gets it finished.

T.J. Piggott will attend to the repairs of old furniture, such as the reupholstering of lounges, sofas, chairs, the renewing of mattresses, &c. First class workmanship, warranted. Leave orders at C.F. Shaver's furniture store.

Yorkville: Work on the Blackberry dam is being pushed right along. Bert Wellman and Skinner are doing the work under the supervision of Mr. Newt. Young.

The Morris Herald says Dr. Putt of Oswego was in the city visiting with his brother, George, and family.

Hunting and fishing on the property of another upon the Sabbath day are violations of the law of the State of Illinois and farmers are taking measures to enforce the law.

Sergeant Schimerhorn's flat-boat was of great use to picnic parties on the 4th. It is on the river above the dam; carries 20 or 30 people with safety and is much sought-for. It is said the Sergeant will sail in it for Florida in a few weeks.

The first five days of July were scorchers as to heat. Friday it cooled off, and in the evening people rode in overcoats. Monday morning was very cool, and fires were comfortable, but now it is warm again.

July 19: Mrs. T.J. Seely, her two sons and Minnie Keibl, have returned here from Guaymas, Mexico where they had been living, all of them in excellent condition. John, the youngest son, will not be eligible for president of the United States, being foreign born, but that doesn't trouble him just yet.

The Gazetteer man was here and took an invoice of Oswego.

Smith the station agent is enjoying a vacation with Mrs. Smith has gone to Kokomo, Inc. on a visit. At the depot, Kean is now the acting agent and Smith's household is run by Nellie.

Alvin Tanner is the new street commissioner and so far has conducted his office with much energy and ability.

Schwarz is talking of buying the marble front building owned by John Collins with the intention of taking it up and building a residence there.

M.J. Pogue & Co. have put many improvements on their lumber and coal yards in the way of fences and sheds.

Theodore Jessup has returned from Williams college in Massachusetts where he has graduated.

Yorkville: John R. Simons of Oswego will take a trip to Sacramento, California for his health and a rest.

Bert Simons of Oswego is thinking seriously of going before the examining board as a candidate for the West Point cadetship.

The basement of the court house is undergoing thorough repairs in order to shut out the dampness to which the rooms in which the sheriff's family live are subject.

The dust on Bridge street is just awful, every store and shop is full of it, and it is most disagreeable. It will pay business men to have the street sprinkled and save that much injury to goods.

July 26: John R. Simons has gone to the Pacific coast.

Wm. Strossman, after an absence of ten years, has returned to Oswego on a visit. He looks exceedingly well, and is accompanied by his wife and boy. Their residence is in Kansas City.

Wils Briggs has returned here and though just recovered from an attack of the painter's colic, looks first rate.

Wm. P. Greene weighed 12 pounds on his first trial; he will make his permanent home in the family of Wm. E. Greene.

Yorkville: Aurora is getting metropolitan: Sunday games at base ball park, beer garden, and other non-Puritanical notions.

*Aurora Beacon*: The colored people are making arrangements to fittingly celebrate Emancipation Day, Sept. 22d--the anniversary of the issuing of Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation freeing all slaves held in bondage in the United States. Rev. T.J. Nease is President and George Hatton Vice President of the association having the affair in charge. They propose to have a rousing celebration.

Studebaker wagons and carriages at W.A. Jordan's, Morris, Ill.

Boating on the river above the dam has become a favorite pastime, and there are some nice boats on the water. What is wanted on the north side is a good boat house and a street opening to the dam.

The Leigh Brothers between Oswego and Yorkville have bought a new J.I. Case threshing machine of Willett & Welch and are ready to do the threshing for their neighbors and farmers generally.

August -- 1883

Aug. 2: Frank Strossman took a vacation, and has improved it for the consummation of a most important transaction. Last Thursday, with Miss Ida Marion, and further accompanied by Charles Lehman and Nellie Rice, he went to Joliet and then with Ida entered the matrimonial state. The parties returned the same day, and Ida is now helping Frank to enjoy his vacation.

There was a wedding up the river, viz: Mrs. Sarah English to a Mr. Sunderland of Aurora.

The raising of a large barn for Frank Hawley took place Wednesday.

M.J. Pogue & Co. have put up a large building in their yard for the storage of dry lumber.

A board awning was constructed yesterday to the front of the Testin Brothers saloon.

Maggie Shepard has become a freeholder; she has bought the place in which her millinery business is carried on.

Mrs. James R. Cutter, with her little boy, has arrived here from Boston where the family has been residing since their departure from here more than a dozen years ago. Mrs. C. was brought up in Oswego, being Till Jolly, and her former appearance has been well preserved during this long interval.

North NaAuSay: Lewis, a ten year old son of George Schell, drives on the mower. The father thinks that a careful boy with a steady team is far better than a careless man to adjust and run any machine.

The Marysville school commenced Monday last after a three weeks vacation with as much energy, if not more, than ever to seek knowledge.

It is shameful to state that the law-loving people were supremely disgusted in seeing their neighbors putting up hay and running the binder on Sunday; we should remember Sunday is a day for rest and so should be held.

Yorkville: The crop reporter for Kendall County to Brother Fisher at Springfield is not a judge of cherry crops. His report says that in this county there was a third of a crop of cherries--when the fact is, there were not as many cherries as there are robins in the county. No, sir, no crop at all.

The poorer people of these villages, under the law, are entitled to number one schools.

L.N. Hall has sold his black carriage team to Blaze Clark, the Aurora livery man.

Tom Spencer's steam threshing machine is now grinding out the grain near the ice houses. It commenced on rye.

An engine belonging to the Northwestern railroad arrived in Aurora Thursday morning on the new road, and there was great rejoicing. Aurora will now have a competing road.

Mr. Levi Platt is attending now to outdoor business, and makes frequent trips to Yorkville. He has his hands full of business with creamery, shipping butter, hauling goods to his store, and keeping up his fine stock of dry goods, groceries, etc., at the old reliable Platteville store.

The new dam across the mouth of the Blackberry is completed and it is a solid piece of masonry that should stand a century. The waste-gate was shut down Thursday morning and a two-bushel basket full of great redhorse and a few bass were picked up below the dam, having been stranded when the water was cut off. The Blackberry mill is now in fine order for custom work, and Mr. Sickles invites your patronage.

A gentleman was in Yorkville Monday trying to get capital enough to establish a telephone line from here to Oswego to connect with Aurora and Chicago.

People wanting bees or nice honey will, by looking over the ads in this paper, discover that A.D. Havenhill of Fox is the man they are looking after. Asher can't be beat.

Aug. 9: Miss Louise Schuman, who went from here to Iowa about three months ago, was married July 26th to a Mr. Fred W. Tatge of Cass county in that state.

Joe Brown and John Bronk brought over the other day to Wollenweber & Knapp the tail ends of their hogs, the former 17 that averaged 360 and the later 12 averaging 350--both lots were extra nice. They were however no part of the old contract, but bought on the market.

Wm. F. Elliott has sold a pair of unbroken colts--both sired by Capt. Mann's Gilbert--to Chicago parties for \$300.

There was a little Whiskey imbroglio on the saloon side of the street Saturday and last evenings, but neither did amount to anything more than the escape of pent-up gas.

The Smith & Ashley engine is in operation in Pogue & Co's lumber yard, sawing wood.

Capt. Ed. Mann of Oswego was in Yorkville Friday and he has an opinion that Kendall County will have a fine fair next month. Many blooded horses will be her and the Captain will show some pretty nice ones himself.

The *Aurora News* says Mr. A. Newton and Mr. Hall, both of Oswego, have recently purchased lots on South Fourth street on which they propose to commence building immediately.

Sherry Black, George Cornell, and their brothers have made and are operating a catamaran on the river very successfully. It is two narrow boats connected by a platform carrying a big sail and it looks nautical.

Moses Cherry Esq. of NaAuSay was in Yorkville Monday, standing 6 feet 5-1/2 inches. Haven't seen Mose before for some time and he is looking well and doing well. There will be a big party at his place on the evening of August 30th.

Yorkville: There was an election in Kentucky Monday. Proctor Knott was elected governor. He is a Democrat. There will not be enough Republicans in the Legislature to form a caucus. Kentucky is not a Republican state--never has been, never will be.

As the weather is warmer this (Tuesday) afternoon, a word about crops will not be amiss. For the past 10 or 12 days, the weather has been very cold, for summer, the nights especially so, and corn has made but little headway. Fires have been comfortable evenings and mornings, and corn does not grow well under such conditions. Many fields have hardly silked out, and there are very few where you see the great heavy ears hanging, which is common to Kendall County corn. There is much speculation regarding the outcome. Should early frosts touch us, soft corn will be the rule; give us a warm September and into October, and corn will be reasonably plenty.

The oat harvest is about over and the yield is good; the quality of the grain is excellent. In many places, the straw was badly lodged and much trouble was experienced in cutting and saving it properly. There has been a good deal of waste from this cause. Of hay, there is an abundance. Potatoes are most promising, and of good quality. Apples will not be plenty. In fact, fruit of all kinds is a scarce article hereabouts.

The [Kendall County] Fair begins Sept. 11, closing the 14th. Are you getting ready?

The *Beacon* says I.S. Stephens has a contract to furnish 200 carloads of stone to the Plano Harvester Company.

Capt. Ed. Mann of Oswego was in Yorkville Friday and he has an opinion that Kendall County will have a fine fair next month. Many blooded horses will be here and the Captain will show some pretty nice ones himself.

Coroner McClelland was called to Newark Wednesday morning to hold an inquest on a suicide by hanging.

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Moses Cherry, Esq., of NaAuSay, was in Yorkville Monday standing 6 feet 5-1/2 inches.

Aug. 16: Ezekiel Pearce starts for LeMars, Iowa today to look after his interests there and will be gone a month or two.

Dick Ferris and another Aurora man were in town the other day looking for a missing horse and buggy with which the other man had been on a fishing excursion down the river the day before, and how he came to lose the rig or how he got lost from it was a mystery to him. He claimed that there were some other mysteries connected with the affair but the fact of his having some of the ardent along for company, and his admission of having embraced enough of it to make the fish bite nicely served as a sufficient explanation, at least to the disinterested.

Chris Herren--the one down the river--has sold a span of colts four and five years old for \$400. Chris raises good stock.

Dr. Putt is out again, but his clothes fit him rather loosely; he has been reduced 48 pounds by the subjection to five weeks involuntary fasting.

Millington: The prospects for rain are again a failure.

Yorkville: The oat crop in this vicinity will average 60 bushels to the acre.

The new hitching posts put up on the fair grounds are good and substantial and will last a long time. They will tie 125 teams.

Mr. Robert Clow of Wheatland was in Yorkville Monday.

The tile and brick yard on the north side is an institution that will grow in strength. Mr. Tarbox has put in a power machine for making tile, and can turn it out fast enough for a large number of farmers. The brick kilns are also being filled up anew. Nate Alden and Hugh McKenzie are the engineers in the tile yard and take a great interest in doing good work.

Miss Julia Buss and Miss Hall of Oswego will teach in the Yorkville school building the coming year, and Mrs. Sherman the primary department on the north side.

Aug. 23: Flower gardens look now the nicest, of which there is a number of quite extensive ones in town.

There was a dance Friday night.

The band has blowed off a good deal of music at evenings of late, sometimes agoing around town in their wagons.

J.H. Morrison of Aurora is the new foreman in the Wm. Parker & Son's furniture factory.

The ice cream festival gotten up by the girls of the Congregational Sunday school for the procurement of a new pulpit bible was a success, the net profit being \$11.30. The little girls are to be commended.

Oswego probably is fully up to the average in business prosperity and social advancement, and entitled to a better showing than she is receiving through me in the *Record* (a younger correspondent fully imbued with the spirit of the age would prove of great benefit to the town, at least in respect to booming). The banking business here is said to be extra good and the postoffice business much larger than usual this season of the year, which is a sure indication that business is good.

Yorkville: The steam thresher has run out over 500 tons of straw for the paper mills on the north side of the track, and is now at work on the river bank where some 400 tons are to be stacked.

Summer is here at last--hot!

George Cowdrey sold his wood Monday to Ottawa merchants.

Mr. Wood of the Yorkville Cheese Factory never made better cheese than he is making this summer.

*Aurora Beacon:* The marriage of Ella M., daughter of John Fitzgibbons, and Fred M. Pearce of Oswego took place at St. Mary's church in this city on Monday last, Rev. Father Welby officiating. The happy couple were attended to the train and departed for their new home in LeMars, Iowa.

Aug. 30: The information of the death of J.J. Grooms of Wamago, Kansas, last Friday, was received here by his relatives. Mr. G. was an early settler in this neighborhood, for many years residing on his farm and for several in this village.

Nellie Van Evra has commenced to again teach the school in the Squires district.

John Jessup is up at St. Paul attending the Northwestern exposition, and will be gone about two weeks.

Mrs. Emma Lynch has returned home and is sick.

Mrs. C.E. and Jennie Hubbard have returned in excellent condition from their extensive travels and visits in two states and one territory.

Dr. S.P. Ives has removed from here to Aurora where he has bought a residence.

D.M. Haight received a carload of old cider from Michigan the other day for his vinegary.

George W. Kimball has bought the Newton residence.

The new barn in the south end of the town is a very imposing building; it having two spires, looks more like a cathedral than a barn.

At the annual old-timer picnic held at Yorkville last week the Oswego Band in full uniform came riding around the track in their band wagon drawn by four horses, conducted by his honor, the mayor of Oswego, W.H. McConnell.

Yorkville: It is pronounced is-clone, according to Webster--accents on the first syllable and long o.

Aaron Boomer of Bristol has 85 Poland China hogs which he challenges any man in Kendall or Kane counties to beat.

There is said to have been 600 wagons at the old settler's picnic at Yorkville last Thursday.--*Plano News*. (That depends on what you call wagons. There were many carriages, buggies, road carts, and spring wagons.)

Farmers get \$4 per ton for their straw delivered to the Paper Mill.

Moses J. Richards of Chicago, our old Oswego friend in years gone by, lighted up Yorkville with his cheerful countenance.

August 1883 is about passed away, and it will be remembered as one of the coldest months "for the season" we have had for years. Cool nights have been the rule. The wind all summer has been mostly from a northerly direction and no one has suffered much with heat.

There was a nice rain here Monday afternoon and night and every one was well pleased that it came warm and in large quantities. Vegetation just raised up and smiled, and the corn crop had another lease on life. Just keep the frost away awhile and that Nebraska corn will come to something.

September -- 1883

Sept. 6: The remains of Mrs. Mary Cass were brought here Friday and buried by the side of her husband, Cyrus Cass in the well improved family lot of the Oswego cemetery.

The Shaver house is now being prepared for the occupancy of the Frank Strossman family.

John D. Hall reached his 78th birthday last Wednesday.

School commenced yesterday; all the teachers are the previous ones.

Nellie Hall went yesterday to Yorkville to teach, and Lizzie Danforth to Fox for like purpose.

Fred Pearce and bride have returned from their honey-moon visit out in Iowa. Fred felt extra nice and liberal, dispensing Havanas in the most prodigal manner.

John Knapp and daughter Tillie came down from Rockford last week on a visit and in the meantime John sold his property here to Charles Zorn.

Oliver Hebert has gone on a business visit to Canada and New York State.

Miss Helen Samse has joined and gone with an excursion party from Chicago to New York State, taking the route on the lakes.

Walter Loucks has nearly recovered from the effects of a runaway he had near the ice houses about two weeks ago.

NaAuSay is agoing to have a good bridge over there by John Morgan's; it is what is called a chord bridge and was framed and painted here at Pogue's lumber yard by Theron Richards; Steve Benson did the stone work over there.

Leonard had painted seven of his buildings using 1,400 pounds of lead. Dick Constable did the job and it was the biggest of the season.

Yorkville: The Yorkville grain market has been quite lively the past week--receipts about 2,000 bushels a day. The top price is paid at the Elevator.

There was quite an exodus of summer visitors from Yorkville eon Monday and Tuesday mornings--by train, making business lively at the depot.

Sept. 13: L.L. Lynch has returned from a long season on the road.

D.W. Grey has moved here from Chicago.

A Mr. Lewis F. James and Miss Janette Lawson of Little Rock visited this town the fore part of last week and were married by the Rev. Mr. Hill.

Will H. Parker was home yesterday from Champaign on a flying visit; both he and his brother, Orson, are now down there attending college. Bert Simons and Will Young are also there again.

L.N. Hall has sold his residence to Gottfeld Schwarz for \$1,100.

M.J. Pogue & Co. have been receiving piles of lumber lately.

John C. McConnell is now in Nebraska prospecting.

James Godard writes most readable letters; he should make traveling and writing up what he sees his business.

All that lacked to make the entertainment by Helena Morrison-Gates a complete success was a larger audience.

There is now some talk of forming here a stock company for the manufacture of the Malone churn, which is said to contain improvements of great value.

There is a new boy in the family of the Rev. Mr. Hill.

There is probably not another body of men in this world or any other so considerate as our corporation board of trustees. The tax for the sidewalks is paid by those that drink the whisky and the beer, so their convenience should first be taken into consideration and this the board is doing admirably by the construction now of sidewalks with railings so that when these taxpayers are under locomotion on the broad gauge, they cannot reel off the sidewalks--a most laudable improvement and yet there are men so lost to all goodness as to call these walks hog chutes. There is another thing: a part of Oswego is built on the high grade where the crossings of the alleys have been a step lower than the sidewalks. This, however, was no inconvenience to the ordinary run of people who have little to think of, but not so with the trustees, they having the burdens of the village government resting upon them, would become absorbed in the study of municipal reforms and economy and become absent-minded to everything else, and thus when coming off that step it would jar their corporeal viscera and thereby their intellects were endangered. The alley crossings therefore have been raised on a level with the sidewalks. As to a way for teams in and out of these alleys, it is now yet decided whether to have it underneath of the walks or over them by either construction approaches or by an elevating apparatus. That our trustees are much in advance in their arts of street improvements, there can be no question and doubtless it would pay other places to send here committees of observation.

Yorkville: George VanEmon sold the planer, shaper, and other machinery in the Elevator to Mr. King of Ottawa, and they took them out Thursday. The remains of the old planning mill.

The Oswego correspondent of the *Aurora Herald* says: Considerable excitement has prevailed on the street during the last week on account of an altercation between C.G. Smith and Charles Knapp, which resulted in the arrest of both parties. Smith was tried for assault and discharged. Knapp was arrested for assault with a deadly weapon and required to give bonds. Searles of Aurora and Hawley of this place showed up the law in the case.

Sept. 20: Last Friday Oswego came very near of developing a first class item; it lacked only a foot or two from accomplishing it, and it was when Henry Johnston, a young fellow from Specie Grove, was returning from the Fox River Creamery, and Charles Lehman the superintendent was riding down to town with him; Charley was engaged in readjusting his gold cuff buttons and the driver failed to look up the track, so they drove on the crossing just as the 10:14 passenger came along. The engine struck the hind wheel, Charley however had jumped, but being that he was run over by the horses and the wrecked wagon piled on top of him, he received a few scratches; Henry, who was thrown off with the wagon, wasn't hurt a bit. One of the horses received a slight scratch on a leg, but the wagon was demolished except the box, which was carried along by the engine with a number of the milk cases, until the train came to a stop.

The crossing of the river with teams will have to be done by fording for about a week commencing with tomorrow morning as the bridge will be provided with a new floor or new sleepers laid in pitch, which will make it necessary that the old floor be first removed.

George Parker is building another large barn.

L.N. Hall has bought the elegant building site known as the Teller lots, and lately owned by Wm. Varner, and doubtless ere long will erect upon it a nice residence.

Albert Davis of Wheatland and Miss Jennie E. Lowe of St. Charles were married Wednesday.

Dr. Putt has gone to Nebraska; also John and Tom Kelly.

The nicest lot of steers--17 in number--were shipped the other day by Davis & Dwyre, and came from Myron Wormley's. W.W. Wormley has sold a five month's old Gilbert colt to an Elgin man for \$125.

The work of putting down new sidewalks in front of Henry Helle and Geo. Burghart commenced early this morning.

Sept. 27: George C. Inman and Mrs. Julie E. Curtis were married Wednesday.

The construction of new sidewalks by the corporation is still progressing in various parts of the village.

The road commissioners will have the bridge again open for travel in a day or two. They apparently make a good job of it; the planks used are the Missouri oak.

A new bird has made its appearance here--at least to me; it is neatly shaped the size of a sparrow, only longer and more slender; its body is of a drab color, the wings much darker, and the tail black tipped with yellow; the top of its head is running to a peak, and it is very fond of asparagus berries. Please give the name of it, whoever may know.

Joe Hebert, Charles Whitman, Gus Voss and Harley Richards went on a boating excursion down to Starved Rock, where they intend of enjoying a season of fishing and camping.

Newton Mudgett, one of the small boys of Oswego 33 years ago, is now here visiting his acquaintances. Old inhabitants will better remember his father, Truman Mudgett; the family is residing in Iowa, and Newt says that the old folks are whole and hardy and that they have celebrated their golden wedding a few weeks ago.

Dell Hopkins of Knox county, another of the Oswego boys of the long ago, was in town.

The recent voting of county aid for certain bridges will not go down with some of our newspaper writers. I think the principle embraced in the law authorizing such aid is correct, but wrong in the mode of carrying it into effect. It appears the commissioners have the main say as to what kind of bridge shall be built; a \$10,000 bridge might answer all the purpose and that amount not be a too heavy burden to bear for the town but if they can get County aid by making it a \$20,000 bridge, and a too heavy burden for the town, of course they will go in for the most expensive bridge. Another very bad thing that enters into the matter is the pernicious practice, so much prevalent in all collective bodies from the village corporation board up to the Senate of the United States, that of trading votes, "you vote for my measure and I will for yours." The law should be more specified; the powers of the Commissioners and Supervisors more defined, if not restricted.

October -- 1883

Oct. 4: The work of repairing the bridge came to a standstill Wednesday because an additional lot of sleepers ordered and which had been forwarded from Chicago the Friday before, got lost on the road and didn't reach here till yesterday. The bridge will be got ready for use today.

The new 2-cent postage stamp was launched into use here yesterday, and gained much popularity.

Rollin Wheeler was in town the other getting a patent milk can repaired that had been struck by lightning. The can had been hanging on the windmill tower, bottom side up, the lightning had come down the wire and at the end of it jumped to the can, going in through the bottom and out again through the side, making in each a small hole the size of a pea.

The Paul Stout family, who for several years lived in this neighborhood, about 25 years ago, are here now visiting at John Andrews.

Lawrence Briggs has returned from Minnesota, much improved in looks. He was much pleased with the State but says that there is no country that can come up to Illinois and no place like Oswego.

Dr. Kilbourne of Aurora was in town the other day; he seems to be a very social old gent.

It is said that a real smart little boy has come to stay for good in the family of W.A. Foster.

Pigott & Van Doozer is a new firm that has started the manufacturing of mattresses.

J.G. Andrews started this morning as representative at the Grand lodge of Masons. He will also take in the Have just learned that Miss Emmer Young was married Saturday in Aurora to John Hopkins of Yorkville and that they have gone to Hinckley to settle.

The deplorable news was received this (Wednesday) morning that Thomas J. Seely died Tuesday, shortly after having left Topeka in a car for home.

The old bridge lumber will be sold next Saturday afternoon to the highest bidder by the Commissioners.

Yorkville: Two Cents now takes your letter--of half an ounce--to any part of the United States or Canada. The new law went into effect Oct. 1st.

The *Beacon* thinks the reduction of postage on letters from three to two cents will be of but little benefit to the general public; but that free delivery to residences, stores, and offices in cities like Aurora and Elgin would be. We do not see why the Government should carry every man's mail to his door in large cities any more than in country towns or to farmers' homes.

Aurora *Herald*: L.B. Judson and wife contemplate spending the winter in New Orleans with their son who is business manager of the *Times-Democrat*.

Mr. James Campbell has bought "Walnut Farm" in NaAuSay--160 acres, and as nice a farm as can be found. Mr. M.L. Smith was in Yorkville Friday to make the transfer.

Superintendent Fram is having the south end of the dam strengthened by making a crib 20 feet wide along 85 feet of the old work on the lower side. This is being filled with stones and gravel and when solid will be covered with plank forming an apron over which the water will flow, thus saving the washing out of the undertow. Mr. Biggar is doing the work.

We are unofficially informed that John C. Hopkins of Bristol is married. That Mrs. J.C. Hopkins, up to last Saturday, was Miss Emmer Young of Oswego, a daughter of H.V.B. Young, and for some time a teacher in the East Side schools of Aurora--a very pleasing, intelligent lady and one who will make an excellent companion for John. The pair was married at the Evans Hotel on Saturday last, we hear, and from there went to Hinckley where they will live, John having a fine place in the village, he is going to have a home of his own. If these things are all true, we wish much happiness.

Ottawa *Times*, Sept. 28th: Died in Poverty

Mrs. L.E. Elliott, the owner of the photograph car at the corner of Clinton and Madison sts., died Wednesday eve at the home of Peter Cooper on Main street. Mrs. Cooper though not in excellent circumstances herself, fed and cared for her in her last moments. The deceased woman had a history, which in some respects, would be only painful to relate. She was an educated lady, a fine artist, and experienced in the ways of the polite world. She was a brilliant and piquant writer and under the nom de plume of "Dot," contributed many bright letters to *The Times* from Earlville, Newark, and Streator. In the two former places, her friends were among the best circles and few had more. At Streator, she was deserted by her husband, whom it is supposed went to England. Since that time, she seemed to lose her mind. In Ottawa she knew many and while actually suffering for

food, refused to make her circumstances known. Mrs. Cooper, a colored woman, forced her way into the car one morning and found her unable to get to the door to unlock it. Without money and without price, she took her in and cared for her until death came to end her troubles. A relative in Kendall county was telegraphed and he came down with a hearse and an undertaker today.

Oct. 11: It was mentioned last week that Thomas J. Seely died on the train after starting from Topeka, Kansas--the death took place just before reaching Atchison. The remains arrived here Wednesday by special train and in the cars he died, and from which they were removed to the residence of his father, John S. Seely. The funeral took place the next day afternoon--the services were held at the house and performed by the Rev. T.F. Jessup of NaAuSay, assisted by the Rev. George Hill--and it was largely attended and during the time the stores in town were closed. The deceased was born in Chester, Orange Co., N.Y. in 1848 and came with his parents to Illinois and this neighborhood in 1853; at the proper age he entered the University at Ann Arbor, Michigan and graduated in class '69--several of his classmates are holding high positions on railroads in the west, among them A.A. Robinson, chief engineer of A.T. & Santa Fe--Brush of Cleveland, the famous electrician, is also one of that class. For a number of years the deceased has been holding high and responsible positions on the A.T. & Santa Fe, and lately on the Sonora road in Mexico and was very popular in railroad circles. The Las Vegas (N.M.) Gazette of October 3d, contains of him a long obituary article from which I will quote a portion: "As a railroad man, Mr. Seely was well known all over the west. He has been with the Santa Fe people for the past six years and while serving as division superintendent at this place he endeared himself in the hearts of the citizens and gained their lasting friendship by the manliness of his bearings. He remained in Las Vegas a year or more when he was promoted to the general superintendency of the Sonora railway. On the eve of his departure to Guaymas, his Las Vegas friends presented him with an elegant watch and chain as a token of their love and esteem. A year in Sonora brought on nervous prostration and consumption, which seemed to have a firm hold upon him, increased in its fatal ravages until his health broke down completely and it was thought advisable to send the sufferer east. He passed Las Vegas a few days ago and for awhile the delusion of hope buoyed up the patient's condition and it was said he might recover. Alas for the fallacy of human expectancy. Last night, Thomas J. Seely breathed his last and another true heart has been stilled by the hand that giveth.

Mrs. C.E. Hubbard was presented with a handsome pickle caster by her Sunday school class on Saturday evening, which date being the 11th anniversary of her marriage.

Harry, the little boy of John Foss, died of diphtheria yesterday.

Mrs. Lehman, who is sick at her sister's, Mrs. J.W. Chapman, has been very low during a portion of last week.

August Kiel has sold his small house to Nick Condon for \$300, it is said.

David Goudie has brought home from the State Fair a new kind of cattle. They are called the Galloways or some such name, are black and hornless, and resemble the Buffalo somewhat.

Mrs. David Hall has returned from Council Bluffs and Dr. Putt from Nebraska, and both have been invigorated by their visits.

Yorkville: The sale of the Cherry estate last Saturday was not consummated and it was postponed to Saturday, Oct. 20 at 2 p.m.

Whitney's photograph gallery over Hobbs' store is now in running order and ready for work. Satisfaction guaranteed. Give them a trial.

It is announced that Miss Sarah E. Raymond, superintendent of the Bloomington schools and a former resident of Kendall county, is soon to be married to Hon. W.C. Watkins, of the Grain Inspection department, Chicago.

The *Ottawa Free Trader* says on Wednesday evening the Streator train left Montgomery several minutes late, and to make up lost time the engineer, where the road would allow, ran the train at high a speed as 59 miles an hour.

Someone left a switch open at Sheridan Tuesday night or Wednesday morning and a freight train went off--engine and five or six cars. The track must have been damaged, as the passenger train did not arrive in Yorkville till 10:15.

### **Kendall County Pensioners**

A complete list of the soldiers  
in the late War, who now reside in this  
county, and are drawing pension

Name, Cause	Amt. per month
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#### **Bristol**

Young, Catherine, widow, 1812 .....	\$8.00
Gillam, Wilett C., wds breast and foot.....	\$4.00
Schermanhorn, Jas. S. wd spine.....	\$72.00
Curran, Amos D., wd side.....	\$6.00
Kenny, Michael, wd arm.....	\$18.00
Smith, Albert, wd shoulder .....	\$2.00

#### **Kendall**

Murley, John, wd wrist .....	\$8.00
Kellogg, Abel H., chr. diarr .....	\$11.25

#### **Lisbon**

Thompson, Ole H., wd hand .....	\$8.00
Scott, Torres T., dis. eye .....	\$4.00
Archer, W. T., wd shoulder.....	\$6.00

**Little Rock**

Kinnaird, Margaret, widow.....	\$8.00
Klobf, Maria, dep. mother.....	\$8.00
Potter, Dinah, widow, 1812 .....	\$8.00
Moss, James, surv 1812 .....	\$8.00
Foster, Uriah, wd knee .....	\$2.00
Tripp, Perry G., paral agitans.....	\$6.00
Hatch, James S., wd shoulder & side abd .....	\$4.00
Hust, Wm, wd 3rd toe .....	\$2.00
Clark, Edward T., wd wrist.....	\$17.00
Darnell, Aaron, wd both hips .....	\$4.00
Bartlett, Wallace, injury to abd .....	\$8.00
Jay, Sylvester M., dis lungs &c.....	\$8.00
Potterbaum, Henry, wd foot &c.....	\$12.00
Stevens, Henry K., chr. diarr.....	\$4.00

**Millbrook**

Hollenbeck, Clark, wd abdomen.....	\$6.00
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**Millington**

Neff, George, wd hip and thigh .....	\$2.00
Benoit, Charles, chr. rheum .....	\$8.00
Biddulph, George G., lost eye.....	\$20.00
Batwell, Marshall, wd shr. and neck.....	\$4.00
Secaue, Tunis S. wd leg .....	\$10.00
Brown, Andrew, wd leg.....	\$2.00
Burlow, Almira, widow .....	\$8.00
Dayton, Betsy, dep mother.....	\$8.00
Barrows, Altha J., widow.....	\$8.00
Brown, Edwin, sunstroke &c .....	\$10.00
Colgrove, Caroline, widow .....	\$12.00
Chistopherson, Aven, scurvy .....	\$24.00
Ruble, John, wd head.....	\$6.00
Johnson, Terris, var veins .....	\$8.00
Abbot, Asher M., inj to abdomen .....	\$4.00
West, Jacob B., par. arm .....	\$12.00

**Oswego**

Van Doozer, Benj, S., amp. leg.....	\$18.00
Smith, Henry G., inj, to abdomen .....	\$12.00
Lyons, James, dis lung.....	\$12.00
Hues, Nathan, wd leg.....	\$6.00

Hagermann, Samuel, wd shoul. and hand.....	\$8.00
Steafboldt, Charles, lost finger.....	\$2.66
Miller, Anton, inj. to abdomen.....	\$12.00
Wolf, Michael, amp arm.....	\$24.00
Andrew, James G., scurvey &c.....	\$8.00
Carney, Michael, anp. thumb.....	\$4.00
Cherry, Moses, var. veins.....	\$2.00
Kenyon, Roah, widow.....	\$8.00
Murdock, Emily A., dep mother.....	\$8.00
Derby, Sarah L., widow.....	\$8.00
Voss, Helen, widow.....	\$17.00
English, Hannah, dep. mother.....	\$8.00
Kennedy, Samantha, dep. mother.....	\$8.00
Poage, Milton B., dis. lungs.....	\$2.00
Minard, Esther J., widow.....	\$8.00
Bartlett, John P., ch. rheumatism.....	\$18.00
Varner, Wm., wd hip.....	\$6.00

### Pavilion

Drury, Ann, widow.....	\$8.00
Moulton, John B., wd knee.....	\$12.75

### Plano

Lowe, Mary E., widow.....	\$20.00
Hopkins, Melissa, widow.....	\$8.00
Howard, Jane, widow.....	\$8.00
Johannesen, Christine, dep. mother.....	\$8.00
Green, Louisa D., dep. mother.....	\$8.00
Zeller, Lydia E., widow.....	\$8.00
Farsett, Vodisa, widow, 1812.....	\$8.00
Gale, Anne, widow 1812.....	\$8.00
Lyons, Samuel A., dis. of abd., &c.....	\$8.00
Felper, John, lost arm.....	\$18.00
Waverly, Charles, abscess.....	\$8.00
Landers, James, abd viscera.....	\$6.00
Darnell, Daniel J., wd leg and hand.....	\$8.00
Jenks, Joel H., paral. leg.....	\$18.00
Bacon, Hector, bronch. and asthma.....	\$8.00
Hemenway, Lucius F., wd arm and shoul.....	\$6.00
Bissell, Martin F., wd shoulder.....	\$8.00
Beebe, Thos. J., chr. diarr.....	\$8.50
Duffy, Christopher, inj. to abdomen.....	\$8.00
Allston, John W., wd foot.....	\$6.00
Harwood, James C., wd. hip.....	\$8.00
Smith, Riley, wd hand.....	\$8.00

### Plattville

Thompson, Mary R., dep. mother .....	\$8.00
McElwane, Robert, wd hand.....	\$4.00
McCloud, Wallace, var veins.....	\$6.00

### Yorkville

Shibley, Dow, wd foot .....	\$4.00
Ackley, Chester, chron. diarr .....	\$6.00
Harris, Mary, widow 1812 .....	\$8.00
Jinkinson, Joseph, diarr. &c.....	\$4.00
Thake, Christopher, wd shoulder .....	\$4.00
Beck, George, wd hand.....	\$2.00
Boyd, John S., lung disease .....	\$8.00
Wilett, Reuben W., wd neck.....	\$6.00
Boyd, William P., wd leg.....	\$6.00
Cornell, Milton E., lost leg.....	\$18.00
Donough, Lettitia, mother.....	\$8.00
John, Jordan, erysipelas .....	\$6.00

Oct. 18: The golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Failing was celebrated last Tuesday evening.

The marriage of Andrew Sanders and Miss Lottie Parker occurred Wednesday.

It is said that both Belle Lyon of Chicago and Minnie Bennett of Yorkville were married Wednesday. Both are native Oswegoans, I think, and of course their husbands are lucky fellows.

There was wedding the day before or Tuesday, viz.: Mrs. Abbie Bradford to Mr. Robert Trimble of DeKalb. The nuptials were performed by Elder Minard.

Another boy has taken up his abode in the Frank Pearce family.

Clint and John Gaylord and Jay Young have gone down the river on a hunting and fishing expedition.

A telephone enterprise is on the tapis [under consideration], but don't know to what stage it has been carried.

H.G. Smith, the Station Agent, went yesterday to Marion, Iowa to see a sick brother. Kean will act in Smith's place at the depot.

The George W. Kimball family are now occupying their own house, that bought lately of A. Newton, who now resides in Aurora.

The Rev. Thomas Cochran, the new Methodist preacher, has not yet put in an appearance; Elder Minard again supplied the pulpit of that church Sunday.

Yorkville: The Supreme Court of the United States has declared the Civil Rights law unconstitutional.

Charles S. Kilbourne, proprietor of the Dundee and Barrington cheese factories, and of the Elgin milk supply house in Chicago, has failed for \$25,000. Another case of spreading out too thin.

Mr. Pulver of Montgomery has had charge of the Yorkville railroad business during Rob Poage's absence.

There are 102 names on the Kendall County pension list, and the amount allowed each month is \$918.16. Sergeant Schimerhorn draws the largest--\$72 per month.

Oct. 25: Theodore Watkins and family have moved to Kansas. John R. Simons is also there, prospecting. Will and Maggie Kerr have gone to Iowa.

Will and Maggie Kerr have gone to Iowa.

Mrs. Stoutemyer has gone to Wichita, Kansas to spend the winter with her children. She was accompanied by her daughter, Lydia McConnell, who will return after a short visit.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. W. Avery started on their return to Pensacola, Florida yesterday and her mother, Mrs. McKinley, went with them.

Mrs. E.W. and Miss Julia Shumway have returned from a six weeks' visit at Hastings, Neb.

Smith, the station agent, has returned from his visit in Iowa.

A Mr. Utley, who was here awhile about 1855, happened to come around once again last week.

Marshall Wormley of Moline, who left this place about 25 years ago, was here last week accompanied by his daughter, a young lady, visiting relatives. Likewise was his brother, Orval Wormley of Shabbona.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Sanders have returned from their bridal visit in Missouri.

It is said that Wm. Ladd and W.W Ferris have sold or about to sell their farms to parties in that neighborhood.

The firm of Pearce & Kimball has been dissolved by mutual consent. James Buchanan Pearce is now the sole proprietor of the saloon, and Charles S. Kimball will now devote his entire attention to his livery stable.

There is a new daughter in the family of George White.

Chris Jarvis is on moving into the Lawrence Briggs house.

The diphtheria has become suddenly somewhat prevalent; in the family of H.B. Read, the youngest boy about two years old died of it; Mrs. Read also became quite sick with it but has again nearly recovered. In the family of Ladore Hill a boy about five years old died and some of the other children are affected. Lucy Teller is also quite sick with the same complaint.

The quinsy was that with which some of the children in the Watling family became afflicted, but it has also turned into the diphtheria and four of them are down with it.

The family have come and moved into the Joe Wayne house, but the new Methodist pastor himself is still absent and Sunday, Elder Minard again performed the pulpit services at that church.

\$128,000,000 (that is millions, you know) is the amount of the Moshier estate in England awaiting the division of it among the heirs, who however are quite numerous so that the one here in Oswego will only get about \$250,000.

Advertisement:  
Oswego Bank  
Oswego, Illinois

General Banking business transacted. Exchange bought and sold at reasonable rates.

Special attention to the collection of notes.

Bond boxes to rent by the month or year for the safe-keeping of valuable papers.

Call and see them. Lock and key to each.

Business hours, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

L.N. HALL, Banker

Yorkville: One Kilbourne, running two cheese factories up near Elgin, has failed for \$20,000, and the farmers suffer the loss. He is a son of Dr. Kilbourne, the Aurora dentist. The treasurer of the concern, E.S. Kilbourne, used to practice dentistry in Yorkville and Newark a few years ago. We still have a bill against him for advertising.

*Aurora Beacon*: The crew that was undergoing an investigation in reference to the Sheridan accident on the 10th inst., have been sent back to the old run, neither of the men having been found guilty of negligence. The opinion seems to prevail that some one had

tampered with the switch, or that it had been broken by some means unexplained. The conductors interested were Lyman Hall and George Wheeler, both Bristol boys.

There are eleven coal trains a day now over the Fox Rive road. The *Aurora News* says so, and they know because they have counted them.

The *Aurora Herald* says: Mr. H.B. Reed [Read] of Oswego, formerly living on Downer Place, has been having considerable sickness in his family. His son, Charlie, has just recovered from an attack of diphtheria and now the baby is down with the same disease.

During the month of September the CB&Q road shipped from Streator 3,164 cars of coal averaging 18 tons to a car. This is 652 cars more than was shipped during the corresponding month last year.

November -- 1883

Nov. 1: Samuel Hagerman of Miss Tillie McIlvain were married Oct. 16y at the bride's residence in Tyrone, Pa.

Slade Cutter is now at Trempealeau, Wisconsin.

Another boy, and the youngest of Ladore Hill children, was buried Saturday, a death from diphtheria.

There was an incipient fire in Henry Ricker's establishment--resulting from a defective chimney--Sunday afternoon. It was put out without much difficulty and little damage was done.

Nathan Hughes lost his pocketbook with between one and two dollars of money in it and a silver ring worth but very little but owing to some memories connected with it is prized very highly. He would like to get possession of that ring again, and says he finder might keep the money but let him drop the ring at the post office.

A big sudden blow came upon this place last evening about 9 o'clock but no damage was done as far as known. It was a day productive of all kinds of weather, commencing in the morning with a heavy thunder shower.

The Rev. Thomas Cochrane commenced his pastoral services here at the Methodist church Sunday morning and it is said that he preached a very appropriate and excellent sermon.

Yorkville: Some first families in Georgia have come to grief. A number of their young men belonged to the Kuklux gang and committed horrible outrages on negroes; a number of them were arrested, tried, and to their great astonishment, eight of them were

convicted and go to the penitentiary. The young men wept when the verdict struck them. This is no Northern campaign lie.

We saw some fine river fish at Dolph's market Tuesday evening, caught by some strange fishermen who went down the river in two boats. There was an immense pickerel, three feet long, some pike and a new fish to many, handsome silver bass, not common in our water.

Mr. Fram is strengthening the north end of the dam by building up some 60 feet of its length so as to contract the watershed. There is a hole below that end 13-1/2 feet deep, and it will be filled by sinking a crib at that place. When Fram is done with the job, it will be a strong dam.

Ketchum & Lockwood's cheese and butter factory at Oswego suspended operations one day last week. Many of the patrons are now bringing their milk to the Yorkville victory. Mr. Wood has thus far run his business on a paying basis and meets his obligations to his customers with promptness.

We are a little late in stating it, but the contract for the iron bridge across the river at Bristol has been let to the Canton, Ohio Bridge Company for \$10,700, and the bridge is to be in place and completed by Feb. 1, 1884.

#### MARRIED

HUGHES--ALLEN.--In Aurora by Rev. Wm. H. Welch at his residence October 27, 1883, Mr. Nathan Hughes and Mrs. Jane Allen, all of Oswego.

North NaAuSay: On account of bad weather the forepart of last week, the raising of a new barn at Sheldon Wheeler's was postponed till Friday. It was largely attended, and went together in good shape considering the disadvantages they had to contend with. Mr. Sweetwood of Plainfield does the work and gives entire satisfaction.

A young professor has made his appearance in the family of Tim Howell, showing marked qualities of generalship, having so early obtained complete control of the whole family.

The Marysville school will open the 12th of November for the winter term.--C.E. Thompson, teacher.

Nov. 8: Mrs. Lydia Morgan was suddenly taken sick and died while on a visit to her son Byron in Missouri. The deceased was about 77 years of age, the widow of the late Ebenezer Morgan, was one of the Stephen Ashley daughters, a very quiet and motherly lady, an adherent to the Congregational church; and by her death one of the oldest inhabitants of this neighborhood.

With the exception of the creameries, of which that of Ketchum & Lockwood has closed down for the present, because it failed to pay, business generally is said to be quite good.

Haight & Strossman have a specialty in their patent husking mitten, just now so much in demand.

Levi Avery has returned after several years' absence in Iowa and Dakota. He is in excellent health and splendid appearance. It would appear that Oswego boys improve most away from home.

The Schwarz family have moved into their own residence, lately bought of L.N. Hall; the latter with his wife is now boarding at W.M. Forbes'.

The Pigott family have moved into the so-called Schuman house.

Mrs. Susan Lehman, another of the old settlers has departed; after several months of sickness she died suddenly this morning at two o'clock at the age of nearly 63.

Yorkville: The first contract for the Bristol Iron Bridge was for about \$12,000 and not \$13,000 as was stated in our last issue. We misunderstood our informant.

Haight & Strossman of Oswego are the inventors of a new husking mitten that has lots of practical utility in it. They sell at 50 cents a pair and can be had by mail by inclosing the price and address D.M. Haight, Oswego, Ill. Liberal discounts to merchants. Send forward your orders and they will be promptly filled.

*Aurora Herald:* Mrs. Gaylord of Oswego has purchased a lot of Mrs. Olds east of Dr. Gabel's, on Fourth Street, and will build thereupon an elegant residence next spring.

The *Aurora Beacon* of Saturday says: "It is understood that Dr. E.H. Kilbourne has bought the Oswego creamery from Mr. McConnell and will place his son, C.S. Kilbourne, in charge." This is news to us, and we do not know how much truth there is in it.

Mayor McConnell of Oswego was in Yorkville Thursday. Mac is the old reliable friend of the farmer--runs his butter and cheese factory on business principles and is always there.

Nov. 15: The Fox River Creamery has changed hands--W.H. McConnell & Co., have sold the same to Dr. E.H. Kilbourne of Aurora for \$5,000 in cash, it is said, and the business under the new dispensation will be prosecuted with as much energy as it ever was under the old.

The new business, that of the manufacturing of mattresses by Pigott & Van Doozer, is in a booming condition; they have nine men out gathering husks.

A new billiard hall is on the fix-up; it will be located in the Smith block, and Lowry & Gaylord are said to be the proprietors.

An old landmark has been removed by the taking down of the old marble front building; in the place of it will be erected a livery stable by the Shoger Brothers, who have bought the premises.

The funeral of Mrs. Lehman occurred Wednesday afternoon from the house. Elder Minard was the officiating clergyman.

Diphtheria has made a serious inroad in the Fred Sierp family, three of the children having died within less than a week; first Melis, 4 years old, next Tresie, the youngest, 2 years old, and yesterday morning Annie, 8 years old.

Don Winn is going to use steam for quarrying purposes.

'Tis said a new boy at Rush Walker's.

Arthur L. Clifton, a Chicago artist, is here engaged in the enlarging of pictures.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Cooney have gone to Lemars, Iowa on a visit to her brothers, Noah and Jeff Carpenter.

Yorkville: Professor Thomas H. Clark, principal of the East Aurora high school, died Sunday morning from diphtheria, after an illness of three weeks--aged 53 years.

The Fox River Railroad bond litigation has not yet ended as some of the bondholders propose to contest the ownership of the stock. On Monday, Mr. E.E. Bale of Streator was along the line of the road serving notices on county and town officials as the representative of C.M. Osborn and John L. Cooper, attorneys for August T. Post of Boston, wherein they set forth that Mr. Post being the owner of certain bonds, and the towns and counties refuse to pay them, that he has commenced an action in the courts to compel these stockholders (without payment) to show why he and other holders of town and county bonds issued in aid of the Fox River Road have not a lien on the stock delivered by the Fox River Company to the towns when the bonds were issued.

Mr. Bale served notices on County Clerk Evarts, the Supervisors of Fox, Kendall and Oswego, and they must either defend themselves and show ownership to stock or lose it. What right, if any, have the towns and county to this stock?

Nate Loucks, president of the Agricultural Society was in Yorkville Friday and took home a Schuttler wagon from Willett & Welch. Nate is going to husk corn.

A large addition has been built to the railroad tan at Yorkville for pump room and store house.

*Aurora News*: Mr. August Smith of Oswego, who intends to move to Dakota soon, was in S. Felsenheld & Cos' yesterday and purchased seven overcoats, several suits of clothes, hats, etc.

Nov. 22: Earl Mullen died very suddenly Sunday noon was buried yesterday afternoon. Earlie attended school Friday, complained of headache, but declined going home; Saturday diphtheria was made manifest by sore throat; he was 11 years of age, a well behaved and pleasant boy, and his taking generally regretted.

George Parker had four valuable blooded sheep killed by dogs.

John S. Seely and Mrs. T.J. Seely started for Guaymas, Mexico yesterday.

A Miss Ellen Blaine is a new operative at Mrs. H.V.B. Young's.

The first thing done towards the new livery stable was the construction of a well, which is completed.

It has just been reported that Jabez B. Hawley died this morning; he died of consumption and has been sick for a long while.

Yorkville: Warm and rainy weather again.

The Elgin *Frank* thus speaks of the Kilbourne cheese factory failure in that vicinity--that occurred some weeks ago: "The committee who were appointed to confer with Kilbourne received the following proposition, which they rejected: That he would [ay on the dividend plan beginning the 1st of May. The committee gave the following proposition to Kilbourne, to which they have received no answer: That he pay them 100 cents on the dollar and that he have five years to pay it in at 4 percent interest."

School exhibitions in the middle of a school year are not desirable. Pupils give more attention to preparation than to their legitimate studies.

Mr. Keene of Oswego is now sitting as night operator at Yorkville. Mr. K. is also a printer, having learned his trade with Charley Sonthard when he run the *Morris Herald*.

### Change of Railroad Time

#### Nine Minutes Slower.--The Nineteenth Meridian

By concerted action, which has been under discussion for some time, the leading railroads have established a new method of reckoning time, and it went into effect on Sunday last at noon.

Heretofore, trains on different roads have been run on Chicago time or St. Louis time or Burlington or New York time, as the managers saw fit, and much inconvenience has been occasioned thereby. Now, instead of time being changed by the sun as we proceed east or west, for certain territories a fixed time has been established without regard to the time the sun's ascension or declination would show. The territory is arbitrarily fixed by meridian lines, if we understand the matter rightly. With us, it is the 19th Meridian, known as "Central Standard Time," and it is nine minutes slower than Chicago time. This standard reaches to all points east of the Missouri river, so that, if we read right, 12 noon

at Chicago is 12 noon at Council Bluffs, Ia. Under the old time, when it was 12 at Washington, it was 11:17 at Chicago and 10:44 at Council Bluffs.

Manager Stone of the CB&Q Company, last week sent out the following circular: "On Sunday next, Nov. 18th, 1883, at noon, the Standard Time of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy R.R. east of the Missouri river will be changed to conform to the 19th meridian or central time, which is nine minutes slower than Chicago time, which is the present standard. This new time will be generally adopted by all the railroads in this section of the country and I would suggest the advisability of your considering its adoption for the standard time in your city. For your further information, I will send you by mail today a copy of our instructions to employees in regard to carrying the change into effect."

We have the circular at the *Record* office. On Monday, all trains on this road were run on the new time.

By the number of divorce cases for the Chancery docket of the January term of the Kendall Circuit Court it would seem our people are following the bad example of Chicago. Divorces are now about as common as marriages, and the old promise to stay by one another "till death do us part" should be stricken from the marriage service.

Farmers generally throughout our county are disappointed in the yield of corn.

Mr. A.P. Ashley, Kendall, has built a fine new barn 40x44 feet, and last week the Shepard Brothers of Oswego put a tin roof on it, making a nice job.

North NaAuSay: Plenty of navigation last week and farmers say corn spoiled 20 percent.

James King, the professional ditcher, is putting in some tile for T. Johnson this week.

*Aurora Beacon*: Last Wednesday an Oswego butcher named Charles Zorn left his tam standing upon the street several hours exposed to cold rain, while he spent the time guzzling whisky in a north Broadway saloon. The attention of officers Long and Lord having been called to the matter, they hunted up the heartless fellow and remonstrated against such brutality, but he simply abused them and insisted that the horses were well cared for. Subsequently they had the horses put in a livery stable and half an hour later when Zorn found it out he repaired to the Marshal's office and roundly abused Mr. Zirammer and his officers. Chris had tried to have the man go to a hotel and go to bed as he was unfit to take care of himself, much less a team, but unable to induce him to leave or keep quiet, the Marshal finally locked him up and next morning he was fined \$5 and costs for cruelty to animals.

Plano: The annual municipal election of the town of Plano, Kendall county, Illinois, will be held at the Town Hall, Plano, on Monday, Dec. 3d, 1883. Polls will open at 8 a.m. and close at 7 p.m. At the same time and place will be submitted to vote whether we will or will not organize as a city under the general laws of the State. Also, the general question of minority representation in city council. By order of the Board of Trustees.

T.J. BEEBE, Pres't.

L.G. ERWIN, Clerk

Nov. 29: The funeral of J.B. Hawley took place Thursday and was conducted by undertaker House of Aurora; the services at the house were performed by Elder Minard. The deceased has been sick eight months and is said to have been a very patient sufferer; he was 48 years of age and had grown up here from a small boy.

Arthie Gray, about 7 years old, died and was buried last week. He had just recovered from diphtheria when taken down again with fatal results.

The diphtheria has now pretty much all disappeared and the children that have been kept out of school on account of it by their parents have nearly all returned.

Mr. and Mrs. L.N. Hall last week attended the Grand Lodge of Odd Fellows at Springfield. Mrs. Josie H. must be getting quite an Odd Fellow, she has been attending that grand lodge ever so many times.

Bryan Ruddy returned her the other day, and if I am not mistaken, for the first time since he went to the war.

The new time arrangement by the railroad authorities has called forth many newspaper notices. This locality has hardly any affected by it, being left with the true time nearly as much so as before--the Chicago time by which it was governed was about 4 minutes too fast, that now adopted 5 minutes too slow--but on the dividing lines its effects will be much felt and work queerly. On the west side of the line the time always will be 30 minutes ahead of the true time, while on the east side it will be 30 minutes behind, making a difference of one hour between the two sections, so when a man jumps on a horse and gallops to a place east over the line some distance, making it in 30 minutes, he will get there a half hour before he started from home, but in returning at the same speed, it will take him an hour and a half. There is another proposition which the railroad authorities are contemplating adopting, namely the counting of the hours up to 24 and which probably would be of sufficient utility and convenience for all railroad purposes, but while at the reforming of time, another error and the greatest of all should be removed. The day is looked upon as being divided into four parts, morning, noon, evening, and night. The day commences at midnight; anything that happens an hour afterwards may be said to have happened at 1 o'clock in the morning or at 1 o'clock last night; wither expression is held to be correct, so that a transaction can take place simultaneously both last night and this morning. In regard to night, morning, and evening, there is no definite time when they commence or end, while noon is merely the point of midday. The commencement of the day at midnight is improper, and the beginning of the morning at midnight is an absurdity. Let the four divisions of the day be of equal length, and let the day commence with the morning at three o'clock, beginning there to count from 1 up to 24; that would make the sun rise and set three months before and after the middle of morning and evening during the year--it would leave mid-day and midnight where they are now, but designate the one at 9 o'clock and the other at 21 o'clock.

Yorkville: By the number of divorce cases for the Chancery docket of the January term of the Kendall Circuit Court, it would seem our people are following the bad example of Chicago. Divorces are now about as common as marriages and the old promises to stay by one another "till death do us part" should be stricken from the marriage service.

Farmers generally throughout our county are disappointed in the yield of corn. Some were encouraged by the general appearance of their fields expected a fair crop of good grain, but upon going in to husk have found their expectations not well founded. The wretched weather after the frosts came has damaged the corn greatly and if we are correctly informed, the bushels of sound corn husked in Kendall county in 1883 will be numbered by a very few figures. It is light, with sodden cobs and there is no substance. This is the rule.

Mr. Lott Scofield of Denver, Col., was in Yorkville Thursday. He is well pleased with his home in Denver and just now is very much interested in the City Museum for which they are securing some very fine curiosities.

*Aurora Beacon:* L.B. Judson is going to build a fine house on the West Side, which he will occupy himself. He has purchased of A.C. Graves the vacant lot on the corner of South View and Galena streets, and of A.J. Graves, the brick house just east of it. He will put in the foundation for a fine house this fall.

*Aurora Beacon:* Last Wednesday, an Oswego butcher named Charles Zorn left his team standing upon the street several hours exposed to cold rain while he spent the time guzzling whisky in a north Broadway saloon. The attention of officers Long and Lord having been called to the matter, they hunted up the heartless fellow and remonstrated against such brutality, but he simply abused them and insisted that the horses were well cared for. Subsequently, they had the horses put up in a livery stable and half an hour later, when Zorn found it out, he repaired to the Marshal's office and roundly abused Mr. Miramar and his officers. Chris had tried to have the man go to a hotel and go to bed as he was unfit to take care of himself, much less a team, but unable to induce him to leave or keep quiet, the marshal finally locked him up and next morning he was fined \$5 and costs for cruelty to animals.

Andy Taylor, the "bandit king" of Tennessee, was hung Friday. While on a train going from Knoxville to London, he slipped a revolver out of a guard's pocket and got the muzzle to the head of the Sheriff. Mistaking the weapon for a self-cocker, he lost time and was knocked down before he could raise the hammer. The rescue of the eldest Taylor by his two brothers, involving the assassination of a Sheriff and the capture of a train with 100 passengers, the death of the two elder Taylors, and the killing of still another Sheriff are matters of quite recent but highly remarkable history.

NaAuSay: The cost of tiling looks large at first glance to some farmers and many of them are kept from improving their land because they fear the expense; but it is a fact that any tiling done, if well done, will pay for itself in three years in nearly all cases. To tile land

is to make it absolutely certain that the land can be worked earlier in the spring, especially if the season is wet; that it can be cultivated much sooner after rains, and that in dry season it will not suffer from drought to any such extent as untilled land will; tiling is a wonderful fertilizer; it absorbs moisture with remarkable facility and retains it with equal tenacity.

December -- 1883

Dec. 6: The construction of the new livery stable is progressing finely.

The new billiard hall, that of Lowry & Gaylord, is very nicely fixed up, and is now in full operation.

Miss Sara A. Edson, daughter of the whilom Rev. Ambler Edson, pastor of the Congregational church, has come here from Massachusetts to join her mother, who has been here for a year or more.

Some relatives of the Sierp family, from Indiana, have been here on a visit, and Mrs. Sierp has gone back with them. A change of scene from a home bereft of three small children, was thought to be for her benefit.

The Oswego correspondents to the Aurora papers are rather hard on the children, sending them to the grave before their time or when there is no necessity for a grave. Please don't be so previous; give the children all the chances for living as long as possible.

Oswego has reason to feel proud of her conduct on Thanksgiving day. A large number of her people went to attend divine services, making a congregation that comfortably filled the Congregational church.

Joseph F. Brown of NaAuSay is said to stand at the head of the hog raisers in this region. He has sold to Wollenweber & Knapp during the season 77 hogs in three lots, the first lot of 40 being on a contract at \$8 per hundred; the next lot of 30 fetched him \$5.50--both lots went through the market as extras; the balance of seven sows, being the culls, averaged 420 and were delivered yesterday.

Advertisement: Oswego Bank

Oswego, Illinois.

General Banking business transacted.

Exchange bought and sold at reasonable rates.

Special attention to the collection of notes.

Bond boxes to rent by the month or year for the safe keeping of valuable papers.

Call and see them. Lock and key to each.

Business hours, 9 a.m. t 4 p.m.

L.N. HALL, Banker

Yorkville: Is it impossible to invent a self-coupler for freight cars? Or are we daily to read and hear of men having arms taken off or lives lost while coupling cars? In many instances the accidents occur through the carelessness and recklessness of the brakemen themselves, but more often from the inequality of cars, or buffers, or couplers in some way. There should be a standard fixed, to which all rolling stock should be made, and every car should be uniform at the ends, at least.

The City of Plano!

The Mayor and City Council of Plano.

Plano, the chief city of Kendall county.

Miss Anna Brown is teaching school in the Foster district near Hinckley.

Alice Oates, whose third husband died 18 months ago in New Orleans of yellow fever, is said to be engaged to be married to R.W. Corbett, manager of the Aurora grand opera house. That Corbett always did feel his oats.--*Joliet Republic*.

Died.--In Washington Territory, October 26th, Mr. H.S. Misner, in the 91st year of his age. Mr. Misner was one of the old citizens of Newark, moving there in 1833.--*Sandwich Argus*

Hard on Oswego.--*Aurora Beacon*.

An Iowa tailor says the loudest men to talk of building up the town send to Chicago for their clothes. That's the way in some other places. The man who cannot give his patronage to home mechanics and home dealers is unfit to live in a growing and prosperous town. If they had their way they would kill everything which does not bring dollars and cents to their pockets. We do not believe there are many of that sort in Aurora. If there are, they should go to some small town like Oswego. They say that once prosperous towns were killed by men who did things just in that way. They found, too late, that when they had succeeded in killing off their small dealers the town amounted to very little. No good citizen goes to Chicago to buy what his own city merchants can furnish him.

[And all good citizens should get their printing done at home--in their own county--at the Record office.]

Plano: The corporation election last Monday was of more than common interest during the last few years on account of the proposed change in the municipal government from a town to a city. The debates on that question for the past few days had been active, and consequently the vote was very close, but the city organization was carried by a 17 majority out of a vote of about 250. The election was held in the new Town Hall and its conveniences were duly appreciated.

Dec. 13: The holiday goods are being received at the drug store.

Charles Judson was in town the other day for the first time in a number of years and his looks indicate that he is well used. New Mexico is now his place of abode.

Victor Mather is now here from Austin, Tex. He was called here by the sickness of his father in DeKalb Co., and whose death has taken place since.

Uncle Lawrence Briggs has returned to Minnesota to permanently reside in the family of his older daughter.

Wallace Mundy on Sunday became exalted to the paternal dignity, by the presence then for the first time of a little boy in the family.

L. L. Lynch has returned home.

The firm of Pigott & Van Doozer has been dissolved by mutual consent. The business will be continued by T.J. Pigott.

Just learned that James M. Chapman died yesterday towards evening; he was at his son-in-law's, Leroy English, living on the Base line Road.

Dec. 20: John D. Hall on Sunday forenoon attended the Methodist church; coming home from there he enjoyed a hearty dinner, after which he swept the snow off the porch of his residence, and then went to attend the services of the Presbyterian church, of which he was one of the deacons; he got there before the Sunday school was quite out, sat down in his place, and up to that time--about 20 minutes after 2--he seemed to be in his usual good health, but after sitting a minute or two he threw back his head and began gasping for breath. Those present immediately went to his assistance and sent of medical aid, but as he lived but a few minutes and never spoke a word from the time when taken, the life had expired when Dr. Jewell arrived. The event, of course, broke up any further church services for that time; the corpse was removed from there in Mr. Galt's buggy to the residence of the deceases; the funeral is set for tomorrow, 11 o'clock, at the church. Mr. Hall was 78 years of age; he came to Illinois from new Jersey with his family and settled near here in 1852; he was a very prosperous farmer, but done also considerable carpenter work; he was noted for his industry his strict principles touching morals and religion, and his zeal in advancing the sentiments he entertained. The place and the occasion on which he died, though unusual, were in a sense very appropriate for if ever anybody loved his church and delighted in its service, it was him. He was quite partial in all his likes and dislikes, had become strongly attached to the people and things of his association, foremost among which were his church, his family, and home, and his native State, New Jersey.

There was a party got up last week out in the Wilcox district to which the Rev. Mr. Hill had been invited, and on which occasion he was presented with \$57.50, which he thankfully received. He preaches out there in the afternoon on Sundays.

E.A. Hopkins started yesterday to accompany his son-in-law, Victor Mather, to his home in the Capital of Texas, where Mr. Hopkins intends to spend the winter.

The August Schmidt family with two carloads of effects left here last week for Dakota.

Miss Sarah A. Edson, who came here several weeks ago to visit her mother, then sick, has again returned to Massachusetts. I stated that "she was the daughter of the Rev. Ambler Edson, a whilom pastor of the Congregational church," the last part of which was erroneous. I was well aware that he was a Baptist clergyman but had got the impression that the Baptists and Congregationalists had then formed a co-partnership, that Mr. Edson was jointly their pastor, but being that the ministrations took place at the Congregational church, I called him the pastor of it; but it appears that such was not the case and that there never has been any connection between the two organizations any more than that the Baptists, for awhile and at the time when Mr. Edson was their pastor, occupied the Congregationalists' meeting house.

George D. Wormley was surprised last week by the arrival of an army comrade whom George hadn't seen nor heard from since he helped carry him, badly wounded, off the battlefield.

The enjoyment of shovel and sweeping the "beautiful snow" has been the cause to somewhat abbreviate this letter, and the more than usual bumbling up of it.

Yorkville: The New York street bridge [in Aurora] is the largest and longest structure of the kind on the river. It is also the best iron bridge known to the slowly-gliding Fox. Its extreme length, 700 feet, comprises four spans of 175 feet each. It is a beautiful piece of work--one of which the Aurora people may well feel proud. The iron work is now all completed and workmen are laying planks for the roadway. It is estimated that the public will be accommodated with the opportunity to travel over it by New Year's day. The bridge men say that they will warrant each span of the bridge to hold 190 tons without danger and they further assure the highway commissioners that there will be no necessity of forbidding trotting over the structure.

Wait till we get our Bristol bridge done--225 feet span, 30 foot trusses--we will have the finest bridge on the river.

S.G. Minkler esq. started for Bloomington Monday to attend the meeting of the State Horticultural Society, of which he is treasurer.

The suit of the town of Bristol against Curtis Beecher was tried before the County Court Friday and Saturday and the jury found for the town. This is a suit brought against Mr. Beecher to have him support his brother, Harvey, who was adjudged a pauper.

Dec. 27: The funeral of John D. Hall on Wednesday was very largely attended.

O.H. Hopkins is down from Dakota on a flying visit.

Charles Lehman is now the youngest apprentice at the depot, but not confined to any particular corner.

1884

January

January 3: Christmas weddings in Oswego: Tina Wolf married George J. Hettrich and Fannie Baxter married Bennett English

Ezekiel Pearce has returned from a Christmas visit to Peoria. Mrs. Burr, who went there at the same time intends to spend the winter in that city.

The new and large livery stable is now an added feature.

The cutting of ice was begun yesterday.

Anton Miller, the collector, is now ready to taken in the taxes.

Jan. 10: The only New Year's wedding in this vicinity...was that of Sarah Constantine to Oliver O. Hem.

Sam Roberts, who worked in the Plano shops, had the misfortune of getting his right arm injured by the machinery so that it had to be amputated above the elbow.

Jan. 17: Charles A. Davis, whose death occurred last Friday, was buried yesterday in the Oswego cemetery...There is hardly any other individual in this community whose death could have caused such general regret as that of Charley Davis...His age was thirty-nine years, and he has been living all his life in the Aux Sable Grove.

Mrs. Wm. Cooney one day of last week, while alone at home, engaged in household duties, suddenly experienced a stroke of paralysis.

They tell me that if only the women could vote now, I could be elected to any county office that I might ask for.

Jan. 24: The wedding of Miss Julia Sorg to a gentleman from Aurora occurred one day of last week.

Mrs. Wm. Cooney died last Wednesday from the effect of a severe stroke of paralysis...The burial in what is usually known as the Doud burying ground.

Mont. Nicholson, an artist, has taken possession of the old photograph rooms over the barber shop. Good looking folks may now get their pictures taken right at home.

Jan. 31: Fred Coffin was one of the oldest of Oswego's inhabitants; he was in business most all of the time while living here. He had been sick several weeks but was supposed to be recovering very satisfactorily. He died Tuesday at the age of 68 years and was buried Thursday.

Mrs. Lester, wife of Dr. Lester, who has been sick for a long while, died Saturday morning. The deceased was a daughter of the Hunt family of Bristol Station and the remains were taken there for burial.

John H. Wormley met with a very serious accident the other day; he was riding on top of a sleighload of wood, which upset, and he being thrown on the bare frozen ground, caused the fracture of the hip bone. Dr. Lester is attending the case.

Charles E. Hubbard is said to be sick.

Seldon Bunn was in town for a day or two.

February -- 1884

Feb. 7: the only son of John C. Turpin, about 7 years old, died last week of diphtheria, and Lizzie the oldest child, has been on the very verge of existence with the same disease...the family has a sore trial.

Sam Roberts and wife are now here and visiting their folks. Sam takes the loss of his arm philosophically; the stump is nearly healed over.

From the Montgomery correspondent: W.L. Gorton was relieved from duty as an operator on the railroad recently. He has moved to Plano and is working for the Plano Manufacturing Company.

C.B. Atwood has returned from his trip to Virginia.

Mr. Walla is night operator at the Junction in Mr. Gorton's place.

John Golden is firing on the railroad.

Marshall Keck has rented the L.H. Morgan farm near Oswego.

W.F. Ford intends operating a milk route in Aurora this summer.

M.C. Atwood is again at the junction days.

Feb. 14: Mrs. Murdock, by the slippery going last week was caused to fall on the sidewalk at Coffin's and injured so as to be almost entirely helpless ever since.

Tax collector Anton Miller will spend Tuesday, February 26th, at the Coulter Bank in Aurora on official business. Taxpayers should make a note of this; those living in the northeast corner of the township and nearer to Aurora than here should go there and pay their taxes, and others, that they will not find him at home on that day.

Mrs. Josie Hall has of late been posting herself on banking business and will now occupy the tellership in the Oswego bank.

Smith, the station agent, has been undergoing a season of first class punishment for his great wickedness by a regular genuine felon on his hand.

A team on a sleigh, belonging to Mr. Ferguson, of Tamarack, broke loose yesterday from where they were hitched and ran through a part of the town before they could be stopped.

Feb. 21: Albert Updyke is agoing extensively at building; he has been hauling home two carloads of lumber from here.

Garry Seely has been quite sick, said to have been typhoid fever, but is now better.

J.H. Collins has rented the Coffin stone building and will establish there a provision store and bakery. A regular baker's oven will be built back of it in the yard.

Feb. 28: Oliver Hebert has returned from a several months' sojourn in the Dominion of Canada.

The John Pearce farm was bought the other day at the Master's (in chancery) sale by C.F. Shoger for \$75.75 per acre.

Marshall Keck has moved to this vicinity.

The Murdock family--which now consists of three members--has been having a pretty hard time of it, the daughter, Mrs. Lynch, is just recovering from a spell of sickness; Mrs. Murdock is yet disabled from a fall on the ice several weeks ago; Mr. M. was down during the biggest part of last week but now is up and out again, and while thus at home, Mr. Lynch, an absent member of the family, was said to be snowbound out in Dakota.

March -- 1884

March 6: It may now be safely said that the fellows who have predicted an open winter were slightly off in their reckonings.

There have been many interesting elections in this town within my remembrance, but apparently all were thrown into the shade by the one last Friday evening at the Leisure Moment hall for the most popular lady at 10 cents per ballot. It is said (I didn't dare to go

there myself for fear of getting excited and foolishly throw away my fortune on cornering the result), that the selection of candidates was confined to the company present; that the contest soon was narrowed down to Mrs. John L. Gaylord and Miss Lizzie Wollenweber; that when the polls were closed, the suspense in reaching the result was utterly awful; that the excitement kept increasing as the canvass progressed--the majority continually changing from one to the other, and at last they came out on a tie, each having received 206 votes. Which should have the toilet was then decided by the flipping of a half-dollar and gained by Lizzie.

The Hoard family, which has been on the Chattle farm, has moved to Hand county, Dakota. The farm they vacated is now occupied by Wm. Lord.

The John Kelly family--all but Mrs. K., who for the present has staid behind--have moved with two car loads of effects to Adams county, Neb.

D.W. Hess is a newcomer to his neighborhood; he has bought the Peckett farm, and with his family moved onto it.

Shubal Mosely has again become one of this community, having moved here from Batavia.

Clarence, the oldest of the Anson Loomis' boys, after about a dozen years of absence, stopped over for a few hours the other day to take a look at his native place and meet a few of his schoolmates. Clarence is established in Kansas.

Ezekiel Pearce has again gone on a sojourn for a month or two in Iowa.

C.F. Shoger has moved onto his new farm, Mrs. F.A. Pearce having vacated the same and moved to town, occupying a portion of Mrs. Teller's house.

The McWethy Bros. paid Mrs. Mundy the full amount of the effects insured and destroyed six days after the fire.

It is said that Mrs. C.A. Davis has received a draft for \$3,128.85 from the Masonic Benevolent association at Mattoon, being the amount for her benefit at her husband's death.

Ninety-two years is a good old age, and few they are that reach it. That was the age of Mrs. Townsend Seely over in NaAuSay, whose funeral will take place today.

E.J. Malone became so engrossed with business that he had to move to Aurora where he could have better facilities.

Arthur Clifton, who has been here for some time in the picture interest, has departed and gone to Plainfield.

Mrs. Lizzie Danforth has completed the teaching of a term of school at Fox, and returned home.

The John R. Simons family have also departed from her and moved to Kansas. Mrs. Simons has spent her entire life here, and John has nearly so, but now they have pulled up stakes and are gone.

Yorkville: The month of March opened with a good deal of vigor, and the "open winter" prophets kicked themselves in despair. The first day opened with a lively snow storm, and this continued at intervals till night. Sunday and Monday were cold but nice winter days. Tuesday morning, the 4th of March, was a keen one, the mercury indicating from eight to ten below zero. Farmers have not yet commenced plowing.

Advertisement:

#### DITCHING AND TILING.

James King, Platteville, will contract with farmers of Kendall County to do their tiling or ditching in first-class style. He employs a number of experienced men and will also do the necessary surveying and leveling. Your orders are solicited. He has recently bought the best Surveyor's instruments and will guarantee correct survey. Work warranted. Address as above at Platteville, Ill.

March 13: Spring was found nestled in the lap of winter this morning and all is well now.

Tom Stewart over in the Scotch settlement, the boss in fattening cattle, has sold another very nice lot the other day to Wollenweber & Knapp. They averaged 1,440, a number of them being heifers.

The show of the Millington minstrels is said to have been insufficiently patronized for a success.

A brown and black bear and two Italians gave a pretty good street performance.

Robert Gammil, our ditching contractor, has made a contract of an entire different nature, namely a marriage contract. The bride is a stranger to this community.

John S. and Mrs. T.J. Seely have gone to Mexico to attend to the interests of the late Thomas J. Seely.

August W. Keihl has returned here from Las Vegas Hot Springs in New Mexico, where he has been engaged for a number of years.

Mr. and Mrs. W.S. Bunn--who are newly married and quite good looking couple--are visiting friends here.

Bernice, the youngest of the Colvin Pearce girls, is sick with the diphtheria, but is also again on the recovering order.

Charles M. Ladew has returned to these parts and is occupying the Bob Collins farm.

Mr. and Mrs. John Tatge with their two youngest daughters have moved to Adams county, Iowa.

Luman H. Morgan will leave here today for Hastings, Neb. He has shipped several car loads of effects to start with the new home. His family will follow in a few weeks.

H.S. Ladd is also out in Nebraska prospecting.

Norm. Ladiew will be on for Nebraska with his car load today.

Foster Warner and Alvin Tanner have moved, with their families, down to Dayton.

Fremont Nicholson, the photographer, has taken his departure.

Our population must be on the decrease, judging from the many that are leaving.

It is said that William Cooney has bought the Stahl house.

NaAuSay: Mrs. Whitlock and her son, David, started for Lincoln, Neb. Last Friday. Mrs. Tomp. Whitlock has week Monday started with a carload of furniture and farming implements. They are to settle in Hamilton county, about 50 miles west of Lincoln.

A sleigh load of young people of this neighborhood, who regardless of the strong northwestern wind which was raging in fury, went to the dance over in Oswego at Mr. Hoard's a week ago last Tuesday nigh.

Another horrible accident. Last Monday, Feb. 25th, while Eddie Treblay was playing near a team of old horses, he was kicked on the forehead over the left eye. Assistance came to his aid immediately and cared for the little one till Dr. Van Deventer of Oswego arrived and dressed the wound, but without avail. He has been a raving maniac from the time he was kicked till present. Eddie is only 9 years old and the only son of Mr. and Mrs. Treblay.

On Sunday, March 2d, Mrs. Townsend [Melicent Tuthill] Seely, one of the oldest ladies of Kendall county, died at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. Henry Jessup. She has been very feeble for several years, and was last week struck with paralysis, which led to her death. Mrs. Seely came to Kendall county in 1840 from New York and lived in the county ever since. The funeral took place Tuesday morning at 10:30 o'clock at the residence of Mr. Jessup, and the burial was in the Union cemetery.

Yorkville: There was a rapid thaw here Tuesday morning, so warm through the day as to be uncomfortable. The snow disappeared rapidly. Wednesday morning was cold again, within 10 degrees of zero.

Farmers, test the corn you have saved for seed now, and see if it will grow.

Come to the skating rink Thursday evening and try the new skates.

The Blackberry Mills property has been sold to Jens Corneils of Plano for \$6,000. He took possession last week. Charley Weber is again out of a job.

Lute Morgan and family left Oswego Tuesday morning for their new home in the West.

D.W. Godard's roller skating rink will be opened Thursday evening of this week with the best new skates in the market. Prices low.

Don't forget that Paul Dearborn still continues to run the Roller Skating Rink in Union Hall on Tuesday and Saturday evenings of each week and matinee Saturday afternoon. The Band plays Saturday night. Doors open at 7 o'clock, close at 10 o'clock.

Mrs. Ed. Hatheway and children and Miss Emma Knight left Yorkville Wednesday for a new home in California, where Mr. Hatheway has bought a fruit farm.

Sergeant Schermerhorn, the old veteran, and "Hero of Vicksburg," took board and lodgings with Sheriff Newton at the county jail on Saturday last. He is held under bonds for some of his wickedness, and no one will go his bail. We are sorry the Sergeant is thus in limbo, but he seems to have merited some punishment.

March 20: Quite a curiosity was in town the other day in the shape of a span of woolly horses; they were of a brown color their hair quite long and curly. The owner said that they came from Montana, were twin brothers, and out of ordinary horses. That it was supposed the freak of nature was brought about by their mother being frightened by a buffalo.

Mrs. A.E. Van Deventer has been on the sick list for several weeks.

The leap year party last week is said to have been a very pleasant affair--but I feel bad about it; the girls having slighted me altogether.

The Shoger Brothers are spreading themselves over a great deal of business, rather monopolizing things; first, Gus is doing all the police and constable business; they have gone extensively into the livery business; next they engaged in the drover's business, and to all this they now have added the farming implement business, intending to keep the most improved utensils and machinery from the drag all the way up to the best self-binder reaping machine.

All parties having accounts with M.J. Pogue & Co. are requested to call at once and settle with them as J.B. Pogue is to leave here and their business must be settled immediately.

As the Rev. Mr. Galt had to officiate at a funeral Sunday afternoon, Mrs. Galt came and supplied the pulpit at the Presbyterian church here. Special attendance to hear her was, however, prevented owing to there being no notice of her coming.

The trading business is the great thing of this age and generation, and probably will be of the next--the same is cropping out already in the small boys. A play store has been established in the entrance to the old (Edwards) meat market under the firm of Clarence & Billy, the proprietors being Clarence Barnard and Billy Sutherland.

Yorkville: The Spring term of the Yorkville school began on Monday last. Summer vacation about the 17th of June.

M.J. Pogue & Co. of Oswego have purchased the Hinckley lumber yard of H.N. Weaver.

An Oswego man made a disgusting exhibition of himself in Yorkville on Thursday last. He was too drunk to walk with any degree of uprightness and made a nuisance of himself by dropping into various business places. An officer in any other town would have locked him up.

Paul Dearborn has commenced work on the new skating rink building.

March 27: Wm. Lord, the new tenant of the Chattle farm, had a team start to run away and then suddenly come to a stop, throwing him out over the end board and under the heels of the horses, where he was severely kicked and had one arm broken.

George B. Brown has moved into the McCauley house up in Troy; he will hereafter train with the tiling gang.

Dr. Putt and wife departed Friday for Hastings, Neb. His partners in farming, John Huff and Peter Vroom, with a carload of stock and implements had started a few days previous. It makes a body somewhat feel bad to see so many go away, and he cannot go with them.

Mrs. Burr has returned from a long visit in Peoria and now is again occupying her house.

Mrs. Bessie Hord and son have again returned to Frankfort, Ky., where Mr. Hord is establishing a mill and where the family has been living all winter. Mrs. H. and Harley had been up on a visit at her mother's, Mrs. M.J. Richards.

It is said that our minstrel troupe met with good success at Plainfield where they gave a performance Friday evening.

The baking oven of H.J. Collins, which is now under way of construction, will be substantial and quite extensive institution; the outside dimensions being 10x12, and it will be of the most improved order. Stephen Benson is doing the job.

#### THE CREAMERY

Rumors have been circulated recently by parties inimical to the Oswego Creamery calculated to reflect upon the business credit of its owner, E.H. Kilbourne of Aurora. These reports coming to the hearing of Dr. Kilbourne, he at once called a meeting of his patrons and told them that if there was any truth in the report of dissatisfaction and if they would feel any more secure, he would willingly deed the factory to any one of their number to be held by him in trust for the benefit of all the patrons.

#### THE OSWEGO CREAMERY

I desire to announce that I shall pay on the 15th of every month for all milk and cream delivered during the previous month, but stand ready to pay at any time, all who may feel they are liable not get their money when due, or will make advances on account to those who really need the money before pay-day.

I now expect to commence gathering cream about the middle of April.

E.H. Kilbourne

Proprietor Oswego Creamery

Oswego, March 19, 1884

#### Northern Seward

Blue birds, robins, meadow-larks, and other spring birds have been with us for over a week now, and the festive frog is playing boo peep, so we can safely say that spring time has come, but with two-thirds of the seed corn doubtful and the experience of last year staring us in the face, it is a much mooted question, "What will the harvest be?"

Levi Platt sent another load of cheese last Saturday to Joliet. His cheese is becoming very popular with the Joliet grocers, and deservedly so.

The Bell tile works will start up today with very flattering prospects for the season with greatly improved facilities, and double the capacity of last year. The undertaking has proved a success and is a great boon to the Seward farmers.

NaAuSay: Mr. Ashley has just closed one of the most successful terms of school ever held in the Union district.

Yorkville: George and Will Putt were at Oswego this week to bid farewell to the brother, the doctor, who has departed for the West.

John Kellett went down on the Illinois River Monday on a hunting expedition and Tuesday night sent up more than a hundred wild ducks to Yorkville.

While in Oswego Saturday morning, Levi Hall showed us the report the Highway Commissioners of Oswego made to the town Auditors last year. It was some seven feet long. The board wanted an itemized report, and we guess they were satisfied.

April -- 1884

April 3: Wm. Wagner has spent the last winter at his son-in-law's, Walter S. Hunt in Livingston county; the latter part of last week he was taken sick and Saturday morning he died--the remains arriving here in the evening. Mr. Wagner was within a few days of being 78 years of age; he has been an old resident, of sterling character, prosperous in business, quiet in demeanor, and a good citizen. The funeral took place yesterday afternoon, the services being at the Presbyterian church, of which organization he was one of the oldest and staunchest members.

Dr. Jewell is under the weather and for the present confined to home.

John Harvey, with his family, departed a few days ago from the Scotch Settlement for Hand County, Dakota, where he has secured the land for a nice farm.

E.A. Bucher started yesterday for Nebraska.

John S. and Lettie Seely have returned from Mexico in the best of condition, the trip having proved a very pleasant one.

Rob. Pogue has come home and will take the place of James, who has gone to Hinckley to take charge of the lumber yard they have bought out at that place.

Slade Cutter has returned from Wisconsin where he has been all winter going to school. He has grown much.

The family of Charles B. Smith have changed their residence from Plano back to Oswego.

Lizzie Danforth has gone to Millbrook to take charge of the school there.

Kate Lester is going to Kendall to teach.

The family of W.F. Forbes has moved into the house vacated by Dr. Putt.

Myron Wormley is building an extensive addition to his house. Schwarz & Co. are doing the work.

Charles Avery and not Steve Benson--as was said last week--is doing the job of building the baking oven and the same is progressing nicely.

A few weeks ago, the family of Orson S. Pearce moved across the river in the stone house.

George Cowdrey had his thoroughbred Hambletonian stallion in town Saturday to get him shod; he is a very handsome and gentle horse.

D.M. Haight preached Sunday evening at the Methodist church.

Yorkville: Charley Weber has rented the grist mill at Dayton.

L.N. Hall has a fine lot of Easter Cards, the first even in Oswego.

Charley Cherry of NaAuSay has bought E. Shaw's gray Norman stallion, and now has him at his residence.

George Cowdrey's fine stallion, "Arthur Mason," was bred on the noted Taylor stock farm, Orange County, New York.

April 10: The subject most talked about by us Oswegoans the past week was the Yorkville small-pox, and we had any amount of gratuitous advice on hand as to how it should be handled.

The residence of Charles Roberts Jr., was burglarized the other night, the amount taken being about \$75, consisting principally of clothing. Charley was left almost destitute and the first thing in the morning had to send to his father for something to wear.

Levi S. Young, after a number of years, has again returned here from New Jersey.

The family of Rev. Mr. Hill are now occupying a part of the Larkin house.

Thomas J. Jones and his brother-in-law, Daniel G. Cooney, started yesterday for Adams County, Neb., where they will establish a farm. Jones' family will follow in about three weeks.

S.S. Collins of Ottawa has bought some lots up on Plainfield avenue, and during the summer will build a residence on them.

The addition of a piazza has been constructed to the new livery stable.

Mr. Farley preached at the Methodist church Sunday forenoon.

George Parker procured a very nice loon the other day, which he sent to his son, Will, at Champaign for taxidermy treatment--Will is very proficient in that art, and has quite a museum of stuffed birds and small animals at his home.

There will be an election for a new school trustee in place of Capt. Mann next Saturday afternoon.

The corporation election will occur a week from today. Those anxious to be sacrificed for this spot of their country should now come to the front.

Yorkville: We announced last week that smallpox--a dreaded visitant--had made its appearance in Yorkville and afflicted our people.

There is a good deal in this issue about smallpox, more than we should have said had there not been so much talk about the matter in neighboring towns.

The town[ship] of Aurora, at its election voted to exchange its stock on the Fox River [rail] road, in which it holds \$48,000, with the holders of the bonds of the town, dollar for dollar.

The celebrated "Spalding Bat and Ball" given with every boy's or child's suit sold at Goldsmith's, Aurora.

Tomorrow is Good Friday; next Sunday is Easter.

Smallpox patients should be kept on their own premises for several days yet, no matter how well they feel.

April 17: Oswego gone for license by about 60 majority--the new members of the Board are: Henry Helle, re-elected; E.T. Sutherland, Frank O. Hawley; C.L. Murdock, police magistrate; Henry Hebert, clerk.

Eugene Richards has returned from abroad; he came here from Cincinnati.

L.L. Lynch has returned home from his all winter prospecting sojourn in Dakota.

Miss Blanche Cutter has gone to attend the institute at Normalville.

Miss Effie Parker has returned from an all winter visit at her sister's in Kansas.

Ezekiel Pearce has returned from his farm in Iowa and reports the season there much in advance of here.

Wilmont VanEtten of New York State, and a brother of Mrs. McFarlane, is one of our new-comers.

Andreas Schwab came down from Milwaukee on a visit to his friends in Yorkville and Oswego.

A handsome new sign of "Bakery and Restaurant" is now adorning the H.J. Collins place.

Orson Ashley has returned here from Kansas on a visit; he expects to go back again in a few weeks, and that his folks here, the Constable family, will go with him. Orson is very much pleased with Kansas, and has brought some of its products with him--quite a lot of sweet potatoes and the very nicest kind.

The bake oven is now in operation, and the first baking, that of cake, was highly successful. A bakery should be one of the desirable institutions to have in a town and our people should give it all their patronage so as to make it remunerative.

The Dallas County (Iowa) Democrat of April 3d contains the death of Mrs. Frances Lee, the widow of James Lee--the couple were formerly residents of this village and their straight and exemplary conduct will be remembered by Many. Mrs. Lee had reached the age of 82 years, 7 months, and 21 days.

John P. Bartlett is now out in Nebraska.

There is a sort of pride in having passed through a calamity, and the greater the calamity the greater the pride. It would seem that Yorkville in the future would want to act in a similar spirit in regard to the small-pox calamity, who when we were circulating the maximum numbers of the reported cases, we were doing it out of kind regards, for to belittle anything is mean and to belittle a calamity the meanest of all. The Editor of the Record didn't seem to appreciate such kind considerations. The highest number of cases it ever was made here was 26, so we kept within pretty fair limits.

Yorkville: The small-pox has about disappeared from Yorkville and business is picking up. There have been no more deaths since our last issue (there was only one in the village), and all the patients are convalescent. There was one case of varioloid [a mild form of smallpox that afflicts those vaccinated and those who have already had the disease] appeared a few days ago, but the patient is not sick enough to create any alarm. The schools opened again Wednesday morning, the churches will resume services next Sunday, and we all feel happier that the scourge has left us in no worse condition. There has been quite a number of farmers in town this week, and we look for renewed confidence.

About an hour after going to press we heard that Howard Shortman, a teamster for Dan Johnson, has been taken to the hospital with symptoms of small-pox, but others claim he has only the ague, and has been sick for some days. The Record would not mislead its readers in this matter for all the business in town.

Hon. Andrew Welch was very active in matters pertaining to the suppression of contagion during Yorkville's affliction and too much cannot be said for his coolness and careful conduct.

Jim Campbell from Plainfield way drove into Yorkville Saturday afternoon, and the appearance of a visitor on the streets was hailed with delight by the Yorkvillians.

April 24: The golden wedding reported last week, but which was not published because the names of the parties had been inadvertently omitted, was that of Mr. and Mrs. A.B. Whipple.

The charge of the Rev. A. Riemenschneider has been changed from here to Gillman, to which he has gone already. Rev. John Miller of Naperville will be the new German minister; he will not come to reside.

Dr. Lester, a week or two ago, was elected school trustee to succeed Capt. Mann.

David Hall, Saturday, was elected school director; he is his own successor.

C.L. Murdock has been appointed to fill the vacancy of town clerk, caused by the resignation of Chas. Lehman, who has gone to Hinckley and engaged there with James B. Pogue in the lumber business.

Ed. Jeneson is now the under agent at the depot.

E.A. Hopkins has returned from his winter's sojourn in Austin, Tex., in good health and spirits.

J.W. Winans over in Bristol township is now keeping two stallions at the Shoger livery stable; they being a Norman and Cleveland Bay.

It is not altogether improbable that Yorkville will celebrate the anniversaries of her small-pox in the years to come, and is poking fun at Oswego for being afraid her saloons getting hurt, &c..

Yorkville: Oswego gave a majority of sixty for the license ticket. Where were the temperance people?

Oswego is the only license town in Kendall County.

The popular Aurora firm, Miller & Sencenbaugh, make an announcement of Spring Goods in this issue. It is one of the best houses in the west.

It is too bad Oswego quarantined against Yorkville; there are a number of our thirsty ones who like to run up there for a glass of beer.

Hon. E.W. Barnes, formerly of Oswego, in this county, is now secretary and treasurer of the Carthage Foundry and Machine Co., Carthage, Missouri. They do a large business.

No small-pox in Yorkville, and we are all more than glad.

Awful weather this week--cold as January.

## THE SCABBY SCOURGE

Well, we are all here yet; that is the most of us, and all have stiff upper-lips and do business every day as usual. It has been more than three weeks since the disease first broke out, and we look now for a cessation of trouble.

On Friday morning last, Fred Pearce was discharged from the hospital and went to his home in Bristol. Fred Johnson and Billy Patterson were also given a clean bill of health by the physician and left the saloon building to see their friends.

The flags and signs are taken from the Fox River House and the saloon and this makes things look better.

About the saddest feature of the affair is the death of John Kellett senior, which occurred on Sunday morning. Mr. Kellett was taken sick about 10 days before his death, but no one thought any thing serious would occur as it is generally understood that he had had the small-pox years ago. He visited his son John when he was down, not fearing any evil results. But he took the disease and it ended fatally. He was buried at Pavilion Sunday night.

Squire Kellett was an old resident of the town of Kendall, living many years on his farm at Pavilion. We remember his years ago as a chorister in the Pavilion church choir. He was a prominent man in the town, has been supervisor and for years a justice of the peace. He was about 70 years of age.

May -- 1884

May 1: Miss Helen Gorton of Bristol has lately commenced teaching the school in the Wormley district and her scholars are highly pleased with her and her management of it.

Mrs. Clarence J. Shumway and children have returned from Hastings, Neb., on a visit here.

There is a new girl in the Frank Van Doozer family.

Pat Deveny has planted five acres of corn Saturday, which probably was the first planted hereabouts.

Clansman, a very nice three year old Clydesdale, is the stallion kept here this season by Wm. S. Blair.

Mr. Farley is causing his late purchase, the Mullenix house, to be repaired and fixed up in the best style.

W.H. McConnell has supplied his barn with new siding.

The Testin saloon yesterday received new flooring.

D.M. Haight is getting his load scales reconstructed.

Mrs. Thomas Miller is on the sick list and Mrs. David Carpenter has been.

Pat. Deveny has planted five acres of corn Saturday, which probably was the first planted hereabouts.

And didn't the wind blow Sunday! It blew down some trees around town especially in Frank Hawley's yard and upset a large corn crib for John G. Bower out on the prairie.

W.H. McConnell has supplied his barn with new siding.

The Testin saloon yesterday has received a new flooring.

It is said that the corporation authorities are going to build a new council hall and calaboose combined; that the site of it will be on the south side of Washington street, above the railroad track.

Yorkville: There has been another failure of grain dealers in Morris. The well-known firm of O.J. and Nels Nelson have made an assignment. The secret of many of these failures is the dealing of these buyers on the Board of Trade in Chicago. It will be well for farmers to demand cash for their grain when they sell, and take no chances of long storage.

Fishing tackle of all kinds at Seely's.

Dearborn's new skating rink building is fast reaching completion. Paul expects to dedicate it in a couple of weeks.

The Oswego correspondent of the Beacon says: "Thirty-seven temperance votes in Oswego. We are at a low ebb in temperance feeling. There are many people here who talk one way and vote the other."

The paper mills will start up next Monday for a long run.

May 8: Miss Julia E. Shumway's wedding occurred Thursday at the residence of her mother. The bridegroom was a Mr. John K. Lynd of Elgin. The Rev. George Hill performed the ceremony. The Bridal party took their departure on the 5.20 train.

Charles Ashley, formerly an Oswegoan, died in Aurora last week of cancer, which had been brought on by a hurt to his face.

August Stolp of Mason, who years ago was living and got married here, died last week in a hospital in Chicago, at which he was treated for cancer.

Dr. Jewell's barn, which was drawn a little out of plumb by the big wind a week ago Sunday, has since been taken down and the material John Lockwood will cause to be converted into a harness shop near there.

James H. Morrison, the foreman in the Parker furniture factory, has moved back to Aurora.

The Schuman family have again returned here from Iowa and are not satisfied that there is no place like Oswego.

The H.B. Reed family has moved into the newly repaired house of Mr. Farley, on the east corner of Main and Benton streets.

The Barnard family has moved into the McKinney house; it is said that Mrs. McKinney is agoing to move to Aurora.

It should have been mentioned last week that Mr. and Mrs. Lynch have moved to Aurora and that James B. Pogue was down from Hinckley.

Dick Young is just now the proudest man hereabouts; he has become a father, and that of a boy, too.

Under the new administration of the corporation government, W.H. McConnell has been reelected president; Chas. Kimball has been appointed constable, and L.N. Hall treasurer.

David Goudie died last night.

Now that the small-pox has been got along with, a thorough inquiry should be made as to its nature; it should be found out who was and who was not vaccinated of those that had it, and if the former, how long ago. The public should care more for information about this disease than any other for the appearance of small-pox will cause the upsetting of constitutional rights in times of peace more than anything else--there is compulsory vaccination; people against their will are taken from their homes and forced into pesthouses, &c.

Richard Constable yesterday loaded a car with his household goods for removal to Kansas. The family will accompany Orson Ashley, who returns tomorrow and who has sold his place here to Mrs. Winn.

Yorkville: General Grant has been bitten on Wall street as many others have been. The Marine National Bank of New York failed on Tuesday carrying with it the brokerage firm of Grant & Ward--in which was General Grant and his son, U.S. It is thought the General loses \$250,000. He ought to have known better.

The Plano Times made its first appearance last Saturday, said to be by the Plano Publishing Company, though we have seen no notice of the incorporation of such a company. It is printed in Sandwich at the Free Press office.

Yorkville is not the only place that has been afflicted with the pustulent pest. Charleston in Coles County, Ill., has an outbreak of small-pox and the schools have been closed and the Circuit Court just convened with adjourned to the fall term. We know how to sympathize with the people there.

Kendall Cornet Band at the skating rink this Friday eve.

We are indebted to Mr. Henry Holder for two copies of the Kendall County Courier, published in 1852. We will make some extracts from them in a future number.

The terrible smell that strikes you once in awhile is from the paper mills. Someone crawled into the straw and died, hence the odor. When they get to running on new straw, it will be like new mown hay.

Death of David Goudie, Esq.

After quite a long and wasting illness, Mr. David Goudie died at his residence in the town of NaAuSay on Monday night from an affliction of the liver and heat, aged 59 years. The funeral took place Wednesday afternoon at the house, in charge of the Knight Templars of Aurora and largely attended.

David Goudie was an old resident of the town and a prosperous farmer. He was a bluff, honest Scotchman, with many friends and his death is generally mourned. He leaves a wife, two daughters, and three sons, and one of his daughters is the wife of Mr. MacMillan, an editor on the staff of the Chicago InterOcean. He leaves his family in good circumstances.

May 15: The decoration meeting Saturday was quite fully attended and harmonious; it decreed a program to the effect that the day shall be duly observed; that there shall be an oration; the reading of a poem; singing; band music; a procession to the cemetery; and appropriate decoration ceremonies of the graves.

Walter Ladd is now teaching the school in the Cutter district.

David Iliff, Esq., of Aurora and formerly of this place, was in town Sunday.

The building operations on Washington street have been somewhat retarded by the frequent rains; the foundation of the council house is completed and the Lockwood shop inclosed.

The bridal couple, Mr. and Mrs. John K. Lynd, have returned here on a visit.

Yorkville: The "hero of Vicksburg" is a free man, until some competent court can try him again. Mr. Schermerhorn of Bristol had ben in the Kendall County jail for some weeks, committed by the County Court for non-payment of a judgment granted in a bastardy case. The Sergeant refused to pay. On Monday, the old hero's case was taken to Geneva on a writ of habeas corpus and set at liberty by the Judge. The reason assigned is that his trial was in the probate term of court when it ought to have been a jury term of the county

court. The difference is the same as that between six and half a dozen. Taxes go on the same to support courts supposed to know something, and one court persistently decides that the other court didn't know anything. It is no longer a question of facts, but whether the t's were all crossed and the I's dotted.

The Yorkville trustees have voted to grant a billiard license to Peter Weiland. We doubt the wisdom of the move, as billiards and beer are generally partners.

Henry Smith, the corpulent, obese and rotund man of railroad predilections, who does business for the CB&Q Company at Oswego, spent a few hours in Yorkville Monday. Hank is going well in every way.

May 22: The occurrence of two prominent weddings last Wednesday were the occasion of the greatest social stir of the season. Anna Shepard married James B. Pogue and Belle Elliott married Fred W. Blose.

Byron Shibley, an Oswego boy of the past, was in town the other day for the first time in 10 years.

The Shoger Brothers have bought and fenced for a pasture, the flats below town and between the Waubonsie and Bridge road.

It is said that Wm. Ladd has bought the Shumway premises, and ere long will move to town.

George C. Inman has bought and moved into the James Chapman house.

The frame of the Council building is up and the new harness nearly completed, and the latter, though rather a small building, what it lacks in size is fully made up in beauty; the front top is none of your ordinary square battlement affairs but that of a beautiful half circle.

Yorkville: If Grant had stayed in Galena these things would not have been.

S.H. Wheeler, Esq. of NaAuSay was in Yorkville last week--the first time in a long while. Shel. is a Logan man.

The good Lord never made a more beautiful country than the Fox River valley at this season of the year.

May 29: Will H. Marion and bride--a Miss Ella Tomblin of Waterman and at which place they had been married--arrived here the forepart of last week.

August Schmidt Jr. has returned from Dakota for the recuperation of his health, which got impaired out there.

The building of the residence here for S.S. Collins, of Ottawa, has been commenced.

A flag staff on the council building would not have been a bad idea.

The building of an addition to the Moore residence has been commenced.

The Dr. Jewel office is now on the move, going to the lower end of the lot.

Several nice new monuments have lately been put up in the cemetery, among which are those for Mrs. Cole and Mrs. Sutherland.

Among the visitors and sojourners were Mrs. Anna Pogue and Mrs. Emmer Hopkins of Hinckley; Mrs. T.B. Reed, Pullman; C.H. Helme, Rockford; Mrs. L.L. Lynch, Aurora.

A town without a newspaper is like being the possessor of a saddle without a horse.

NaAuSay: A few farmers are planting their corn fields for the second time, namely on sod, and a few are cultivating their early planting.

Mr. Edmund Seely is progressing finely with his new barn, has it nearly enclosed. VanEvra, of Oswego, does the work.

The largest corn field in NaAuSay is a field 320 rods long and 90 rods wide, containing 180 acres, all tiled and planted by A.R. Thompson.

June -- 1884

June 5: No Oswego column.

Yorkville: For some unknown reason, letters to the Record from correspondents do not arrive promptly, greatly to the inconvenience of writers and printers. Last week we were especially unfortunate in this matter--letters from Little rock, Plano, Bristol Station, and Millbrook all reaching this office at 11 o'clock Wednesday and the paper goes to press at 12:30. It was impossible to get them in type. A letter mailed at Bristol Station on Monday ought to get to Yorkville by Tuesday at least.

The night of May 28 was very cold, and Thursday morning it was not surprising to see that frost had been at work. As the sun got up and manifested some warmth at what Jack Frost had been doing out of his time and season, potato plants began to grow black, beans wilted, tomatoes shriveled up, grape-shoots lost their grip, and young corn-blades turned yellow.

NaAuSay Festival

There will be a strawberry and ice cream festival in Edmund Seely's new barn in NaAuSay Wednesday evening, June 11th, for the benefit of the Union church.

June 12: The Oswego paper is now a living reality; it was born last week, is a beauty, and christened the *Kendall County Press*, Charles A. Campbell of Lockport is its Editor. Oswego now shall no longer be the step child in the family of the towns in this neighborhood. Audacity, Adroitness and Brilliancy will be in the future her motto.

At the raising of a barn for C.L. Roberts Saturday afternoon, Wm. Parker slipped and fell a distance of almost 12 feet striking on one shoulder and although not sustaining any fractures of the bones he was very seriously hurt, the injuries being internal.

Mrs. Packer, of Urichaville, Ohio, nee Mary Sutherland, an Oswego girl of former times, is here on a visit.

Two days after the fire and before the ruins had time to cool, the McWethy Brothers paid the insurance of their risk on the McConnell barn.

The corporation's new building is nearing completion; the iron chamber, calculated for fellows to go where dogs cannot bite them, and which was put together by Hebert & Sons, is now in place and ready for occupancy.

Joseph P. Brown, of NaAuSay, delivered this morning to Wollenweber & Knapp, for shipment, 33 May pigs of one year age that averaged 408 pounds. Bill Wiley, of that section, a few days ago delivered 11 hogs, 13 months old that averaged 430, beating the former in weight but were not of as fine a quality as Brown's.

June 18: While engaged in sawing posts in Parker's sawmill the other day David Hall was quite severely hurt by falling and getting in contact with some of the machinery. His face was much bruised and some of the edge portions of the skull fractured; the injuries however are not dangerous.

Wm. Parker who was injured at the raising is doing quite favorably.

Because of some misunderstanding among the members of the corporation board, about some of the arrangements of the new council building, Mr. Greenfield resigned. The resignation has not been accepted.

The corporation is doing much good work on the streets by graveling.

The building on the corner heretofore occupied as the harness shop is now being fitted up for a meat market to be conducted by Frank Schram.

John S. Seely has nearly completed a new barn.

Charles R. McKinley of Yorkville is painting the new council building. He has also painted the new addition to the Moore residence.

Jennie Armstrong and Mae Jeneson, the Yorkville north side milliners, have been up over Sunday.

Mrs. L.L. Lynch is at present staying in Oswego.

General Logan ought to sue a number of papers hereabouts, including the *Record*, for printing that picture on him which looks more like that of a professional remover of corns than anything else.

The second number of the *Kendall County Press* appeared on time last week full of vim and brightness.

The opposition in the Republican party to James G. Blaine is another proof that excess no matter in what is injurious. The matter with Blaine is that he is too popular.

June 25: In the distribution of rain this spot has received several very nice showers recently and with the hot weather now the corn is growing rushingly.

Those that were there say that the picnic at George Cowdrey's Saturday afternoon was just the pleasantest affair extant.

The McFarlane family have moved into the house on the corner of Jackson and Madison streets, the old Kendall house site.

The meat market on the north corner of Main and Washington streets is now in full operation. Frank Welk is the manager of it.

The "Press" of Saturday said that W. H. McConnell sold his team of horses to L.B. Clark of Aurora. The "Press" wants to get a little better acquainted with the names of our inhabitants; it gives names as business men that never have been heard of.

The ice company is shipping on the average four car loads of ice per day.

A family by the name of Richardson from Aurora has moved into the upper store house on lower Washington street, and the Iowa stone house has been occupied too by a family of strangers.

McKinley, the Yorkville painter, is just setting out the council building in superb style.

The firm of Pogue & Sons are most popular lumber dealers; their trade extends over a large section of country and they are doing a big business.

In the long ago this place was quite intimate with Plainfield and Lockport--farmers were hauling their grain to Lockport and go through Plainfield where they would stop and rest--there was much intercourse by the people these villages, but in the course of time Aurora became aggrandizing and absorbed all of what Oswego and vicinity were concerned in.

There had been no intercourse with Will County for many years and Plainfield through but nine miles distant by a straight road and over level country, had become to appear like a strange place away off over the mountains. Our new paper, the "Press," is undertaking to restore the acquaintance by having a corps of correspondents in Will county writing for the paper and by supplying it with more or less other Will County news.

The Robert Gainmill family is on moving from the up stairs of the Zorn building to the Nick Congdon house.

July -- 1884

July 2: Mrs. Jennie Brownell of Peoria, nee Jennie Burr, an Oswego girl of former times, is here visiting relatives and friends.

Kate Lester has returned from Plano, near which place she has been teaching.

An Aurora man had pitched his tent for several days on the vacant lot near the post office selling goods at auction; apparently he did not get rich out of it.

They say that there is a new Glee Club, a gentlemen's glee club, come into existence.

The funeral procession with the remains of Mrs. Sarah A. Andrews passed through her yesterday for the Cowdrey cemetery, where the burial took place. The Andrews family used to live at Specie Grove.

Thomas Deveny, who has grown up in this town and who always has been a very quiet and studious boy, is now fully installed into the Catholic priesthood, saying mass for the first time a week ago Sunday at Aurora. Tom went through the college at Bourbonnais Grove and was lately confirmed at Peoria. He will make a good looking priest.

The *Kendall County "Press"* did not come out last week; what can be the matter with the young thing? Likely suffering from some complaint to which infant life is subject to.

July 9: The Fourth here was passed very nicely; the display of patriotism was not carried to excess.

Thomas Stevens, the man from San Francisco on his way around the world on a bicycle passed through here the other day.

Another bicyclist, namely Harry West of Wichita, Kansas (son of Wm. West, formerly of this place) is here on a visit at his uncle's, W.H. McConnell. He works the bicycle very easily and gracefully.

Samuel Sanders of Rahway, N.J. is here on a visit to his brother, John.

Sel. Bunn was spending a few days in town.

Oswego is apt to overdo all good things; this seems to be the case now with vocal music.

The *Saratoga Kansas Sun* of a recent date has a local to the effect that Mr. C.B. Teller (which is our Charley Teller) has arrived there from new Mexico and taken a hand in the business of the lumber firm of which he is a member; that Mrs. Teller had not yet arrived but was expected the following week. The paper also contained a conspicuous advertisement of "Scars, Blackburn & Teller."

July 16: Henry, the 10 year old son of Anton Miller, while at the Shoger livery stable yesterday afternoon was severely kicked in the side by a horse.

The death and funeral of William B. Phillips took place last week at the house of his son-in-law, John A. Young. The deceased was one of our men, being 94 years of age; also an old settler and an old Mason, both by trade and fraternity.

There will be a mass meeting next Saturday evening at the Court House for the purpose of organizing a Blaine and Logan club.

Nearly all the store fronts in the brick block have been repainted in many colors giving them quite an imposing appearance. Ed. Strossman did the work.

The police court, of which C.L. Murdock is the justice, has been moved into the new council building, but notwithstanding the airy and commodious new quarters the business there seems to be very dull.

July 23: A new institution was brought into existence here Wednesday evening by the organization of a lodge of the "Order of the Eastern Star," I believe it is called, composed of wives and daughters of Free Masons.

On the 40th birthday last week, Mrs. M.C. Richards was subjected to an unannounced and simultaneous visit of a lot of her friends.

There is now another boy in the family of Thomas J. Pigott.

Through some inadvertency the age of Wm. B. Phillips in last week's letter was made 10 years more than it should have been; it was but 84 years.

There was business at the council building yesterday; the police court was in session the latter part of the afternoon hearing a case of "assault and battery" and in which the defendant was fined \$3 and costs. The corporation board held a session there in the evening.

July 30: There was a party down at the unoccupied creamery yesterday afternoon, which terminated disastrously to one fellow's scalp. The affair last evening attracted a good many to the council building where some of the participants were detained; it will undergo investigation by the police court.

The lecture of Major C.C. Bennett at the Baptist church on the Sandwich Islands was full of interest.

The promising harvest of grain is inducing parties to prepare for the threshing of it. George J. Hettrich and Leonard Wolf together have procured a new threshing machine; Albert Tuttle went through town with a new and very nice one Saturday and it is said that Peter Cooney also has a new one.

There will be an ice cream festival next week Thursday evening, Aug. 5, the proceeds which will go toward a new organ for the school--the jug breaking for the same will take place the same evening.

August -- 1884

Aug. 6: Heutkoetter has sold his house to Herman Bohn and moved to Nebraska.

A five months old boy from the baby farm at St. Charles was adopted in the family of J.C. Turpin; they have lost their own children last year by diphtheria.

Gus Shoger has been making improvements to his residence.

Nellie Hall has returned from Nebraska; she experienced that tornado they had there, and brought with her some specimens of what was left from standing grain and other products. The most of the people about York from this neighborhood have lost nearly all of their crops and chickens.

For the use of free speech, or rather for the too freely shooting off of his mouth a few evenings since, one of our prominent citizens was put under arrest yesterday to answer to the charge of disorderly conduct.

\$5 and costs of each was the fine imposed upon two of the company for fighting while having a party at the vacant creamery. The verdict was much criticized; some held that there should have been a chrono premium and others that the fine should have been at least \$25. Probably no other one thing has of late years excited the public mind as much as the subject of verdicts of the trials for crime. The machinery for such trials is inadequate for the dealing out of even justice.

Yorkville: A new Blaine and Logan streamer has been made for the Republican flag pole in the courthouse yard.

The violent storms of the past weeks have been very destructive in more than one regard. They have caused a considerable loss among the livestock by lightning.

Six houses were burglarized at Montgomery one night recently.

The Aurora Bicycle Club will give an exhibition at the [Kendall] County Fair--a fast race, a slow race, and fancy riding.

Seventy-five hands are now employed in the Aurora Watch factory, and the number will soon be increased.

County surveyor John McMath was in Yorkville Thursday doing some surveying for the paper mill folks.

Aurora Herald: The familiar face of uncle John Wormley of Oswego was seen on our streets Saturday. Mr. Wormley was injured last spring by a falling load of hay, and has not been able to get out much since. He still goes on crutches.

President Loucks expects to begin work on the Fair Ground track tomorrow (Thursday). Capt. Mann will superintend the work.

#### Yorkville Tile Factory

Joseph Tarbox is getting out a first quality of tile with his new machine, and has at his yard a general assortment of all sizes; and he will not be undersold by anyone. Address, Yorkville, Ill. Tile and brick yard on the north side, near the fairgrounds.

#### Plano: Highway Robbers

Last Saturday afternoon, Peter Johnson, a Dane who has been at work for John Gillman, was coming to this city and when near the Henning bridge, he was met by Will Colburn, Elmer Robbins, and Ted Everett, who proceeded to hold him up, and relieved him of his money and watch; but they afterwards returned the watch with the threat to kill him if he squealed. The ruffians then made themselves scarce. Johnson came at once to Plano and procured a warrant, which was placed in the hands of City Marshal Jay, who started at once in pursuit. He went to Yorkville the next morning and found that they had breakfasted at Beck's Hotel, and had then gone down the river. The warrant was placed in the hands of the Sheriff, who found two of them at Millington and brought them back and put them in jail. Marshal Jay went over on Tuesday morning and brought them to Plano and locked them up, where they will remain if they do not escape, till the capture of Ted Everett, who is still at large.

The boys were examined before Mr. Justice Rounds on Wednesday morning, and was held for trial under bonds for \$1,000--they will probably go to jail.

Ted Everett has not yet been found. When he is caught he should have a life term in State's prison. He is a bad man, and no redemption in him.

Aug. 13: The proceeds of the festival for a fund towards the procurement of an organ for the school, including the jug contributions, amounted to \$53.62 and netted about \$40. Prof. McFarlane and the larger school girls did nobly in conducting the affair.

That complaint against a prominent citizen for disorderly conduct mentioned last week was withdrawn. The whole affair was a blunder; there had been no "shooting off of the mouth" by anybody; it was merely a somewhat animated confab, and by the way Oswego has now taken a new departure; there shall be no more making faces at one another but all will go in for the cultivation of brotherly love.

Blanche Cutter has returned home from Normal Park.

A while ago a fund was raised by contributions for buying a cow for the Sierp family in the place of one that had died. The object has been accomplished and the family herewith wish to express their gratitude.

The school directors have engaged the services of Miss Nora Blackstone, a late graduate of the Northwestern Normal Institute, to fill the vacancy in the primary department.

The Blaine and Logan club of Oswego have received an invitation to attend the reception of General Logan in Chicago on the 23d inst. They should go by all means so that reception may be made a success.

Yorkville: It is hoped that hereafter the Republicans of Kendall County will do away with the secret ballot in conventions, and vote in the modern way, by the chairman of each town delegation polling the vote and announcing it from his seat. It will prevent much lying and chicanery.

The Aurora Post says Frank Unfried will run a meat market in Oswego.

The Aurora Bicycle club, of some 20 wheelmen, will be at the Kendall County Fair, in uniform. It will be a fine exhibition.

Aug. 20: The diphtheria had broken out again at the AuxSable Grove last week; Chris. Burghart had three of his children die, or all but one; two were buried at one and the same time.

Tom Brace, who moved from here to Plymouth co., Iowa some years ago, has met with reverses lately. He had his barn burned and with it a horse, 16 fat hogs, a lot of hay, and many other things. The origin of the fire is thought to have been by spontaneous combustion.

Boys from 30 to 50 years of age should not get at fighting so early in the morning and tear each other's shirts--that isn't the way brotherly love is cultivated. Shirts are property; don't tear them.

J. Constantine received two carloads of tile from Aurora last week.

The Zorn meat market has started up again.

The Francis Hayes family, late comers, have again departed for Iowa.

The Blaine and Logan club held a meeting Saturday evening at the Leisure Moment hall; for the lack of a turnout but little business was done.

Yorkville: Blaine and Logan badges for sale at the Record office. Nice ones.

The Fox River paper mill started up Tuesday night. It is said that Mr. Fram has leased the old mill and will soon start it up.

The paper mills are shut down for repairs. A new water wheel is being put in the Fox River Mill to run the machinery instead of using the steam engine, which will be a great saving in fuel.

Aug. 27. John H. Wormley who had been supposed as being done up for when he had his hip bone broken last winter was in town for a few days last week.

S.G. Minkler who had been laid up for five weeks came again to town last week.

The Louisville (Kan.) Republican of Aug. 13th, had this death notice: "Little Harry, infant son of Martin and Ella Ashley, died in Bellevue, Kansas August 8th, 1884, aged 11 months and 5 days." Further on in the same paper appeared the account of the funeral which having been the following Sunday and was very largely attended. A few days ago the information was received here by some of the friends, that another child of that family had died, and also Orson Ashley, Martin's father.

Reiff's photograph tent was pitched the other day on the vacant lot near the postoffice. Now is your chance to get yourself pictured at home.

The Wm. F. Sutherland mentioned some weeks ago in the Record as being one of its subscribers in Kansas, proved to be the identical lost Bill Sutherland from this place. A letter has since been received from him by Mr. Seely and one also by old man Rank.

Miss Blanche Cutter has gone to Moline to engage in teaching.

Miss Swartout, one of the new teachers of the school here, has arrived and taken up her abode with the family of Prof. McFarlane.

Chris Herren, on the Budlong farm, drove a three year old colt to Chicago the other day and sold it for \$200. It was three-quarters Norman and weighed 1,475 pounds.

Yorkville: The photograph rooms in Yorkville will be closed during the Fair, the artist, Mr. Whitney, having a stand on the ground.

There was a sad and painful calamity in the town of Bristol on the main line of the CB&Q railroad Saturday afternoon last in which little Arthur Beecher, son of Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Beecher, a boy about 11 years old, lost his life.

#### 89th Illinois Reunion

Arrangements have been made to have the first reunion of the "old Railroad Regiment" on the Kendall County Fair Grounds of Thursday of next week, Sept. 4th, at which time it is expected that Gov. Oglesby will give an address.

#### September -- 1884

Sept. 3: On page 1 of the *Record*, Oswego Township Thistle Commissioner David C. Jeneson gives an extensive report of everywhere in the township that Canada Thistles have been found growing. He noted that from the Oswego bridge downstream to the township line, there were 27 islands in the Fox River. Four of the islands were infested with Canada Thistles, which he cut at a cost of \$9.

School commenced yesterday. The teachers are Walter McFarlane, Miss Hettie Swartwout of New York state and Miss Nora Blackston of Geneseo--both ladies are new teachers and strangers and both look, that in a wrestle with a tough small boy, "toughie" would get floored.

The Misses Ella, Lizzie, and Kate Russell have returned to Chicago to resume the inculcation of knowledge to a portion of the youth of that city.

Miss Nellie Smith has returned home from Long Grove where she has been teaching.

The reply of John Wentworth (Long John) of Chicago to an invitation to the Old Settlers picnic was shown me. He said his coming will have to depend much on business, health and the weather; that he will come if he can, and would be much pleased to do so as he remembers well Mr. Minkler and the addresses of a number of others from Oswego, Yorkville and Georgetown.

Some for diversion and others for a more glorious purpose have, during last week, more or less attended the Plano Campmeeting.

Henry Shoger, who is badly affected with the asthma, has gone on a trip west for relief.

T.J. Pigott has formed a copartnership with D.W. Winn in the mattress manufacturing business; they are now on building a new factory on Tyler street between Madison and Monroe.

W.H. McConnell has rebuilt his barn which a while ago burned down.

The basement of the broom factory began caving in and if it hadn't been for the timely propping the building would have come down and great would have been the fall of it.

Yorkville: On Wednesday of last week, Aug. 27th, Mr. Walter Loucks of Oswego left two ears of corn at this office that was beautiful to look upon. The ears were large and full, the grain plump and hard and out of the way of frost. It was planted May 3d. The variety is called the "Early Ohio," we believe.

Sept. 10: The past week has been rather quiet during daytime, probably due to the County Fair. The evenings were more lively; the splendid moonshine, the cooler atmosphere, and the discussion of politics between drinks caused much liveliness. Tuesday evening, the Aurora bicycle club were in town on their machines.

Wm. F. Sutherland has arrived here Wednesday after an absence of 18 years, and considering that he has spent this long time in the wild west and a portion of it on the frontier, he has preserved his identity and age extra well--everybody that had known him would recognize him at once.

The political campaign so far has been rather dull, but the brilliance of it will commence right way for our Blaine and Logan club now got their uniforms and torches. The club has been out several evenings practicing parading.

Michael Wolf, the one armed soldier who has been almost in continual distress--his arm was taken off at the shoulder joint, leaving no stump, which caused certain disarrangements in the arterial system and affected the heart--and who has been on the failing order for some time died the latter part of the week. The funeral took place Sunday afternoon from the house.

The diphtheria has again broken out and this time in the Gaylord neighborhood. It is said that one or more of the children in each of the families of Cass and Clint Gaylord and Frank Collins are affected, and that the school ma'am also has got it, but that it is of a mild type and that all are on the gaining order.

Eugene Minard had a fat hog die Saturday from the effects of the heat, and only by the plentiful application of cold water were some of the others kept alive.

John Bechteler has returned here from Chicago and again gone into the manufacturing of Limburger.

A Mrs. Will R. Smith is sojourning at this place for the present; her husband, a commercial traveler, was here with her one Sunday. They are a newly married couple.

The Katydids are singing solos all over town, but only about the corner by Nick Congdon's where they hold forth in giving their grand chorus.

Stetter & Doll is the new butcher firm.

Yorkville: The Yorkville public schools opened on Monday with a total attendance of 230 pupils.

Sept. 17: T.J. Pigott has moved into the Voss house on Madison street.

Maggie Shepard has moved her millinery establishment to the Shaver house on Washington street, lately vacated by the family of T.J. Pigott.

The Schuman family have returned to this place and are occupying the Boesnecker house--corner Washington and Madison streets.

The Gigger family have moved into the lower Chapman house, near the railroad bridge.

S.S. Collins has moved here from Ottawa and is now occupying his new residence on Plainfield avenue.

The reconstruction of the basement to the Armstrong broom factory is nearly completed.

A Mr. Denmark is canvassing here for the book of James G. Blaine.

It is said that Andrew P. Walsh has shot himself in the side, accidentally, towards night yesterday while out hunting [prairie] chickens.

A very nice obituary notice of Orson Ashley accompanied by touching lines of poetry, was contained in the Kansas Agriculturalist of Aug. 29th, published at Wamego.

Mrs. H.C. Kerr has gone on a visit to her brother, Clarence J. Shumway at Hastings, Nebraska.

The school is running very nicely; the new teachers are liked ever so much by their scholars.

Sept. 24: Miss Ruth Davis, the teacher in the Gaylord district, died last week of diphtheria at her boarding place, the residence of C.G. Gaylord.

Andrew P. Walsh, who accidentally shot himself while out in the field hunting, is said to be much improved and now out of danger.

Er. Parke who has been living here for over 40 years has now packed up and started this morning with his family for southern Kansas there to establish a farm and grow up with the country.

Mrs. Eliza Avery had been to the trouble of raising some gourds; one day last week while away from home, the small boys took and destroyed them--causing the old lady to feel bad. Oh, that our boys could be made to have a little respect for what does not belong to them.

Henry Shoger has returned from the West recovered in health.

Yorkville: Charles Sparr died in Morris Dept. 15th, aged 48 years. He went to Oswego in 1855 and lived there two years, thence moving to Morris in 1857. His wife, who survives him, was Miss Kate Wolf--he marrying her in Oswego. Mr. Sparr was a prominent man in Morris, having been city treasurer, supervisor of the town, and a member of the city council.

October -- 1884

Oct. 1: Miss Lizzie Hopkins, one of our most prominent young ladies, was married Wednesday to Wm. H. Winsor of Aurora.

Another marriage which occurred yesterday was that of A.J. Lockwood of this place to Miss Olie Glassbie of Gouverneur, N.Y.

The Frank Richards family have returned to Oswego from Iowa.

Bertie, nearly three years old, the youngest child of Mr. and Mrs. James Jarvis, died last week with affection of the throat; something like croup; he had been sick but a day or two.

A stranger and an oldish man of the tramp order, who had been in town for several days indulging in whiskey quite freely, Saturday forenoon when on the way of his departure and about half way over the bridge jumped off into the river. Charles Zorn who was in the neighborhood with his team, drove in and rescued the would be suicide. He claimed that he had lost some money.

Advertisement: I am getting some of the best stone and flagging ever quarried on the Fox River. Can furnish flagging almost any size up to eight inches thick. Come and look at stone and get prices. Will deliver stone to most any place. Flagging dressed any shape. Well and cistern covers. G.D. Wormley, one mile north of Oswego, west side.

Oct. 8: L.C. Lamb and Miss Bertha Troll were married last Thursday.

Willard Kennedy and other coal tar roofers have returned.

A three week old infant of the family of Henry Testin died last week.

Ira B. Warner of the firm of Blaine & Warner, established here about thirty-three years ago, their place of business being where Early Sutherland now is, was in town over Sunday.

Apparently a break in the weather has come; this morning it is decidedly moist. And by the way, the Signal Service managers had rather bad luck so far with their "cold wave" business. Twice they reported a cold wave coming and not only did the waves prove wholly abortive, but when they should have been on, the weather was uncomfortably warm. The Signal Service may be a great thing for ought I know; it may be that what keeps the country from going to destruction, and the Farmer's Bulletin may be of incalculable benefit to the people in general, but as far as this place is concerned, the publication of the Bulletin might be a disappointment.

Oct. 15: The National league ball season of 1884 came to a close on Saturday though a few postponed games remain to be played this week. The final standing of the different clubs was practically decided weeks ago when the Providence and the Boston Clubs swung themselves into first and second places, respectively. National League standings were providence, Boston, Buffalo, Chicago, New York, Philadelphia, Cleveland, and Detroit. American Association standings were Metropolitan, Louisville, Cincinnati, Columbus, St. Louis, Baltimore, Athletic, Toledo, Brooklyn, Pittsburgh, Indianapolis, and Virginia.

It is supposed that today Ohio will determine whom the people of the United States must elect for their President.

The wedding of Miss Alice Lester to Hubert S. Ladd occurred last Thursday afternoon at the residence of Dr. Lester, the bride's father.

The information of the death of Martin Hemm at Waseca, Minn. Was received Friday by his folks here. Martin some years ago went and settled in Kansas; after awhile his health began to fail and has been spending the summer in Minnesota. Martin was 30 years of age; was a native of this township.

George Brown is now engaged braking on the railroad and his family moved today to Aurora.

The Kimball livery stable office, nee the Bandwagon house, is being moved this morning to near the barn.

Oct. 22: The Emma Baker concert has been postponed to the evening of November 19.

The wedding of Miss Florence Minkler to Charles H. Andrews took place on Wednesday last.

Maggie Shepard has returned from a month's visit with relatives at Bancroft, Iowa, with renewed energies for prosecuting the Milliner business; a fresh stock of supplies were laid in since her return.

It is said that the Methodist church has been papered and otherwise fixed up quite nicely, and that the services there Sunday were very efficiently performed by a young clergyman from abroad.

What is the definition of "mugwump" anyway and from what was the word derived? [The Mugwumps were Republican political activists who supported Democratic candidate Grover Cleveland in the Presidential election of 1884 who switched parties because they rejected the financial corruption associated with Republican candidate James G. Blaine. The Mugwumps supposedly made the difference in New York State and swung the election to Cleveland. The word Mugwumps is from Indian derivation to suggest that they were "sanctimonious" or holier-than-thou.]

Oct. 29: The information of the murder at Galesburg of Levi G. Avery was received last Thursday; the following day the remains were received and Saturday the funeral took place. Levi was a native of Oswego, was 25 years of age and for some time past had been engaged as a brakeman on the CB&Q.

The M.C. Richards family has again moved to Aurora. M.C. is now the foreman in the carpet sweeper factory.

Henry Shoger and family have moved to Iowa; he sold out here entirely, the farm to Leonard Haag and the interest in the livery stable to his brother, Gus.

November -- 1884

Nov. 5: The great day for saving the country from the destruction by the Democrats, or from the leading of it to ruin by the Republicans--according to the one or the other political faith--has been reached.

It has been frequently advanced as an argument against female suffrage that women take no interest in politics; that they don't want to read anything but novels and love stories. The charge is as false as tophet [an old word for hell], and a dastardly slander on the fair sex.

What an immense amount of fussing and what queer means it does require to teach the American citizen the simple set of voting.

It is supposed that after a few more days common sense will again come into use for the guidance of the American people.

It is too wet for husking corn today and plenty fair enough to come to town, so a full vote may be expected.

Our folks today are for voting early; now 10 o'clock and already 126 votes in.

An eight year old girl in the family of John Condon died last week of diphtheria.

The remains of Mrs. Sampson Pratt, a family formerly residing here, were brought for burial Sunday.

Wm. Walling will remain in the employ of J.S. Seely for another year.

The Emma Baker concert last evening of course was a very superb affair and was fairly attended. Miss Baker and Mr. Broderick were here for the first time, the most, if not all of the rest of the company had been singing here on previous occasions.

D.D. Lowry has moved to Aurora. Charles Kimball has moved into the house vacated by the Lowry family.

Nov. 19: The past week was one of extraordinary quietude for Oswego; the lamentations of the Republicans were expressed in a subdued manner and their grief born silently while the Democrats seemed to be scrupulously avoiding to hurt anybody's feelings--there was no gasconading; no manifestation of wild joy and so far they have been hearing their victory with becoming dignity and lie gentlemen. In saying this, no "trimming" is intended.

Will Lockwood has set up a jewelers establishment in C.F. Shaver's office.

Mr. Brownell of Peoria, formerly of this place, is now here visiting his mother, Mrs. Burr, and brother-in-law, Ezekiel Pearce.

Charles Leigh had the misfortune of having die one of his handsome Gilbert colts.

Er. Parke, who a few weeks ago moved to Kansas, gives a booming account of himself, saying that he has since built a good house, moved into it with his family and that they are now ready to receive visitors.

Much hope is felt, and much is expected in a moral point of view from the WCTU lately organized here, and of which mention was made last week--the officers then I did not know and so will give the list now, viz: President, Mrs. John Andrews; vice presidents Mrs. Isabella S. Jolly from the Presbyterian church, Miss Eliza Kennedy from the Congregational, Mrs. Mary Congdon from the Methodist, Mrs. Carrie E. Young from the Baptist, and Miss Carrie Whitman from the German Methodist; secretary, Mrs. Eliza Avery; treasurer, Mrs. M.E. Jeneson.

Among the reasons given for the detraction of the Republican vote, it may also be said that the most sensitive spot of the average man is his pocket; to say anything that is calculated to touch that, will at once excite apprehension and cause a deep impression no matter what foundation there may be for it. If the payment of the rebel debt had been taken up and pushed as in former campaigns the result might have been quite different; but Mr. Blaine himself, by his book, had spiked that gun.

Those of our people who were bound to believe that Blaine is the greatest statesman on earth and that Cleveland is a mere lankhead, feel now like the boy kicked by the mule, who between sobs blubbered out "Bad enough to be kicked anyway, but to be kicked by a goll darned jackass."

Nov. 26: The Democratic jollification here transpired last Wednesday evening and consisted of emblematic display, illuminations, bonfire, instrumental and implemental music, marching, cannonading, fireworks, enthusiasms, etc. Mark Chapman had a tri-color white, blue, and red streamer waving during the day over his residence, containing the numbers of 401, 219, and 182, the electoral vote and as divided between the two candidates. Some of the fireworks were the best ever brought to town. A rope was stretched from the big willow at Bartlett's across the street to the top of the Whitman house, the residence of Charley Hawley, and hung full of Chinese lanterns, which looked very pretty.

Nick Congdon's barn, situated about a mile from town, was burned Wednesday night with all its contents, principally hay, of which there being 30 tons. There was no insurance.

Wollenweber has built an extensive addition to his barn.

Henry Smith & Co. is the new firm here for the manufacturing of batting.

Mrs. Dwight Ladd and son Walter have gone to spend the winter in Nebraska. Both will be much missed from the Congregational choir. Wal was the organist.

The Thanksgiving service will be held at the Methodist Church.

December -- 1884

Dec. 3: Jesse Hill left here yesterday to rejoin his folks--the Rev. Geo. Hill family--now residing in Pennsylvania.

The Rev. George Colgrove, former pastor of the M.E. church here, arrived yesterday for a short visit to his relatives, the Watts D. Cutter family.

Mortimer and Harmon Minkler of Rochester are here on a visit to S.G. Minkler, their sick brother, who, by the way, is on the gaining order and the prospects for his recovery are said to be now quite favorable.

Mrs. Nathan Loucks was hurriedly called to New York State by the death of her mother, whose age was 78 years.

Thanksgiving day here was rather more on the quiet order than usual. The religious services were held at the Methodist church, the Rev. Mr. Miller preached the sermon.

The H.H. Haaff, who occasionally contributes a vigorous article on Prohibition from Atkinson, Ill. to the *Inter Ocean*, is the same individual who was our school teacher in 1855 or thereabouts.

New sidewalks are in process of construction in front of Troll, the meat market, and the Bakery.

Yorkville: George Evans, near Millbrook, has about 40 hives of bees for sale. Call on the farm or address him at Millbrook, Ill.

Beck's Hotel, Yorkville, has been sold to Justus Nading of the bakery. Justus and his wife will keep a good hotel, and travelers will find it a good place to stop.

Mr. Wm. Findley of Tamarack, is finishing one of the finest farm residences in all this section of country. The basement is especially superior. He is a young farmer of much enterprise. Recently he imported some very fine sheep from Canada.

Dec. 10: John Dankers suffered a self-inflicted gunshot wound while hunting rabbits. Dr. Lester is attending the case. What makes the matter still worse is that the family is poor.

Andrew P. Walsh has so far recovered from a severe gun shot wound some time ago as to be able to come to town and go to Chicago on a visit.

The burial of Wm. Williams, who died on the Geo. D. Wormley farm where he had been engaged, took place yesterday at the Oswego cemetery.

Jones & Farrell, the latest business developed will open the meat market on the Chapman corner within a few days.

Barry & Strossman have produced a very knobby looking job by the painting of the outside of the postoffice.

Miss Tina Elliott has been engaged for the fourth teacher in our school, and will render service in the primary department.

A soap bubble social under the auspices of the ladies Congregational Aid Society transpired one evening of last week.

Dec. 17: Mrs. E.W. Shumway is now back to Massachusetts on a visit.

C.L. Murdock and Nelson Larken have returned from a prolonged hunting and trapping expedition down the Illinois river.

The CB&Q authorities have caused a considerable fixing up at the depot here.

Among other things, Hebert & Sons are now also running a feed mill.

Dankers, the man wounded by accidental shooting is doing well.

The sick list contains some that have been on it for a long time, viz. Mrs. Ludwig Helle, Mrs. J.C. Shepard and Mrs. A.E. Van Deventer.

The project is now pending of a union Christmas tree of the Congregational and Presbyterian Sunday schools. There will be also a Christmas celebration on Christmas eve at the Methodist church in behalf of the Sunday school connected with it.

Dramatic performances will take place at the Leisure Moments hall next Thursday and Friday evenings.

The business places of James D. Pearce and H.B. Reed have been adorned with new and very neatly painted signs, the work of Frank Barry.

Thomas P. Kerr, from York, Neb., arrived here this morning on a visit. He is already an office holder out there, having been elected Township clerk.

Yorkville: It snowed Friday, Saturday, and Sunday lightly, and sleigh-bells soon began to jingle to the tune of runners rasping over the gravel. It was better Monday morning, however, and the sleighing was pretty fair. It now seems like winter and Santa Claus weather.

*Aurora Blade*: Cherry Bros., of Aux Sable Grove, have sold one of their thoroughbred boars to Mr. Jacob Miller, the cigar man. There are very few who know that Mr. Miller is developing into a breeder of fine stock. He has about 150 hogs on his farm, and will extend his efforts to cattle, horses, etc.

Sheriff Newton has a boarder he would be glad to be rid of. The neighborhood pest, Stub Russell, is now in the County jail at Yorkville, much to the disgust of everybody. He stole a satchel over at Plano and was bound over by Squire Horton to appear before the Circuit Court. How a man with both legs off at the juncture of the thighs and only one arm can steal is a mystery.

Don't fail to examine Xmas cards at the Oswego drug store.

Secure your bond box at the Oswego bank for 1885, only \$2 a year.

Winter is here.

Good sleighing.

Down to zero Wednesday morning.

NaAuSay: Quite a number of people from here attended the oyster supper at Peter Cooney's on Friday evening of last week. All report a splendid time. Peter and his family know how to make a party feel at home.

George Schell some time ago while plowing found a peculiar stone as he thought. Last week, while passing through one of the museums in Chicago, he saw one similar to the one he found, which is a chisel made out of stone by the Indians, measuring five inches in length, and was probably used to tap maple trees with.

The Thompson boys finished last week the husking of 240 acres of corn, which yielded 12,000 bushels of No. 2 corn.

Dec. 24: The competition spirit has been advanced here so far that it got a little bit into the Sunday school Christmas celebrations.

Who says "Corporations have no souls?" Here the CB&Q is showing its accommodating spirit by carrying holiday visitors to any point within 150 miles at 1-1/3 fare for the round trip. The selling of such tickets is confined to the 23d, 24th and 25th, and the last three days of this month and they must be used for going not later than the day following their purchase.

Joseph Morse, who went to Kansas a few weeks ago, returned yesterday.

Mrs. Edward S. Fuller--nee Libbie Minich--is here from Iowa visiting her folks.

Because of a 10 pound girl added to the family, Oliver Hem has reached that proud position of daddyship.

There is also a new daughter in the family of W.D. Cutter.

It is said that George Schell has got a horse that will take the children to school in the morning and return again home without any driver whatever.

The death from diphtheria of a two year-old girl of Mr. and Mrs. James Collins occurred last week.

Yorkville: Fox River freight trains are very uncertain as to time this cold weather.

George Starr, the market man, has been quite sick, but is better.

Plenty of snow--good sleighing. Hitch up your fliers and take the girls out for a ride.

George Starr has ordered venison and buffalo for Christmas. Call at his meat market and get some.

Dec. 31: Pretty much all of the students from here off at college have come home to spend the holidays.

Miss Nellie VanEvra departed suddenly last week for Kansas City to meet Harry, her brother, who on his way from California to the New Orleans exposition, was taken sick with the typhoid fever.

The Christmas celebrations by the Sunday schools of the Congregational and Methodist churches on the eve of that day were both very pleasant affairs; both churches had been elaborately decorated with evergreens, with mottoes, the star of Bethel, &c.

Yorkville: Good-bye, '84!

The Yorkville paper mills are shut down for the Holidays.

L.N. Hall of the Oswego Bank sends out a neat calendar for 1885.

1885

January

Jan. 7: The celebration of the 15th anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. J.B. Hunt's marriage is said to have been the grandest social event of the season.

At the Methodist church Thursday night, 1884 was watched in going out of existence and 1885 in coming into it, and was done very effectually, but no special phenomenon was discernable.

According to some authorities the world was coming to an end yesterday, in which I took rather more stock than usual in such things and this was not so much because of what Habakkuk, Malachi, and other ancient prophets had said about it but rather because of what has been said but recently--it is less than six months ago since I have heard it emphatically declared that "The Democrats would never, never, no never get into power again."

Jan. 14: "A King without a Crown" (having reference to Oliver Cromwell) will be the subject of a lecture next Thursday at the Congregational church.

Old inhabitants will remember that Oswego once contained a family generally called the "Preacher Moore family." Mr. M. was a Methodist minister, but he had quit preaching and gone into the mercantile business, keeping the stone store that stood where the furniture store now is. One of the girls was named Nancy. At the same time Oswego had a young resident doctor by the name of Danforth, and in the course of time, Doc Danforth and Nancy Moore got married and soon afterwards moved away--which must have been about 33 years ago. Mrs. Danforth was in town last week calling on old acquaintances, and what was especially gratifying to meet her was that she had changed very little; looking fresh, rosy, and comparatively young, and with much the appearances of the time when a girl. She has preserved herself extraordinary well, and they are now living in Milwaukee.

Charles Whitman has been heard from; he fetched up at Rising City, Nebraska, and got into business there at a hardware store; thinks he has struck a great country, a nice place, and very good people.

The ice crop here appeared lately as an entire failure--that which had been produced was of a poor quality and unfit to be harvested--but if we have many more nights like the last, a good crop may be secured yet. The past year, the company shipped 1,100 carloads, the freight of which, of course, was quite an item to the railroad.

Yorkville: Hurdle Race at the Yorkville Rink.

There will be a Hurdle Race at the Yorkville Skating Rink Thursday eve, January 15th, 1885, between the professional walker, Clark Goodbread of New York, and the long distance skater, Lawrence Hafenrichter of Illinois.

The skater to win the race will have to make 10 miles in less time than the walker, who will jump a hurdle once ever time around the track. The walker to make 8 miles to the skater's 10. This will be a very exciting and interesting race. Music by the band.

Jan. 21: The funeral of Mrs. Michael Shoger, which took place Saturday was very largely attended. The deceased was 60 years of age, was a native of the Kingdom of Wurtemberg in Germany; the family soon after their arrival in this country came to this neighborhood, which is thirty-odd years ago.

It looks almost wicked to see horses tied to a post with their blankets under their feet, such a night as that of Sunday, although it is on account that people out of town come to attend church. While the saloons cause an immense amount of horse suffering, other institutions are not free from it by any means.

The business doings of the depot during 1884 are summed up as follows: Total number of car loads sent and received, 1,468; of which there were that of ice 1,089; stock 127; household goods 18; lumber 68; coal 97; the remainder were miscellaneous. The number of tickets sold is 12,093. Supposed to be a respectable showing for Oswego.

Jan. 28: Peace and calmness were the experience of Oswego the past week; the passing remarks of people as they met were confined to the cold weather and the comparison of the thermometers; politics was entirely ignored.

Esch Bros. & Rabe have now engaged a large force of men in the harvesting of the ice.

It should be borne in mind that the headquarters of the tax collector are at Hunt's store and the sooner one pays his or her taxes the better.

February -- 1885

Feb. 4: Several new organizations in town by the ladies: An "Every Saturday Reading Club" of which Mrs. C.S. Kilbourne is president; a "Young Ladies' Temperance Union" and a "Band of Hope" club.

The athlete exhibition Saturday evening is said to have been not well attended.

At the election of Sunday school officers of the German Evangelical church January 25th, Leonard Bower was elected superintendent; Daniel Hemm assistant superintendent.

Yorkville: On Monday workmen for Esch Brothers & Co. began to cut ice on the pond at Yorkville, having rented the houses and ice privileges here. This, with their Oswego houses, make them one of the largest ice firms in the West.

Feb. 12: John Sanders was a native of New Jersey; he came to Oswego probably in 1846 and made his home with Sam Roberts, the same being his special friend. In the spring of 1847 he enlisted in the Mexican war and went with the first lot of volunteers from this place. Immediately after the close of that war and on being mustered out he went to the City of Mexico and being a silversmith by trade there found very remunerative employment and stayed in that city up to about 1851 when he returned to the United States and to Oswego and after having been here a short time went into business with the firm of Warner & Blaine--I think by buying out Blaine's interest in the concern.

Subsequently he married Mrs. King--nee Nancy Pearce--a widow lady and having disposed of his mercantile business he bought a small farm near Morgan's upon which he lived for several years then selling it and again returning to town he bought a residence and store building and went in the grocery and hardware business.

After the beginning of the war and having previously disposed of his groceries he closed up his place as he had no faith in the greenbacks and probably in 1864 he went to Dallas, Texas established a business there and afterwards had his property here sold and his family to move there and join him.

About 1871 his eyesight began to fail and he closed up his business in Texas and returned here--the family had preceded him for a number of months. When he first arrived he could well distinguish the outlines of objects; he went to Chicago for treatment but to no purpose; in a short time he was totally blind. For many years he would have himself led

down town from his residence and would sit in Coffin's place or Sutherland's shoe store when that was in existence, but for the last two or three years he had broken down otherwise and was wholly confined to the house undergoing much suffering. Early Friday morning he died, the funeral took place Sunday afternoon at the house. The remains were buried in the family lot in the Pearce cemetery.

The deceased was 72 years of age, was quite peculiar; many of his business ways were quite contrary to that of the general custom, yet he always prospered; policy was unknown to him; he had his rules and would enforce them against all alike, and what he agreed to do could be depended upon every time. His religious views he kept to himself as far as I know; in politics he was an uncompromising Democrat of the old school, but against the politicians of that party he would hurl his sarcastic epithets with as much vigor as he did against the Republicans. Whatever failings John Sanders may have had, he was at least a strictly honest and upright man.

Yesterday it was a little stormy hereabouts; it snowed and blowed some and the effects of the snowing and blowing have not disappeared yet.

Herman Tetzlaff is in town and is as handsome and genial as ever. He says that when he left Kansas the roads were very muddy, the frost being nearly all out of the ground.

Arthur, one of the Robert Graham boys, was in town the other day.

There was quite a change in the weather Sunday evening during church time; the going home against the wind and snow was not pleasant at all.

Feb. 18: The death of Mrs. Ludwig Helle occurred Saturday and her funeral yesterday, the services being held at the house, that of her daughter, Mrs. Voss, and the Rev. Mr. Baldwin was the officiating clergyman. The deceased died from a slow working disease causing a prolonged sickness and much suffering. She was 79 years of age and a native of Hanover in Germany--the family came to this country about 40 years ago, first residing in Ottawa for about 12 years then coming to this town where they have resided ever since.

That festival and drawing for the sofa, pillow, &c, of the Star ladies, was on account of the weather last week, postponed to Friday evening of this week, Feb. 20th.

Mrs. M.C. Richards of Aurora was one of the snowbound for several days in this town.

C.F. Shoger has sold his farm and the same has again come into the possession of the Pearces, it being the John Pearce farm, and now is bought by Jas. Pearce who at present resided in Aurora. All are glad that Jim is coming back again.

Eugene Richards has returned from England where he has been for a number of months prospecting.

The R.L. Hawkins family has moved into the Farley residence, occupying a portion of it.

George A. Barnard has bought out the Bartlett blacksmith shop and hereafter will carry on his business there.

Rush Walker is said to be converting the batting factory into a feed grinding mill.

Bristol: Will it ever stop snowing?

Business is dull and everything is at a stand still, owing to the blockade, although business on the CB&Q is slowly being resumed.

Work on the Catholic church is being pushed on.

Yorkville: Out of 1,900 taxpayers in Joliet township, 40 own two-thirds of the property.

A judgment for \$11,000 was entered up against the Aurora Watch Factory last week and that institution is just now under a cloud.

“Is the train in?” asked an anxious individual of Arthur Dixon, assistant manager of the Yorkville depot Monday afternoon. “Yes, she’s in,” said Dixie; “In a snow bank!”

The “open winter” man had the last sod put on his prophetic grave Friday morning when the thermometers here indicated 32 degrees below zero. It was a still cold day--but it was cold. Regular Minnesota weather.

*Aurora Beacon:* Mrs. Elizabeth Van Fleet, relict of the late Abraham Van Fleet, died at half-past three o’clock Friday morning at the residence of her grand daughter, Mrs. P.S. Stout, 77 South Lincoln avenue. Her husband and herself were among the earliest settlers in this part of the State, having come over 40 years ago. For over a quarter of a century they occupied what is now known as the Dobbins farm, a short distance southeast of Aurora, when they took up their residence in this city. Mrs. Van Fleet was over 88 years and 8 months of age, have been extremely feeble and virtually helpless for several years past.

Feb. 25: Another boy has taken up his abode in the family of Charles Leigh.

Pat Cleary has returned from an all winter's visit in Canada. He says we know nothing about snow here; up there it is from 7 to 8 feet deep on the level; and the drifts exceed 15 feet.

Calvin Pearce has moved back on the farm which was vacated by George White, who moved on the John D. Hall farm, which in turn had been vacated by John Gowran, who has moved to Little Rock.

A little niece has put in an appearance at the house of Henry C. Kerr.

By the death of M.A. Fenton in Yorkville last week, the Oswego ex-postmasters have been reduced to one, namely E.D. Bradley, of Aurora, who held the office for about 40 days and 40 nights under Pierce. Fenton was the postmaster during the Taylor and Filmore administrations.

W.W. Ferris is getting ready for removal to Kansas.

George A. Barnard has bought out the Bartlett blacksmith shop and hereafter will carry on the business.

Yorkville: The ceremonies connected with the dedication of the Washington monument commenced at ten o'clock Saturday morning.

A broken rail down near Ottawa Monday night detained all freight trains on the Fox River road, and the up-river passenger Tuesday morning was an hour and a quarter late.

The cost of the Yorkville schools per pupil for a year, according to enumeration, is \$10.71, according to enrollment is \$11.91. No one should growl at such a small charge as that.

St. Charles Chronicle: M.J. Palmer says this is the toughest winter since 1842-43 when he was living at Sugar Grove in this county. At that time there was more snow, which completely covered "staked and ridged" several rail fences so that the roads passed over them in many places.

Our paper was very badly printed last week, and we are very sorry; but the cold weather had taken hold of press, rollers, ink, and type and nothing seemed to warm them up.

March -- 1885

#### March 4: THE SCHOOL HOUSE BURNED

Yesterday afternoon, a few minutes after the school had been called, it was discovered that the house was on fire, the same being near the chimney of the wooden addition, occupied by the primary department. Probably it would have required no great effort for the extinguishing it, had there been anything to do it with--the progress of the fire was very slow as the wind was right opposite from where it had started; at least the addition might have been pulled down and thereby the main building saved. The most of the furniture was removed in a damaged condition, much of it rendered worthless. Some little girls on their way home with their books were crying but the scholars generally expressed satisfaction at the going of the old house as it would make a new one necessary--some of the boys had much fun and exhibiting their destructive propensities by going for the remaining windows with snow balls. There may be some that went to school there who are absent and have been for years, and who, when hearing of its destruction, may feel sad; to them the old school house may be associated with the dearest memories and to

whom its sight would cause the greatest pleasures and the realization of the sentiments in the song:

“The old school house is altered some;  
The benches are replaced,  
But the same old bricks are in the wall.  
The bell swings to and fro,  
Its music is just the same  
T’was twenty years ago.”  
No insurance on it.

The Aurora papers last week published an account of the arrest of a lady, because among her luggage was found a dead baby of which she was the mother, and that the child had been born some days previous--one paper said at George Wormley’s where the lady had been staying over night, and another that it was at Wm. Wormley’s. I am requested to say that the said lady has not been in the Wormley neighborhood at all, but that the occurrence took place in this village.

Charles Kessler has gone to Nebraska, intending to reside there permanently.

John Hafenrichter has returned from Aurora to again reside in this neighborhood.

Marshall Keck is moving off of the Morgan farm and is going to Aurora or vicinity.

Mr. and Mrs. L.L. Lynch are for the present abiding in this place.

Though we have no skating rink, we can beat all creation on masquerade balls. The one last week is said to have been utterly immense. The prizes were carried off on the side of the ladies by Lizzie Wollenweber and that of the gentlemen by Hank Smith, who represented the Dutchman.

What in the world can a “Boudoir” be?

Yorkville wants a new passenger house and so does Oswego especially its ladies. They think that the Railroad Company should commence the building of such houses at once and begin at the end of the line. As it is now the no smoking allowed regulation cannot be fully carried out and even if it was the horrid man will chew and spit, all of which is very annoying to our ladies. If the company only could know how bad a "ladies waiting parlor" is wanted here something probably would be done right away.

The Levi Avery murder trial took place lately at Galesburg and resulted in the acquittal of the defendant.

School will commence again next Monday in the old courthouse, which has been fitted up for temporary use.

Yorkville: As this issue of the Record is distributed to subscribers, the country passes to Democrat rule, and Grover Cleveland as President. For 24 years the Republican party has conducted the affairs of the Nation, and no Republican has any reason to be ashamed of his party's record. There are millions in this country who have never lived under a Democratic administration, and the change may seem novel to them. We have no fears for the welfare of the people. The people are above party, above administrations, and will see to it that the country is ruled well.

Fred Knight shipped a bale of skins--muskrats, coon and mink--from Yorkville Tuesday to a New York firm.

On Monday, 48 car loads of grain passed down the Fox River road for the East by way of the Indiana, Illinois and Iowa R.R., from Streator through Kankakee.

The Batavia *News* says: Nero Northcross, Esq., of Oswego was in town on Monday last looking well and hearty. He reports the true count of little Northcrosses at 13, and says they can all eat their rations. The Northcrosses seem to have made a good move when they went to farming.

*Aurora Blade: A Big-Heart Cherry*

During the storm two weeks ago all who were caught in the drifts in the vicinity of AuxSable Grove made tracks or the old Cherry mansion in which Charley Cherry and his accomplished wife held forth. Sleigh after sleigh entered the yard and the occupants were ushered into the large parlors and thawed out before the fires. From Sunday the 15th until the middle of the week, 18 persons depended on the hospitality of these good people. Charley had killed one of his fattest cattle and with the good cookery of which the house is noted, every meal was a feast. When the storm was over and the roads had been opened so the folks could go on their way, there was a genuine sigh of regret. They had been made so welcome that it was hard to tear themselves away. Charley Cherry is gaining the reputation for hospitality and big-heartedness that characterized his good old father during his time, when the country was new.

Married Under Difficulties

*Dwight Star*

On Wednesday, February 18th, 1884, Mr. Leonard Bowers [sic] of Oswego was married to Miss Barbara Burkhart, daughter of Frederick Burkhart, Esq., of Goodfarm, the Rev. O.W. Pollard officiating. While this wedding was a very pleasant one at the time of its occurrence, there are some circumstances which make it an illustrious example of Marrying under difficulties and which serves moreover to show to what extent people are inconvenienced by the existing snow blockade, and also to "point a moral and adorn a tale." The bridegroom procured a marriage license from the clerk of Kendall county, where he resides upon the assurance that it would answer for any other county; but when informed that the law requires the procuring of a license from the clerk of the county in which the marriage is to occur, he began to realize the very embarrassing nature of the situation. What was to be done became the painful inquiry of the youth who had imagined he had the necessary legal passport to the marriage blissful estate, but which

was now shown to be an illusion. The consent of the girl he loved had been obtained, the happy hours when the two should be made one had been agreed upon, and the clergyman had been notified that his services would be wanted; but behold, an unexpected legal barrier presented itself, which threatened to break up the entire program and postpone the joyous affair for an indefinite period. His first thought was to obtain a license from Pontiac but the utter impracticability of bringing the intended bride to this county compelled the abandonment of that plan. But how was Morris, the county seat of Grundy, to be reached? Such a thing was hardly possible by rail in the allotted time and then there was the danger of being sidetracked for a week or more. Here was an emergency which called for skill to plan and pluck and courage to execute. Bowers proved himself equal to the occasion. Fully determined not to be thwarted in consummating a most happy event at the time anticipated and named in the cards sent to invited guests, he forces his way on foot through the unbroken drifts of snow, 15 or 18 miles distant, to the proper county seat, consuming two days in making the journey. Then comes the trials of the officiating minister, who found it necessary to discard steam power and horse power and to plod through snow from three to eight feet deep for a distance of ten miles. Pollard was the forlorn hope, as other nuptial knot-tiers had refused to go, through solicited to do so. He declares he does not know to what he can compare the trip, unless it be to the famous retreat of the ten thousand Greeks.

Bristol: The [roller] skating rink opened as usual last week and those who attended had a lively time. We are glad to see any of the nice skaters from adjoining towns.

March 11: Charles Lehman is now in Aurora, occupying the position of shipping clerk at the Sweeper manufactory.

Frank P. Eggleston has returned here from Bristol, and is occupying the Budlong farm.

The James Pearce family has moved down from Aurora onto the farm lately bought.

The sliding over of the administration from the Republicans to the Democracy Wednesday transpired without causing the least ripple at this place. The Oswego Democrats certainly have been very modest in accepting their long striven for victory.

The school resumed operation yesterday in its new quarters in the old court house, which makes a pretty fair school building. The upper and intermediate departments are together upstairs in the old court room with a recitation room in the circuit clerk's office below. The primary department is occupying the grand jury room. It required a good deal of whitewashing to extinguish the illustrations and writing on the walls.

Yorkville: The boys were playing marbles Monday so Spring must be here.

George VanEmon shipped a car load of black walnut lumber from Yorkville to Chicago Monday and expects to get a good price for it.

David Hall has had a fine run of business as auctioneer the past winter, and parties he sold for are satisfied that Dave knows how to get good prices for stock and implements.

The *Aurora News* says: Prof. McFarland and wife, and Miss Hettie Swarthout, of Oswego, were visiting the West Side school Thursday. They are taking a rest till their new school house is built.

The Cowdrey farm was sold by Master in Chancery Hollenback on Saturday last in order to make a partition of the estate. George Cowdrey, the present occupant, bought it for \$31 an acre, and got a bargain. Several members of the Cowdrey family were present at the sale.

Easter occurs April 5th.

March 18: About 2 o'clock Friday morning George Parker found his large barn on fire--Miss Effie was the first to discover it--it was then already bursting out through the roof. They succeeded in getting out some of the cattle but had to abandon 14 head to the flames, among which was the handsome and large Durham bull "Eclipse." The rest were cows and heifers, all blooded stock. A lot of hay had been taken in the barn the day before and there was much other feed, also farm machinery and other utensils. The origin of the fire is unknown.

The lighting processes of the business houses and other places here are now entirely thrown in the shade by the "Tubular lamp system" at the drug store, which was introduced there last week. The apparatus contains 19 lamps, three inside of the bank department, and they make every nook and corner of the place just as light as can be. In modern improvements L.N. Hall is always in advance.

J.R. Walker has again moved to town and is occupying Mrs. Kenyon's tenant house.

Dave Hall and Ed A. Smith started yesterday for New Orleans to represent Oswego at the World's Exposition.

Charles A. Davis has returned from Geneseo, where he was attending school.

Miss Aggie Hopkins of Chicago and sister, Mrs. Lizzie Winsor, of Aurora, have been home to the old folks' on a visit.

The outdoor exhibition of the eclipse yesterday passed off here without incident.

Yorkville: John Sweitzer and Mrs. Kate Sweetman of Oswego were married Tuesday.

Mr. O. Hebert of the Oswego road cart factory was in Yorkville Saturday on business.

March 25: Mrs. James C. Shepard, after a prolonged illness, died Saturday evening.

Mrs. A.E. Van Deventer, who for upwards of a week, has been regarded as on the brink of life, is still lingering on.

The ice which is now being harvested by the Ice Company is supposed will be the last crop that will be cut on the same surface this season.

There was a Hibernian ball at Shepard's hall on St. Patrick's day in the evening.

The Methodist Sunday school children have commenced preparations for an Easter Sunday concert on the evening of that day.

Dwight F. Smith is here from Davenport, Iowa, and it is said to be for the purpose of losing a very important contract, which has been under negotiation for some time with a party of the second part of this place. Dwight is in extra fine spirits.

Mrs. James B. Pogue has been here from Hinckley for upwards of a week, seeing to the cares of her mother, Mrs. Shepard, during the last days of her life.

Mrs. Lizzie Danforth has returned from teaching a term of school in the Cherry district.

Lars Nilson has moved here from Yorkville. Mr. N. is in the employ of the Ice Company.

The fire insurance companies concerned in the burning of George Parker's barn and contents were the Phoenix, the Agricultural, and the North American. All of them have adjusted the claims satisfactorily and with promptness.

Mark Chapman got pretty badly hurt about the head last evening by being assaulted somewhere out on the streets--supposed to have been done for the purpose of robbery.

In the getting of a new postmaster for this place, one is wanted that will get around much livelier than the one we've got, and besides, one who will keep a clerk. People should not be compelled to wait from 20 minutes to half an hour after the morning mail arrives before they get anything--there should be sufficient force to distribute the mail much quicker and to wait on the people whenever called upon. Furthermore, people should not be required to wait while the P.M. is getting his meals. That it does not pay to keep a clerk cannot be accepted as an excuse; if one cannot afford it, he should get out and let someone that can have the office--and likely it would be best to have it connected with some other business where several are employed and who all could attend to the office on occasions requiring it for the accommodation of the public.

April -- 1885

April 1: The funeral of Mrs. James C. Shepard last week Tuesday was largely attended. The remains were taken to the NaAuSay cemetery for burial. The maiden name of the deceased was Hannah S. Farley--having been a sister of H.W. Farley of this place--and

Ipswich, Mass. her native place. The family came west and to this neighborhood in 1848 and some years later became residents of this village. Mrs. S. was 60 years of age, was the mother of five children, three of them surviving her; she was connected with the Congregational church of this place.

George W. Kimball has loaded a car with his household goods, horses and implements and moved to Nebraska.

Dwight F. Smith and Miss Helen Young were married Wednesday morning and immediately departed on the 8:50 train for their home in Davenport. Though the wedding was not of the standard kind, yet the friends of the bride smuggled in quite a number of very nice presents--Nellie, as she was usually called, was one of our nice quiet girls, and liked by everybody. Elder Minard was the officiating functionary.

Mr. and Mrs. L.N. Hall have gone to the New Orleans Exposition, and Dave Hall and Ed. Smith have returned from the same.

Mrs. C.B. Chapin, one of the olden time residents of this town, was here on a visit to friends.

Henry Wilkening down in Kendall sold last week to Knapp & Wollenweber a carload of very fine cattle, some of them weighed over 1,600.

Just learned that Mrs. A.E. Van Deventer died last week.

Bristol: Good-bye winter. Though the snow is still piled up in places and the chilling winds both coolly remind us that it still lingers. The roads for teaming are simply horrible, consequently pedestrianism is the order of the day. So put on your thick-soled walking shoes and try the effect of a two or three mile walk.

Pavilion: Mud and good-looking girls are the only things we have a surplus of. No money and no news.

Yorkville: The regular [roller skating] rink nights after this week will be on Tuesday and Friday evenings. Music Tuesday evening of each week.

The ice in Fox River above the Yorkville dam began moving out Monday evening; on Tuesday morning, March 31st, a larger body broke up and went down the river, but that above kept moving down slowly, breaking, drifting, floating in detachments all day. The water is very black and muddy, but the river is not high.

A young man from Oswego called 'Shab' Sanders has been in jail here the past week charged with being one of the party of four who assaulted Mark Chapman in Oswego on the night of March 23d, for the alleged purpose of robbery. Chapman was very badly hurt and has been in a precarious condition for some days. His head was badly cut with a willow club, which is now in the hands of the law officers.

Married, at the house of the bride's father, Mr. Lumbard of Wheatland, Ill., Miss Frances M. Lumbard to Mr. Walter A. Davis of Wheatland. Rev. Those. Galt officiating.

Married in Sandwich March 26, 1885 by Rev. E.W. Hicks, Mr. James D. Hopkins and Miss Myrtle A. Swift, both of Plano.

April 8: The funeral of Mrs. A.E. Van Deventer took place Thursday and was one of the largest for this place. The services were held at the Methodist church, of which she had been an exemplary member; Elder Minard preached the sermon, and otherwise in the solemn rites was assisted by the Rev. Mr. Baldwin. The remains were in a marble coffin, said to have been very expensive, and were buried in the Oswego cemetery. The deceased was nearly 43 years of age; her maiden name had been Melissa Snook, being one of the daughters of the late James Snook.

Mrs. Cora and Miss Elsie Kimball left here yesterday for their new home at Atkinson, Neb. We dislike losing them, especially Elsie, who was one of our best looking and otherwise best girls in town.

The A.R. Mooney family has moved back to Geneva.

There are quite a few of new comers, among which are I.S. Dunning, who is occupying the Morgan farm; George Prescott; and George Epp.

A.J. Lockwood has moved into the Billings house.

Rush Walker, after voting today, will move to Bristol township, occupying the Michael Shogar [Shoger] farm, which lately has been bought by Charles Knapp and by him rented to Walker. Oswego will thus lose a staunch Republican.

The last reports from Mr. and Mrs. L.N. Hall were from San Antonio, Texas.

Thursday evening the Oakes Bros.' show transpired.

Enterprise has broken out here at an astonishing rate. The Shoger brothers have bought half of the old National Hotel Block with the intention of building a large business thereon. The rest of the vacant land was leased to W.J. Collins for a term of years for erecting thereon a 36 foot by 80 foot skating rink. The work on it has commended; the grading of the ground was nearly completed yesterday; the building will be two stories high and be pushed with all possible speed. Van Evra will be the architect.

Yorkville: The election for [township] school trustees in the towns of Bristol, Oswego, and Kendall takes place next Saturday, April 11th. Election for school [district] directors takes place Saturday, April 18th.

Naperville *Clarion*: Mrs. John Lumbard of Wheatland fell through a trapdoor last Thursday, hurting herself severely. A loaded gun came tumbling after and lodged in close proximity to the lady, the muzzle pointing directly towards her. Fortunately, the concussion did not cause the gun to discharge its deadly contents.

Walter Beane, Fox [Township], has a polled Angus bull calf, bought from Mr. Trumbo of LaSalle county. John Crum bought him for Mr. B.

In Oswego, H.C. Cutter beat Wm. Parker for Supervisor by 90 majority. The whole Republican ticket was elected.

General Grant is still sinking and his death may be expected at any moment.

Where are the April showers?

Farmers have commenced plowing.

Don't forget to secure your tickets for the Jubilee Singers at the post office before the rush. The hall will be full to overflowing sure. Part of this Colored University Troupe were here several years ago with Donovan's Tennesseans. They are first class. Coming this week Thursday evening.

April 15: The Rowan house up in Troy burned down Tuesday evening. It was unoccupied and the cause of the fire is unknown. The owner, Mrs. Rowan, has been residing in Aurora, and since has died--her funeral took lace Sunday. By the two reports a sensational report was developed that she dropped dead on hearing of the burning of her house, which, however, was not the case, as being quite sick she never was informed of the fire.

Nellie Smith has commenced teaching in the Cowdrey district.

Mr. and Mrs. B.L. English have gone to Corning, N.Y. to reside, at least for a while. Mr. E. intends to return after disposing of his interests there.

Mr. and Mrs. L.N. Hall have returned in excellent condition from their travels, including the taking in of the New Orleans exposition.

Fred Smith was visited by his brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Emery Fishell of Earlville. They had been attending, at Bristol, the funeral of Chas. E. Healey, who was killed by falling off a bridge out west, and who was their son-in-law.

Lizzie Schlapp is going to Aurora to reside.

The concert of the colored troupe the other evening was quite satisfactory.

The examination of Shab Sanders caused quite a number of Oswegoland to visit the county seat; the affair was also much of the general topic of conversation. Shab to a great extent has lost the sympathy and good will of the community.

At the town meeting Tuesday it was decided that the old court house may be sold to the school district for \$1,000. The school authorities now should think twice before completing the purchase; the advantages of a central location for a school house should not be ignored and in that respect the old site would be much the best and preferable.

For an April snowstorm, the one up this morning is decidedly a success.

The weather prophets always abound most at the approach of winter. I do not intend to enter the profession, but now merely wish to prompt them on the summer season, and in regard to that I want to venture the guess that it will be a dry one.

To excuse for this short letter it should be said that I was getting out a strong argument why the change in the post office here should be pushed with all possible speed, but that the time for the completion was inadequate, and therefore could not be included.

Yorkville: There was a smart snowstorm from the east Tuesday morning covering the ground about half an inch.

The vote at the town[ship] election in Oswego April 7th was as follows: For supervisor, H.C. Cutter, 198, Wm. Parker, 112. For clerk, C.L. Murdock, 307. For assessor, D. Hall, 190; C.E. Hubbard, 119. For collector, J.C. Turpin, 308. For road commissioner, C.F. Shoger, 221; F. Mann, 88. For justices, Geo. Bristol, 307; D.C. Jeneson, 229; John Lockwood, 72. For constables, J.A. Shoger, 220; G.H. Switzer, 215.

Uncle John Wormley of Oswego was in Yorkville Friday and dropped in to see his young friends, the Record office boys. He has not been in Yorkville since his accident, something over a year ago, and has had much pain and suffering since, but is now fast regaining his former self. He walks with the assistance of a cane, but hopes soon to be able even that aside. For a man of his age--nearly 80--his recovery is remarkable.

On Friday there was a large delegation from Oswego in Yorkville to attend the hearing of Henry "Shab" Sanders on the charge of assaulting Mark Chapman on the night of March 23 in the village of Oswego with the intent to commit robbery.

The case was set for Squire Dolph's court, but Sanders took a change of venue and Mr. Justice Thompson was the lucky man to listen to matters and act as the evidence should warrant.

State's Attorney Fitzgerald appeared for the People and N.J. Aldrich for the defendant, Sanders.

The people of Oswego feel greatly outraged at many acts of crime heretofore committed in that vicinity, without punishment, and a large number came down Friday to lend moral support to the people's side of the case.

[A full account of Sanders' alleged assault on Chapman follows]

Defense called no witnesses, but asked for reasonable bail. The attorneys argued the question of bail. Justice Thompson fixed bail at \$2,000. Sanders was committed to appear before the Grand Jury in May and was taken down to the Jail.

April 22: Advertisement: If you want to buy meat for cash you would do well to patronize the new meat market on the corner kept by Jones and Farrell, who deal in good meats. Best steak, 12-1/2 cents a pound.

The drawing for the silk quilt will be held Thursday evening, April 23, at Shepard's Hall. Cake and ice cream will be served. Music by the Glee Club.

A four old little boy in the Charles Payne family died and was buried last week.

The remains of Richard E. Cooke of Chicago arrived here Friday afternoon and after being transferred from the train to a nice hearse were accompanied by the relatives and friends in carriages to the cemetery where they were buried by the side of his parents.

Some nice monuments have lately been erected in the cemetery--one for little Earl Mullen. Some old slabs have been supplanted by the modern monuments; for instance, a very nice one for Levi F. Arnold, who died in 1844; and Decoliar Towle, in 1847. Both had been prominent men of Oswego in their time.

A Mrs. Spencer from the Capital of the Dominion of Canada is here on a visit to her brother, Dr. Lester.

Teacher Miss Blackiston is being visited by a sister from home, Geneseo.

Mrs. Minnie Lawrence was here from Chicago for the first time in a long while. She attended the burial of her father, Mr. Cooke.

Charles E. Hubbard has gone to Nebraska to make a visit to his brother, Jule, who will be remembered by the old inhabitants of this place.

Will Kerr has gone to the far Northwest, Washington Territory.

The Ed. Haines family have returned here from Bristol and are occupying the ice company's boarding house.

The Lloyd family have moved away.

Golden weddings are rarities and consequently of much interest when occurring. There was one last Tuesday, namely that of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. M. Wormley. It took place at the homestead, now the residence of their son, George. Mr. W. is in the eighties, and a spell of sickness several years ago rendered him quite decrepit in his legs, but Mrs. W. is yet as spry as a girl in her teens.

W.H. McConnell is going to move to Chicago; he sold his residence here to C.F. Shoger. It would appear that the Shogers are engaged in buying Oswego--a change of name to "Shogewego" will soon be in order.

The evening of Friday was glutted with entertainments. The Band of Hope had theirs up at Shepard's Hall and a stranger had come along to give a magic lantern show at the court house. It was agreed between them that the Hopers commence in good season and conduct their doings with celerity, and vice versa the lantern man. Both were very good for the money.

At the school election the other day A. Armstrong was elected to succeed J.B. Hunt as director; the measure for buying the court house for school house purposes was also voted up; both were carried almost unanimously--but a few that have no interest in schools voted against the latter, and now again there will be a few of such that will contend it will be a great saving in fixing up the old court for a school house, instead of taking it down and building a nice new brick one, and have something of which Oswego can be proud. A little history of the old schoolhouse was thought would be in order at this time of school house interest but had to be abandoned for obvious reasons. When a man dies we think it right to cover up his faults and extol his virtues and so write his biography; but it is not so with the "gone up" old school house; nothing bad enough can be said of it; what of our children it did not kill it poisoned and what it did not injure in their bodies it made their clothes dirty.

April 29: As preliminary steps towards the building of a new school house a meeting was held Saturday evening at Shepard's Hall of which Edward Mann was president and L. Rank secretary. A. Armstrong, the newly elected director, stated the object of the meeting, prolonging his remarks into an argument in favor of an entire new house; demonstrating by mathematics that the extra taxes entailed will be of little perceptibility; stating that an expert had made a cursory examination and estimated that the building wanted would cost about \$9,000. D.M. Haight addressed the meeting and spoke of the suicidal method Oswego has been pursuing--driving away men of enterprise and capital, and preventing people from coming in to reside; he wanted a new policy inaugurated, and a good school house would attract people; he thought that as labor and the building materials were cheap, the house could be built for \$7,000. He wanted the payment extended over 20 years--long running bonds could be disposed of at a low interest, as such are much in demand for permanent investments; he also suggested that the new building be put sufficiently back, so that during its construction the old court house be let to remain and there be no interruption in the school--the same, however found no favor with the meeting. The president, Mr. Mann, was called upon for a speech and took the floor; he wanted a good house, one that will be an ornament to the place; he wanted it larger than the present needs require--it should be built more for the future than the present; a good school will cause an increase of population and an increase of outside attendance; he thought a \$14,000 building would be none too good and at least \$12,000 should be the amount called for. Further remarks were made by G.R. Schamp; T.C. Richards; M.J. Pogue; Prof. McFarlane, C.F. Shoger, J.A. Shoger, J.B. Hunt, David Hall, Wm. Ladd, and T. Greenfield; all spoke to the same general strain--no pulling and

hauling which way and t'other; if any were present that were for fixing up of the old court house they kept mum. After more or less informed talk at to the amount a resolution was unanimously adopted instructing the directors to call for \$10,000--the amount to pay for the site as well as the building.

W.H. McConnell disposed at auction of a part of his household goods Saturday; the balance will be taken Chicago today by Chris Jarvis. The departure of that family from among us is universally regretted.

Mrs. Alice Welch was called here from Little Rock owing to the alarming sickness of her father, Walter Loucks. His condition had been much improved, but this morning it is said that he has experienced again a bad night.

A district election for filling the vacancy on the board of school directors, caused by the resignation of its president, W.H. McConnell, and also to vote \$1,000 for paying for the court house and grounds--is called to take place May 9th.

The old court house has been of no great utility since its vacation as the county seat building; still it has come handy in many things; its neglected condition and proximate appearance have been of no credit to the town but at a distance it presented quite an imposing sight, especially from the road on the other side of the river. It did seem to be too good a building and of too much value for the reduction to a heap of rubbish. Perhaps there are some who would like to have it hauled down, even only its ruins to future generations as a memorial that Oswego was once the capital of the county--but the edict has gone forth that the old court house must go.

Yorkville: With its broad streets and majestic avenues adorned with stately buildings, Detroit is one of the most magnificent cities on this continent. Its new system of electric lighting throws into obscurity all the old methods, and leaves ordinary street lamps where dingy tallow dips used to be.

Died, at his home in Secor, Woodford Co., Ill., April 20, 1885, George B. Hollenback, Esq., of pneumonia, after a brief illness in the 75th year of his age. The subject of this sketch was the first merchant in what is now Kendall county and was the proprietor of "Georgetown," now Newark, in this county. He was the oldest son of Clark and Ann Hollenback; was born in Muskingum county, Ohio, June 15, 1810, and came to Illinois with his father's family in 1828, coming to Kendall county in the spring of 1831. On the 14th of February, 1832, he was married to Mrs. Rachel Reynolds, and a few weeks later opened "the pioneer store" of which mention is made in Mr. Hicks' History of Kendall county. From that time to the day of his death, Mr. H. was engaged in mercantile pursuits, except the short time he was engaged in building and running a mill at Millbrook Ford on Fox river. That enterprise not succeeding to his liking, Mr. Whitfield succeeded him at the mills and Mr. Hollenback returned to Newark and again entered the mercantile business in which for some years he was fairly successful. He had the misfortune in May 1850 to lose his estimable wife, Mrs. H. leaving a daughter (Mrs. A.D. Newton) by a former marriage. Mr. H. subsequently married Mrs. Caroline Smith,

who survives home. Of three children of the section marriage, only one, Mrs. Agnes Gould of Secor, survives him.

When Kendall county was organized, Mr. Hollenback was elected one of the first justices of the peace and was postmaster at Newark many years, as well as at Sandwich and at Secor, his late home.

May -- 1885

May 6: The new village government was organized by making F.O. Hawley president, W.F. Forbes treasurer, and J.A. Shoger the marshal. There was a session of the board last evening; the cow question formed a part of the proceedings.

Charles Lehman has sold his house and lots to Samuel Roberts of Plano for \$600.

There was a revival of the operations on the skating rink yesterday. They had been on the drag order lately.

The town committee charged with the management of conveying the old court house property to the school district met with the school directors yesterday and agreed to accept in payment the district's bond for \$1,000 at six percent interest running ten years.

Mrs. Caroline Dodge has received by letter the sad news that her friend, Mrs. T.P. Edson, had died a few days ago. She had been with her daughter at East Taunton, Mass., since leaving here about a year ago. She was the widow of the Rev. Ambler Edson, one of Oswego's early preachers.

C.H. Helme and family have returned from their usual winter's sojourn in Florida, and report having enjoyed continuous mild and balmy weather. They are at present writing visiting with their folks here.

The H.C. Strossman family has moved to Chicago. Henry had been there previously for several weeks and established himself in business.

Libbie Andrews has commenced a term of teaching in the Wormley district.

Mr. and Mrs. Bowler have moved to Aurora.

A mail pouch between Aurora and this place is now being conveyed in addition to the regular mails; it is received from the 6:30 p.m. train and sent on the 8:54 a.m. Mail matter to be sent by it must reach the postoffice by 8:30 when it will be closed. It is important to be on time as there can be no mailing on the train when too late at the postoffice.

The practice of boys to occasionally change about things during nights has been in vogue at the good old times when the writer was a boy, but for all that it is a very reprehensible

practice. We should never do anything that will cause annoyance to others when it can be avoided. Such an affair took place a few nights ago.

Yorkville: *Sandwich Free Press*: Miss Aggie Hopkins of Oswego and Mrs. Wm. Winsor of Aurora were in town Saturday, guests of Mr. and Mrs. John Hough.

Charley Sabin is now running a photograph gallery in Plano, having bought out Frank Whitney.

Mr. Wm. Parker of Oswego was in Yorkville Monday. He is still very lame from the effects of his fall.

Trask & Beardsley now show the Aurora watch in six grades, the latest being a full jeweled, fine train, with breguet air spring and patent regulator and adjusted to heat, cold and position.

The new well at the court house barn has been completed and on Tuesday was accepted by the court house committee. The water is strongly tinctured with sulphur.

May 13: Mrs. Spencer, sister of Dr. Lester, has started on her return to Ottawa, Canada, this morning.

Mrs. Bertha Lamb of Fox was on a visit to her folks, George Troll.

Tina Elliott has gone to Danville, Ind., in the interest of education.

George Hettrich had some colts cut themselves up very much in a barb wire fence. It is supposed that they were chased by dogs.

Dr. Dandy, the Presiding Elder, preached a very good sermon on "Faith that works by love," at the Methodist church Thursday evening. He was very hoarse, however, and had to speak low.

The Harvey family of the Scotch settlement attended church here Sunday evening.

The unsightly sights of Oswego are one by one disappearing, and ere long all will have been objects of the past; the old marble front building has given way to a nice large livery stable; the vacant lots in the centre of the town, heretofore strewn with rubbish and grown over with weeds will soon be covered by the skating rink; the old school house, which had been an eyesore for several years, is no more; it had been built away back in the dark ages (1857, I think), before architectural taste had been developed--the windows were altogether too wide for their height and too low for their width. A few years ago it was thought that some of the stone in the walls showed crumblyness and an expert was imported to examine the walls as to their strength, who reported they were liable to topple over at any time. The house was then condemned as unsafe; people became alarmed; mothers withdrew their children from school and for awhile great apprehension existed,

and the school house question was the general topic, but as the old house didn't tumble, the scare wore off after awhile and all went on as before. One afternoon some time ago, people down town would say to each other, "the school house is on fire!" "Is it? Good!" There was no general alarm and no running with pails the fire had caught from the chimney, in the one-story wooden addition, and there was fear it would go out when that burned down, as it was making very slow progress, but gradually it worked "into the main building. The supposition was that those tottering walls would come down in short order, just as soon as certain beams would give away--some saw the swaying of them already--and the crowd was waiting to witness the grand collapse. Everything about the building that would burn was consumed; the iron rods running across from wall to wall as binders were broken; the stone on the inside of the walls--especially below--was very much burned, which since has caused a good deal of slacking of them, but with all this those walls stand yet intact and as much as to say "see how you have lied about us."

Fuel at this season is getting low with most of the people, and coal sometimes could not be had, even if people were willing to buy. There have been many cold, raw days on which a fire was highly enjoyable. Young men are all smart nowadays and Joe Sierp is a little more so than the average. On some of these cold evenings he would set a lighted candle into the base-burner, which would make it appear through the isinglass as if there was a good fire in the stove.. Some of us shivering old coveys would come in, walk right up to the stove, spread out our fingers, and holding them within a few inches of it, and Joe would be around grinning. About the first idea that would strike a fellow was that the fire had just been started, and after a few moments he perhaps would blurt out, "what ails your stove? It does not throw out heat worth a cent.," and then Joe would snicker.

Frank Hawley was elected to fill the vacancy on the board of school directors caused by the resignation of W.H. McConnell and the \$1,000 for paying for the old court house was voted up unanimously.

There will be a meeting of the Memorial Society at Shepard's Hall Saturday evening at 7:30 sharp to make necessary arrangements for the decoration of the soldiers' graves. Let all who are interested be there. Ladies especially are requested to be present. Let there be a full attendance. The Rev. Mr. Chapman of Seward has been secured as the orator.

Capt. Ed. Mann, President

D.M. Haight, Secretary

#### Yorkville: May Crop Prospects

The following interesting data concerning the condition and prospects of the crops, etc., in Kendall county has been furnished by the Illinois Department of Agriculture: There is less winter wheat raised in this county than any other in the State. The area is so small as to make it unworthy of mention. About the usual area of spring wheat has been sown and the condition is about the average. The area of oats sown is not quite as large as last season, and the condition is hardly up to the average. Rye has wintered very well, having been protected by the snow throughout the winter. The supply of old corn on hand May 1st is about the same as last season at a corresponding date.

Meadows and pastures are very backward but are looking well. The fruit prospect is not very flattering; hardly far enough advanced to form an estimate. The condition of farm animals is very good; no disease of any kind afflicts them. Fully 50 percent of the bees are killed and many weak swarms left.

O.B. Knickerbocker, of the *Aurora Beacon*, died at his home last Thursday, May 7, from brain fever after an illness of only three days--having been taken with a congestive chill the Monday afternoon previous. So rapid was the disease that he was thrown into a delirium at once, and remained unconscious till death came.

The writer little thought that he would ever record "Knick's" death. For 20 years we have held business relations--for the last 10 to a considerable extent; for 20 years we have conducted newspapers in so close a territory as would seem to cause our interests to clash--and yet in all that time, no harsh word has ever fallen between us.

He was born in Lansingburg, N.Y. in August 1837 and was nearly 48 years of age at the time of his death. Just in the prime of his manhood; just fixed financially so as to enjoy this life; just at that period and in those circumstances when this world seemed pleasant--and to be taken away so suddenly!

For about 10 weeks, Mr. Knickerbocker had been postmaster at Aurora and it was doubtless this added labor that hastened him to his grave.

The funeral took place Sunday, in charge of Aurora Commandery of Knights Templar, of which he was a member. Sir Knights were present from Somonauk, Sandwich, Plano, Yorkville, and from up the river.

Well, good-bye "Knick," you have got home where we all hope to meet you. Farewell old friend! your many good deeds and good words will never be forgotten.

Farmers must be busy in the fields for it's awful dull in town.

For sale very cheap, a corn planter with check rower complete, nearly new. Enquire at the Record office.

We don't just understand Miller & Sencenbaugh when they advertise "imported American silks"--but if they say so, they've got 'em.

#### Report of the Commissioner of Canada Thistles.

-Town of Oswego.

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To Wm. Parker, Supervisor of the Town of Oswego:

The undersigned commissioner of Canada Thistles, (*Cirsium arvense*) for the Town of Oswego, would report that said thistles are now growing in said town on the farm of D. W. Hess, known as the Peckett Farm, in the timber lot 10, section 34, town 37, range 7, east, of about three rods square. On the farms of George Cowdrey and Frederick Leigh, on the line between said farms, Sec. 26, T. 37, R. 7, east, and on the farm of Amos Parkhurst.

The patches of thistles on the foregoing farms have been there for years, but as to how they were introduced I have been unable to learn; the owners of the land do not permit them to go to seed.

The small patch of said thistles in the timber of John H. Wormley, Sec. 8, T. 37, R. 8, E. of 3d P.M., has all died out, but a few scattering plants are to be seen.

I found a patch of said thistles of about a rod square, in the timber of the Pierce [sic., should be Pearce] estate, about forty rods from the Pierce [sic. Pearce] cemetery, in a westerly direction. I have been unable to discover any of the said thistles of the two small patches in the sheep pasture of Walter Loucks, in the Village of Oswego, since he plowed up said pasture and cultivated it in corn.

The patch of Canada thistles in the cattle pasture on the estate of the late Michael Russel, of about two rods square that showed a vigorous growth last year seems to have been literally stamped out, (to use a favorite expression of scientists in relation to cattle diseases): the spot had been thoroughly salted, attracting the cattle, and they had trod it bare of all vegetation. Your Commissioner examined the spot carefully many times during the season without discovering the least sign of vegetation of the thistles; it may be that there is life in some of the roots underground, and if alive, will vegetate next season.

To repeat what I stated in my last annual report, my acquaintance with the Canada thistle leads me to conclude, and from further observation this season, I am more fully convinced that the plant shows a far greater vigor of growth and tenacity of life in a light and sandy soil than in one which inclines to be heavy and cold. Good farmers, as a rule, do not greatly dread this weed, at least in ordinary fields; because if once established in pasture or meadow, it may be exterminated in two or three years by breaking up and planting to some hoed crop, which, however, must be fertilized in a most thorough manner. Summer fallowing, if done thoroughly, will exterminate if continued for some years.

In my opinion the wild Morning Glory (*Pharlitis purpurea*), is to be dreaded far more than the Canada thistle, and think that those who have had experience with both weeds will agree with me. In suitable soil it is difficult indeed to eradicate either very thoroughly, I have seen some fields of corn during the season where it seemed that every hill of corn had a mat of the vines of the wild morning glory twisted around the corn stalks, and that whilst the glories were in a most flourishing condition, not so the corn, it looked as though it would yield but little. I should like to know how much corn one field I saw in that condition would yield to the acre; but as the field was not in this township I had no means in finding out. Did I own a field in the State that was overrun with the noxious weeds, I would not try to raise corn till I had tried what summer fallowing would do in getting rid of the pests.

Some people think that burning some brush over a patch of Canada thistles will destroy them; I have burned large quantities of the dried thistle and withered grass, and in one instance I collected and burned, I should judge about half a ton of it, in one spot, and in less than three weeks found find clusters of leaves sprouting out from the charred roots; others think they can be smothered out by covering the patch with straw to the depth of two feet, but I have seen Canada thistles growing vigorously through straw to the depth of five feet.

A good plan to get rid of a small patch of the pests, one I have tried and would recommend, is to dig the ground over carefully for some distance beyond the outmost circle of thistles, collect the roots and burn them; then when any sprouts show themselves, as more than likely they will, repeat the treatment. In two years, by keeping

the area free of all vegetation, the thistles will be suppressed. In this I am referring to patches of the thistles on the prairie soil. Patches in soil similar to that of the islands in the Fox River could not be thoroughly suppressed in ten years by any mode of treatment. Cut the thistles on the islands in the river before they had gone to seed and salted the ground.

In cost of cutting thistles on the island in Fox River .....	\$11.00
One barrel of salt used .....	1.60
Eight full days necessarily spent by the Commissioner in performance of his duty, at \$2 per day .....	16.00
Total Amount .....	28.60

D. C. Jeneson, Com'r.  
Dated Oct. 31st, 1884.

May 20: The Rink is progressing very rapidly now, being more than half inclosed. Theron Richards and sons, Larkin and Yeigh are doing the work. Theron is the boss.

The next of Oswego's ventures might be a theatre; then street cars, and then a tavern.

Business has much improved since the getting out and putting on exhibition of that fancy chart of the leading business firms of Oswego.

Charles E. Hubbard has returned from his visit to Nebraska in very good shape; he is much pleased with that country.

A lecture on the "Solution of the Negro problem" will take place on Friday evening, may 22d, at the Methodist church, by a Rev. N.L. Taylor, a colored gentleman, and who is a graduate of the Evanston college and highly recommended as to eloquence and logic.

Dr. Lester is on building of a new door yard fence around his residence.

Prof. McFarlane and H.G. Smith together are engaged in very fancy gardening; their yards are thrown into one and they have things fixed up most neat and trim. Smith besides is extensively engaged in the raising of thoroughbred poultry; he has already nearly a hundred of young Dominic chickens and soon will have several hundred.

C.F. Shoger has caused the painting of his residence, lately bought of Mr. McConnell. That part of the town is undergoing much improvement--Squire Jeneson had his residence painted a short time ago.

George Woolley has commenced the building of a large and nice new residence.

Charles Knapp is going to build a barn.

Fred Hertfelder is having built an addition to his barn.

The buildings on the Hall farm, now occupied by George White, have undergone much repairs this spring.

Yorkville: Maple sugar sociable at the Yorkville Methodist church this Wednesday evening.

Dearborn intends to run a free bus from the [skating] rink to the Hotel on the night of the dance during supper hours.

There will be a barrel race at the Yorkville skating rink Friday evening of this week. The barrel will be suspended in mid air, and each contestant has to go through it. Lots of fun. Good music.

*Ottawa Journal*: S.G. Minkler and wife of Oswego, Kendall county, who have been visiting friends and relatives here for the past few days, returned to their home yesterday. Mr. Minkler is one of the oldest living settlers in the state of Illinois, having come here 53 years ago. He has lived upon his present farm for 52 years and has been prominently identified with the Horticultural and Agricultural societies of the state for a great many years.

Engine 97 has a daisy whistle, if you like that kind of a whistle. Yorkville people rush to the doors and windows twice a day now to see the big steamboat coming up the river, but it's only 97 with a Mississippi fog-horn for a whistle. It is a low-toned, hoarse, bullfrog kind of a note. The railroad folks are trying to get something more soothing to the ears than the usual shriek of a locomotive, but 97 don't do it--the engineer can't jerk staccato notes with that horn--takes too long to start and stop. He plays whole notes and never quavers.

#### Fox River Water

The following extract is from a paper on "The Water Supply of Cities" read by Dr. C.B. Davis: "Some analyses made for me recently in connection with the water supply of Aurora, Ill., showed that the Fox river, after receiving the drainage of five cities and villages (aggregating 30 thousand population) within 25 miles of Aurora, was purer than any well water analyzed inside the city limits."

The water in Aurora wells must be in an awful condition.

May 27: George Washington, an old colored gentleman, died [Sunday, May 24] at his home in Specie Grove. His age is not known, but according to what he used to relate about events he witnessed, he would have been considerably over 100 years old.

The lecture Friday evening on the "Negro Problems" by a colored reverend was most interesting. The same gentleman also preached at the Methodist Church on Sunday morning.

The preparation for the decoration exercises Saturday are all pretty well underway. People should bear in mind that the Rev. A.W. Chapman of Seward will deliver the memorial address; he is an excellent orator.

The "First son of the family" has monopolized the attention of the Frank Hawley household the past week.

The A.D. McFaul family have returned from here to Hampshire, Ill., their former home.

Mr. Larkin is a very sweet singer; his melodious strains are now floating on the air from off the roof of the Rink where he is engaged in shingling.

Francis F. Morgan and wife, a young couple, moved away from here 23 years ago, and since have been living in Michigan. Now with a grown up family of children they are on their way to Dakota, stopping over here for a visit to their relatives--Mrs. Morgan was the oldest of the Stephen Minard girls.

Since Postmaster General Vilas has said that "offensive partisans" are objectionable for postmasters, no matter whether they are Republicans or Democrats--old man Rank thinks he is all right for continuation, as he has been saying for years that both of the old parties ought to be dead and buried and barred from all resurrection. He thinks they cannot fetch on a less offensive partisan Democrat than he is Republican. Very likely his nonpartisanship won't save him, and hadn't ought to.

Yorkville: The administration is dropping "offensive partisan" postal clerks over Kankakee way, and putting in "non-partisan" Democrats. Nothing like civil service reform, hey George William?

Capt. Ed. Mann is doing his best to make the Decoration Day exercises at Oswego interesting.

Commissioners Loucks and Wormley of Oswego were in Yorkville Saturday on highway business with the County Treasurer.

George Washington died Sunday [May 24] at his home in Specie Grove. He was a very aged colored man, said to have been 100 years old. Milton Hawkins says he was 125. Mr. Washington was a good old man, and may have been a "body servant" of the Great George of Revolutionary fame, but we don't know.

The skating rink will close this week Friday evening for the season.

#### A Busy Life Ended

Death at Paris of Victor Hugo, the Noted French Poet and Novelist.

Brief Sketch of His Career

Victor Hugo died at 1:30 o'clock May 22, passing away peacefully and without suffering...The death of Hugo causes grief throughout the continent.

June -- 1885

June 3: J.P. Brown of NaAuSay, brought in and sold to Wollenweber & Knapp yesterday 45 May and June pigs of last year that averaged 115 pounds.

The first use the rink was put to was very patriotic and laudable, the decoration services.

H.G. Smith was suddenly summoned with his wife to Kokomo, Ind. To attend there Sunday the funeral of his brother De Witt C. Smith.

T.S. Bunn is here spending a vacation.

Although but one ticket in the field yesterday, there was much urging of "go to the polls and voce," and yet the number of votes cast was but 109.

In the last week's edition of the Saratoga (Kan.) Sun is this paragraph: "C.B. Teller was making free with the cigars last Friday. He was too happy to explain, but on inquiry from other parties, it was found that a visitor, a 12-pound girl, had arrived at his house." That means our Charley Teller.

The streets have been undergoing much repairs.

The decoration was accomplished to the entire satisfaction all around. The weather authorities cleared up the mists and clouds and made the afternoon as lovely as possible.

Memorial services were held at the Congregational church Sunday evening; the display exceeded everything ever attempted here in that direction. There were floral patriotic emblems and mottoes against the walls and on wires stretched across the church; there were portraits entwined with the flag; there was the floral soldier's grave and monument; there was the flag, the real musket, saber, uniform, canteen and knapsack. The music--performed cooperative by choir and band--was perhaps the most superb ever produced in this town.

Verily, Oswego did nobly this year on Memorial doings.

Two nice monuments have lately been erected in the cemetery. An \$800 one of the gray Aberdeen granite for Mrs. Van Deventer and one of the red Scotch granite for John D. Hall.

Yorkville: Boat for sale by Geo. A. Godard, Yorkville. Has a stern wheel and a pair of oars. Will carry ten grown persons.

People are complaining about cattle and horses running at large in Yorkville. Owners should watch them and not let them become a nuisance to everybody.

Will Lombard and Mr. Matter of Wheatland were in Yorkville Saturday and called at this office. Mr. Matter is an old printer--for a young fellow--having graduated under Brother Givler at Naperville. They went to visit friends on the Bridle farm south of Long Grove.

P. Boessenecker, Esq., of Oswego was in Yorkville Tuesday on business. He is one of the most successful farmers and business men in Kendall County--the architect of his own fortune. Mr. B. is a stockholder and director in the Second National Bank, Aurora.

Mr. Rufus Gray of Montgomery was in Yorkville last Wednesday.

#### CROP, LIVE STOCK AND OTHER STATISTICS

The following valuable statistics concerning the productions and resources of this county for 1884 have been compiled from the interesting and comprehensive crop report, recently issued by the Illinois Department of Agriculture.

##### KENDALL COUNTY

Corn, acres, 58,065; yield, 1,916,550 bu.; value, \$574,843. Hay, acres meadow, 30,919; yield, 46,378 tons; value, \$217,977. Winter wheat, acres 78; yield, 1,014 bushels; value, \$811. Oats, acres, 31,917; yield, 1,180,929 bushels; value, \$307,041. Rye, acres, 1,148; yield, 20,664 bushels; value, \$12,398. Spring wheat, 123 acres; yield, 1,859; value, \$1,394. Barley, acres, 15; yield, 390 bushels; value, \$222. Sorghum, acres, 5; yield, 300 gallons; value, \$165. Flax, acres, 6; yield, 54 bushels seed; value, \$63. Buckwheat, acres, 18; yield, 252; value, \$196. Timothy seed, bushels, 13,886; Clover seed, bushels, 763; value, \$3,391. Beans, acres, 1; yield, 13 bushels, value, \$19.

Average yield per acre crops past nine years: Corn, 28 bushels; Wheat, 14 bushels.

Percent of area to total acreage in county in 1884: Corn, 28.0766; winter wheat, .0377; spring wheat, .0691; oats, 15.4331; rye, .5551; pastures, 23.1943; meadows, 14.9506; orchards, 1.5806; other crops and uncultivated land, 16.1029.

Wheat annually consumed, 52,336 bushels; need for seed annually, 295 bushels; deficit, 49,758 bushels.

Fruit Crop, 1884: Apples, bushels, 24,549; value, \$16,693. Vineyards, lbs. of grapes, 252; value, \$13.

Dairy Products, 1884: Gallons milk sold, 433,599; value, \$43,360. Cream, gallons sold, 18,241; value, \$8,573. Butter, pounds sold, 282,495; value, \$64,951. Cheese, pounds sold, 24,500; value, \$2,695.

Animal Products: Fat cattle, number sold, 4,387; gross weight, 4,7716,025 pounds; value, \$200,431. Fat hogs, number sold, 17,054; gross weight, 475,906 pounds, value, \$197,681. Fat sheep, number sold, 1,356; gross weight, 142,380 pounds; value, \$4,983. Wool, lbs., 35,399; value, \$7,788.

Live Stock, May, 1884: Number of horses, 6,770; foals, 1,883, 447; number cattle, 19,575; number hogs, 20,547; number sheep, 6,634. Distribution of stock, number to each square mile: Horses, 21; cattle, 59; hogs, 64; sheep, 19.

Miscellaneous: Number feet drain tile laid to Jan. 1, 1884, 4,224,865; number farms, 1880, 1,471; average size farms, 137 acres; average value lands per acre, 1884, \$26; taxation per acre, 49-cents. Value farm products per acre, \$8.93; value animal products per acre, \$2.55; road and bridge tax, \$16,911.

June 10: Ed. Jeneson has gone west and intends to reside in St. Joseph, Mo.

Tuesday night's storm precipitated the upper section of the Democratic pole to the ground, which is looked upon as ominous of disaster by the superstitions. The same storm also prostrated George Parker's windmill tower.

Miss Sarah has come home from Joliet on a visit to her folks, George W. Cooney.

At the election Saturday afternoon for voting bonds to build the new school house, 82 votes were cast; all in favor of the bonds.

At the election Saturday afternoon for voting bonds to build the new school house, 82 votes were cast, all in favor of the bonds.

Work on the streets and also the work on the rink is progressing very favorably.

It is said that the grand opening of the Star Rink will take place next week Tuesday evening, and Prof. Dillon of Aurora will be the manager of it.

The Oswego Public School will close June 17th with appropriate exercises.

Yorkville: Mr. D.J. Hoff is now prepared to take first class photographs on short notice at his rooms over Hobbs' dry goods store, Yorkville.

The new mail arrangements for Yorkville and Oswego are pleasing to all business men. We now have four mails a day at these places. At Yorkville a mail pouch goes to Aurora at 9:43 a.m.; the regular mail at 5:07 p.m. We received our regular mail from Chicago at 10:53 a.m. and a pouch from Aurora at 6:40 p.m. It is a great accommodation.

The new business block put up in Yorkville last week opposite the Record office was engineered and constructed under the supervision of Charley Halleck. It is headquarters for the Plano Harvester.

The CB&Q Co. have opened a new gravel pit on the Fox River line at Sheridan junction.

June 17: Ornamental hitching posts have been erected in front of the drug store. Hall is always in advance in modern improvements.

It is said that John Van Dyke, over there in Seward, bought for himself a \$500 span of horses the other day.

George Troll has caused the reshingling of his house.

Frank Boardman, the East Wheatland postmaster, has been here on a visit to his sister, Mrs. Moore.

The village authorities mean to establish a reputation for themselves by the work they are doing on the streets.

The firm of Jones & Farrell has been dissolved and the corner meat market is now carried on by Mat. Jones alone.

The auction man has pitched his tent near the rink, but the business last evening seemed to be awful dull.

The grand opening of the skating rink occurs this evening which doubtless will make the town tremble, for even the minor opening which took place last Saturday caused a lot of racket. Among those who skated the best are Mrs. Frank Richards, Miss Mattie Richards, Joe Miller (a hired man of Myron Wormley's), Lewis Figge, and James Shepard.

Yorkville: Colonel Gruesel of the 36th was in Yorkville Saturday, and was warmly greeted by the old soldier element.

The Fox River Company's Paper Mill and half the water power at Yorkville was sold by Sheriff Newton Saturday to satisfy a judgment. Hon. M.B. Castle of Sandwich bid the property in for the creditors. The mill will be run as usual with M.E. Cornell as manager. There is radically no change in the mill's affairs.

Johnnie Burkhart of Oswego was in Yorkville Saturday feeling happy like a lark. The cause of his happiness was the arrival of an 8-pound daughter at his home the day before.

June 24: A very successful and satisfactory term of school closed Wednesday with exhibitions during the afternoon and evening.

The "Grand Opening" of the rink was the biggest thing that Oswego ever experienced on rollers, and for the highly successful accomplishment of it we are indebted to Aurora, Yorkville, and Plano--Oswegoans generally stood back and looked on. There were quite a number of very graceful skaters present, and in addition to the artistic skating by Prof. Dillon, was that of a little girl, said to be but 7 years old, and the best skater of her age in the world.

Mrs. J.K. Lynd has gone to join her husband at their new home in Dakota.

All of the teachers have departed and gone to their old homes. Prof. McFarlane and wife left for their's in New York State this morning.

Miss Blanche Cutter has returned from a term of teaching services at Moline, and Prof. H.D. Hatch has come from there on a visit to his friends in this place, especially the H.C. Cutter family.

A family of newcomers from Aurora have moved in the M.C. Richards house.

The rink, the postoffice and the Anton Miller place have been supplied with new sidewalks; the corporation furnished the lumber.

Mrs. Dwight E. Smith of Davenport, Iowa has returned on a visit to her native place and especially her folks, John A. Young.

The village authorities are doing much of good work on the streets; the lower portion of Washington has been fixed up in a nice and substantial manner.

The Star rink was formally opened Tuesday evening, and there was a very large attendance, notwithstanding the union prayer meeting held in the Congregational church.

When the Rink was on building some of us self-sufficient wise men would wag our heads and say, "Bob is foolish for putting his money in this; such an institution cannot be made to pay in the town. " But how shortsighted we were. The building of another is already mooted, as the one affords insufficient capacity for the demands. Saturday evening the town was full of people who had come from the country to have a skate, but were sorely disappointed as all the skates were engaged and none could be had for love or money. It is wished that one thing of the business could be divided up and distributed around and that is the miserable grating noise intermixed with clatter.

The old court house must go, and that now right away.

Yorkville: Prospectus of the Proposed Portrait and Biographical Album of Kendall County, Illinois.

The album will contain portraits and biographical sketches of every President of the United States, and of every Governor of Illinois. It will also give a history of the county from its earliest settlement to date of issue, with personal incidents and reminiscences; sketches of every city, village, and township; the geography, topography and agricultural features of the county; political, military, civil, religious, educational progress and the press will each form separate topics and in fact an extensive and comprehensive work will be compiled; and this will be done while many of the early settlers are yet living, and will be authoritative to this date for all time to come.

Besides the biographies of all the presidents and Governors as above mentioned, the work will contain biographical sketches of old settlers and prominent and representative citizens of the county.

Should we fail to receive the necessary encouragement to enable us to compile a work of so great a magnitude, we reserve the right to withdraw from the county. In such cases, all orders taken will be considered void.

Yours Truly,  
Chapman Brothers, Publishers.

Miss Lucy Teller of Oswego has been visiting her sister, Mrs. C.E. Moore.

Ginger ale made from Ottawa Mineral Water is sold at Cotton's bakery, Yorkville.

July -- 1885

July 1: No Oswego news column.

Aurora: Numerous visitors were watching a huge eel which was disporting himself in the fountain in front of the memorial building yesterday. He was caught near Stolp's mill and is about 43 inches long. The school children had great sport in trying to hold him, but he proved to be 'slippery as an eel.'

Mr. Ford, principal of the Yorkville schools, will remove to Aurora and commence the study of medicine with Dr. W.T. Murphy.

Saturday, June 20th, was the 37th anniversary of the advent into this world of Daniel Lilly, who resides near Oswego. Such a day was not to be passed by in silence and many friends of the genial gentleman from at home and abroad gathered to make merry on the occasion.

Montgomery: Contractors are busily engaged in grading and cutting for a change in the track of the Fox River branch. The track will be straightened from Gray's crossing to the Junction.

A.M. Young of Oswego, night operator at Fox River Junction, was seriously injured Monday in attempting to board a rapidly-moving train at this place. He was encumbered by a lunch basket and in consequence missed his hold, and was thrown violently to the ground striking on his head. His injuries are serious but not fatal.

The new road from North Oswego, intersecting the Oswego road just north of George Wormley's place, is at last completed, and was on Saturday of last week accepted by Commissioners Lucks, Wormley and Shoger. Some five years since, a petition bearing some 200 names in favor of the road was rejected in favor of a remonstrance signed by 38. Nothing was done again until this winter when the petition was granted and the road laid out. It is as fine a piece of road as there is in the town. It is ballasted with quarry chips, nearly 140 loads having been put in. The culverts are large and side drainage excellent.

Yorkville: Aurora Post: John Fitzgerald, the first Democratic county officer Kendall has had since the war was taking in our city court today. (No, John is not a Democrat; he is a Temperance Independent; kind of a Democratic Mugwump, as it were--but a good officer for all that).

#### June Crop Prospects

The following interesting data concerning the condition and prospects of the crops, etc. in Kendall county, has been furnished the Illinois Department of Agriculture by the regular correspondents residing in this county:

The stand of corn is not good. There has been more replanting than usual owing to the unfavorable weather and poor seed. The area is about the same as last season. This is the only county in the State excepting one that promises a full average yield per acre of winter wheat, very little spring wheat raised in the county; oats and rye are a little backward; meadows and pastures are not as far advanced as usual for June 1st; Irish potatoes are about an average in area and condition.

The percentage of bloom this spring and the condition of fruit June 1 as compared with an average is as follows:

Apple bloom	p.ct.	77	Condition, p.c.	70
Cherry bloom	“	53	Condition, p.c.	100
Grapes bloom	“	33	Condition, p.c.	43
Strawberry bloom	“	100	Condition, p.c.	100
Raspberry bloom	“	90	Condition, p.c.	83
Bl'kberry bloom	“	100	Condition, p.c.	100
Gooseber'y bloom	“	100	Condition, p.c.	100
Currants bloom	“	100	Condition, p.c.	100

The number of births of farm animals this season as compared with last spring and the condition of young stock as compared with an average are given by percentage and are as follows:

Pigs, number, p.c.,	77	condition, p.c.	97
Lambs, number, p.c.	80	condition, p.c.	100
Calves, condition, p.c.	100	condition, p.c.	100
Colts, condition, p.c.	100	condition, p.c.	100

The average price of colts at weaning time is \$35 and the cost of service \$145.

About 5 percent of the foals usually die before weaning time.

July 8: The illustrious Forth in this place was extraordinarily calm and decorous. The dance at the rink preceded in it was but tolerably attended. The artillery salutes in the morning were moderate enough. The band played a piece on their departure and return from the house's Grove celebration. The rink was in operation nearly all day and evening. The saloons were extra quiet and orderly--those that indulged too much kept mum and at rest. The fireworks in the evening were of the Lilliputian proportion.

The band boys reported that never before did they receive such a royal treatment as they did on their expedition to the Seward Fourth of July celebration; that not only were they feasted most prodigiously on the grounds, but even on their way home were stopped and ice creamed and lemonaded.

A very pleasant picnic at Cowdrey's was one of the events of the Fourth.

A disastrous event down the river on the Fourth was the burning of the Lewis Rickard residence.

The death of Mrs. Ellen A. Davis, widow of the late Major Davis, occurred suddenly from hart afflictions Saturday. The remains will be conveyed to Geneva for burial.

Lemuel Powers, an old time Oswegoan and now for many years a resident of San Marcos, Texas, is here on a visit to his old associates, especially Captain Mann. Lem's appearance has undergone but little change.

By the advent of a boy, Mr. and Mrs. A.J. Lockwood have reached the important position of parents.

The old courthouse is nearly removed and the worthless material was used to reduce the size of the slough on the flats. Bids for building the new school house will be received up to July 25.

The water works are status quo.

Charles E. Hubbard family departed yesterday for their new home in Nebraska. They were old inhabitants of Oswego, especially Charley, whose home has been here for about 40 years.

Yorkville: Mr. and Mrs. D.M. Haight of Oswego have just completed a book consisting of essays and compilations which is soon to be published as a subscription book by Fairbanks, Palmer & Co. of Chicago, publishers of "Gaskells Compendium." The publishers speak in very high terms of the work and by undertaking its publication show their confidence in its merits. Mrs. Haight is a writer of superior ability and has published many articles in the local papers which have attracted more than usual attention. Mr. Haight is also a man of considerable literary ability and has a well-filled library. By the way, Oswego is getting to be quite a literary centre. Mr. Lynch who has already published several books hails from there.

The Kendall County Fair begins Tuesday, Sept. 1.

A petition has been sent to the railroad authorities at Chicago asking that a new depot be built at Yorkville. Monday a number of high officials were here and looked over the situation. We want better accommodations.

John H. Morgan Jr., of NaAuSay, has invented a device for bringing back the horse-fork in handling hay--a great labor-saving machine, simple and cheap--for which he has applied for a patent.

#### \$25 Reward

Escaped from the Kendall County Jail, Yorkville, Tuesday morning, July 7th, 1885, one Frank Skinner, aged 28, height 5 feet 10 inches, dark complexion; gray eyes; black hair. And one James Matthews, alias James Murphy, age 28; height 5 feet 7 inches; light complexion; gray eyes; light hair.

A reward of \$25 will be paid for their arrest and return.

A.D. Newton, Sheriff.

The men were from Seward, held for stealing chickens, grain, etc. They were not deemed dangerous and were kept in the large room of the jail. It is thought someone drew the bolt on the outside of the door and let them out.

July 15: M.J. Pogue & Sons are putting up an air tight building near the railroad track for the storage of lime.

E.T. Sutherland has caused his building to be nicely repainted and his restaurant artistically embellished.

The barber shop likewise has undergone a very knobby fixing up--some of the folks here are getting to be very tony.

Miss Eoa Coryell of Montgomery is visiting the H.G. Smith family.

Bids for the contract of building the new school house will be received up to the 25th inst. The site has been cleared--the job of the removal of the old court house was finished the middle of last week.

The chimney sweep was in town one day last week.

Yorkville: S.G. Minkler picked about 800 quarts of strawberries from a piece of land about 30x50 paces.

Kirk Walker of Oswego and his brother-in-law, Mr. Fuller of Chicago were in Yorkville on business Thursday.

it is said that Wm. H. Hopkins has bought the machinery in the grist mill at Sandwich and will remove it to a point in Dakota to run a flouring mill.

Mr. Karoly of the Telephone Company at Aurora has been in Yorkville and Oswego asking subscriptions to establish a line between these points to connect with Aurora and Chicago. He got about enough to guarantee the line in Yorkville.

#### HOMICIDE!

##### George H. Steward Shot Down and Killed

On Tuesday of last week James Freeman of Aurora, with a party of four young men, namely Freeman's own son James, Arthur Evans, John Dyckes, and Clive Benson, started from Aurora in a boat down Fox River on a hunting and fishing expedition.

On Wednesday evening they reached the Stone Mill standing on the right bank of the river just below the new bridge and the old Post's mills.

On Wednesday evening last Mr. Freeman went into camp in this mill, it being a rainy night, by permission, they claim, of a son of George Stewards. On Thursday morning about 6 o'clock they were preparing to make a fire and get breakfast. About this time George Steward had gone to his hay field near the mill. He took a short handled pitchfork with him and was tossing the grass over when he heard a noise of chopping at

the mill. Suspecting a party was using his flooring for firewood he went to the mill to see about it. Then what follows is known only to Mr. Freeman and his party; there are no other surviving witnesses.

Mr. Freeman says that Steward came into the mill in a rage and with fierce language and oaths ordered them out; these commands he followed up by threatening thrusts with pitchfork in his hand. The boys all jumped out of the windows and doors; Freeman has his gun and fishing tackle in a corner of the room and he went to get them and leave. when he got his gun and turned to go, he says Steward was between him and the door with his pitchfork down at a charge. he attempted to escape and Steward went at him with the fork. He tried to parry with his gun and in the melee the gun went off, the charge struck Steward in the breast. The wounded man turned once around and fell in the corner on a he of clothing and a tent and died without a struggle.

The party gave themselves up to a posse of farmers. The Coroner was summoned from Yorkville; a jury was empanelled, witnesses heard, and the following verdict rendered: "That George H. Steward came to his death by a gunshot wound fired from a gun in the hands of James Freeman of Aurora at the so-called stone mill on Fox River in the township of Fox, Kendall County.

July 22: In regard to the location of the Soldiers' home, bonuses and donations are to cut no figure; the State will buy the land at a fair price and \$10,000 may be expended for buying of the site. The locations for such he corporation well has been supplied with a good covering. The locations for such an institution that will favorably compare with Roberts' corn field on the west side of the river will be scarce. A portion of Loucks' farm east of the village would make another very excellent site. Oswego should make application for the home; there is time enough yet to do so.

The corporation well has been supplied with a good covering.

Anton Miller is painting the building he occupies.

A man looking for work stayed over night at the home of D.W. Hess some days ago, and with his departure very early the next morning some articles of value disappeared also.

C.S. Kilbourne, our active creamery man, is now enjoying a vacation at Cleveland, Ohio.

Addie Kimball is now receiving the finishing touches of her musical education from Prof. Stein of Aurora.

No. 1 of Vol. 1 of the *Norwich News*--a booming town that is to be in southwestern Kansas--is received. Mat. Bennett lives in that part of the country.

Just heard it said that a most joyous time was had at the Emanuel Cooneys' silver wedding last night.

The Steward tragedy was the subject for more or less sidewalk conversation since its occurrence. Freeman is known to many of our inhabitants, and all speak of him in high

praise. He is represented as a refined, benevolent Christian gentleman, very humane, delights very much in outdoor sport, and frequently is enjoying hunting and fishing expeditions. To exhibit his tenderness of heart, it is related of him that some years ago he went out to the western part of Kansas to enjoy a Buffalo hunt with his former sporting companion, Ed. Zimmerman, who had moved there from this place; that it happened that Mrs. Z. was sick when Freeman got there; that Ed. however immediately made preparations for the departure to the buffalo region, saying that his wife would soon be all right again and get along well enough; that when they came to start, Freeman called a halt saying that that lady must not be left alone in the condition she was in, and then had her conveyed some distance to a family where she could be taken care of. The writer doesn't know Freeman, neither did he Steward; for ought he knows the one may be as gentle as the lamb and the other have been as ferocious as the tiger and no opinion is formed or intended to be expressed by this paragraph as to their individual dispositions.

Yorkville: Barney McKanna says John VanDyke will be postmaster at NaAuSay post office under the new administration as soon as the new barn is done. And others say Barney is to be the Plattville postmaster. There is great strife among the Democrats over these important offices.

A little rain, if you please.

Corn is growing splendidly.

July 29: The flag was raised to half mast on the Garfield pole and the rink immediately after the receipt of the news of General Grant's death Thursday morning.

The blacksmith shop of J.A. Young & Sons was struck by lightning during the storm of Wednesday afternoon. The operatives and other persons in it were all more or less shocked, and four horses there to be shod were simultaneously thrown on their knees. The tearing away and displacing of some boards and casings was all the damage done. During the same storm lightning killed a mare and colt for Fred Leigh, four sheep for James Williams, two sheep for Geo. Cowdrey, and a cow for Mr. Trisch down in Kendall. There was insurance on the most of these animals, and McWethy, the insurance man, was on hand promptly to pay the damages.

A formal movement towards securing the location of the Soldiers' Home here has been made, and Charles L. Roberts better make calculations for an early gathering in of his corn crop.

Don't know just how the school house question stands; the contract was not fully completed by last reports but it was supposed that Ottawa parties would get it.

Operations on the waterworks will be resumed immediately; the pipings are on hand; they were bought in Chicago last week by trustees Hawley and Hebert; the contract for laying them will be let this evening.

A lady skater at the rink severely sprained her wrist by a fall.

Tina Elliott is now engaged in teaching at Broken Bow, Neb.

Among the many nice pictures in the July number of the North-West, an illustrated Minnesota Magazine, are representations of Detroit Lake Detroit City, the court house, private residences, and a wheat warehouse, the same being built by J.H. Sutherland and was the first built on the Northern Pacific R.R. west of Duluth. The Sutherland mentioned is none other than our Henry, who will be remembered by all of the older inhabitants here.

Yorkville: General Ulysses S. Grant died at Mount MacGregor, N.Y., at 8 o'clock Thursday morning, July 23, 1885.

#### Death of Judge T. Lyle Dickey

Judge T. Lyle Dickey was born in Bourbon county, Kentucky, October 2d, 1811. In the fall of 1826 he entered the Ohio University, where he remained four years, after which he entered Miami University, from which he graduated in 1831. On December 6th of that year he married Miss Juliet Evans and taught school with success in Ohio and Kentucky for several years following. He removed to McDonough county in 1834 where he studied law with Hon. Cyrus H. Walker, and was admitted to the bar in 1835, when he was 23 years of age. In the following year he removed to Rushville, where, in addition to his law practice, he edited a Whig paper and speculated some in real estate in which last he was unfortunate. In 1839 he came to Ottawa, where he engaged in the practice of law. In 1846, at the breaking out of the Mexican war, he raised a company and was made captain, becoming part of the First Illinois Regiment. His health failing, he resigned his command and returned to his law practice. In 1848 he was elected Judge of the Circuit Court and served four years when the circuit embraced 12 counties. He resigned because his salary was inadequate to his support and the payment of debts he had contracted in his real estate transactions. In 1854 he opened an office in Chicago but continued his office and residence in Ottawa. His wife died during the following year.

Though a Whig, Judge Dickey took sides with Douglas against Lincoln in the famous canvass for the United States Senate in 1858. Some years prior to this time he had formed a law partnership with W.H.L. Wallace, his son-in-law.

Judge Dickey and Wallace both went into the army, the latter becoming a Major General and was killed at Shiloh. Judge Dickey raised the 4th Illinois regiment of cavalry and became its Colonel. He was with Grant at the capture of Fort Henry, led the advance at Fort Donelson, and participated in the battle of Shiloh. In 1862 he was made Chief of Cavalry on Gen. Grant's staff and sent to Memphis to command that post. He fought Pemberton against great odds, was the instigator of the famous Grierson raid through the enemy's country, destroying the bridges about Jackson, Miss. in 1863. The same year, he resigned and returned home. Three years later he was the Democratic candidate for Congress for the state at large, but was defeated by Gen. John A. Logan. In 1868 he was appointed Assistant Attorney General of the United States by President Johnson and made a good record. He held the position two years when he resigned. In 1870 he married Mrs. Hirst of Prince Ann, Md., who survives him. He returned to Ottawa and again began

to practice law. In 1873 he removed to Chicago where he became city counsel for a term and was in 1875 elected to the Supreme Court to fill a vacancy, and in 1879 he was elected to a full term. As a lawyer and jurist Judge Dickey had but few equals in the West, and perhaps no superior, all things taken into account. He was a man of fine culture and wonderfully gifted as a conversationalist.

In the death of Judge Dickey another link that bound us to the early days of this Valley is broken and another pioneer has passed away. T. Lyle Dickey was well known on Fox River and the older residents of Kendall County remember his courtly dignity, his affable conversation, his amusing stories, as he practiced in our court or acted as a Judge on the bench. The Judge was splendid company, as his fund of information and reminiscences of earlier days told in an inimitable manner made him a favorite with a large circle of friends. He was a man of fine talents, a man who seemed to make money easily and spend it just as easily. As a lawyer he stood at the front. His connection here with the contest of the Fox River Railroad Bonds and individual notes to that corporation had drawn much adverse criticism but all will be forgotten in the grave.

Mr. Frank Hodder, son of J.H. Hodder of the *Aurora Beacon*, has been elected Instructor in History for Cornell University, New York.

The flag at half-mast on the court house staff Thursday morning at 8 o'clock was the first intimation to our people that General Grant was dead.

August -- 1885

Aug. 5: The weather was so very hot last week that everybody not actually compelled to do otherwise kept quiet--even the skating rink had become quiet--and it rained so all day Sunday that to be careful of one's good clothes no church services were taken in.

One reason beside the hot weather why operations on the water works were not pushed is because the hydrants had not been received.

Never before did Oswego have such a nicely painted and gilded barber pole as now.

The excavation for the school house basement is nearly completed.

Mrs. Lawrence Hafenrichter of Yorkville has been making frequent visits to this place the past week; her grandmother, Mrs. Failing, is on the sick list.

Yorkville: It is said that Judge Caton is now entirely blind, and nothing but a surgical operation can restore his sight--and even that might fail. His friends certainly sympathize with him in his misfortune.

Aurora is to have waterworks for "fire purposes," and the supply is to be drawn from the Fox River. The sum of \$150,000 is to be expended in this improvement. If some means

could have been invented by which Aurora could get good clean water, it would be greatly to the benefit of the city to use the water for family purposes--put a hydrant in every house; and it would pay for the investment, too. But who would want to use the river water for cooking or drinking--or even washing--unless it is filtered and cleansed?

The track at the Fair Grounds has been put in splendid order--never saw it better.

At Cowdrey's Crossing Saturday, August 15th, Aurora Post No. 30, Grand Army of the Republic, will have a picnic with their families. All the Grand Army boys of the vicinity are invited to attend, as we are authorized to say by Commander Eb. Denney. it will be a grand time for the soldier boys, we assure you.

it is the general verdict that we never had a better outlook for a big crop of corn than now.

Ottawa Times: The AuxSable distillery near Morris is to be put in running order at once. Thus do we prosper under the Democratic administration.

Aug. 12: it is thought that they cannot get around Oswego with the location of the "soldiers' and Sailors' Home," and in view of which other projects are now talked up, foremost of which is the building of a hotel for which the "stock" principle is favored. Of course it is to be no mean affair, but one of the most modern elegance and conveniences--surrounds of lawns and fountains are mentioned in connection with it.

It is Mrs. H.G. Smith that takes the ribbon for the nicest and most artistic flower garden this summer.

Not much progress has yet been made on the foundation of the school house. A new well is now also being dug on the premises.

In common with the people in general this community was more or less absorbed in the National mourning of the illustrious dead the past week. Haight, Hunt, Hall and Helle exhibited draped pictures in the windows of their business places and Dr. Lester had his office profusely and artistically draped.

T. J. Pigott has the agency for the "Personal Memoirs of U.S. Grant" for Oswego Township.

Aug. 19: Mrs. Nancy [Pearce Carpenter] Ellis died at the home of her son-in-law, Mr. Daniel Keck, at Montgomery August 3d, 1885, aged 73 years. Mrs. Ellis was born in Champaign County, Ohio August 23d, 1813. At the age of 18, in 1831, she married Mr. Jacob Carpenter and removed with him to Chicago in November 1832. They moved to their farm at Montgomery in the fall of 1833, Mrs. Ellis thus being the first white woman who settled in Kane County. To give an idea of the state of the country in those days, we will say that during the following winter of 1833-1834, there were some 500 Indians encamped upon what is known as the McInhill place, now West Aurora. Sept. 28th, 1836, Mr. Carpenter died leaving his wife with two sons then eldest of whom is still living

being Mr. George Carpenter, who is a resident of South Broadway, Aurora. In 1837, Mrs. Carpenter married William P. Ellis, by whom she was the mother of three children, the only surviving one being Mrs. Daniel Keck of Montgomery, with whom her mother was making her home when she died. Under the labors of Arthur Kimball in 1841, Mrs. Ellis was converted and had always lived the life of a Christian, being at the time of her death a member of the Free Methodist Church of Aurora.

There was quite an animated meeting last evening at Shepard's hall; the object of it being the "heating apparatus" for the new school house, whether it should be steam or hot air. Haight, Prof. Rolfe, Frank Hawley, Armstrong, and a representative of a certain hot air system were the principal speakers. After much argumentation and the exhibition of more or less feeling, a resolution was brought forth to the effect that what is wanted is, the best system for the least money, and that the directors themselves must decide which is what.

The business portion of Main street presents now a pretty well torn up condition. The digging of the trenches for the water mains was commenced yesterday morning and completed from the corner at Helle's to Troll's, while on the other side of the street, that from the Post office extending along the brick block, is pretty well under way. Moses & Shuttleworth are doing the job and Joe Foss is helping them.

The barber shop has changed hands by Gus Voss selling out to this brother, Lewis. Gus is contemplating going west in the near future. Another barber shop is going to be established by a new comer, and the Chapman building on the corner, heretofore a meat market, is now undergoing painting and other fitting up for the purpose.

In this fast age any fast job people are fast to talk about, and would like to know who has seen it beat. Hank Gray says that Nick Briz, with a steam thresher, from 10 minutes after four to 7 o'clock--in the meantime stopping for supper--threshed 1,000 bushels of oats for him. It took 10 teams and 30 men to handle it. Joseph Erwin also talked of having performed some extra fast work with a Champion binder, but the figures of it have been forgotten.

Fred Hertfelder is building a new house.

Henry Helle has got a new journeyman.

The locating commission of the soldiers' Home now on the move of inspection of the proffered sites, will probably strike Oswego the latter part of this week or the first of next.

Yorkville: Because of the failure to raise the desired amount at Oswego, for the proposed telephone line, the manager's request us to say that they are obliged to abandon the project. They desire to return thanks to those parties who tried to aid with their subscriptions.

The Grand Army picnic at Cowdrey's Park last Saturday was not as largely attended as was expected, Saturday being a bad day for business men to leave. However, there were three carloads down from Aurora, a large delegation from Oswego, and quite a crowd from Yorkville. The day was a perfect one, and there could be no more beautiful site for picnic party than this riverside resort on George Cowdrey's farm. There are fine springs on the ground, there was plenty of ice water, hammocks, and swings and boats on the river, and Cliff Sweet with his orchestra.

Aug. 26: After but a few hours notice, the locating commission of the Soldiers' home arrived here by special train Thursday at 1:30 p.m. and immediately entered carriages and proceeded on the inspection of the several sites, of which the Herren place one mile below town came nearest to fill the bill.

The staff of the Oswego school arrived in town but the situation was such that school could not be commenced yesterday as had been intended--the directors desired to engage the Baptist and Lutheran churches for temporary school quarters, but for some cause did not succeed, and now will make use of the Shepard and Council house halls, and the school is to commence next week Monday.

The roof of the creamery got on fire one day last week. It was quickly put out.

The operations at the water works has been progressing very favorably last week; the west business block on Main street is finished and the water taken into nearly all the buildings, eight in number, the mains are also laid by the brick block--all the buildings will be separately supplied--and extended across Washington street. There are four hydrants in place now. The ram has caused a temporary stoppage of the work, and a little caving in at some of the open trenches. There will be no use hereafter for any one trying to reach an alderman in position in this town so long as the members of the present board are on top of the grounds, and after they have been gathered in, the monument which they have constructed for themselves will ever testify of their great worth and enterprise.

Yorkville: The Geneva "Republican" says: "our Geneva dam is now nearly completed, at a cost of nearly \$3,000, and is the finest on our beautiful river, except the government dam at Dayton, the best on the river.

L.N. Hall, the Oswego banker, was in Yorkville Monday, and speaks most enthusiastically of Oswego as a place of residence and of its future prospects. He is an Oswego man clear through. The new school house, he says, will add to the pleasant features of the town and the new water conveniences by which pure spring water is piped through the village and into the business houses make it really an improvement of great value. And then the Soldiers' Home Commission spoke so flatteringly of the beautiful sites about the town that Oswego feels much encouraged.

Ottawa Times: On Sunday morning between 9 and 10 o'clock, some men unknown to our informant, exploded some dynamite in the Fox river above the Fox river railroad bridge,

and the consequence was that the surface of the water was soon covered with dying game fish. More than a wagon load of fine fish was taken this way.

September -- 1885

Sept. 2: Mrs. Helle, as usual, has cultivated a very nice flower garden and is giving away beautiful bouquets. The Andrew Gray ladies and a number of others in town also have handsome flower gardens.

Dr. Lester on a sojourn to Duluth, to escape the hay fever to which he is subject.

The engine on the 10:30 passenger Friday was found to be ailing on the arrival here, and another was sent for to replace it, by which the train was delayed a quarter of an hour.

Prof. Wilkie, one of Oswego's former teachers, was here on a visit to his relatives, the Jenesons, and calling on some of his scholars.

Tank Kee's exhibit opened last evening at the Rink before but a fair audience to whom he imparted a good deal of information about China.

The Shepard & Co. hardware store has changed hands; the new proprietors are E.A. Smith and John H. Edwards. The invoicing of the stock is now underway; an Aurora and a Chicago man are assisting.

The renovation of the Congregational church was completed last week and services were resumed there Sunday. The inside of the church has been repainted, repapered, and bordered from top to bottom with the several most stylish shades and patterns, making it look very neat and trim.

The Methodists have not yet completed the repairs of their church, and held their services Sunday at the Washington street German church.

We read much in the papers of the prevailing hard times while Oswego was never more boomy than at present; there is plenty of work and everybody is flush. The basement of the new school house is nearly done, and the main pipes of the water--works are now laid and we are now quite sure of getting the system in operation before they will in Aurora and then the water of ours comes up from the bowels of the earth, where no dead cats and dogs can ever be disposed of. As fortunes always come in squads, so we may expect that the Soldiers' home will strike us just as sure as blitzen. The *Aurora Herald* of last week in speaking of it said, "As far as Aurora is concerned, the dog is dead, and some other town can buy our chances cheap. Oswego ought to stand a good chance.

Yorkville The Orange County, N.Y. picnic in AuxSable Grove last Thursday was a successful affair in every respect. The day was fine, and there were between 60 and 70 persons present, all hailing from "old Orange." they were well supplied with provisions

and everything that goes to make up a first class jolly picnic. Orange county has furnished some of Kendall's best citizens.

Sept. 9: The water works were set in motion yesterday morning. Immediately after the water had been let on the rumbling commenced--some of the people into whose houses it is taken, ran out in the street, thinking that an earthquake was on; the noise was produced by the expulsion of the air from the pipes. The furthestmost hydrant was opened and in a few minutes the flow of a copious stream commenced; it was tried all around the flow was found perfect everywhere it had been taken to--at Helle's besides being taken into the kitchen, it is also to supply with water a little fountain in the flower garden. Of course everybody would go and see the water run and take a drink and never before was there so much water drank in one day as there was yesterday--some that hadn't tasted of any for a long while would indulge in it. The authorities have watched the result of the operation and for seven hours when the water was running at the rate of 21, 600 gallons per 24 hours, no lowering of it in the well was perceptible. The enterprise is now looked upon as a complete success and our folks are very enthusiastic over it.

Taking the rain this morning in connection with the water works, one might exclaim, "the fountains of the deep are broken up and the windows of the heavens opened."

A company of colored ladies and gentlemen gave a jubilee concert at the Rink last evening, which is said to have been very good and fairly attended.

There are around about this region quite a number of nice country residences, but they are now all very much thrown in the shade by the new residence of George Woolley; it is quite large and presents a very fine and stylish appearance.

Out at Boesenecker's is one of the best places for tramps to receive good treatment.

Yorkville: On Saturday evening last a party of 25 of the Grand Army boys came down from Aurora to muster in members of Yorkville Post, GAR, just organized. Past Commander J.H. Freeman was the mustering officer and our boys were delighted with him for the thoroughness of his work, his earnest patriotism, and his hearty social qualities. The visiting comrades were all jolly soldiers. About 25 veterans were mustered in to the new post and the following officers were chosen: Frank Moulton, post commander; Paul C. Dearborn, senior vice commander; Samuel Hagerman, junior vice commander. Rev. Henry Wright, chaplain; Dr. John Brydon, surgeon; Onias LaSure, officer of the day; John B. Moulton, officer of the guard; B.F. Herrington, quartermaster; H. Bromley, adjutant; Charles M. Hill, sergeant major; and W.G. Peterson, quartermaster sergeant.

Sept. 16: H.G. Smith has enjoyed a furlough from station duty which he improved by making with his family a visit to a brother in northern Missouri, and by traveling over a portion of that state, taking in St. Louis, its exhibition, Shaw's Garden, and other great sights.

John T. Wormley has his cider mill all ready for operation.

The water works are now nearly completed, and turn out most satisfactory. Two perpetual running watering troughs have been erected, two blocks apart, namely on the south corner of Van Buren and east corner of Jackson street with the intersection of Main street.

Sanford Chase has moved into the house awhile ago vacated by C.E. Hubbard. It is said that Chase has bought the same.

The brick laying of the new school house is progressing very rapidly.

Sept. 23: Jumbo Killed. The Noted Elephant Meets his Fate in a Collision with a Freight Train.

Forgot to mention last week that Jacob Testine and Miss Kate Whalen got married.

A cloak was lost between Marysville school house and Oswego. The finder will please leave work at Haight's store.

Wm Gray has moved here from Yorkville and will be running the tin shop for John Edwards, the new hardware merchant.

Sept. 30: John H. Wormley, who two years ago because of injury to his hip was thought to be past all locomotion is now with the assistance of but a cane getting around much more lively than most men of his age.

The hardheads must go. Berkey & Hartzler is a firm engaged about here in the removal of them. Everything ancient is to be demolished, and in the near future nothing but the works of art will be in existence.

Jay Young won the \$5 gold piece prize for doing it up the handsomest in the skating match Saturday evening. George Inman, Charles Gaylord, and Charles Hawley were the judges.

The silver dollar is becoming a plague to its promoters. The Bland law was a very hazardous act. No law very likely can be made to keep the gold and silver dollar go side by side on an equality of value. If the barbarous system of the metallic basis of money is to be maintained, one or the other metal will have to be used for such basis exclusively.

The day after tomorrow, everybody will want to send one or more 'special delivery letters' just for exhibiting importance and for giving the new system a start. Secure your special delivery stamps early on that day.

October -- 1885

Oct. 7: The old school house site is to be sold.

The new school house is up to the top of the upper windows.

The tar roofers have returned home.

At Hunt's store is the spontaneity cigar lighter in operation. No impregnation with brimstone of your cigars if you light them on that machine.

They have a ferret at Shoger's livery stable to wrestle with the rats, and a blooded Spanish jack to do up the vocal music for the establishment.

Yorkville: The good people of Yorkville and vicinity are greatly pleased with the new railway station and the appointments thereto belonging. They feel that thanks are due to the officials of the Great Burlington Route for their care of the little Fox River branch, and the improvements made thereon. The new station house is 50 feet longer than it was. The freight room on the east end and takes up about 50 feet. In this room, in the northwest corner, has been placed a tight little safety-box where packages of value can be securely locked up. Coming next is the gentlemen's waiting room--then the office where Brother Lyons holds forth in pride and benignant joy; and west of this is the ladies' waiting room where they can be to themselves away from soggy pipes, bad cigars, steaming garments, and all the ills with which men are afflicted. They have a pleasant room. The interior of the waiting rooms and office is painted a light blue, with drab trimmings, white ceiling, and maroon shelving. The bay window in the ticket office is a great improvement and Agent Lyons can now see the trains coming without risking his neck and his health. We all feel proud of our new depot, of the Burlington officials, of our Station Agent, and of our town.

Oct. 14: Carrie Wollenweber has commenced learning the dressmaker's trade with Mrs. H.V.B. Young.

The selection of the site of Colvin Pearce's residence--which is the old homestead--was due doubtless more to the nice spring near it than any other cause and for over fifty years the water for the supply of that household was fetched from that spring. The distance from the spring to the house is only about five rods, but much up hill. The spirit of "modern conveniences" got hold of Colvin a while ago and the idea forced itself upon his mind that the water from that spring ought to be made to come to the house instead of being carried there. He broached the subject to Oliver Hebert, who of late has evolved into a scientific plumber and that gentleman said that a "hydraulic ram" would do it exactly. The ram and necessary piping was procured, the trenches dug and Oliver employed to put down the machine and set it in operation. The system was extended from the house across the road over to the barns where the water runs into a trough, and from which the waste of it will be made to run down to the hog yard. The apparatus works like a charm, and one unacquainted with the ram principle just wonders what makes the little thing go.

The fine weather should have held on about two weeks longer for the benefit of our new school house.

The creamery teamster, a Swede, took the cake, namely a fruit cake, which was the prize for the swiftest skating of the green hands at the rink's tournament Saturday evening.

Oct. 21: For aught we knew this many years, there was but one Van Deventer in the world, namely our doctor, but now all at once the Van Deventers have become quite numerous; first the Doctor has a nephew, Abram Van Deventer Jr. from Indiana, visiting him, and then a family by that name, consisting of several members, has just moved here.

The factory building on the Waubonsie, now occupied by Mr. Haight for a feed mill, has been nicely painted.

Mark Chapman has reopened the corner meat market, and fixed it up in nice and neat order. Mark is putting on much style, wearing a large blood red apron.

George Troll has taken down his barn and in the place of it is building a new and more lofty one.

Yorkville: the ice company are getting on a lot of lumber preparatory to putting up some new ice houses this winter.

Oct. 28: The sorghum molasses manufactured for different parties by H.J.C. Cutter this season amounted to 1,100 gallons.

The raising of a new barn for Nate Loucks took place the other day. Theron Richards is doing the job.

The progressive operations on the new school house were temporarily interrupted by a mishap early Thursday morning. The building is to be the thing of which Oswego shall be proud--an ornament to the town, and therefore it must have ornamental chimneys in the gables; then dummies have to be of the proper proportions, quite large, requiring a good many brick and were made to hang in the wall; the finished one caused the upper part of the wall to dip over, bogging through the first floor by breaking seven joists, twisting the center wall out of shape and damaging somewhat the lower floor. Some casings and sashes that were piled below were also more or less broken or damaged.

A large portion of the energy and surplus capital of this place and neighborhood is now expended in the construction of waterworks. James Pearce has had put in operation last week a No. 4 hydraulic ram, which takes the water from a nice spring on the creek up to his house and other premises; it works just as regular as a clock, making 62 lifts per minute, with out the least variation--the water is being raised 45 feet. It is said that Frank Hawley and Henry Cutter will provide their places with like water conveniences--both

have excellent facilities for it. The village authorities have caused the taking up of the mains on Van Buren street, and replacing them with a larger, the 6 inch size.

The creamery is now supplied with a high brick chimney. It has also been repainted and otherwise repaired.

Pogue's old barn was bought by Henry Schilling and moved on his premises across the creek.

The cemetery has been undergoing much improvement in the shape of grading and graveling drive ways.

Yorkville: There has never been such success in fishing in Fox River as this fall. Splendid bass and pike are taken for the dropping of a hook in the water.

November -- 1885

Nov. 4: Story on the Ottawa Oswego and Fox River Valley Railroad bonds.

Frank Hawley has associated himself with a gentleman from Chicago and together they will go in to the business of breeding the Hereford cattle.

It is said that Mr. Rand of this place has actually succeeded in getting out a perpetual motion machine.

Gus Voss has returned from Nebraska and other parts of the west, and thinks the same a great country in spots.

Nov. 11: The E.Y. Ketcham family have moved to Aurora; it is said that their home will be occupied by the A.L. Rice family.

L.L. Lynch has come home from a long absence in Michigan, during which he has experienced a railroad accident, but got over the effects of it some time ago.

The replacing of the mains by a larger size on Van Buren street has been completed. It was a difficult job, they being quite deep, and the ground of was of the caving nature. On one occasion and near the end of the job by a clashing of the bossing spirit, some little feeling was aroused.

The old school house site was sold for \$234 on the bid of Jonathan Andrews for Sam Roberts.

The Hebert residence is now the noblest building on town. The tower and porch have been provided with railings and other ornamentals, and the whole of it painted in variegated colors.

An Oswego literary society has once more been established; so far it is composed of male members only, but ladies are eligible to all the positions in it. The next question to be debated is "Shall the government run the railroads."

Nov. 18: Check bound volume.

Nov. 25: Butter cuts a big figure in the universe, and it is that on which Oswego is ahead. To the Fox River Butter Co., which is the Kilbourne creamery at this place, was awarded \$50, the sweepstake premium for the best butter of any make at the fat stock show in Chicago last week; the competition for the same had been very large. The package of butter was bought by the Grand Pacific for \$50, making it the rate of 80 cents per pound.

Another new organization is that of a skating club which is said to be occupying the rink exclusively every Friday evening.

"Wealth by the Wayside" is the title of Mrs. Haight's book, which is now out and being canvassed for. A.D. Christie has the agency here. It is a very handsome book with quite a number of finely executed illustrations; it is also of large size, containing over 700 pages and from the table of contents it would appear to be a worthy book.

An extra freight going north Saturday noon ran eleven cars off the track just after having passed the depot; it was owing to the breaking of a timber in a car, causing the trucks to tear up a rail. The distance the cars were off included the bridge over the Waubonsie, which was more or less damaged as also was the track as far as the cars had run off the rails. Nine of the cars were overturned. The repairs of the track were commenced immediately and the wrecker with a force of men had the train straightened up so as to move out about 7 o'clock, by which time several trains were in waiting to pass and railroad business looked quite lively.

Yorkville: The ice company are making improvements about the Yorkville houses, and will soon be in readiness for the harvest.

The Aurora Blade says: The Fox River Butter Co., at Oswego, took the grand sweepstake prize of \$50 at the exposition in Chicago for the best butter. There were over 100 competitors. This company is owned by E.H. Kilbourne, and is managed by his son, C.S. Kilbourne.

December -- 1885

Dec. 2: S.D. Head, an old gentleman who has been living here off and on for many years committed suicide on Thanksgiving day. During the day, he was around town in his usual humor, talked with a number on politics and other subjects. It is reported that he said to some that that would be his last Thanksgiving day and didn't want to see another. About 5 o'clock or just when getting dark, he parted from some on the sidewalk near Trolls,

walked down Washington street to the Council house, leaned his cane in the corner of the doorway, and then discharged a bullet from a pistol through his head, falling backward on the platform, death having been produced instantly. The burial took place Saturday forenoon.

It is said that a wedding occurred last evening namely that of Miss Hattie Curtis to W.F. Minkler, who is now engaged in business at Plano.

The most notable Thanksgiving gathering was that of George Woolley's out on the prairie, and it is no wonder that that family was inspired with thanksgiving, for they had just moved into their new residence, the nicest, largest and most complete in this entire region.

Dec. 9: Maggie Shepard has adopted a little girl from the Chicago Orphan Asylum.

Alfred Treman, a very quiet and well disposed old settler, residing in the eastern part of this township, died last week.

The graveling of the drive ways in the Oswego cemetery are completed. The authorities have caused many valuable improvements during the fall. A very nice and imposing monument for Mrs. G.M. Shoger was erected there lately.

The school house is now all done on the outside, and it is an imposing structure; there were some however who first didn't like the spire of it; but that was just because they were not used to seeing a style of that kind. We are not apt to fall in love at first sight; love and beauty have to be evolved like everything else. After awhile the spire will be the loveliest thing out, to everybody.

Dec. 16: Guess we are going to have some sleighing.

School commences Tuesday after a week's vacation.

Yorkville: A new organ was put in the Oswego skating rink the first of the week by D.W. Godard & Co., Yorkville.

Dec. 23: No Oswego news

Yorkville: Wednesday morning one of the Frank Hawley houses burned to the ground, the fire started upstairs and probably was due to a defect in the chimney. The house was occupied by the Albert Hawley family, who saved most of their effects.

The ice cutters abandoned the river Monday--the weather got too soft. A team got into the water Monday but was got out without injury.

Dec. 30: Apparently, Christmas was a merry holiday with the most of the Oswegoans. The Christmas trees, the evening previous, at the Methodist and Congregational churches,

both proved very successful; both churches were very artistically and suitably decorated and both were crowded. Will Kennedy acted the Santa Claus at the M.E. church and Jim Morrison at the other.

There was a party given to his scholars, both present and former, by Prof. McFarlane, at his residence Friday evening. The company, which numbered about 50, caused a surprise to Mrs. McFarlane and the Professor by presenting them, respectively, with six silver nut picks and a silk muffler.

1886

January

Jan. 6: The marriage of Miss Emma Russell, oldest daughter of John B. Russell, to a Mr. (George, I think) Van Deventer, should have been mentioned last week.

The Misses Ellis, Lizzie and Kate Russell, all teachers in the Chicago schools, have been home to spend the holidays.

Miss Peoria Brownell of Peoria is making her grandmother, Mrs. Maria A. Burr, at this place a visit.

John C. Turpin is getting ready to receive your annual taxes, the pro rata of which are, for State, 42; County, 25; town, 75; road and bridges, 40 cents; school tax in district No. 4, \$3.50 on the \$100 of assessed value. The total amount of the taxes in Oswego township is \$15,737.19.

Henry Shoger has returned from Iowa, and resumes co-partnership with his brother Gus in the livery and agricultural implement business, taking Ferd's place, who will go onto the Charles Knapp farm.

The ice went out of the river Sunday night or Monday morning, and the water is quite high. The ice men are looking anxiously for zero weather that the big houses at Yorkville and Oswego may be filled. There is plenty of time for a freeze between now and July.

Jan. 13: Dear reader, has this snap been cold enough for you?

Wm. Watling has for the fourth year renewed his co-partnership with J.S. Seely.

The rink has been very quiet the past week, thank the Lord.

The cold weather Sunday caused a diminution of church attendance.

Jan. 20: January 13th, 1886 was a beautiful day, the temperature being mild, the sun shining bright, and on that day occurred the marriage of Miss Nellie Hall to John Bell of Seward.

The funeral of Miss Mary Shoger took place Sunday afternoon from the Congregational church and the burial in the Oswego cemetery. The deceased was 25 years of age, the oldest daughter of Michael Shoger Jr., living out in Wheatland, and consumption being the cause of the demise.

Jan. 27: The past week either has been nearly blank of any news, or else my observation facility has been very defective.

The corporation authorities say that throwing ashes in the street is in violation of the law. Those in the habit of doing so are asked to throw them in a heap near the sidewalk, so they can be picked up in the spring.

Friday evening was terribly cold and one would have supposed that only the most urgent necessity would have got anyone to go out, but not so with the literaries; they were out in full force, the ladies as well as men. The exercises, besides the transaction of the usual business, consisted of singing; an address by Armstrong on "What is Consciousness," and the debate of the question that "The increase of wealth has a tendency to influence good morals." Haight and McFarlane represented the affirmative, and Hallock and Rank the negative; the negative gained the question.

A petition is being circulated to the effect that the taking care of the poor should be made a county affair; a "poor farm" is thereby contemplated.

February -- 1886

Feb. 3: Mrs. Thomas Greenfield, after a quite short sickness, died during Sunday night. The deceased was nearly 74 years of age, but in appearance seemed much younger, being of a robust and stout physique, and was one of the old inhabitants of this village.

The masquerade ball at the rink last week is said to have been an extraordinary success.

Married at Galesville, Wis., Jan. 25th, Wm. A. Lester, M.D., to Maud Mary Moulton, both of Oualaska, Wis. That means our Will Lester.

Shall have an early spring sure; no woodchuck is fool enough to make a stir such a cold day as this.

Whoever has lost an ax can have it by calling at the Shoger Brothers' livery stable, and then should send 50 cents to the printer for the notice.

Feb. 10: A wedding of extensive proportions and magnificent order occurred last Tuesday at the residence of Christian Herren; it was that of their daughter, Anna to William Esch, son of Fred Esch of the ice firm.

Miss Lizzie Wollenweber was married to Will Lilley about the holidays.

"Driven From Home with a Father's Curse" was the play which was given by the Oswego Theatricals last week with two well attended performances.

The new school house, the grandest structure Oswego ever expected to have, is now complete, and its dedication, which will take place next Saturday afternoon, probably will be one of the most conspicuous events in the annals of Oswego. What the program will be I am not informed. The opening of the exercises will take place at 2 o'clock.

James G. Andrews fell down cellar at his home the other morning and was quite severely hurt; at first it was thought that his hip was broken, which however proved not to be the case, and it is said that he is getting along nicely. His position as flagman at the Washington street crossing is now filled by Pat Cleary.

The sparrow has returned, and he knows that the worst of the winter is over. The morning song of the blue jay also indicates the near approach of spring.

Feb. 17: The dedication of the new school house Saturday was the happiest event ever experienced by his community. Oswego now has a school house that is ahead of anything in the county, and that in beauty and arrangements is not excelled in the Fox Valley. The new school is situated on the site of the old courthouse and a more charming site could not have been selected, standing on quite an eminence, it can be seen from quite a distance, and from its upper windows up and down the river is as fine as one can find. The building is of brick with a basement and two stories above. In the basement is the furnace and the fuel room. On the first floor you enter a capacious hall and thence to two large rooms to the left and right in which will be the primary and intermediate departments, recitation rooms open from these. Ascending the easy flight of stairs you enter counterparts of the rooms below where will be the grammar and high schools. Mr. Frank O. Hawley, of the school board, was master of ceremonies. The exercises opened with the Ladies' Glee Club with Mrs. L.N. Hall, organist. Rev. Henry Minard made the prayer. A class of young ladies from the school sang a pretty piece. Mr. A. Armstrong of the school board made the address. Stone and brick work for the building cost \$4,415 and carpentry work \$5,585.

From an address by Adam Armstrong, a member of the school board:

This has not been an easy task to perform; there has been times when we directors have had an uphill business to go through. I think it will not be out of place to give a brief history of this school building. As far back as 1870 the school directors of this district conceived the idea that the school building at that time was inadequate and not commodious for the pupils of this district. They tried to secure from our town this site for a school site, to build upon but met with not very good success and had to drop the matter for the time. In 1878 or 1879 the question was agitated again, with no better success; in

1881 the same was brought before the annual town meeting; a committee was appointed by the town to confer with the directors of this district to sell the property to the best advantage of the town. The report of that committee was to let the district have it for \$1,000. The directors called a special election and ratified or accepted the committee's report by a large majority in favor at the polls. Still there were some of the leading men of the town wanted the district to make a basement under the school building for the town and they would give a deed to this district on those conditions. The school law is very arbitrary in using its public funds, and that plan could not work without a great deal of trouble. It rested until the next year when the directors called a special election on the 22d of July to bond the district for \$9,000 to purchase site and build a school house. The result of that election was 54 votes cast for bonds and 66 against them. That put a quietus upon the school house business. The matter stood in this way until last spring when the fiery elements swept out school building from us and then something had to be done. The school board got the town officers to put in the call of the annual town meeting to vote for or against selling town site again for \$1,000; it was carried by a large majority to sell it to the District for that price. The annual school election ratified the town election by a large majority... We procured Mr. [Joseph P.] Mulvey of Aurora as our architect, to get up specifications of a plan the board had adopted and on the 8th of July we advertised for bids to be opened the 25th of July; on the 28th of July the contract was let to John Joslyn of Batavia for the stone and brick work for \$4,415, and the carpenter work was let to Colwell Brothers of Ottawa for \$5,585. On the 28th of January last the building was turned over to us and now we are here this afternoon with these exercises, preparatory to the occupying it as our public school building.

A blunder was made last week in saying that Wm. Esch was the son of Fred Esch, instead of the brother.

The marriage of Miss Mary Dano to Eaton A. Smith took place last Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. William Ladd have returned from a long visit and were accompanied by Mrs. N.T. Ferris of Kinderhook. On their arrival, Mr. Ladd was still quite feeble from the pall of sickness he underwent during his absence, and since has met with a mild relapse.

Leonard Leigh, who for two years has worked for his cousin, Leonard Wolf, will in a few days return to his home in Iowa.

The progressive euchre club held forth at Ed. Walker's one evening last week.

Mrs. Jolly has gone on a visit to her daughter in Boston.

The Peter Kangley family have moved to Randalis, Ia.

Joy and sorrow follow each other; Monday of last week, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. T. Gray were married and on Saturday they received a telegram of the death of her mother and are now absent attending the funeral.

Mr. Van Driesen has returned from Chicago where he has had a cataract removed from one of his eyes. He brought it (the cataract) home in alcohol--being quite a chunk.

S.H. Gregg, the father-in-law of Charles Roberts has moved here from Champaign county.

#### Oswego Taxes

I will be in Oswego daily, except Fridays, for the purpose of collecting Oswego taxes at J.B. Hunt's store until March 10, 1886. Please take notice and govern yourselves accordingly.

J.C. TURPIN, Collector.

Bristol: The rainy nights and bad roads interfered somewhat with the musical entertainment last Wednesday night, although the singers did very well for so short a time to prepare in.

Miss Anna Brown of Sandwich was at G.G. Hunt's Sunday eve.

Shoveling out snow drifts by L.S. Knox has been in order.

Cliff Sweet was in town a day or two last week tuning organs and pianos.

NaAuSay: The Goudie Brothers sold one of their blooded Galloways to Messrs. Brown and Van Dyke last week for \$200.

And why can't we have a progressive euchre club?

Messrs. S. Van Dyke and John Brown will start for their farm in the northern part of Iowa, with over 100 head of young cattle in a couple of weeks, but both will return here again as soon as they get things started.

James Austin is canvassing for a book entitled "Thirty years a detective," by the world-renowned Allen Pinkerton, whose experiences rival those of the most vivid romance.

John Weighmyer will have a sale of all his property about the first of March and will sojourn in the west during the coming years.

Mr. Will Hemm and wife start for Chapin, Ia., on the 18th where they intend to make their future home.

On Thursday, Feb. 12th, 1886, at the residence of the bride's parents in East NaAuSay, Miss Mary Barron and Frank Thompson embarked upon the sea of matrimony.

Some of the young folks who attended the dedication of the Owego high school last Saturday afternoon reported the exercises as being very fine.

Feb. 24: The Lars Nelson family have departed from here and returned to Yorkville.

S.H. Gregg of Champaign county--Charles Roberts' father-in-law--has moved to his neighborhood.

John Hinchman of Chicago died a few days ago; his relatives here have just returned from that city in attending the funeral.

Mrs. Haight is being visited by her sister, Mrs. Addie Hobson.

Edward Harris, a family of newcomers, have moved into the lower Chapman house.

The Rev. Mr. Diosette, the Evangelist, has returned and again commenced holding revival meetings, choosing this time Shepard's Hall for the purpose.

Washington's birthday was honored here last night by a ball, of the calico species at the rink, and as now everything is run on the competition order, so this had a prize attached, viz: a pair of vases for the most becoming calico dress worn, and which prize was divided between Miss Lottie Fishell and Miss Wheaton, the teacher in the Wormley district.

Yorkville: The Oswego correspondent of the *Aurora Herald* in a paragraph concerning the dedication of the new school house says: "Such remarks as these (Marshall's) cause us to feel stuck up and above our neighbors, and especially Yorkville. We do feel really ashamed of Yorkville for having such a shabby school house. The writer has reason to feel "stuck up," for Oswego leads the van. But we hope Yorkville may soon also feel ashamed of its school facilities and resolve to see Oswego and go them better. We need a building badly. But, unfortunately, Fox river divides our village and the difficulty is to locate the school, north or south side. We are willing to tip up a cent for the choice and abide by the result.

The City of Aurora is now claiming a population of 20,000 inhabitants. There is no mistake but what the city is growing rapidly.

NaAuSay: Quite a number from this vicinity attended the dramatics at Platteville and pronounced them a success.

Kendall county has sons of the rising generation of whom she may well be proud. Prominent among these is John H. Morgan Jr., inventor of the "horse fork returner," advertised in this paper, and an improved gable door for hay barns. He has scarcely attained his majority, yet his inventions show a very practical knowledge of the principles of mechanics. His gable doors are simple, dispensing with all weights. Of the 65 farmers visited in the interest of the "hay fork returner," 56 of them ordered one, and the other 9 had no use for it. Mr. Morgan intends to devote his time this summer to his inventions.

March -- 1886

March 3: The funeral of Fredrick Shoger of Aurora took place yesterday and the remains were interred in the Oswego cemetery. The deceased was 51 years of age and was one of the older boys of the Shoger family of this place; he left behind a wife and eight children, some of them yet quite small.

Kline Hall has accompanied his sister, Mrs. Putt, back to Nebraska and is now sojourning in that state.

One of Kilbourne's little girls became affected with the scarlet fever, a very mild case, however, the early part of last week. The family are boarders at Mrs. Teller's, and that house has been somewhat quarantined. Miss Cox, one of our teachers, who also boarded there, for the reason of precaution immediately changed her place to Mrs. Moore's.

John P. Hummel has moved from Plainfield to this neighborhood, and Frank E. Green will move out in the Mayfield section.

Yorkville: DIED

Lilly [Lilley].--In Aurora February 24<sup>th</sup>, at 1 o'clock p.m., John Lilly, aged 71 years. He leaves a wife and three children, Daniel Samuel, and Mrs. Jacob Raymond, all residents of Kendall county.

*Somonauk Reveille*: Yorkville has an undertaker's establishment connected by telephone with a hardware store and a correspondent remarks that farmers can now order their agricultural implements, hardware, and furniture with one call. If the first named was connected with a doctor's office, they could call their physician and order their burial outfit with the same call.

The County Poor Farm question is being talked up some. Our people should let well enough alone. The towns are taking good care of the poor at a nominal expense and there is no need of increasing the taxes in that direction.

Keep saloons and liquor shops out of Kendall county and we shall never need a poor farm.

NaAuSay: The Parker place, better known as the old Henry A. Clark homestead, was sold last week. Thomas Wayne, of Oswego, being the purchaser.

Road fences should be of wire, to avoid snow drifting. Let us have a law enforcing this idea; no other kind of fences should be permitted along the public highways.

Miss Chloe Whitlock will teach at the Ridge school this summer.

Nellie Wheeler will try her hand at teaching in the Marysville district for several months.

NaAuSay wants no poor farm concern, as we have no paupers in our midst and no institution where such are manufactured, and will give their vote to that effect in the spring election.

March 10: Mrs. C.H. Baxter died last week; surviving her are a husband and eight children; the family is residing near the old depot.

The remains of Mrs. Thomas Lumbard were brought here for burial from East Wheatland, the latter part of last week. The family was one of the early settlers in this vicinity.

Andrew P. Walsh has moved to the Grove on the farm generally known as the Henry A. Clark place.

Robert Johnston has moved onto the Chattle farm, vacated by Wm. Laird.

The Figge blacksmith shop has been moved back from the street, and it is said that the mattress factory will be moved on that corner and turned into a farm machinery warehouse.

The T.J. Pigott family is now occupying the Irene Billings house.

Mrs. N.T. Ferris has departed for her home at Kinderhook yesterday.

Nellie Armstrong has developed into a school ma'am and commenced teaching in the Cutter district yesterday. Nellie has the pluck and perseverance for taming the unruly boy.

Among the new comers is Gustav Huth, probably moved on a farm vacated by I.S. Dunning, who has moved to Aurora.

Bristol: The funeral services of Mrs. Luke Murphy at the Catholic church last Sunday was largely attended. She was interred in the new cemetery here.

Father Erhardt, in his discourse Sunday morning, proclaimed a special dispensation by the Archbishop, relating to the privilege of eating meat three times a day on Sunday during Lent.

Mrs. Luke Murphy, who has been sick a long time with Bright's disease, died at her home in this place Friday. The family was all present at that time but her son, John, who is engaged in railroading in Kansas; he was telegraphed for but the news did not reach him in time to get him to the burial. He arrived here Monday on the 10:40 train. The funeral was held Sunday at the Catholic church; it was the first service of that kind in the new church. Her remains were interred in the lot joining Oak Grove cemetery, which has been bought by the Catholics for that purpose, but has not been laid out in lots yet.

March 17: The funeral of Wm. Lippold, which took place Sunday afternoon, was one of the most largely attended. The finest hearse was employed. The corpse was enclosed in a beautiful velvet covered case upon which was laying a wreath of flowers. The decease was 63 years of age, was born in Saxony, German; he has been living in Oswego for upwards of thirty years, and was one of its quietest citizens. The family surviving him consists of a widow and eight children.

There was also a funeral at the Grove Sunday, namely that of Louise, a 15 year old daughter of Nero Norcross.

The children here of Lawrence Briggs were notified by telegraphy yesterday of his death at Owatonna, Minn., where he has been living in the family of his oldest daughter. The corpse will reach here Wednesday for burial.

The mattress factory has been bought by the Shoger Bros., and moved on the corner of Main and Jackson streets, to be turned into a farm machinery warehouse.

March 24: The funeral of Lawrence Briggs followed immediately the arrival of the remains on the 10:39 train at the Methodist church. Mr. Briggs was nearly 81 years of age; was one of Oswego's old inhabitants, but the last two or three years he spent in Minnesota, living with his son-in-law. His children consist of six sons and two daughters, but owing that they are somewhat scattered (two of the boys are in Texas) Ovilla, who lives at Sterling was sick and Burt of Chicago having moved lately could not be found, but four of them were present, namely Lavina, who with her husband, W.H. Smith had come with the corpse; Wills, who lives at Sycamore, and the two sons residing here.

Walter Loucks went to bed Friday night apparently in his usual health, which, however had not been good for years. Saturday morning he was found unconscious and breathing heavily, out of which condition he never rallied, but died during the afternoon. The funeral will take place from the house at 11 o'clock today. Mr. Loucks was more identified with Oswego than any other man now living here--having been one of the oldest settlers, and owned much of the land on which the village was located. A widow, two daughters and a son are surviving him.

The H.C. Kerr family, including Mrs. Shumway, took their departure from here last week Wednesday (don't like to have so many of our good people go away), they were destined for Hastings, Nebraska, and report themselves of having arrived there in good shape.

Mrs. E.M. Lynch has been one of the sick nearly all winter.

Wednesday morning the prairie chicken roosters were drumming at a distance; the wild geese were on their way going north in great numbers, shouting as they went along; the wren, the robin, the blue bird and the black bird all put in their appearance, and it seemed as though spring had really come.

Watts Cutter has been plowing yesterday.

Owing to the strikes, the railroad business at present is somewhat dull and Hiram Willis is improving the opportunity to have a little layoff and to spend a week or two at home with his folks.

Nellie Smith is enjoying a two weeks' vacation from her services as teacher in the Cowdrey district.

The spring elections will soon be here, and the politicians doubtless have ere this laid their plans for them. Now as far as that of the corporation is concerned, if it were not for there being a vacancy on the board, as one of the trustees has moved out of the village limits, and for the observing of the forms of law, no election would be necessary. A motion to reelect the present board by acclamation which doubtless would be carried pusillanimously, would be all that was necessary for a board under which there has been accomplished so much and under which we have prospered so well and behaved so nicely should be kept in existence as long as possible.

The *Aurora News* says scarlet fever and diphtheria are very prevalent in various parts of the city.

March 31: The community was shocked to learn Wednesday morning that Mrs. Farley had died the previous evening. The deceased was 63 years of age and the family has resided in this place for 19 years.

The funeral of Walter Loucks whose death was mentioned last week took place Tuesday; the attendance was large, the services were held at the house--the Rev. T.M. Smith performing the solemn rites--and the remains were taken to the family lot in the Spring Lake cemetery near Aurora for burial. Mr. Loucks had reached the age of 71 years, and is said to have come to this place from Montgomery county, N.Y. in 1839, making the journey by wagon with his wife and infant. The family has continuously occupied the home it first established, and in which he died.

Mrs. J.D. Schram was called to Altona last week to attend the funeral of her brother, Samuel Hopkins. Mr. H. was one of Oswego's former prominent men and his judicial proceedings as one of the magistrates of the early times together with his fishing and smoking habits furnished many stories for the early inhabitants to relate. And by the way, elderly Oswegoans both of the present and the former have dropping off quite rapidly since the commencement of this year.

Miss Nellie VanEvra was out from Chicago attending the funeral of her grandfather..

There was a wedding down at Frank Egleston's one day last week, namely his wife's sister, Miss Eliza Stickler, to a Mr. J.W. Gray of Aurora.

A Republican caucus for the nomination of town officers is called for Saturday afternoon at the rink.

Yorkville: Mr. Nate Loucks of Oswego has been a highway commissioner in that town for 12 consecutive years--and he has made a good one.

Mr. John Hodder of the *Aurora Beacon* was in Yorkville last Wednesday afternoon and ordered a fine phaeton to be made at Church's carriage factory.

*Ottawa Republican*: John Kelly shot a large otter Tuesday afternoon near Kinnevan's island, which measured four feet from the nose to tip of tail. The pelt was purchased by Mr. Leipold, a Chicago hide dealer, who happened to be in town, and who says it is the largest otter pelt he has ever bought.

April -- 1886

April 7: In Oswego the result of the town election was: The Republicans elected Supervisor Cutter by 164 majority; C.L. Murdock clerk, 150 majority; David Hall assessor, 159 maj.; H.J. Collins, constable, 11. The People's ticket elected J.C. Turpin collector, 84 maj. And F.O. Hawley commissioner, 43 maj.

Cass Gaylord has returned from a trip to California and intends to make his future home in the southern part of that country.

All those who would like to take lessons in German are requested to meet Miss Mussle, a professional teacher, Saturday next at 9:15 a.m. at the home of Sadie Baxter.

Lizzie Moore has again commenced teaching a term in the Gaylord district, in Bristol township, and Hattie Hallock has commenced or about to commence a term in the Walker district.

Yorkville: Nate Loucks will make an energetic active Sheriff and his friends say he will get there.

The paper mills were shut down last week, one on account of high water and the other was out of straw.

Mr. John Bower came to Yorkville from Oswego on Friday last. He says the snow was so drifted as to make it hard work to get through, being five feet deep in some places. An Oswego item from the *Aurora Beacon*: George Squires and M.B. Pogue are here on a visit from Nebraska. Mr. Pogue has been feeding 1,900 head of cattle the past winter and brought 200 head to the Chicago market. He says he buys corn out there at 15 cents per bushel.

The first day of April was anything but spring-like. It had snowed heavily the day before and through the night, and Thursday morning it was wintry indeed. There was about six inches of snow on the ground and a strong wind from the west all day, cold and freezing.

It made a fellow feel that some warm spot in the tropics (or elsewhere) was preferable to Northern Illinois. But a warm sun will soon change all this, and the grass look green and robins chirp as usual in the spring time.

April 14: Mr. Ferguson of the Scotch settlement brought to town and sold to Wollenweber & Knapp twelve two year old steers that averaged upwards of 1,450 lbs. They were a choice lot.

The John B. Russell family moved to Aurora.

April 21: 85 votes cast at the corporation election in Oswego; all for license.

John Tigue Jr. died last week at the age of 29 years; the funeral and burial took place in Aurora according to the rites of the Catholic church. Johnny, as he was familiarly called, was a native of Oswego and done a good deal of roving over the territories and the Pacific coast.

L.N. Hall has commenced the building of a new barn, and is getting ready for commencing that of a residence which promises to be one of the most modern style. The site and surroundings are most favorable for a nice structure.

George C. Inman is extensively repairing and remodeling his residence.

The election for school director last week was considerably contested, but Frank Hawley was reelected by a handsome majority.

The corporation election today so far has been devoid of any interest whatever; but one ticket has made its appearance, with all the old men here for reelection, and James B. Pearce to fill the vacancy of the removed trustee.

H.W. Farley to the regret of most everybody has taken his departure from among us and will make it his home hereafter with his son-in-law in Urbana. The Farley residence is now occupied by Wm. Pearce.

Mrs. C.G. Doud and her mother Mrs. Eliza Devoe have come down from Winona, Minn. On a visit to their relatives here.

The Shepard Brothers have gone into the produce buying business, especially that of eggs, which they pack for winter consumption. Their office is in the front room of their building upstairs.

Wm. T. Gray is getting his new invention, that of an attachment to a harvester for the stacking of the grain, in the shape for introduction. It is said to be a very valuable thing.

April 28: A quiet but very pleasant wedding occurred Thursday, April 22d, at the residence of Wm. T. Gray, it being that of Jessie, this daughter, to Mr. J.R. Adams, a druggist of Plainfield.

A meeting is called for next Saturday eve at Shepard's hall by the president of the Decoration society for making the preliminary arrangements for that occasion.

The burial of Harvey Stahl took place here Sunday. He was one of the early inhabitants of Oswego, got married here and was living here for many years, but about two years ago the family moved to Aurora.

May -- 1886

May 5: Check bound volume.

May 12: The destruction by fire of the residence of Henry Case a week ago Sunday was forgotten for inclusion in last week's report.

Nettie Sanders departed yesterday for a visit to relatives in Rahway, N.J.

Oliver Hebert has erected a fountain in his yard, supplied from the water works.

May 19: Wollenweber & Knapp have connected the stockyards with the waterworks; by the use of hose they can readily cool the loaded stock, also carry the water to any of the yards.

Wednesday of last week was made a sort of judgment Day by the arraignment of all the late evildoers. There were the strawman conspirators, six in number, and composed of the upper crust of our young men, and there were two who undertook the settling of a pique by fighting it out. All were assessed alike, \$4.50 each; of which the village treasury received \$24 and the balance, \$12, were the expenses for lubrication of the machinery.

There was a trial of road graders yesterday out in NaAuSay, and our commissioners and several others went out to witness it; the number of machines engaged were five and it is said that the Victor Pennock, for which Frank Catlin of Sugar Grove is the agent, done the best work. NaAuSay bought the machine.

Mr. Keihl is a true weather prophet; he predicted weeks ago a frost for Saturday night.

May 26: Mrs. Harriet E., wife of George B. Lyon, and sister of Mrs. D.B. Jewell and the Hawleys of this place, died at her home in Streator Monday morning at the age of 60 years. The remains will be brought here Tuesday afternoon and their burial take place Wednesday.

The fate of getting hurt has followed Kline Hall to Colorado to which country he went awhile ago in company with a number of other Oswegoans, formed a colony near Sterling. He has been all cut up and crushed by being run through thrashing machines, etc., several times heretofore, and yesterday his folks received work of his having a leg broken while engaged in leading fractious mules.

The fronts of the buildings of Henry Helle, George Burghart, Jim Pearce and the Shoger Brother's storehouse, on the opposite, all have been very nicely painted and trimmed up and that part of the street looks now quite tony.

The following statement was handed to me by George C. Inman: I have sheared for Charles Cherry 37 sheep from which the weight of the clip averaged within an ounce of being 16 pounds; the heaviest fleece weighed 21 pounds and was taken from a buck that weighed 250 pounds after being shorn. The biggest yield of wool in my experience.

Wm. T. Gray has quit the tin business and engaged in the selling of the Plano harvesters. He is more especially interested in these machines as they contain the attachment of his own invention, the self-shocker.

Mrs. Lizzie Smith is now keeping house for her father, Dr. Lester.

June -- 1886

June 2: E.C. Bill, who some 40 odd years ago was a resident of this neighborhood, then the owner of the farm, and which he sold to J.B. Shumway, was here the other day to see what changes had taken place. Bill is an inhabitant of the Badger state.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Esch are here from Chicago.

Have just learned of the death of Mrs. Collins, the mother of Frank A. Collins, and having been one of the Cyrus Cass daughters. The remains will be brought to the Oswego cemetery for burial.

Henry Helle has already new potatoes that weight three ounces.

The roof and steeple of the German Evangelical church are undergoing repairs.

The Decoration Saturday passed off highly satisfactory to everybody. There were union memorial services at the Methodist church Sunday a.m.

Some of our Railroad officials were here the other day looking over the premises, and they gave Smith the agent to understand that a new depot may be expected in the near future. They also instructed the agent to request those parties who are in the habit of dumping rubbish on the grounds of the company, near the barn, to do so no more.

June 9: A long string of hot teams in town Tuesday morning.

E.A. Raymore, Hebert's blacksmith, has been joined by his family, who arrived last week.

Chris Jarvis had to be around for a few days on crutches, having been run over by a road grader.

The Salvation army has made a move on this town. A squad from Aurora Saturday commenced the attack, which began in the street, and was followed up during the evening in the rink. They withdrew, but returned reinforced three o'clock Sunday afternoon when after making a march around town a halt was taken in the street and a series of worshipping exercises gone through with, followed by a meeting in the rink.

June 16: One of the pleasant events was the closing of the school Wednesday with delightful exhibitions.

The marriage of Miss Julia Higgins to Harley Richards occurred last week.

E.H. Young, a milk carrier from down the river, has brought a lot of strawberries to town that averaged  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an ounce, the largest weighed one and one-fourth ounces.

June 23: The GAR folks of Aurora will have a grand picnic in Cowdrey's park next Friday, June 25th, to which all the soldiers with their families of this section are cordially invited.

The brothers William and Arthur Beaupre of Kane county with their families spent Sunday at Capt. Mann's.

Lillie Troll is now in Aurora mastering the dressmaker's art.

The new and handsome barn of L.N. hall is completed and likewise the foundation for his residence.

June 30: The Kennedy House on the flats is undergoing demolition.

The hog wagon train of John VanDyke of Seward reached here early this morning.

C.S. Kilbourne is again on deck and commanding the creamery. He has spent a two weeks vacation in Ohio.

The evolution of small boys of this age, and more especially those of Oswego, has been such that they consider that everything there is, is existing for their amusement; to have fun out of it, they think is the main purpose for which all things exist; their fun around railroad trans however is agoing to be stopped, and if it cannot be done otherwise it will by legal prosecution, so the authorities say. The boys and their parents better make a note of this.

Our soldiers with their families came home chuck full of joyfulness from the GAR picnic at Cowdrey's last Friday.

Henry Schilling and Alex White are neighbors in the outskirts of the town; both have children, which while alone at home the other day got into a fight. When the old folks returned, the children complained. Mr. White and Mr. Schilling met and also had a fight; the latter got the worst of it. Today the matter is to be judicially passed upon.

July -- 1886

July 7: Oswego's celebration of Independence Day exceeded in gloriousness all the expectations of the most sanguine...The day's events included sack races, wheelbarrow races, foot races, and... The fireworks in the evening on the flats were magnificent and witnessed the thousands that had assembled in the proximity of the elevator. The ball at night was just very splendid, the rink having been very elaborately decorated for the occasion.

The funeral of a son 19 years old of John Condon of NaAuSay by the same name took place yesterday at Aurora under the auspices of the Catholic church.

Shuttleworth & Moses are digging a well for M.J. Pogue.

July 14: His neighbors turned in and helped Henry Case haul the lumber for his new home Saturday.

Several nice and costly monuments have lately been put up in the cemetery--the last, a family monument of O.E. Judson of Sandwich. The main part is of clouded marble and the upper part of shaft of white. The whole is about 15 feet high and is of Sandwich manufacture. Another very handsome monument lately erected is that of William Lippold.

In some of the accounts of the celebration of neighboring towns, mention was made of the good order that existed, and the same was attributed to their anti-license municipalities--Oswego has the name--and rightfully too--of being a whiskey town; her saloons on the day of the celebration very likely done a brisk business, but to give the devil his due, it must be said that the best of order and decorum prevailed.

A fine lot of 52 hogs that averaged 319 pounds and fed by O.P. Austin of NaAuSay, was delivered to our buyers this morning.

July 21: The traveling horse doctor struck the town yesterday and delivered street orations in the afternoon and evening.

A stranger came along yesterday, who had some honey for sale, and who took in our boys \$10 worth on a horse race--being matched with the Shoger racer.

Maggie Shepard is not only getting up the loveliest head dresses, but is also raising the largest gooseberries--the same measuring three inches around and weighing three-eighths of an ounce.

There is a new tinner at Edwards'.

Thursday of last week was a big hog day; among the receipts were lots from Syd VanDyke, Wm. Wollenweber and Mrs. Wilkennyu. Other large lots were delivered yesterday and this morning; the street is now lined with hog teams.

The ugliest runaway happened yesterday to George White, being that of three horses hitched to a new harvester while on the road to the field. The horses became frightened from the noise of the machine; when they got entirely beyond his control and were on a full run George managed to get off without getting hurt much; they run then into a post at Cliggitt's, stripping the harness completely off one of them, all of them considerably hurt, one severely, and the harvester reduced to a wreck.

John Thorson and H.M. Larson, the Morris auctioneers and general agents for Frederiksen & Co., a land bureau of Chicago, were in town the other day. They established a local agency here, with F.B. Scram as manager.

July 28: The weather under the regulation of a Signal service does seem to be worse than when it was left to run wild.

The depot is now undergoing enlargement and reconstruction.

M.J. Pogue, after sinking his well 33 feet caused it to be stoned up and now is going deeper for water by the process of drilling.

The construction of the apparatus for supplying the residence now on building for L.N. Hall with water by the hydraulic ram process, for which the facilities are most excellent, is nearly completed. The building is well underway.

Mr. and Mrs. Cassius H. Durand came out from Chicago on a visit to C.L. Roberts. Cassius returned yesterday but Maggie will rusticate for a while.

Stella, the little girl with Maggie Shepard, had her older sister make her a visit.

The Rev. Thomas Deveny (one of our Deveny boys) had a most severe tussle with the typhoid fever in Chicago, but came out of it all right. Tom was quite robust, and that, it is said, was all that saved him.

August -- 1886

Aug. 4: Advertisement: The trotting bred stallions Gilbert lacey and Marmaduke will make the season at our stable in Oswego, Ill. Pedigree: Gilbert Lacy by Gage's Logan, dam Nancy Price by Imperial Sovereign. Marmaduke by Gilbert lacey, dam The Kentucky Mare, owned by C.T. Cherry. E. Mann & Son.

C.S. Kilbourne has bought the Farley residence.

Wollenweber's pasture got on fire on Wednesday afternoon and burned over a large portion before it could be extinguished.

S. Hunter Smith has been setting up his exhibition in the rink yesterday.

M.J. Pogue ought to sue the *Beacon's* Oswego correspondent for defaming his new well by reporting it only 33 feet deep when water was found, when in fact there was no sign of water until 58 feet had been reached, which occurred yesterday.

Aug. 11: A buggy was found this morning on top of the Figge blacksmith shop, a barrel drawn up in the Garfield pole, and other things displaced. Can't the boys find time to spend their energies to some better purpose?

Quite a summer resort or watering place has been developed down in the Cowdrey woods; a number of parties are encamped there from Aurora and Yorkville. These pleasure campers have provided themselves with bathing suits and sport in the water there as well as on the land.

Wm. M. Forbes, upon the hill, has dug a 16 feet deep well, in which he has 13 feet of water, and M.J. Pogue, down on the flats has gone down 80 feet and hasn't found a satisfactory supply of water yet. He is digging the wrong way--maybe he should dig up.

S. Hunter Smith's museum now holding forth at the rink is giving the best satisfaction of anything that has come to town for a long while. Remember that this may be its last week here.

Footman & Young have pitched their photographic tent next to the rink, and promise to picture us out in the neatest style.

Aug. 18: Little Ray, the nine months old boy of Mr. and Mrs. J.B. Pogue of Hinckley died yesterday at the house of J.M. Pogue, where they were on a visit.

L.C. Gorton of Bristol was in town yesterday.

The new residence of L.N. Hall is progressing nicely. The hydraulic ram by which the water supply is furnished works like a T.

The work of reconstruction of the depot is carried forward speedily.

Pat Tighe has returned from Kansas convinced that there is no place like Oswego.

The Museum is still here and will be continued during the week. The S. Hunter Smith couple have become quite favorites with our people.

Aug. 25: Cowdrey's Camping Ground: The grove is a delightful place and combines all the advantages of a nice camping ground. It is quite rolling and covered with beautiful trees and being located on the river's bank offers fine advantages for boating and bathing purposes. A small brook runs through the center of the grounds and within a few feet of the tents.

Jay Young has developed into an expert bicyclist.

The museum has closed and will move to Plano today.

September -- 1886

Sept. 1: The showers here Sunday were real soakers; especially the one in the afternoon.

The depot has been fixed up very handsomely; the new office probably will be occupied, and the waiting parlor thrown open to the public today. The business of late has been transacted in the freight room

The new residence of L.N. Hall is nearing completion and it is a structure that in beauty and completeness will not be equaled in this town very soon.

The water works stock has somewhat depreciated during the dry summer.

A sort of concert and lecture combination by two men and two boys was carried out in the rink Thursday evening.

Sept. 8: The new term of school was commenced yesterday. The principal, Prof. McFarlane, and Miss Cox, are of the old corps. The new teacher, a Miss Nora Burlew, of Millbrook took charge of the primary department. The turnout for the first day was satisfactory, almost 150 scholars put in their appearance.

Oswego will have this year the reunion of the fourth Illinois cavalry. Friday, Sept. 24th, will be the day of its occurrence.

The apple trees of Mr. John Wolf are in bloom.

Chas. Avery has a tame crow that will follow him all over town, keeping on top of the houses near to where he is.

Sept. 15: The soldiers of this region should bear in mind the reunion of the 4th Ill. cavalry on Friday, Sept. 24th, at this place. All of them with their families, are invited.

The resumption of active operations of the Oswego Literary Society will take place next Friday evening, Sept. 17th, at the Leisure Moment hall. The question that "Man is a creature of circumstances" will be discussed for a starter.

The WCTU had a very good home got up meeting Sunday evening at the Presbyterian church.

There was a surprise home warming party given to the Henry Case family some days ago, at which a carpet for their new house and other useful things were presented. Mr. and Mrs. Case feel very grateful to their neighbors and friends for the many favors received since their calamity of being burned out.

George W. Moore, when a young man, went from here to California in 1859. He got married there, and well established in farming, but four years ago he died. His widow, their three children and her mother arrived yesterday on a visit to his folks at this place. Mrs. Moore is an expert in the construction of fancy shell work and residing near Santa Rosa, which is not far from the coast where nice sea shells can be procured, she has brought along a number of handsomely got up shell ornaments, among them a bird cage.

Dwight E. Smith has arrived here Saturday from Davenport for a short visit. His wife, with their baby daughter, has been here for several weeks in attendance on her mother, Mrs. John A. Young, who has undergone a severe relapse of a former spell of sickness, but who now is said to be getting on nicely.

Frederick Burkhard--or Fritz, as he was called--when a young man was living in this place, having been the hostler at the old National hotel for quite awhile. He got married, moved to Livingston county, and like his brother Leonard here, raised a large family and got rich. Last week with a portion of his family, he was on a visit to relatives here.

Hattie Bees has again commenced teaching the school in the Wormley district.

Wm. S. Hawley and wife, that is our young Will Hawley, of Eagle City, Iowa, were on a visit to Albert Hawley's.

Yorkville: Jack Frost made his first appearance in our vicinity Friday night.

The Society of St. Patrick's church, Bristol Station, will hold a Fair from Oct. 4th to the 11th, in Dearborn's Rink, Yorkville, to which your attention and attendance is especially invited. Season tickets now ready for sale at \$1 each. The proceeds are to be used to pay up the indebtedness on the church.

Conductor Andy Spurr of the Fox River line was married at Sheridan on Wednesday last to Miss Hattie Miller. They took the afternoon train for Chicago and thence went East for a trip of two weeks.

Survivors of the Thirty-sixth Regiment will hold their 20th annual re-union on Thursday, Sept. 23d, at Seneca, LaSalle county.

NaAuSay: Quite a hard wind storm visited this section of the country Thursday doing considerable damage, such as blowing down windmills, haystacks, and corn.

Sept. 22: The teachers of Oswego and vicinity are requested to meet Saturday next, at 9 a.m., at the school house, the object being the formation of a reading circle.

The preparations for the 4th Cavalry's reunion are progressing nicely; all committees are well advanced with their duties. A large concourse is expected as all the soldiers in the neighborhood with their families are invited to reunite with those of the Fourth.

John H. Riley has moved his residence from Yorkville to this place.

G.W. Funk is a newcomer to this place.

Dixon, a man living here when the war commenced, and who took an active part in the first volunteer movement, by drilling on the flats and in the Kendall house ball room, us who first responded to the country's call, was in town yesterday to look up acquaintances. He still wears his hair long and in ringlets, but it has changed from a rich gold color to that of a whitish yellow.

Yorkville: A fire is needed in the school-room these cool mornings. Pupils should not be required to sit in chilly, damp rooms.

Sept. 29: Mrs. A.B. Smith was but ordinarily indisposed when overtaken by sudden death on the afternoon of the 21st last. The funeral took place on the 23rd from the house. Mrs. S. was born in Painsville, Ohio; her maiden name had been Mary E. Dodge. With her family she resided for awhile in the State of New York, and in 1837 moved to Illinois. Her marriage took place in 1839 and she came with her husband to Oswego in October 1845, where she has been residing ever since.

The reunion of the 4th Cavalry transpired quite satisfactorily to all concerned; there was pretty good gathering of soldiers; twenty different regiments were represented and the number of the members of the 4th that answered the roll call was 65.

There came pretty near being a tableau enacted on the street by our marshal and a bear. The Italian had collected 45 cents for a fight between his dog and the bear; the marshal came along and said the fight must not take place; the bear, evidently grateful to the marshal for the interference of being chawed up by the dog, reared on his hind legs and

went for the marshal to embrace him; the marshal declined the civility. The fight did not come off.

Among the many former Oswegoans in town on the reunion day were Mrs. Roberts, nee Sallie Beaupre; her brother, Charles Beaupre and his married daughter, Mrs. Hamilton, all of DeKalb, I believe. Also Mrs. T.E. Minkler of Aurora. They were the guests of Capt. Mann.

Elijah Ferris and his mother have changed their residence to Ottawa.

Martin Williams of Minooka, formerly an Oswego youth, was in town the other day.

The universal special delivery system which goes into effect next Friday will, I fear, never be popular. First it is started on the unlucky day of the week for starting things,. Second, it does not reach the matter for which special delivery is most desirable, namely, letters for people in the country who do not often come to the town, and third, as every piece of first, third, and fourth class matter should be examined, and everything found for special delivery be entered on the receipt blanks, the first thing, it will much retard the delivery of the ordinary mail, which at the Oswego office will be met with much displeasure.

Yorkville: Healy & Newton's Yorkville hearse was used at the funeral of Mrs. A.B. Smith.

The good Lord was gracious to Brother Minkler and the old settlers of Kendall county on Wednesday last, the occasion of its annual picnic and handshaking. There never was a more pleasant day and a large crowd enjoyed the meeting.

The names of old settlers deceased since the last meeting Sept. 17, 1885:

Bristol: Miss Margaret Lowry died Sept. 24th, 1885. She was the daughter of the late James B. Lowry.

Waldo W. Marsh died Jan. 16, 1886 in the 74th year of his age. He came to Kendall county in 1837.

Hartley A. Cleveland died march 18, 1886 in the 75th year of his age. He came to Kendall county in 1836.

Little Rock

William Mulkey died Jan. 22, 1886 in the 87th year of his age. He came to Kendall county in 1834.

Mrs. Henry Parsons died March 11, 1886 in the 75th year of her age. She came to Kendall county in 1843.

Nathaniel I. Robbins died July 5, 1886 in the 83rd year of his age. He came to Kendall county in 1835.

Oswego

Phillip Young died Nov. 25, 1885 in the 86th year of his age. He came to Kendall county in 1842.

Mrs. Thomas Greenfield died June 31, 1886 in the 74th year of her age. She came to Kendall county in 1839.

Walter Loucks died March 20, 1886 in the 75th year of his age. He came to Kendall county in 1838.

Big Grove

Mrs. Sylvanus Kendall died Dec. 27, 1885 in the 77th year of her age. She came to Kendall county in 1840.

Nelson Messenger died Jan. 25, 1886 in the 75th year of his age. He came to Kendall county in 1836.

Elijah Barrows died Feb. 14, 1886 in the 95th year of his age. He was a soldier in the war of 1812. He came to Kendall county in 1837.

Mrs. N.P. Barnard Sr. died July 30, 1886.

Elisha B. Wright died Feb. 19, 1886 in the 84th year of his age. He came to Kendall county in 1836.

Fox

Mrs. Susannah Darnell died Dec. 28, 1885 in the 74th year of her age. She came to Kendall county in 1834.

Mrs. Deborah Ann Ladne died Dec. 21, 1885 in the 67th year of her age. She came to Kendall county in 1838.

John Evans died July 31, 1886 in the 75th year of his age. He came to Kendall county in 1834.

Julia, wife of George M. Hollenback, died Aug. 23, 1886 in the 53rd year of her age. Kendall

Charles S. Ferriss died Feb. 17, 1886 in the 55th year of his age. He came to Kendall county in 1836.

Deacon West Matlock died July 17, 1886 in the 73rd year of his age. He came to Kendall county in 1833.

Christina, wife of Isaac Burgess, died April 12, or 13, 1886. She came to Kendall county in 1844.

John I. Widney died Aug. 31, 1886 in the 59th year of his age. He came to Kendall county in 1845.

October -- 1886

Oct. 6: Died, at What Cheer, Iowa, Tuesday Sept. 28, 1886, Adeline Sloan Brown, widow of the late Stephen W. Brown of the town of Kendall. Mrs. Brown with two of her sons moved to Iowa since the death of her husband in 1876, selling the homestead south of Yorkville and purchasing a farm in that State where she continued to reside until the time of her death. Her health despite her advanced time of life, continued excellent until near her death, which resulted from an attack of cholera. Mr. and Mrs. Brown came to this county from Erie, Pa., in 1844, settling near Cowdrey's in Oswego Township. Mr. Brown followed the occupation of tanner, millwright, farmer and nurseryman, and for the 12 years preceding his death was assessor for the town of Kendall. Both Mrs. Brown and her husband were lifelong members of the Methodist church. Eight children survive, Mrs. W.H. Ferriss, Bristol; Mrs. L.F. Smith, Kendall; Geo. W. Brown, Texas; Mrs. Lyman Knox and Jacob Brown, Livingston Co. Ill.; Nathan Brown, Nebraska; Mrs. Chas. Orr,

Sandwich; and Sloan Brown, Iowa. Miss Ann Brown, another daughter, died about 25 years ago.

A seven months' old child of Joseph Gordon at the grove was buried yesterday at the Oswego cemetery.

One of the neatest and most attractive monuments at the Oswego cemetery is that of Boesenecker's; it has been lately erected, and is the first metal monument in those grounds.

Thomas Harrison of Canada returned yesterday from a visit here to his sister, Mrs. Frances A. Pearce.

There is now again a daughter in the family of Henry A. Colver.

Peter Crance was in town to see his daughter, Lillie.

Granby Case was down from Aurora on a flying visit.

Mrs. H.G. Smith is quite sick with the nervous rheumatism.

Yorkville: Dave Hall will make his first speech this season at the Bellfield sale in NaAuSay the 7th.

Conductor Andy Spurr resumed his run on the Fox River line Monday morning. His friends are glad to see him back.

Oct. 13: Susan Edwards, wife of Thomas Edwards, died Saturday at the age of 72 years. The Edwards family are from England and are old settlers.

David Hall was laid up for a few days and now is moving about with a cane and in a limping condition, having been kicked by a horse last week at a sale.

Henry D. Hebert and bride--nee Miss Hettie Swartout--have returned in the best of health and spirits.

John H. Wormley has again taken unto himself a wife, a widow lady of Aurora.

Miss Stella Van Doozer, a native of Oswego, was married to a Mr. Clarence Ball of Plano.

A.B. Hall of Texas is making his relatives and friends here a visit. Ash has kept himself well preserved.

Mrs. Sarah Putt of Morris is visiting the David Hall family.

J. Wesley Edwards of Kansas and Mrs. Riley Beach of Nebraska have arrived to attend the funeral of their mother.

Oct. 20: No Oswego column.

Yorkville: Mr. Adam Armstrong of Oswego was in town Monday morning.

Chris. Duffy went into the Union army himself at the beginning of the war, a poor boy and a farm hand. He did have service as a soldier. When the war was over, he went to school and then to college, educating himself. When a lad, he was a newsboy in Chicago and was in contact with the roughest phases of life, but he had manhood in him and by his own exertions he made a man of himself. He is today one of the best school men in the State. He is worthy of the support of every Republican in Kendall county. Don't let any prejudice turn you from your duty--vote for Duffy.

Married.

Gaylord-Woolley: At the home of the bride's father, Mr. Chas. Gaylord, Oct. 14th, 1886, his daughter, Miss Minnie E. Gaylord of NaAuSay to Mr. Frank Wooley of Oswego, Rev. Thomas Galt officiating.

Oct. 27: Mrs. Harriet Herrick, the mother of Mrs. J.H. Gray, and who many years ago was one of this community, died and was buried last week in Chicago.

Jacob Constantine's straw stack was burned Thursday night and it required the best efforts of him and some of his neighbors to save the buildings. The fire apparently was of incendiary origin. And by the way, these fires are getting altogether too frequent in this neighborhood.

It is said that Aaron Ladiew [LaDew] has sold his place to Frank Hawley, preparatory to moving to Nebraska where three of the children of that family are living.

A.S. Dwyre, a former townsman and who now is established in the legal profession in Iroquois county, was here on a short visit.

A.B. Hall started on his return to Texas yesterday.

The meeting addressed by S.W Packard of Chicago was a small one; the speech, however, was very good and not radical.

The Hinchman residence is getting provided with new sidings.

A mule team hitched to an ash wagon is running away now--just gone out of town.

Oswego perhaps has the average share of prohibitionists, but they are of the timid sort; they favor prohibition sentiments but further than that they dare not venture.

Last Friday, H.H. Haaff of Atkinson--then in Plano--sent word that he would visit Oswego the next day and in the evening would like to address the people on prohibition. Haaff has an extensive reputation as a fearless speaker and caustic writer, and being that he had been Oswego's school teacher for three years (from 1855-7) and who by his energy and efficiency had made himself one of the best remembered teachers of the past, it might have been supposed that he would have been heartily welcomed for a speech, but not so; even the women and small boys seemed to be afraid of being carried off their political base by a prohibition speech from Haaff and so no meeting was had.

November -- 1886

Nov. 3: Andrew Ladiew [LaDew] left his home under some excitement about noon last Tuesday. Not returning, a search was made for him in the evening and about 10 o'clock he was found on the edge of the river, about opposite the creamery, dead with an incision in his neck. The verdict rendered by the coroner's jury was that he had come to death by his own hand. Mr. Ladiew was 65 years of age; he was of a very quiet and retiring disposition; he was a member of the Presbyterian church and a regular attendant on divine services.

Wm. Cooney has come home from Colorado and looks ten years younger than he did last spring when he went out there.

David Brownell returned yesterday to his home in Peoria from a visit here to his cousins Frank and Fred Pearce.

Hally Haight of Naperville, who has just returned from a year's sojourn in Paris, France, is here on a visit to his uncle, D.M. Haight.

C.E. Sleezer and Andrew Brown were in town Saturday trying to explore its prohibition resources. Sleezer would make a good-looking sheriff.

Henry Shoger has retired from the firm of Shoger Bros. J.A. Shoger will continue the business.

The rink's reception room has been turned into the voting place.

Nov. 10: Dr. D.B. Jewell has returned from a six weeks visit to his granddaughter, Mrs. C.H. Cutter in Wisconsin.

Don Winn took advantage while on a stock shipping journey to Chicago, to stay over with his folks for a few days. Don is well pleased with Colorado.

Harry Gray--a brother of Wm. T.--is now a resident of this place, and is running the Edwards tin shop.

Hank Smith carried Frank Strossman to the polls to vote.

Minnie Bower is one of the assistants in Maggie Schwarz's dressmaking establishment.

W.F. Forbes is on moving into a part of Mrs. Teller's house, and the Hall house, which he is vacating, will be occupied by Mrs. F. Pearce.

The remains of the four months old baby of Mr. and Mrs. Seldon Bunn were brought here from Sheridan for burial.

The Oswego WCTU had a very joyous time during the last three days, being that their second anniversary come within that time, and on which occasion they received a visit from their organizer, Mrs. Rounds of Chicago who is now promoted to the presidency of the State organization.

W.F. Young has been engaged as one of the teachers of the school, or rather as the assistant of Mr. McFarlane for the present. A fourth teacher became necessary, and will be the more so when the regular winter term commences, as a number from the outside of the district have manifested a desire to attend the school here.

Doc Woolley is bragging on a Wolf & Hem's clover huller capabilities; he says that in 8-1/2 hours they have hulled for him 13-1/2 bags or 33 bushels and six pounds, but he thinks that although the regular price for hulling clover is \$1 per bushel the earning of it is making money ridiculously fast.

Yorkville: The knights of Labor have ordered all their members to quit work at the Stock-Yards in Chicago. The edict was obeyed Saturday by 10,000 men and it is thought 5,000 more will quit work today. The eight-hour question is the principle involved. On the representation of Sheriff Hanchett that his deputies are unable to preserve order at the Stock-Yards, Governor Oglesby has ordered the First and Second regiments of Illinois militia to assemble at their armories this morning, ready for active service.

Nate Loucks of Oswego shook hands with Yorkville friends Saturday. Rheumatism in his knee made Nate walk lame.

Turkey day in two weeks.

Nov. 17: Check bound volume; the "Oswego" column page is folded on the microfilm; need to read the original.

The remains of the widow of Levi F. Arnold were brought here yesterday from Chicago for burial. The Arnold family was one of the most prominent of families in our early history. Mr. Arnold was the first postmaster of Oswego, holding that office from 1837 to 1845. The H.C. Cutter used to be there and they owned considerable village property. The age of the deceased was 74 years. Her remains were accompanied to Oswego by the

only surviving member of the family, Mrs. Lydia C[unreadable] and by fifteen of the neighbors of the deceased from that city and which were Mr. Squires...

Yorkville: In March last Fred Shoger died at Aurora very suddenly--he has relatives living in Oswego--and soon after his death, his wife married a man named Cranz. Circumstances were suspicious, and the body was exhumed recently and an examination proved that Shoger had been poisoned. The Aurora herald says: The facts which have just been ascertained that Shoger came to his death by arsenic poisoning is causing considerable interest here, and it is hoped that Franz Cranz and his guilty wife will be brought to justice. The trouble is that the facts were made public too soon, and friend of the couple may have communicated with them and thus helped them to escape.

Nov. 24: The Ladies' Social Circle of the M.E. church will meet with Mrs. Chas. Kimball Friday afternoon, Nov. 26th.

The Thanksgiving services will be held at the Congregational church and will commence at 10:30.

Mrs. C.H. Cutter has arrived here from Trempealeau, Wis. last week, with her two little girls and is the guest at her grandfather's, Dr. Jewell.

Dr. W.A. Lester and wife have arrived here (the latter for the first time) from Alaska, Wis. Fred and his family have arrived previously, and there will be an entire reunion of the Lester family on Thanksgiving day.

Chris Wentz of Belle Plaine, Ia., was here visiting old acquaintances. He was an Oswegoan about the time of the war.

John Cherry from Canada is here on a visit to his cousins, the Cherrys of this region.

The literaries have become discouraged; at their last meeting they were about ready to lay down and expire, but concluded to hold on to existence a little longer, and a committee was appointed for the stimulating of the organization. The principal complaint is the want of patronage. That there should be discouragement is no great wonder--when fellows will tax themselves a dime a night for having the hall nicely lighted and warmed, and then nobody comes to take in their literary output, free gratis at that, why of course their feelings will be hurt and they not only become discouraged but disgusted with the affair. The question debated was "whether or not the spirit of the constitution has been maintained," and the decision was in favor of the affirmative represented by Hallock and Orson Parker; on the negative were Haight and Rank.

A Mr. Veeder from up near Elgin has been taken quite sick while here with his wife on a visit to their brother-in-law, John T. Wormley.

Some of the larger male scholars have not been in harmonious relation with the school lately.

1888 is looked forward to as the year fraught with the greatest political exertions and achievements ever before witnessed (Oswego must not be again ignored for a county office, and it must be the best for disposal at that). The indications are that it also will be a troublesome year for the politicians because of the more than two parties by which they will be thrown off their reckonings and set at sea. The Prohibitionists will be around as determined to go it on their own hook as much as ever; the Labor party by that time may develop into a much more formidable adversary than the Prohibs ever have been; the Americans and the Woman's suffragists as usual will cut no figure, but there should be still another party, and one that is the most needed; its special mission should be the reforming of politics, and now particularly the reconstruction of the political machine, the wresting of the power from the politicians and restoring it to the people and that of course would mean the upsetting of the convention system.

Yorkville: Winter blew his breath over the land last Wednesday night and Thursday, and accompanied a severe gale with a blinding snowstorm. It was a cold time, and coal dealers and clothiers looked happy. But the weather since then has been more pleasant. A good soaking rain is much needed to fill the ground. It began raining Sunday night.

The national convention of the advocates of woman suffrage was held in Sandwich just after election, and was a most successful meeting, all the prominent woman workers for the cause being present. Mrs. D.A. Aldrich, "Galva," of Millington, delivered the address of welcome, which the Argus published in full, and as a composition, it ranks with the utterances of the best writers and speakers of the convention. Mrs. Aldrich is a woman of thought and action; she has original ideas and her views are of the practical kind. She will undoubtedly be personally enlisted in this work, and her opinions will have weight with her associates.

Yorkville: Charles Francis Adams, third son of President John Quincy Adams, died at 8:30 on the morning of Nov. 22 at his residence on Mount Vernon street, Boston. He was born in Boston Aug. 16, 1807, and graduated from Harvard in 1825.

Aux Sable: Corn-huskers took a rest Thursday. It snowed and it blew, and 'twas a cold stormy day.

Friday dawned clear and calm, wishing to inhale the pure morning air to the utmost, I challenged Thomas Hezekiah--my husband--to a race to the barn, after some demur he accepted the challenge; I guess he was a little fearful of being beaten by a woman. I let him win, as a cookie--which was the wager--was no incentive to very great muscular exertion on my part. Perhaps some prudish person would say "the i-de-a-y of a lady running a footrace!" Yes'm, a lady ran a foot race.

I say, truce to Starkey and Palen's compound oxygen while you can have Nature's pure oxygen free of charge to inflate your lungs with. Girls, if you wish to retain your youthful appearance, and "grow old gracefully," take the full benefit of it instead of moping indolently indoors poring over sensational novels or too much "crazy-work."

We again hear the click of the corn. Judging from the rapid succession in which the ears are hurled into the wagon, the boys are trying to make up for the lost day.

NaAuSay: The Goudie boys are remodeling and building a new addition to their house, and Hugh looks suspicious but we won't let out on him.

Mr. Theodore Jessup opened the Marysville school last week Monday with a large number of scholars; also Mr. John Moulton the McCauley school and Miss Nettie Wheeler the Brown.

December -- 1886

Dec. 1: All that have attended Blanche Cutter's wedding--and they were quite numerous who did--declare it to have been the most enjoyable event they had ever enjoyed. Prof. H.D. Hatch, the bridegroom, is a gentleman and a scholar, commanding as an educator the highest positions and salaries, and at present is the principal of one of the Chicago schools. [Henry Douglas Hatch was principal of the Wicker Park School. Mary Blanche Cutter was the daughter of Henry C. Cutter.] A Unitarian clergyman from Davenport performed the ceremony. [Gifts from this wedding included gold watches given by the bride and groom to each other; set of silver tea and table spoons; silver berry dish and spoon; \$5; silver dessert spoons; silver sugar spoon; one dozen napkins; silver card receiver; pair of brackets; dozen tea spoons; one dozen table spoons; dozen knives; and dozen forks; plush toilet case; silver card receiver; silver coffee run; silver fruit knives; plush album; hand-painted plaque; hand mirror; study lamp; silver toothpick holder; jewel case; hand-painted plush table scarf; Complete Works of Shakespeare; Turkish rug; table cloth and one dozen napkins; silver pie knife; Shepard clock; plush perfume satchel; mirror; silver tea urn; crystal vase; silver study lamp.]

Thanksgiving day was passed in Oswego very quietly; the doings were confined to the private gatherings and they partook much of a private appearance.

Mr. and Mrs. Esch of Chicago spent Thanksgiving at C. Herren's.

A large Thanksgiving dinner was seated at Seely's; 27 I understand sat down to table.

Tom Cowdrey was in town; he has just returned from Dakota.

Dr. C.H. Cutter has come down from Wisconsin to attend the wedding of his sister.

Nicholas Schlapp, who lives out in the Marysville district, died quite unexpectedly yesterday, having been sick but a couple of days; however he was always troubled more or less with asthma.

D.H. Hale of Chicago, who formerly was well known in this place, is said to have died at Los Angeles, Cal., where he was sojourning for his health.

The Rev. T. Miller Smith has returned here from Wyoming on a visit. His appearance has undergone much of a change for the rougher--can't afford the paying of 50 cents out there for a shave.

The Testin saloon has changed hands. The style of the new proprietors I think is Shoger & Eberlein.

The sale at auction of the H.J. Collins store and bakery resulted in the same being struck off to Henry Minard for \$1,450.

The Frank Barry family have moved into the Winn house, and the place thus vacated was occupied by the John Testin family.

Mrs. Wm. T. Gray has changed her residence and moved into the house with Mrs. Helen M. Pogue.

NaAuSay: A well informed man insidiously said in our presence a few days since: "That he was sorry to see so many young men expose themselves to the corrupting influence of politics." And we should answer if politics are filthy and corrupt and the old men can't cleanse them, we, the young men, will.

Dec. 8: Cass Gaylord wrote on Nov. 30 from his new home in San Bernardino county, Cal. To his old neighbor here, Ed Walker, that on that day the thermometer was 80 in the shade and 118 in the sun.

The D.W. Hess family has moved to Plano.

The most sorely stricken family by sickness is that of Wm. S. Dwyre; the children are not up and about again but Mr. and Mrs. Dwyre are quite sick yet. The other sick, Wm. Ladd and Will Pickards, are getting along slowly.

A reorganization of the Presbyterian choir has been effected and a good many new members taken in. Mrs. H. Hebert is the new organist.

A. Van Driesen has again gone to Chicago for having performed further operation on his eyes.

Yorkville: Early risers Thursday morning found the mercury in thermometers at 10 below zero; they said it was a cold morning and they kindled the fire hastily.

The Chicago Ice Company put men to work on the river here Saturday cutting ice and storing it in the big houses. Saturday night about 30 men came out from Chicago and

have made the ice cakes rattle lively. The ice is in splendid condition--clear, hard, and about the right thickness.

Holiday Goods! All the choice novelties in Gentlemen's wear can be found at Reeves', the headquarters for Gents' furnishing goods. You will get the latest styles there and no fancy prices will be asked for them. [Advertisement]

Now that winter is ruling the land, the Holiday excitement will soon be at its height and when you are in Aurora, you should drop into O.S. Clayton & Sons' elegant jewelry establishment. [Advertisement]

Dec. 15: Mrs. Wm. S. Dwyre, being one of the stricken household, and I believe the last that was taken down, died during Saturday night. Her maiden name was Sarah Richards, being a daughter of Charles S. Richards and her age was 38.

Mrs. Leonard Haag died in Chicago where she had been taken last week for having a tumor removed, which was performed very successfully and for several days she was said to be doing nicely. Her maiden name was Anna Constantine, the daughter of Jacob Constantine.

The ice company has stored a large amount of very good quality of ice during last week. About 40 men from Chicago were engaged. Most of them returned home yesterday.

The new Masonic hall fixings are now complete.

A school teacher is wanted in district Eight, known as the Walker District. E.A. Smith, J. Constantine, and S.E. Walker are the directors.

Geo. W. Kimball has opened an auction office for the sale of notions in the corner building of Chapman's.

A lady boxer was to exhibit last evening at the rink, but I believe proved a fizzle for want of an audience.

The Esquimau lady will hold forth Thursday evening at the Leisure Moment Hall.

Yorkville: Mr. John Dowd makes a very comprehensive report of his official receipts and expenditures as treasurer of the Bristol Station Catholic Church Society, which is published in this paper.

Dec. 22: The funeral of Mrs. Haag took place Wednesday from the German church on the prairie, and the burial in the cemetery there.

Wm Richards of Vandalia was here to attend the funeral of his sister, Mrs. Wm. S. Dwyre.

The busiest of all places these days is the drug store, where the holiday goods are being opened and put in order.

The Esquimau lady was here Tuesday evening, that having been cold and stormy, not enough assembled for a lecture at the hall, and most of those that had come out went to Mrs. Schram's where the lady was stopping, and there in the parlor she made quite an extensive address about her native land and its inhabitants. She was quite a surprise. Instead of being a sullen, stupid female, repeating the piece that had been drilled into her, as might have been expected, she was sparkling, all smiles and quite intelligent.

The water works are undergoing reconstruction; the significance of it, and why undertake at this unfavorable season, is only apparent in official minds.

Yorkville: You can get a fine selection of Holiday goods at the Oswego drug store. Mr. Hall has beat his former record in pleasing the trade this year.

The roads are now in splendid condition for a light fall of snow to make good sleighing--in fact, you will find a cutter runs very nicely now on most roads. The probabilities are that more snow will soon fall and then you want to be prepared for a ride or for hauling.

Our most excellent correspondent, Mr. "Strooley," of Oswego has an article in this issue on the reform of political conventions and elections, and proposes a plan which to us seems more complicated than any system ever in vogue. But maybe we don't read it right.

Mr. Frederick Post has sold his lower falls waterfront and mining privilege to William Petit, late of New York, agent for the St. Paul Improvement and Investment company, for \$25,000. This water power lies on the north side and was the last piece of property held by Mr. Post in this city.--*Spokane, Wash.*

Plano: Elder Joseph Smith of Lamoni, Iowa called on his hosts of old friends in Plano last week. He spent several months last year in missionary work among the polygamists in Utah. he states that in come of the remote Mormon settlements peopled by their foreign proselytes, he never encountered as much ignorance anywhere on the face of the earth.

Dec. 29: "Is it cold enough for you?" was the general greeting yesterday.

The public installation of the Masonic lodge officers last evening was a very pleasant event, quite a large and a very nice company of ladies were present.

The audience on the occasion of the union Christmas tree at the Congregational church was packed and piled up; about every place about the church where a person could stand, hang, or perch was occupied.

Usually, the expression of joy is greater when a boy is born than that of a girl; this order, however, was reverse last Wednesday at the birth of a ten-pound girl to Mr. and Mrs.

Frank Pearce; the reason being that heretofore all the grandchildren of Ezekiel Pearce were boys--the break caused the special rejoicing.

Miss Louise Simons is here from Kansas visiting her grandfather's, S.G. Minkler, and others, and by the way, John R. Simons has turned into a real estate agent out there--Simons & Clay is the title of the firm.

Milton Hawkins got into trouble with his friends down the grove, which caused him to move to Yorkville.

Joseph Pearce is over from Shabbona; Joe was one of the ancient Druids, away back in the good old times when that order flourished in Oswego. The most of its prominent members--Joe Ralston, Wm. P. Boyd, Chas. Sutherland, John M. Denton, and others, have long since left this troublesome work, and I believe there is none of them left in town except Dave Hall and old man Rank.

The news of Gen. [John A. "Black Jack"] Logan yesterday caused a sensation among his friends here.

Yorkville: John A. Logan is dead!

It seems almost incredible, and it was a shock to the people of the West, sudden and violent as an earthquake.

Illinois has lost her favorite son.

1887

January

Jan. 5: Among the many things that were forgotten last week to be mentioned were that the mains of the waterworks were opened to give the water free course, and left so for weeks by which they would be entirely useless in case of fire.

The Oswego Local Teachers Reading Circle will meet at the school house Saturday, Jan. 8. The lessons are: Pedagogy sixth chapter, Theories of Teaching with their corresponding practice, Mr. McFarlane teacher. Literature, "Lady of the Lake," fifth canto, Mrs. Hallock teacher. History from page 438 to 455, Mr. W.F. Young, teacher.

The roof over the kitchen part of the Theron Richards house got on fire Thursday afternoon and it required quite an effort of the neighbors to put it out--the water being scarce and but for the Hallock family who had yet a supply in their cistern, and who displayed great energy in using it, the house probably would have been consumed.

The run in the rink Friday night proved a fizzle for want of the audience and rink stock dropped one point on consequence.

The meeting for watching old '86 hobble out and young '87 strut in, by the Methodists, was held at the house of Nick Congdon.

Jan. 12: James S. Hoyt has been here from Plymouth county, Ia.

Both Mrs. Brooks of Ashton and Mrs. Bessie Ellis have been here in attendance on their sick mother, Mrs. D.C. Kennedy.

One of A.J. Parkhurst's little boys was taken sick with a violent fit yesterday.

The Oswego local teachers' reading circle will meet at the school house Saturday, January 22d. The lessons are: Pedagogy, seventh chapter the importance of the training of the teacher, Miss Nora Burlaw, teacher. Literature, "Lady of the Lake," sixth chapter, Miss Hattie Rees, teacher. History from page 455 to 467, Miss M.S. Jessup, teacher.

Considering the cold weather and court week, the shorter my letter and more acceptable probably it will be.

Jan. 19: Mrs. Beebe of Aurora, who when an Oswego girl and up to about a month ago was Miss Elma Dodge, is here on a visit to her friends.

Charles Hebert has been visiting his friend Gus Voss down in Utica. Gus himself is now here on a visit.

The yield of ice here has been the largest since the commencement of the article being harvested. Esch Bros. & Rabe have all of their houses full and there was plenty left and lots of it still forming. Their men were discharged yesterday.

The waterworks when first put in operation worked tolerably, carrying water in all the places that had made the necessary connections, but it wouldn't run with any kind of push and hence was not satisfactory. The idea then took possession of the official mind that by lowering the tap of the well by putting in large mains for certain distance, a force would be produced; all of which was done except the production of the force, for instead of strengthening, it had the effect of retarding the flow, as not long afterwards the water failed to reach the second stories and then it would play out here and there until finally but one house could get it, and a water trough being supplied, but even that much was quite a benefit. The conclusion was reached that the trouble was want of vent, that there were air pockets in the mains caused by not being laid at a uniform gradual descent but that camelbacks had been made by the encountering of large hard heads, etc. About six weeks ago or more a section of the mains from the well down were uncovered for remedying the defect, but the authorities got into a snarl about how it should be done; some wanted the pipes raised from the well, others wanted them lowered elsewhere, that is taking out the camelbacks, while Councilman Oliver Hebert had a scientific plan, a contrivance of air escape by the use of small pipes, which would not disturb the main pipes at all. A deadlock then of the board left the works torn up, the mains standing open,

so that no water whatever could be got anywhere from the works during most all of the winter. A few days ago Oliver got permission to try his plan, which he completed Saturday and the water since is just rushing, going into all the places connected with the works and which of course makes Oliver jubilant. Some more about this when it isn't quite so cold and I have more time.

Married on Thursday, Jan. 13th 1887 by Rev. Fritz of Aurora at the residence of the groom's cousin, Mr. Leonard Wolf of Wheatland, Will county, Mr. Leonard Leyh of Iowa to Miss Christina Albrecht of Aurora. None but relatives and a few intimate friends were present.

The following is a list of presents: Hanging lamp, Mike Albrecht; clock, Markus Albrecht; caster, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Wolf; \$5, Mr. and Mrs. John Wolf Sr.; silver sugar bowl, creamer, and spoon holder, Mr. and Mrs. John Wolf Jr.; oil painting, Annie Albrecht; set of silver tea spoons, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Hettrich; clothes wringer, Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Hem; \$5, Mr. and Mrs. Christian Hem; set silver table spoons, Amelia Binder; bed spread, Annie Leyh; \$5, Mr. and Mrs. Casper Wolf.

The bridal couple have gone to reside at Fayette, Ia, and the kind wishes of many friends have followed them.

Plano: C.C. Duffy will hereafter devote but two days in each week to the Plano schools, the balance of the week being occupied in school visitations throughout the county.

Yorkville: Memorial exercises in honor of Comrade John A. Logan were held in the Court Room Wednesday evening, Jan. 12, under the auspices of the Yorkville Post No. 522, GAR, Commander M. E. Cornell presiding.

Montgomery Mills running night and day and short and bran are \$13 per ton, with plenty on hand.

The weather since our last issue has been very unsteady--kind of erratic as it were. Last Thursday, it was warm with half an hour's rain and sleet in the evening. Then it snowed all night and Friday there was about eight inches of snow on the ground, Saturday and Sunday were comfortable days. Monday morning the wind got into the west again and blew hard all day--the mercury went down to zero, the snow was drifted in great piles, and it was one of the keenest days of the season, the wind penetrating and blizzardish.

Tuesday morning the mercury was down to 18 degrees below zero and the roads badly drifted. Those who came to court from a distance had a hard time. From Big Gove, one gentleman walked to Yorkville. Another started from Plattville on horseback, got as far as the Litsey farm, left his horse and walked here. The snow has covered the roads fence high in many places.

Jan. 26: The ice commenced breaking up Sunday afternoon; a section at the mouth of the Waubonsie was moved down towards the bridge, where it lodged causing the river to raise rapidly and leaving its banks, but the water again subsided during the night.

Mr. and Mrs. John A. Young were suddenly called to Wilton Junction, Iowa, on account of their daughter Mrs. D.E. Smith being very sick.

Shoger & Eberly have built an extension for the billiard hall on the back of their place.

L.N. Hall has had a number of painters down from Aurora for some time to do up the inside of his new house.

There is agoing to be a memorial service for the late General Logan at the Congregational church Sunday evening.

February -- 1887

Feb. 2: The death of Frederick Hertfelder, who has been ailing for some time, took place last week. Mr. Hertfelder was born in the village of Lauterbach, Oberamt (County) Grailsheim, Wurttemberg, in the year 1827; he came to America about 35 years ago, and to this section about 30 years ago; he was married here and followed the occupation of farming; a widow and daughter, the wife of A.C. Leigh, are his survivors.

Arthur Beane, for two or three years was one of the correspondents of the *Record*; now he is the editor-in-chief and sole proprietor of a newspaper, writing the salutations and weighty editorials. This Yahoo hasn't advanced a peg from where he commenced 20 years ago, itemizing. Such is fate.

Oswego has now a copious water supply which has been brought into many houses and can be brought into many more and the operation is all done by the water's own force, no pumping for the elevation of the water required and consequently there is no water tax, but Oswego is lacking quite a number of things that are essential to a town, foremost of which is a hotel.

Feb. 9: The Oswego bridge was carried away by the ice 30 years ago yesterday.

H.S. Collins has taken the important step of entering the matrimonial state. He was married Saturday to a Miss Mary Woodworth of Chicago.

John Waldbillig and Miss Emma Kreutler were married last week.

Tobogganing was the rage during the last week; there was quite a good natural slide down Benton Street from John Young's, and crowds of old and young would gather there to engage in the fun or at least witness it. The only accident in connection with it was the spraining of an ear by Roy Pogue.

The formation of a Library Association is now in progress and about 40 members have signed up.

The Goudie Brothers brought a hog to town yesterday which perhaps was the biggest ever in it; that is, of the four-legged kind. He was sold without being weighed for \$23 and supposed would have gone 600 pounds.

The ice below the dam has moved down to the island, which places the bridge out of danger. The flats are all under water. Zorn neglected to get his stock off in time with the assistance of Bill Dwyer he got the cattle out, and thinks of saving the hogs as he has got them upon the floor of the slaughter house. The Waubonsie creek is raging; the upper bridge over it has been wrecked by a bent that served for an abutment, having been knocked out by the ice.

Montgomery: Miss Lotta Glyde has a fine toboggan slide at her house about a half a mile from the village.

Some rascally thieves raided our village Saturday night; they secured a pair of valuable spectacles from Mr. Loucks, the coal dealer. They also broke into the depot, and after stamping a lot of tickets, and taking some milk checks went away leaving some papers that may identify them.

The east side of the river is badly blocked with ice and will be impassable for some days. At the present writing the river is very high and the ice going out with little damage. The snow has about all gone.

Feb. 16: Robert M. Hopkins of Specie Grove, who awhile ago went west for his health, died while staying with relatives at York, Nebraska.

Passing by L.N. Hall's new house, I stopped in and took a look at the inside of it. It is now receiving the finishing up touches. To say it was something altogether ahead of anything in Oswego would be no adequate expression at all; probably there are many of the smaller cities that contain no residence so complete in all the arrangements and so finely finished. The painting and paper are especially nice and tasteful. It contains all the rooms of the complete modern mansion, parlor, reception rooms, library, dining room, kitchen, bath-room, dressing rooms, besides the bedrooms and closets. The gas can be lighted everywhere, and hot, cold, and lukewarm water procured whenever wanted. The attic is a roomy place and contains the reservoir. The cellar is divided off into three compartments for the storage of different provisions. The arrangements are all so much adjusted to convenience it may be said that the house is almost automatic; if it wasn't for the getting of the beefsteak, a family might live there the year around without stepping out doors. A hydraulic ram furnishes the water, a gasoline fountain, some distance from the house, the gas, and a furnace the heat--zero weather there can cause no inconvenience. I suppose however, that a fellow like myself could never could feel at home there.

The new monument that lately has been erected in the cemetery for the Samuel Collins and Elder Minard families would seem to have the endurance of many centuries. It is not lofty but massive.

A neighborhood newspaper referred to us in this wise: "Oswego has several metropolitan appurtenances including water works that run themselves, and the handsomest school house in the county, but it has no hotel where the weary traveler can secure a square meal or a night's lodging. There is no trouble in getting all you want to drink."

Feb. 23: The most notable case tried in this court of late has been the B.F. Herrington suit against L.M. Woolley of Oswego for assault which closed yesterday, terminating in no cause of action, the jury on the first ballot being nine for acquittal and on the second eleven...The claim so far as we learned was that Herrington went to Woolley's house to serve some legal papers and that Woolley struck at him some thirty times with a pitch fork, One of the wounds in which the skin was knocked from his finger Herrington thought caused an itching sensation under his scalp, the result of blood poisoning and made him a great sufferer for a couple of years.

"The Playing Marbles" season was opened here last Saturday by a group of small boys.

The Oswego Cheese Factory shipped a carload of cheese on Tuesday.

Elder Minard has bought for a residence the dwelling house now occupied by Station agent Smith having been the property of H.W. Farley. Smith for his future residence has secured the W.S. Richards place.

John Esch left Wednesday morning for Antioch. He will assume charge of the company's business at that point.

March -- 1887

March 2: Was a little too previous last week in moving our station agent to the M.S. Richards' house. He has bought the Greenfield place for a residence.

Was asked "how the printing from plates was done, how the plates were prepared, etc." As I have never been in any printing office except the one we had in Oswego, and as it is over 20 years since Humphrey moved away, I am a little off on the modern art of printing myself. The typo might be able to throw some light on the subject.

There will be a wedding today out at Andrew Shoger's; his daughter Ida will be married to George Kesslinger.

The interesting "little Esquimau lady" will deliver her interesting lecture on East Greenland at the Congregational church next Monday evening, March 7.

Jerry Shepard started the other day for the Indian Territory, and probably will join a surveying party there of which Charley Teller is a member.

Christopher and Sherman Duffy were in town one day of last week. Chris went out to visit country schools, and Sherm his friends around town.

Wollenweber & Knapp shipped five carloads of hogs, which averaged 413 and two carloads of cattle that averaged 1,522 last Thursday.

Last fall after a newcomer had settled here, he put up a rough building on a vacant spot in the principal business block; when asked what it was for, the reply was, a feed mill--when already a number of them were lying idle, having broken each other down. The project fell through as he was not allowed to operate an engine there, and the building now stands there to no purpose, only increasing the danger of fire--and by the way there is the Rink; because of it the adjoining buildings cannot get any insurance, which of course is much depreciating their value. The dictionary defines that "that which annoys or gives troubles and vexation" or something that produces inconvenience or damage is a nuisance. The Rink has been doing all that, and while the first has pretty much stopped for want of patronage to the institution, the damage part of it remains. There is a village ordinance, which authorized the board of trustees to abate nuisances; now in the case of a fire would not the village of Oswego become liable for the damages sustained owing to the rink, especially when the authorities had been informed repeatedly of the situation?

March 9: Word of the death of Thomas Greenfield, who was on a visit to relatives in Iowa, was received. The remains are to arrive here and will be taken immediately to Bristol for burial. The deceased was one of the old inhabitants of this village and for a number of years one of the board of trustees.

A coal car partly breaking down on the Wednesday night freight wrought material damage to the track for some distance upon entering the town--Section boss Flavin said that in all of his railroading experiences, never before saw he such didoes [a mischievous prank or antic] cut up; for instance the taking out of a few feet in the centre of a solid steel rail leaving both ends firmly spiked down, etc.

Anton Miller is announced for collector. Mr. M. also has a 13 year-old boy he would like to get with some good farmer.

The remains of the baby of John A. Bell of Seward were brought here and buried Saturday.

The little Esquimau lady gave her lecture last evening to a pretty fair audience.

March 16: Andrew Schwab, once a resident of this place, died last November at the national soldiers home in Wisconsin, of softening of the brains. He was a cousin of Mrs. George Schilling.

The H.G. Smith family moved yesterday into their new residence, the Greenfield house.

March 23: The depot has been provided with eve troughs.

The other day a couple of fellows were pursuing their happiness first by filling themselves with whiskey and then by rolling each other in a mud puddle in front of the saloons, the diversion brought them immense happiness, when along came the Marshal and took them to the lockup, where all their happiness was turned into tribulation, as subsequently they were also made to pay something over each.

March 30: Court-House Burned!

Kendall County's Loss!

The *Records* Saved. Insurance, \$12,000.

Our beautiful Kendall County Court House is in ruins. The unexpected has happened, and a sad misfortune has befallen the county as well as Yorkville in the burning of the county building. It was a few minutes before four o'clock Friday morning, March 25, that the alarm of fire was given in Yorkville and soon the Methodist church bell rang out in startling tones and the paper-mill whistle took up the alarm...It was scarcely credited that anything serious would happen. But it was hoping against hope. There was no salvation for the temple of law and justice...It was a helpless, leaderless crowd of people standing to see some thirty thousand dollars' worth of property going to ruin. There was no water! At the beginning it seemed as though a hogshead of water would put the first out, but it was not there and all that could be done was to save books and furniture. The fire started in a room north of the Treasurer's office and between that and the vault of the Circuit Clerk's office on the west side of the building. Buckets were on hand and the little water that could be got from the court house well was utilized by willing hands so long as it held out, but of no avail...There were two prisoners in the jail--Archie Gilmore, held for murder, and Beck of Millington who was serving a sentence under the dram-shop act. These were taken out and put in charge of an officer in Beck's Hotel. Gilmore was locked in the night cell and the room was full of smoke when the Sheriff went to get him and he came near suffocating. Beck was in the larger room and had more air. They were doubtless glad to get out...The county records have been taken to the north store in the Union Block awaiting further orders. It is thought the vaults in the court house are all right. The loss of law books is quite heavy; Judge Hudson's library is gone and the library in the Circuit Court room.

Officials in Aurora had loaded one of their steam fire engines on a flat car and were ready to head for Yorkville when they were advised the building had already been destroyed.

Apology is due to several that have handed me items of parties and visits to be put in last week's *Record*, and which were omitted. The notes had been pinned on the wall where surely they could not help to be seen when coming to make up the report, yet they were missed all the same.

The L.N. Hall family moved over into their new and splendid residence last week.

The old Kendall House has been bought by Minard.

Old Mr. Rowley, an Oswegoan of ante bellum times, has died lately.

The *Record's* Oswego correspondent, in a lengthy article, made the case for moving the county seat back to Oswego from Yorkville given the destruction of the courthouse.

April -- 1887

April 6: Mr. and Mrs. Lauriston Walker celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. The Walker family of the former generation embraced six children, four of them, namely Seth, Orlando, Lauriston and Mrs. Mary W. Foster with their father came by team, Orlando in 1844 and the others the year following, from Belchertown, Mass., to Kendall County. The father died here in 1846; Seth, the oldest of the children died in 1876; Orlando, the oldest now living, and now 87 years of age, resides in Indiana.

The startling cry of fire reverberated through the streets about half past eight Sunday morning and Charles Avery's house was found to be on fire. The house was insured in the Rockford but didn't learn the amount; the burnt out family moved into the Van Doozer house near by, which happened to be vacant.

The George Parker sale last week was well attended, but the prices brought are said to have been rather low.

The northern tier of townships of Kendall County would be nearer to Geneva than the northern townships of Kane County are, and NaAuSay, Kendall and Fox wouldn't be further away from Morris than the southern tier of the Grundy County townships are, but a disposal of Kendall County in this way would knock a fellow's aspiration for Circuit Clerk all into a cocked hat.

April 13: The death of John A. Yeigh occurred Saturday afternoon. John Yeigh was a native of Canada and came with his folks to the United States when about 10 years old. He has been over a large part of the country, was a soldier in the Mexican war, and with the other three from this place, recently forwarded his application for a pension. He used to live in former years in Newark and at the old Patrick stand; in 1859 he was one off a quartette that started out together on the plains for Pikes Peak but like most all of the emigrants for that region of that year, became affected by a panic and returned (and by the way, the writer is now the only one left kicking, of that party.). Subsequently he spent a few years in California, and since his return from there, which is more than twenty years ago, he has lived uninterruptedly in this town. His age was nearly 70.

Charles Rieger and Miss Maggie Unsinn were married Wednesday. The event took place at Naperville.

Mrs. John A. Bell of Seward is spending time at present with her folks, David Hall.

The house of George Collins took fire, supposed from sparks from the chimney, and burned to the ground Saturday forenoon. The most of the household goods were saved. The insurance on the house had run out a short time ago, it is said.

Easter was celebrated by appropriate doings, consisting of singing, recitations, responsive reading, &c., at the Methodist church in the forenoon and Congregational in the evening.

Will the two old political parties run separate tickets at the next presidential election? Or will they consolidate against the labor movement? As far as policy of government and the way of running the same is concerned, there is no difference between them.

The Esch Brothers & Rabe ice houses at Yorkville burned on Saturday afternoon. "Everything was as dry as tinder, and great fears were aroused that our whole town might be destroyed; to the west and southwest of the ice houses were great piles of straw belonging to the paper mills and had this caught fire, nothing we had could have saved the mills and depot and thence westward through the lumber yard to the business streets of this village," the *Record* reported. "There were about a dozen large houses all connected and filled with hundreds of tons of splendid ice. When the fire broke out a telegram was sent to Aurora for aid but nothing came till 6:30 when a special came down with two steam fire engines and two hose carts. These were speedily unloaded from the two flat cars and the CB&Q Company's steamer took position at the river, the suction pipe connected and thrown into the water, hose run out and connected, and in a few moments two streams were playing on the remains of the fire and the effect was magical. The fire on the west end was extinguished, thence working eastward the streams fought the fire till nine o'clock when it was all out. The other steamer did not go to work--it was not necessary...By order of the village trustees, supper was served at the Fox River House for the firemen. The superintendent of the ice houses lived at Oswego and upon getting news of the fire he drove down--six miles--in fifteen minutes. The proprietors of the ice houses went promptly to work Monday to protect the ice. Lumber came out from Chicago and by Tuesday night a good portion of the burnt district was again boarded up. The loss is estimated at about \$5,000."

April 20: Libbie Andrews has gone into the employ of the Wilcox Manuf. Co. at Aurora as a bookkeeper. Oswego is getting pretty well represented in that establishment--there is Marsh Richards and Frank Richards, and Ed. Strossman and John Russell and two or three other Oswegoans who cannot be called to mind just now who are engaged there.

Wm. Condon was married last week to a Miss Noonan.

Charles Davis, who was working a piece of land cleared of timber a short distance above Troy, in plowing Thursday afternoon, apparently had broken his plow and had gone to work to repair it, but before completing the repairs, went into the house and shot himself in the breast with a gun, from the effect of which he died within less than an hour afterwards. He was a married man but his wife several years ago, went with their two children on a visit to her mother in California and never returned. The age of the deceased was 39 years.

April 27: The municipal election here was one of the tamest ever had. L.N. Hall, Oliver Hebert, and James Pearce were reelected trustees and Lew Voss was elected clerk.

According to the Reporter, the cost of the waterworks to the corporation was \$1,874.44 with \$250 worth of pipe left over.

Without fear of contradiction it may be asserted that Oswego has the largest billiard hall west of Chicago--and I wouldn't be much surprised if not the largest in North America--the rink has been turned into a billiard hall.

May -- 1887

May 4: A six months old girl of Fred Mundsinger was buried Sunday afternoon.

James B. Pearce has bought out the Shoger & Eberly saloon and taken out a part of the partition wall that divided them, throwing the two establishments into one--the one place will exclusively be used for billiards and the other for the sample room.

The Fox River Butter Company is having constructed a large cistern on the creamery premises.

The fishing of dead bodies from the river up at Aurora is getting too frequent to show well for the morals of "our beautiful city."

May 11: C.F. Shaver and H.B. Read have supplied their stores with new awnings.

Charles Avery has commenced rebuilding his residence; it will be placed more central in the lot from what the old one was.

Leonard Shoger has built a new barn. Schwartz did the work.

J.A. Shoger is getting the material for enlarging his residence.

May 18: A new bridge is being built over Cedar run.

Addie Van Evra is learning millinery with Maggie Shepard and Jennie Miller dressmaking with Mrs. Schwarz.

Oswego has now an uptown hotel; H.J. Collins is the proprietor. A nice sign is up.

The family monuments in the cemetery have lately been increased by those of Fred Hertfelder, Wm. Wagner, Joseph Failing, and Joseph Smith, all very nice and substantial.

May 25: Everybody rejoices over the big showers we have been having of which that of yesterday afternoon was the boss. Plenty of water now for again washing ourselves and besides the rains will help make things grow.

New posts have been set and poles put upon them all around the hitching ground in the rear of the Congregational church. James Morrison did it.

June -- 1887

June 1: Has anyone ever seen the river any lower than it is now?

Miss E.M. Murdock has gone to Chicago for a while.

A further improvement at the Congregational church is a new board walk through the yard.

Fred H.T. Smith usually called little Fred Smith, started the town with the latest business boom; he had heretofore been doing express business in a small way, but has now branched out and established a regular line, upon which he put a new cart he had imported from Wisconsin through an Aurora agency. The traveling public will now find Fred fully prepared to give prompt attention to the moving of all baggage to and from the depot.

Material for prohibition arguments was exhibited on our streets yesterday afternoon. A night of wretchedness in the calaboose and a \$29 fine this morning is to teach better conduct under inebriation.

It is 32 years since the Oswego post office has been entirely disconnected from any other business.

June 8: Mr. and Mrs. H.C. Cutter have returned from a visit to their son, Dr. C.H. Cutter at Trempealeau, Wis., and report that town booming.

The commencement exercises ending the school doings next Friday evening are looked forward to with much expectancy.

George M. Cowdrey has been raising strawberries, some of them measuring 4-1/4" around and weighing half an ounce.

A very nice new safe for the safe keeping of the town records was received and set up in the council hall.

Rank has taken the hint and says he will resign the postoffice--the change to take place with the first of October if not sooner wanted to quit.

June 15: Never before in the history of this village were there such manifestations of educational interest as there was Friday; the exercises of closing the [high] school extended over the whole day; the part, however, around which the general interest clustered had been reserved for the evening, it being the graduating exercises of a class of five, which took place at the Congregational church. A Motto on the wall read "No Steps Backward." Frank Lippold opened with an oration entitled "A Good Foundation." Frank showed much self-confidence. Addie Kimball spoke on "Value of Time." Next came Bessie Armstrong with "Now and Then." Addie Wormley followed with "Habit." And closing was that of Mamie S. Smith of "Hew to the Mark, Let the Chips Fall Where They May."

David Carpenter has received the first Mexican War pension in the town.

The streets have been cleaned up and now look very neat and the road to the bridge is being repaired by the filling in of gravel to be washed out again by the next freshet; by a little more expense now and by exercising a little philosophy, a permanent job might be made of it.

The low state of the river now exposes the base of the piers of the bridge and it would appear that one needed some repairs.

The building of the new part of the J.A. Shoger residence is progressing very nicely. T.C. Richards is doing the work.

A movement is on foot for the organization of a lawn tennis club.

June 22: Willard Kennedy has been meeting with a boom whosoever he turned; at the Creamery he was promoted to chief butter maker, and at his home to a father--a boy being the first born.

The railroad company is making a very substantial job at Bartlett's run by tubular castings and stone work.

June 29: There were several burials in the Oswego cemetery during the last week of persons from outside of this town; one was the wife of Dr. McClelland of Yorkville, nee Maggie Stevenson of Specie Grove, and whose death leaves now but one survivor of the Stevenson family. Another was Matthew Campbell of Kendall Township, and a third a grandchild of Mrs. Lorena Smith named Wilson, brought here from Chicago.

Mrs. Seldon Bunn of Sheridan arrived yesterday on a visit to the Roberts families.

Nellie Armstrong has graduated from the Aurora Normal class.

It would be an improvement to change the name of the Kendall postoffice to NaAuSay, and that of NaAuSay to Seward. The latter has caused much confounding, and should never have been called NaAuSay.

That the piers under the bridge need some repairs is quite evident, but that they should be taken down and rebuilt anew as some hold would seem to be going to unnecessary trouble and expense.

J.A. Shoger's new residence has been provided with an improved felt roof.

A lot of wood of William Parker & Son's near their dry kiln was set afire by a passing train and was burned up. It required lively work to save the kiln building.

That new postmaster ought to be hurried up as fast as possible; if he can be got ready before October, so much the better. The old one (Rank) is getting too blind, too slow, too careless, and altogether too uncivil for the place.

July -- 1887

July 6: Mrs. David Goudie departed last week for a visit to Scotland.

Oswego has now several quite expert bicyclists.

It would appear that the lady neighbors of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Avery are determined that that family shall live in the most elegant style and hence there are some more thanks to be expressed for the nice lace window curtains presented to them for their new residence by Emma and Mrs. Murdock and Mrs. David Hall.

A new sidewalk has been constructed on Washington Street by Haight's and his front walk repaired.

July 13: The first son has taken up his abode in the Watts D. Cutter family.

Peter Cooney has now a new steam engine for running his threshing machine and he is happy.

The authorities have commenced the building of sidewalks outside of the town to the borders of the corporation. On the Wheatland road the walk is nearly completed.

George B. Lyon had erected last week a very handsome medium sized marble monument to the memory of his departed wife.

July 20: The "Wedding Bells on Main Street" so often mentioned during the last six months by some Oswego correspondents, came to a jingle last Tuesday evening when the wedding of Miss E.M. Murdock to Dr. A.E. Van Deventer took place at the residence of C.L. Murdock, the bride's parents.

Uncle John H. Wormley was down from Aurora one day of last week, looking just as fresh as he did 30 years ago, and feeling as good as a boy. He said that it was 54 years the 8th inst. Since he came to the Fox River, having come in 1833 from the East and from Detroit here made the journey by wagon, stopping about six weeks over on the DuPage before coming to the Fox.

July 27: The extreme heat caused the spontaneous ignition of some matches at one place here.

Capt. Mann was visited over Sunday by his friend, a Mr. Black, of the Elgin Watch Factory.

A large train of hog wagons rolled into town yesterday morning at daybreak.

Perhaps there are some now that would like to have their funerals take place right away so as to get first use of the magnificent new hearse received by C.A. Shaver the other day. It is a beauty, by it the terrors of death are made all to disappear.

The *Oswego Reporter* is one of the wases; a succumber to the hot weather of the week before last. It was a bright and neat little paper, gotten up in good style, its original matter was graphically presented and its selections were good; but Oswego is more in need of most anything else than a newspaper.

The grass got on fire below town, near the railroad yesterday, and it is said that it took a good deal of hard fighting to prevent it from reaching some of the Frank Hawley buildings, and during which at one time Pat Flavin had become pretty well used up.

It appeared like olden times to have a show under canvas down on the flats. The Stetson troupe were good in one thing and that was go get every nickel out of the crowd that possibly could be got. As to Uncle Tom's Cabin, it was hard to tell whether they meant the play for a burlesque or otherwise.

The Katy-dids commenced their music about a week earlier than usual.

August -- 1887

Aug. 3: The C.S. Kilbourne family have returned from a week's pleasure taking at Geneva Lake.

The dry weather has much diminished the Fox River Butter Co.'s milk supply, causing the lay off of one employee for the present.

John Wynne brought in 70 hogs early Thursday morning. The hog shipping business of last week was quite large.

The town was subjected to a double dose of street music one forenoon last week; one band being a combine of a bag-pipe and some other kind of pipes; the other a hand organ with a monkey for the treasurer. The monkey performed his business very cute; the followers of Darwin have no cause to blush.

Wedding cards of the marriage of Miss Eva Cutter of Boston--a native Oswego girl--were received by friends here.

About a dozen of our ladies and gentlemen attended the Joliet races.

The Lutherans here have resumed active work, reorganizing their Sunday School, and will have preaching every other Sunday.

Madison street has been sidewalked beyond the Presbyterian church to the furthest end; a sidewalk is being built to the cemetery; every avenue will soon be provide with sidewalks and our authorities are signing for more streets where they might put sidewalks.

Aug. 10: Methodists have been very scared about here for the last four or five days.

Quite a number, irrespective of denomination, profession, or previous condition went to camp meeting Sunday.

Episcopal services were held Sunday afternoon in Cowdrey's grove by the minister and choir of that church from Aurora who are in camp down there.

The Lutherans commenced bi-weekly services at their church Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. C. Kinley has returned to her home from a spell of nursing engagement.

Am not sure about the name, but think it was at Robert Hilliard's where the Small Bros. Wednesday had commenced threshing with a steam power, when a fire broke out and destroyed the separator, all the grain, and a wagon belonging to Bucher, a neighbor.

Will Samse was here from Chicago for a few days. He intended to start today on a trip for his health to California, being troubled with lung disease.

Emma McOmber, an assistant in the Yorkville Postoffice, was in town yesterday making a call on her friends the Armstrong girls, and taking a look at our postoffice.

Charlie Read has joined the Holbrook camp in Cowdrey's grove.

The ordination Thursday of the Rev. Wm. Parker passed off in the best of manner.

Yorkville: There was a large attendance at Cowdrey's Tuesday on the occasion of the Grand Army picnic from Aurora. three coaches were crowded with the soldier boys and

friends and delegations from Oswego, Yorkville, and surrounding country met them on the grounds. It was a hot day, but they had lots of fun. Ira Smith took fishing tackle along but when he saw the river he went and hid it in the brush. Eb. Denny and George Cowdrey were there.

Aurora papers say that D.J. Hoff, formerly a photographer in Yorkville, late a brakeman on the CB&Q road, has fallen heir to a large fortune in New Jersey. There are several here who would like to see him if he has lots of money.

Aug. 17: It has been raining. Much cooler now than it was.

O.P Austin started last week on an overland trip to Minnesota and by which he will take in a visit to his brother Arthur, formerly of this place.

Clarence Hopkins has had some experience with a felon during the last week.

Mrs. H.G. and Mamie Smith returned Saturday from a week's visit with relatives at Marseilles.

The Moore family have had a tin roof put upon their house.

Mrs. Wm. Esch of Chicago is here and will spend a few weeks with her parents, Chris' Herren's.

Charles Knapp is having built an addition to his barn. G. Schwartz is doing it.

The Kendall County Fair begins Sept. 13.

There should be a grand rally of the ld settlers of Kendall County at the picnic on the Fair Ground, Yorkville, on the 25th. Only a few years more some of us will meet together.

Plainfield: The Baptist people have decided to build a parsonage and have been given a lot valued at \$350 near the depot of that purpose by J.R. Ashley. They expect to put about \$1,500 into the building and the amount is nearly raised.

P.G. Hawley of Oswego, a large landowner in NaAuSay, remitted one-half of the rent to his tenants, a magnanimous action surely and for which he should receive due credit. May others who are able to emulate the precedent he establishes in this year of failure in crops and receive the blessings of those who are less able to stand the almost total loss of a year's income.

Montgomery: A serious accident occurred at 1:15 Friday morning on the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy at Montgomery, a main line freight train running into the rear end of the Fox River freight, both going south. The latter was standing on the main track while its engine was doing some switching, and was not noticed until the other train had tot within ten car lengths, a slight mist prevailing and could not then have been seen had

it not been flagged. The engine plunged part way through the car, while two box cars immediately in front were thrown from the track and five coal dumps in advance of them were forced through the way-car, making complete wreck of all. In the way-car, two men were seriously injured.

Aug. 24: Two accidents last week. N. Larkin collapsed in the bottom of Willis' well. He was hauled up by one leg with a rope, and then showered with water. It took an hour to bring him to.

A team of Shoger Brothers broke away and collided with Cob Pearce's milk wagon rig, damaging it considerably.

James Shepard was urgently called to Arkansas City, Kan. by the sickness of his brother, Jerry, there. Typhoid fever is said to be the ailment.

Maggie Shepard is on a visit to her sister in Iowa. Her business here [millinery shop] is in charge of Addie Van Evra.

The single young men nine played the married young men nine a game of ball Saturday afternoon. The marrieds didn't stand much of a show, the outcome being 40-9 in favor of the singles.

The school will commence next week with increased facilities. Room No. 3, heretofore vacant, has been prepared for occupancy, being seated with the single Union seats, for which S.B. Hallock is the agent, his bid having been the cheapest that was put in, and the directors considered the Union the best seat of those offered.

There is one of our large real estate owners who has had the name of being grasping and exacting, but who now is held up for emulation, and his praises are going the rounds of the neighborhood papers, for having remitted to his tenants half of the rents for this season. And there are the publishers of the late Oswego Reporter, who are returning, unsolicited, all the unexhausted balances of advance payment, even if but a few cents. Who will dare talk now about a selfish world and the hardness thereof.

Oswego has become too small a place for Charles Kimball to live in; the family is on moving to Aurora.

How queer. "Leo," of the *News* said that "Miss Chapell of Aurora delivered an address at the M.E. Church last Sunday evening. Miss Chapell is a fine speaker." And the *Beacon's* correspondent said "Miss Chattle of Aurora filled the pulpit of the M.E. church last Sunday evening. She gave an able address." Now, I was at that meeting, but didn't see nor hear anything of the ladies mentioned. To my perception, it was Elder Minard what occupied the pulpit and done all the addressing.

Persons who keep dogs that dash out at passing teams should remember that in case of damage done, they shall be held liable.

Aug. 31: Dr. Jewell was 79 years old Monday.

The school has commenced in full swing; the old school ma'ams, Miss Cox and Miss Burlew, returned the latter part of last week, both much improved by the rest enjoyed, and the new teacher, Miss Hill of Yorkville arrived Monday. All of them are putting up at Mrs. Tellers.

Martha S. Jessup commenced teaching Monday in the Cowdrey district and Lizzie Clark in the Squires'.

The Rev. W.H. Haight, who 21 years ago was the Methodist preacher here, will next Sunday fill the pulpit of the M.E. church.

George Burghart got his building supplied with a tin roof. Edwards done it and he is doing a good deal of that business.

L.N. Hall, besides banking, pharmacy, insurance, etc., has also engaged in the high-toned dairy business for which purpose he imported from Newark two very handsome Jersey calves. Hall will have matches; these calves look just alike and he has a nicely matched span of horses and a pair of spotted kittens, which of them is which cannot be distinguished nohow.

A paragraph in the *News* has it that this was the year for the appearance of the 17-year locusts. Too previous by one year.

E.T. Sutherland is causing chimney repairs to be made to his building.

Charlotte Failing died in Oswego Oct. 15, 1886, in the 72nd year of her life. She came to Oswego in 1839--her maiden name was Bartlett. The two families came west at the same time and settled in Oswego.

September -- 1887

Sept. 7: The Rev. Sam Crothers and family, on his way back to St. Paul from a vacation visit east, stopped over a short time with his aunt Mrs. Jolly. His mother, a visitor here some months, returned with them.

A curtailed game of base ball was played between the NaAuSays and nine Oswegos--the latter won it.

Was mistaken last week; Martha S. Jessup did not commence the Cowdrey school, but a school in Bristol township, and curious enough the correspondents here for the [Plano] *Pivot* and the Saturday *Beacon* both made the same mistake.

A couple of ladies and gentlemen, in a double carriage, from Aurora, in cutting a splurge around town turned over and spilled out, but little or no damage was done. They were not of the nice people of that city.

This was to be a long and very important letter; the extensive sidewalk system of Oswego was to be shown up; the postoffice aired, and pointed out what is to be expected of the new P.M.; a temperance article was to be included, and also one on labor or perhaps a combination of the two, but old Rank, the blamed old fool, tumbled down stairs Monday morning and badly sprained an ankle, so it takes all my time to wait on him, besides a good share of Charley Hubbard's who is attending the post office.

Sept. 14: J.E. Young was married last week to Miss Carrie Hoag, a very nice young lady of Elgin.

One compelled to help waiting on a cripple, who can make more fuss over a sprained foot than some would over a broken neck--the writing up of a letter for the *Record* would be next to impossible; but this being Fair week the less there is written by me, the better probably for all concerned.

Sept. 21: Clarence, son of John Cherry, while on a pony driving cattle in the pasture, and coming near where the day before the butchers had killed a beef, the smell of the blood of which excited the cattle--one steer turned on the driver, running a horn to the depth of four or five inches into the side of the pony. The boy sustained a bruised leg, but that his injuries were not of a much more serious nature is said to have been due to the pony rearing up and making a desperate jump to get out of the way of the infuriated steer.

James Shepard has been down with the typhoid fever for over a week, which he contracted by taking care of his brother out in Kansas while sick with the same disease.

Now that the Chicago Anarchists have also been condemned to the gallows by the State Supreme Court and their execution fixed for a near date, it would be in order to express what one thinks about it. To my mind the hanging of these men will work a temporary check to the movement of socialism, but ultimately they will do much more for it dead than they could have done had they lived out their natural lives in full liberty. They started out on a fight for an idea, like John Brown did years ago--and by the way, John Brown put in his effective work after having been dead for several years.

There is being held today a special town meeting for the purpose of voting money to pay for building new piers under the bridge.

Sept. 28: You shouldn't play ball on Sunday, especially in town. You may say there is no harm in it, and perhaps there isn't; but there are a good many people who believe there is, and we should respect the opinions of others as much as possible. Don't cause annoyance if you can help it.

John A. Wheeler passed through here one day last week with a very handsome \$100 Jersey calf, bought in Batavia.

52 in favor of borrowing money for building new piers under the bridge and 17 against it was a result of the special town meeting Tuesday.

A base ball game was played Tuesday between Bristol and Oswego players. I have heard the score stated, but am not sure now what it was, but something like 65 to 82 in favor of our boys.

Two young ladies were driving a livery rig; the horse began to act not just right the girls lit out and the horse ran away. No damage done.

Mat. Jones is building a residence in Aurora; Theron Richards is doing the work.

This scribbler is all tore up and until he gets somewhat put in order again, Oswego will have to appear very shabby in the *Record* unless some one else is appointed to take his place.

Yorkville: One of the handsomest buildings in Aurora is the new brick business block on Fox street, opposite the Evans Hotel; and one of the most prosperous business men on Fox river is opening a new stock of dry goods in the east store of the building; we refer to Holmen Miller, the veteran merchant who has associated with his sons and appear to the public as Holmes Miller & Sons. Their grand opening is announced in this paper for next Saturday.

Will Harkness and son came up from Vermillion county Tuesday to visit relatives here. It is four years since Will was in Kendall. He speaks well of crops and business in his section.

G.W. Kimball wants to see you or hear from you when you have a sale to make. He is an auctioneer, and he wants to show the people of Kendall County that he is a good one. He guarantees satisfaction or no pay. Address him at Oswego.

October -- 1887

Oct. 5: Mr. and Mrs. Seldon Bunn spent Sunday with friends in this neighborhood.

The burial of Mrs. Archibald Hopkins of Specie Grove took place yesterday on the family lot in the Oswego cemetery.

According to the daily Republican Traveler of Sept. 27, Arkansas City, Kansas is the greatest of all among the many booming western places; it is there where a city of 8,000 inhabitants has sprung up in a few years; it is there where Engineer D.C. Teller--that is our Charlie Teller--is superintending the construction of a mammoth round house on the

Santa Fe road and 17 miles of side tracks, causing him to have a large force under his command--an extensive system of stock yards having just been completed under his direction. Mr. Teller has got to be a great R.R. man.

Oct. 12: Quite a number from here went to Chicago last week to get a look at the President of the U.S.

Some of the supervisors were here Friday examining the needs of the Oswego bridge.

The remains of Mrs. Edward Cobel, nee Florence Graham, a native of Oswego, were brought here from Chicago Friday for burial. She was but 19 years of age and left an infant behind of a week old.

The Hettrich Bros. have sold their big gray horse to a Naperville party for \$230.

C.E. Hubbard, P.M. The new order of things at our postoffice went into effect Monday morning.

Now there will be another old loafer around the depot where a warm fire is kept.

Oct. 19: A new and very neat meat market has been established in the Chapman building on the corner. Thomas Miller is the proprietor, but Mrs. Miller is the principal attendant.

Mr. and Mrs. Jay young have set up a household. The Carpenter house, or what used to be the Methodist parsonage, is their residence.

Oct. 26: In Photographing the school Tuesday, a bench upon which some were made to stand, fell over and caused the breaking of a bone in an ankle of Ida Troll.

At the meeting of the Supervisors' Oswego bridge committee, the road commissioners, etc., the contract for building the piers was let to a Joliet man. Some of the materials and apparatus have arrived and the job will be commenced immediately.

The mammoth thermometer now on the drug store will show you the state of the temperature in passing along; no squinting for finding it out any longer.

How to dispose of surplus of revenue is becoming an important question; here when the authorities couldn't find any more streets where they might lay down sidewalks, they commenced sidewalking the alleys. How would it be to expend some of the surplus for some implements for the fighting of fire--for instance a ladder, three or four hooks, and a dozen pails to be kept at a central place where they could be readily got.

L.N. Hall is on taking his tar roof off of his store building, to be replaced with one of tin.

I told you so that a new P.M. would be one of the best things that could happen to Oswego; go in the postoffice now and see how slick and clean things being to look.

November -- 1887

Nov. 2: Daniel Platt, of Plattville, was in town this morning and appears to be growing the more hale and hardy the older he gets.

H.G. Smith is getting together quite a menagerie: he has a pair of owls, a Spitz dog, a Maltese cat, a variety of chickens, a Mustang and Saturday he got a Jersey cow, which was bought from Plano.

There was some unpleasantness between the members of the firm of Zorn & Stetter Saturday evening. Zorn is a good fellow when himself, but when full becomes what his name means in German, "Anger," and is in for a row. He was fined \$8 under a police court proceeding yesterday and another against both is now underway.

The work on the bridge has been commenced and the torn up condition of it makes the crossing it with skittish horses somewhat difficult. The job ought to have been done three months ago, when the fording of the river would have been more easy and comfortable than now, if fording should have to be resorted to.

The Supreme Court decision concerning the Anarchists is looked for with much interest. The desire is quite general that the writ may not be granted and that the condemned may be hung. The case is not one that merely affects Chicago or the State of Illinois; the outcome of it will spread its influence on the entire civilized world, and to my mind, hardly anything could happen that would strengthen the socialistic cause more than the hanging of these men.

Nov. 9: It is said that Lewis W. Figge and Miss Lena Collins were married Sunday.

Harley Richards fell from a 34-foot windmill tower at C.A. Doug's Wednesday; in the descent he struck a ladder leaning against the tower, out of which he broke five rounds; at first after having reached the ground, he was quite confused and had to be lifted up; he went home and declined to go to work the rest of the week saying he felt sore; but Monday went to work again as usual. Harley did extra well as far as the falling is concerned, and if he hadn't shattered that ladder so much he might be considered an expert.

In the trial Tuesday of C. Zorn and F. Stetter for keeping a disorderly house, P.G. Hawley appeared for the prosecution and Sam Alschuler of Aurora for the defense. First a change of venue was taken from the police magistrate to Esquire Jeneson; the getting of a jury next proved quite tedious, so that the trial proper was delayed till evening. The verdict was a fine of \$25.

The bridge work is pushed right along this fine weather, even no exception is made of Sunday. It takes a great deal of work to get at the constructive operations. The west pier

is removed to below the water line, and this morning Pete Cooney's engine has been put in place for doing the pumping.

Nov. 16: A horse was taken from the Bucher Brothers and a harness and light wagon from Squires' by a discharged hired man; in trying to sell the property in Chicago he became scared, abandoned it, and wrote to Bucher saying that the bad got into him but was now very sorry for what he had done and named the place where the property would be found. Sam Bucher went to Chicago and recovered all but the thief.

A brakeman got his hand crushed Friday. Dr. Lester attended to it; amputating some of the fingers.

The bridge force is quite large and the work is pushed with all possible speed, early and late, during seven days in the week. What ever will become of these fellows the Lord only knows.

Street lamps are once more to be established. One is already illuminating Haight's corner.

Nov. 23: H.B. Read received a car-load of very nice potatoes from Wisconsin last week.

The making of the bridge unavailable at this season of the year was a blunder, and it is now proposed to finish the pier under way, restore the bridge for the use and postpone the work till spring.

Nov. 30: Joe H. Ellis, a government detective, lately spent a day or two here with his wife and mother-in-law, Mrs. G.C. Inman. He went to New Orleans, where his wife will soon join him.

Eight feet were added to the height of the creamery chimney about two weeks ago.

C.B. Smith is now the proprietor of the new meat market on the corner.

Zero was reached here by the weather Monday morning for the first time thus far this winter.

December -- 1887

Dec. 7: About four weeks ago Elder Minard and wife went to Pittsburg, Kansas near which place they have landed property and relatives residing. About ten days ago a letter was received from Mrs. Minard by L.N. Hall, stating that the Elder was sick; another letter some days later said an operation for stricture of the bladder left him in a very low condition and Sunday a telegram announced his demise. The remains arrived here yesterday afternoon; they had been accompanied by Mrs. Minard and Charles C. Gaylord, a nephew, at whose house the Elder's death took place.

The Supervisors' bridge committee, together with the highway authorities of this town, inspected and accepted the completed new pier for the bridge and other day. The working force is now about ready to commence the taking down of the other pier.

A surveying party was in town last week; it is said that they have surveyed for a railroad from Gardner to this place almost on a bee line. The way through the town marked out would be near the Presbyterian church and between the residences of L.N. Hall and Frank Hawley and crossing the river just above the islands. It is to be an elevated road taking to high ground and calculated to cross the FRV, the CB&Q, and the C&I roads overhead, or up in the loft, or by viaduct, or whatever it is called. Village real estate is on the rise.

Dec. 14: Thursday, Dec. 8, at the house of Charles Wilcox, the marriage of their daughter, Hattie, to August W. Keihl took place.

A.B. Ives of Bloomington, whose death is mentioned in Monday's Inter Ocean, probably means Almon B., an Oswego merchant of the long ago, and who built the three story brick building on Main Street.

Mr. and Mrs. L.B. Judson of Aurora and a number of other former Oswegoans attended the Elder Minard funeral.

The schools in a few districts have been closed for the present because of scarlet fever and chicken pox.

Gottfried Schwarz has returned from Antioch where he has been doing a big job of building ice houses for Esch Brothers & Rabe.

Dec. 21: Newton Hopkins and Miss Emma Collins were married last Thursday.

While on the road to Aurora, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Knapp were run into by a runaway team of Dobbins. They were for some distance taken along by the runaway and the carriage badly wrecked but themselves sustained no bodily injury

A refrigerator is being built in the corner meat market.

Operation on the bridge pier had to suspend Saturday afternoon because of the breaking of the pumps.

Dec. 28: John Hafenrichter of Aurora, formerly of this neighborhood, died last week and was buried Saturday. The deceased was a native of Bavaria, a single man of very quiet disposition and was 83 years of age.

Dr. Van Deventer was taken quite sick with a heart complaint one night of last week, but since has been pretty well restored under the treatment of Dr. Jewett of Aurora.

The marriage of Fred Bower and Miss Mary Wolf took place last Thursday at the residence of the bride's parents over in East Wheatland.

1888

January

Jan. 4: 1888 is at hand; it is one of the most notable years of the epoch; yet, it contains three figures of a kind, a thing not happened in 111 years and which will not happen again for that length of time, so the most of the readers of the *Record* will not see the like again; then the figures when added together will make the famous number of 25, a number that signifies the quarter of several things--when in regard to cents, that of the dollar, to years, that of a century, and when the years apply to the age of the young lady, the fear of an old maid.

Mr. and Mrs. L.N. Hall, Prof. and Mrs. W. McFarlane, Schoolma'ams Nora Burlew and Nannie Hill, and Miss Lucy Teller made up a sleigh load to go to the Yorkville School house dedication Monday evening. After having encountered several snow drifts in which they had to unload the cargo so as to lighten the craft and getting it agoing again, and yet not having made more than half the distance, they concluded they didn't care about seeing a dedication anyway and so returned, the ladies saying they enjoyed the voyage ever so much.

E.A. Smith delivered Monday to Wollenweber & Knapp 15 May pig that averaged 319 pounds.

John T. Hopkins, one of Omaha's principal insurance agents, is here on a visit to his folks, F.A. Hopkins.

Jan. 11: To the Editor: I thought it likely some of your readers would be interested in the amount of rainfall and melted snow for the last eight years. The year 1887 certainly furnishes a great contrast to the seven preceding years. You will see since 1882 the quantity has been gradually falling off until 1886 when the shortage was over 5 inches and in 1887 nearly as much; by examination of the monthly summary for 1887, it will be readily seen that the amount during the growing season or the time that rain would benefit the summer crops was very small; for January and February, 7.37 inches, all rain off the frozen ground; March to August inclusive, 9.04, which was as late as would be of any benefit to crops except to pasture or winter grain. No wonder our crops were short.

Rainfall of 1887: 26.51 inches

Rainfall of 1886, 30.00 inches

Rainfall of 1885, 35.43 inches

Rainfall of 1884, 36.16 inches

Rainfall of 1883, 38.71 inches;

Rainfall of 1882, 41.36 inches;

Rainfall of 1881, 39.23 inches;  
Rainfall of 1880, 43.28 inches.

J.S. Seely  
Oswego

Mrs. Martha Barr Fowler died at Eureka Springs, Arkansas Dec. 18, 1887, from typho-malaria fever which produced hemorrhage of the brain and partial paralysis. Mrs. Fowler was born at Portland, Chautauqua county, New York, whence her parents emigrated to Aurora in her childhood. In 1849 she married Wright Murphy of Oswego, who was a soldier in the late Civil War, but was discharged on account of sickness in 1864 and reached home only to die. A few years later she married Captain W.L. Fowler, who survived the war but died in 1873 at Elgin, a victim of mental illness. Mrs. Fowler resided at Oswego until about ten years ago when she came to Polo and made her home with her daughter, Mrs. Dr. Whiting. Two years ago they went to Kansas and spent the winter with Mrs. Holyoke, but shortly after made Eureka Springs Arkansas their home. Mrs. Fowler won many friends in Polo. She was a member of the Presbyterian church of this city. Her remains were brought to Polo Wednesday morning, December 21, and after a brief but appropriate service at the church were borne to their last resting place in Fairmount Cemetery, followed by her two brothers, Messrs W.F. and R.A. Barr, and by Polo friends.

Conductor M.E. Maloney of train 87 Thursday while coupling a box and flat car, the latter loaded with stone which projected over the edge, causing insufficient space for him to stand, and consequently underwent a severe squeezing. The Doctor thought he was internally hurt and he was taken to Aurora.

Expressman Fred Smith was hit on the eye with a hard snow ball Wednesday evening, which knocked him down insensible and closed up the eye in a very little while, and from which he was confined to the house till Monday.

What shall be done with the surplus? Not the surplus of money in the U.S. Treasury I mean now, but the surplus of humanity for which there is no place left on top of the earth--frequently none beneath, and given to the colleges for disposal. In the city of Aurora when one stops on the sidewalk--he may be a stranger that has lost his bearings and stopped trying to reassure himself of his whereabouts--he is told to "move on." Here in Oswego it hasn't come to that yet; one is at liberty to stand on the sidewalks and sit on the doorsteps of public houses as much and long as he pleases, but inside he is not wanted unless there for business.

Tom Pigott wants me to give the village dads sheol [Sheol, pronounced "Sheh-ole," is the abode of the dead, the underworld, or pit--in other words, hell] through the *Record*. He says he will assume all the responsibilities whether in the shape of libel, licking or what not that may result from it, only give it to them strong. The reason for this is an incipient fire Wednesday afternoon which was right on the line of the waterworks and close to a hydrant, and yet all the water that could be produced from the works was what would run through a small faucet in Sutherland's restaurant--no wrench could be found wherewith to

open the hydrant, and if it hadn't been for Troll's cistern near by, and with snow on the ground which was scraped up to extinguish the fire, the block would have been reduced to ashes. The fire was in the back part--the lard rendering kitchen--of Zorn & Stetter's meat market.

The industries here are at their height; the bridge is pushed forward with all possible speed and the ice men have begun the ice harvest.

Jan. 18: The misses Ella and Rose Cooney will be transformed next Thursday into Mrs. Keck and Mrs. Ware at the residence of their parents, Peter Cooney's. The expectancies for this double wedding run high.

The barn on the Hertfelder place together with a lot of rye, some implements, harnesses, and straw stacks were burned Wednesday night. The fire is supposed to have been caused by tramps or it was incendiary.

Hank Smith has been showing around oranges the size of a baby's head; they were sent to him by Chet. Helme from his grove in Florida.

Ludwig Lippold has moved here from NaAuSay on the farm of Charles Knapp, generally known as the Walter Pearce place.

Theron Richards will not for awhile do the most cash business that is done. He established his headquarters for collecting taxes at Hunt's store.

Jan. 25: The Oswego Library Association was formed February 15, 1887 with a membership of 46 persons. It now has a membership of 85. Total receipts from memberships (cost \$2), advertisements in catalogues, and fines for the year were \$298.95. Expenditures were \$286.43. The library is open Wednesday and Saturday evenings from 6:30 to 7:30, and Saturday afternoons from 3 to 4 o'clock. The association has 346 volumes; 11 biography, 209 fiction, 24 science and art, 59 history and travel, 28 miscellaneous, 17 magazines. No books have been lost during the year. The books that circulate most rapidly are the works of E.A. Poe, Louisa M. Alcott, and Harriett Beecher Stowe.

February -- 1888

Feb. 1: The exhibition of the eclipse came off here successfully and on time.

A sort of family reunion took place at Mrs. Helen M. Pogue's; her mother, Mrs. McKinney and two sisters, Mrs. Ida Fosgate and Mrs. Carrie hunt, were visiting there.

For about two weeks the bridge was in status quo, but the carpenter's work of it was commenced Monday.

It is said that the Fox River Merchants protective Association had a convention here on the 25th.

Anton Miller would like to get a partner with a little capital; an enlarged stock with two to handle it would make the business pay better and make it more convenient to him.

Feb. 8: The woodchuck came out of his hole Thursday and stayed out and the robin reappeared Saturday. An early spring may be expected.

Willie Flavin didn't like the going to school very well; he thought he rather be to work somewhere, and so he went away from home unbeknown to his parents. Streator is supposed to have been his objective point.

Geo. C. Hoyt in the northeast part of this township and said to have been 59 years of age, died Friday after but a short sickness.

The bridge work is progressing very nicely.

A well is being bored under the Smith building on the Old National lots. Peter Cooney's engine is doing the work.

Feb. 15: After a long interval death has again made this place a visit and it was Mrs. M.J. Richards that was called hence Wednesday evening after a short sickness. The funeral took place Saturday afternoon from the house of F.O. Hawley, her son-in-law in whose family she was living. The other daughter, Mrs. Lysander Hord of Aurora was also almost constantly with her mother during the last days of her life, but the husband of the deceased, who is in business in Chicago and who happened to be out of the city, could not be informed of the situation and only reached here in time for the funeral. Mrs. R. was 66 years of age, was the daughter of the whilom Richard Cooke who came from England to America when she was three years old, the family first residing in Cleveland, subsequently and for many years in Chicago and vicinity.

Mrs. Hoyt, the mother of Geo. C. Hoyt, whose death was mentioned last week, also died Saturday.

With the exception of the immediate neighbors, the people of the town were surprised Monday morning that the residence of Thomas Miller had burned down during the night.

The bridge is now completed.

Will Flavin did not run away but merely went on a visit to his grandfather in Livingston County.

F.E. Ward received a carload of pressed hay Monday.

Feb. 22: The family of L.R. Childs, new comers, have moved into one of the Geo. D. Wormley houses up the river.

The supervisors bridge committee were in town Wednesday to close their part of business with the repairs of our bridge.

M.J. Pogue & Sons will have a car of hay on hand for sale about the last of this week.

The bents under the bridge and frozen in the ice were sawed off and removed Sunday, It was feared that the ice might raise and push off the bridge with them.

Alexander White's house burned down Wednesday forenoon supposed to have been caused by the chimney.

Feb. 29: J.D. Russell and Miss Lizzie Clark were quietly married in Aurora Thursday.

Mrs. Russell and daughter Julie have moved to Chicago. Lizzie Russell who has been home for a while has also returned there leaving John the only one of the family with this community.

Contractor Morrison was over from Joliet with two men and put the trot. Binders on the brow of the piers and which completed the job.

D.M. Haight is now lighting his store with the incandescent lamps, which almost beats the sun in brilliancy.

Charles Lehman is at the depot completing his apprenticeship of telegraph operator.

Jens Corneils is going to build an addition to his mill.

The banking department in the drug store is undergoing enlargement.

The "strike" troubles should teach us that a change is needed in our industrial system. The strikes are the natural evolution of the system and they will remain as long as the system remains in its present shape.

Yorkville: At 4 o'clock Monday morning the 2,000 locomotive engineers and firemen on the Burlington system between Chicago and Denver run their trains to the nearest terminus of the road, detached their locomotives, and abandoned them after safely housing them in the roundhouse. The strike involves to a greater or less extent all classes of railroad employees.

March -- 1888

March 7: John Foss, Oswego carpet weaver, died Saturday night at the age of 69 years. He had been ailing for some weeks but was really sick only for a day or two. The funeral took place Monday afternoon from the place of his abode.

Orson Parker has accompanied his sick brother, Will, to El Paso, Texas for the benefit of the latter's health, having had a very sick spell in Chicago where he was studying medicine.

C.H. Payne has moved over to the old station on the main line, where he will work some land.

Thomas Miller is now occupying the old Lehman place.

Wm. Cooney has returned to his landed possessions in Colorado.

John Edwards has bought the Henry Shoger residence. Shoger will again move back on his farm in Iowa.

J.W. Winans' Percheron horse, "Baywood," will go the same route this season as last, making the same stands.

The children of Wright Murphy would like to sell the old homestead--the place now occupied by D.W. Gray--which fell to them by the death of their mother, Mrs. Martha B. Fowler. Inquiry in regard to it may be made of L. Rank.

The family of C.A. Doud was increased by the addition of a new boy.

Charles Shibley of Aurora was in town for several days painting and papering the M.C. Richards house preparatory to the occupying of it for the millinery shop of Maggie Shepard who moved into it Friday.

The razor and scissors sharpening wagon is in town, to which belongs a dog for which \$500 in gold has been refused--no one here offered it.

Yorkville: No progress was made yesterday in the efforts to effect a compromise between the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Company and the striking engineers and firemen. The demand of the Brotherhood for wages on the mileage basis is refused by the company, and on that rock they split.

Miss Mary A. Hunt, formerly of Oswego, now located at Aurora as a teacher of Christian science, has issued in pamphlet form a "Reply to a Misinformed Clergyman, giving the Basic Principles of Christian Science." A copy has been received at this office.

Fourteen half-breed Norman mares will be sold at F.O. Hawley's Oswego sale March 15th, seven of them in foal to Winans' Baywood, one to an English draft, and balance to draft horses. They weigh about 1,300 each.

March 14: No school this week.

The wife of J.J. Dobbins, residing in the northeast part of Oswego township died the latter part of the week.

James A. Austin returned to his home in NaAuSay Friday from the Naperville college where he has been schooling himself with a business education and had just graduated. He will, however, return there in a few weeks and take a course in short-hand and type-writing.

Rush Walker has moved into town and is occupying the Winn premises.

The James Shepard family is agoing to move back to the old homestead and the T.J. Pigott family, who are now occupying the same, will move today into the Shaver house, lately vacated by Maggie Shepard.

J.G. Andrews is a candidate for town collector, and he ought to get it as he is a soldier, disabled, an earnest Republican, honest and capable, and needy of the office.

The lady who used to be Miss Ella Hunt, but changed awhile ago into a Mrs. Wheeler--I think that's the name--is here from Dakota on a visit to relatives and friends.

Have just learned that the Norcross family out at the grove are in a sad condition; about five of the members are sick and some of them have been for some time. Lung fever, I believe, is the principal malady from which they are suffering.

Mrs. Frances A. Pearce has bought the corner lot of the Alfred Wormley premises on which she will cause the erection of a residence.

The Henry Shoger family have moved to Randalis, Iowa.

The German Evangelical church is at negotiating the purchase of the Ketchum house for a parsonage.

Yorkville: So far as the Fox River line is concerned, it would seem that the strike had failed, for our passenger and freight trains are running as usual and on time. But on the main line there is still some delay as to stock and freight trains.

March 21: A new and quite handsome building was put up by R.R. VanEvra for a shop for himself on the north side of Jefferson street near Main.

Frank Hawley's sale called together a large crowd Thursday and gave Oswego quite a lively appearance.

Two girls, a child and grand child of Nero Norcross at the grove, aged respectively 13 and 3 years, were buried Friday. That family has had a very hard time of being sick, and Mr. N. is very bad of yet.

There was some unpleasantness on Main street among four or five of our prominent citizens during Monday forenoon, but no blood was spilled nor other damage done.

Wm. Ellis and family have returned here to reside; and are occupying the Kennedy tenement house.

Miss Mame Haney closed her third term of school in the Wormley district last Thursday and will again resume her duties as teacher April 2d. This is Miss Haney's first school and success has crowned all her efforts.

Anton Miller, a soldier, a good Republican, and a not very wealthy man is a candidate for collector.

Maggie Shepard went to Chicago Tuesday for a new stock of millinery goods for the spring season.

How shall strikes be curd? is becoming one of the perplexing questions of the political doctors. To make them a conspiracy, a crime punishable with heavy penalties, would likely be what the capitalists should like for a remedy, but the politicians will be somewhat chary about that, as it likely would cause a boycott against the promoters when elections come around.

Yorkville: The 21st day of March is considered the first true day of Spring--but today is decidedly winterish, with a strong wind from the west. Let us hope "the backbone is broken."

The ice on the river above the dam broke up quietly Sunday evening between eight and nine o'clock and went down the river. There was no fuss about it this year--it was March 18, 1888.

March 28: Don't know about the signal service business, would seem the more they are monkeying with the weather, the worse it is getting.

A reading room for the young, to be established by the Y's in the little building of Mrs. Schram, is to be one of Oswego's new institutions in the near future.

Station agent Smith's locomotion for some days was accomplished by the aid of crutches because of severe rheumatism in the hip and now he is sick abed.

Lizzie Moore has returned home on a vacation from the school in the Gaylord District.

John Hummel has moved on the Clint Gaylord farm.

John Condon likes it better to live on his farm in NaAuSay than in the city of Aurora and so has moved back on it again.

Yorkville: D.M. Haight, the Oswego merchant, was in Yorkville Monday. There is as many square miles of activity to brother Haight as any man we know of. He is always full of business.

April -- 1888

April 4: This community was shocked Sunday when hearing of the death of Mary E., wife of George H. Switzer, which had taken place that morning. It is a very deplorable death; there being a number of small children, the baby but three months old--that needs a mother's care. Mrs. Switzer was in the very prime of life--37 years of age--withal very robust looking; she was the only child of Mr. and Mrs. Congdon and a native of Oswego.

H.G. Smith has been on the up and down order during all of last week, and now is down altogether. Harvey Keck came down from Montgomery Monday to run the depot.

Mrs. Jolly received the intelligence of the death of her daughter, Mrs. James R. Cutter of Boston.

Lon Lamb received a telegram that his brother Willie got killed by the cars in Burlington. Willie was an Oswego small boy and a short time ago was here on a visit, when he had grown to a smart looking young man.

April 11: The town meeting excitement did not subside with the close of the canvass, but was carried over to next day, when the question as to whether "when two ballots have been folded up together and voted, both should be thrown out, or the one being numbered should be counted." By the counting of such ballot a road commissioner was elected, otherwise it would have been a tie vote.

The funeral of George Maxam, who was killed by the cars Saturday at Eola took place here Monday. George was 34 years of age, unmarried, a carpenter by trade, and living in Aurora. It appears that he was at Eola, and undertook to board a freight train to return to Aurora, in which he was thrown under the wheels and cut in two.

Leonard Burkhart is said to have had erected a handsome monument for himself and wife in the German settlement cemetery. The idea of getting your monuments when you are alive is a good one--you can see for yourself how you will appear when you are gone.

The marriage of Miss Ida Herren to Daniel Lyons should have been mentioned several weeks ago.

April 18: Mamie Haney commenced her school again in the Wormley district and Lizzie Moore here in the Gaylord district Monday.

W.W Wormley was reelected school trustee Saturday. He had no opposition.

April 25: Pat Tigue has returned to his folks in Kansas.

Mrs. Helen M. Pogue has reached the lofty station of a poetess. She had a nice rhythmical production on "The Badge of the WCTU" in the *Aurora Herald-Express*.

Although there was no issue raised, both tickets were denominated license tickets, yet the election for village officers was the most spirited of any for many years. The votes polled reached 151, being within about ten of all there are, and electing the president on the one ticket and all the rest of the candidates on the other, as follows: F.O. Hawley, president; C.S. Kilbourne, James Shepard, and George Schamp, trustees; Lewis Voss, clear; and Jonathan Andrews, police magistrate. The result caused more or less surprise.

The election Saturday of J.B Hunt for school director was unanimous. The opposition that was to be raised against him did not materialize.

In the Woolley district Saturday two school directors were elected, viz: George Collins for the regular term and George Woolley for the one year unexpired term of John G. Bower, made vacant by his removal to NaAuSay.

Eleven Stalwarts will appear in Yorkville today to represent the Oswego Republicans in the county convention Featherheads and Mugwumps had no show in the Saturday caucus.

The Oswego hearse, which some years ago was procured by an association and donated to the town (at least the biggest part of it--the town I believe paid one fourth towards it) was sold Saturday at auction to J.R. Walker for \$13. That was a ruinous enterprise; the free conveyance of the dead to the cemetery by that hearse cost dearly.

George Cowdry [Cowdrey]'s got a lot of second growth posts for sale.

May -- 1888

May 2: George W. Kimball, G.R. Minkler and Frank Darby are now in Missouri on a tar-roofing expedition.

Mrs. T.D. Wayne is a going to visit the scenes of her childhood once more; she started from here for England Monday.

Ad Armstrong lost his buffalo robe on the Squires road to Aurora and would like to have it left at the post office.

A number of our people have fixed up the grounds very beautifully; among them C.S. Kilbourne will have some handsome flower beds, and H.G. Smith's improvements have been most in the direction of planting shrubbery and trees--some of which he had come all the way from the old homestead in Vermont.

May 9: L.N. Hall had a spell of the periodical sick headache.

Daniel Hemm has been getting lumber of Pogue & Son for a new barn.

About the 27th of this month the Cicadas or 17 year locusts will make their appearance and stay about five weeks. After having deposited their eggs into incisions of the soft bark of tree branches for reproduction they will rapidly disappear. What have they been doing the 17 years? Who of the readers of the *Record* is naturalist enough to tell.

May 16: An old saying is "A cool May, much hay." Since Saturday the weather probably has been cool enough for all practical hay purposes.

Gus Voss returned to Utica after having spent a few days with his friends in Oswego.

May 23: The funeral of Delos A. Dodge Sunday afternoon was a very nicely accomplished and quite numerously attended. The deceased was 64 years of age and has been living off and on in Oswego for forty odd years.

Died in St. Paul, Minn. May 8, Mrs. N.A. Crothers, aged 63 years. She was the widow of the Hon. John M. Crothers, and for many years a resident of Oswego.

Pat Tigue has again come back from Kansas; hard times out there what made him return, he says.

May 30: Blaine Buckwheat cakes, and Butter.

Andy Dwyre is up from Watseka, where he is established one of the legal fraternity, to make his folks a visit.

Mrs. Belle Bloss and little girl came down from Aurora on a visit to the old folks, Wm. F. Elliott's.

At the council meeting Monday, the fire, water, and light committee reported an estimate of \$100 for the procuring of 10 street lamps and keeping running one year; the establishing of a water tax by which the system may be enlarged. The sidewalk committee estimated the needful repairs and new walks including one to the cemetery and one to the creamery, to be about \$585; and the committee on streets and alleys think that \$75 with that from the poll tax will suffice for street purposes. The pound, being the yard adjoining the Shoger livery stable, was reported as ready for use, and James Morrison was elected poundmaster. Several bills were accepted; the concrete plan of sidewalks and other sidewalk matters, and the needs of certain bridges and culverts were

informally talked over. The council is now quite tony; there are scrubbed floors and spittoons upon the same and the members meet with their best clothes on. The marshal, Rush Walker, was awhile ago presented by some of his friends with a police club, which is said to be daisy. He hasn't yet worn it in public.

“How grown up men should behave themselves towards small boys” was more or less talked about Monday, growing out of an altercation between Louie Wollenweber and H.G. Smith at the depot.

Yorkville: Farmers have no cause to complain of dry weather at this writing; rain has fallen in abundance, and we hope it has been acceptable all around. Grass promises a heavy yield, where there has been anything for it to grow from, and hay will be cheaper this fall than last. Oats are doing well; corn is coming through slowly and there is promise of a good year generally.

Plainfield: The largest farm sale in this vicinity took place last Saturday morning. The EJ&E railroad wanted ten or 20 more acres of gravel of the N.S. Hamlin farm down by the Lily Cache. The road bought three acres of this same gravel only, but not the land, several months ago, and paid \$900 for the same. Twenty more acres at the same price meant \$6,000. E.B. Jackson, the chief engineer of the road, either for himself or the EJ&E, got Mr. Hamlin's price on the whole farm of 186 acres (less what had been already used for railroad purposes), which was \$100 per acre, and bought the farm.

Advertisement: Hotel for Sale or Exchange.

The Fox River House, Yorkville, Ill. On account of the death of my wife, I am compelled to dispose of my business or will rent to responsible party.

For terms, apply on premises.

P. WEILAND

June -- 1888

June 6: Blaine, Bravery, Bunkum.

The Democrats, Frank Hawley and George D. Wormley, have gone to the St. Louis convention.

A change about has taken place; Aurora folks are coming now to Oswego to do their trading. Several loads were down Friday to supply themselves with wet goods--some of them wearing the blue ribbon very extravagantly. There is some talk of having an Oswego accommodation train put on.

Carrie Voss lately graduated from the Aurora Seminary.

A Mrs. Sleeper of Boston nee Lizzie Cutter, a native Oswegoan, is here visiting her grandmother, Mrs. Jolly.

The death of Mrs. J.H. Gray occurred suddenly Saturday from paralysis, to which she had been subject. Her age was 47 years; her maiden name was Anna Herrick, and if not born in Oswego had been brought here at a very early age.

Both Marcius S. and Marcius C. Richards were down from Aurora to attend the decoration.

Otto Haag commenced the building of a new barn last week. Schwarz is doing the work.

June 13: Blaine, Breadth and Bottom.

Frank Hawley and Geo. D. Wormley returned from the S. Louis convention topped out with new plug hats and wiping their brows with the red bandana.

Charles Gray carries a bandaged hand--in cleaning his revolver a load was exploded which entered the hand.

A base ball game of 17 to 18 respectively between the Bristols and Oswegos was played one afternoon in the Hawley pasture.

Accompanied by the relatives, the remains of Asahel Newton were brought here Thursday for burial. Mr. Newton for many years had been a resident of this place but of late years resided in Aurora where his death and the funeral services took place.

The 4th of July celebration here has been abandoned, but it wasn't for the lack of funds that it petered out--plenty had been subscribed. "Bossism" it is said is what killed it.

There is more or less street work being done in different parts of the corporation; a portion of Adams street has been graveled; the road to the bridge to some extent repaired; the lower bridge of the Waubonsie reconstructed; and elsewhere improvements made.

Although Oswego has its many curses, it has also its blessings, and in nothing is it more blessed than in its schools. It would seem that all of the teachers engaged here had been especially made to suit. Such a thing as a school imbroglio is now altogether unknown to our people. The best term of school closed Friday with the best of exhibitions. The exhibition of Prof. McFarlane's class took place Monday evening at the Presbyterian church. The house was crowded. The school directors were there in their best clothes and with the clergymen occupied the pulpit platform sofa. The class, mostly girls, looked very pretty.

The Democrats had a meeting in the [roller] rink Saturday evening, at which delegates to a convention were appointed. They also have formed a Cleveland and Thurman club.

The following obituary notice was dictated by Mr. Newton to his daughter a few days before his death, and she wrote it out for him:

Asahel Newton was born in Broom County, New York, in 1816. Moved to Illinois with his father's family in 1836. Was married to Sylvia A. Patrick in 1843. He was the father of five children, two are dead and three are living, Mrs. Ellis Minkler, Ora and Cassie Newton. Joined the M.E. church and was class leader ten years. He was elected county treasurer of Kendall county in 1858 and served two terms. Was elected police magistrate and served eleven years and resigned to move to Aurora where he died of paralysis at his home, 274 North Park Avenue, June 6, 1888. The remains were taken to Oswego for burial.

June 20: Blaine, Breeze, Blizzards.

They are getting rather tony up on Quietude hill; Inman had his house painted nicely some time ago and now Mrs. Voss and Mrs. Jolly had their's painted likewise. The painting and handsomely trimming of the Doc Lester residence down town may be mentioned in this connection. Joe Hinchman done all of it.

It is to be hoped that the Republicans will not again lose their wits and make the fatal blunder of nominating their candidate on Friday as they did four years ago. To be sure Cleveland was nominated on Friday too, but Democrats are more thick skinned and such things don't effect them as easily as they do the Republicans.

Larkin and Inman are engaged in cleaning up the rubbish of the old piers in the river-- saving some of the best stone by bringing them to shore. It will prove a valuable job if made complete. The old piers would have lasted a hundred years longer if they had been well banked up. The stone at the base absorbed more or less water, then freezing and next becoming exposed to the air is what makes them rotten.

June 27: Blaine, Brought, Bitterness.

Miss Millie Hand, of Chicago, who has been engaged in mission schools in Utah, will deliver a free lecture at the Congregational church Wednesday, June 27 on that great subject.

The Republican platform is certainly a most handsome structure. It is made of the choicest materials--none of the cranky stuff of temperance, woman's suffrage, etc. was allowed to go into it.

July -- 1888

July 4: Will Briggs, an Oswego boy of long ago, being the son of a landlord of the once flourishing "National Hotel" in this place, was on a visit to his friend Hugh Kennedy and came to town to call on the few acquaintances he has left. He now resides in Indiana.

At a Republican meeting at the rink Saturday evening, a Harrison and Morton club was formed, of which L.N. Hall was made president, Robert Pogue secretary, and D.M.

Haight treasurer. The announcement was made that there are a lot of funds on hand left over from the campaign of '84. About 70 joined the club.

The payment of \$5 to L.N. Hall by the Oswego Library association for room rent was immediately returned as a donation for which liberality of L.N. the association is very grateful. The library is in a flourishing condition.

The reviewing of assessments has been in progress for several days and caused more or less of the public talk, not all of which was well calculated for evolution of brotherly love, but here is a compensating feature on all contentions and such doubtless will be the case with this...A system of government doubtless might be established where no taxation was necessary--the advocacy of such would make a good issue for a new political party.

July 11: Prohibition of the small boy at the depot is desired. Mothers, tell your boys to stay away from there.

One of the Dakota delegates to the Republican Convention was Col. E.W. Foster, of Frankfort, in that territory, formerly a resident of this place.

Joe Sierp was one of the bicyclists of the great bicycle turnout on the Fourth at Ottawa. He had gone with the Aurora company, didn't return before the sixth, and reported having had a splendid time.

The sad news of the death of Mrs. Clarence B. Shumway of Hastings, Neb., was received last week.

July 18: Forgot to mention last week the new soda fountain at the drug store, the return of Frank Hawley and James Pearce from Baltimore, the moving here of the Eastman family from Yorkville, and other items.

Mrs. Victor Mather--nee Anna Hopkins--of Austin, Texas is here on a visit.

Lauriston Walker is enjoying a visit from his sister, Mrs. Mary Foster, of Englewood. They both are in the eighties. Mrs. F, however, appears yet as smart as ever.

Henry Sanders has chosen the territory of Montana for the country to grow up with.

In many of the yards some very nice flower beds can now be seen. At Kilbourne's, they have some very nice flowers; Mrs. Helle, as usual, has a nice flower garden, and there are many other places which now are beautified by flowers.

Thomas Wynne & Sons from near Plattville, brought early Monday morning a very nice lot of 73 hogs to town.

Yorkville: A party of our Yorkville people have going into camp on Fox river at Cowdrey's. They have roomy tents and home comforts. [The camp was located in the neighborhood of Saa Wee Kee Park and Hideaway Lakes between Oswego and Yorkville.]

Miss Maggie Shepard was down from Oswego Saturday night to visit friends in the country.

Money to loan on real estate security in Kendall county, in sums of \$1,000 and upwards, on long time and low rate of interest. Enquire of F.O. Hawley, Oswego, Ill.

July 25: The sisters Mrs. Agnes Richardson, of Fairfield, Ia.; Mrs. Anna Mather, Austin, Tex., and Mrs. Lizzie Winser, of Aurora, were all at home at E.A. Hopkins' over Sunday. Aggie has her baby with her, and Lizzie was accompanied by her husband and little boy.

John Knapp, a former Oswego butcher is here from Nebraska on a visit to his brother, Charles.

The roller skating racket has been started up anew. What won't curse this town?

The corporation are immensely quiet for the time being. There are holes in some of the sidewalks that ought to be removed.

On the getting up of our people early Monday morning, the town was already full of hog teams and the day proved a good one for hogs--Wollenweber & Knapp received over three carloads. Among the hog men were George Bennett of NaAuSay, who brought in 50, the largest single lot; S.W. Johnson, of that section; and Sam Naden and O'Brien from the Plattville region. All the hogs were of the finest quality.

The eclipse Sunday night, notwithstanding the late hour it came off, was witnessed by quite a number of our people.

The Republican Party is for taking care of the business of the country; the Prohibition Party for taking care of the morals of the country; the Democratic Party for taking care of the offices of the country; and when we laborites are ready, we will be for taking care of the principles enunciated in the Declaration of Independence.

Too heavy a load of sugar broke down J.B. Hunt's democrat wagon this morning. [A democrat wagon was a light farm wagon with two seats, one of which could be removed to haul light loads.]

Yorkville: The harvest is turning out grandly, splendid rye, fine oats, and the little wheat grown in the country is very good. And corn; well, corn is tip top. Farmers will laugh all winter.

August -- 1888

Aug. 1: John T. Hopkins has come here from Omaha, by which the entire Hopkins family was brought home for a reunion--and by the way, the baby which last week I said Mrs. Richardson had brought with her, I'll take back.

Prof. and Mrs. McFarlane returned in fine health and spirits from their visit east Friday.

Nine bicyclists of Aurora came to town one evening; they were joined by Joe Sierp on his wheel and an extensive and imposing ride was enjoyed in our streets.

The infant of the Oscar Briggs family was buried Friday.

J.B. Hunt has bought the Richards' store building now occupied by H.B. Read, and it is said that the latter will convert the rink into a store for his business.

Sam West and Lin Minkler have started a new industry, viz: the harvesting, curing, and baling of the river grass for upholstery purposes.

A nice framed picture of Harrison and Morton is placed in the drug store window.

The short stop of our base ball club stopped a swift flying ball with his mouth. A lacerated lip is marring his beauty for the present.

Peter Cooney initiated his new thresher on a job of wheat for George Parker.

Aug. 8: H.G. Smith will give \$10 to find out who poisoned his owls and dog.

The evening refrain of "Katy did, Katy did" is a reminder of approaching fall.

The conversion of the rink into store rooms is now under way and that symphonious sound from roller skating will be forever hushed.

The GAR picnic at Cowdrey's Park Thursday is said to have been a very extensive and pleasant but sweaty affair and that connected with it was the celebration of George Cowdrey's birthday, which brought him a handsome easy chair.

Watts Cutter's barn was struck by lightning during Tuesday night's storm and more or less shattered. The horses were knocked down, but no material injury was done them.

The demolition of the rink is occasioning a good deal of political suffering. Next Saturday evening the Republican club's meeting was to take place there, at which Haight was to deal out tariff food by the chunks. The meeting will not take place until two weeks from then.

Some evil disposed human towards the canine species has been scattering poison and in consequence a number of dogs have barked their last bark and gnawed their last bone and nothing will make them wag their tails again.

Base ball talk never before in the history of Oswego has been so uppermost and universal as it was during the latter part of last week, which of course was owing to the game played by our boys with the Yorkville club Wednesday, and the score of which stood 14 to 11 in favor of Oswego.

Yorkville: General Sheridan is dead. After a long fight with the grim destroyer his life ceased at 10<sup>00</sup>20 Sunday night, and now one only of the great war patriots remains, General Sherman. Sheridan was only 57 years of age and his early death is a great misfortune to the Nation. A great captain has fallen.

*Aurora Herald:* One of the most determined of efforts to suicide ever made in Aurora was made last Tuesday morning by Rev. T.J. Cooper of 194 Spruce street. About eight o'clock John Zimmer went into a workshop in the rear of Mr. Cooper's residence and was startled at seeing Cooper viciously hacking his own head with a hatchet. Zimmer took the hatchet away from him as the wounded man exclaimed, "I have done it," and ran for a doctor.

Cooper had made a most determined attack upon himself. With a chisel and a draw shave he had literally cut his throat. By some accountable accident he had failed to sever either the windpipe or the jugular vein, and although bleeding profusely, was in no immediate danger of death. He then seized a hatchet and repeated struck at his head completely cutting his scalp to pieces. He also attempted to drive a small chisel into his heart, but it struck a rib bone and did not reach its destination.

Mr. Cooper has charge of the M.E. church at Newark. He was troubled about his small charge and brooded over imaginary difficulties. He was of courts out of his head when he attempted suicide.

Aug. 15: The Lodi Valley, Wis. *News* of a recent date contains a lengthy and well written obituary notice of Frank Gates, which is to the effect that he died at the residence of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bradley; that he had been sick for a year or more, during which time under the care of his mother, he kept being cheerful and of good spirits. Frank was a native of, and raised in Oswego. The Chapman House was built by his father, who subsequently left here for California and died on the way. Mrs. Gates afterwards made her living by sewing and at the time of the big fire was living up stairs adjoining the building in which the fire broke out, being driven out barefoot and in her night clothes, with the thermometer 26 below zero, and soon afterwards she departed from here. The older inhabitants will well remember Mrs. Gates and Frank.

Gus Voss is up from Utica to take a look at things for the first time in several months.

Eighty bushels of oats to the acre is getting quite frequently reported by our threshers.

Yorkville: The game between Oswego and Yorkville on the fair ground last Thursday was uninteresting and tedious and ended unpleasantly. The game broke up in the eighth inning by the Oswegos leaving the field, being dissatisfied with a ruling of the umpire--Sidney Hobbs--but he is clearly sustained by the rules as published in the base ball handbook for 1888. The score stood 6 to 20 in favor of Yorkville when the boys quit, and had lasted three hours.

Aug. 22: The reconstruction jobs of J.B. Hunt and John Collins are being pushed forward vigorously.

The remains of Thomas Moore, the brother of Mrs. Armstrong, and a former resident of Oswego arrived here from Chicago Wednesday. The deceased had died suddenly of apoplexy; he had been for many years living in Chicago, doing a prosperous business and stood well in the community there--the liverymen turned out with seven barouches, free of any charge, to take the mourners to the train. A wife and an adopted son compose the family left behind.

Lewis Jones, once Oswego's tailor, was in town.

Charley Mann has returned from a three weeks sojourn at Plattville.

The new Collins Hall will be opened for a dance Friday night, given by the NaAuSay Leisure Moment club. An Italian band from Chicago will furnish the music.

The youth should get ready for school, which commences next Monday--every scholar should make it a point to be on hand the first day.

The time is approaching for thinking about candidates for the legislature and county officers. This year it ought to be Oswego's turn to get something. We have the material here for filling any of the offices.

The life of a political party should never extend beyond a quarter of a century; when exceeding that time they become arrogant, as the bossism then developed within it will lay claim to the ownership of the voters.

The dispensing of ice cream at the Y's room Saturday proved highly satisfactory to all concerned, and the operation will be repeated next Saturday evening.

The regular meeting of the Oswego Republican club will be held at Collins' hall Saturday evening. Aug. 25. A full attendance is desired. A marching club, and ladies' club will be organized. Mr. Haight will speak.

*Aurora Beacon:* Rev. T.J. Cooper will not have a hearing before Judge Lovell tomorrow for the purpose of inquiring into his sanity He has carried his case to a higher court, and from the decision of the Just Judge of that court there is no appeal. At an early hour this morning (August 18) the eccentric divine set fire to the house in which he lived and then

effected an entrance into a neighbor's barn, where he succeeded in committing suicide by hanging himself with a clothes line.

Aug. 29: The following residents in Oswego township are said to have voted for grandfather Harrison [William Henry Harrison] in 1840: Charles Avery, Cyrus Baker, Joseph Ervin, Joseph Failing, W.M. Forbes, Morris Gray, D.B Jewell, C.L. Murdock, I.F. Reed, J.M. Rand, J.S. Seely, Alex Small, William Strossman, A. Van Driesen, A.B. Whipple, Lauriston Walker. The last named is the oldest voter of them, who cast his first presidential vote in 1824 for John Quincy Adams. His present condition is not very favorable for voting at the next election.

School commenced Monday. The only new teacher is Hattie Rees, one of our own girls. The teachers, Nora Burlew and Maria Cox, had arrived from their homes, and resumed their labors.

Mr. and Mrs. W.F. Forbes have returned from a week's vacation, during which he took in a pharmaceutical convention at Peoria.

The ball of the NaAuSayites Friday night at the new hall was a splendid success.

#### Yorkville: The Third Party Convention

The Kendall County Prohibition Convention met in the courthouse, Yorkville, Saturday afternoon, Aug. 25, to nominate candidates for county officers and to select delegates to the Congressional and Senatorial conventions. About 75 were present--but one-third ladies.

A committee of one from each town[ship] was chosen on credentials and permanent organization, viz: Bristol, Horace Young; Little Rock, A.B. Coe; NaAuSay, Mr. Morgan; Kendall, John Fitzgerald; Fox, George Barron; Lisbon, George Tremaine; Big Grove, John Canham; Seward, Thomas Dayton Jr.; Oswego, Mrs. Jeneson. Representatives from Oswego were Mrs. Jeneson, Mrs. O. Hebert; Mrs. S.S. Jolly, Samuel Jessup.

#### September -- 1888

Sept. 5: Lauriston Walker, an old settler, nearly 85 years of age and for some months past quite feeble, came to the end of life's journey last Thursday. The funeral took place Saturday afternoon from the home. The remains were followed to the grave in the Oswego cemetery by a large procession in carriages. The deceased was born in Belchertown, Mass. in 1803, and was one of a family of four brothers and two sisters, and while all were pretty long of life, yet but two are now remaining alive, namely Orlando, 89 years old, who resides in Indiana, and Mrs. Mary A. Foster of Englewood, who is in the 70s. He was married to Miss Lydia Kennedy, 50-odd years ago; the family moved west in 1845, going by team as far as Buffalo, then shipped round the lakes, coming here right away, and for a short time lived in the village, but soon bought the land and established the home where he died. He was a most inoffensive and peaceable man. He was a member of the Congregational church and a deacon of it, but the position was more

that of "honorary" than otherwise as he never took an active part in the management of the church. The surviving members of the family are a widow and three sons. The only daughter, Mrs. W.A. Funnler of Chicago having died within this year.

Jacob Zimmerman, formerly one of Oswego's characteristic citizens, has according to report, laid down his armor and mementoes of early history and joined the great army beyond. His death book place in Plano at his youngest son's with whom he has been living of late years.

Cob and Jim Pearce have gone to Iowa to see to their landed interests there.

Dr. Lester has taken a voyage up the lakes to escape the hay fever plague.

Some itinerant horse traders with families were encamped on the flats the most of last week. Their stock was not of the fancy kind. Some trades were effected while here.

Several district schools commence Monday, among them that of the Gaylord district with Lizzie Moore and the Smith district with Miss Benthien again for teachers.

Quite a number of this community attended the old settlers picnic and all declare of having enjoyed it very much. The writer fell in with his folks and the Daniel Platt family, whom he had seen but rarely since he left home 29 years ago and by whom his wants were well supplied at the picnic.

H.B. Read commenced moving into the new store Monday evening and completed it this morning.

Kirk Walker had a cow die, and had to kill a heifer, which were affected by a disease, which resembled hydrophobia. About a month ago his dog was gone for a day, and when again appearing, acted so strange and snappish that they killed him. It is now supposed that he had gone rabid and bit the animals.

A voluble and musical vendor of notions held forth on the street last evening.

Sept. 12: The Fair this week should be the concern of every lover of his county.

That the Democrats had a big meeting and made a magnificent display at Aurora Thursday evening should be acknowledged by all that were there.

In addition to the loss of two head of cattle, as reported last week, Kirk Walker also had to kill one of his mares, supposed to be afflicted with hydrophobia. She bit her mate quite severely and when everything else was out of reach, would bit herself, tearing pieces of flesh from her legs.

James A. Durand, an old Oswego station agent, lumber merchant, manufacturer, etc., passed through here on the train one day.

H.B. Read is now fully established in the new store; the excavating of a cellar under it is now in progress and being accomplished by Chris Jarvis, his horses, and much urging by mouth and whip.

Our merchant on the corner is alluded to by some of the papers as the Hon. D.M. Haight. That "hon." is a little too previous. "There is many a slip between the cup and the lip," as Shakespeare says.

The uniforms of the Republican marching club are under way of procurement.

The Oswego bank received Monday its new three-ton automatic locking sure burglar proof safe. It is a beauty.

Sept. 19: The Ketchum house has been bought for a parsonage by the German Evangelical church. The price, it is said, was \$1,100.

Henry Bower has changed from being the renter to that of the owner of the farm on which he is living--the Dwight Ladd farm. The price was about \$55 per acre.

The having of three fingers hurt by being caught in a belt has cost Jens Cornil his life. For about a week he appeared to get along nicely, the wounds were healing and he was around attending to business, but all at once lockjaw set in. Two of the fingers were then amputated, which for awhile seemed to prove an efficacious relief but Saturday the patient had to succumb to it. The funeral was on Monday. The case is a very grievous one; the family left consists of a widow and eight small children.

The remodeling of the building bought by J.B Hunt is nearly completed. A new addition for kitchen, washroom, etc., has been built on the upper part, and the domicile will be very roomy, and all the arrangements of it are designed for the greatest convenience. By the way, J.B. came pretty near getting his head sawed open. While on the other side from where the carpenter was sawing an opening through a partition, he got his head where it was hit by the saw.

The Wayne cider mill has been started up for business. David Hall is running it this season.

Notwithstanding D.M. Haight was sat down upon by the convention, he goes right along working for the success of the Republican party. Thursday, he made an address to a large meeting at Shabbona.

On Sept. 12, Gen. Ben Harrison's letter of acceptance was made public.

Sept. 26: The veteran survivors of the gallant Thirty-Sixth regiment held their 22nd annual reunion at Aurora Thursday.

The marriage of Miss Flora B. Norcross of this place to John A. Pride of Elgin--colored persons--took place Saturday at the residence of Esquire Jenson, who performed the nuptials in his usual neat and solemn manner.

Miss Hattie Hallock commenced last week teaching the Keck school.

Mame Haney is again teaching in the Wormley district.

Mrs. A.P. Cutter of Boston is here on a visit to her sister, Mrs. H.C. Cutter.

Dr. Lester on his return last week from a trip up the lakes was taken quite sick, but from which he has now pretty nearly recovered.

John T. Wormley is operating his cider mill and will expeditiously get the juice out of your apples, no matter whether large or small lots.

J.B. Hunt has moved his store to the new place, and now has a very neat establishment.

The most noteworthy political doings here were a well attended Democratic meeting one evening addressed by L.W. Brewer, candidate for Congress, for one hour on anti-protection and a likewise well attended prohibition meeting last evening.

October -- 1888

Oct. 3: Myron L. Wormley and his son Arthur are on a visit at Corning, N.Y.

Watts D. Cutter is now doing his own cooking; his wife and little one are in Michigan on a visit to her folks, the Rev. George Colgrove family.

One fine afternoon recently, the writer accompanied Mr. J.S. Seely on a trip out to Esquire Bristol's to see a "Silo" and the manipulation of it. Silos are rather a new thing; "What is it?" was the first thought when first I saw them mentioned. Neither the dictionary nor cyclopedia have any information in regard to them. The derivation of the word was the only recourse left towards forming an opinion as to what a silo might be. A silo is an airtight enclosure for the preservation of green fodder, especially the lately introduced ensilage corn. That of Mr. Bristol is a substantial frame building sheathed inside with matched flooring and lined with a kind of (to air) impervious paper. Mr. B. Had everything in the best of order; the silo and all the machinery of operating it were new; the corn was cut up to the length of three-fourths of an inch and a span of horses on a treadmill furnished the power for running the cutter and the elevator that carried the cut up corn into the silo. Two long rigged wagons were used, and while one load was being cut up from off the wagon the other wagon was in the field getting a load. The heat generated by the green ensilage in the silo destroys all the germs that otherwise would cause decay. Mr. B. experimented some on the thickness of planting, but I don't

remember now the distance apart from which the best results were realized. It would seem that the Esquire is one of the most progressive farmers.

Some parts of the streets have received a layer of gravel and were otherwise cleaned up during the week.

A new hitching railing has been constructed in front of Jim B. Pearce's.

The cellar for H.B. Read is nearing completion, and Steve Benson has made a very good job of it.

#### September Weather

J.S. Seely, observer for the Illinois weather bureau, makes the following report for September:

Highest barometer, 30.330, on the 29th; lowest, 29.730 on the 26th; mean, 30.082; range, .600.

Highest temperature, 84 on the 7th and 8th; lowest, 29 on the 29th; range, 55; greatest daily range, 34 on the 14th; least, 2 deg. on the 16th. Mean temperature for the month, 56.28, which was 8 deg. below normal for past 8 years.

Rainfall, 1.22 inch, was 1.74 inch below normal for past 8 years; falling on seven days-- 7, 10, 15, 16, 17, 18, 25. There were 22 clean, 2 fair, and 6 cloudy days.

Yorkville: D.M. Haight the Oswego orator, has truck his proper position in this campaign and is doing splendid service all along the line for Harrison, Morton, Joe Fifer, and Protection. His services are in demand nightly, and his arguments on the tariff question show him to be one of the best posted men on the platform. Mr. Haight has made this question the study of his life and he knows of what he speaks.

Oct. 10: The new dwelling house on building by the G.R. Schamp force on the corner of Jefferson and Madison streets for Mrs. F.A. Pearce, is partly enclosed.

The cellar under a part of the store of H.B. Read was completed Monday.

Harvey Keck and several other Montgomery gentlemen attended the evening services at the Congregational church here Sunday.

E.D. Bradley, whose death and burial took place last week in Aurora, was for many years a resident of Oswego, and as he had been a kind-hearted and jovial disposition everybody was on intimate and best of terms with Dar Bradley. He was engaged while here in different pursuits, on two occasions was in the mercantile business and at one time the postmaster of Oswego.

The Wednesday evening Prohibition meeting was very largely attended.

He ought to be ashamed of himself who stole Mrs. Burr's coal; she wants to have him bring it back and to ease his conscience a little he ought to.

R.S. Childs, the painter, has moved away.

Oct. 17: Fred E. Ward and family have moved to Helena, Montana. Jennie Miller has gone with them.

The Republicans of Oswego are going to have their grand demonstration next Saturday evening. The preparations for it are already in progress. Let nobody for ten miles around fail to witness it.

Louie Inman has been installed into the position at the drug store resigned by Will Forbes.

The registration today takes place in the north store room of the Collins (rink) building.

The new Methodist preacher, whose name I have not yet learned, arrived here with his family Saturday and taken up his abode at the residence of Mrs. Tirzah Minard.

Whatever show the Prohibits may have in getting votes here, they certainly have kept up thus far with the other parties in hoeing their row on the holding of meetings.

If there had been no third party in 1884, the Republicans would not be in power and the Democrats yet but in the cold.

Oct. 24: Politics were the principal doings of the week, the first being Bartram's Prohibition meeting, which proved not a success. A mere prayer and speech cannot make successful such a meeting.

The fore part of last Wednesday night was the first time in many years that the Democrats of Oswego were in the majority in the village--all of the Republicans had gone to Aurora for a rally.

It was Republican Day in Oswego last Saturday and preparations were made to entertain an enthusiastic crowd at night. Business houses and residences, shops and offices, were decorated in red, white, and blue with pictures of candidates dotting the windows. Hon. Cyrus Coy was the main speaker. By 7 the town was alive with people and Main Street was thronged. All the stores were brilliantly lighted. There were marching clubs from Yorkville and Plano. The Aurora contingent, with about 300 marching men, came on a special eight-car train. A large supper was served following the speaking.

The Republican Oswego rally proved a magnificent success, although there had been many misgivings about it and it is said that the evening before, the executive committee of the male Republicans had decided to "call it off," as they feared that the magnetism of Blaine on the one side and the Plano Democratic meeting on the other would draw the marchers and music that were to form a conspicuous part of the rally.

Kirk L. Walker was in town one day getting some apples converted in cider; on his return he had a runaway, upsetting the wagon.

John Condon out in NaAuSay slipped off from a load of oats on the way to market and was run over and killed.

A.C. Leigh in a buggy and James Dwyre (a boy) in a road cart, collided Saturday and the latter was considerably hurt, but now got mostly over it.

Yorkville: It is a little late to say anything of the great Republican meeting in Aurora last Wednesday night, but must give it a passing mention, for it was one of the grandest street parades ever seen on Fox river. There were 4,338 persons in line of march according to the *Beacon's* count.

Our own little county did handsomely. From Plano came Seth Parsons and the familiar log cabin; the ladies' Tippecanoe club--riding in a graceful canoe on wheels--25 of them--drawn by four horses and handsomely dressed in uniforms with plumed hats. The Plano band and drum corps and about 200 marching men made up a handsome complement for our little city.

Newark and Millington also turned out a good club.

From Yorkville, 250 ladies men and boys went and our company, under Captain Gillam, marched with 166 in line, receiving many compliments. The Yorkville military band was the finest looking band in the procession and played finely.

The Oswego cub under Captain Ed Walker, headed by the home band, made a grand showing, and Oswego may well be proud of her marching boys and band.

The decorations and illuminations were beautiful, and Aurora did nobly.

Tuesday night was the great occasion for the Democrats of Kendall county. They were called together to do honor to their ticket and especially to their candidate for State Auditor, Hon. Andrew Welch, who lives here. It was thought by Republicans that the outpouring of the opposition would be immense as it ought to have been in honor of Andy, but, while it was most credible display, the attendance was not so large as many expected.

Oct. 31: C.E. Hubbard family have changed their residence from the Child's house to that of Eliza Kennedy.

Of the monuments lately erected in the cemetery, and a very substantial one and new pattern, is that for Charles S. Ferris.

Two estray red yearling calves will be fund at Fred Leigh Jrs.'s.

George R. Minkler has returned from is summer's work, tar roofing, in Missouri.

The plastering of the new residence for Mrs. F.A. Pearce has been done by Charles Avery.

C.S. Kilbourne is building a new carriage house and horse stable. The Schamp Company is doing the work.

The new house of Thomas Miller is undergoing the finishing process.

Yorkville: Really we can't accommodate you. Tuesday noon from Oswego we received a most excellent article for this week's paper, in the interest of the Republican party, and it is a splendid contribution; but there are 14 pages of it, and it is impossible to get it into type with all our local letters. The *Record* office has not force enough. This must answer to several other communications received for this week.

November -- 1888

Nov. 7: Kendall County voted strongly for Republican Benjamin Harrison. Republican votes for president totaled 1,810; Democratic votes, 724; and Prohibition Party votes 250. In addition, 25 ballots were cast for the Labor Party.

Now give us a rest from protection, from surplus, and from other extreme partisan views, and let us settle down once more in the belief that all of the political parties belong to the American people, and that neither one of them monopolizes all the patriotism, all the wisdom, and all the goodness.

Mrs. James B. Stafford of Aurora, while on a visit at her brother's, James Pearce, died Sunday night from the effects of a stroke of paralysis received two days previous. The deceased was 56 years of age, and was brought up near this village--her maiden name being Elizabeth Pearce. Her husband is absent on a trip west, and his whereabouts are not at present definitely known.

Oswego was about to make a good showing for temperance in this election. About a hundred each of out and out Republicans and Democrats were to enter into a pairing operation by all voting the Prohibition ticket, which of course, would not have affected the result any one way or the other. But Rush Walker heard of it and put a stop to it right away, as he wants a large Republican vote so as to regain the former quota of representation in the county's conventions. It would appear that it has been reduced from 12 to 11, and the one lost has kept him from enjoying the honor of membership of such representative councils.

The election turned out a success and no mistake; it took place in the new of the moon.

Nov. 14: Samuel Smith, an old settler, gone. His death occurred Tuesday and funeral Thursday from the house of his son, Fred Smith, the family homestead. The deceased was 83 years of age, a native of Bedford, Mass. and was born of Quaker parents, which faith he is supposed to have cherished throughout this life, although not connected with any organized body of that sect. In his younger years he was living for awhile in New York State and came to Illinois in 1836, when he settled on the place where he has lived ever

since. For several years he had been very feeble, both in body and mind, having lost, or nearly so, his eyesight and consequently was quite helpless and requiring much care. Two sons and four daughters are the survivors of the family and as they are widely scattered, but three of them were able to be present at the funeral.

The funeral of Mrs. J.B. Stafford, whose death was mentioned last week, was postponed from Wednesday to Sunday so as to enable her husband, who was in California, to attend it. It then took place in the forenoon from the Methodist church and was largely attended.

The election was passed very quietly; the falling off of Oswego's vote from 1884 was about 6 percent, the falling off of the Democratic vote being nearly 12 percent; that of the Republican not quite 6 percent, while that of the Prohibitionists was increased 57 percent so that after all the fuss the Prohibs came out of the battle much the best--the votes of all were thrown away.

The J.B. Hunt family have moved into their new and elegant resident quarters.

The John P. Bartlett Family have moved to Fox.

Mame Rice has commenced teaching in the Russell district, and Addie Wormley in Raymond district, in Bristol township.

Levi C. Gorton was over from Bristol Tuesday morning.

Nov. 21: The marriage of Mary Cody to Robert E. Davis took place Thursday. Esquire Jeneson performed the essential services.

Ambrose Darby has returned from Mississippi where he has been for awhile with his brother, Elias, who remained, got married, and settled down in that state at the close of the war. A little girl of the latter accompanied Ambrose here.

One feature of Thanksgiving will be a dance at the Collins Hall in the evening, which the boys say, will be made a grand success regardless of all expense and trouble.

Cass Gaylord is here on a visit from California.

There is quite a shifting about of our clerks Tuesday morning. Joe Sierp, the efficient clerk in Hunt's store, has resigned and takes a position in the Wilcox store at Aurora, and Otto Shuman, Reed's affable clerk, has thrown up his position and entered that vacant at Hunt's. Will Forbes will come down from Aurora to run the Bank for a few days while Hall is attending the Grand Lodge of odd Fellows at Springfield.

The village council was in session Monday evening for the first time in quite awhile. The allowance of bills, the ordering of five additional street lamps and the designation where to be placed, the directing of certain new crosswalks to be made and old ones repaired,

and a discussion of the power of the board in regard to the vacation of streets and alleys were the principal proceedings.

#### Fred Ward's Big Sale

The great sale of the season will take place on the Major Davis farm in Aux Sable grove near Oswego the first week in December. It will be a grand chance to secure some fine stock. There will be sold trotting and trotting-bred brood mares in foal to Gilbert Lacy, Woodcraft, Bullion, Marmaduke and Ethan Wilkes. Draft mares in foal to Winans' Baywood, Cherry's Norman, and Black Mike. Five, four, three, two, and one year-olds and weanlings.

One hundred head of cattle, including two thoroughbred Durham cows. some high-grade Holstein cows.

120 tons hay, four to five thousand bushels of corn in crib, 1,000 bushels fancy seed oats, two Plano harvesters, New Belle City feed cutter, farm tools, a piano, sewing machine, etc. Dave Hall will entertain the crowd on that occasion.

Millington: The Chapel in the Millington and Newark cemetery will be dedicated next Sunday, the 25th inst. Services to commence at 2 p.m. D. G.H. Robertson of Sandwich will preach the dedicatory sermon, and the choirs and quartets of Newark, Millbrook, and Millington will render appropriate music. The exercises will be brief but interesting.

Nov. 28: The settling up (or rather the settling down, for he felt himself pretty well settled when through, as the boys would persist in throwing blocks and rocks under the wheel so as to produce violent jolts) of the election bet by which Rush Walker won a ride around four blocks on a wheelbarrow propelled by Slade Cutter, took place Saturday evening. Rush wore the white campaign hat surmounted by an artificial rooster. The music on the occasion was loud but not symphonious, and the procession was not well marshaled.

Among the improvements around town are the putting down of some crosswalks; another addition to the corner meat market; a new portico to the residence of H.B. Read; the painting of the barn and the reshingling of the summer kitchen of the German parsonage; a tin roof to a portion of the Cyrus Baker premises; and the painting of the J.R. Walker residence.

W.E. Smith has resumed operations for the completion of his feed mill; he will use wind for the motor.

Mrs. G.R. Keeling of Amboy has lately caused the erection in the cemetery of a white marble monument for her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wright Murphy, and an infant brother, all of them dead for many years, especially the mother and infant.

To the Farmers and Stockmen of Kendall County.

I am creditably informed that certain parties are circulating a story to some that I am out of the stock business--to others that I am buying for Knapp & Wollenweber. I wish to state that I am not buying for them, or weighing on their scales. I am buying for myself, and allow you to weigh on any scales but theirs. I think we can pay more for stock, there

being only two of us, and four of them to divide profits. At any time you have stock ready, drop us a postal and we will give it prompt attention. I mean business.

Yours Respectfully,  
F.O. Hawley

December -- 1888

Dec. 5: Thanksgiving was very commendably accomplished; a fair number made manifestation of it by coming together at the Presbyterian church for religious services which consisted of singing by a Union choir, reading and prayer by the pastor of the Congregational church, and the preaching of an appropriate sermon by the pastor of the Methodist church. The occasion was much more generally observed by sumptuous feasting and social intercourse--perhaps the largest party was at J.B. Hunt's, where the new and elegant residence furnished especial reason for thanksgiving. A dance at night at Collins' hall, which was fairly well attended, completed the public dings of the day.

After a week's diversion, school commenced again Monday.

The *News'* Oswego correspondent said last week: "Arthur Ladd, of Nebraska, is here visiting his father. He will make his home in Kansas in the future." There were three slight mistakes in the paragraph. 1. Arthur never has been living in Nebraska. 2. His father has been dead these number of years. And 3. He had no intention of going to Kansas. Please try and guess a little more straight, Leo, or you may damage the veracity of the craft.

H.J. Collins has broken up his establishment. At a public sale Saturday he disposed of a portion of his household goods, together with the restaurant and skating rink effects. He has moved over into what is known as the Albert Hawley house, and his premises are said to have been rented to a Mr. Barnes of Yorkville.

John Greenfield has taken a vacation at the depot and Crate Jarvis has been installed in his place.

Peter G. Nellis, a merchant of Oswego in the long ago and since for many years a railroad official, has been here on a visit to his brother and sister-in-law, Dave and Bessie Jeneson.

Dec. 12: [Nathaniel] Albert Hawley died Sunday forenoon after having been sick with typhoid fever a little over a week. The funeral took place at 11 Tuesday from the house. The deceased was 66 years of age, was one of the old inhabitants, coming here from New York State during the forties, but in the meantime has been for some years living in the east central part of the state. He leaves a widow and daughter to mourn his death.

Advertisement: Wanted: A good horseshoer and otherwise reliable man by S.L. Bartlett, Oswego. Good and prompt payment will be given.

Mary Boessenecker is attending the Northwestern college at Naperville.

Andrew Shoger has bought the McKinney farm on which he was the tenant for \$8,000 cash, or \$50 per acre.

George Barnard has gone to Aurora to work in the shops; the family will not move there for the present. The blacksmith shop here will be run again by S.L. Bartlett, who wants a journeyman, one that understands horseshoeing.

Blanche Belmont has been here on a professional visit, the painting of portraits.

All of the Oswego teachers and a number from its vicinity attended the Kane county teachers' institute Saturday at Aurora.

M.J. Pogue & Son have erected a new building in their yard for the storage of lumber.

The most fancy looking storefront is now that of H.B. Read; it has been painted green and trimmed with other colors.

The additional street lamps were received and put up, and Oswego is now in a dark night appears quite civilized.

About half of the bottom sticks out of the river. What shall we do for a river if this dries all up?

Yorkville: There was quite a mistake in rebuilding the courthouse as regards the vault of the treasurer's office. The large cistern is just under the fireproof vault in which the treasurer keeps his books and papers and the money in the safe, and the dampness from this cistern rises in the vault, which is wholly unventilated, and causes mold and rot to accumulate on the books and creating an unpleasant stench. Last week the courthouse committee arranged for ventilating the air space between the cistern and vault floor, and it is thought this will remedy the matter.

Dec. 19: The stock of holiday goods at the drug store this year is greater and nicer than ever before.

Doc Woolley says that he has sold within last year to Wollenweber & Knapp \$2,653 worth of hogs and all being of the gilt edged quality.

Elias Derby went down South in the Fourth cavalry when a boy in his teens; the other day he returned again accompanied by a wife and several children.

The Lars Nelson family moved to Aurora Monday, and Fred Schumacher, who has been farming in this vicinity, is about to move there. The absorbing of our people by that city is thus continuing.

Tom Belschner has rigged himself out with a new corn sheller and horse power for doing all the shelling that people may want him to do.

“Citified” is what Oswego is getting instead of civilized, what the barbaric typo made me say last week. Getting civilized; the idea! Wasn’t Oswego in that always clean to the front ever since it had an existence?

Grocery prices: 13 lbs. granulated sugar, \$1; 5 gallon keg golden syrup, \$1.60; 5 lb. Roasted Rio coffee, \$1.20 lb. Box muscatel raisins, \$1.50; 2 lb. Can sugar corn, 7 cents; 2 lb. Can peas or Lima beans, 10 cents; 3 lb. Can table peaches, 19 cents.

Dec. 26: Jim Pearce gave a "coon banquet" to his friends Wednesday which proved to be a most delectable treat, but the coon didn't set well on the stomachs of some but flew to their heads, which made them act, not like the coon, for he is not a noisy animal, but more like the hunting of the coon, as there was lots of barking done.

All of the lady teachers have gone to their homes to spend the holiday vacation.

George H. Switzer shipped his household goods for some point in Peoria county Monday.

Shaver & Eastman are building an addition to their store on the rear end. The old repair shop was sold to Theron Richards, who moved it near the pump on the National lots.

The windmill tower on the Smith feed mill was raised Monday.

Bob Collins is now established with his business in his new quarters, the north store of the rink building.

N. Larkin walked off the bridge on Madison street Monday night and bruised his shoulder somewhat. He threatens to sue the corporation for damages.

1889

January

Jan. 2: The people of this village were shocked Sunday to learn that Mrs. George Parker had died during the forenoon, as but a few had been aware of her having been sick. The maiden name of the deceased was Clarisa Warner, being one of the large family of Joel Warner and of which but a few are remaining.

Of the sick, Dr. Jewell and Kirk Walker both had been declared as being beyond hope but both are now nearly convalescent.

The 45th anniversary of the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Pearce was celebrated Friday. Mrs. Pearce's maiden name was Lois Warner, being an older sister of Mrs. Geo. Parker, who now is lying dead at her home.

The celebration of Christmas by the German Evangelical Sunday school came to pass at their church in town on the evening of that day (Tuesday) and was a very *froehliches* [cheerful] affair.

Yorkville: The winter term of the Kendall County Circuit Court begins Monday, Jan. 14.

Jan. 9: L. Rank will receive *Record* subscriptions at Oswego.

Gus. Voss was up from Utica.

Miss Anna Brown, a former teacher here, has been making her Oswego friends a visit.

The school ma'ams had returned rested and refreshed to again commence their labor Wednesday.

Half of the winter is gone and about 14 is the nearest we have been to zero so far.

Theron C. Richards has commenced doing the biggest cash business in town; his many customers (tax payers) will find him established in Hunt's store.

The *Aurora Herald* has a new Oswego correspondent and a most prolific news giver she is.

I believe that Massachusetts has adopted and some other eastern states are trying to adopt what is called the "Australian system of voting." It is not at all what is needed in our politics by any means, yet it would be a step towards reform. It would at least squelch those fellows who think their special mission in this life and their most patriotic duty to perform is to see to it that ordinary voters vote right on election days. The "Australian system" should be brought before the Illinois legislature and Hon. H.W. Willett might please make a memorandum of it.

Yorkville: The *Aurora Herald* says Coal is now brought to Aurora over the EJ&N from Eastern Illinois, a new source of supply as cheap or cheaper than the Streator coal.

The *Aurora Beacon* mentions some of the heavy tax-payers in Aurora. Among them is L.B. Judson, formerly of Oswego, who pays \$1,007.04 and the estate of the late Charles Page, formerly of Lisbon, pays \$550.99.

Jan. 16: James S. Dwyre is quite sick, and being that he is 88 years of age--probably the oldest person in town--and never having been subject to sickness much of any, his recovery is feared to be doubtful.

The remains of an 18-months child were brought here from Chicago for burial--Buckly I think the name of the parents; the mother being a daughter of the whilom Joseph Stafford.

Maggie R. Shepard, Oswego's successful and popular milliner, has bought the M.C. Richards' place, of which she was the tenant, and by the way that sagacious new clever correspondent for the *Herald* has thrown out the hint that Maggie may take in a partner; she is now well fixed for such a step.

Jay Updyke and Frank McMicken from the Tamarack region were in town Monday evening.

Jan. 23: Struck zero at last; 6 below Monday morning.

Smith G. Minkler is being visited by his brothers, Harmon and Theodore of Rochelle and Morris, respectively.

Harvey Keck of Montgomery and Joe Sierp of Aurora attended church in Oswego Sunday evening.

O.S. Parker has gone to El Paso, Texas to bring home his brother Will who is said to be again in a precarious condition. The George Parker family is being sorely afflicted; Mr. P. has been very poorly all winter; Mrs. P. died recently, and Effie has been sick or nearly so since the death of her mother.

From the German prairie is reported that there is a baby girl in the family of Leonard Bower and that the mother's sister, Miss Sophia Burkhart, of Good farm, is staying there for the present.

Jan. 30: His bulldozing "Some-mo-aw" has somewhat cooled the ardor of the American admirers of Bismarck.

A runaway horse to a cutter belonging to Aurora came running into town one afternoon, all right side up.

F.E. Barrett, a butter maker at the creamery, has departed from here.

A drunk, mixed up with disorderly conduct, brought the prize of \$20 and costs at the police court Saturday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. James Vinson from over in NaAuSay, were in town Friday getting a complete outfit of furniture for a present to their daughter recently married to Francis Eyre.

The *Aurora Herald Express* is agitating a sewerage system for that city, claiming that the vaults and the now obsolete wells are receptacles of the sewage are inimical to the health of the city...the project is to convey the sewage through pipes and sewers into Fox river,

below the city. Nothing was said in regard to the effect the system would have on the river, which may be of little concern to Aurora. What would have been the condition of the river here, at the low stage of the water during the last six months with the Aurora sewage in it. The sewage question of Chicago is before the legislature; a general law as to how far cities may pollute the rivers of this state would be in order.

At the next general election we probably shall vote by the Australian system, judging from the rush of introducing bills into the legislature for its adoption. The system is an improvement as far as it goes but that is but little.

February -- 1889

Feb. 6: The woodchuck returned to winter quarters for another six weeks Saturday.

Peter Cooney has threshed 37,636 bushels of grain this season. He considers the times quite prosperous.

L.N. Hall is having built a conservatory to his residence. Schamp is doing it.

The movers of the project of forming a joint stock creamery association had a meeting Saturday, but I believe nothing definite was accomplished.

Mrs. Roan Kenyon has sold her tenant house to George Barnard, who will move into it this Tuesday. The later also has leased the Hebert blacksmith shop and is now running it.

Will Parker, the sick man, has been brought home from Texas and is said to have stood the journey quite well. George Parker, the father, is reported as not improving any, and Effie of the same family is not yet fully recovered.

Feb. 13: The marriage of Miss Helen Samse to a Mr. Frank Huyck of Sheridan, N.Y. will take place Wednesday at the residence of her parents, Chas. Samse. Helen marries a seafaring man, the mate of a Lake steamer.

The ice harvest was commenced by the company the latter part of the week and the work has been pushed since to the fullest extent.

The Kendall County Sun commenced Monday throwing a few of its rays on Oswego.

Feb. 20: M. Falkenburg has bought Col. Clark's Marysville farm.

While Valentine day brought joy to many of the community, many also were disappointed--the latter being my fix.

How will it effect the party and the keeping me in position? Is always the main question with our lawmakers when tackling a measure. The idea that the government exists for the special benefit of the officials has taken too great a hold on them.

The marriage of Miss Ann French, well and favorably known in Oswego, to O.C. Johnson over in NaAuSay, took place Thursday at the residence of her uncle, Wm. A. Jessup.

At the creamery more water is needed than the spring there affords, and a well company is now engaged in boring for more. They were down 185 feet when last heard from with their drill severed and in the hole, water had been struck at a less distance but not of sufficient quantity. It used to be thought that that spring and a number of others hereabouts had their source from some far away large reservoirs and would never diminish, but it is found now that the drying up of the sloughs seriously effects these springs.

Feb. 27: Oswego now has weather signals. We can tell what the weather will be for the next 24 hours. These signals are displayed on the flag staff by the Rink six days a week.

There was a social gathering at Geo. D. Wormley's up the river Friday.

The ice business was very active during the week.

The joint stock creamery association had a meeting but the report of "progress" was all that was learned about it.

Mrs. H.G. Smith for several weeks has been quite indisposed from rheumatism.

Andrew Gray is now in the employ of the Yorkville paper mill and Albert Halloock at the Fox river creamery here.

March -- 1889

March 6: Now that the GOP is again in the saddle everything it is supposed will be made lovely; the foul weather has already been cleared up.

Shaver and Eastman rendered the undertaker's services at the funeral of John Carroll, near Plattville, Sunday. The body was taken to Aurora for burial in a Catholic cemetery.

The Star dancing club had a dance Wednesday night at Chapman's hall.

Will F. Young is now the private secretary of the general baggage agent of the Illinois Central R.R. at Chicago, said to be an extra good position.

Wm. Wormley reached the age of 84 years Saturday.

March 13: Kirk L. Walker died Saturday evening; the funeral will take place Tuesday afternoon from the house.

A new broom factory is being established. Sam Bucher is said to be one of the firm.

A project is now under way of getting a knitting factory here; it is an establishment already in existence in Chicago and is to be moved here on condition that a stock company be formed. This project together with the new broom factory and the farmers' joint stock creamery association, if all should escape miscarriage, would set Oswego booming.

The corner butcher shop got on fire Sunday about noon; by the prompt response of the fire department it was put out so quick that the damage was immaterial.

The Jingers, a colored troupe, performed before a good house one evening.

Capt. Mann has been own sick for a week or so.

Frank Parker and family have moved up into the Geo. D. Wormley house.

The well borers at the creamery are down 235 feet and have reached not enough water yet.

March 20: Kirk L. Walker received the most respectful consideration in his final dispossession; the funeral Tuesday was very largely attended. K.L. Walker was born in Belchertown, Mass.; came to this place with his parents when a boy; served in the war as a member of the 4th Illinois cavalry; married Miss Pauline Wayne, who died in about a year afterwards; he was one of the few who never gave offense and was liked by all his acquaintances.

A gang of men has been at work for several weeks putting in substantial iron tube culverts under the railroad track at three of the runs below town, which heretofore have been bridged.

Maggie Shepard's buildings have been made handsome by a renewal of the paint.

The Shoger livery barn has been repainted.

March 27: Issue missing from bound volume.

April -- 1889

April 3: Mrs. L.C. Lamb died Thursday. As many of the mourners were Germans, a short address in their language was made by the Rev. E. von Freeden. The funeral was of the

best and the same was conducted by Shaver & Eastman. The case was especially a sad one because the deceased being but 23 years of age and within less than a day of her death seemed to be enjoying the best of health. She was Bertha the oldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Troll and had grown up in this village from infancy. A husband and little boy about 3 years old are left behind.

The funeral of Marcius S. Richards occurred Monday at Aurora to where the family had moved a few years ago, and the burial in the Oswego cemetery. Mr. R. Was one of the old settlers of this place and lived here for many years, was 79 years of age and a member of the Methodist church.

Rush Walker has resigned the office of Marshal and George Inman has been appointed to fill the vacancy.

M.J. Richards of Chicago attended the funeral of his brother Monday and called on some of his friends. Some of the other relatives in attendance were Mrs. J. King and Mrs. Nellie Brothers of Ottawa, and Mrs. Henry C. Hopkins of Chicago.

It was diabolical fun which somebody has been enjoying Sunday evening by stretching a wire from the hitching post across the sidewalk to a fence post at H.G. Smith's house and thereby tripping up pedestrians. Mrs. And Carrie Voss were the first to fall over it; Lew Inman who was right behind those ladies recovered the wire, winding it around the hitching post but it was immediately replaced as Schmidt the painter was thrown by it soon afterwards; he took the wire off and carried it away with him; another one however was stretched by which George Inman was tumbled.

April 10: The marriage of Miss Julia Burkhart to Joseph Ebinger should have been mentioned last week. It took place at the residence of the bride's parents, Leonard Burkhart.

The funeral of Henry Long, 33 years old. Who lately came here from Dakota an invalid, took place Monday from the house of his stepfather, C. Weirich.

Charles Avery reached 70 years Thursday.

The Russian tea party given by the Y's at Hunt's Friday evening is said to have been the most enjoyable entertainment of the season.

By lighting a cigar and throwing away the burning match Sunday afternoon in the cemetery the dry grass and leaves were set on fire which got beyond the control of those present. From H.C. Cutter's the nearest house by, help and implements were procured for its extinguishment, which, however, was not accomplished before it had burned over quite a tract including the burning of three picket lot fences.

April 17: The J.R. Walker family have moved out on the farm, the Walker homestead. Rush hereafter will be a thorough Granger and have nothing more to do with politics and village official life.

Maggie Shepard has been in Chicago for the purpose of replenishing her stock of millinery goods.

Henry Bower is putting substantial improvements upon the farm he bought last year on the Wheatland road. The old barn has been torn down and a new one with basement is now pretty well under way, at the raising of which last week Tuesday nearly fifth of his neighbors were present to lend their assistance, and who enjoyed a good and plentiful repast and otherwise good time. G. Schwarz with his force is the builder.

H.C. Cutter was reelected school trustee Saturday without any opposition.

April 24: Mrs. Jolly went to Ottawa to attend the funeral of the widow of Col. Wallace. She was the daughter of the late Judge Dickey.

Carrie Burghart is engaged with Mrs. Schwarz acquiring the art of dressmaking.

The village authorities have caused the removal of the loose stones, old oyster cans, manure and rubbish generally in the streets, so that Oswego just now looks quite tidy; but it won't long keep so, for the small boy if he spies an old boot or a piece of old stove pipe anywhere he will surely keep kicking it along until he gets it in the middle of the street. An organization for the education of order to the rising generation would be much in order.

A meeting of the farmers is called for next Saturday evening 7 o'clock at the village hall for organizing a "Farmer's Alliance" and at which a full attendance is desired--a preliminary meeting to that effect was held last Saturday afternoon. The specific object of the organization has not been ascertained.

Whatever may be the weakness of Oswego, one thing is certain, her foundation is good. The well borers at the creamery have gone over 300 feet into the solid rock and haven't got through yet.

May -- 1889

May 1: Helen M. Pogue has been visited by Lida A. Green, M.D., of Hazelton, Dakota, who had been on a sojourn in Chicago for several weeks studying the medical science.

Mrs. Kinley is being visited by her oldest sister, over 80 years of age, of Dakota. They hadn't seen each other for 23 years, and were overjoyed at the meeting.

James A. and Cassius Durand, father and son, for many years residents of this town, passed through here Friday. They reside in Chicago and are engaged in the commission business.

The funeral of Dr. C. Weirich took place Sunday afternoon from the house, conducted by Shaver & Eastman.

George Cowdrey is doing a big business in potato planting around here. He has the Aspinwall planter, which does excellent work; puts them down just as deep and as far apart as you want it done, never misses a hill nor puts in them more than a piece, all done by the machine and the horses--the man is merely sitting up in the seat enjoying a ride. Machinery and horses after a while will have to do all the work there is to be done--even the washing of our faces and combing of our hair will be done by them.

The marriage of Miss Mamie S. Smith to Louis C. Young, both of this place, occurred last Tuesday afternoon at the house of H.G. Smith, the bride's father.

The closing of the old and the inauguration of the new administration of the Oswego municipal government took place on evening. The doings of the old board consisted mainly in the allowances of bills and presenting of reports. The first thing of the new board, after having qualified, was the reception of petitions for license of selling liquor, of which there were two, the old applicants and both were granted unanimously. The next thing was the fixing of the rates; one of the holdover members moved to make it \$750, and the reasons he gave for the increase was that the money was needed, that \$1000 will not more than pay the running expenses, and there is an old debt to be paid. The high rate motion received no second.

Oswego will celebrate the Centennial today and it will do it purely intellectually and spiritually; no gun powder or pyrotechnics will be employed.

May 8: The black walnut trees are all going and Oswego has become a great point for shipment of logs.

The Oswego chapter of the Women's Christian Temperance Union spoke at the May village board meeting requesting no further saloon licenses be granted. The ladies' wishes were granted.

At the village board's second May meeting, the town constable was given the extra duty of lighting the village's street lamps and keeping them in good working order. The board appropriated \$100 for the purchase of 10 lamps and to keep them operating for a year.

The county convention of the Women's Christian Temperance Union met in Oswego in May.

"How grown up men should behave themselves towards small boys was more or less talked about Monday," the *Record's* Oswego correspondent reported, "Growing out of an altercation between Louie Wollenweber and H.G. Smith, trainmaster, at the depot."

Grinding will be done Thursdays of each week at the steam mill by E. Davis.

The appointments of the standing committees, the ordering of the alleys to be cleaned up, the ordering of the sidewalk committee to investigate the concrete system of walks and report in two weeks. (A contractor for the asphalt walks from Aurora was present and gave the advantages of such over board walks) and the talking over of water rates were some of the doings of the council Monday evening.

Night operatives took a new horse blanket from M.J. Pogue's barn and a jar of fruit, the milk, and some apples from the cellar and from the premises of Chas. Knapp and Anton Miller a few chickens one night.

The black walnut trees are all going and this has become a great point for the shipment of the logs.

A.P. Walsh, the Goudie Brothers, and C.T. Cherry have been shipping beef cattle.

George Van Deventer and family have moved to Montgomery.

Maggie Shepard has been in Chicago again for further supplies of ladies' head adornments.

Uncle George and nephew Herb Collins have been having some difficulties, and a lawsuit about it, in which George was fined a small sum for intimidation.

At the Annual meeting of the Oswego Library Association held Jan. 14, 1889, the executive committee was authorized to levy an assessment for 1889 off fifty cents on each membership card. In accordance with those orders all members of the association holding cards are requested to pay their assessment.

At 2:30 p.m. on April 30, a sufficient number of the people of Oswego to comfortably fill the Congregational church assembled there to celebrate the centennial of the birth of the United States.

The first number of the *Kendall County Record* ever issued was dated May 7, 1864, 25 years ago yesterday. Twenty-five years is a long time for a man to have the active control and business of a country newspaper.

Plainfield: Report comes from Caton Farm to the effect that building lots are being staked out over there preparatory to starting a city.

Judge Caton, one of Plainfield's venerable farmers and a resident of Chicago, was down last week looking after the interests of the farm.

May 15: To enjoy a little exercise on their own hook, Young's mustangs started on a run from the shop with a lumber wagon. At the next corner they collided with the lamp post causing their stoppage, the wrecking of the lamp and the wagon and the knocking down of a part of Mrs. Childs' fence.

Granby Case of Aurora was in town one day.

L.N Hall is one of the foremost in beautifying his grounds, and he has a good chance to do it. The new conservatory is a great addition for the display of flowers and plants, and improvement of the premises.

May 22: The information was received by her relatives here that Mrs. Mary A. Gaylord who some years ago moved to California has changed her name by having again been married.

The institution "drop a nickel in the slot and help yourself to a fine cigar" has been set up in the drug store.

May 29: Dr. W.H. Parker has been added to the medical profession of Oswego; his office is on Main street, in the building south of the Schram hotel.

Willard Stahl of Aurora with some men of an Aurora marble works erected a very handsome monument for his parents in our cemetery one day last week.

Oswego has new signal flags and the right kind of weather may hereafter be expected.

June -- 1889

June 5: Charles Knapp has commenced rebuilding his house.

Among the visitors from Aurora were Mr. and Mrs. L.C. Young.

The graduating exercises of the Oswego school will take place at the Presbyterian church Tuesday evening, June 11.

June 12: H.V.B. Young has been gathered with those that were. He had reached the age of nearly 55 years and grown up in this neighborhood from a boy. A widow and two grown children are left to mourn his death.

M.J. Pogue & Sons have bought out another lumber yard, that of waterman, which is to be run by Robert. How Oswego shall get along in running the institutions for making better without Rob is a question. He will be regretfully missed.

Joe Sierp comes down from Aurora quite frequently evenings on his bicycle, which the last time was left leaning against the sidewalk. Aleck White straddled it just to see how it would seem on a wheel, but the first thing he knew his mouth struck the dust with the machine on top of him. The lightness behind of the thing was what fooled Aleck.

Mr. Willett--the accent on the last syllable, he being a Frenchman--has moved his meat market into and connected it with Collins' store, occupying the rear part of it.

The going down any farther for an additional supply of water at the creamery has been abandoned at least for the present. The depth gone is 364 feet, of which 350 is through rock. The question of water is one of great importance; it is supposed that the time will come when it will be manufactured out of air, by which a great industry and wealth producing agency will be created and when the manufactured water because of its greater purity, will supercede the natural article in the most of uses, but all that may be a long way off and in the meantime the old sources for the supply of water should be preserved. The well of the old National Hotel though situated on private property has become a public concern; it supplies most of the people in four blocks with the best water in town, and never was known to fail, but of course when the water works got in operation in that part of town the use of the well was abandoned, especially when its pump got out of repair. The well is now partly uncovered just right for dead cats and old boots to be flung into. By a very little work and expense it might be preserved or an emergency in the future. The supply of the waterworks is liable to give out or the works by become disabled.

June 19: The [Oswego High School] graduating exercises were the event of the week, and the only inadequacy about the affair was the room, the church being too small for admitting all that wished to witness them, and subsequently the audience was too crowded for comfort. The graduates were the Misses Maud and Mabel Hunt, Martha Potter, Emma Haines, and Ernest Troll, all in the best trim.

Belle Andrews of this place, is one of the Jennings Seminary commercial class that will graduate next week.

Superintendent Duffy and son Sherman were present at the Oswego commencement termination.

If nothing unforeseen sets in, Mrs. Fannie Roberts is now thought to be in a fair way of surviving the several injuries received from a collision between her buggy and a railroad locomotive in Montgomery.

All that have strawberry beds are bragging about how nice their berries are doing.

A man of this neighborhood drove to Aurora on business, and when through with it went to the depot, bought a ticket and came home on the train, never thinking of having a horse and buggy there until after having reached here.

June 26: There is no lack of good men to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. Duffy as county superintendent [of schools].

Robbed of \$5,000: Oswego Township farmer George Collins was the victim of a scam that resulted in him losing \$5,000 in cash to two confidence men running a bait and switch poker game. "It may also be mentioned that Mr. Collins is an old man, being in the eighties."

The two working American churches of this place have commenced holding union services Sunday evenings, alternately changing from one house to the other, which arrangement it is hoped will become permanent.

The two working American churches of this place have commenced holding union services Sunday evenings, alternately changing from one house to the other.

In their church in the country, the quarterly meeting of the German Evangelicals will commence next Friday evening, presiding Elder John Schneider of Naperville, officiating.

L.N. Hall has a new and the handsomest carriage team now in this vicinity. They are blacks, well matched and thoroughbreds of the "Legal Tender" stock.

Alex White is rebuilding his residence, burned down a year or so ago. He is erecting quite a nice building; Van Evra is doing the job.

Chris Herren down the river is having a tin roof put on his fine residence. John Edwards is doing it; his tinner, Harry Gray, is an expert at such work.

July -- 1889

July 3: The "buying of a farm" racket is played out in this section for some time to come--everybody is now thoroughly posted. The people here had a sacrifice offered up for their own benefit.

Dr. Van Deventer is now in New Jersey on a visit to his aged mother, she being in the eighties.

Anna Brown, one of Oswego's former teachers, has been here on a visit.

Mrs. Kellogg and her grandson, Charlie Read, are now enjoying a visit in Ohio.

A business change took place last week. The Jim Pearce saloon was sold and transferred to a Mr. Fred Funk of Aurora.

A new kind of gunpowder has been invented, the explosion of which neither causes noise or smoke; this is the kind the fire crackers should be made of; the small would answer all the purposes of patriotism.

Percy Wormley has found the forepart of a petrified reptile of the lizard species in the river.

The farmers were somewhat anxious to know what the effects of the lice on their wheat and oats would be, and several specimen heads were handed to me for inspection. These insects are a very little cuss and if they could be got together in the right kind of place millions off them might be killed at a lick with a good paddle. They are at first all of a green color, and have six legs and two feelers at a certain age a sprout is growing out pretty well back of them on each side, which in time develops into wings and they turn into a small fly. It is said they are leaving the grain and will cause little damage.

James Fitzgerald's boy on a horse came into town in great haste last evening with the report that George Danly, a 16 year old young man, was drowned in the Wormley stone quarry, where he with some other boys had been swimming. The drowned man was laying in 12 feet of water; he was raised with a hook on a pole to the surface.

July 10: The saying that the Republicans didn't allow any temperance lumber to go into their platform was a little too previous. A temperance addition was built into it afterwards--a very innocent affair, however.

Oswego shared the interest in the great fight Monday, and the Sullivan stock was that mostly preferred.

The funeral of George Danly, whose death by drowning was mentioned last week and whose age was 19 instead of 16 years a, was managed by Shaver & Eastman and took place Wednesday. The remains were taken to Sugar Grove, the former home of the deceased, for burial.

Prof. McFarlane returned Saturday from the Will county teachers institute, which he had been attending during the week.

Mamie Haney closed her school in the Wormley district last week Tuesday.

Joe Sierp of Oswego was one of the bicyclists of the great bicycle turnout on the Fourth at Ottawa. He had gone with the Aurora company, didn't return before the Sixth, and reported having had a splendid time.

The corporation are immensely quiet for the time being. There are holes in some of the sidewalks that ought to be removed.

The meeting at the Baptist church Sunday evening was fairly well attended; the lamps not having been lit for a great while before, burned very dimly; the congregational singing, without the use of an organ went off quite well.

Independence day in Oswego passed without accident and quiet enough after being once inaugurated; that, however took place with a very noisy demonstration first there being a loud dance in progress and the anvils and other noise producing instruments were fired all night long.

The funeral of George Danly, whose death by drowning was mentioned last week and whose age was 19 instead of 16 years, was managed by Shaver & Eastman. The remains were taken to Sugar Grove, the former home of the deceased, for burial.

July 17: Mrs. R.L. Childs and baby have returned from a month's visit in Michigan.

Marshal Inman has done a good job cutting sweet clover in the village.

The Alexander White family have moved into their new house.

Copeland & VanZant, a thrashing firm from Grundy county, went through here with a new thresher and horse power.

The new residence of Charles Knapp is progressing nicely. The Richards are doing the carpenter's job. The tin roof was put on by Edwards and now Gentsburg is finishing the chimney.

July 24: Three new threshers were received here. One for Wm. Lance; one for the Austin boys down in NaAuSay and one for parties in Seward.

Capt. Mann is being visited by his friend, J.B. Childs of the Elgin watch factory.

S.B. Hallock sold in Batavia last week \$70 worth of hybrid perpetual roses. He sold over \$5,000 worth of threes last fall and this spring and they are all alive and growing nicely.

The funeral of J.J. Budlong will take place Tuesday afternoon. The deceased is said to have been 58 years of age. He became afflicted with dropsy about four years ago.

Monday and Tuesday mornings when the people of this town were getting up they found the streets in the business portion lined from one end to the other with hog teams. NaAuSay and Seward were bringing in their hogs. Joe Brown's lot consisted of 75 and averaged 416 pounds.

A law suit. Collins vs. Willett action for debt was tried Monday at the council chamber. Judgment for about \$20 rendered in favor of plaintiff.

July 31: The circus has interfered a little with the writing of a letter; the children had to be taken there.

The acme of the flower season is now on and beautiful flower beds and flower gardens are met with most everywhere one may go; at L.N. Hall's, Helle's, Kilbourne's, Read's, Andrew Gray's, Mann's, and numerous other places where there is a nice show of them.

John Hettrich of the German Settlement died Monday at the age of 70 years.

Truly the cause of equal rights and privileges of the sexes is progressing rapidly. In Wyoming, where long ago the women have enjoyed equal political rights, there they have now also advanced to the liability of equal lynching--the hanging of Kate Maxwell and the Sweetwater P.M. on one limb for mavericking was given by the papers last week, which to me was rather more than ordinarily interesting.

The tearing off of some limbs from shade trees and the blowing down the wheel of the Frank Hawley wind mill was all the damage done in the village by Saturday evening's storm. In the surrounding country some orchard trees were upset and much of the standing oats and corn leveled with the ground.

The preliminary examination off a bastardy case was had before Esq. Murdock Monday, resulting in the binding over of the defendant.

August -- 1889

Aug. 7: John Hettrich was a native of Germany and had been living in this neighborhood about 40 years. The remains were interred in the cemetery of that settlement, which is said to be very nicely improved and kept. A widow, four sons, and a daughter, all grown, are the survivors.

A number from the cities of this region are now encamped in the Cowdrey park down the river.

Wm. Briggs--the Willie Briggs of the old National Hotel--is in town.

Willard Kennedy has moved his residence from the creamery to town, occupying now the Kennedy house at the upper end off Main Street.

Because of the dropping down of the tongue off the Willett meat wagon one day the team started to run away, but were stopped by the Shoger warehouse, with which they collided.

Peter Davis, of near Plattville, brought in a lot of very nice hogs; one of them weighed over 600 pounds.

An additional covering of clapboards was put on the front of the rink building and the battlement of it covered over to keep the rain out.

The new residence of Charles Knapp is nearing completion, and it is one of the most showy buildings in town. There are many who are saying "that it should have been placed in a more favorable location; that it would have improved so much the locality where there had been some intention of putting it." However, as to being seen, no site more favorable could have been selected; thousands going through here on the cars will see it and that wouldn't if located up town. The surroundings of the depot are the more seen by strangers.

The katydid is late this season; already over a week behind their usual time, probably indicating a late fall.

Yorkville: Mr. Charles E. Lane has been engaged to take charge of the business interests of the *Kendall County Record*, do local work, and make himself generally useful, as all county printers have to.

Mr. Lane is a grandson of Lyman Lane, Esq., of the north side, and was born in Bristol. Some years ago he learned the printer's trade in The *Record* office, then went to Kansas with his father, where he went into a drug store, then started the Prescott, Linn County, Eagle, which he ran very successfully till a cyclone came and blew his printing office out of the window; the window and building going with it. He was deputy county clerk of Linn county for awhile and two years ago came to Joliet to conduct the job department of the *Joliet News* under that newspaper cyclone and agitator, James H. Ferriss. But a man has to hustle on a paper in Joliet and Mr. Lane wanted a quieter place. When George Schmidt was appointed post master at Yorkville it left a vacancy in The *Record* office, which Mr. Lane applied for and got. He is now located in Yorkville with his wife and two children, and we ask the people of Yorkville to make him at home.

Mr. Lane will have a comparatively easy time in The *Record* office. He will set type on the paper; do the job work; receive all callers at the office--business and socially--keep the books; make out and collect bills; see that the office is never short of money; will write local items, personals, report conventions, fair doings, old settlers' meetings; gather court house news; read proof; fold papers; do up mail; be good-natured always; solicit advertising, job work, and subscriptions; and--well, any spare time he has he will use to get acquainted with his family.

Aug. 14: Mrs. Fannie Roberts had sufficiently recovered from her injuries sustained by being run into by a railroad train as to be able to be brought home from Aurora Wednesday.

In the absence of D.M. Haight, Charley Mann is assisting Frank Strossman in running the store.

Frank Hawley finished his threshing Monday evening; it was a big job lasting several days and done by Pete Cooney.

A new cider press is being started by David Hall; he put up a building for it adjoining the Corneils feed mill from which it will be worked.

The funeral of Mrs. Christian Friebele will take place Tuesday afternoon. She is said to have been 48 years of age.

The getting of the teachers for

Aug. 21: The funeral of Mrs. Chris Friebele last week was very largely attended. The survivors of the family are the husband and six children.

C.T. Cherry has commenced building a large barn in place of the one lately burned. Van Evra with Falkenberg is at work on it.

The signal service got out of gear here; the rope became fastened fast in the pulley so the flags up then, about ten days ago, had to be left flying ever since, which were for fair weather with falling temperature, and the result was the weather kept on being nice days and cold nights during all of last week.

The question now is: Shall the coming Kendall county fair be the greatest success of anything of the kind that ever was before?

Aug. 28: Oswego has lost some of her inhabitants. Blacksmith Larkin has moved to LaSalle and restaurateur A.C. Barns to Wilmington.

Oswego is now counting a number of good painters among her inhabitants and the town is beginning to show it. The residence of H.J. Collins house has been changed from a weather-beaten old building to a handsome new-looking dwelling and Mrs. Schram is now getting her house handsomely painted; William Bradford is doing it.

After a prolonged sickness Mrs. Charles Avery was by death relieved of her sufferings Saturday afternoon. The deceased was 55 years of age, was a native off the state of Ohio; came to Oswego when but a girl, and wants to be entered as a departed old settler. She was a sister of Mrs. Darby and a very quiet and industrious woman. A husband who is surviving her.

Sept. 4: H.G. Smith was the only soldier from this place enlisted in the GAR encampment at Milwaukee.

Dr. Lester is now sojourning up in northern Michigan to escape the hay fever plague.

The teachers Lizzie Benthien from Millbrook and Miss Dixon, Downers Grove, arrived Saturday; both went to H.S. Jessup's to board, and being that Martha S. Jessup is also one of the teachers, the lady teachers therefore will all be domiciled together. The school commenced Monday in full force.

Nannie Hill, of Yorkville, was one day making her friends here a call.

Among the Oswego teachers that departed Saturday and Monday for the schools in which they engaged to teach were: Hattie Rees, who went to Plano; Lizzie Moore, to Plainfield; Nellie Armstrong, to Millington; and Mamie Rice, down in the Rickard district.

Quite a large company of the friends of Dr. and Mrs. Van Deventer enjoyed a very nice open air party Tuesday evening. The yard was beautifully illuminated by Chinese lanterns and in a part of it the tables were spread, which besides being loaded with dainty edibles were profusely decorated with flowers.

Alexander Skee, some years ago the miller at Parker's mill, and his wife will be remembered by many of this community. They were a Scotch couple, were very sociable. He was of a splendid physique and robust constitution. When leaving here they moved to Washington Territory, where heretofore they reported themselves as prospering nicely, but now his death has been communicated to their friends.

H.J. Collins has moved back into his own building and resumed keeping the restaurant; the family living in the back part and up stairs. He is also running the fruit and confectionery store on the other side of the street.

James B. Pierce has moved with his family into the house vacated by Collins.

The family of C.A. Graves have moved here and into the residence part of the creamery-- Graves is the new cheesemaker of the concern.

Yorkville: The mosquitoes! Oh, the mosquitoes!

Hot enough even for corn--and dry enough.

Now is a good time to have your picture taken at Sabin's, Yorkville.

Never saw so many mosquitoes since we lived in Yorkville. They must come from that stagnant water in the lagoon on the north side of the river.

The School of Electric Short-Hand and Type-writing will open Sept. 1 at Jennings' Seminary Sept. 11: The Danny Mann Comedy Company entertained a portion of our people Saturday evening at Collins' hall till nearly midnight. The audience voted to have them come again.

Sept. 11: Mary Boesenecker is teaching the Squires school.

Addie Wormley commenced teaching in the Cowdrey district Monday.

The Danny Mann Comedy Company entertained a portion of our people Saturday evening at Collins' hall till nearly midnight. The audience voted to have them come again.

The industry of the cider-making is now pushed to its fullest extent in this section. Dave Hall has two presses in operation--one a real boss concern. John Wormley also has added new improvements to his mill and I suppose all of the other cider mills are active.

The depot was burglarized again during Thursday night.

Advertisement: The cider mill at the Minkler Nursery is now ready for work. Specie Grove, Andrews & Co.

Yorkville: If the evangelists now doing religious work at Oswego will convert that old sinner, Mr. Strooley, they will have accomplished much. He is a seeming skeptic, and needs attention.

A new feature at the Kendall County Bank is a lot of Treasury Safety Boxes for the safe keeping of notes, deeds, mortgages, insurance policies, etc. \$2 entitles you to the use of one box for one year.

Fresh oysters at Nading's next Saturday and every Saturday thereafter until the weather is cool enough to handle them all the time. He will sell you a can or serve them up by the dish.

Sept. 18: Ernst Troll has gone to attend the Champaign college.

D.M. Haight has gone on another trip West--Nebraska.

A baby girl is a new addition to the George Schark family.

Miss Fanny Holyoke--nee Murphy--is visiting friends in these parts.

George Parker who has been ailing for a long while was rather worse of late.

The revival meetings at the Baptist church came abruptly to a close Thursday.

The corpse of the little boy of Del Lockwood was brought here from Shabbona for burial.

Emma Gentsberg, an employee of the Aurora watch factory, came home on vacation.

The H.D. Hebert family have now a pair of girls--that is with the new one just added.

Albert C. Schilling of Lowell, Ind., paid his cousin John G. Schilling a short visit.

Charles Vermet Jr., an Oswego boy, was here from Grundy county, where the family now resides.

Belle, the little girl, two years old, of Mr. and Mrs. Eastman died Thursday night and the funeral took place Sunday afternoon from the house. The religious rites were performed very impressively by Rev. D.E. Ambrose, and a male quartet did the singing. The part somewhat varying from the usual course was that four young misses dressed in white, Della Van Evra, Gracie Miller, Hattie Pogue, and Nellie Wormley, acted as pall bearers and most decorously did they perform it. A beautiful casket of artificial marble, covered with light colored plush, and bedecked with vines and flowers contained the remains, which were tenderly laid away in the cemetery.

Dr. Putt is here from Hastings, Neb., and is more full of energy, better looking and heavier than ever before.

Mrs. Julia Lind--nee Shumway--of Elgin with her baby is making Mrs. and Ada Child and other friends a visit.

The new residence of Charles Knapp is now completed and which for outside looks and internal conveniences is one of the best houses in town.

The joyful report of the marriage of Wallie Ladd of Rising City, Neb., and the couple having gone at housekeeping at that place was received by his friends here. Wallie is a native Oswegoan.

Ed. Jenson of St. Joe, Mo, but who since June was up in Minnesota, is now making his folks and schoolmates here a visit. Ed is a printer.

H.G. Smith with his wife is spending much of his vacation visiting their relatives abroad. They have been in Chicago and now are up at Mount Morris on that diversion.

John S. Seely has built a silo and Monday commenced the operation of filling it with the cut ensilage fodder. With the exception of the horse power, the work is all being done by new machinery, having bought a new corn cutter and elevator recently.

Maggie Shepard went Monday to Chicago and will spend several days there selecting goods for the fall stock. She was accompanied by Miss Louise Jessup. The little girl Stella in the meantime is visiting with friends near Yorkville.

Who is abstracting the whips left in carriages standing in the street evenings and what motive prompts the deed? Is it some avaricious cuss that is stealing them for gain, or some tender-hearted humane fellow that merely wants to get them out of the way from being used on the noble horse? Please inform me, or George Cowdrey, who is the loser of one. Three are said to have been taken last Saturday and once or twice before when some were missed.

A.B. Smith is numbered with the departed after a long and baleful sickness (dropsy) his death occurred Saturday afternoon. The remains were buried on the family lot in the cemetery. The deceased was 72 years of age, was a native of Ohio, a resident of this county for 53 years, and was identified with Oswego and one of its prominent citizens almost as long as it had an existence, and was so well known throughout this part of the country that any further account here of his life would be superfluous.

Just seen by the Hastings (Neb.) *Republican* that Clarence J. Shumway has again taken unto himself a wife; the bride being a widow lady of that city.

Yorkville: Hon. A.B. Smith, one of the best known lawyers on Fox River, and for 50 years a resident of Oswego in this county, has joined the great majority--dying at his home on Sunday last. Mr. Smith was born in Geauga County, Ohio in 1818 and came to this section in 1839. He has been a prominent man in the Democratic party in this county, held the office of circuit clerk in the earlier days; has been Democratic candidate for county judge, and served one term in the State Assembly about 1881 or 1882 as a Greenbacker. His wife died a year or more ago, and one son survives him.

A.B. Smith was a pleasant companion socially, a man who had many friends, and some enemies. The writer has known him for 25 years, and always received the kindest treatment from A.B. Smith.

The twentieth annual reunion of the 127th took place at Aurora on Friday, Sept. 6. Through the efforts of the local committee appointed to look after the arrangements and the courtesy of Post 20, GAR, of Aurora, the veterans were tendered the free use of the splendid building owned by the Post for their business meeting. By 11 o'clock about 60 members had reported, many of them accompanied by their wives and children. Company A members attending included Geo. M. Cowdry [Cowdrey], Oswego; Colvin Pearce, Oswego; George White [he enlisted as George Weit; he's listed as George West on the Illinois Secretary of State's Civil War database], Oswego; S. Solfisburg, Aurora; R. Solfisburg, Aurora; Harrison Ashley, Aurora; J.B. Roberts, Aurora; M. Fleury, Aurora; G.S. Case, Aurora; M.C. Richards, Aurora; Chas. E. Hubbard, Oswego; C. Herren, Oswego; W. Murphy, Oswego; L.H. Gaskell, Oswego; R.B. Murphy, musician Columbus, O.

On a motion, the President appointed the following comrades as a standing committee to report to the secretary all deaths occurring among members of the regiment and to prepare proper memorials and resolutions thereon: Company, Dow Shibley, C.E. Hubbard, Granby S. Case.

The Wheatland plowing match and local fair occurs next Saturday, the 21st.

Jay Dobbins, son of J.J. Dobbins of Oswego, has gone to Union City, Oregon to take charge of a cattle ranch.

Squire Dolph, the county surveyor, has just completed a large map of Little Rock township for the road commissioners, which is a fine piece of work, showing all the farms, roads, and other matters of detail.

Plainfield *Enterprise*: Charles McKenna, the foreman of the Caton farm, informs us that the yield of oats on the farm this season aggregated 20,300 bushels. He will commence next week to shell about 10,000 bushels of corn.

Mr. Adam Van Driesen, one of Oswego's old settlers, is lying very low on a bed of sickness and not expected to live. His daughters, Mrs. Colonel Gilon of New York City, Mrs. Tod of Austin, and Mrs. Lillie Cornell are here with him during his last moments.

The Morris *Post* says: McBride has just secured a pension for Oscar Johnson, Kendall county who served in Co. E., 91st. Seven years have passed since first application was made, it was twice rejected, and the applicant was three times examined, but nothing undaunted, Mack kept at it until success came.

The veteran farmer and pioneer Daniel Plat was in Yorkville Monday on business. He settled at Plattville in 1834, and says his love to the old home so clings to him that he never thinks of any other place as a residence.

Sept. 25: Adam Van Driesen died Thursday morning and the funeral took place Saturday from the Baptist church. The deceased was 68 years of age, a native of New York State, and adherent of the Baptist church, a lover of his home and has been an inhabitant of Oswego for 22 years. A widow and six grown children are his survivors, and all but a daughter in Nebraska and a son in New York were present at the funeral.

John S. Seely was engaged with a number of men and horses the most of last week in soiling his ensilage fodder. By the breakage of a wheel caused by something getting loose, over a day was lost in the middle of the job, but otherwise everything worked excellently and Mr. S. is highly delighted so far with this new plan of preparing feed.

Mrs. Mundy was brought home from Chicago. She is unable to walk or even stand up.

Mrs. Edwin Gilon of New York city, Mr. and Mrs. James A. Tod of Chicago, and Duane Van Driesen of Nebraska, brothers and sisters, were called here by the sickness and death of their father.

Hattie Hallock is again teaching the school over in the Keck district.

Fannie Bullard of Millbrook is teaching the school in the Walker district.

D.M. Haight has returned from his second western trip, and apparently is as much struck with the woolly west as ever.

Fred Wormley has returned from Kansas and brought with him specimen ears of corn from the farm of a Mr. Comstock that used to live here and which are of gigantic size.

Otto Shuman has left Hunt's store and gone to clerk for Rosecranz, the singer that was here at the Presbyterian revival meetings, a dry goods and clothing merchant of Ashton, Illinois.

R.M. Wheeler and E. Seeley have purchased potato diggers, the first to be used around here.

AuxSable: Jack Frost made his appearance last Wednesday morning.

Nearly all the corn has been killed by the recent frosts, though some fields on high land have almost entirely escaped its ravages.

Yorkville: Parties wanting a good span of ponies for riding or driving, or a span of colts, should attend Fred Smith's sale Friday, Sept. 7, this week, near Oswego.

Business on the Fox River road has picked up in the past few weeks. All the regular freight trains are running and some extra ones. Under the new rules of putting a flagman to the rear of all trains, they make more noise than a pig under a gate in whistling them back again.

October -- 1889

Oct. 2: Capt. Mann, John T. Wormley, Joe Hinchman and Robert Jolly represented the Oswego soldiers of the Fourth Cavalry at the reunion of that regiment at Ottawa last week.

Mrs. C.S. Kilbourne as the president, Mrs. W. McFarlane and Carrie Voss as delegates and Maud Hunt as alternate of the Oswego Y's attended the convention of that order at Marseilles last week.

Mrs. Moore enjoyed a visit from Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Farr of Plainfield, Iowa and from Frank Boardman of East Wheatland; they are brothers and sisters and the sisters had not met before in 14 years.

Fred Smith has all sold out and is going into business in Chicago.

Frank Strossman is having a vacation and gone off to enjoy it. Charles Mann is supplying his place in Haight's store.

Jesse Walker, a very good looking young fellow of Remington, Indiana, is the new clerk in Hunt's store.

Dr. Van Deventer has gone to southern Kansas to look after his landed interest there.

Prof. McFarlane has bought the Charles Avery house and will soon move into it.

H.G. Smith has had his vacation and resumed again the control of the depot.

The depot has been fitted up with the block signal attachment.

The new teacher in the Wormley district is Miss Garbett.

Bessie Armstrong commenced teaching in the Russell district Monday.

G. Schwarz and Chas. Rieger have again gone to Antioch building ice houses for Esch Bros. & Rabe.

R.L. Childs has moved with his family down on the Fred Smith place--now owned by Frank Gates--Monday.

Yorkville: Aurora is in high glee and the papers of the city are exceedingly puffed up. Why? It is now decided that the great stove works of Rathbone, Sard & Co. are to be moved from Albany, N.Y. to Aurora, and as these works employ about 1,000 men, the cause for all this joy is apparent. For some months, the struggle has been going on between Aurora, Elgin, Rockford, and Joliet as to which city should get the works, and Aurora has triumphed.

The works will be located on the west side of the river near where the Aurora & Joliet railroad bridge crosses Fox River; 115 acres have been bought, 15 acres will be donated to the stove company and the other hundred cut up into lots and sold at two hundred dollars each to citizens of Aurora to make up the necessary cash.

So large a plant located only ten miles up the river from Yorkville and five from Oswego will certainly make property more valuable at these points.

The Aurora Post says Ed Battle, who was so long an engineer on the Fox River passenger train and one of the strikers, has gone to work for the Q again. Glad of it, for Ed was one of the best engineers on the road. Now if Joe Porter and Levi Isbell will take engines, it will be a good thing for the company and traveling public.

Station Agent Lyons is now practicing on the new semaphore and signals, which were put on the depot at Yorkville last week. It is quite an imposing machine. A long wooden box or tube 20 or 30 feet high runs from the office floor above the roof of the station; on this are signal arms, green and red, worked by levers in the office; also lamps which are raised and lowered in the tube by a crank and chain in the office. The signals made above are repeated before the operator in the office, and mirror, slantwise, at the bottom of the tube shows that the lamps are burning all right. It takes a good deal of machinery to run all this, and Mr. Lyons is certainly warranted in having his salary raised.

Oct. 9: The WCTU will meet with Mrs. L.L. Rurney Friday, Oct. 11 at 8 p.m.

Frank Van Doozer has come in from the Black Hills with a lot of stock and in connection with it is now making his old home a visit. Frank has become rugged and a firm believer

in the Black Hills being the richest spot in minerals, productiveness, in cattle raising, and of everything else of any on earth.

Both Chris Herrens were on a visit in Chicago last week. The Grove Chris Herren was accompanied by his wife, while the River Chris was there alone.

Prof. and Mrs. McFarlane have moved into their own (the late Charles Avery) house, and the house they left, it is said, will be occupied by the Rev. Mr. Beckwith.

The C.E. Hubbard family have moved into the house of Mrs. Teller; the premises from which they moved will be taken by Mrs. Lauriston Walker.

The residence of Mrs. Helen M. Pogue has been nicely repainted. Childs and Hinchman, I believe, did it.

A new meat market and general butchering establishment has been added to the business of Oswego and opened Monday, Pearce & Schram is the firm's title. A full and entire new outfit for all the different kinds of work has been procured and is employed.

There has been some talk of getting a new saloon established but having heard nothing from the project for several days, perhaps it fell through. Most people think that in that business Oswego is already sufficiently supplied.

Another series of revival meetings have been inaugurated Sunday at the Presbyterian church under the ministrations of the Rev. Mr. Bischof, the evangelist who recently met with such signal success of bringing sinners to repentance over in NaAuSay. It is said that it takes people several days to begin to like Mr. Bischof, but that they surely will like him in time. He seemingly acts on the maxim of that "there is but a step from the sublime to the ridiculous."

Oswego in one respect would offer the best facilities for the World's fair of 1892; there would be more room for the putting up of the exhibition buildings nearest to the centre of the town of any place mentioned for it yet. Of course its hotel facilities would be inadequate and notwithstanding the citizens would throw open their houses for the entertainment of visitors, that would prove the great objection of suitability. Well, after Oswego the next choice is Chicago.

Yorkville: The Will county soldiers' monument will be unveiled and dedicated to the fallen heroes of the late war at Joliet tomorrow (Thursday), and it will be a great day for the Grand Army men.

No better fall for farm work than the present has been known for many years, and the farmers are improving it. Grain is being hauled to market, plowing done, cribs and sheds fixed up, and soon corn-husking will begin.

A big jug of new cider left at this office by Mr. Andrews of the Specie Grove cider mill was duly sampled and disappeared before it could get a bead on it.

Fresh comb honey at F.M. Hobbs'.

A black bass that weighted 4-1/2 pounds was captured by neighbor Thompson last Thursday and made a full meal for the Record family.

Oct. 16: George Parker is now lying dead at his residence, having died Sunday night. The funeral will take place Tuesday.

The last addition of business to Oswego is a new saloon. It has been established in the Collins building by George J. Burghart.

Mrs. Beaupre--the old lady--was down from Aurora Thursday and made the family of Capt. Mann a visit.

Daniel Platt of Plattville was in town Thursday on business. He never will retire from work while alive.

The show Thursday evening by a darkey troupe was fairly well attended and much enjoyed.

The teachers of Oswego township are cordially invited to attend the meetings of the Teachers' Reading Circle, which will be held the last Saturday in each month in the high school room, opening at 10 and closing at 11:30 a.m. The lessons for the October meeting are the first two chapters of Page's Theory and Practice, the first 76 pages of the Lights of Two Centuries.

"Would you like to have your daughter marry a nigger?" This was often asked by the Democrats back in the fifties and we abolitionists thought it the most silly thing to be connected with politics; for the philosophy that question was then not so much apparent as it is now. The negro now has legally equal political rights but has he the equal opportunity to enjoy them...If Oswego was to offer a negro as a candidate for county office, one that was a gentleman and a scholar and well qualified for it, and who had a family of a wife and sons and daughters, and Plano offered for the same position a white man similarly qualified and circumstanced, which would stand the best chance of getting there? About convention time the Yorkville ladies would say to their male associates, "Now don't be so foolish as to nominate the Oswego man; those colored people coming here would be of no advantage, while the Plano family will be quite an addition to our society." The negro is here and here to stay; he is a part of the American nation, and now the question is, how shall the two races exist together?

George D. Wormley with his family has moved back from Chicago on his place up the river. M.J., the oldest boy has since been taken sick with the typhoid fever while staying at his aunt's, Mrs. Kenyon.

Persons driving from here to Aurora notice, doubtless, the fine residence just above the Oswego bridge--it is the George Parker place and the owner now lies in the quiet cemetery. He was one of our older settlers having come to Oswego some 40 years ago. George Parker was one of our old settlers, coming to Oswego some forty years ago and was one of the firm in the Oswego mill. He was at one time a wealthy farmer, but unfortunate investments brought on financial reverses and for some time he had been badly involved. But he is now free from all of this world's annoyances and is now at rest. His wife died a year or more ago, but two sons and two daughters (we believe) survive him. And thus our old people drop out and the pioneers pass away.

Oct. 23: At the funeral of George Parker last week which took place from the house and was in charge of Shaver & Eastman, the Rev. D.E. Ambrose officiated. The deceased was buried in the Pearce cemetery beside his wife that had died within a year. He was 62 years of age, had undergone much sickness during life, and the last year was almost constantly sick. He was a native of Canada, came into the United States when quite young and to Oswego about 36 years ago. He was married here to Clarissa Warner, and of their union five grown children, three sons and two daughters, are living.

The brothers Frank and Fred Lippold are now at work in the foundry of Love Brothers in Aurora.

Esquire Murdock has returned from a three week's trapping and hunting excursion.

Jennie Hubbard became affected with defective eyesight; her parents went with her to Chicago to consult an oculist and a treatment for the ailment has been commenced.

The remains of Charles Hodgman of Aurora, at one time a resident of Oswego, were taken through here for burial in the Cowdrey cemetery the other day. He was a brother-in-law of Geo. S. Williams.

Owing to the making of much cider now, many loads of apples are being carried through town and whenever one is spied by the small boys, they swarm upon it filling their pockets, biting into a few, and then pelting each other with them so that the streets are strewn with apples. this raiding upon their loads causes farmers to get through town as quick as possible and Monday, as Charles Stiefbold was coming along at a trot with a load upon which some boys jumped and by some means let down the end board, a patent device, and the first thing the owner knew was that most of the apples were strewn along the street the length of a block or more. As fathers don't exercise the least control over their boys on the street, the formation of a society for such control would be much in order.

Mrs. Florence Read, Oswego's librarian, is praising the goodness in little boys, especially little Dickie Alexander. She said that little Dick had been wanting to draw books from the library but had no card upon which to do so; that Saturday afternoon he came to her, his face beaming with pride, his hands stained with walnut juice, and handed her a silver half

dollar which he said he had earned shucking walnuts and wanted to pay the assessment of a suspended member and draw books for the year on the card.

Oct. 30: One more settler gone! George W. Wormley died last Friday. The remains were taken to the Wormley cemetery for burial. Born in Corning, N.Y. 80 years ago last March, he came to Oswego in 1837, had a large family of children of which seven, all grown, are now living, and all of them were present at the funeral--the mother of them died about 20 years ago and he was again married, the second wife surviving him. The was the youngest and the first to die of three brothers, viz: William M. of this place, and John H. of Aurora. Mrs. James M. Chapman is a sister and besides he has seven half-brothers and sisters; the most of them are living and are residents of this neighborhood. He was also a soldier of the late war, being a member of the 4th Cavalry. As a specialty of business, he was the Oswego house mover.

John Edwards and his right hand man, Harry Gray, have tin-roofed a barn for Shel Wheeler, over in NaAuSay. It was quite a large job.

Andrew Moody of Chicago spent here a few days hunting and putting up at Seely's.

From a letter received from a former Oswegoan now residing in Chicago: "There are probably many good Republicans in Oswego who deem it a religious duty to read the *Chicago Tribune* every day and who are following interestedly the movements of the Pan American Delegates to the later American Congress in their junketing through over the United States, but I presume none of them know that the excellent reports read daily by them are penned by the hand of Frank Vanderlip, one of the fortunate few correspondents who are accompanying our South American cousins on their famous trip and only a few years ago an Oswego school boy, classmate to Oswego's genial young doctor, her urbane tonsorial artist and others of her young men. Mr. Vanderlip is also assistant city editor of the *Tribune* and a rising young man destined to be known better at no distant day."

November -- 1889

Nov. 6: Charlie Dano and Gordie Hopkins, two of the small boys, got into a quarrel about the throwing of an apple core of the one at the other during which the former stabbed the latter with a pocket knife in the arm, and touching an artery caused it to bleed profusely before a stoppage was effected.

S.S. Collins, whose business is a contractor, and who probably has not spent a week's time in Oswego during the last two years, has returned home and says he will stay all winter.

The Jackson street blacksmith shop was carried on for a while during last week by Mr. Ellis.

Nov. 13: The funeral of Lon Lamb took place Monday. A little more than a week ago the deceased returned to George Troll, his father-in-law, from a hunting and trapping expedition down the river, complaining of being unwell from a severe cold he had contracted; the ailment soon developed into typhoid fever and other complications which ended his life Saturday. He was 29 years of age and brought up in this place and it is but little more than eight months since his young wife died. Little Willie, about five years old, is now alone left of the family. The parents of the deceased, who are residing at Burlington, Iowa, were present at the funeral together with three of the other children, and the mother had been here during a part of the sickness.

The death of Mrs. James Williams down the river is reported and her funeral to occur Tuesday.

Nov. 20: A.N. Beebe's map of Kendall county will be drawn on a scale of two inches to the section and will be a complete township and sectional map showing the ownership of farms with names on all tracts large enough to print same; all public roads will be traced out and all railroads running through the county will be located. In addition to this the boundary lines of all school districts will be shown on the map by a district color line, a new and very desirable feature which no other map of Kendall county has ever contained. The publisher is sparing no labor or expense to make this a most complete map. The map will be embellished with cuts of some of the handsomest farm residences and town views engraved and printed on the margin and not omitting a fine view of the court-house. It will be a wall map.

The funeral of Mrs. James Williams occurred Tuesday from the house. The burial took place in the Oswego cemetery.

Nov. 27: George J. Burghart of this place and Miss Mary shields of Aurora were married Monday.

The George Parker household is now broken up. Effie has accompanied her brother-in-law, the Rev. L.H. Holt, who was here for a few days last week, to his home in Topeka, Kansas. Orson has returned to Chicago and William H., the doctor, is getting ready to move again to El Paso, Texas. The latter gained many friends during the short time of his practice here.

E.A. Hanna, M.D., is Oswego's newest doctor. He bought Dr. Parker's office and the good will attached to it. Dr. and Mrs. Hanna, who are young and very genteel appearing couple, have already taken up their abode among us.

William Dwyre was hooked Monday evening in the neck and head by a steer, at the stock-yards, but supposed not at all seriously.

It is said the Rockford Insurance Co. had a representative on the ground as soon as notified of the burning of Moses Cherry's barn, who immediately satisfactorily adjusted the insurance.

December -- 1889

Dec. 4: James S. Dwyre would have reached the age of 90 years next March and was the oldest person in town. He was a native of Ireland, came to the United States when 20 years old, was living for 47 years in the counties of Washington and Jefferson, N.Y., during which time when 33 years old was married and in 1867 with his family moved to this state and county where he engaged in farming, and about two years ago from the farm in NaAuSay moved to town but the change of residence apparently never was entirely satisfactory; he having strong characteristic likings and farm life was one of them. He was a very hale and hardy man up to about nine months ago when taken down sick. The remains were taken to the NaAuSay cemetery for interment. A widow--the wife of 56 years of the deceased--six sons and one daughter are the survivors of the family and all but three of the sons were present at the funeral.

As usual, thanksgiving was the occasion of many big dinners in this community, but the only one in which the writer took an active interest was that at Seely's. Thanksgiving was closed out with a hop at Collins' hall in the night.

Dr. W.H. Parker started Tuesday for El Paso, Texas.

The only green preserved or silo fodder put up in this neighborhood is at Seely's, and he is more than pleased with it. The cows like it above any other and do excellently upon it.

A well is being bored at George White's and the depth of 190 feet has been reached. H.H. Moore of Batavia is the boss of the job.

Dec. 11: Mabel Hunt is the clerk in the department of the holiday goods at the drug store; the opening of which commenced Monday.

It did rain Tuesday morning for a fact.

At 190 feet, water was struck that came within 17 feet to the top of the ground at George White's. A windmill tower 40 feet high was moved standing up for some distance to the new well.

L.N. Hall, Oswego, makes his twenty-fourth holiday sale this season. He has piles of the most attractive goods for presents.

Dec. 18: John D. Russell had three car loads of oats the latter part of last week.

Harvey Keck of Montgomery was one of the several foreigners that attended church in Oswego Sunday evening.

Frank Hoard and all of the family have returned from Dakota and moved on a farm over near the old station. He was well pleased with the country out there but has had bad luck; first nearly losing everything by being burned out, and next being included in the district where nothing was raised the past season because of drought.

The Oswego Star Dancing Club has invitations out to a "Two O'clock" party Wednesday, Dec. 18. The significance of "Two O'clock" is not clear as to whether it has reference to its beginning or ending.

Dec. 25: Henry fox of New York state, a brother of the whilom Stephen Fox, is here visiting with his relatives.

A con man cheated Wollenweber & Knapp out of \$20 by presenting a letter forged with the signature of Seward Township farmer John Bronk. Suspicions about the letter's signature were confirmed by Sid VanDyke and the town marshal went in pursuit, catching up with the man just above the Oswego creamery. It was found that his real name was Robert Goodson, not George Johnson, that he was a Plainfield resident, and that he had spent all but 50 cents of the money. He plead guilty to fraud, but not to forgery (saying he didn't write the forged letter but that it had been given to him by a passing stranger) before Police Magistrate Charles Murdock, and was bound over to the county jail at Yorkville.

Orlando Walker of Wolcott, Ind., and once a resident of Oswego, died last week at the age of within a few days of 90 years. His daughter here, Mrs. H. McKinney, was telegraphed for and attended the funeral.