

DOWNERS GROVE REPORTER

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TERMS

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"We thank thee that the congress of the nation has departed, and that many of those who represented the people in public offices will no more represent them. We pray that you will forgive them for the damage they have done this nation." - From prayer of Dr. Talmage last Sunday.

Four hundred Democrats of Atlanta, Georgia, have organized themselves into a political club known as the "Southern Republican Club." Hon. W. H. Venable, president of the Georgia state senate, is the presiding officer. It is supposed to be in the interests of Gov. McKinley for President.

When the Republican party goes in for reform as it did in New York last year, and is doing now in Chicago, it makes us feel that we do not need to be ashamed to belong to that party, whether we be a saint, a sinner desiring reform, or a Prohibitionist seeking some place to go where we can do some good for the world.

The Democrats nominated Frank Wenter for Mayor of Chicago, but will go into the fight with a sinking at heart. There will be no chance whatever for Democratic victory. The only man in the city who would have stood a ghost of a show against Swift was Judge Tuley and he did not care to run the risk of defeat.

Has it occurred to anyone that the income tax law will be a good thing for the notaries public? It is said that there are 100,000 people in Chicago who will have to make returns, and each return must be sworn to before a notary public. The usual price of a notarial swear is 25 cents, so that the notaries of Chicago will profit to the extent of \$25,000. - Times-Herald.

Those who were fortunate enough to be reminded of it, or were out Sunday evening, were given a sight that was exceedingly novel and very interesting, if at all interested in astronomy. The moon played hide-and-seek with the sun by getting behind the earth, resulting in almost a total obliteration of light. It was not in the nature of an eclipse, for that is caused by another planet getting between the earth and the object eclipsed. In this case the earth was between the sun and moon, thus shutting the light away from it so it could give no reflection.

All who can should attend the caucus at Hinsdale Saturday, to help place in nomination good, responsible men to fill the offices. We have one supervisor to elect, to succeed Mr. Middaugh, whose term expires, and who does not aspire to the position again. This is a very trustworthy position to fill, and needs a thoroughly competent man. There are plenty of good, capable men, and we hope to see such a man nominated. There will also be an assistant supervisor to elect, a town clerk, collector, assessor, and two justices of the peace vacancies to fill.

We suppose that our sister village of Hinsdale has already selected some good men to fill part of these offices. We have here two men that we would like to place before the public: Chas. K. Roe, to succeed himself as assessor, and Mr. J. M. Barr for assessor. Mr. Roe has very ably and creditably filled the position this winter, and has become thoroughly acquainted with all of the requirements of the office. Next year he will be able to do better than this. As a man, Mr. Roe is above reproach. He is strictly honest and thoroughly capable. The citizens cannot do better than to re-elect him.

Mr. Barr is so well known throughout the township that it is but little need for us to say much in his

behalf. He is thoroughly familiar with the duties of an assessor, and a good judge of the valuation of property, which is a very essential point in his favor. We would like to see him re-elected.

J. M. Barr has completed the taking of the census, with the following results:

POPULATION OF DOWNERS GROVE. Corporation, Downers Grove... 1912 Hinsdale... 2276 Outside the corporations... 2397

Total, 6585. This is quite an increase over the last, and entitles us to another assistant supervisor. The most of this increase has been in the village of Downers Grove, the population here having more than doubled within the last four years. We have made rapid gains on our beautiful and progressive neighbor, Hinsdale, and before the beginning of 1896, if present indications are fulfilled, we shall outnumber her in population. We do not believe any place in the state can show a better record in building up, enterprise and improvement for the last four or five years than our own village. While the country has been in the throes of a financial depression such as was never experienced before—a general paralysis of the business and manufacturing interests of the country at large—our community has kept steadily along, making improvements, with constant accessions of new homes and new families moving in, having a record of no business failures and no slump in property interests, and incurring no burdensome debt, with every prospect of the best business year ahead of us that we have had yet, and before the close of 1896 a population of not less than 3,000.

Our inducements to home seekers are of the best. Excellent school and church privileges, a community with high moral and religious convictions, a good business town, free from saloons or gambling resorts, beautiful groves and grounds and shady parks and streets, excellent water and pure air, a first-class system of water works, eligible building sites for homes at prices very reasonable and at a point where we have the best suburban train service of any town near Chicago. Our community is at peace. We have no factional, corporation, church or neighborhood quarrels, such as disgrace too many places, and we are ready with a united welcome to greet any new comers, whatever their circumstances may be, providing they come as good citizens to establish their homes among us. And, judging from the number of prospectors, and the contracts already placed, we will have the pleasant opportunity of welcoming numerous desirable and worthy families the coming summer.

A Dangerous Game.

BY THE AUTHOR OF "MY DEAREST HEART."

CHAPTER XV. There is always something confusing and perplexing in a legal paper—unclear-toned phrases, technical words, repetitions, and long preambles. And Mr. Gaseigne's will was a lengthy one drawn up by the lawyer, but yet with glimpses of the old gentleman's acerbity and sarcastic humor running through all.

"The last will and testament of me, Richard Gaseigne of St. Gabriel's Grange, Marquette St. Gabriel, in the county of Fellshire." First, there came a number of small bequests. No one seemed to be forgotten; those who thought themselves completely out of the second man's remembrance found past friendship and past services were not forgotten. The cousins and the cousin's wife found their journey had not been in vain, and so far no one was inclined to doubt that this was a just and generous will. Indeed the keenness of the old man's knowledge made them forget to criticize, out of very wonder. The Colonel's face was screwed up with amazement when he found himself requested not to use his legacy to back the favorite, for a week, as in that way was his guarded secret, and Mary the housemaid stared open-mouthed at a special bequest to buy her wedding-bonnet, since how could the master, whom she scarcely ever saw, know that such an article would be required?

I almost smiled to think how Mr. Gaseigne must have chuckled as he wrote down all these things, and how he must have wished he could be present when his remarks were heard by the innocent subjects of them. But Mr. Parker was passing on to larger sums and to matters more intimately concerning the present occupants of the Grange.

"To my niece Gwendoline, wife of my friend Lord Martin Pomeroy, I leave ten thousand pounds, the painting by Turner in the library, which I have heard her admire, and any two other paintings, not being family portraits, which she may select. To my niece Hilda Farquhar I leave ten thousand pounds, which may serve her for pin-money, and the grand piano in the drawing-room. To my niece Annis Farquhar I leave ten thousand pounds, as I promised, and my best wishes, which she would perhaps hardly expect."

The lawyer paused and cleared his throat. My heart beat vehemently in spite of my supposition that I was not interested; I felt Annis's hand tremble. As yet no mention had been made of the Grange, nor of Crawford Garden, nor of Gilbert and Urie. Which of the three was to possess it? Had not Mr. Gaseigne positively assured us he would bequeath nothing to his nephews? "I think," he went on, "that I have now settled on all my relatives, my old friends, and my servants all that they could have expected or that I had given them any grounds to expect. I give and bequeath to Crawford Garden of Norbury, solicitor, the sum of two hundred pounds for special professional services, with my compliments. The residue of my real and personal property—"

"None of us, I dare say, listened very carefully to the description of the Grange, or the detailed enumeration of carriages, plate, pictures, and furniture the grave lawyer learnedly set forth; but we were all intent on the coming sentence; and presently it came—"

"I give and bequeath absolutely to my amant—and my niece's friend and companion, Viola Thorne—"

"Twenty pairs of startled eyes flashed on me, a score of amazed faces glared upon me. For a moment I sat still, rigid and dumb-tricked, and the lawyer's voice went on like a machine, saying I know not what. I felt nothing but the scorching gaze of those eyes, saw nothing but the crowd of staring faces. I struggled for my senses, and found myself on my feet, gasping faintly—"

"There must be a mistake!" Standing there among the wondering people, the floor beneath my feet, the walls to shake and come upon me, when the clear voice of Hilda Farquhar fell like cold water on my brain.

"No I think," the document is, doubtless, a nefarious one. My uncle was not unbecomingly—"

And then I knew that Mr. Gaseigne was speaking to Mr. Parker, and the next moment he came up to me. His face was intensely white, and his smile seemed savage in its expression. He took my hand—his was cold and damp, and laid in a smooth voice that just cut in my every nerve—"

"Congratulations, my dear nephew, you have anticipated this!"

But Annis rose up and came and put her arms round me, and gave the true meaning of the strange will.

"Dear Viola, I am so glad! Gilbert will have the Grange after all. Uncle Richard has kept his word; but you see he has forgiven Gilbert."

And the others saw then that the old man had kept his word. His nephew, whom all had thought to be the heir of his property, had not a thing left to him, and yet he would have every thing.

A report of the incident followed the day of Mr. Gaseigne's funeral. I could not get any position in the old house, I was obliged to find a new one, or to travel. For some time I lived in the house kept by the widow of the old man, and all the evening I sat in the den, and read of the trial of the young man, who considered it not her place to be so near, every subsequent speech of the wonderful man, filled me with amazement. They hardly knew what to make of the old man's mode of procedure, and even to Mr. Gaseigne, and as far as Norbury I was in a great deal, and no doubt criticism was always favorable. But every one who had heard of my case, and who had seen the fact-severed connection, had known a month before received a multitude of real or imaginary sins attributed to me. When I look back, I am surprised to remember how kindly I was treated ever, while, in my unexpected fortune must have held me in to charges of design and intrigue, but Annis's gentle affection gently pleaded my cause, and I dare say that you could see I was very fond of Gilbert and his wife, and Mr. Gaseigne had established a reputation for eccentricity. Probably they understood his plans—a revelation which would do a great deal for me, and I had not a moment to spare. In a week it was the one I had to live in a few months he called his wife, and I was left a trustee until then.

How many times did I groan in my mind the one confidential but relief there had been between Mr. Gaseigne and me? I had promised not to reveal what passed until his marriage-day, and I knew now that he must have resolved then, when he saw his intentions as to Hilda and Gilbert were finally frustrated, what should be his course.

The servants, the old physician, even the cousins, were fairly friendly and congratulatory. None of them had expected more than they had got, and I do not think any of them regretted greatly the peculiar way in which Mr. Gaseigne had chosen to settle the family fund. For the Thornes, too, were an honorable family, and the daughter of my father was no unfit match for the heir of St. Gabriel's Grange and the name of Gaseigne.

Gilbert himself was puzzled as much as any one, and even declared a doubt as to whether the accepted reading of the will could be correct.

"It seems to me," he said, "that my uncle rather intended to prevent you from marrying me by leaving more than I can ever offer you, and a house from which he exiled me." I told him he had been a lawyer so long, he could scarcely believe in common-sense views of things; and then he laughed, and said my will had made me impertinent, but his brows remained knitted and his eyes grave.

I thought Mr. Gaseigne's nephews were wonderfully good to me, seeing that they must have expected to inherit the Grange. The sure, Lord Martin Pomeroy had his own beautiful home, Lord Ormsby was exceedingly rich, and Urie Gaseigne had not looked for so much as he was to get with his pretty wife, and would, I was sure, prefer that Gilbert should succeed to his rightful property. But still the house was so beautiful, the property so fine, and I myself such a mere stranger and interloper, that I wished a hundred times a day my kind eccentric old master had consented freely to forgive his nephew in the face of the world, and spared me this painful and anomalous position.

However, for a time there was no change in their manner, except that Annis was more affectionate and tranquilly happy than ever. Hilda showed no sign, and Gwendoline was strangely nervous. I thought the calm was the calm of fair and settled weather; but the air was too still for that. It was like the stillness of the electricity-charged atmosphere, when birds are silent and the elements breathless before the thunder-storm.

CHAPTER XVI.

The first flash of the storm came upon me one day as I was sitting in the morning-room, the pleasant little room where I spent most of my time now with Lady Martin, Hilda, and Annis. I had been reading, but the book lay unheeded on my knee; I had broken off to watch a blackbird on the lawn, and had noticed at the same time that already the lime-trees were growing golden in tint and the chrysanthemums were coming

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Congregational. Services Sunday at 10:45 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Sunday school at 12 m. M. B. Zinkus, Supt. Prayer Meeting Wednesday evening at 7:30. Christian Endeavor Sunday evening at 6:30.

Baptist—James Frederick Heller, Pastor. Services Sunday at 10:45 a. m. and 7:00 p. m. Bible School at 12 m. Prof. E. H. Nourse, Supt. Junior Young People's Union, 4:30 P. M. E. A. Amable, Supt. Young People's Baptist Union, 6:00 P. M. W. H. Edwards, Pres. Communion, First Sunday in every month. week-day Services.

Prayermeeting, Wednesday evening, 7:00 P. M. Covenant Meeting, last Wednesday before first Sunday in every month at 7:00 P. M.

Evangelical German—REV. W. KLEINER, Pastor. Services Sunday at 10:45 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Sunday School at 9:30 a. m. M. Diener, Supt. Young People's meeting alternating with catechetical classes at 7:30. Prayer Meeting Wednesday at 7:30. Strangers cordially invited.

Lutheran—REV. H. SEEVER, Pastor. Services at 2 p. m. every other week in the Cong. Church. Sunday School after Service.

Church of the Blessed Virgin—Services every Sabbath morning at 10 o'clock. Every week day morning at 8 o'clock.

Protestant Episcopal Church of the Advent. REV. C. H. BAUGS, Rector. Services in College of Commerce Block 2nd floor. Sunday school at 2:30 o'clock. Church at 3:30 p. m. On the last Sunday of each month services at 10:30 a. m., with celebration of the Holy Eucharist. You are cordially invited to attend.

SOCIETIES. Grove Lodge, 824, A. F. & A. M. Meets every second and fourth Friday in each month. Visiting brethren cordially invited. J. V. BARR, W. M. E. L. GODFREY, Sec'y.

O. E. S. Vestal Chapter, 242. Meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month in Masonic Hall. Visiting members always welcome. Miss SEAN PAUL, W. M. Miss W. S. CARPENTER, Sec'y.

Hager Post, No. 468, G. A. R., Dept. of Illinois. Meets the first and third Thursdays of the month. Visiting comrades always welcome. Geo. F. HUGHES, Adj. T. S. HUGHES, Com.

Washington Post, No. 53, P. O. S. of A. Meets first and third Tuesdays of the month. All brothers welcome. J. H. MATHER, Pres. J. G. CHAM, Sec'y.

Downers Grove Lodge, No. 328, A. O. U. W. Meets in G. O. U. Hall on the first and third Friday evenings of each month. Visiting brothers always welcome. A. J. COOPER, W. M. A. J. COOPER, Recorder.

Downers Grove, No. 780, L. O. O. F. Meets every Monday evening. Visiting brothers are cordially invited to meet with us. Hall Central block. W. J. REDFERN, W. M. J. COOPER, Sec'y.

Linden Campment, No. 32, I. O. O. F. Meets in G. O. U. Hall—Masonic Hall, Central block, Downers Grove, Ill., second and fourth Friday evenings, at 8 o'clock, in each month. W. J. REDFERN, W. M. J. COOPER, Sec'y.

Victory Council, No. 110, Royal League. Meets first and third Tuesdays in A. O. U. W. Hall. H. STANTON, W. M. A. G. PRINCE, Sec'y.

Maple Camp, No. 986, W. M. A. Meets in G. O. U. Hall on the second and fourth Thursday evenings of each month. Visiting brothers always welcome. J. D. HOLLER, V. C. W. H. BARNHART, Clerk.

Ladies Library Association. Library Room in Bank building, 2nd floor. Monthly meeting on Tuesday at 2 p. m. Mrs. F. BLANCHARD, Treas.

Downers Grove Loan and Home-Save Association. W. H. EDWARDS, Secretary. T. CURTIS, Pres.

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