

## COURT HOUSE DEDICATED

### INTERESTING CEREMONIES MONDAY AT THE LAYING OF THE CORNER STONE

### 2,000 PEOPLE WITNESS THE EXERCISES

Many interesting addresses were made, filling the need of a new county building and defining the duties of the supervisors for their action.

The dedicatory exercises of the new DuPage county court house in course of construction at Wheaton, were held Monday in the presence of at least 2,000 people. All places of business in Wheaton were closed and representatives from all parts of the county were present in large numbers.

Judge Geo. W. Brown presided at the ceremonies. Previous to the dedication a procession of veterans retired, G. A. R. men and county officers paraded the streets, headed by the DuPage county band. The platform was occupied by the board of supervisors, speakers, county officers and prominent residents of the county.

After a prayer by the Rev. Dr. Tompkins of the Wheaton M. E. church, the principal address of the day was delivered by States Attorney John H. Batten of Naperville, which was an able defense of the action of board of supervisors in their course, in meeting the demands of the residents of the county for a new court house. Mr. Batten's speech is appended to this article.

Following Mr. Batten, Hon. Thomas B. Bryson of Elmhurst, one of the veteran residents, made a short address on behalf of the old settlers, and Prof. R. T. Morgan responded for the "Boys in Blue" and the G. A. R. post of Wheaton, thanking the supervisors for their forethought in dedicating a memorial hall in the structure for their use.

Judge E. H. Gary related reminiscences of history of DuPage and of the old county building, and told of the progress of the county since its organization. He was followed by M. E. Bell, the architect of the structure, who made a short address.

After the speeches came the laying of the corner stone proper. The massive block of red sandstone, inscribed on which were the words, "DuPage county court house, erected 1896," the names of the building committee of the board of supervisors, the architect M. E. Bell and the contractor, Chas. A. Moses, was hoisted by a derrick. The sealed copper box containing many interesting documents was delivered by Judge Brown to the contractor who inserted it in the stone, the mortar was spread and the stone lowered to its permanent position, where it will stand for ages, a silent tribute to the progressive spirit of the board of supervisors in meeting the demands of the county with the magnificent structure which will surmount it. The ceremonies were concluded by Judge Brown stepping forward and proclaiming: "By these exercises we dedicate this court house to the cause of Justice!" and he proposed three cheers for the board of supervisors, which was responded to with a hearty will, by the immense assemblage.

The court house is to be three stories in height, of pressed brick, terra cotta and stone, and will cost when completed, including furniture, heating apparatus, etc., \$75,000. The contract calls for completion on Aug. 1, 1897. The building will occupy a site of the old court house, which was erected some 25 years ago with funds contributed by Col. Huff of Bloomington, Jesse Wheaton, Daniel Sheehan, and other enterprising citizens of Wheaton. The expense of the new court house will be borne by the residents of DuPage county, and will signalize the settlement of the dispute formerly existing between Naperville and Wheaton over the location of the county seat. The location of the county seat at Wheaton was the result of the efforts of Jesse Wheaton, Warren Wheaton, Col. Huff, Judge DeWolf, Daniel Sheehan, and other well-known residents of DuPage county.

There has been some complaint over the action of the county board of supervisors, which has contracted for the erection of the structure, it being claimed that the board exceeded its authority in saddling the county with so great an expense without submitting the question to a vote of the taxpayers. This was shown by Mr. Batten in his speech to be false. He said:

Mr. Chairman—Friends and Fellow Citizens of DuPage County:

Beneficial for taxation, and famous for the health, integrity and prosperity of its inhabitants is the County of DuPage. Nowhere in the Great Commonwealth of Illinois can a county be found, whose people are more prosperous and progressive than the people of DuPage county. The latest improved machinery is to be found here. Modern improvements are to be found everywhere. By reason of our location and beautiful rolling prairies and fertile soil, DuPage county is bound to be foremost among the counties of this great state.

We meet today in the center of the county to lay the corner stone of our new court house. Strange as it may seem, this is the first court house ever erected by DuPage county. The old frame building which was used in Naperville, when that was the county seat, who built by private subscription and was dedicated to the county. When the county seat was removed to Naperville in 1839, the county again erected a court house, a fine specimen of the architecture of that day. The county which was defrayed by the citizens of Wheaton. The Wheaton court house was erected in 1849 and was torn down during the present year to make way for the building now being erected. For a time the Wheaton court house answered the purpose of the county very well, but after it had been in use for about ten years it was found in certain respects inadequate for the growing business of the county. The vaults were found to be unsafe and were condemned. The clerks office was found to be too small. It became necessary to procure more commodious quarters for the clerks of the courts and larger and better vaults in which to keep the records and papers of the county. And so it was that in 1879 the small building was erected for clerks offices. The county jail in the basement of the court house was found to be insecure and an unsafe place in which to hold prisoners and so the present county jail and sheriff's residence was erected by the county in 1883.

During the past fifteen years DuPage county has grown largely in population and business at the court house has increased in proportion. The clerks office erected in 1879 was not adequate for the business of today. The county clerk with two assistants and the county treasurer with his assistants are all crowded into one room. The records are crowded into one room, and the records of such value to the people have

been piled up in the county clerks office because there was not room for them in the vault. Many valuable records belonging to the county are now kept at the poor farm for want of vault room in which to keep them. Such was the crowded condition of affairs when the county board thought it might be advisable to put a second story on the building occupied by the clerks. Many citizens of the county opposed this movement and insisted that the time had come to build a new court house. The county press took the matter up and vigorously urged the expenditure of any more money in enlarging the building, and strongly advocated the building of a new court house. About this time the court house itself attracted considerable attention and comment by reason of its dilapidated appearance and unsafe condition. Brick were found rotting in the walls, and the walls themselves were leaning outward.

At the present time the county jury to inspect county buildings and report their condition to the court. At the March term, 1894, the grand jury in their report to the court, said: "Your grand jury desired also to state that, in its high quality of citizenship, thrift, wealth and natural advantages, DuPage county is one of the brightest gems of the crown of the state of Illinois; that her legal fraternity stands among the highest and are entitled to a home that shall do them and the county honor. Our present court house was built for other days. It is now of insufficient capacity and not at all adequate for the business of today. DuPage county has outgrown and surpassed its old court house. Our county is able to have and needs a new court house, such as will be a credit to the county and furnish the rooms necessary for the county business. Your grand jury respectfully refers this matter to the proper authorities hoping that this reference may result in a new court house for a county that is worthy of it."

At the September term of the same year the grand jury in their report to the court said: "The present court house is entirely inadequate for the requirements and dignity of this county, and the usual recommendations of the grand jury in this regard is made by the grand jury."

After this last report was made the court house became so dilapidated and unsafe that the board of supervisors at this present year, the grand jury in their report to the court, used the following forcible language: "We find the court house in a dilapidated condition. Rotting brick and leaning walls have been observed. The business of the county demands more office and vault room. We would strongly recommend the erection of a new court house without further expenditure of money for additions or repairs on the present building." It must be remembered that these reports of the grand jury were made in their official capacity. What they say, therefore, cannot be lightly regarded or disregarded.

Upon a careful examination of the matter, the board of supervisors of DuPage county was forced to the conclusion that a new court house was an absolute necessity. That an emergency existed, and that that emergency was great. A new court house was needed. Thereupon the board appointed a committee, consisting of three of its members, to investigate the matter and report to the board. The committee investigated and reported that they had found at Alton a court house which in their opinion was just what our county wanted. The full board and the county officers thereupon went to Alton and made a careful examination of the court house there. It proved to be such a court house as our county required. With a few alterations the county board adopted the plans of the Alton court house, and caused the architect of the court house to prepare and bid the same for its construction. The contract was awarded to Charles A. Moses of Chicago, he being the lowest and best bidder, his contract being \$60,000 for the construction of the court house complete, including the heating apparatus and connecting tunnels and steam heating—Everything but the furniture. In this connection it might be interesting to state that Mr. Moses built the Geneva court house.

Every public improvement meets with opposition and the new court house is no exception. The county has been asked to pay for it. It has been said it can plainly be seen from what agency the board of supervisors acted. It might be interesting to state in this connection that the Alton court house was built without a vote of the people and is not yet fully paid for, though it has been completed about three years. That the Month court house which cost much more and cost the county has been finished nearly three years and is not yet fully paid for and was built without submitting the question to a vote of the people. That a new court house was needed and that the cost of it was a reasonable cost there is no doubt. That it will be erected without waste of money there is no doubt. That it will be paid for without being a burden upon the people and in the end will cost less than it would have cost had the county been bonded for a term of years there is no doubt.

It has been stated that the taxes would be doubled by building a new court house. This is not a fact. The county, village, school, road and bridge taxes will not be touched. The only increase will be in the county tax. For county purposes the law provides that a tax of 25 cents on every \$100 of property as assessed in the county is to be levied. It has been the custom in this county to raise 25 cents on the \$100 as assessed, so that the additional tax in any one year can only be 40 cents on the \$100 as assessed. A man having a small home assessed at \$200 would therefore pay an additional tax of but 80 cents. A man whose home is assessed at, say \$500, would pay an additional tax of not to exceed \$2 in one year.

The cost of the building when completed and furnished will be between \$70,000 and \$75,000. It will be completed by August 1st, 1897, and paid for in 1900.

When the court house is completed and occupied every citizen of the county will feel that when he enters it, and will feel proud that the county has such a court house as this will be. The records, books and papers of the county will be secure and kept together and not scattered as they now are.

When the court house is completed it will redound to the credit of the board of supervisors of DuPage county, and will prove to the world for many years to come their good judgment and faithful service rendered to the county.

When all within the hearing of my voice shall have passed into that undiscovered country, this court house will stand as a witness of the wisdom and foresight of the public-spirited citizens of DuPage county.

The young people of the Epworth League of the M. E. church are going to have some fun in the loft of Mrs. Emigh's barn, Tuesday evening, Oct. 13th. The barn will be decorated with autumn leaves, jack lanterns, corn-stalks and such, and we are going to pass the time eating pumpkin pies without number and of no standard of color, baked apples, drinking fresh milk, and any other old thing that is apt to leave the participants with dyspepsia and other pleasant feelings. They are a mean set these Y. P. of the M. E. of the M. E. C. and they don't want anyone to come except those who read this notice. Of course if anyone is found prowling about the barn after dark, he will be pounced upon and dragged into the festivities, but it is their earnest hope that they will not have to adopt such means to get young people of all sects, denominations and color to come. The object of the festival is to promote good fellowship, have fun and get acquainted with everybody, so of course nobody is welcome. No, we want everybody to get out of town on the above mentioned evening and get up in the loft of Mrs. Emigh's barn. Further than that, they hereby give warning that they have patched up a bargain with Policeman Karney to seize upon and arrest everybody found on the streets after 8 p. m. and run them into Mrs. Emigh's barn; for which service Policeman Karney is to receive one piece of pumpkin pie for each victim.

## Current Events.

Additional local news on fifth page.

Last Monday was quarterly pension day.

Earnest Bunge is now temporarily stationed at Berwyn.

Creamery butter 21c; fresh eggs 14c, at Bateman & Palmer's.

J. P. Davenport made a brief stop in Downers Monday morning.

J. Wells is home again and ready for business. Bring on your work.

Turner is now officially known throughout the land as West Chicago.

Mrs. F. C. Lancaster is spending a few weeks visiting her parents at Ottawa.

Hood's pills are the best after-dinner pill; assist digestion, cure headache, 35 cents.

Mr. and Mrs. John Graves spent Sunday with relatives of Mrs. Graves at Glen Ellyn.

Washburn-Crosby's Gold Medal and Superlative flour at Mertz & Mochel's; \$3.75 per barrel.

FOR RENT—Neat cottage, one block from depot; \$7.00 per month. Inquire of F. D. Lindley.

Nothing better or cheaper than birds-eye canal coal for grates. For sale by Hughes & Gallup.

Mrs. M. K. Crescy and daughter, Ruby, have returned from their extended visit spent at Castle, N. Y.

List your houses for rent with D. G. Graham. He has secured quite a number of tenants the past month.

Mrs. W. W. Walker of Cedar Rapids, and Mrs. Mark Morton of Chicago, visited Mrs. W. H. Barnhart the past week.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Courtwright returned Sunday from a week's visit at Sandwich and other points in that vicinity.

W. H. Colville the North side grocer, has no "leaders," but you will find, on the whole, it is the cheapest place to buy groceries.

The annual catholic fair will be held at the Auditorium in the week beginning Monday evening, Oct. 26th, and continue for five days.

Miss Cathryn Shepard of Oconomowoc, Wis., is visiting her sister, Mrs. Hugh M. White. Little Bernice White returned home with her.

WANTED—\$5,000 on improved farm; security worth three times that amount. Six per cent interest five years. D. G. Graham, exchange office.

The Rebekah's at their meeting last Tuesday evening, gave a luncheon. They also made a present to each member of a "safety" and a "bloomer."

Do not experiment in so important a matter as your health. Purify, enrich and vitalize your blood with Hood's Sarsaparilla and thus keep yourself strong and healthy.

FOR RENT—A first-class nearly new 3-room house with large lot on Fairmont ave. Has city water and all modern improvements. Rent low to a desirable tenant or will sell on easy terms. Apply to F. A. Root.

Here are some prices on canned goods at Bateman & Palmer's: Choice marrowfat peas, 3 cans for 25c; corn, 4 cans for 25c; tomatoes, 3 cans for 25c. We have other inducements. Come and investigate. Our prices are down.

The library will only be opened for book distribution one afternoon and evening of each week, until further notice—on Friday afternoon and evening, the hours being from 3 o'clock till 5 p. m. and 7 till 9:30 p. m. The "hard times" made it necessary for the association to do this, at least, for the winter.

Judge George W. Brown addressed a meeting of republicans at Lacey, Monday evening. The Judge as is usual, made an excellent speech, appealing to the reasoning faculties of his hearers in making his propositions. He was attentively listened to and his remarks were frequently applauded. A number from Downers Grove were present, including the Downers Grove band, which furnished the music.

Hon. John H. Batten, Maj. S. A. Ballou and Dr. Bell, of Naperville, spoke at the republican meeting at the Auditorium, last Saturday evening. Mr. Batten made a good, sound, sensible talk on the money question. He was followed by Dr. Bell, who explained the plans of the non-partisan honest money league, of which they had recently organized an auxiliary at Naperville, while Maj. Ballou devoted his remarks mainly to the tariff.

The nightly congregations of young men and boys at the various street corners, and more especially at the bank corner, has become a decided nuisance, and besides in direct disregard of village ordinances prohibiting these assemblages on public streets. It is entirely within the police officer's jurisdiction to arrest these offenders if they continue to congregate after having been told to disperse. Better be careful boys and save yourselves trouble.

Col. Isaac Clements of Carbondale, will speak from a republican stand point at the Auditorium, next Monday evening, Oct. 13th. Turn out and hear him. Colonel Clements is one of the ablest and most original campaign orators in the state. He handles the currency question in such a comprehensive manner as to be perfectly clear to even the youngest of his hearers. It is expected that he will make one of the best speeches of the campaign.

Tin fruit cans at Brode's.

Sale bills printed at this office. Get our prices.

A. J. Cooper recently paid a visit to friends at Yorkville.

FOR RENT—205 acre farm. Apply to H. E. Strong, Downers Grove.

Mrs. Alice Kobbins of Chicago, is visiting her brother, D. K. Craig.

California fruit, fresh and fine, at lowest market prices. Nash Bro's.

See W. H. Colville's quotations for best quality goods in another column.

LOT FOR SALE—On Highland avenue; 50x141; \$100 cash. Enquire at this office.

W. H. Whitney returned Tuesday from a visit spent with relatives at Adrian, Mo.

Dressmaking—Done at reasonable prices. Mrs. E. Smith, Saratoga Ave., Rogers house.

Hughes & Gallup have a quantity of the genuine birds-eye canal coal. Very nice for grates.

Mrs. Hitchcock and son, Edward, Sunday in Downers, the guests of Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Mayer.

WANTED—Good housekeepers to call at Brode & Co's, and inspect their patent enamel cookers.

Miss Wilms, who has been stopping for some time at J. D. Fowler's, left Tuesday for her home at Oak Park.

Sewing machines repaired and crating done; all work guaranteed satisfactory. H. G. BARR.

S. E. Smart has commenced erecting a new barn on his farm to replace the one destroyed by the cyclone last spring.

WANTED—A lady wishes situation as housekeeper in suburban village. Thoroughly competent. Enquire at this office.

I. P. Blodgett returned from Missouri last week. He has closed up his business affairs there and will henceforth make Downers his home.

Congressman A. J. Hopkins of Aurora, will address the residents of Downers Grove at the Auditorium, Thursday evening, Oct. 23rd.

Sewing machines of all kinds repaired, rebuilt and made to do good work as never. The only place in the city for good, honest work. J. WELLS.

Joe Haas will play first clarinet in a band of 47 pieces in the city tomorrow. The band will occupy a position near the head of the parade and will be one of the best in line.

E. H. Prince addressed a meeting of free-silver advocates at the Auditorium last Thursday evening—Hon. Free Morris, who was advertised to speak, failing to put in an appearance.

An explosion of gasoline at the home of F. A. Brode one day last week caused considerable excitement for a short time. Fortunately the fire was extinguished before damage resulted.

Excursion tickets at one fare for the round trip will be sold to Oregon until further notice. Tickets are good for return passage until the following Monday.

Oyster supper will be given by the ladies of St. Andrews Mission, Thursday, October 9th, from 6 to 8 p. m., at Miller block. Come bring your friends and help the mission. Supper 25 cts. Ice cream 10 cents.

T. T. Thompson, who derives much pleasure in giving his friends the benefits of his handsome team and surrey, drove to Naperville Sunday with a party composed of J. D. Fowler and family, and Mrs. J. H. Griffiths and daughter.

John P. Leman of the firm of J. Manze & Co., electrotypers, 200 South Clinton street, Chicago, has purchased the Shepherd place on North Main street and moved his family here last Saturday. Mr. Leman is highly pleased with our village and community and predicts that quite a number of his acquaintances will locate here next season.

Republican meetings have been arranged with speakers, as follows: Monday evening, Oct. 13, Col. Isaac Clements. Saturday evening, Oct. 17th, Hon. Charles Fuller. Thursday evening, Oct. 22nd, Congressman A. J. Hepkins. Saturday evening, Oct. 21, a practical explanation of the Australian ballot law. Monday evening, Nov. 2d, Hon. Wm. E. Mason. These will be the best meetings of the campaign and will all be held in the Auditorium. The speakers are men with national reputation as orators in addition to being thoroughly conversant with the workings of the machinery of the government. Remember the dates.

The October grand jury of DuPage county Monday returned a "no bill" in each of the cases of the "blind pig," whose alleged existence has disturbed the tranquility of Hinsdale for some time past, and which was brought before it on complaint of the Hinsdale Improvement association. Twenty-seven prominent young men were summoned to appear before the grand jury, and Monday morning at 10 o'clock they filed into the Circuit court-room at Wheaton. Each of the numerous witnesses was in turn questioned by State's Attorney Batten, and at the end of an hour the jury decided that sufficient evidence was wanting to warrant the return of indictments. The Improvement association was indignantly discouraged, and pronounced its intention to keep a vigilant watch, and to keep its citizens informed.

**Shoes and Rubber Goods.**

One more great chance to save your dollars. The shoes we advertise are solid leather—not shoddy. A shoddy shoe is not a bargain; you get the worst of it no matter how cheap you buy them. We sell good solid up-to-date shoes.

**Shoes for the Ladies and Misses.**

We have the Drew, Selby & Co.'s celebrated goods in all the latest shapes and styles, including the new opera toe. We can fit you and will be pleased.

**Shoes for the Men and Boys.**

No better shoes made than the W. L. Douglas shoe. We have them in the new opera toe in patent leather, enameled and calf. They are reliable and correct shape.

**Old Ladies' and Gentlemen's Slippers.**

Just the thing for comfort. Get a pair. Nice to slip on to wear around the house and they don't cost much. We have all sizes.

**Candee Rubber Shoes.**

Reliable Firsts. No inferior goods put out under this brand. Save your health by keeping your feet dry. We can guarantee a first class article at proper prices.

**Furnishing Goods.**

Includes a new line of Men' and Boys' hats, caps, neckties, underwear, shirts, etc. Come in and let us fit you out at a small expense.

**NASH BROS.**

**We Desire to Direct Your Attention...**

To the full line which we are now displaying of

**ACORN STOVES AND RANGES**

Call and Examine and Get Prices.....

**Mertz & A...**