

DOWNERS GROVE REPORTER.

EIGHTEENTH YEAR.

DOWNERS GROVE, DuPAGE COUNTY, ILLINOIS, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1901.

NUMBER 7.

ACCUSED OF THEFT.

MRS. MARTHA OERTELL OF DOWNERS GROVE ARRESTED IN CHICAGO.

Confesses to Shoplifting of Valuable Furs from Various Dealers—Took \$10,000 worth in a Year.

Mrs. Martha Oertell of Downers Grove, is locked up at the Cook county jail charged with the stealing of hundreds of dollars worth of seal and other valuable furs in half a dozen cities during the last year and a half.

She was arrested Thursday in F. R. Loewing's fur establishment at Michigan and Clark streets. She had not stolen any thing there but acted in a suspicious manner, and was locked up at the Harrison street station. She gave the name of Nellie Walters and while there she mentioned having friends in Downers Grove. Detectives Ryan and Darrow came here Friday to try and locate her home and also to learn if any of the plunder could be recovered.

No one here recognized her by the name and description given by the detectives and when they returned to the city, Policeman Hoffert accompanied them to identify her. On being confronted by him she broke down and confessed to having stolen furs to the value of hundreds of dollars. It is estimated that her stealing will amount to at least \$10,000.

On the strength of the story she told Officer Hoffert, Hyman Olenick, a pawn broker at a 107 South Halsted street, was arrested charged with receiving the stolen goods and being accessory to all her thefts. Two collarettes were recovered from Olenick's place and identified by Elliott and Rosenthal.

According to her own story Mrs. Oertell has lived a dual existence which she says was unknown to her husband. The family is well known in Downers Grove and notorious for various reasons. Peter Oertell, the husband, is an upholsterer, but lost his situation last fall and has since been out of employment. When Officer Hoffert went to their residence Saturday to tell him of his wife's arrest he found the house closed and the husband and four children, one of which is an infant seven months old, gone to the city, where the children are being cared for by Mrs. Oertell's sister.

Mrs. Oertell's case was set for 10 o'clock Monday, but Justice Martin continued the case ten days for further examination and her bonds were fixed at \$2,000 which she was unable to furnish. Olenick, the alleged accessory, gave the \$2,500 bonds required of him and was released. He denies ever having seen Mrs. Oertell before. Mrs. Oertell says every thing she stole was ordered by him in advance. She says she met him and his wife at a social gathering a year and a half ago. He put the idea into her head, she vows, and she "lifted" things in furrier establishments while pretending to want to purchase.

The Chicago police say that Mrs. Oertell is one of the cleverest shop lifters they have ever caught and that the woman is a veteran who has been heretofore unknown to them. Ten furriers in the down town districts have identified the woman as the one who had robbed them. How she ever managed to secrete such large articles as jackets without being detected before, they are unable to explain.

Strange stories are related as to their business and other dealings in Downers Grove and little sympathy is expressed for the guilty woman. People here have their own views regarding whether or not the fact of her guilt was known to her husband. A note she gave to Officer Hoffert to carry to her husband from the jail would lead one to think he had some inkling of the affair. It was in German and informed Oertell that Olenick had gotten her into trouble. At any rate she it was who governed the house. Peculiar business deals are reported by business men here and there are many who are not surprised at the revelation of her doings. Stories are told of her being absent from home for days and then returning laden with trunks and bundles. In operating at Peoria and other cities the police say she assumed the names of Nellie Walters, Mrs. Crouse and Mrs. Schwartz.

Oertells occupy the Geo. Smart house on Chicago avenue. Sympathy for the children and the fact of its being her first arrest may mitigate in her favor. She thinks her friends will secure her release.

CROMPTON-WEIR.

Rev. Herbert H. Rood officiated Tuesday at the wedding of John D. Crompton, the superintendent of the Belmont golf grounds, and Mrs. Sarah E. Weir of Belmont. The ceremony was performed at the home of the bride near the Puffer school, in the presence of only a few near relatives.

SECOND MASQUERADE BALL.

Firemen's Annual Party at Oldfield's Hall Last Night.

People in all sorts of costumes, representing the inhabitants of all nations danced enmasque last night at the second annual masquerade ball given by the Downers Grove Fire department. Shortly after 8 o'clock the masquers commenced arriving and at 8:30 when the grand march began the dancers crowded Oldfield's hall to its utmost capacity. The crowd was almost too great for comfort but the firemen made all as comfortable as possible and the party proceeded with the best of order and good feeling.

Music was furnished by the Apollo orchestra and was pronounced excellent, and much favored by the dancers as evidenced by numerous encores. From the grand march until 10:30 the fancy costumed crowd danced with faces covered. Heavy Dutchman, negroes and staid farmers danced with grotesque topsies, fairies and dainty ladies of the olden time, knights, lords, tramps or Indians whirled through waltzes and two steps with witches, fat ladies or old maids. At 10:30 masks were removed and the prizes announced.

Warren Devereux and Louis Klein and the musicians officiated as judges and the awards of the prizes found popular favor. Dancing was later resumed and continued until early next morning.

The committee in charge of the party were as follows: Arrangements—Klein, Staats, Johnson and Weatherbee. Reception—Barhart and Wiemer. Floor—Klein and Devereux. Refreshments—Weatherbee and Johnson. Tickets—Timpke and Miller.

Following are the prizes awarded for the best costumes:

- Best gentleman's costume, H. D. Mohr, Fellersburg, gent's umbrella by Fire department.
- Best ladies' costume, Martha Siebes, Utopia, flower girl, carving set by C. S. Hughes.
- Second best ladies' costume, Josephine Kartz Utopia, umbrella by the Fire department.
- Best square, Mrs. Dick Uhlhorn, bottle perfume, by Bush & Simonsen.
- Best coon, Geo. Peifer, Hinsdale, pocket knife, by Mertz & Mochel.
- Best Dutchman, Fred Mochel, Lace, pipe and tobacco, by J. W. Nash.
- Best Topsy, E. Ebert, La Grange, rocking chair, by W. S. Carpenter.
- Fattest man, P. Bapat, Naperville, box cigars, by E. Woehrel.
- Smallest lady, Lydia Selig, bottle perfume, by C. S. Davis.
- Fattest Lady, Minnie Hasket, table cloth, by S. F. Haller.
- Trampest tramp, Ed Heitz, Lace, ham, by Louis Klein.
- Best Farmer, John Swan, Lisle, whip, by C. Penner.
- Best clown, Gust Mades, Utopia, cake, by F. Rang.

BURLINGTON WILL BUILD.

Plan for extensive improvements to the Burlington road's Chicago yard, transfer and terminal facilities are being considered. The call for the building of a fifty-stall roundhouse at Clyde, an enlargement of the downtown passenger yards and the establishment of west bound departure yards between Hawthorne and Clyde. It practically is settled to erect the big roundhouse at Clyde, and although no time has been definitely set for building it, there is a probability that it will be put up before next summer is over.

BILL FOR ELECTROCUTION.

A bill to make electrocution the legal method of execution in Illinois was introduced in Springfield recently by Representative D. E. Sullivan of Chicago. If the bill becomes a law the death penalty will be administered in the Joliet penitentiary and the warden or such assistant as he may designate to officiate will receive \$50 for ending each human life.

SECOND QUARTERLY CONFERENCE.

The second quarterly conference of the M. E. church will be held in the lecture room of the church Saturday evening at 8 p. m. Dr. Caldwell the presiding elder will be present. There will be a short session of the official board at the close of the quarterly conference. Every member of the board is urgently requested to be present.

LaGRIPPE QUICKLY CURED.

"In the winter of 1898 and 1899 I was taken down with a severe attack of what is called LaGrippe" says F. L. Hewett, a prominent druggist of Winfield, Ill. "The only medicine I used was two bottles of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It broke up the cold and stopped the coughing like magic, and I have never since been troubled with the Grippe". Chamberlain's Cough Remedy can always be depended upon to break up a severe cold and ward off any attack of pneumonia. It is pleasant to take, too, which makes it most desirable and of the most popular preparations in use for these ailments. For sale by Bush and Simonsen.

Go over to Aurora, and see the stock of monumental work carried by T. Otto Fisk, 30 Downer Place.

Local and Personal Paragraphs.

Sage cheese at Nash's. Additional local news on fifth page. S. F. Haller, and family, spent Sunday in Barrington, Ill.

New York buckwheat flour. The same old kind at Nash's.

Mrs. Geo. L. Clark left yesterday for a visit with friends in the city.

Geo. Billings is back in his old position as cutter in Klein's market.

Mrs. H. Rosness and daughters spent Sunday with her sister, Mrs. V. Simonson.

Does your collar saw your neck? Get on Nash's exchange list and always wear new ones.

Miss Ethel Barr has returned from her visit to her sister, Mrs. Chas. Moor, at Hamilton, Ill.

Mrs. L. S. Dickson, of Irving Park, was a visitor of Dr. and Mrs. R. R. Pattison, Wednesday.

E. E. Bunge moved into the cottage at No. 83 Railroad street formerly occupied by Mrs. Pray.

Miss Nettie Griffiths, who has been visiting with the Dixon family, left Tuesday for Chicago.

For modern monumental work see or correspond with T. Otto Fisk, 30 Downer Place, Aurora.

Mrs. D. O. Cole returned Tuesday morning from an extended visit at Ottawa, Dubuque and other points.

Ed. Innes and Lynn Farrar left Tuesday for New Orleans, and later will make a trip through Texas and Arizona.

Rev. C. J. Pope was called to Valparaiso Ind., yesterday to attend a funeral of a young friend killed in a railroad wreck.

Miss Rose and George Kline of Downers Grove, spent several days in Naperville with friends and relatives, Clarion.

A letter to W. H. Edwards, agent of the steamship lines from Joseph Hall, announces his safe arrival in Weisbach, England.

Mrs. P. J. Kearney, who has been confined to the house owing to an operation undergone some time ago, is able to be out.

Glen W. Edwards will leave next week for an extended trip through the south and west, with Los Angeles as an objective point.

Some of the young people who went to Frank Lacy's Monday evening wonder what a sleighride would be without being "tipped out" in the snow.

The Congregational choir will give something unique and very entertaining in the social at the home of Mrs. Guy L. Bush Thursday, February 28th.

Mrs. W. C. Hunter of LaGrange, a grand-daughter of Henry Fauld of Downers Grove, died at her home Tuesday after noon after a short illness.

There will be a "Valentine Social" given by the young people of the Baptist Church at the home of Rev. C. J. Pope to night. All young people invited.

Victor S. Lawson, of Chicago, proprietor and editor of the "Chicago Daily Record," recently paid five thousand dollars toward the endowment of Wheaton college.

Mrs. F. M. Rood and daughter Hazel are spending a few days with her brother-in-law, H. H. Rood and family, while enroute from New Jersey to their home at Grindstone, South Dakota.

The roll of honor of prompt paying subscribers this week contains the names of W. H. Jones, Edward Ahrens, Mrs. F. Blanchard, and J. C. White, who have extended their subscription payments into 1901.

The dime social given by the ladies of the congregational church that was interfered with by the blizzard last Friday evening will be held at Mrs. John Graves, 48 Curdiss street, Tuesday evening, Feb. 19.

Mrs. M. A. Johnson who moved to Chicago three years ago will return to Downers Grove this spring and take her residence here. She contemplates making quite extensive improvements on her place No. 157 Belmont street.

The mails will be burdened to day with valentines of every description, comic and sentimental, good, bad, and indifferent, some costing a nickel, others a penny, while a few job lots of ancient issue will be sold at a great sacrifice, ten cents a pound.

Admission to the splendid literary and musical program part of the Washington Banquet will be 15 cents and will be paid at the door, no tickets will be used. It is expected that several hundred people who do not sit down to supper will greatly appreciate the "feast of reason and flow of soul."

Oil, Family Safety.

Best oil in town at C. S. Hughes. White Rose gasoline, Nash's. Fancy California fruits at Nash's. Fine lot of Valentines and Masks at Rang's.

Isaac Mason left to day for a southern trip to Florida.

J. C. Smith of the Tribune office was here one day last week.

Genuine pure buckwheat flour both self rising and the old style at Gerwig's. C. O. Brown who has been employed at W. S. Carpenter's has returned to Chicago.

States Attorney Slusser is in Okaloosa, Iowa, on professional business this week.

Levi Grostefon and son of Naperville were guests of his sister Mrs. Jas. Raninger, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Blodgett were in Wheaton Monday attending the funeral of her sister.

The Knights of Pythias will hold a special meeting Saturday evening for work in all ranks.

Will Krabs has secured a position with a fire extinguisher manufacturing firm in Chicago.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Sherwood and daughter were guests of Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Hodler over Sunday.

Mrs. J. G. Wade, who has been visiting at the home of J. Wermuth, left yesterday for West Pullman.

Mrs. Wm. Dawson and son Herbert will leave the latter part of the month for an extended visit with her sister in England.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Foster entertained friends from the city at dinner on the evening of their wedding anniversary February 7th.

Mrs. F. Blanchard will leave Monday for Washington, D. C., where she will visit her daughter, Mrs. J. W. Carnahan, for some time.

Wm. Laughlin died at his home near Lisle at noon Saturday after a short illness. An abscess on the brain was the cause of his death.

Sabbath services at the Congregational church. Morning—"The Forces Which Move the World." Evening—"The New Church for Sinners."

Myrtle Mae Lown who is to read at the Washington Banquet, comes well recommended. She is connected with one of the schools of oratory in Chicago.

The same as the two previous Saturdays, Dr. Porter will be at the home of Mrs. G. E. Downer, Saturday, Feb. 16, from 12 to 5. Friends are cordially invited to come.

Quarantine restrictions were removed from the house of Wm. Fraenkel last Sunday, their little daughter Theima, having recovered from her attack of scarlet fever.

Mrs. D. O. Cole, returned Tuesday from a two months visit in Ottawa, Sandwich, and Somonauk. She will leave again in a few days for Dubuque, Iowa, for the remainder of the winter.

Mr. Sodeburg, cornetist of the LaGrange orchestra, played at the Fireman's masquerade ball last night in the place of John H. Shurtis who is recovering from an attack of inflammatory rheumatism.

The Junior Union of the Baptist Church had a merry sleigh ride last Saturday. J. W. Worley and J. D. McVean carried two loads about town and into the country to the delight of the young people.

The Junior Endeavor Society of the Congregational church had their sleigh ride Wednesday afternoon. The party closed with refreshments of cake and cocoa served at the home of their leader, Mrs. George Hughes.

Mrs. H. P. Kellogg, and Miss Joe Kellogg, are enjoying the delightful climate of San Antonio, Texas. The singing of birds, and fragrance of roses have not weaned them from home, and the Reporter will be a welcome weekly visitor.

Rev. W. K. McKibben of South Chicago will speak at the Baptist Church Friday night of this week. Mr. McKibben has spent several years in China and will be able to bring much information concerning present conditions there. All are invited to be present.

Mr. Edward Cissold of Morgan Park, and Mrs. Nellie M. Pickerrill of Lemont will sing at the banquet Feb. 23. Mr. Cissold is a fine baritone singer and Mrs. Pickerrill who has sung before in Downers Grove needs no further commendation. They are both members of the Apollo Club of Chicago. The public will greatly enjoy hearing them.

ANNUAL PATRIOTIC BANQUET.

Third Function of the M. E. Church to be Given on Washington's Birthday.

No feature of the church or social life of Downers Grove is anticipated with more pleasurable expectation than the annual patriotic banquet of the Methodist Episcopal church. This year their third observance of the day will occur as usual on the anniversary of Washington's birthday, Friday, February 22nd, at the Auditorium. An elaborate program of toasts and responses, together with musical features, has been arranged for the entertainment of the guests. Seats at the banquet will be taken promptly at 6:30 o'clock. Only 150 tickets will be sold for the banquet in order to prevent any crowding or dissatisfaction. Banquet tickets are 30 cents. Tickets for the program alone will be sold at 15 cents. During the banquet the Zenda orchestra will furnish music. Following is the menu:

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| Cold Meat | Currant Jelly |
| Pickles | Mashed Potatoes |
| Olives | Scalloped Oysters |
| Cabbage with Cream Dressing | Bread and Butter |
| Cheese | Cake |
| Coffee | |

Following the banquet comes the musical program and responses to the toasts. Herbert H. Rood will be toastmaster and following is the program: Selection.....Orchestra Coronation.....By the Audience Prayer.....Rev. C. J. Pope Male Quartette....."One Hundred Years Ago" Messrs. Lovell, Wiegand, Wheeler, Roe. "Washington, the Guardian of the Young Republic".....Rev. T. R. Green "Hatchets".....Miss Gertrude Gibbs Vocal Duet....."Sweet Night".....Rev. C. J. Pope "The Veterans' Toast".....Messrs. Mrs. Nellie M. Pickerrill, Edward Cissold. "Girls".....Earl J. Herring Reading—"Sweet Pea".....Virginia Woodward Myrtle Mae Lown. "Wheels".....Mrs. O. M. Beattie Baritone Solo—"Vive l'America".....Mildred Edward Cissold. "Wanted, Patriots for Today".....J. B. Hailing Vocal Solo....."Spring Song".....Mackenzie Miss Mabel Messner. "Washington".....Mrs. Ida M. Steiner "America".....By Audience With Orchestra Accompaniment.

PYTHIAN DANCE.

The Knights of Pythias gave an informal dancing party last Thursday evening to its members and candidates at Carpenter's hall. The lodge was assisted in doing the honors by its auxiliary organization, the Rathbone Sisters, who served the supper and otherwise helped make the evening enjoyable. Previous to the dance the officers of the Rathbone Sisters gave an exhibition of the officers' march. The Lanetta Bros. orchestra furnished splendid music and about twenty couples joined in the dance until past midnight. The supper march was formed shortly after ten o'clock when the refreshments were served. The Knights expect to make these parties a monthly feature until spring.

WEAR NEW COLLARS.

J. W. Nash has a novel scheme whereby one may always wear new collars. The plan is to purchase 1 dozen B and B Red Line collars for \$1.50, then when they are soiled, do not have them laundered but return them to his store and he will replace them with a dozen new collars of the same style upon payment of only 25 cents. This is but slightly over the charge for laundering collars and you always have new collars and no saw edges. His advertisement on the fifth page will tell you all about it.

VALENTINE PARTY.

The Childrens Dancing class will have a valentine party Saturday, Feb. 16. This will be a jolly affair. The children's class meets every Saturday from 2:30 to 4:30. The adult class will give their masquerade Saturday evening, Feb. 23rd. Prizes will be awarded in the order named. Two most elaborate. Two most original. Two most comical. Dancing will be given at 8 p. m. Prizes march at 10 p. m. Admission 20 cents a person.

MOVE TO DOWNERS.

A. M. Compton, Supt. of the J. V. Farwell Co., has commenced repairs on the Tucker place. The house will be repainted and papered, electric lights and heating apparatus will be put in and other improvements added. They will occupy it about March 1st and we bespeak for this estimable family a cordial and hearty welcome as they come to establish their permanent home among us.

Tickets for the Washington birthday banquet are on sale at the drug stores. The sale of supper tickets will be limited to about 150, which will be sold at 30 cents each. The purpose in limiting the number of supper tickets is to avoid selling more tickets than can be served with supper. It is anticipated that the full band of Hubbs will be quickly sold.

THE LADIES RECEIVE.

WEDNESDAY CLUB HOLDS LARGE RECEPTION TUESDAY EVENING.

Parlors of the Downers Grove Club Rooms Thronged—Fully Two Hundred People Present.

The parlors of the Downers Grove Club rooms were thronged Tuesday evening on the occasion of the reception given by the Wednesday club, and were almost inadequate to the demands of the two hundred people who attended. The crush was so great that the billiard room had to be thrown open to relieve the congestion.

The reception was in honor of the Board of Education, the teachers in the Downers Grove schools and the clergymen of the village. Members of the Downers Grove club and other citizens with their wives and ladies were also invited.

The officers of the Wednesday club acted as the reception committee and received the guests on their arrival, in the ladies reception room. The officers are Mrs. Lilla E. Prince, president; Mrs. E. J. W. Dietz, vice-president; Mrs. Ruth J. Stanger, treasurer.

The rooms were decorated with cut flowers, red and white, the club's colors, predominating, and when filled with brightly gowned women and well dressed men presented a handsome and striking appearance.

The program arranged for the evening was curtailed somewhat owing to the indisposition of some of those who were to take part, but the number given were highly pleasing and received with applause. Misses Anna Roe and Nellie Carpenter gave a brilliant piano duet in two parts. S. H. Frey sang a bass solo and Mrs. W. E. Babcock's piano solo proved a pleasing feature. All responded to encores.

Light refreshments were served shortly after ten o'clock. Plates of delicious ice cream and cake were passed. Following this the crowd mingled and pleasant conversation, hand shaking and greetings of a friendly nature were exchanged, and served to pass the time quickly until nearly midnight when the function came to a close.

The ladies of the club were congratulated from all sides on the success of the affair and thanked for the opportunity given for the friendly intercourse of neighbors and friends.

COUNTY COURT PROCEEDINGS.

Following are the orders entered at the January term of the county court. Estate Eliza Beardsley—Appraiment approved. Estate Joseph H. Hill—James T. Hosford appointed commissioner to appraise the several bequests and to ascertain how much thereof comes under the inheritance law. Estate of Cassia Grimo—Final report approved; estate settled. Estate John W. Knickerbocker—Letter to Alden Knickerbocker. Estate Grace Schilling—Inventory approved; guardian's report approved. Estate Edward Grace—Claims allowed amounting to \$175.43. Estate Christopher Popp—Final report approved; estate settled. Estate Herman Knickerbocker—Final report approved; estate settled. Estate Charles Austin—Inventory approved; order for foreclose outstanding mortgages. Xavier Combs—Hearing on probate of will set for March 4th. Estate Christian Hart—Hearing on probate of will set for March 4th. Estate Heinrich Matthews—Inventory approved. Estate Elizabeth Carmichael—Inventory approved. Estate Sophia Hollenbeck—Proof publication appointed nunc pro tunc as of August term. Estate Clara Manville—Hearing on probate of will set for February 4th.

WRECK IN THE YARDS.

A broken flange on one of the wheels on the rear truck of a freight car was responsible for a small wreck to a west bound freight train, in the yards here Tuesday afternoon. The wheel broke at East Grove and the car was dragged along, some times on the rail and some times bumping on the ties, until the mass of twisted iron reached just below the tower. The car left the track and three others piled up and smashed before the train was stopped. One car was loaded with coal and another with iron. A wrecker from Chicago cleared up the debris. Traffic was delayed about an hour.

EPWORTH LEAGUE SLIGHT SIDE.

The young people of the Methodist church, are determined to have the sleigh ride they planned last week because of the storm. They will meet at the church tonight promptly at 7 o'clock. The small lecture room will be warmed. Sleighs will be loaned to the young people to use. All members of the League and their friends are invited.