

THE DOWNERS GROVE REPORTER.

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TELEPHONE DOWNERS GROVE 221.

THURSDAY, FEB. 21, 1901.

It is said that Mrs. Nation's first husband drank himself to death. That probably was the quickest way for the poor man to make his escape.

Over 500 bills have been introduced in the Illinois legislature this session; mostly aimed at regulation of corporations. Only twelve of all kinds have been passed.

Governor Yates is credited with the possession of a spinal column that will make it possible for him to act in accordance with his own convictions. Backbone is a good thing to have in an emergency, and we are highly pleased to be informed that our governor has one. We hope he will utilize it on all occasions.

The Illinois County Clerks and Supervisors did well in their convention at Joliet Friday, when they passed a recommendation that the sparrow bounty law be repealed. The law has brought about reckless shooting of air guns and rifles within city limits while its good effects have been about as few as those following Mrs. Nation's crusade.

Senator H. H. Evans, of this district was Thursday appointed by Governor Yates as a member of the Illinois commission at the Pan-American Exposition. This is the position to which Senator Evans was appointed by Gov. Tanner and his new appointment is a confirmation of that honor. Senator Evans is the only member of the Boose-Campbell faction that gets any recognition whatever in the appointments—Aurora Express.

Between now and July 1 next the terms of service of 35,000 volunteers now in the Philippines will expire, but for some time past new recruits have been enlisted at the rate of 2,000 a month. Long before July the quota will be filled notwithstanding that the exactions are rigid and the new term of enlistment three years. This is a great country and Uncle Sam will never have trouble to get all the soldiers he wants by merely asking for them.

If the bill introduced into the state legislature by Representative Sullivan becomes a law and electrocution takes the place of hanging as the legal method of execution, Joliet will have the honor of administering the death penalty to all the condemned in the state. Hanging is certainly a brutal way of putting a man to death, legal or not legal, and it looks nothing but right that some way should be provided as painless as possible to shove a man out into the great beyond if it has to be done at all, for the chance are he will get a big enough dose where he is going to do him a while.

Gov. Yates has taken a determined stand on the enforcement of the law against prize fighting in this state. Aside from the propriety of this attitude it may be said this is the proper stand to be taken by executives, whether governors or mayors, on all laws and ordinances. They should be enforced as long as they are on the statute books and if the executive fails to do this he makes the oath he took when installed in office worse than a mockery. The American conscience needs to be aroused to the extent that it will compel all executives to enforce the laws the American people themselves through their representatives have enacted.

The Chicago Board of Education is beginning to realize a fact which has become generally evident to the people, that the classical education of the high school is of little value to a large number of graduates. A business and commercial education would be of more practical use to all students who expect to finish their education in the high school. Superintendent Cooley left Chicago yesterday to visit the Commercial high schools of New York and Philadelphia, with a view of introducing this needed innovation in the high schools of Cook county. A similar reform has been inaugurated in the Washington public schools, and the demand is becoming imperative for a more practical education in many public schools elsewhere. The "Three R's" may be relics of the past, but it is lamentable that so large a number of students graduate in total ignorance of their significance.

Downers Grove is losing its grip and is glad of it. It could have lost it sooner with satisfaction, but it has declined to be done. It comes with the chill of fall and mops up with a pneumonia that would be better if devoted to another cause. Out of the entire population there is probably not more than five hundred that are in possession of the common sense. It is a sad condition, says the Canton Register. The responsibility. Our ancestors had had such a state in their joints, but it was not until the late 19th century that they were so afflicted. It is a sad condition, says the Canton Register. The responsibility. Our ancestors had had such a state in their joints, but it was not until the late 19th century that they were so afflicted.

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VILLAGE ETCHINGS

Somewhat back from the roadway it stood. Its time-stained sides gullies of paint bore the indescribable coloring which comes only from season after season of exposure to the elements. When first built years ago it compared favorably with other homes, but now having stood tenantless for so long its usefulness has a human habitation had departed and to the eye of the passerby it seemed but a reminder of the past.

Once its walls, now so dilapidated, rang with the merry laughter of children. From its windows, now frameless and staring, kind mother-eyes watched the frolic of the little ones and a woman's face smiled a welcome to the returning workman. The old chimney, now crumbling and falling brick by brick, once knew the warmth of a roaring fire which sent the great sparks up and out in a very volcano to battle with the wintry blast.

A straggling fringe of flowering currant, bordering the uneven walk of stone flagging which led to the deserted doorway, and a few straggling garden flowers which forced their half wild blossoms through a tangle of weeds, told the tale of a once well-kept flower bed.

Rumor had it that the old place was haunted and the children returning from the little district school hesitated to enter the yard. Now and then some archaic more bold than his comrades would venture to the doorway and about a shrill defiance through the deserted rooms, then quickly rejoin his companions half frightened by the noisy echo which returned his shout.

So for years it stood till one summer day a bolt from a thunder cloud crashed into it. From roof to cellar a scorching way was torn and in a few minutes the entire building was ablaze. Scattering drops of rain which preceded and followed the lightning offered no resistance to the flames. The smoke of the burning building was unnoticed and the next morning travelers along the road missed the old house and saw in its place a pile of charred timbers and smoking ashes.

The Boston correspondent of the Springfield Republican says the anti-imperialists are waiting a little, but raising money for "the cause," whatever that is. During January about \$700 has been contributed to "the cause." The issue of an address has been postponed, and the efforts of the league have been directed to the distribution of Aguinaidist literature, chiefly the speech of Representative McCall, which, we presume, is circulated at government expense with the rubber-stamp frank of the honorable gentleman. The systematic encouragement of rebellion and disorder by these people deserves the severest condemnation. While the government may deem it unwise to interfere directly with their operations, not one can properly claim freedom of speech as justification for open encouragement of rebellion and the murder of American troops in the Philippines. Of Representative McCall's performance in the house, the less said by his friends the better.

When taunted by the Democrats because the appropriations had run up to a billion dollars and told that he presided over a billion-dollar congress, Mr. Reed retorted that this was a billion-dollar country. Even since the days when Speaker Reed presided over the house, things have changed. A billion dollars no longer marks the maximum of appropriations. The country has grown beyond this mark and the appropriations for this congress will aggregate approximately a billion and a half. That sum, vast as it seems, is not more, relatively, than half a billion a score of years ago. American trade and commerce have expanded. The tide of prosperity still inundates the country. Revenues have constantly increased. With money pouring in from Europe to pay the balances of trade and with constantly increasing revenues, this enormous sum of money representing the cost of government is met without a murmur of dissent.

The "Salutatory" of The Commoner is convincing that Mr. Bryan has not changed his style of composition since becoming editor, nor abandoned the fallacious idea that a part of the American people are arrayed as antagonistic to another part. But, even admitting that it is so, what good can ever come from constantly preaching the doctrine? If Mr. Bryan's desire is to do good in the world, he is sadly unfortunate in the way he goes about it.

In responding to a toast at a banquet in Chicago recently, Hon. Samuel Alschuler, Democratic candidate for governor, said: "I am proud to express the hope and belief that my fellow-citizens did not choose unwisely when they elected their present governor. I have the highest respect for the young gentleman who has just entered upon his duties, and I am sure he will have the support of every citizen irrespective of party."

During the year 1900 the country enjoyed a period of prosperity that has seldom been equaled, and the year 1901 has shown a desire to even break last year's record for prosperity. The factories throughout the country are busy, money is plentiful and the farmer's products are bringing very good prices.

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THE DOWNERS GROVE DIRECTORY.

Table containing various community notices, county officers, village officers, township officers, and a detailed railway time card for the C. & Q. Railway.