

THREE AMERICAN DUCHESSES ATTEND AN ELABORATE DINNER IN THEIR HONOR AT PARIS



DUCHESS OF MANCHESTER

The Baroness Von Andree, sister-in-law to Chauncey M. Depew, gave the most elaborate dinner of the season in honor of three American duchesses.

Other guests were the Duchess of Devonshire, W. K. Vanderbilt and Mrs. Harriman of New York.

A seven-masted steel schooner of 11,000 tons displacement is among the ships under construction at Quincy and when built it will be the largest sailing vessel in the world.

Of the fifty colored boys who were graduated from the Richmond Colored High School in the decade 1873-83, twelve have died.

The Austrian army has an active general who is 95 years old. This is Field Marshal Lieutenant Baron Schwartz-Meiller.

The French government has asked two officials to investigate the benefits and detriments of the trusts.

The Province of Quebec, Canada, has a population of 1,645,572, of which 1,307,980 are French.

WEALTHY PHILADELPHIA NEGRO WHO LEFT AN IMMENSE FORTUNE TO CATHOLIC CHURCH



COL. JOHN MCKEE.

The will of Col. McKee, who died a few days ago at Philadelphia, gives his fortune, the largest ever possessed by a negro in the United States.

Col McKee, who was a member of the staff of the Governor of Pennsylvania and influential in politics, was converted to the Catholic Church by the ministrations of two Sisters of Charity who were sent to nurse him in his illness.

SOLD PETROLEUM

The Cairo field in West Virginia contains a relic of the earliest production of illuminating and lubricating oil—a wonderful deposit of solidified petroleum—bitumen, some call it, whether rightly so will not be known until the result of certain tests now being made by Eastern chemists is announced.

Oil companies from this and other cities are operating around Cairo, Ritchie County, with success. The fluid is about the same quality found here, but some difficulty with water is experienced.

Six miles from Devil's Hole, at McFarland's schoolhouse, where once was a prosperous settlement, now quite deserted, is the old Ritchie coal mine or bitumen deposit.

A company was formed and a narrow gauge railway thirteen miles long was built, connecting with the Baltimore and Ohio at Cairo.

Some extended explorations proved that the queer vein was about three-quarters of a mile long, and three to six feet wide.

The origin of baseball—"our national game"—is not definitely known, but the first club organized to play it was in New York in 1845.

Among those receiving medals for long service with the second regiment, I. N. G., are Capt. A. D. Rhem, Capt. B. J. Bevins and First Sergeant A. J. Hawkins.

It has been decided to call a convention of all commissioned officers in the militia to be held in Chicago on Flag day, June 14.

By the explosion of a gasoline lamp in an incubator, the infant child of M. F. Cutler was killed at Moweaqua.

At Moline Gustav Ploog committed suicide by drinking carbolic acid because he had been jilted by his sweetheart.

Saloons were opened in Salem for the first time in three years.

At the suggestion of Congressman Harry Lee Maynard the Agricultural Department at Washington will supply each member of the Virginia Constitutional Convention with a young oak tree for them to set out in commemoration of the convention.

ILLINOIS ITEMS

A man nearly dead with tuberculosis was found in the sand pit at the roundhouse of the Illinois Central railroad at Carbondale.

Ten men were severely injured by an explosion of hot metal in a blast furnace at the Illinois Steel works at Joliet.

Following is the assessed valuation of all properties within the corporate limits of Vandallia for last year: Lots, \$190,911; personal, \$172,923; railroad, \$15,836; total, \$379,670.

Arbor day was observed at the Virginia high school in an appropriate manner. The Lincoln club planted three ash trees from "Honest Abe's" old home near Petersburg.

Decatur citizens generally are feeling good over the announcement that the house committee in congress has reported the bill for \$30,000 public buildings in Decatur favorably.

James Rodgers, aged 74, died at his home in North Alton, after a long illness. He was a native of Ayrshire, Scotland, and had lived in Alton and North Alton more than fifty years.

Henry Prusahn, a wealthy and influential resident of Hoytston township, died at the age of seventy-four years.

The contract for furnishing the post-office in Litchfield with new mail boxes, etc., was let to the Keyless Lock Company of Indianapolis, Ind.

Bruce Highmore and Robert McLaughlin, two citizens of Rochester, Sangamon county, while driving through a covered bridge found a newborn baby in a basket.

Information has been filed with the county court at Springfield by State Attorney William E. Shutt against seventy-six saloon keepers, charging them with keeping their places of business open after hours and on the Sabbath.

The Alton police have put an end to jewelry peddlers in the city. Agents for cheap jewelry houses had been using children to sell their wares.

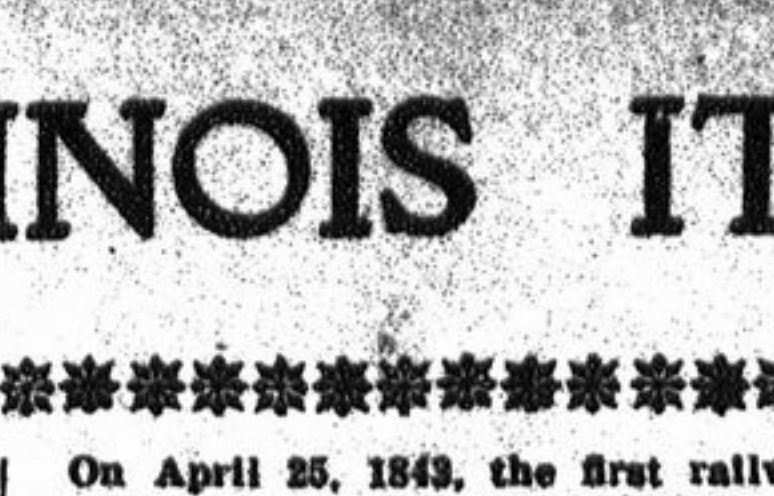
Two Alton men, George Cutter and Hon. H. G. McPike, were robbed at Granite City while attending the Republican convention there.

The American Hominy company has acquired title to the Shellabarger corn mill plant at Decatur for \$175,000 and the Pratt corn mill plant for \$125,000.

Members of the Peoria builders' and contractors' exchange have decided to purchase their lumber from what they consider fair firms.

George and Anna Koch of St. Rose have commenced legal proceedings in the Clinton county circuit court against the Consolidated Coal company of St. Louis for \$5,000 damages.

William H. Richeson, a farmer of Hazel Dell, has filed a petition in bankruptcy in the United States court. He schedules his liabilities at \$1,056, with assets amounting to \$200.



ESRA BRAMWELL.

(Pioneer railroad man of Indiana and Illinois.)

On April 25, 1843, the first railway train was run into Indianapolis from the East. Ezra Bramwell, now nearly 90 years of age, was its conductor.

At Marion, Ill., Frank Page, a young man, was run down by a Chicago and Eastern Illinois train Wednesday afternoon. Both legs were broken and he was otherwise seriously injured.

The P. McGauley residence on what is known as the Beckle farm, one mile south of Salem, was totally destroyed by fire, together with all the household goods and personal effects of the family.

The Woman's Christian Temperance Union closed its county institute at Harrisburg with a medal contest. There were five contestants and the medal was won by Miss Ida Seead.

Dr. Llewellyn B. Ashton has been appointed assistant surgeon of Quincy naval reserves with the rank of lieutenant, junior grade.

About two hundred employees of union labor held a meeting at Quincy for the purpose of organizing an employers' association.

In Justice Allen's court at Quincy Otto Roth was fined \$25 and costs for keeping his saloon open on Sunday.

A gang of men has started the erection of a telegraph line along the right of way of the Decatur and Springfield extension of the Indianapolis, Decatur and Western road.

Mrs. Mary Kirkham, one of the oldest residents of southern Illinois, died at the residence of her son in Carbondale. Mrs. Kirkham had been a resident of Illinois for eighty years.

Mr. and Mrs. Josiah A. Hill of Sharpburg celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of their marriage by entertaining 400 of their friends at dinner.

ALBON S. SHERMAN. (Mayor of Chicago half a century ago who recently celebrated his ninety-first birthday.)

Albon S. Sherman, Chicago's oldest living mayor, who has made his home at Waukegan since 1854, recently celebrated the ninety-first anniversary of his birth, and, as has been customary for several years, he gave his family a reunion dinner.

The Carlinville Telephone company has closed a contract with the Montgomery County Telephone company whereby all the subscribers of the Litchfield exchange will have free connection with the Hillsboro and Butler exchanges of the Montgomery County Telephone company.

Through the efforts of Prof. J. W. Atkins, a traveling library has been secured and placed in the Virginia high school building. During the summer it will be in charge of the summer clubs of the school and accessible to everybody.

William E. West, for sixty-one years a resident of Moline, is dead at present.

Oscar Robo died at his home in Lowell, Champaign county. Death resulted from heart failure, after pneumonia.

John F. Seewald died at his home, two and one-half miles south of Sumnerfield. The deceased was born in Germany in 1808.

Miss Cora Lee Green, daughter of Dr. W. Duff Green, died at her home at Mount Vernon of congestion of the brain. Her mother died only two weeks ago.

In the circuit court at Edwardsville John Lewis pleaded guilty to assault with a deadly weapon and was given fifteen days in the county jail. Fred Green, charged with larceny, was sentenced to thirty days on a plea of guilty. Harry Long, under 17 years of age, was sentenced to the reform school at Pontiac on a plea of guilty to the charge of burglary and larceny.

At the celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the El Akas commandery, Knights Templars, at Quincy, a suitable address was made by Dr. A. A. Whipple and L. E. Boswell spoke on the history of the organization. An interesting feature of the occasion was the gift of a beautiful silver loving cup to E. A. Rogers, who has been treasurer of the commandery for twenty years. The cup is eight inches high and is handsomely engraved.

A Harsher lost three fingers on his right hand while working on a slabbing machine in the Broad sheet metal works at Quincy.

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HENRY PRUSAHN.

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CAPTAIN ARTHUR D. RHEM.

(Adjutant, who won a Fifteen-Year Medal.)

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