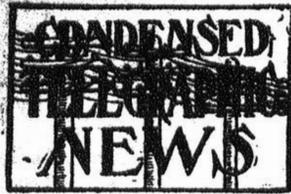


Downers Grove Reporter.

By HUGH M. WELSH.

DOWNERS GROVE, ILLINOIS.



President W. C. Whitfield of Milton college at Milton, Wis., is reported dangerously ill.

Salaries of Minnesota officials have been increased 10 per cent on the ground that living is higher.

A heavy rain fell at Washington, Ind., following a special prayer service by St. Mary's German church.

Democrats of Massac county met at Metropolis, Ill., and endorsed J. L. Pickering for clerk of the supreme court and Frank Navill for clerk of the appellate court.

At Springfield, Ill., the will of Dr. John L. Million, a wealthy physician and for many years chief medical examiner of the Ancient Order of the United Workmen and a member of the board of pension examiners, was set aside on the ground that he was of unsound mind.

A county election contest at Galway, Ireland, led to a series of severe fights there. Lord Morris and Killanin personally led his supporters against his nationalist opponents. A dozen men were wounded, some of them sustaining serious injuries.

Dr. N. D. Hillis told the Plymouth Church congregation at Brooklyn that he was threatened with nervous prostration and would start for Europe.

A committee may be appointed to carry on the duties abandoned by Lewis Nixon, the Tammany leader.

Miss Julia Williams of Detroit died at the Fifth Avenue hotel, New York, from an overdose of strychnine pills.

The striking coal miners at Hazleton took oath in the Catholic church to abstain from liquor. Father Phillips urged the men to stand together during the strike.

The foreign commerce bureau report that American shoe imports into India increased 400 per cent in 1901; cotton piece imports also increased.

Bishop William Kenney was consecrated in the old cathedral at St. Augustine, Fla., Cardinal Gibbons officiating.

George Shriely of Pittsburg, under restraint at Louisville, attempted to commit suicide by driving an eight-penny nail into his head.

George Taylor, colored, who died at Louisville, is said to have been 102 years old, and to have belonged to President Zachary Taylor.

Miss Elizabeth Stures, teacher of German at Cleveland, was thrown from a carriage in a runaway accident and probably fatally injured.

Private Frank L. Farris, serving in the headquarters building at the military academy at West Point, was killed. He got out of the way of a freight only to be struck by a passenger train.

Herman Smith, a former member of the Indiana legislature, fatally shot Roy Lassiter, a farmer, near Abots, Ind., Mrs. Lassiter accused Smith of insulting her.

At the state normal oratorical contest between Illinois and Wisconsin, at Bloomington, Ill., the former won. William Kephart of Atlanta, Ill., won first prize in the intercollegiate oratorical contest at Urbana, Ill.

Franklin, Ind., has a child with four living great grandmothers and one great grandfather. The child is Anna Marguerite, the infant daughter of Virgil Whitesides.

The Iowa State Federation of Labor adopted a resolution condemning President Roosevelt because of his order forbidding employes of the government to seek to influence legislation in their own interests.

Henry Clay Evans, who has just retired as commissioner of pensions, took the oath of office as consul general at London. He will leave for his new post early in June.

Joseph Coleman of Foulton, S. D., charged with the murder of his brother Edward, to secure \$10,000 insurance on the latter's life, has been held to the circuit court without bail.

A washout on the Coby branch of the Union Pacific railroad caused a freight wreck in which George Regnier, engineer, was killed and the fireman and two brakemen were badly scalded.

It is reported in Panama that Gen. Alfaro, the former president of Ecuador, is preparing a revolutionary movement against President Plaza of the republic.

The Master Builders' association of the District of Columbia has declared a lockout against all mechanics affiliated with the Central labor union.

A preliminary injunction was granted restraining the striking miners of the Connell Coal company at Hite Station, Pa., from interfering with the nonunion workers.

Page Bennett, a pensioner, 63 years old, committed suicide by hanging himself in his barn at Washington, Ind.

Henry Dumprope, aged 18, was convicted of manslaughter at Emporia, Kas. He killed a man named Crowley.

The board of managers of Missouri insane asylum No. 4 decided that July 1 is too early to open the asylum, and that the date be set for September 1.

The 17-year-old son of F. S. Winn was run over by a wagon and killed at Peoria.

MINE EXPLOSION KILLS HUNDREDS

Men and Boys Stifled by Noxious Gas at Fraterville, Tennessee.

ONE ESCAPES INSTANT DEATH

William Morgan, a Road Man, is Blown from the Shaft, but Cannot Survive—Fall of Slate Impedes the Work of Rescuing Party.

Two hundred and twenty-five miners, men and boys, met instant death by an explosion of gas in the Fraterville coal mine, two miles west of Coal Creek, Tenn.

With one exception, all those in the mine at the time of the explosion, which occurred at 7:30 in the morning, are supposed to be dead. The single exception is William Morgan, a road man in the mine, who was blown from the shaft by the force of the exploding gas. He is so badly injured that he cannot live.

One hundred and seventy-five miners were checked in for work by the mine boss. In addition to these there were boys who acted as helpers and drivers and road men, and others to the number of perhaps fifty.

Fraterville mine is the oldest mine in the Coal Creek district, having been opened in 1870. It is fully three miles from the mine's opening to the point where the men were at work. They had not been long at work before the terrible explosion occurred.

There was a terrible roar and then flames shot from the entrance and the air shafts. News of the disaster spread like wildfire, and as soon as order could be brought out of chaos, two rescuing parties were started in, one at the mine entrance and the other through Thistle mine, which adjoins, and in which no men were at work.

The Thistle party was unable to make any headway, as the gas stifled the workers.

The Fraterville party went fully two miles under the earth until a heavy fall of slate was encountered. At this barrier men worked like demons, hoping against hope that those beyond might be safe.

The scenes at the mouth of the mine while the workers were within are beyond description. Business had been suspended in Coal Creek and all its mines as soon as the news of the disaster became circulated, and men, women and children gathered around the Fraterville entrance.

Women whose husbands and sons were within were wild with grief.

All day the rescuers toiled at the slate obstruction, and not until 5 o'clock did they force an entrance through it. Up to that hour only five dead bodies had been recovered and hope was still high that many within were safe.

The hopes of the living were doomed, however, for, when the rescuers finally could enter, they walked along a continuous gallery of death. There was not a sign of life. Every man had perished, they believed, although all the rooms had not been entered.

Eight dead bodies were first recovered, and these were sent to Coal Creek. Twenty-six others were soon found. They were not disfigured beyond identification, and each corpse, as it was borne from the mouth of the gigantic tomb, was surrounded by eager crowds of relatives of the men who were entombed.

The smoke and gas are stifling, and the heat is excessive. The latter fact indicates that the mine is burning.

CELEBRATES CUBAN FREEDOM

Havana Ablaze With Fireworks and Illuminations.

Havana cable: On Sunday Havana celebrated the advent of the new republic. The city was ablaze with fireworks and illuminations. The streets were filled with people. Bands were playing the Cuban national air and "The Star-Spangled Banner." Masquerade balls were in progress and the driveways were filled with open carriages.

The merchants of Havana bade farewell to Governor General Wood. They marched to the palace with bands of music and for an hour passed before him, shaking his hand and showering compliments upon him. Their expressions of regret over his departure were sincere.

Later in the evening the commercial bodies gave a dinner to the governor general.

The festivities in celebration of the change of government were general all over the island. In almost every town and village an elaborate program of popular rejoicing had been arranged.

Sunday here, as in all Spanish countries, is not given over altogether to religious observances, but is largely a holiday devoted to recreation and amusement.

Cow Kills Farmer. Elkhart, Ind., dispatch: Levi Schilling, aged sixty, a well-known farmer, was found dead at the roadside. He had been leading a fractious cow and it is supposed that she jerked him to the ground with the fatal result.

Buy Michigan Land. Menominee, Mich., special: A tract of 25,000 acres of land in Menominee county has just been deeded to William Kent of Chicago by the Kirby Carpenter Lumber company. The consideration is not known.

Oil for Mosquitoes. Mobile, Ala., special: The Mobile city council has adopted an ordinance and made an appropriation for the extermination of the mosquito by the use of kerosene and paraffin oil.

TEXAS TORNADO LEAVES 200 DEAD

Hundreds Are Wounded in Goliad by a Violent Windstorm.

WIND BLOWS AT FIERCE RATE

Churches, Houses and Stone Residences Swept Away by the Elements—Several Are Injured at Austin and Other Lone Star Points.

Two hundred people were killed by a tornado at Goliad, Texas, hundreds wounded, great property damage done and half the town destroyed.

The tornado struck the town traveling in a northeasterly direction. Beyond a marked fall in the temperature and the lowering clouds tinged with green, no warning of the calamity was given. The storm struck Goliad almost in the heart of the city, and wrecked buildings as if they were of cardboard.

Between Church and Patrick streets, which run north and south, a distance of a mile in length, only one house was left standing and scarcely a vestige of one could be seen. The tornado was preceded a few moments before by a heavy hail storm and a deep rumbling sound.

The section which has most suffered was the residence portion, the lower part being the negro settlements, while the upper part contained many residences.

The Methodist and Baptist Churches and the Baptist parsonage, both just completed, and the negro Methodist church was destroyed. The Episcopal church was badly damaged and fully 100 houses were totally destroyed.

The stone residence of D. T. Davis of the Goliad Guard was the only building in the pathway of the storm not demolished.

The people of Goliad, realizing at once the stupendous nature of the calamity and the terrible loss of life and number injured telephoned to the sister cities of Cicero and Victoria for assistance, which was responded to immediately.

A heavy rainstorm, accompanied by a terrific wind, struck Antonio, Tex. Several persons were injured, but no fatalities are reported. Scores of buildings were wrecked and the property loss is placed at \$75,000.

The wind reached a velocity of seventy-two miles an hour and continued at that rate for nearly twenty minutes. At Fort Sam Houston government property was damaged to the extent of \$20,000, the doors being torn off the officers' headquarters and barracks. The West End church was destroyed, causing a loss of \$5,000. Hartwell's hotel was damaged to the extent of \$3,000. Damage to private residences will reach \$20,000.

The storm was general throughout the state, extending from the Red river to the lower gulf coast, a distance of fully six hundred miles. In northern Texas the atmosphere became very cold immediately following the rain. The barometer was very low also, indicating at Dallas 29.2, which is nearly the point reached here during the Galveston disaster.

GOLIAD'S DEAD. Ninety-Eight Persons Killed and 103 Injured by the Tornado.

The storms which swept over Texas and which assumed the severity of a cyclone at Goliad, where ninety-eight persons are dead and 103 are injured, did considerable damage in other parts of the state. Heavy rains fell throughout the western portion of the state and will help crops materially.

The Panhandle especially was drenched. Goliad is now under military rule. The courthouse and residences are being used to shelter dead and care for the injured.

Gov. Sayers issued an appeal to the mayors of all cities of 3,000 population and over in the state of Texas asking them to send food to Goliad and raise funds for the sufferers.

MINERS MAY UNITE IN STRIKE

If Two More Districts Join in Call Convention May Assemble.

Strong belief that a national convention will be called to decide whether or not the entire United Miner Workers of America shall strike to enforce the demands of the anthracite miners is expressed by Secretary Wilson. The anthracite men, who are demanding a national convention, have three districts, and if they can get two more to join in their petition President Mitchell will have to issue the call, having no option in the matter.

Two Years for Perjury. St. Louis special: The jury in the case of Julius Lehmann, on trial for perjury in connection with the "boodle" scandal, returned a verdict of guilty and fixed his punishment at two years in the penitentiary.

Steel Plant for Cleveland. Cleveland, O., dispatch: Arrangements are completed for the erection in this city of a plant to manufacture steel castings by the Ohio Steel Company. Three hundred and fifty men will be employed at the beginning.

Gets \$500 Damages. James Duncan was given judgment against the Auburn and Alton Coal Company for \$500. The defendant defaulted.

Doctor Hadn't Missouri License. Dr. J. M. Davis of Hamilton, who has been making professional visits to different towns throughout Macon county, Mo., during the past fifteen years, was arrested at Macon, charged with practicing medicine without a certificate from the Missouri state board of health.

Illinois News

POLEET CONFESSES TO KILLING NOT BUILT TO SPLIT KINDLING IS OLDEST MAN IN THE STATE.

Minister Says He Was Overcome by Uncontrollable Desire to Slay.

John Poleet, the Baptist minister who was arrested by Springfield officers, charged with the murder of his traveling companion, Charles Isaacson, confessed the murder in a letter which he wrote to his father-in-law, John Walker of Jerseyville. The confession was a surprise to even the officers who were working on the case, for the majority of them had come to believe in Poleet's innocence.

But for the efforts of Detective Frank Ryan it is likely that the man would have been released from custody im-



REV. JOHN POLEET. Minister who says he was overcome by uncontrollable desire to slay.

mediately after his arrest, for his record as a man was above reproach, and the people at McClusky, where he was in charge of the Baptist mission, believe him incapable of such a crime and were protesting against his confinement.

Poleet's father-in-law came to Springfield to make arrangements for defending the suspect, and it was after he left that Poleet wrote the confession. He said that in a moment of frenzy, without any other provocation than an uncontrollable desire to slay, he struck down his companion and beat out his brains with a car cooper.

He makes no attempt to defend himself and says he is unable to explain the deed, which is so foreign to his character, his teaching and his former life. He says he is ready to accept the consequences of his act, and declares that he still has faith in his religion and that he has been forgiven.

ELGIN MAN IS ELECTED MAJOR

Benjamin E. Gould Chosen by the Third Illinois Regiment.

Benjamin E. Gould of Elgin has been elected major of the Third Illinois regiment. Gould succeeds former Major Joseph Caughey, who is now in the Philippines with the com-



BENJAMIN E. GOULD. (Major of the Third Regiment, I. N. G.)

mission of first lieutenant. Gould has been identified with the Third regiment for a number of years. He has been the quartermaster and for several years was captain of company E of Elgin. He saw active service in Porto Rico. He has been a resident of Elgin all his life.

Waterworks Near Completion.

Work on the new waterworks system at Collinsville is progressing rapidly. The pumping station is almost completed and the mains are being laid in different parts of the city. The contract calls for the completion of the plant by June 1.

Needs No Key to Open Locks.

A young lady named Bond, living with her uncle, James Bond, near Olga is able to open any lock without the aid of a key. She has just made a public demonstration with a small brass lock of C. H. Lamater at McLeansboro.

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Woman Tramp Could Not Pay for Her Breakfast That Way.

Chief of Police Harkness arrested a woman who appeared on the streets of Chester dressed in male attire. She had secured lodging the previous night at the residence of W. H. Hecht, and when requested to split a lot of wood for her breakfast she was unable to accomplish the feat and revealed her sex. She gave her name as Lizzie Wisely, aged 38 years, daughter of James L. Wisely of Coulterville, and is the same woman who was taken into custody at East St. Louis a week ago and released on her promise to return home. According to her story, she has been a female tramp during the greater part of four years, often masquerading as a man because male apparel subjected her to less attention than if she wore the garb of a woman.

Mortuary.

John L. Faulk, who has been president of the village board for a number of years, died at his home. He was an extensive dealer in horses.

George S. Clendenia died at Springfield, aged 63 years.

Capt. Phillip Everhart died at his home in Neogo, aged 78 years.

John A. Young, a wealthy farmer and bank official at Rushville is dead, aged 66 years.

Miss Merta Reddie, assistant postmaster at Leroy, died from the effects of a surgical operation.

William J. Bohne, a resident of Quincy for the past half century, is dead.

National Guard Encampment.

The state encampment of this year will be by brigades instead of regiments. Adjutant General Smith has entered a general order covering the matter. The encampment will open on the 5th of July and will run four weeks, closing the 31st. The First brigade will go into camp first, and will have five days of service, breaking camp on the 10th. It will be followed by the Second brigade from the 12th to the 17th. The Third brigade will come next, from the 19th to the 24th, and the last week, from the 26th to the 31st, the cavalry, artillery, engineering company, Eighth battalion and signal corps will occupy Camp Lincoln.

Saves Children from Mad Dog.

A large dog belonging to Mrs. Emma Walker of Springfield became mad and inflicted wounds on several other canines in the neighborhood. He afterward attacked a party of children at play and would probably have severely injured some of them, but was overpowered by a young man, Henry Weinbuff, who was passing. Weinbuff was badly bitten on both hands. The animal was killed.

Thought a License Sufficient.

Anton Schmeider and Miss Mary Tucker of Columbia, who tried to get a marriage license and failed, owing to the girl's age, went to East St. Louis, got a marriage license, and thought they were man and wife without the performance of the marriage ceremony until informed of their mistake, when they were married by a justice of the peace at East St. Louis.

Farmer Hange Himself.

Christian Ruch, a well-to-do farmer, owning 480 acres of choice land about ten miles north of Monticello, committed suicide by hanging himself in the cow shed with a halter. No cause is known for the deed, as he was prosperous and his family relations were pleasant. He was forty-seven years of age and leaves a widow and eight children, the youngest about three years old.

New Race Track at Alton.

Announcement is made that the new driving park to be backed by Alton horsemen and bicycle riders will be opened to the public July 4, and that a racing matinee will be given as the opening event. After July 4 the park will be open to the members of the association. The track is being put in good condition for speeding horses and bicycle riding.

Piazza Chautauqua.

The hotel at the Piazza Chautauqua grounds will be conducted on improved lines this year, the directors having voted to employ an experienced hotel man to have charge for the summer. It was also decided to improve the hotel service and to make the Piazza Chautauqua more attractive for St. Louis people.

New School Superintendent.

E. E. Webster of Ann Arbor, Mich., has been appointed superintendent of the Jacksonville schools, to succeed Prof. John W. Henninger, resigned.

Memorial Services for Dr. Kendrick.

Memorial services for the late Dr. A. A. Kendrick, former president of Shurtleff college, will be held in the Upper Alton Baptist church Tuesday, June 3. Addresses will be delivered by Rev. Dr. W. W. Boyd of St. Louis, and by Hon. F. W. Parker of Chicago. Dr. Boyd will speak of Dr. Kendrick as a Christian minister and Mr. Parker will speak of him as a teacher. The memorial services will be elaborate, and it is expected there will be a large attendance of the friends and former pupils of Shurtleff.

Francis M. Anthony Has Passed His 102d Birthday.

Francis M. Anthony of McLean county, probably the oldest man in Illinois, celebrated his one hundred and second birthday anniversary at his home near Bloomington. He was born May 8, 1800, in County Tyrone, Ireland, and came to America when 20 years old. He settled in Illinois in



FRANCIS M. ANTHONY. (Who celebrated his 102d birthday anniversary at Bloomington.) 1873. Mr. Anthony attributes his remarkably well preserved faculties to the abstemious habits he has followed through his entire life. He enjoys the distinction of having seen the close of the eighteenth century, all the nineteenth and the dawning of the twentieth.

Carnival at Murphysboro.

The Elks' street fair and carnival at Murphysboro filled the town to overflowing with people who came from all directions. The attractions included the streets of Cairo, streets of India, Ferris wheel, German village, glassblowers, dens of wild animals, snake charmers, snake eaters and fakers galore. At the Lucien opera house Miss Sue Millikin was crowned queen of the carnival. There was a flower parade, with Miss May Busch as queen. The carriage provided for her by the Elks for this event is said to have cost a small fortune.

Teacher Wins Lawsuit.

A jury in the Clinton county circuit court decided that Miss Samantha Fisher of Huey was entitled to \$53.17, which was due her as salary for an unexpired term when she was discharged as teacher of the Clinton school in Brookside township by the directors. The school officials alleged she was not competent to teach the school, while she declared she was deposed as teacher because she whipped a son of one of the directors.

Treasurer's Daughter Marries.

Miss Adelaide, daughter of State Treasurer Williamson, and Edward C. Slocumb, Chicago, were married at the bride's home in Galesburg in the presence of 200 guests, including many from outside cities. The bride's pastor, Rev. C. A. Vincent, officiated. Among the many beautiful presents was a costly one from the state officials. The groom is a graduate from the state university and the bride from Knox college.

Sets Fire to County Barn.

A large barn at the Hillsboro poor farm was set on fire by Ira Huffines, a demented inmate, and was totally destroyed, with two mules, two horses, 100 bushels of corn, ten tons of hay, some oats, harness and farm implements. The loss to the county is estimated at \$1,500, with \$500 insurance. The loss of Supt. Barringer is about \$500, with no insurance.

Aged Negress Dies Suddenly.

An aged negress of Edwardsville, known as "Aunt" Emily Fountain, a familiar figure about the streets during the past forty or more years, died suddenly without medical attendance. An inquest was held over the remains, the verdict being that death was due to general debility. She was past 90 years of age.

Negro Lad Sent to Pontiac.

In the Springfield juvenile court Curtis Sheldon, a negro boy, was found to be delinquent and sentenced to the state reformatory at Pontiac. Sheldon has been before the court a number of times, his last offense being the turning in of false alarms of fire just to see the horses run.

Cut Worms Damage Corn.

Farmers of the vicinity of Edwardsville report considerable damage done to the growing corn by cut worms. The cold nights were favorable to these little pests, and they not only destroyed a large quantity of young corn, but also garden truck of all kinds.

League Convention Postponed.

The republican state league convention, which was to have been held in Peoria, June 10, has been postponed until the latter part of August or early in September. The meeting will be made the occasion of the formal opening of the campaign in Illinois, and the attendance is expected to be large. All of the party leaders of state reputation will be there and most of them will make speeches. The place of holding the convention will be Peoria, as originally planned.