

# DOWNERS GROVE REPORTER.

TWENTIETH YEAR.

DOWNERS GROVE, DuPAGE COUNTY, ILLINOIS, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1903.

NUMBER 10

## Early Hanging Recalled

### Reminiscences of Crimes for which Death Sentence Was Imposed.

Work on Tax Books Delayed Waiting for State Rate—Burlington's New Bridge at Plano—Other County News from Exchanges.

The hanging of Romano marks the second hanging in Kane county. One the 21 of April, 1864, a man by the name of John Collins was hung for the murder of his wife, and three weeks later the same gallows were used in DuPage county for the execution of Patrick Doyle. Patrick Doyle was tried at the April term 1864, of the circuit court for the murder of a fellow workman on what was then known as the Mississippi Air Line, now the Chicago Great Western, at a point due north of midway between the present towns of Glen Ellyn and Lombard. The murder was a most atrocious one, Doyle killing his man in the middle of the night, using a common railroad pick. He was arrested the following day after considerable difficulty, his countrymen refusing to have him arrested. Hugh Henderson was the presiding judge; Sherman W. Bowen, state's attorney; Truman W. Smith, sheriff; Peter Northrop, clerk. Nathan Allen and E. N. Muey appeared as the prisoner's counsel. The jury was selected after the entire panel was exhausted and three special venire of talsman were called and was composed of the following persons: John Thompson, Edmund Page, John Eberly, Daniel Orcutt, Wm. Pathe, Walter German, Abram Stolp, Daniel Lester, T. B. Gutscha, T. B. Gould, John Mires and Asher Colt. The trial lasted for three days. The verdict was "guilty as charged in the indictment and punishment fixed at death by hanging." The court set Friday, May 12, 1864, and the same was witnessed by hundreds of people. There has been near two hangings in DuPage county since. Merritt Fletcher was brought here from Kane county on a charge of venue in 1883, and after due trial was found guilty of shooting a man named Pope, a farmer living a short distance from Aurora and was sentenced to be hung Friday, June 15, 1883. He was granted a new trial, and subsequent extenuating circumstances having arisen, escaped with a penitentiary sentence of three years. He served the three years. At the October term, 1897, Edward Shannon of Belvidere was tried for the murder of his wife, he having gone into a passenger coach on the Chicago & Northwestern railway at Belvidere and shot her dead. The jury found him guilty and fixed the punishment at death by hanging and the date was fixed for Friday, February 11, 1898. His attorneys got a reprieve and he was tried for insanity, it being claimed that he had become insane after the trial. He was taken to the asylum for criminal insane at Chester and died there some two or three years ago.—Journal.

August W. Peterson, a fireman on the Kansas City train, was killed at Riverdale last Friday night. Peterson was leaning over the gate on the gangway of the engine and looking to the rear of the train when he was struck in the back of the head by a water crane standing between the tracks of the road at East Granddale. The force of the blow rendered him unconscious and cut a deep gash in the back of the head which caused his death.

As guests of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy railroad, a party of 200 engineers in the employ of several of the large railroads Friday afternoon visited the big concrete and steel bridge recently constructed at Plano. The party was taken out on a special train to inspect the new bridge, which is of a type of construction now generally used on the Burlington route. The new structure replaces a double track steel bridge.

Thursday, the first day of December, the LaGrange Gas company started its high pressure gas pump at its LaGrange plant, and forced its thousand ft. of gas for consumption in Hinsdale. The high pressure is reduced by passing through a governor in the basement of its Hinsdale office to a pressure sufficiently low to be safely burned for fuel and light, and yet give excellent light and heat.

Glady Lane Mead, daughter of Charles Mead, editor of the Geneva Republican, and coroner of Kane county, died on Friday of last week of paralysis of the heart. The child was first stricken with diphtheria, the heart trouble developing shortly before her death. The parents are heartbroken over the death of their child as she was the baby of the Mead household and one of the brightest children in Geneva.

County Clerk Lawrence and his force of clerks are taking a rest on the tax books. They have got to where the state board of equalization must make the state rate before they can finish the books and have them ready for the township collectors. The law says the books should be in the hands of the collectors by January 10, but the board of equalization blocks the game.

The Naperville waterworks objectors have ordered a transcript of the county court proceedings in that case and the matter will go to the supreme court.

## NEW INTERCHANGEABLE MILEAGE BOOK.

Transportation Good on All Railroads are Now On Sale in Downers Grove.

The new interchangeable mileage books, good on all the roads in Western Passenger association, are now on sale at the depot in Downers Grove. The old individual mileage credentials, the red book, has been raised from 3,000 to 4,000 miles. The cover will be blue instead of red. The purchaser pays \$1 for the credential and 3 cents a mile for transportation, and is allowed a rebate of one cent a mile if the book is used up within the year, as before. It is interchangeable. Besides this book, good for 3,000 miles, is sold, the purchaser paying \$60 for it, or three cents a mile. The book is peculiar in that it contains simply the date of the sale. There is no personal description, no signature and no name. The man who first presents the book for transportation must sign a slip given to him by the conductor. The latter also uses an identification blank of the first man who presents the book. If the purchaser uses up the 3,000 within one year from date of sale he is given a rebate of \$19.50, which makes the cost about two cents a mile. If the book is presented by any other man than the first purchaser, no rebate is allowed. The man who buys the book may sell it or give it away, but if it is found in another's hands no rebate will be given. The mileage, however, is good. The identification blank of the first man is used later to see if the first purchaser is entitled to the rebate.

## BLANK VERSE.

When your pen is in the inkwell and your hand is on the pen, when you write and then erase and write and then erase again, when you've tried to think of something with the patience of a saint, when you think that something's rather good and when you know it ain't, when Pegasus is balky and is somewhat off his feed, when you can't think up a single thing that folks would care to read, when your brain's on a vacation and the frost is on the lake, when the fur is on the tongue and the head is on the ache, when you've fattened up your "batting" average from the night before, when the glass was on the table and they begged for "just one more," when they're clamoring for "coopy" and there isn't any in, when lots of other things are true ad lib, and ad infm., when you sought your soft and downy quite a little after two; when all these whens we've mentioned are unalterably true, we do what Mr. Riley did when he was shy, ywis, and fill a lot of space with stuff like this.

## CLEVELAND'S THEATRE.

About the best show in Chicago this week will be the grand revival of East Lynne at Mr. Cleveland's large, handsome play-house. The particular reason for this is that the Cleveland Theatre company is pre-eminently well fitted to do even more than justice to this splendid and never-to-be-forgotten play. There will be no character in the coming production but what will be acted in a superlative manner, and that is why it will be so commendable. Mr. Cleveland's company has lately had every opportunity to show how strong the organization is as a large and admirable body of players. They have won many high honors and their fame and that of the theatre will continue to increase. A matinee is now played every day in the week and these performances are precisely the same as those in the evening. East Lynne will be worth seeing by all, and the popular prices are within the reach of all.

## PLAN NEW ELECTRIC LINE.

The officials of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy railroad say a third rail electric system will be installed between Chicago and Aurora in competition with the Chicago, Aurora & Elgin electric line. At a meeting of the directors last August the matter was discussed and a representative of the New York Central explained how the third rail system works for 50 miles out of New York with great success. The system will cost \$700,000 and will be put into active operation as soon as possible. Work will be begun the first of the year.

## NEWS ITEMS ACCEPTABLE.

The REPORTER is always glad to receive items of persons who are visiting or entertaining friends or news of local interest, and to that end invites subscribers to send such information to this office. Notices of receptions, parties, building improvements, removals, social events, personals of former residents—all of these subjects come under this head and information will be gratefully received. Telephone, write or call.

## Local and Personal Paragraphs

The Woehrel Cigar. White Rose gasoline, Nash's. Additional local news on 5th page. Miss Suzy Edwards is expected home this week. The finest lot of chinaware for the holidays at Rang's. Miss Florence Bates was home from Waukegan Sunday.

Five-A, the guarantee for a good horse blanket at C. Penner's. Fresh beef by the quarter during cold weather at Klein's market. Mr. and Mrs. Frank R. Willard are making their home in Downers Grove this winter. Mrs. F. W. C. Hayes left yesterday for Tallahassee, Florida, where she will spend the winter.

If you want the best value for money in horse blankets call at C. Penner's and buy the Eclipse. The Congregational choir will give an entertainment at the church Saturday evening, Dec. 19. Miss Ada Hughes of Chicago, spent Saturday and Sunday with her grandmother Mrs. Wm. W. Tucker.

Mrs. Rosa S. Johnson is prepared to call at homes and care for children in the absence of parents, either day or evening, by the day or hour. "Science and health, with key to the scriptures," by Mary Baker Eddy, the text book of Christian Scientists, has been placed in the village library.

C. T. Adams, a prominent attorney of San Francisco, and cousin of Mrs. E. J. Miller, returned to his home Monday after a few days visit with relatives here. The Young Men's Onward club will have a district school and spelling match Thursday, Dec. 10, at 7:30 p. m., in Oldfield's hall. Everybody is cordially invited.

The musical given at the home of Mrs. M. Sluener last Saturday afternoon was enjoyed by nearly a score of young friends and pupils. The young performers acquitting themselves with credit in every instance.

H. D. Foster, former auditor of tickets and freight accounts of the Burlington at St. Joseph, Mo., has been transferred to auditor of expenditures in the Chicago office. He will spend the winter with his sister, Mrs. E. J. Miller.

Maple camp, Modern Woodmen of America meets this Thursday evening for the election of officers and it is hoped that every Woodmen will attend as we are on the eve of important events in the life of Woodcraft and it is important that you have good officers if you would keep up with the procession. Come out and get them.

A new time card went into effect on the Burlington last Sunday. Few changes are made in the service here. The time of the departure of the milk train has been changed slightly and now leaves at 8:51 a. m., and west bound leaves from Western avenue and reaches here at 3:22 p. m. Several through trains are affected the change.

One day last week, Frank Langdon, an employee on the Brummel farm, a few miles southwest of West Chicago, got his hand caught in a corn shredder which he was operating and before he could brace himself and pull his arm out it was crushed and shredded above the elbow. The men who were working with him were powerless to assist him. By an almost super-human effort he pulled what was left of the arm from the machine and fell to the floor.—Journal.

Shigakane Tada, a lieutenant in the Japanese navy was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. John H. Seas last Sunday. Mr. Tada is one of the officers who directed the repairs on the U. S. Battleship Oregon after she had struck the rock in the China sea and was dry-docked in the Japanese navy yard at Kruse near Hiroshima City. Mr. Tada is sent here by his government for the purpose of studying American ways and will return to Japan in about a year.

Ross Crane, cartoonist, humorist and monologist, will be the attraction in the entertainment course at the Auditorium, Saturday evening. Speaking of Crane the Clayton bureau says: Ross Crane has qualities which attract not only the usual patrons of the lectures, but also that larger class in every community which seeks only to be amused. His programs are unique combinations of light and shade—the humorous and the instructive, the grotesque and the beautiful, and filled to the brim with "the spice of life"—variety. Here droll caricatures, charming landscapes, illustrated songs, character sketches, humorous illustrated monologues, impersonations and musical monologues follow each other in bewildering succession, forming a novel and charming blending of art, wit and philosophy.

National Light oil at Nash's. Cook's Flaked Rice at the Fair. Best oil in town at Curtis & Hearty's. Entire wheat and pumper-nickel at Rang's.

If in need of good horse blankets C. Penner has them. Do not forget the luncheon today at noon at the Congregational church.

Pickles, all kinds, at Gerwig's. Genuine German dill, sweet, sour and bottled goods. Joseph Pfaff, south of town, is laid up with a broken leg caused by the kick of a cow.

Mrs. J. B. Maxwell of Irving Park, visited Mrs. Martha McNaught a few days the past week. Quite a large number will be received into the membership of the Methodist church next Sabbath morning.

Miss Selig wishes to announce that all ladies' and children's trimmed and ready to wear hats will be sold at cost. Mrs. Ira Bayles of Ithaca, Mich., and Mrs. Lillie Rhoden of Chicago visited their aunt, Mrs. Mary Lyons, last Saturday.

Wanted—Good, strong girl for general housework; good wages. Apply to Mrs. E. E. Stevens, 185 North Main street.

Shaving outfits for Christmas presents. Handsome designs. Order early as some time is required to burn names on mugs. Edwin Frank.

Mrs. H. E. Saunders and Miss Jeanie Bryce gave an "at home" Tuesday, in honor of Miss Ila Welch, to a number of ladies of Downers and East Grove.

Mrs. C. V. Carpenter and one of the boys left Monday morning for Washington on their way to North Carolina to visit Mr. and Mrs. Guy L. Bush who are spending the winter there.

A novel and exceedingly interesting Christmas entertainment is being arranged for at the Methodist church. A potato weighing as nearly one pound as possible will be the price of admission to every one—young and old.

James Payden was seriously injured in an accident at Western avenue yesterday. While entering a freight car from a platform he fell between the car and the platform sustaining painful injuries. No bones were broken but internal injuries are feared.

That misfortune never comes singly is exemplified in a series of accidents in Solomon Iseli's family recently. Not long ago Mr. Iseli fell through the hatchway of his barn and sprained his ankle. A few days later his son broke his arm and last week one of the smaller children was severely burned by falling against a hot stove.

Mr. and Mrs. William H. Radell entertained a number of their friends at cards at their pleasant home on Gilbert avenue last Thursday evening. Progressive cinch was the game played and prizes were given the most successful contestants. Miss Pearl Bonstee and Lee Stanley won the prizes. During the evening refreshments were served.

Letters mailed in Downers Grove and intended for rural mail delivery must bear a two-cent stamp according to Postmaster Carpenter. Many patrons of the rural route think these letters require only a one-cent stamp the same as drop letters. This, however, is not the case. Two cent postage is required. Observance of this rule will save delay in the delivery of rural mail.

A graded Junior league will be formed at the Methodist church next Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock. The boys and girls from six to fifteen years of age are most cordially invited. The older members will take up a new and most interesting work in the life of Christ. Miss Anna Herring is the newly appointed superintendent of the league, and Misses Kate Shaeffer and Flora Smith will be her assistants. Everybody is welcome.

Kerosene lamps and tallow dips were brought into requisition by patrons of the lighting plant Sunday and Monday nights owing to an accident at the electric light plant. The commutator on armature of the exciter of the dynamo became grounded on the shaft—if you know what all that means—and when Engineer Zook started up Sunday night the lights failed to burn. When people turned on their lamps and found no current the pumping station telephone was a popular call. Vesper services were in progress at the Congregational church and services were held by the light of lamps hastily resurrected. The trouble was located after an extended investigation Sunday night and repairs on the armature were made in the city Monday. The service was resumed Monday night about 7 o'clock.

## MRS. KATHERINE BLOCK DIED SATURDAY.

Funeral From St. Frances Xavier Church at LaGrange Tuesday—Interment at Mt. Carmel.

Mrs. Katherine Block died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. John C. Gorman, 29 West Maple avenue, Saturday noon, after an illness of only a few days duration. The cause of her death was an acute attack of kidney trouble. Apparently in perfect health she was taken ill Monday previous to her death. What was first considered a temporary disorder developed rapidly alarming symptoms and notwithstanding all the science of medicine the end came at 11:35 o'clock Saturday. At her bedside were all her children who lovingly ministered to her last moments. She died fortified by the last rites of the Catholic church administered by Father Burns of LaGrange.

Funeral services were held Tuesday morning. Father Votycka of St. Mary's church read prayers for the dead at the house. At the St. Frances Xavier Catholic church, LaGrange, of which the deceased was a communicant, requiem high mass was said at 10 o'clock by Father Baldwin, pastor of the church. Interment was made in the vault at Mt. Carmel cemetery. Father Burns conducted the services at the vault.

Katherine Flynn was the daughter of Judge Patrick Henry Flynn, one of the earliest settlers of Milwaukee. She was born there Nov. 16th, 1841. In November, 1857, she was married to Capt. James Pentony at Two Rivers, Wis., and moved to Sheboygan, later going to Chicago, and coming to Downers Grove twelve years ago, where she has since resided. Seven children were born of this union, all of whom are living. They are Mrs. Mary P. Sullivan, Mrs. Eleanor Born, Henry Pentony, Mrs. Elizabeth Riley, Miss Henrietta Pentony, Mrs. Esther Gorman and James Pentony. The husband died in January, 1883. She was married four years later, in 1887, to D. K. Block whose death occurred in 1897. Mrs. Block was devoted to her family and found the greatest pleasure in her home life with her children, to whom her death has been a terrible shock.

## DUPAGE COUNTY ATLAS.

The Middle West Publishing company of Chicago, who have had their representative in the county since Sept. 1, collecting data for the new county atlas, are now ready to begin work in the east end of the county. The ladies in charge of the work in the field are Misses Laura N. McCaw, E. Kathryn Jones, Nellie B. Brown and Helen N. Helms. These ladies are required to call on every property owner, or his authorized representative; this being done all available data up to March 1, 1904 will be given on the plats which they are preparing for the engravers. The atlas will contain 34 town maps, nine township maps and one county map, taken from the county records and corrected by a personal canvass of the ladies in charge. It will also contain one state and one United States map, and a map of the world. Photographs of the representative residences and modern public buildings will also be a feature of the useful and up-to-date book. An analysis of the system of United States land surveys, a digest of the system of the civil government of the United States, a great amount of valuable information on general business methods and a department devoted to ancient and modern history will also be found between its covers. This is the first book of the kind published for DuPage county in over thirty years and is deserving of good patronage and the ladies have a list of orders long enough to warrant its success and it is headed by the best representative citizens. This is the only county in northern Illinois not having an atlas within half a generation and we feel that the people are awake and realize a good thing, not only by giving them an order, but to assist the ladies in getting all the available information possible and having it as correct as time and labor can make it.

## CASS ITEMS.

Miss Almira and Ory Oldfield left for their home in Vandalia Tuesday.... Rodolph Ricken of Lyonsville was calling on friends in Cass this week.... About 25 of Will Andrieu's friends gave him a kitchen shower at his home Monday evening. Many useful presents were given.... Harry Gregory says he has a splendid horse, guaranteed a slow walker, a good puller, is 4 years old past, and that if Louis Kleffel calls Saturday morning early will be pleased to show him the horse.... John Dully and John Hearty were in Cass Tuesday.... Rabbit hunters are more plentiful than rabbits.... Chester Hearty says he killed three rabbits at one shot last Saturday.... G. E. Hearty was in Cass yesterday.... Will have home grown trees at Rang's—leave orders.

## Want Water Extension

### Elm and Rogers Street Property Owners Ask for City Water.

Interstate Telephone Co. Sells Eastern Telephone Co.—Village Board to Inspect Sanitary Sewer Plant—Resolves Business.

Property owners living on Rogers and Elm streets and Prairie avenue have petitioned the board of local improvements for an extension of the water mains from Highland avenue on Rogers street to Elm and along that thoroughfare to Prairie avenue. The board will have petitions prepared for the improvement and if the majority of the property owners petition for the improvement the mains will be laid next spring.

The Interstate Telephone company will shortly ask a franchise in Downers Grove. This is the company that operates exchanges in Kane, Will, DuPage and DeKalb counties and is now seeking entrance into Downers Grove. The present plans of the company are to establish toll stations here only for the present, provided the franchise is granted, and later on to establish and operate a local exchange. President Mitchell, at the meeting of the village board Monday evening, appointed a committee consisting of Trustees Hughes, Stants and Graves to confer with the representatives of the company in regard to the terms of the franchise to be asked.

Members of the village board are determined in their efforts to secure sewers for Downers Grove and steps will be taken immediately to formulate plans so that the system can be built next year. The board is satisfied that under the present laws petitions of a majority of the property owners are not necessary before authorizing the improvement. The septic tank system for sanitary sewers is favorably considered as being adapted to the needs of Downers Grove and members of the board will investigate plants in operation at other cities, notably, Indiana Harbor, Ind., Wauwatosa and Washburn, Wis., before fully determining on the system.

J. D. Fowler and E. Dryfoos of the Highland Park Plumbing and Gas Fitting company, made application for a license to do plumbing in the village. Owing to the faulty wording of the plumber's bond filed by the firm the application was returned to have the papers properly executed before granting the license.

Funds in the village treasury are almost exhausted save in the special accounts, fire and sinking fund. The treasurer's report showed the following balances: Balance at last report \$1,927.75, receipts \$907.67, expended \$1,298.10, balance Dec. 1, \$1,617.32. The general fund is overdrawn and no more money will be available until the taxes are collected in February. Bills aggregating \$1,364.93 were passed upon Monday night and will bring the finances of the village down to bed rock. The only plan presented for lifting the village over the two months before collections are made is to issue warrants and let the creditors hold them or discount them at the bank. The bills paid Monday were from the following funds: General \$348.35, street and alley \$164.80, water and light \$651.85.

Collections reported by the village collector for the month of November and included in the treasurer's balance were for electric lights \$975.15, material and labor \$178.54, meter rent \$2.75, water rates \$482.35, tapping fee \$48, total \$967.67.

The LaGrange Gas company presented its bond properly executed, guaranteeing the performance of its provisions of the gas franchise contract, and same was approved, accepted and ordered filed.

The water committee reported that water rates were still in course of revision and that a schedule would be presented at the next meeting. This committee was instructed to perfect system of notifying owners when meters were out of order so that a record can be kept of meters failing to register and service cut off when owners do not have meters put in order.

## MISS LAURA PERKINS DEAD.

Miss Laura B. Perkins died at the home of her sister, Mrs. H. E. Strong, Monday evening, Dec. 7th, 1903. The funeral was held Wednesday morning at 10:30 o'clock. Rev. Chas. Reynolds officiating. Burial in the West cemetery. Miss Perkins was born in Quincy, Quebec, May 25, 1850, and most of her life in this country. She was employed in teaching for many years. She suffered a paralytic stroke in March, 1899, at which time she was unable to walk and was brought to her home in Downers Grove. She died at 10:30 a. m. on Monday. Miss Perkins was a very quiet and