



PIERCE DOWNER
Born July 25, 1782; Died March 26, 1863.

[Above is a photograph of Pierce Downer, the pioneer settler of this section, after whom the township and village of Downers Grove was named. The photo is one of the great number that appear in the souvenir of Downers Grove just issued by The Belmont Press. Below we give a short sketch on the life of the worthy pioneer and some historical facts of the family.]

From a book published in 1900 by David R. Downer, of Newark, New Jersey, containing the names and all data to be found of the Downer family, and kindly loaned to us by M. B. Downer, of this place, we glean the following ancient Pierce Downer:

Pierce Downer was born July 25, 1782, in Vermont. Removed with parents to Stephentown, New York. Attaining his majority he first located at Marcy, Oneida county, New York, afterwards moved to Rutland, Jefferson county, New York. In May, 1823, he came west and located in the township and near the village both of which now bear his name.

He was an agriculturist of an advanced type; a man of broad education and liberal principles, and had one of the largest libraries of any citizen of the northwest. While well posted on all public questions, he refused to be a candidate for any political office, but he was usually called upon to act as referee in questions of equity among the early settlers. He died at Downers Grove, March 26, 1863. He married, in 1826, Louisa Ann Wilson, widow of Stephen Ellis, of Ellensburg, New York. She was born June 17, 1784, in Windsor county, Vermont, and died at Downers Grove, March 25, 1883, the day preceding her husband's death. [They are buried on a beautiful natural elevation on the site where this early pioneer first located about 1823 and enjoyed the beautiful vista of Du Page county at that early day amid all its primitive conditions,—upon the limestone where he settled, just north of the village. Here their descendants have erected a great monument to their memory.]

The Downer family now numbers nearly three thousand. At Buffalo, New York, in 1901, they formed an association and will meet regularly hereafter. The second meeting was held at the world's fair, St. Louis, this year.

The owner family was of Puritan stock and came from England, settling at Newbury, Massachusetts, about the middle of the seventeenth century. They were no doubt of the hardy stock that composed that group of early pioneers who braved the hardships of the Pilgrim's life rather than submit to the religious persecutions in England. Some of the family descendants became prominent during the Revolutionary period. Among these were Doctor Eliphalet Downer, of Brookline, Massachusetts, who was known as "the fighting surgeon." Another John Downer, of Bennington, whose name is a local landmark, was him a place in local history, and one Silas Downer, of Providence, used his gifts as an orator in protesting against British aggression and gained an honored mention in the annals of his adopted state and city. Many of the family descendants afterwards took part in the war of 1812, the Mexican war, and the Civil war.

The name, Downer, is Anglo-Saxon and originated in the fact that those to whom it was first given had their home in the "Downs" in the south of England. As surnames were not introduced in England until the time of the Norman conquest, in 1066, we may assume that the name does not antedate that event.

Barke's Heraldry contains the family name and gives a description of the coat of arms, the motto below which is, "A Cruce Salus."—Salvation from the Cross.

Pierce Downer, after whom the village and the township of Downers Grove were named, had four sons and two daughters all born at Rutland, New York. Their names were George Dorrance, born 1809, removed to St. Charles, Illinois, died at Downers Grove 1893; Stephen Ellis, came to Chicago 1831, where he was employed by the government in the first light-house built then, later removed to Harrisonville, Missouri, and died there June, 1894; Elton Ellis, born 1827, and still living at Downers Grove; Adeline, born 1812, removed to Downers Grove 1834, where she was married to Gary E. Smith and after removed to San Diego, California, where she died in 1880; James and Maria, died young in 1818 and 1820. The son George Dorrance left four sons, Henry Pierce, George Orson, John D. and Melville B., and one daughter, Martha Lucina. Melville B. Downer lived in Downers Grove and is a well known publisher and proprietor of the Union Publishing House, Chicago. He is the father of three daughters. Among the other members of this branch of the Downer family are the children of Stephen Ellis Downer,—Mrs. Ellen Hitchcock, of Camden Point, Missouri, Mrs. H. P. Downer, of Chicago, and George Evans Downer, of Downers Grove. Elton E. Downer, who resides with his son James on the old Downer homestead near this village, is loved and venerated by the entire Downer family and enjoys the respect and good will of all.

They're After More Light
Hinsdale is now after "more light." Since Downers Grove got its all-night service the people of the nearby villages are on the move, too. The Herald of that place says on the subject:

"Why is it so dark at night on the north side of the depot? Alighting from the city trains after five-thirty in the evening is becoming a great danger. One can not see the platform to tell if the train is still moving or not. What is the reason for this darkness? The few dim little incandescents are insufficient. Can't the town afford some light there where it is needed most? Must we wait until some one hurts himself and brings suit against our peaceful municipality before we remedy this dangerous condition? Look to it, city fathers, and consider its importance." Notice the difference between our platform and others as you ride out from the city."

Continued From Page One

other way to get them. With the proposition of spreading the payment over ten years, it would be a good investment for a man who owns property to borrow the money to pay his tax rather than be without sewers. We have been without modern conveniences too long in Downers Grove. The paying of Main street has been of great value to the place this year. I think that mass-meeting was a good idea. It dispelled any ideas that some may have had that the board was trying to force the sewer system on the property owners whether they wished it or not. Then the work that has been done will not be lost if we go ahead now. I say by all means, property owners, sign the petition.

E. H. Prince—Sewers! Yes, we want them and I am in favor of them. I was one of the first to sign the petitions at the mass meeting when given the opportunity. I have not totalled up, but think I must have about 5000 feet frontage affected. It will be a good investment. Think it will be generally signed from what I can learn. It certainly adds value, in fact more than actual cost to property. It is only by these modern improvements that village property becomes more valuable than farm lands. Had we had sewers ten years ago Downers Grove would have been a much larger place today. Many who intend to buy here are waiting to see if we will get sewers, and others who have property will not build till assured of the sewers. You may say that I am heartily in favor of the project and will do all I can to secure it.

Doctor Gourley—I have signed petitions every time they were projected for sewers here. By all means let us have them. Get them tomorrow, Mr. Editor, if you can. They are needed very badly. The health of the people is a valuable asset. Do all you can. There is no more worthy object that you can work for.

S. F. Haller—I have recently purchased property on the north side and am in favor of the sewer system. I consider it will greatly increase the value of property. Put me down as in favor, by all means.

T. N. Baldwin, Saratoga avenue—Decidedly we are in favor of sewers. We have wanted them for a long time in Downers Grove. We are ready to sign for them any day. We have 332 feet frontage.

George B. Heatt Sewers are what I have advocated ever since I came to town. Have always been in favor of them. They are needed to put a town in a sanitary condition, and they add value into the property not only of the people abutting the line of sewer but in a general way. I have, possibly, about five thousand feet of frontage and signed the other night. Was sorry that we were delayed by the action of the supreme court, but if all the people think as I do we will have the sewers next spring. As a member of the board, I shall do all I can, but upon you, Mr. Editor, and your paper which goes into the homes of all the property owners, depends a great deal on whether we get the sewers or not, and in the interests of the whole village, which we are all glad to see that you uphold, we trust that you will place the sewer matter before your readers so that all will assist the board in their work of legislation for the interests of those who elected them.

Register Your Complaints

[This department of the paper has been set aside for readers to write on any complaint about things in general. We do not hold ourselves responsible, however, for any statements made. Name and address of writer should accompany communication, but same will not be published if so desired.]

"Ting-a-ling-ling" went our telephone one day this week, and the voice at the other end said in strained tones, "Say, Mr. Editor, I notice that your paper has been advocating everything that would bring rest, comfort and general enjoyment in our village, so I have called you up to tell you of some nuisances in this section, Saratoga avenue. There are entirely too many dogs—those howling collie kind—herab-outs. Some of them bark from dusk till nine the next morning, and anyone of a nervous temperament has got to suffer all this needless rasping noise. Again, pig killing has been enacted here. I think if there is anything that the village authorities should stop it is this amateurish way of making slaughter yards out of the village. Many have come here to get away from the city noises and should be protected by the authorities."

"The Men Who Won The West"

The Epworth League of the Methodist church have been fortunate in securing Nat M. Brigham for a return engagement and he will deliver his famous lecture on the early American pioneers and patriots, Tuesday evening, December sixth, in the Methodist church. The subject of his lecture is "The Men Who Won The West" and all who attend may be assured of hearing something interesting and instructive. The lecture will be illustrated throughout with stereopticon views. Many of our readers will remember that Mr. Brigham delivered a series of four lectures in April this year. These lectures were so largely attended and highly appreciated that the Epworth League felt encouraged to have Mr. Brigham appear a second time under their auspices. The admission to the lecture is twenty-five cents and all who are not solicited to buy tickets will find them at the drug stores.

Wheaton Happenings

[Received too late for last week's issue.]

L. L. Smith is taking in the world's fair this week.

Walter I. and James E. Phillips who finished their courses at the College last June are taking courses in metallurgy in the university of Missouri at Rolla, Mo.

E. L. Roberts and wife, of Chicago, were visitors here on election day. Mr. Roberts is in the printing business in the city and is prospering in fine shape.

The reconvened session of the circuit court has brought all kinds of people to the county capital. Judge Bishop presides. The petit jury has started on the grist of cases.

Constable J. W. Nicholson, of Hinsdale, is attending court this week. The shooting case in the matter of the Hinsdale illegal liquor joint is scheduled to come off this week.

Three violators of the liquor law from Elmhurst were fined \$5000 each by Judge Bishop, Monday. Each of the culprits were repeated offenders against the law and they got off easy. Each pleaded guilty to nine counts of their indictments. They all solemnly promised not to violate the law any more. They promised the same thing before.

Mrs. Alonzo E. Wilson developed into somewhat of a politician during the recent legislative race with her victorious "running mate". She addressed several W. C. T. U. meetings in Will County and was very successful in rousing up the Swedish vote in Joliet for her husband. A reception was given in her honor in one of the finest homes in Joliet.

There is a bright side to the arduous duties of being on the election board to compensate for the "long days of labor and nights devoid of ease" in getting the returns ready for the waiting public. Especially was this true as to the Wheaton election judges and clerks who were fed on all kinds of home made pies, and furnished by our popular town-man, T. M. Hull with hot coffee and choicest edibles. To cap the climax the north side board were served by Mrs. A. E. Wilson with as fine an oyster supper as ever tickled the palate of an epicure, about midnight.

The official canvass of the votes in the forty first district was completed Monday night. The result shows that Alonzo E. Wilson, of Wheaton, was elected by the narrow margin of 19 votes. Wilson carried Will county. He carried 15 out of 24 precincts in Joliet and in 5 of them had first place. In the Will county precincts outside of Joliet he carried 17 out of 30 and led all the candidates in 8 of them. Wilson's plurality over Bowles in Will was 752. Wilson is commonly supposed to be a "young man", but he is older than four of the congressmen and two years senior of Bowles, his late opponent. He is 37 years of age, has been in touch with the public affairs of this state for years and is well informed as to its needs.

Harry Smith, who has been working for R. C. Muller in the ice business the past summer left the city about two weeks ago without turning over the money he collected from selling the coupons. He was from \$2000 to \$1000 short. Election day Muller's score out a warrant before Justice Herrick charging Smith with embezzlement and grand larceny and placed the same in the hands of deputy sheriff Gorham. Gorham rounded up his man in Chicago and landed him in the Wheaton jail in short order. On Saturday Smith was arraigned before Justice Herrick and his examination held. Smith was bound over to the grand jury and on failure to give bail he was committed to jail. The following Monday the grand jury met and returned an indictment against Smith on the above mentioned charges. He will be tried this week.

A couple from Palatine, Ill., were married Thursday, the seventeenth, by Justice Herrick, at the court house.

The Francis Parker academy and the Wheaton Hercules foot ball teams played on Lawson field last Saturday. Score—16 to 5 in favor of the Wheaton team.

The Raven-wood athletic club basketball team and the Wheaton college team met Saturday night in the Gymnasium for the first practice game of the season. The resulting score stood "51 to 23" in favor of the home team.

St. Charles was the scene of a foot ball game last Saturday between the high school of that place and the Wheaton college team. Victory crowned the efforts of the Wheaton boys by a score of "12 to 0". The last game of the season for the Wheaton team will be at Plano, Illinois, this week.

The McClary Lecture

Thomas McClary, lecturer, certainly pleased the large audience that gathered at the auditorium on Monday evening. It was the initial number of the series of entertainments to be given during the season which have been arranged for by the committee of guarantors.

The seats in the main floor of the auditorium were all filled and many occupied the gallery in the rear. President D. G. Graham, at a few minutes after eight o'clock, opened the entertainment with a neat speech in which he thanked those present for their

liberal patronage of the course. He the object of the committee to give good programs and, they had been very fortunate in securing a gentleman whose fame, though he had not appeared here before, had preceded him. By way of explanation, the president stated that the date of the next event, the appearance of the Chicago Lady Entertainers, had been changed to December 17 instead of December 15, as it appeared on the tickets, and he requested that all make the correction. The president then introduced the speaker, Doctor McClary.

All expected to have a treat, but even expectations were climaxed by the lecturer in his masterly oratory and his inimitable wit and pure humor. One minute he would have the whole house convulsed with laughter and the next he would plunge them into the most solemn and deep realms of thought, to emerge again into the glow of a general, good, hearty laugh. Many of his sallies were original at least in the manner of their presentation. His subject was, "The Mission of Mirth. Why we laugh; how we laugh, what we laugh at, and a hope to assist people to use the faculties with which the Creator has endowed them for their own use and others' good."

The lecturer's remarks were filled with humor and glistened with good common sense, picturing the frailties of life through imaginary evils, caricaturing here and there in a merciless manner and finishing each phase of his argument with the "driving home" phrase "Try it and see." His language was simple in the extreme, and seemed to please all, and his manner at once won admiration. His witticisms were of the highest order, and the speaker in a convincing way showed that real pleasure and mirthfulness was not folly and ridiculous nonsense. It was a lecture that will long be remembered, and no doubt if he should ever return a large audience would again greet him.

Judge Slusser's First Court

County judge-elect Slusser will qualify for the office to which he was elected last week, in the course of a few days, but he will not hold court till the last week in December, and, perhaps, not till the first Monday in January. Judge Pond, of Sycamore, will continue to act as the county judge of Du Page county until Judge Slusser takes office. The judge-elect has decided to follow out the plan adopted by Judge Ruth and will sit on probate matters at the court house at Wheaton on the first Monday and third Saturday of each month. As the duties of the office will not require the judge's entire time he will still retain his partnership in the firm of Carnahan, Slusser, Hawkes & Cox, one of the leading law firms in Chicago.

A Filipino Correspondence

Little Miss Olive Saunders, daughter of H. E. Saunders, of Maple avenue, has in hand a very unique correspondence. Learning about the Filipino children that were being taught by the American teachers, she wrote a letter to them and has received several letters in reply. The letters are very well written for children of foreign parentage. Some of them are from children at San Mateo, Philippine Islands, and others at Pasig, Philippine Islands. The children tell of their lives and studies. They seem to appreciate much the teaching that the American government is giving them. The correspondence should be helpful and should, if undertaken by other boys and girls, be useful and beneficial to both parties. These little Filipinos are just awakening, as it were, from the chrysalis of ages of ignorance in which their nation has been held. To them the knowledge they are now gaining by their new system of education is like the learning of the histories, geography and sciences of the people of the planets, if such there is, would be to us.

Miscellaneous Locals

The Wochrel Cigar. Boiled cider at the Fair. Boston brown bread at Rang's. Welch's grape juice at the Fair. Best oil in town at Curtiss & Heartt's. Home made mince pies at Rang's bakery.

Just received a large supply of horse blankets—C. Penner, Downers Grove. Have you seen those good value storm horse blankets at Penner's, Downers Grove.

We have stable blankets from \$1.00 and up. Best values. C. Penner, Downers Grove.

For Rent—Two houses on the north side. Will be vacant December 1.—Naramore & Foster.

Wanted—Two boys 17 or 18 years of age, for positions in the press room.—The Kelmiscott Press.

For Sale—Gasoline stove in good condition. Also a small hard coal stove. 77 west Curtiss street.

Wanted—A bright boy, 16 to 18 years of age, to learn the printing trade at The Kelmiscott Press. A boy who means business will be well treated. This is an "opportunity."

Wanted—Girls to learn bindery work at The Kelmiscott Press. About 18 years of age. Girls who want to learn the work will have a good opportunity, and good positions eventually.

As a reminder we will state that the figures opposite your name on your paper show the date to which your subscription has been paid. Many subscriptions expire at this time, and from such we would esteem it a favor to receive a renewal.

COOKING BY GAS

Cooking by Gas is the most perfect, economical and satisfactory method of preparing food. Gas is the cheapest of all fuels and if the proper care is used a good gas range can be operated at a cost one-third less than it costs to run a coal range. It saves time—no coal to carry in—no dirt or smoke to contend with—makes kitchen work a pleasure. A large line of good Gas ranges can be seen at any time at our office. Call and see them.

LA GRANGE GAS CO.

HARDWARE AND FARM IMPLEMENTS

We carry a full line of shelf hardware and the leading makes of farm implements.

HAY, GRAIN AND POULTRY FOODS PAINTS, OILS AND VARNISHES

We are agents for the well known PAROID ROOFING. It is a money saving roofing. It is weather proof, wear proof, contains no tar and any one can lay it. Samples free.

CURTISS & HEARTT
Main and Railroad streets Telephone 293
Downers Grove, Illinois

THE CHICAGO DAILY NEWS

Regularly maintains its Special Correspondents in war or peace at

TOKYO, NAGASAKI, YOKOHAMA, KOBE, PORT ARTHUR, PEKIN, SHANGHAI AND HONGKONG.

As well as at the principal capitals of Europe. Its normal service, therefore, for covering the

Russo-Japanese War

not only in the field of war but also in that of diplomacy, is more complete than that of any other Chicago newspaper. In addition it also has the service of The Associated Press with its great allied foreign news agencies. And the whole is now supplemented by its

OWN SPECIAL WAR CORRESPONDENTS IN THE FIELD.

No other paper in Chicago has so complete an equipment for printing the war news promptly and fully. That the people of Chicago and the Northwest appreciate the policy of The Daily News in printing all the news of all the world all the time is attested by the fact that its circulation exceeds

320,000 a Day.

The largest similarly attested daily newspaper circulation, morning or evening, in America.

INCLINED to be CONSTIPATED

An inclination to be constipated is a common symptom of the American people. There is no question but that this is due in a great measure to indigestion, and that indigestion comes from indiscretion of diet. Let foods be daily eaten like

DR. PRICE'S WHEAT FLAKE CELERY FOOD

and there would be no constipation—no sour stomach—no formation of gas—as it is made from the whole wheat-berry—baked at a high temperature—all indigestible matter removed.

Palatable—Nutritious—Easy of Digestion and Ready to Eat

My signature on every package.

Dr. J. C. Price

Dr. Price, the creator of Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder and Delicious Flavoring Extracts.

A cook book containing 76 excellent receipts for using the Food mailed free to any address.

Prepared by **PRICE CEREAL FOOD COMPANY, Chicago, Ill.**