

The Journal.

ISSUED BY

D. M. ERSKINE, JR.,
INSURANCE.

REAL ESTATE AND LOAN AGENT

Remember we make no charge for the JOURNAL, it may be had free gratis upon application at this office. If any are desirous of keeping a complete file and have not Nos. 1 and 2, they should make their wants known.

We are in receipt of numerous letters and circulars from outside parties asking for advertising space in the columns of THE JOURNAL. To one and all we sent: "No, thank you," for an answer. Our space set apart for advertisements is limited.

We know of no good reason why real estate values should not experience a decided upward tendency and that before long. Especially is this true when applied to property lying along the lake shore between the great and growing cities of Chicago on the south and Milwaukee on the north. When we stop and consider what great improvements have been made and are now making on either side, we can readily see unmistakable proof for the truth of our assertion. Readers, you may take our word for it, lively times in real estate will be witnessed ere long.

In accordance with the time honored custom of taking a summer vacation, our better half and self started for the popular resorts of Wisconsin, prominent among them being the famous Spring City of Waukesha. We put up with our wife's relatives, and a splendid lot of people they are, too, if we do say it ourselves. The grey mare and buggy was at once placed at our disposal, and the way we traveled the country afforded endless pleasure and enjoyment. The "Badger State," with its golden harvest fields, upon the rolling surface of which the ripening grain was fast being cared for, presented scenes at once attractive and interesting. The wooded hills and projecting rocks also entered into the beauty of the scenery. Constant flowing springs of water may be found in abundance, but none suited our taste like the waters of the noted springs at Waukesha, which alone can be compared with those abounding in this vicinity. Our visit was thoroughly enjoyed, and we shall ever hold in the highest esteem the friends both old and new, whom we chanced to meet.

When we think of the natural advantages which Highland Park enjoys, we feel like quoting the words of the poet: "Buy your real estate while it is yet cheap, for no man knoweth what a day may bring forth." A word to the wise is sufficient.

The largest farm in the United States is the estate of the late Dr. Glenn, of California, over 60,000 acres. The largest farm in Dakota is the Grandin Farm, covering about 50,000 acres, and requiring the labor of 150 men at seed time and 250 at harvest. The largest cultivated area under one control is the 28,000 acres farmed by Oliver Dalrymple.

A Christian convention, to be conducted by D. L. Moody, will be held at Farwell hall Sept. 18, 19, 20. There will be three sessions daily, at 10 a. m., 2:30 and 8 p. m. Ira D. Sankey and James McGranahan will have charge of the singing. Tickets for each session can be procured at the Y. M. C. A., rooms, 148 Madison street.

Weddings.

As the semi-annual bridal season is at hand, it is the time to plead for a reform in weddings. Every year this sacredest of all occasions is turned more and more into a mere opportunity for display, and for replying to some fancied social obligation. Instead of the time when a few of the closest friends gather to witness the solemnest compact human beings can frame, it is chosen as the moment for bringing together the larger part of a family's social circle, to show the bride in her bridal garments; to prove how many flowers and refreshments the family can afford; and, with shame be it said, to exhibit to criticism and light comment the precious tokens that should have come with tender regard to the maid on the eve of her new life.

A wedding must not be uncheerful; but it must certainly be solemn to all who realize what it is. On the one side, it is renouncing old ties, promising to begin with faith, and hope, and love, a new and wholly untried existence. On the other, it is the acceptance of a sacred trust, the covenant to order life anew in such ways as shall make the happiness of two instead of one. Can such an occasion be fitting for revelry? Is it not wiser, more delicate, to bid only the nearest of friends to a marriage ceremony, and leave the feasting and frolic for a subsequent time? We are sure there are few girls who, if they reflect on the seriousness of the step they are about to take, will not choose to make their vow merely within the loving limits of their home circle. All our best instincts point to the absolute simplicity and privacy of wedding services; only a perversion of delicacy could contemplate the asking of crowds of half-sympathetic or wholly curious people to attend the fulfillment of the most solemn of contracts. Let there be as much party-making, rejoicing and pleasure taking afterward as hearts desire, but let the solemn vows be made in the presence only of those nearest and dearest.—*Exchange.*

NEW POSTAGE RATE.

The new law of Congress passed at its last session reducing the rate of postage on letters will go into effect on the 1st of October next, and the authorities are now engaged in the work of preparing the new stamps. The law substitutes 2 cents per half ounce on letters for 3 cents, the present rate. The old 3-cent stamp will be abolished, and in its stead will be issued a 2-cent stamp of new design. The form of the new stamp has already been decided upon. It contains a tablet upon which is a profile of Washington, similar to that on the present 3-cent stamp. Surrounding the profile is an oval band, and in the upper part of the band the words, "United States Postage." Beneath the band is a large "2" and at the extreme bottom of the tablet the words, "Two Cents." The present 2-cent stamp, with the head of Jackson thereon, will be discontinued after the 1st of October next. The vignette on the new stamp is copied from the life-cast used in making Haddon's statue of Washington. Several designs for a new 4-cent postage stamp have also been received by the postoffice department, but none have as yet been selected. This stamp is also to be issued on the 1st of October next, and it is meant for use on double-weight letters.

The bill to reduce letter postage from 3 to 2 cents was introduced in Congress in December, 1880, but no action was taken on it at that session. The same bill with others on the subject was introduced in the forty-seventh Congress. By a joint resolution of both houses the proposed reduction in rate was added as a clause to and was passed with the postoffice appropriation bill last January.

A cursory glance at the past will show that the present reduction in postage was long ago agitated by men who foresaw its advantages. Ex-Postmaster General Hall, in his report of 1850, recommended a reduction of inland postage, from the then prevailing rate of 5 cents on a letter conveyed a distance of less than three hundred miles, and for any greater distance 10 cents,—to a uniform rate of 3 cents on a prepaid letter when carried any distance not exceeding three thousand miles. Ex-President Fillmore on Dec. 2, 1850, called the attention of congress to his postmaster general's suggestion. The suggestion was acceded to, and 3-cent postage under three thousand miles became a law in 1861. In 1862 a committee appointed by business men petitioned congress for postal reform, including a reduction in domestic letter postage to 2 cents per letter. The late Peter Cooper was on the committee. Ex-Postmaster General James, in 1881, recommended the introduction of the 2-cent rate, giving cogent reasons for its desirability and feasibility. President Arthur, in his message dated Dec. 4, 1882, strongly recommended the 2-cent rate to the consideration of the house. The two houses made it a law in January, 1883.

In the design of the various denominations of postage stamps the portraits thereon are now as follows: 1-cent, Franklin; 2-cent, Jackson; 3-cent, Washington; 5-cent, Taylor (old) and Garfield (new); 6-cent, Lincoln; 7-cent, Stanton; 10-cent, Jefferson; 12-cent, Clay; 15-cent, Webster; 24-cent, Scott; 30-cent, Hamilton; 90-c., Perry.

During the past fiscal year there have been 1,639 postoffices established in the United States.

McDonald—Fischer.

On Tuesday evening, the 4th inst. at the residence of the bride's father, Frederick Fischer, Esq., Miss Mamie Fischer and Mr. James R. McDonald were united in marriage by the Rev. S. M. Davis, of Chicago, in the presence of the immediate relatives of the respective parties. The bride is a splendid little lady of refined social qualities and possessing rare accomplishments. The gentleman whom she has secured for a husband has proved himself to be a dutiful son, substantial citizen, firm friend and we'll guarantee he will prove a model husband. May the best of good things be their's to enjoy.

An Awful Night.

Wednesday night, the 5th inst., shortly after supper, Martin Koller bid good-bye and threw a kiss to his good little wife, expecting to return home in good season. Shortly after, falling in with Dominick Gallagher, John Cummings, Jr., and Frank Cummings, the two former pretty well known as "local toughs," proceeded with them to the barn in the rear of the Seminary building, where a keg of beer, supposed to have been stolen from a freight car, was tapped, and the quartette drank freely of its contents, getting drunk in due time and bent upon mischief.

Leaving the locality they walked slowly toward the depot, using loud and threatening language, which attracted the attention of Officer John Johnson, night policeman, who intercepted and tried to quiet them before they went further; but, being crazed with liquor, they set upon the officer beating him unmercifully and well nigh killing him. Johnson, by crying out Murder! Fire!! Help!!! and similar exclamations, frightened all away excepting Koller, who continued to follow Johnson, as he, Johnson, was trying to get away; and it is presumed attempted a further assault when Johnson fired his revolver three times, one of the balls passing through poor Mart's heart. Of course he died instantly. Johnson at once went to Dr. Weston's who dressed his wounds and cared for him during the remaining hours of the night. Upon hearing the reports of the revolver Gallagher and the two Cummings returned to the scene of the affray, where they discovered Koller's body lying cold in death. The actions of Gallagher and his companions from this time until nearly daybreak were villainous beyond description. On the following morning a jury was selected by Justice Sherman and an inquest held; the jury finding in accordance with above facts, and exonerating Johnson.

Gallagher and the two Cummings were shortly after arrested, but are now out on bail to await the action of the grand jury.