

The Highland Park News.

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LEWIS B. HIBBARD EDITOR.
H. F. EVANS BUSINESS MANAGER.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 22, 1897.

HERE is a model epitaph from a down east tombstone:

"Him that was, has gone from we.
Us that is, must go to he."

DON'T FORGET the special council meeting next Monday night to set the electric cars running, to Waukegan for 15 cents, round trip for 25 cents. 'Rah for the electrics!

Alderman Phillips quotes Scripture sometimes and usually with good effect, but Tuesday night we guess he used a new revised version, which the bishops have not yet approved.

THE following from the editor's old paper, the Vermont Tribune of Ludlow, fits here, as though it was written for this locality and time:

The money is scarce and the times are dull.
In everything there is a lull,
Yet bravely do our merchants feel
The need of wills as strong as steel
To meet the worst, from chaos bring
A faith that helps in everything;
They're doing well; let them be wise.
And don't forget to advertise.

IRRESPECTIVE of all political considerations of party or otherwise, every honest upright citizen feels a sense of shame and degradation at the disgraceful attempt to foist such men as Madden or Lorimer on the great state of Illinois as a United States senator. After such men as Douglass and Trumbull and Yates and Logan and Oglesby and Davis and Farwell, the thought of such a fellow as Madden is extremely humiliating. May God save the Commonwealth of Illinois from the ruin of her pot-house politicians.

PRICES THEN AND NOW.

We were interested, in looking over our old family account book, to note the prices of supplies then as compared with those of today. Here are a few we copied:

1864.	
Two qts kerosene oil	\$ 50
One and one-eighth yds cotton cloth	55
One-quarter lb of tea	42
One lb ten penny nails	10
One bbl flour	12.00
Four and one-half yds cotton flannel	3.02
1865.	
Two qts kerosene oil	55
One-half lb tea	65
One-quarter lb tea	45
One bbl flour	12.50

The above are fair samples of prices paid for everything, except wood. Money was plenty and "cheap." The greenbacks were worth from 40 to 60 cents on a dollar. But it was hard to make ends meet if money was plenty. We sold butter during those years, as the old account book shows, for 46 to 54 cents a pound, average 50 cents. We had one cow from which we sold 30 pounds of butter each summer month, besides supplying our small family with milk, cream and butter and we used all we wanted. She gave 40 pounds of milk a day by actual weight and we sold her after two summers' service for \$80.

That cow would have made the same amount of butter per month, if greenbacks had been worth 100 cents instead of 40 to 60 on a dollar. In other words, cheap money and plenty of it, had nothing to do with the amount of butter the cow would make. The vital question is, what would a tub of that butter buy then, on a greenback 40-cent dollar basis and now on a gold 100-cent dollar basis, and butter at 20 cents a pound. When one 30-lb tub of butter would buy 30 gallons of kerosene, now kerosene at 10 cents, it would buy 60 gallons; then one tub of butter would buy about 38 yards of cotton cloth, now from 50 to 60. Tea would not vary much. It fluctuated then under the new Morrill war tariff, as it was called, a mere pigmy beside the McKinley monstrosity. Then it took nearly a tub of butter to buy a barrel of flour; now it would buy a barrel and a half, as I paid for my last one.

Taking all the purchases of the year together my one-cow dairy would furnish much more now than then, in the days of cheap money and plenty of it.

GLIMPSES.

Slowly, advancing day is folding up
The misty robes which wrapped the earth this morn,
And hid the beauty which my longing eyes
So much desired to see, of hill and vale.
I knew 'twas only hidden;—now and then
A sudden lifting of the vapory cloud
Revealed the quiet valleys nestling there.
And peaceful homes, with joy and plenty
Crowned;
And well I knew the distant mountains grand
Were tow'ring, all unmoved by storm or cloud.

And so, sometimes, when faith is weak and dim,
The better land seems "hidden" from our sight;
We only catch faint glimpses, passing gleams,
Of its exceeding beauty and grandeur,
Of its fair mansions, many and complete,
Its pastures green, and waters crystal clear:
But when the glory of eternal day
Shall drive the mists of doubt and fear away
THEN we shall SEE, and then be satisfied.
—M. L. B.

ELECTRIC ECHOES.

The council will regulate the speed as it does the bicycle.

The company will execute a \$5000 bond to keep its contract in every particular.

W. B. Morgan, late of this city, is fully installed as manager of the Manistique telephone works.

We understand no extra charge will be made for carrying aldermen, though they are generally pretty "hefty" men.

Messrs. Coale, Turnley, Everett, Hipwell and Prall and several other citizens took part in the discussion and lots more will if they can get into the hall.

Alderman Phillips styled his associate, Mr. Cushman, as the "leader of this council", and other complimentary terms flowed from his lips like "water from a geese's back".

There will be no passes, except one annual to the editor of the News, on account of his eminent public services, his great and noble character and the far-reaching influence of his paper. A knowing wink of President Loss Tuesday night settled all of that.

Several prominent citizens, just now out of a job, had decided to be conductors on the road and handle the cash, when lo! the company talk about "bob-tail" cars and cash boxes, "The best laid plans of nice little men gang oft astray." Who said that? It's so, anyway.

Some folks talk about a ten cent fare to Waukegan. We don't oppose it, but while the rich monopolistic North-western charges three cents a mile on all its local suburban travel, it is quite a stretch to ask the Electric to make a $\frac{2}{3}$ of a cent rate. We won't complain at one cent a mile, 25 cents a round trip, it can be done.