

The Highland Park News.

Published in the interests of Highland Park, Highwood and Ravinia, every Friday afternoon by H. F. & A. E. Evans.

Terms, \$1.00 per year, 55 cents for six months, 30 cents for three months.

Office: McDonald's Building, St. Johns Avenue, Highland Park, Illinois.

Entered at the post-office at Highland Park, Ill., as second class matter.

Advertising rates made known on application at this office.

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

FRIDAY, APRIL 2, 1897.

To our anxious friends who wish to know if we are suffering from fatty degeneration of the heart, we say no, most emphatically. We know "Oliver Optic" died of that disease Saturday last, but he was a man of wealth as well as an author. Our style of living does not tend toward that style of "degeneration."

THE NEWS takes pride in its campaign record. It set out to go through the town, city and school elections without any personalities, no rapier thrusts, no Turkish tactics in local politics, and everything has gone as smooth as a camp meeting; the discussions have been as grave and dignified as a theological debate.

THE PRESS has no influence; every old fogey in seven towns will tell you so every day. Last week the News called attention to the bad condition of the gutter under the new cement sidewalk against Prof. Gray's lot on Prospect avenue. In less than 48 hours there was a new six-inch tile laid and covered—all O. K. throughout. Nothing done till the News spoke, and then, presto change; it was done.

THE ISSUE TUESDAY.

East Deerfield holds its town election next Tuesday in the Young Men's club rooms, the polls to open at 7 o'clock a. m. and to close at 5 o'clock p. m. The contest is over the supervisor—shall it be A. W.

Fletcher or John C. Coe. What is the issue? It is not the ability or personal character of the men; on those points there is no dispute. Each man also has his personal friends, those who will vote for him in any event. But the great body of business minded men wish to vote not for any particular man, but for the issue and the man who represents it. Now what is the issue next Tuesday?

As we understand it, it is this: Shall the town build a new town hall at an expense of some \$10,000?

It now costs the town some \$20 per annum for a place for its meetings; the supervisor has his office at his home; the clerk holds his in his hat, the collector in his store and the highway commissioners in a back room in Fletcher's block—all at an expense of a couple ten dollar bills, or thereabouts. Now a town hall would be a nice thing to have; it would show off the town, would cost from \$50 to \$100 a year to run it with janitor care, fuel, lights, etc. A \$40 business suit would be a nice thing for us this spring; we should enjoy it (but \$40 worth of books better), but the times are hard and so we cling, or rather the old clothes cling to us. The times are hard; can't we wait a year or two for a town hall, till business is better. Then we have lots, at least all we want and more of special assessments to pay every year. Do we want to put a \$10,000 town hall on top of these? That is the issue. Nine-tenths of this expense will fall on the taxpayers of Highland Park. Gentlemen, do you want this town hall?

But that is not all. Next Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock the town will hold a town meeting to act on the question of building a town hall this year. If you want the town, these hard times, on top of all the special assessments now in force and others sure to come, with a \$15,000 high school building in a couple of years, to put \$10,000 this year into this town hall, why don't attend that meeting, and the town hall can be voted without you. If you are opposed to it, you should be on hand prompt at 2 o'clock and vote against

it. That is the issue; as you pay the taxes, decide what you want and vote accordingly—or forever after hold your peace and pay your taxes like a man.

ABOUT ENCYCLOPÆDIAS.

We have been studying cyclopædias practically for 25 years, and in that time have owned Zell's, Appleton's American, the Britannica, and the Americanized Chambers', known as the Library of Universal Knowledge, and have used to some extent the original Johnson's. For a brief condensed work, Zell's was good, wonderfully compact, while the old Appleton's was superb on all American topics especially. But, as our specialties were in the line of foreign subjects, historical, biographical and geographical, we secured the original Edindurgh, ninth edition of the Britannica, as they were issued, and have been more than satisfied. The only drawback we ever experienced was its total lack of biographical articles of living men. The old Johnson for a cheaper work was generally good, but very uneven and unsatisfactory, however, the new edition is much improved.

We have just had the pleasure of carefully examining the new edition of the International, in 15 volumes, by Dodd, Mead & Co., of New York and Chicago. It is based on Chambers' fully Americanized, and brought up to date. One of its three editors Selim H. Peabody, late of our state university, we have known since 1853 when he gave us our first lessons in Latin and Algebra. The work of revision has been carefully, accurately and very thoroughly done; we have compared it with the original in many articles. Every student has his specialty and we have ours and this examination has been along our own lines. Take a few points as we noted them.

COUNTRIES.—China has a good map, the provinces are clearly outlined and colored, not too full of names and the Hoang and Yangtsi rivers, the arteries of the empire, are very distinct. It is one of the most satisfactory we have seen anywhere. The article is ten full pages besides many illustrations, literature references up to date, except Martin's "Cycle of Cathay," and Smith's "Characteristics." The war with Japan is set forth in its results. Essentially the same applies to its article on Japan. Siberia is briefly treated, but has not a word about the great Siberian railroad now being built, nor can we find anything about it anywhere. For the next edition