

COMMUNICATION.

MR. EDITOR—Having been asked several times by our fellow citizens where we stand on the question of city improvement, will you allow us to state through the columns of your paper our position?

When we first came to this city we soon found that all the sewerage was into the open ravines. This not only was calculated in a few years to destroy the pleasant aspect of our ravines, but was certain to breed serious sickness. We commenced at once to agitate the matter of getting sewerage. We could get no one apparently interested until we finally resolved to seek remedy through the courts, when we were told that there was no water supply sufficient to flush sewers and if we would wait until water supply was procured the city would then take up the question of sewerage. We waited and the promise was kept, and for six years we have had both sewerage and water.

Next as regards streets and sidewalks: in the nearly nine years we have been here we have put down 330 feet of cement sidewalk and about 1400 feet of plank walk. For part of this last an ordinance was passed by our own solicitation.

Seven years ago we began to agitate the question of having St. Johns avenue improved. After talking with one or two citizens residing on that avenue, we sent out cards inviting all the residents from the depot to Lincoln avenue near Mr. Dickinson's, to a meeting. The meeting was held in the parlor of the Academy, and on motion, Mr. George Ball was made a committee to investigate the different kinds of improvement and report. The writer was somewhat surprised at this move, made by a man presumably in the interest of improvement, but nominating a man who was known to be opposed to it; and as was expected, nothing came of it. Later however, a more general meeting was called including the property owners north of the depot on St. Johns avenue. Two other names were added to the committee, which, if we are not mistaken, consisted then of Messrs. Easher, Bortree and Ball. Nothing however, came of that meeting so far as we know. The next move came in the form of an ordinance passed by the city council. It is unnecessary to go into details. Suffice it to say that the taxpayers on the avenue were decidedly opposed both to the subject matter and the manner of the ordinance, and it was thrown into the courts.

The panic in all its pressure was

upon us. In time it became evident that that ordinance could not be carried out. Another one was passed, and this was not satisfactory to the taxpayers, for reasons we need not dwell upon here.

In conclusion we have always been in favor of reasonable improvements judiciously made. We still take that position and in addition wish to say that the charge made three years ago that we were opposed to improvements never had a particle of foundation. And furthermore, permit us to add that in making improvements we are in favor of so making them that our own citizens shall have an opportunity to do the work if they wish, thereby keeping the money invested in our own city and giving our own citizens employment.

We are also asked in case of being elected to the council what attitude we would take concerning the needs of the people in the southern part of the city. It ought to be self-evident to everybody that any improvements in the south end of the city will benefit the property of the Northwestern Military Academy, and we should certainly favor anything that the taxpayers wish in that direction that is not injurious to the general interests of all the people.

Permit us to suggest in no egotistical or boastful spirit that no one property in this city has within the last eight years done more to improve or increase the value of Highland Park property than the establishing and building up of the Northwestern Military Academy.

We trust this explanation will sufficiently explain to the voters of the third ward our attitude, especially as regards St. Johns avenue.

Respectfully,

H. P. DAVIDSON.

OUR CLUBBING RATES.

The NEWS is ready to form clubbing rates with its subscribers for any prominent paper or magazine published in this country, Great Britain, France or Germany. Bear in mind the NEWS is always and everywhere \$1.00 cash. We will give you the NEWS and

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AUCTION SALE!

The undersigned having dissolved partnership will sell at Public Sale, on the J. C. Coe farm, at Ravinia, 1 1/2 miles south of Highland Park, on

SATURDAY, APR. 3, '97,

commencing at 1 o'clock p. m., the following property.

ALL TROTTERS:

- Abdallah Hamlet by Hambletonian Bashaw, by Hambletonian 10, dam by Hamlet, Jr., by Hamlet, by Volunteer, by Hambletonian 10.
- Helen M., 14 yrs. old, by Menelaus, by Hambletonian 10; dam, Lucy, a mare Coe owned for 23 years. A long way the best piece of horse flesh he ever owned; died aged 33.
- Lincolnette, 6 years old, by Checkmate, by Competitor, by Onward; dam, Irma C, by Autocrat, by Hambletonian 10.
- Piper, 7 yrs. old, by Thoughtful, by Happy Thought, by Happy Medium, by Hambletonian 10; dam by Wadsworth's Major Davis.
- Lucy, 4 years old, by Son of Blue Bull; dam, Helen M.
- Corinne, 3 yrs. old by Prairie King, by Chester Chief, by Hambletonian 10; dam, Helen M.
- King (standard bred), 3 yrs. old, by Prairie King; dam, Lady M., standard and registered.
- Kate, 7 yrs. old, by Gov. Hendricks, by Romeo, by Menelaus; dam, Coe's Lucy.
- Baby, bay mare, 8 yrs. old; a good, clever family driver.
- Bay driving mare: stylish and quite speedy.
- Missley, gray mare, stylish; good, clever driver.
- Gray gelding, 4 yrs. old, by Abdallah Hamlet.
- Black gelding, 3 yrs. old, by Abdallah Hamlet; dam, Jennie, by White Eye.
- Team, 8 yrs. old, good workers; weight 2700; geldings.

PACERS.

- Roxie, bay gelding, 5 years old, by Crossman's Bay Wilkes, by George Wilkes; dam by Volunteer, 53.
- Genty Boy, bay gelding, by Nick Noble, by Frank Noble, by Louis Napoleon, No. 207.
- Jim, bay gelding, 4 years old, 16 1/4 hands high, by son of Happy Medium.
- Bay, brood mare, with lots of speed, with colt 8-months old at her side.
- Sorrel mare, by son of Blue Bull.
- Pole 2-seated wagon, top buggy, 4 carts, several sets of harness, etc., etc.

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All sums of \$10 or under, cash. On all sums over that amount a credit of one year will be given on good approved notes bearing 6 per cent. interest. All property must be settled for before being removed.

**J. C. COE,
JAMES GENTY.**

K. C. COFFEY, Auctioneer.