

The Highland Park News.

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

FRIDAY, MAY 21, 1897.

TUESDAY'S Times-Herald had a two column cut of our ex-State Senator COON, of Waukegan, the author and firm friend of the inheritance tax law bill just decided to be constitutional by our judicious State Supreme court. It was a good picture of the man who did a good work.

WE NOTE with pleasure the presence in our city of the man in charge of locating the United Evangelical College. As our readers know, a strong wing of that body want the College at the Park, and with a man of Pastor Thoren's all around ability to bring things to pass, all hope it will come and make the Park a literary centre—the NEWS is here now.

WE remember when it was thought quite a success to cross the Atlantic inside of twelve full days and it was a noteworthy event compared with the old speeds of thirty, forty-five and even sixty days. But last week Friday the Lucania of the Cunard line made the distance from New York to Queenstown, Ireland in a trifle over five days and a half. That is, a man could attend church one Sunday in New York and the next Sunday in an European congregation.

CENTRAL avenue macadamizing is so far along that we can now see how good a street we shall have if only the contractor puts in plenty of material and plenty of good honest work, as no doubt he intends to

do. But there is where the failure will come if it comes, though to our mind there should have been a tile four feet below the top of the clay through the centre of that street. Seventy feet is too great a distance in this heavy clay for three feet drains to take off all the subsoil water and that is where the peril comes from. We would have had four courses of longitudinal tile instead of two under that macadam.

ON TRIAL.

The churches of this city are on trial before their fellow men and before God. The problem of a reconciliation and settlement of old difficulties faces the Bethany and the First United churches. The public knows little and cares less about the causes of the present condition of things, but is intensely interested to see how these people will handle and settle this problem, for their dealing with that will show their ability or lack of ability for valuable Christian service.

The election or selection of a new board of Elders contains a grave problem for our Presbyterian friends, for the men placed in that position will mark that church's estimate of the place and value of personal piety or godliness—Godlikeness—in the church and community. If considerations of wealth or social position are seen to have had strong influence in their selection, by that act the church will say to the community that it places things first in the church, while as a matter of fact they have no place in the church of Jesus Christ. As they creep in, godliness, spiritual life and power wane.

The Baptist church has its problem, practically one of self-preservation in fact. We need not mention details; everybody knows all about it. The church is reaching; if it has not reached, a crisis in its career. To let it pass as though all were well will be to put back that institution, which ought to stand in the fore front among our churches, for a full score of years. It is a very serious problem and the way the church deals with it will reveal the capacity of that church for suc-

cess. The future for a whole generation hangs in the balances.

The Trinity folks have no serious problem, so far as we know, unless it be the danger of undue pride over their continued harmony, united efforts and success. So of St. Mary's church and the other west side churches:—peace, union and prosperity prevail. But brethren, do not forget in the midst of these trial times that God is not mocked nor can he be deceived, and your fellowmen will not be deceived, however much we may deceive ourselves.

SUCCESSFUL JOURNALISM.

For many years we have done considerable newspaper work, and have owned and published three of our own. We were early taught that the high grade model was Harper's Weekly, then under Mr. Curtis' care in his palmiest days. For vigorous forceful, incisive editorials, nothing rivalled the New York Nation, of which we have files, most of them bound, for 30 years. For condensed news, neatly put, the New York Sun shines brightest, while the model local and family paper is the Springfield (Massachusetts) Republican. Harpers is too classic for a local paper, but it and the Nation are journals of tremendous influence, none such in the land. Now they, like all lesser, but successful papers, have certain traits in common.

There is nothing meaningless or colorless about them. They stand for something in the world. They are criticised, found fault with by some and approved and applauded by others: the masses of the people stand by them or they could not flourish. Their articles are read and re-read, talked of, and all that means influence.

They are all such papers as good, clean, honest, fair-minded people like to read and re-read. That is the supreme test of journalism. So once when a college professor said to us, "I calculate to read all your editorials, although I don't always agree with you," we knew our paper was a success, that it was doing its legitimate work, influencing public opinion. When the best people read our paper, we are content.

Finally, a successful journal has a