

**The Highland Park News.**

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H. F. EVANS - BUSINESS MANAGER.

FRIDAY, MAY 14, 1897.

THE cleaning and repairing done on the new Central avenue shows what can be done when our street department has adequate funds with which to work.

WE understand Architect Bock has some plans for the improvement of the city building. When the council gets around to that important matter we shall make a "few feeble remarks" on the subject.

WE understand some of the St. Johns folks want cedar blocks; they would rather put in new paving every ten years. We are in doubt, but the the Central avenue west experiment will tell the story not far hence.

A PROMINENT citizen of fine cultivated literary tastes congratulated the NEWS on securing the services of so able a writer as Parson Styles, L. L. D. on its staff and pronounced his article last week one of the best he had ever read. Our ambition is to stand at the head of American journalism.

If the city council of Lake Forest does not bestir itself and get down to business and pass that Electric street railroad ordinance, the road cannot be built in season to accommodate the wealth, culture, beauty, etc. of Highland Park, commencement week. All that is wanting now is that missing franchise through Lake Forest. Can't be they have caught on to the Chicago method and are waiting for someone to put up "suth-in."

THE best and most serviceable street in this city today is the new cedar block. Its only defect is it is not crowning enough; it should be fully six inches higher in the centre of the street. But it is clean and dry, not as dusty as the macadams and not as muddy and sticky after being sprinkled.

WE are told the boys are killing birds with sling shots. One man says he saw a scarlet tanager killed a day or two since in that way. Swear out a warrant and have the boys arrested; it will cost them \$5 and perhaps a few days in the city jail. No favor will be shown those who kill birds.

FOR the rights of women and children we think the street sprinkling carts should not be allowed to fill on prominent corners, as Hawkins or down by the Presbyterian church, as their teams stand on the street crossings and then they make a mud hole there all the time and the ladies have to walk around them.

APROPOS of our advocacy of a central parkway on St. Johns, we will say, there is an earnest effort being made in New York city to have shade trees planted along their streets in the business districts. We are going to preach a central parkway with all our might and then let the St. Johns folks do as they like; it is their street and their wishes should decide within all reasonable limits.

THE council instructed the committee to examine the Happ road roller and if all is right to buy it for \$350. In the course of time, this booming western city will learn what a little New England country town had learned twenty years ago. We were rustivating one summer on the old home farm, and the public highway being in a dilapidated condition, we set to and repaired it, made a beautiful, well-crowned "pike," as good as could be made without gravel. It set things going in that town, and for years the town has owned its own scrapers, plows, rollers, teams, wagons, etc., all complete and does all its highway work

on a business plan; and for every dollar expended they get, in this way, as much as we get for five dollars. Sometime the Park will own its own equipment entire.

THE Supreme Court of Illinois upholds the income tax law, which takes \$21,000 tax out of the \$2,000,000 estate of the late John B. Drake. That settles it, we won't die rich—not if we can help it, and we think we can. No commonwealth of Illinois is going to pillage our tomb of \$20,000 tax; not much. Better die poor than be bled in that way after you are dead.

THERE is one phase of this two sets of street sprinklers that ought to be abated as a nuisance at once; we mean having both sprinklers go over the same street almost at the same time. Some days this week Central avenue east has been one stretch of mud, which made it wholly unfit for a bicycle or a pleasure team. If both machines want to show off to the people, all right, but they have no right to spoil our streets by this process.

THE Second Ward has reason to be proud of its new alderman, Daniel Cobb. Monday night he made his first speech or little speeches, on the need of care and faithful adherence to the law in the matter of the officers' bonds. First he wanted to know that the bondsmen were worth the legal amount of property and he wanted to know that the bonds were executed in legal form and he thought the committee should go over these matters in private session and talk these things all up in public. But he insisted that in all these important matters they should attend to the city's affairs faithfully.

WHEN Mayor Evans called on Col. Davidson for a speech at "Wholesale improvement" meeting, the colonel said he was reserving his thunder for future use. We listened for a few peals Monday night, but no sound only an "aye" or "nay" in voting on several important matters. Some people rate an alderman's value by the amount of talk he puts in, but people of sense know