

The Highland Park News.

VOL III.

HIGHLAND PARK, ILL., JANUARY 14, 1898.

NO 7.

THE SNOW PARTY.

Mr. and Mrs. Edgar M. Snow gave a german at the Highland Park Club house Saturday evening for their little daughter, Aliene Assenath Snow, from 7:30 till 10:30. We are not up in all the outs and ins of these society matters, but we went to see for ourselves, and really it was one of the most beautiful sights we have beheld for many a month. It seemed more like fairy land in many respects than real life. But then it was real; the young hostess and her guests were our own Highland Park boys and girls, just as natural and unaffected as at their homes or at school; perfect little ladies and gentlemen in every respect. It was a gathering of from 60 to 75 young persons from 8 to 12 years of age. It was the childhood of our city in its beauty and at its best, and we went to our home at 11 o'clock, after it was all over, with a new appreciation and a higher admiration for our Park children. Then we were pleased also to see how many good mothers were there to keep a watchful, tender eye on their children.

Another thing we wish to emphasize. The "young blood," as some style it, has been admitted into the management of the Club this year, and this young element was determined to have this, one of the first, if not the very first entertainment under their auspices, a success. Hence their gratification, as well as ours, and so we congratulate them on its outcome. While no one has any desire to turn the Club over entirely into the young folks' hands, we do think it a wise plan to put them into the management—the young and old together; as our father used to say, "Old men for counsel, young men for work." Saturday night showed what young work can do.

About sixty invitations were issued and only three regrets returned—an unusually small list of regrets. We guess Miss Aliene is popular, according to that verdict. When we reached the scene about 9:30 the rooms were brilliantly lighted and filled with a merry company. Professor Bournique, who had charge of the dancing, with his two skilled musicians from Chicago, managed everything with rare tact and skill, and did it all so nicely, you could scarce see there was any management. Everything moved with the noiseless precision of an old-time eight-day clock. The "Favors" were numerous and very fine also, over whose distribution Mrs. Charles D. Snow of Western Springs, and Mrs. J. R. Cummings of River Forest, presided most successfully. Mr. and Mrs. Snow, parents of the young hostess, were ceaseless and ubiquitous in their quiet attention to all the guests of the evening, and it was gratifying to see with what breathless interest such youngsters as P. A. Montgomery and Captain Robinson watched the scene. At 10 o'clock refreshments were served by the Club's excellent arrangements, in the dining room, and each child was waited upon with the utmost care and precision, and we never saw such a room-full, of young or old, better managed and better behaved; in fact it was perfect. Sandwiches, chocolate, cakes, cream, candies, etc., etc., were all dispensed without confusion or accident, till all were satisfied. The trains compelled Profes-

or Bournique to leave about 10:45. All through the evening there was no monotony or weariness, and when the company dispersed they seemed as fresh and happy as at the start. Most of the guests, of course, were from the Park, with four from the Fort, a few from Chicago and one each from River Forest and Western Springs. The young misses were all costumed in white, making a scene of rare beauty.

PROF. ROLFE'S LECTURES.

The Highland Park Club management have had in mind for a long time a plan for a brief course of lectures on the University extension plan. They finally decided, Friday night, to have Henry W. Rolfe, ass't professor of English literature in the University of Chicago, deliver his course of six lectures on the "Representative English Authors of the Nineteenth Century" as follows:

- 1—Charles Lamb, the Chief of English Literature.
- 2—Jane Austen, one of England's great Novelists.
- 3—Carlyle, the most dramatic of Historians.
- 4—Thackeray, foremost English Novelist and Humorist.
- 5—Tennyson, the Representative poet of the Victorian Era.
- 6—Stevenson, the most artistic of Contemporary Writers.

That is a course of unusual brilliancy and attractiveness. The Club have decided to "let down the bars" to outsiders who wish to attend them at \$2.00 per ticket for the entire course, and at last advice they had sold some 40 tickets or over to outsiders. As everyone knows, such a course of lectures as that costs money, and after they sell all the tickets they can, the Club won't make anything. This is a rare chance and we hope every person of any literary taste or culture will secure a ticket.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A Query.

Editor of the News—

We have been informed that the officers of the Highland Park Club have ruled that any woman who is not a member of the above named club cannot be admitted to membership in the Ossoli, except the teachers in the public schools, and the wives of officers in Fort-Sheridan. By this ruling, many women of intelligence equal to any, are debarred from being useful members of the Ossoli. If the responsibility for this rests with the officers of the Highland Park Club, then consistency is a jewel not found in their caskets; for they have permitted the children of outsiders to attend dancing classes at the Club house, and are now soliciting outsiders to help support a lecture course. Everybody approves of the teachers being admitted to the Ossoli; it is a step in the right direction. But why discriminate against women of ability whose husbands help pay the taxes which support our schools and teachers? ALUMNUS.

The editor of the News knows nothing about this matter. If any member of either Club wishes to enlighten the public, our columns are open for that purpose.

Mrs. Margaret Martin, who formerly resided in the Park, but who now makes Chicago her home, gave a luncheon Thursday at her home. Several of her friends from this city attended.

THE IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY.

This society originated in a meeting of a few inhabitants of this portion of the earth, which we cannot rightfully call a city, a town or a village—it is simply a settlement, and was larger 20 years ago than it is today. This meeting was held in the M. E. Church Jan. 15, 1895, when we roused up to consider our situation for, seemingly, we had been asleep. We found we had neither street lamps, water, sewers, nor even respectable sidewalks. In the spring if you wished to take a boat ride you might simply step upon a loose board at the corner of Lot No. 160 and by a little engineering float down to Mr. Kellogg's, for certainly we had floating sidewalks.

We concluded our only remedy was annexation to Highland Park. Believing we could gain our end by working in a body, we agreed to meet again Feb. 6 and report. J. J. Hesler was chairman and called the meeting to order. We found annexation required three-fourths of the votes of the residents, also three-fourths of the votes of the acreage in property. The residents were only too glad to cast their vote for annexation, but there were others who did not think that way, preferring to live on by themselves, fearing heavy taxes for little or no benefit, referring to our neighbors who do live in the Park and are not benefited thereby—not thinking of the large tract of vacant and unimproved property lying between Idlewild and the southern limits of the Park. After a great amount of work in the way of petitions, communications, etc., we found we could not carry annexation, but by dropping that we might gain valuable members. Hence we organized under the name of the Ravinia Improvement Society, with J. J. Hesler, president; G. R. Boerner, secretary, and W. R. Boerner, treasurer, for one year, named a committee of three to draw up the by-laws for the society, appointed a committee on water, lights and side-walks and also a committee to provide entertainment for each meeting.

At our meeting in March the by-laws were adopted and a number joined the society. The gentlemen's dues are 25 cents per month and ladies are admitted honorary members. From March, 1895, up to date the meetings have been held regularly once a month, with only two postponements. Each officer held his office during this time, except one change made in the sidewalk committee and two new offices were created, that of chaplain and usher. Our usher found the work wearing and lately was obliged to take a trip to Kansas City for his health.

The literary committee was so arranged that each member was given a chance to serve. We have had some very interesting programs, even residents of aristocratic Highland Park have joined us and contributed liberally to our entertainments.

We have lost some valuable members by removal, especially the Misses Skinner; and have received one resignation. Cupid stole one of our young ladies, and saddest of all, death has claimed one of our most respected members. We certainly have accomplished some good. We now have a solid instead of a floating sidewalk, a new walk on Dean ave., also

on Judson ave. in front of the church. We have been able to hire the walks cleared of snow, and what was once an unsightly lot east of the station, has been transformed into a veritable park, omitting flowers.

We were the means, to some extent, of securing the school house site, on which now stands a building not to be ashamed of. There is plenty of water there now, if you wish a drink; the only beverage, we are pleased to say, we could furnish you. I can not enumerate all the good work of this society, and will now turn to the thought uppermost in our minds.

Our faithful treasurer has repeatedly handed over all the money in the treasury to the sidewalk committee, their call for money being so great that none was left to be expended by the committee on lights. We are now coming to the rescue of our treasury and committee on lights by giving an entertainment and oyster supper in the school house Jan. 14th, at 8 p. m., which we sincerely hope will be well patronized. By contributing your support you will be helping us to see the "light"—especially on a dark night. Tell your friends of the good time to be had the 14th at a place called Ravinia.

RECKLESS DRIVING.

Carrie Keyes and Jennie Vetter, two young lady pupils of the high school, who reside in Deerfield, while driving down the Central avenue hill in front of the residence of the mayor, Tuesday afternoon, on their way home after school had closed, were run into from the rear by another rig, in which were two boys and a girl. The girls and a small boy, who was riding with them, were thrown out into the street, where the mud was several inches deep, and their horse started to run, but was caught by a bystander. The rig driven by the boys passed over Miss Keyes, one of her limbs, but did not injure her very much. However, her clothes and those of her companions were almost completely ruined, being covered with sticky mud from their feet up, and their heads down. The accident was due to the carelessness of the boys in driving. It is not much to the credit of the boys that after running into and throwing the girls into the street, they did not have the manliness or humanity to return and ascertain whether any injury had been done them or not, or whether they were in need of assistance. It was a brutal act. The girls say it is not the first time the same boys have done this and will endeavor to have them punished.

MRS. VAIL'S MUSICALS.

Mrs. Major Harry S. Vail gave a musical or reception at her elegant new Laurel avenue home last Friday evening. We know not how many invitations were issued, but from 150 to 200 were there, quite filling the spacious house. Among the features of the evening were recitations by Miss Ward of Evans-ton. Miss Evans, the contralto, so well known here, sang several solos in a way that did not disappoint those who had very high expectations; and Miss Cobb rendered two selections on the piano which those who heard them pronounced unusually fine.

IN MEMORIAM.

Theodora Amelia Towner.

Few deaths in our community have caused such wide-spread sorrow as that of Mrs. Henry A. Towner, which occurred early Monday morning, January 10th. Although her residence in Highland Park had been comparatively brief, Mrs. Towner had endeared herself to all who knew her by her unaffected simplicity and genuineness of sympathy, and by the rare strength and gentleness of her beautiful character. She had won for herself a place among us which can not easily be filled by another.

During the almost forty years of their married life, Mr. and Mrs. Towner have been conspicuous in the social life of Chicago; and there are few who have a wider and more devoted circle of friends, especially in St. James' Church, in whose charities and activities both have been prominent.

Mrs. Towner had always appeared to enjoy robust health, and with her children and grandchildren about her kept the Christmas festival at the home in Highland Park. She was in her place in the Church Christmas morning, and received the Holy Communion with those who loved her, and who little thought that they were kneeling beside her at the altar for the last time. During the holiday week she suffered what was thought to be a slight attack of illness, and was about the house on the first Sunday in the new year, but suddenly on that afternoon she became worse and lapsed into unconsciousness from which she never fully emerged until death ensued a week later. Her physicians rendered her every assistance possible, but realized that they were powerless in the presence of that insidious and mysterious malady known as Bright's disease.

Shortly before noon on Wednesday, January 12th., a company of relatives and friends assembled, and before the body was removed from the house joined in a short service of prayer. The multitude of flowers which were sent in token of the affection of friends, imparted the perfume of spring time to the house, but without the rain was falling, and under the canopy of low clouds the sad procession moved to the railway station, whence the funeral party went by train to Ravenswood and thence by carriages to Graceland.

The beautiful cemetery chapel was crowded with friends who came out from the city; and there, surrounded by flowers and growing plants, the majestic burial service of the Church was read by the Rev. Mr. Wolcott in the unavoidable absence of the Rector of St. James'. The beauty of the service was greatly enhanced by the vested choir of St. James' Church, which sang the burial anthem and the hymns. As the service began, the clouds lifted and the sun shone forth, and in the midst of clear shining after rain, the body was borne to the grave where the last solemn words of committal were said, and all that is mortal of Theodora Amelia Towner was committed to the earth in the assurance of a blessed resurrection.

May she rest in peace, and may light perpetual shine upon her.

The Mr. Villars, who disappeared from Lake Bluff just before Christmas, was found Wednesday, in a Chicago boarding house, somewhat demoralized mentally. He seemed surprised when found.

Following are a
of our custom-
who are using

shine stoves:

Les Larkin
D. D. Conner
Clayton
Bowen
Buck
Egan
Greenblatt
Lester
Laba
Schunaberger
H. Baker
W. Boyington
Ingalls
Bourton
Mrs. Larsen
Buckler
Sittes
Dugan
Campbell
Coe
Duffy
William Smith
Hall
Dot
Mrs. McNeill
Prall
Rice
Rogan
Thorn
Rudolph
Daniel Davidson
St. Peter
A. Baker
J. Grant
S. Skine
Gump
Yoe
Hattgraft
Corwith
Gibbs
Street
E. Chandler
D. C. Purdy
P. Dooley
B. Brand
Gansch
Park
George Smith, Sr.

GENT

and Crockery,

Delivered Free of Charge.

Park, Illinois.
54.

DWARE,

HIGHLAND PARK.

TON,

Wood, Lumber.

ment.
Kinds.

FIRST STREET.

houses,

Flowering Plants.

\$1 Per Year.