

**GLENCOE SEWERAGE SYSTEM.**

Editor, Sheridan News Letter:—In your issue of February 18, I was gratified to learn that the next issue of the News Letter would contain a "forcible article" prepared by Mr. Markham B. Orde dealing with the Glencoe sewerage question, from a point of view radically at variance with the article appearing in the issue of February 11, entitled "Improving Glencoe." I looked forward, as did perhaps many of your other readers, with the hope that the sewerage question of Glencoe would at last receive a new and forcible impetus, and that something original would be expressed on a matter that has engrossed so much attention during the past. But I regret to say that that "forcible article" has failed to meet even ordinary expectations. While I have not a copy of the issue before me, I am nevertheless constrained to state that with the exception of perhaps one or two persons there are not in our village to-day any who I would call a pessimist, and those few, while owning no property, cannot be classified as "calamity howlers;" the "howling" comes from the other side.

The new school building is not a sewerage question, although the building is one of the finest constructions of its kind in Cook county.

The water question is not a sewerage question, but the water assessment is paid for, and who will ever forget the "wisdom that ordained" that water pipes and dead ends be laid where rarely the foot of a white man ever treads, or burden unproductive property with an unnecessary tax.

The village hall is not a sewerage question, but that building stands to-day vastly inadequate to the requirements for which it was designed.

The sewerage question of the village of Glencoe is one that cannot be settled off-hand by a "forcible article" from the pen of any man. There are rights and interests connected with such a project which must be both respected and considered. The late sewerage proposition submitted to the property owners is of a peculiar nature—it involves or contemplates the localization or centralization of the sewerage system, that is, "throughout the inhabited part of the village," from which is therefore to be presumed that some will have sewerage facilities while others will not, yet all must contribute to the improvement by assessment; if sewerage is necessary to one home, its necessity is applicable to all homes. I am of the opinion that the village authorities have not the right under the present charter to purchase land on which to deposit this sewerage, as is contemplated in the proposition referred to; nor am I of the opinion that the village could deposit this sewerage, even if the municipality owned the land,

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without the consent of the abutting or adjacent owners. I am not in a position to state what action the legislature may or may not take regarding north shore sewerage, but I am, I think, right in stating that if the village of Glencoe wants a cheap, practicable outlet for its sewerage system, proper ordinances should be passed condemning for street purposes two of the leading ravines leading to Lake Michigan, then construct a main north and south sewer with lateral sewers connecting therewith, and thence by two main branches running east to said ravines, thence to the lake, thereby giving the public at one and the same time sewer facilities and a beautiful and easy access over macadamized streets to our lovely beach. This, I presume, would not be an expensive system, and if there are any ideas of a practicable nature referring to the sewer system herein expressed, I respectfully submit them for what they are worth.

John R. James.

**ANOTHER COMMUNICATION.**

To the Editor:—In read in a late issue an article from that sterling fellow citizen, George Park, for whose opinion as a practical man I have always had a great respect. But when he advocates turning the sewerage of Glencoe, for all times, into the source of our water supply, I must take issue with him. Far less noxious and dangerous would be the proposition, already under consideration, to drain to the westward, emptying upon "a tract of land to be owned by the village, on the borders of the Skoke." Such a course would not only dispose of the sewage, but would make the deposits actually valuable as a fertilizer. And now, while in point, Mr. Editor, I must tell you of a little town in Nebraska (Brewster, I think, is the name) which, in the space of five years, has grappled with and conquered the problem of good streets and efficient, innocuous sewerage. This town has macadamized, with sand, slag and broken stone, six miles of streets, which are solid in all weather. It has drained and sewered into a gully two miles back of the town, crossing a ridge by means of siphons; and all these improvements have cost the property owners only \$1.50 per front foot. The trunk lines of sewer are of brick, the smaller and

lateral lines are of tile, and when a new connection is desired the street is never torn up, for there is a sewer on each side. Yours for the greatest good to the greatest number,

S. F. Newhall.

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