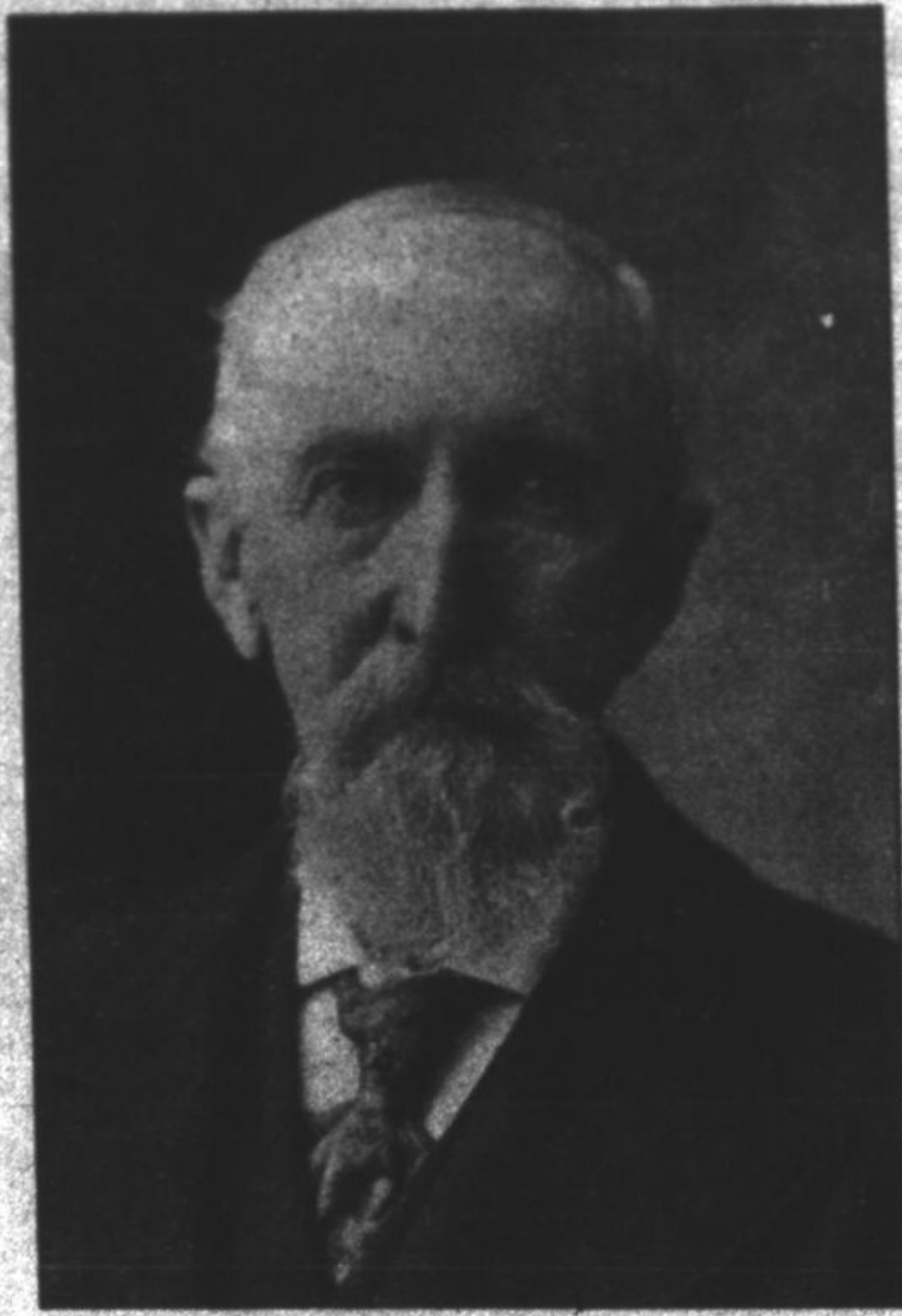


### The R. R. Men's Home.

Mr. T. B. Watson, one of the new managers of the Home for Aged and Disabled Railroad Men, situated in Highland Park, whose likeness the NEWS-LETTER presents below, although a stranger to most people of the Park, is one of the best known railroad men of the west.

Born in Yates county, New York, May 8th, 1834, Mr. Watson commenced railroading in 1853, in the capacity of train boy on the Toledo,



T. B. WATSON.

Norwalk and Cleveland railroad, J. T. Simpkin being his conductor. Shortly after he was appointed brakeman on the night express, Josh Taylor conductor. In the fall of 1856 he went to Iowa and in 1859 secured a position on the Dubuque & South-Western as brakeman, running between Dubuque and Motecello. In 1862 he entered the employ, as conductor, of the Chicago, Iowa and Nebraska railroad (now Iowa division of C. & N. W.) continuing with that road until 1868, when he resigned and went to Michigan to act as yardmaster and conductor for the Detroit, Lansing and Lake Michigan road. From 1880 to 1890 he was conductor on the Burlington, Cedar Rapids and Northern railroad.

The Home takes care of all disabled and superannuated railroad men—be they from the United States, Canada or Mexico—and is located less than one mile south of Highland

Park. It consists of two residence buildings, barns, sheds and outhouses. One of the houses and the lot on which it stands, formerly known as the Paige place, has not been the property of the Home until lately, it having been rented by the Home from the Waukegan Building and Loan association, who owned it. Some time ago the Waukegan people notified Mr. Watson that the building unless purchased would have to be vacated as they wished to realize from it. As soon as possible a meeting of the board of directors of the Home was called and the matter placed before it. As the running expenses had exhausted all moneys available for use the board was at a loss what to do until Mr. L. S. Coffin, the president, who has been a true friend and supporter of the institution since its inception, came to the rescue, advanced the money necessary for the purchase of same, and once again saved the Home from dissolution.

"Father" Coffin, as he is affectionately known to all railroaders, is the friend of all knights of the rail. He has given most liberally of his time and money in endeavoring to lighten the burden of the railroader. He has on many occasions engineered legislation in Washington and elsewhere which has benefitted them. Mr. Coffin was the instigator of the law compelling all railroads to equip freight cars with airbrakes and automatic couplers, which has been the means of minimizing the loss of life on railroads.

### THE LAWN PICNIC.

The ladies of Chicago G. I. A. No. 1 picnicked on the spacious lawn of the Railroad Men's Home Thursday. It was an ideal day, and enjoyed by all. About fifty were present, among them being Mesdames Jennie Kane, F. W. Malbon, A. G. Spate, F. Carlson, William Rowe, A. Tolson, E. Moore, J. Adams, Cook, H. A. Funke, D. G. Stannard, H. H. St. John, B. Bohrig, J. C. Valpelle, W. H. Guff of Chicago, and Miss Jeannette Paradise, St. Louis; Mrs. F. D. Fletcher, Marquette, Mich.; Mr. Z. T. Doolittle, La Fayette, Ind., Rev. and Mrs. Richard Garton, Burlington, Ia.;

Miss Hazel Balz, Waukegan; Miss Ruth Fairnice, Chicago. They were charmed with the Home and the surroundings, as well as the manner in which it is being managed.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Adam Ohlwein, a bright, twelve pound baby boy.

Newman Finney has cast his lot with the NEWS-LETTER and will learn the trade and intricacies of the newspaper business.

A skilled optician of many years experience at Schneider & Cooke's will examine your eyes and inform you if they require glasses. No expense for examination, and very little for glasses; they deal directly with the manufacturers.

Through the efforts of city marshal Leesch the team and outfit reported stolen in Wauconda, an account of which was mentioned in last week's NEWS-LETTER, has been recovered and the thief arrested. It was recovered in South Chicago. The prisoner is lodged in Waukegan jail.

The Baptist church has voted to settle Rev. Robert M. Rabb, as its pastor for one year, while he is completing his post graduate studies in the University of Chicago. He is giving two years special study to the Bible which gives the church the rare chance of a man of ability and training for a very moderate sum. The call was voted Wednesday evening and was unanimous and very enthusiastic.

Friday's Chicago Tribune says legal proceedings are about to be commenced by the city of Waukegan to compel County Treasurer Foote to return excessive commissions, alleged to be charged by him as county collector for handling tax money. The trouble arises from different constructions put on the state law. Heretofore it has been customary for collectors to charge but 1 per cent commission but Collector Foote reads the law as allowing him 3 per cent. The point hinges on the punctuation of the law and never has been judicially passed on. It is of importance to cities in the smaller counties of the state.

Buy that birthday present of Schneider & Cooke. A fine assortment to choose from.