

### Episcopal Church Destroyed.

The fire that last Saturday destroyed the Trinity Episcopal church, of which Rev. Mr. Wolcott is rector, can hardly be considered anything but a blessing to the congregation and to Highland Park, and perhaps when Presbyterians, Baptists and others heard, that cold, windy, late December afternoon, that a church was on fire, the wish uppermost in every one's mind, if put in words, would have been, "Oh, that it is our church." For the church edifices in Highland Park are, as a rule, not as modern as could be desired. The Episcopal church fire started in some defect in the furnace apparatus. The church had been filled with smoke some time before the state of affairs was discovered. Some children saw, finally, smoke issuing from the church and notified Mr. Wolcott, who immediately sent word to the electric light plant for the alarm to be given, and then rushed into the church to do what he could. Mr. Wolcott soon saw that the fire had gone too far to make extinguishing it a possibility, and confined his efforts to saving things of value. The smoke soon grew so dense that no one could get in the building, and the fire department had to turn all the three streams of water on the adjacent rectory. That they saved that house when the strong west wind was literally covering it with cinders is proof enough of the kind of fire department the park now has.

The church is totally destroyed. Only a small piano, a couple of seats, the vestments and the altar linen was saved, excepting a few minor articles. The building was insured for \$7,500 which was full value. Temporarily the Episcopalians will meet in the Presbyterian church. Besides to our fire department and to the Highwood department, who came a trifle late, credit should be given City Engineer Laing for his seeing that the water was pumped directly into the city mains—the stand pipe having been shut off.

Trinity church was organized Mar. 15, 1874, in the Baptist meeting house. Dr. Sullivan presided, acting for Bishop Whitehouse. E. P.

Shurly was elected senior warden, J. W. B. Fraser junior warden, and Messrs Hall, Cameron, Davis, French and Cross completed the vestry. Rev. Frank O. Osborne became the first rector, May 1st, 1874 and remained until Feb. 1, 1876. The congregation worshipped in Central Hall, till the summer of 1876, when the body of edifice just burned, the wings were added later. Then there was no settled pastor till Rev. James P. Lytton came, September, 1879. During the vacancy John C. Cushman, who had succeeded Mr. Shurly as senior warden, served as lay reader. In October 1883 Mr. Lytton resigned and in July 1884 Dr. Elmendorf, professor in the Racine college, became priest in charge and during his term of service the church had great prosperity, for he was a rare man.

In October 1889 Rev. J. W. Elliott became rector, W. O. Hipwell was senior warden, lay reader and Sunday school superintendent. During Mr. Elliott's incumbency the two wings were added to the house of worship and other improvements made. He closed his rectorship Sept. 6th, 1891. In Feb. 1892 Rev. P. C. Wolcott became rector and in 1893 the Central avenue rectory was built and sold four years later and the present one adjoining the church was secured. The all but eight years of Rector Wolcott's service here have been years of great harmony ceaseless activity and rare success in all directions and today he is one of the most highly esteemed citizens of our city. He is surely the man for this great emergency.

The Highland Park club has issued cards for an informal dance, Saturday evening, January 6th.

Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Vail, entertained at dinner on Friday evening in honor of Professor McClintock.

Mr. Turnley Lightner and Mr. Carlton Vail returned to their colleges Monday evening. Mr. Edward Smith was detained by illness.

Through the efforts of Mr. Charles Hill and Winchester Carver, the New Year's dance at the Highland Park club on Saturday evening was a great success.

### Notice to Contractors.

CHICAGO, December 18, 1899.

Sealed proposals will be received by the Township Board of Education at the High School room in Highland Park, Illinois, up to 7 o'clock p. m. of January 19, 1900, for labor and material required in the construction of a High School building for Township 43, Range 12, Lake county, Illinois, according to plans and specifications prepared for same by Joseph C. Llewellyn, architect, 1218, 153 La Salle street, Chicago.

Bids will be received under the following headings:

- (a) General contract.
- (b) Plumbing and sewerage.
- (c) Heating.
- (d) Electric wiring.

Separate bids will be received for the following branches of work under general contract heading:

1. Excavation, mason and cement work.
2. Cut stone.
3. Carpenter and mill work.
4. Iron and steel work.
5. Sheet and metal roofing.
6. Plastering.
7. Painting and glazing.

Plans can be seen at the office of the architect after this date, where information as to checks, bonds, etc., will be given.

Proposals will be filed with the secretary of the Board of Education, Daniel Pease, Highwood, Illinois.

The right to reject any one or all bids received is reserved.

TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION,  
Township 43, Range 12, Lake County, Ill.  
By K. R. SMOOT, President.  
DANIEL PEASE, Secretary.

### SPECIAL ASSESSMENT NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given to all persons interested, that the City Council of the City of Highland Park, having ordered that there be established in the City of Highland Park, Lake County, Illinois, a sewerage district "E," and that there be constructed an outlet for sewers and purification works for said district, the ordinance for the same being on file in the office of the city clerk, have applied to the County Court of Lake County, for an assessment of the cost of said improvements according to benefits; and an assessment thereof having been made and returned to said court, the final hearing thereon will be had at the February term of said court, commencing on the 5th day of February, A. D. 1900. All persons desiring may then and there appear and make their defense.

CHARLES B. RICE,  
Officer Appointed to Make Assessment.  
Highland Park, Ill.