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HIGHLAND PARK, ILL., June 6.

MR. H. P. DAVIDSON:

Dear Sir:—You say in the last number of the NEWS-LETTER "so long as we take an interest in the paper its columns will continue, as heretofore, to be open to the use of the public" hence I avail myself of the opportunity to express my indignation at the manner in which the administration set aside your recent election. As a citizen and taxpayer in Highland Park, I think it is getting to be time for the respectable citizens of this town to speak up and to begin to take an active interest in the public affairs. Your frank statements over your own name does much to clear the atmosphere, and the hints and slurs and inuendoes of your opposers will in a measure, be set at rest.

I am not a resident of your ward but I hope to see the Third Ward vindicate your course in city affairs. I hope you will keep on with the NEWS-LETTER and with your work in the council when you are returned. I must say I am ashamed of the character of one of the aldermen in our ward, but we cannot help ourselves just now. We can only look over into your ward and cheer on those who are intending to vote for you.

Yours for good city government,
JEREMIAH.

Hard Up For Argument.

It is really amusing to notice the desperate efforts made by those who are striving to secure the election of Mr. Roberts as alderman of the Third Ward or rather, we may say, striving to prevent the re-election of Alderman Davidson. Here is a specimen of the arguments floating around "Why is Mr. Davidson so fortunate in either dodging taxes or securing low taxation?" This suggestion is coupled with other inuendoes as though it really meant anything or as though it might possibly be a fact. Instead of accomplishing the purpose expected, it has led honest, intelligent parties to look into this subject. Now, as a matter of fact, if all who really want to know the truth, will take a little trouble and place the taxes paid by the Northwestern Military Academy during the past year or during the past twelve years, on one side and the taxes paid during the same time by the mayor, city attorney, Aldermen Warren, Van Riper, Stubbs, and Grant, with Ex. Alderman Obee thrown in, all together on the other side, they will discover something quite interesting and perhaps amusing.

Again, the Northwestern Military Academy has spent \$50,000 and over in twelve years in improvements. A large part of this money has been spent among the laborers and business men of this town. The institution brings to Highland Park annually \$30,000. So far as possible this money goes to increase the prosperity of Highland Park; nor is that all. We may name more than twenty persons of wealth and influence who have come to this town bought and improved property made this city their home and who were first made acquainted with Highland Park through the Northwestern Military Academy. On the other hand, sum up what the above named gentlemen have done and put it over against what the Northwestern Military Academy has accomplished for the city and carefully examine the results. We are not striving by any means to boast. Whatever margin there has ever been in the academy over and above running expenses has not been invested in government bonds or railway stocks or mining claims or banks, but has been immediately placed upon the property, not only increasing the value of Highland Park's wealth, but scattering money among the toilers and merchants of the city.

These seem to be reasons in the minds of men of small calibre why the president of the academy should be kept out of the city council, but inuendoes (they dare not state it as a fact) seems to be the only kind of argument they can produce. Nowhere, so far as we can learn, in spite of their reckless disregard of truth, have they dared even to insinuate any lack of strict honesty and business integrity in city affairs of the part of the senior alderman of the Third Ward; nor does anyone so far as we can learn, accuse him of suggesting any appointment or resolution looking to the payment of political debts.

THIRD WARD TAXPAYER.

Drugs and Character.

BY DAVID STARR JORDAN.

We clip the following from an article on "Drugs and Character," by David Starr Jordan, in the Independent of May 8, 1900:

As an educator constantly and professionally watching the effect of certain social habits in developing character or the lack of it in the rising generation, we do not hesitate to say that the above mentioned article is one of the most forceful, instructive, and interesting articles we have ever read on the subject. To say that the article following is worth the subscription price of the Independent for a year is not putting it any too strong. H. P. DAVIDSON.

Whatever you may think or do as to table drinking, and the like, there is no question as to the evil of perpendicular drinking, or drinking for drink's sake. The really good fellow is convivial when he is sober. It is a poor kind of good fellowship which cannot be found till it is saturated with drink. Men who drink in saloons do so for the most part for the wrench on the nervous system. They drink to forget. They drink to be happy. They drink to be drunk. Sometimes it is a periodical attack of madness, the disease of inebriety. Sometimes it is chronic thirst, which is likewise a disease. It is a disease which destroys the soundness of life; which destroys accuracy of thought and action; which destroys wisdom and virtue; which destroys faith and hope and love. It brings a train of subjective horrors, which the terrified brain cannot interpret, and which we call delirium tremens,—the tremendous madness. This is mania, indeed, but every act which injures the faithfulness of the nervous system is a step long or short in this direction.

A young man with money and ambition starts out to enjoy life. He is "Hail fellow well met," "afraid of no man," and "nobody's enemy but his own." He frequents the clubs, he plays the races, and he is with the gayest in all gay company. He thinks well of himself; he has a good time, and he knows no reason why others should not think well of him. This goes on for a year or two, when the pace begins to prove too rapid. The "difference in the morning" becomes disagreeable. It interferes with business, it spoils pleasure. The only thing to do is to go still faster. The race down the cocktail route helps to forget. Suddenly the man gets sight of himself. He catches his face in the glass. He sees himself as others see him. Instead of "the jolly good fellow, which nobody can deny," he gets the glimpse of a useless, helpless sot. He sees a man who has spent his substance, has disgraced his name, has ruined his home, has broken the heart of his wife, has beggared his children, has lost the respect of others, and the respect of himself. This is the shock! When it has come he is henceforth good for nothing, for there is no virtue in maudlin remorse; no hope in alcoholic repentance. There is nothing that can save him but to stop, and it takes something of manhood to do this.

Equalizer Evans.

The appointment by County Judge Jones, of our ex-Mayor Robert G. Evans as a member of the county equalization board, means much more than appears on the surface. First, this end of the county which pays a large percentage of the taxes of the county, larger than its property and population would justify, is to have representation on the board. Second, it means that Judge Jones knows a good man when he sees him; we mean good for the place. Mr. Evans came here some twenty-five years ago with his modest earnings as a teacher in the public schools in central New York, in his pocket, and seeing a chance for a brick-yard business, established one here. As the North shore developed he started one in Evanston, and later one in Eighwood, and they all prospered in his hands, so that a few years ago he retired from business to serve the public.

His fitness for the position being thus recognized by Judge Jones, is highly complimentary to Mr. Evans and the city alike, and in it every real estate owner from Ravinia to Nippersink, and from Winthrop Harbor to Barrington, is interested. Mr. Evans will not disappoint his friends here or anywhere else in the county.

The Baccalaureate.

Pastor Pfanstiehl delivered a fresh and inspiring discourse Sunday morning to the graduating cadets of the academy, on the "Value of work." His several points were fully illustrated. He has one taking quality as a preacher; he knows when to stop, just when the audience is looking for more.

The music was, as usual, fine. Mrs. W. A. Alexander taking the soprano and rendering a solo very effectively. She surprised most of her friends, many of whom did not know that she added to her other gifts and graces, the ability for such service. The audience completely filled the large house and was very attentive during the entire service.

We acknowledge with pleasure the receipt of a sample cake of resinol soap from the makers thereof. We presume it is a good article; we shall use it freely for an entire bath as soon as this campaign is over and if it works well then its value will be fully established.

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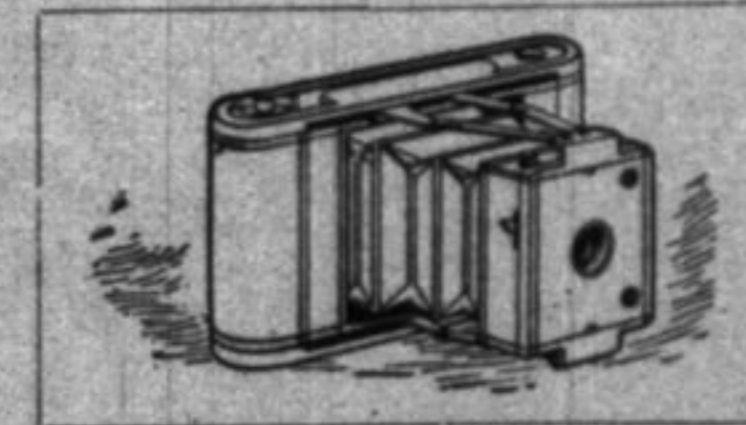
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