

## SHERIDAN ROAD NEWS-LETTER

A Courier of North Shore Intelligence.

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*All correspondence and communications for publication in the News-Letter must be addressed direct to the paper, or no attention will be paid to them.*

#### TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

There are certain communities that seem instinctively to array themselves against their local paper.

It does not seem to occur to them that a newspaper-man has business interests that are quite as sacred to him as their own business interests are to them.

They seem to imagine that they cannot only despise and reject his paper, but even go out of their way to add insult to injury, and resent his very existence as a personal offense.

To these people a few suggestions may be in order, in this connection.

A newspaper, "be it ever so humble," can enter homes where its opponents will never be known.

It has the advantage of being able to give its utterances the permanency of print, and if it can but state facts concisely and effectively its opportunity to mold public opinion is a hundred or a thousand times greater than that of the average individual.

The public is too busy to form opinions. It prefers to receive ready-made opinions and the reasons therefor, that it may avoid the labor of any mental effort.

This is the newspaper man's opportunity, to form his opinions on cogent reasons and to be able to state those reasons so that they will carry conviction.

Such being the case how unwise for any individual or corporation to deliberately provoke the enmity of newspaper people.

How unwise to give a newspaper man a legitimate grievance, so that he has "a rod in pickle" for the disturber of his peace.

The woman who goes out of her way to abuse a paper and insult its editor, does not know how soon something may happen of sudden farce or tragedy that will thrust her into notoriety and give the newspaper man an opportunity to defend or ridicule her as he may see fit.

If she has sought to injure his business by gratuitous abuse of his paper, she cannot expect that he will spare ridicule when his turn comes for retaliation.

The person who contemptuously stops his subscription to express personal disapproval, may enjoy the gratification of vulgar spitefulness; but who can say how soon this very person may desire to pose as "socially prominent," or "universally popular," in some unlooked for emergency that will give the rejected newspaper an opportunity to ridicule the pretensions or deny the claims of the would-be "somebody."

No one is so high and mighty, none so wealthy or influential as to be beyond the reach of a just opinion in regard to his personal merits.

The wheel of fortune is forever turning and in an hour some unlooked for event may place an individual where the public will read the newspaper for an opinion in regard to him.

Then, too, newspaper people have sources of information in regard to family-history, that would be very unpleasant printed matter for the people concerned.

The near relative, who went into real estate speculation and swindled honest workmen out of their children's daily bread, may have claimed "family" because of some cheap notoriety for second-class work widely advertised,—or may have gained "wealth" by altogether questionable methods, yet his record would not shed lustre on the "claims" of his relatives who boldly defy a newspaper to do its worst, when it is honestly trying to do its best.

Whatever may have been true of the SHERIDAN ROAD NEWS-LETTER in the past, with its varied editors, uncertain policy, and changing managers, it proposes for

itself a new era, a definite purpose and implacable resolution.

It will not needlessly attack any man or any measure; but it will to the best of its ability demonstrate its power to hold its own against the slings and arrows of those who seem to consider a newspaper a fair target for wholesale abuse.

This paper makes its appeal to the intelligent and educated portion of the community. To those who realize that a newspaper, to use an old simile, is very much like a knife which may be grasped by the blade or by the handle and so either made to serve or to wound.

This paper is published with the definite purpose of serving the best interests of the community and representing the best element. It would ally itself to the public spirited citizens who desire the elevation of public sentiment and due consideration of private interests.

Nevertheless, while its motto is "charity for all and malice toward none," it is neither a beggar nor a coward, and stands ready at all times to "lend a hand" when forced into a fight for its sacred rights.

Mr. Alfred Moseley, a thoughtful Englishman who has been making a study of the reasons for America's supremacy,—says it is due to the free press of America and the free public schools.

"The free press of America does not always meet with the ardent approval of those Americans that would like to raise up class distinctions, because it shows the egregious folly of a bogus aristocracy;" but the free press of America counts for more than half, in the opinion of Mr. Moseley, in that which makes the American supremacy.

The free press of the country not only enlightens the people about the affairs of their government, but also helps them to manage to the best advantage the affairs of their own lives."

The "bogus aristocracy" oppose a free press by boycotting the editor. The real aristocracy know better.

For Sale—A large Red Cross square parlor heater. Inquire at News Letter office. 23

It is announced in political circles that Major Vail, of Highland Park, has withdrawn from the senatorial race. Major Vail is held in high esteem by all who know him, and he would have had a large following had he not withdrawn from the race.

Mention was crowded out last week of the special souvenir edition of "The Wankegan Gazette," issued Nov. 21. It was prepared by Mr. Geo. F. Penfield of Chicago and both typographically and otherwise is a highly creditable publication. Judge Hibbard, with the modesty of true greatness, says in regard to it: "I noticed but one serious omission" and that was a cut of the highly intellectual Highland Park Correspondent."

The point is that Judge Hibbard is the aforesaid highly intellectual, etc.

#### THE DEDICATION OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH.

The dedication of St. Mary's church will be on Sunday, Dec. 6th, at 10:15 a. m., sermon by Rev. Archbishop, Quigley. Dedication services will begin at 10:15. Solemn High Mass at 10:45 a. m. Celebrant of mass, Rev. F. J. Haarth, of Lakeside; Rev. C. P. Foster of Joliet, Deacon; Rev. E. Kelly, of Chicago, sub-deacon; master of ceremonies, Rev. Dr. Miller, secretary to Archbishop Quigley.

A special musical program, under the direction of Chas. M. Schneider, has been prepared for the occasion. The regular choir will be assisted by orchestra. Rusewig's Mass in F. will be given. The offertory selection, especially written for the occasion, will be rendered by Mr. Schneider.

Confirmation will be given by the Archbishop at 3 p. m.

You are not "in the midst of life's battle" so much when you are on the farm, but when you plow through a bumble bee's nest as a Kansas farmer did, you may feel that there are other stings than that of defeat.

A young woman in Connecticut is to pay a wife \$5,000 for the alienation of her husband's affections and keep the man. Is any man worth that much?

Despite reports of prosperity many persons throughout the country are so poor they still play the piano by hand.

An idea is valuable for its point, and a sarcasm dangerous for its edge.

What might have been is generally what you wish was.