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Seventy-five Years Ago

Truly the world do move! We have in hand a book published in 1831, entitled, "A Universal Vocabulary of Proper Names, Ancient and Modern; together with classes of people, religious, rational and philosophical; and Titles, ecclesiastical and civic among Christians, Jews, Mahometans, and Pagans; By Ara Williams. Published in Cincinnati by Erastus Deming." This volume contains 536 pages, and was intended to serve as a school textbook, and also as a reference book, after the manner of the voluminous encyclopedias of the present day. The author apologizes for the brevity of the articles, as to treat them at proper length would make the work "too expensive for people of moderate means, and too cumbersome as a school book."

Mr. Williams makes a further apology: "in relation to dates given to occurrences; population, extent, and divisions of foreign countries, cities, towns, &c., the FACT may sometimes have been missed. Cases of difference may have originated accidentally with copyist, or in the press. And, as to population, extent, &c., of places, distant and little known, travellers distance in their reports, having no certain data on which to depend."

Although the book appears to have been up to date at that time, (1831) there is no mention of Chicago or of Fort Dearborn; but Springfield, Vandalia, Kaskaskia, and other Illinois towns were deemed worthy of mention. We append a few extracts from the book:

ILLINOIS, one of the U. S.; bounded N. by the N. W. Territory, E. by Indiana, S. by Ohio, and W. by the Mississippi; 355 m. long, and 210 broad. Sq. m. 52,000, Pop. in 1810, 12,288; in 1830, 55,211. The capital is Vandalia.—Gov. The legislative power is vested in a house of representatives, elected biennially; not less than 27, nor more than 36 in number till the population shall exceed 100,000; and a senate, not less than 1-3d, nor more than 1-2 of the number of representatives. The governor, lieutenant governor, and senators, are chosen for 4 years by the people.—Military lands. The peninsula between the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers, has been surveyed as military bounty lands. Congress appropriated for this object 3,500,000 acres; and the surface actually surveyed, amounts to 240 townships, each 36 m. square; equal to 5,530,000 acres nearly. This estimate exceeds the amount appropriated; because, the act provides, that the portions granted shall be fit for cultivation. The face of the country is generally level; the only elevations being the Rocky Hills in the N. W.;—Soil is very fertile, producing wheat, rye, oats, barley, and, in the southern section; cotton, tobacco, and grapes. The climate is mild and salubrious, excepting those parts which are contiguous to wet prairies and

stagnant waters. Congress has appropriated 100,000 acres of land, to effect a canal, for uniting head waters of the Illinois, with those of the Chicago, which falls into Lake Michigan. A company also is incorporated with a capital of \$100,000, to unite the Ohio with the Mississippi, by a canal at America, 8 miles above its mouth.

History. The French commenced the settlement of this country about the year 1680. It became a territorial government, in 1800, and a state in 1818, and was admitted into the Union. The same year, (1819) in Aug., the commissioners of the U. S. met the chiefs of the Kickapoo Indians, at Edwardsville, and made a purchase by treaty, of ten millions of acres of land, lying between Illinois River on the N. W., and the Kaskaskia on the S. E.

Calls Dowie Cupid's Foe

John Alexander Dowie's matrimonial bureau held the attention of Judge Landis yesterday. And the witnesses were of the opinion that he was a better prophet than he was a matchmaker. In fact, Deacon Judd was certain the self-styled apostle knew little about women. Perhaps he wasn't an altogether unblessed judge, however, for Dr. Dowie kept him from the women he loved for more than two years.

It transpired that the self-styled prophet played many other roles. At times it was his opinion that Kaiser was coming to consult him on affairs of state. At these moments he would don a full dress suit and sit around the beach waiting for the great white yacht that would bear the emperor.

Again the self-styled prophet played the part of an educator. It was his opinion that there were men and women who didn't know as much as they should about the night robes of an apostle, so he donned his sleeping garments while out at sea and strolled into the saloon when all the electric lights and half the kerosene lamps were burning.

Deacon Judd was the star witness of the afternoon. The deacon won much sympathy from the women when he said that he was kept from the woman he loved well enough to wed by a edict of the self-styled apostle.

"How long did Mr. Dowie hold up the marriage?" was asked.

"Oh, about two years," was the answer.

"Could Dowie veto any marriage in Zion?" queried Judge Landis.

"Sure" came the answer.

"By what written or unwritten rule? queried the court.

"By no rule except his announcement from the pulpit that no one could marry without his permission."

"Are you sure of that?"

"I am. He further declared any officers performing a ceremony he had not recommended would be dismissed. Deacon Speicher was dismissed for marrying F. W. Cotton. Mr. and Mrs. Cotton left Zion and have not returned."

Ravinia Park

Chicago's music loving public has amply proved its appreciation of the splendid efforts on the part of the management of Ravinia Park to render it possible for so artistic and elevating an enterprise at Ravinia to become a permanent feature of Chicago's fashionable northshore.

Mr. Walter Damrosch's organization has been sought after for long engagements more than any other Symphony Orchestra in America. Europeans waste lots of time decrying the lack of artistic appreciation in this country, but nowhere in their own lands can they point to more enthusiasm, more thorough love of the finest music, more genuine and hearty appreciation of the greatest classic than can the "so called sordid Americans" in the Damrosch Orchestra. It would do our pessimistic friends across the ocean a world of good could they see with their own eyes the enthusiasm that greets a Damrosch "Symphony Night" or "Wagner Night."

Beginning this week, Mr. Damrosch has decided to make Thursday evening "Composers' Night" and in the future, the entire first part of the program will be made up of the works of one of the great composers. This week Thursday night will be devoted to Beethoven. Other special nights remain same as they were last season, Monday "Symphony Night", Wednesday "Grand Opera Night" and Friday "Wagner Night".

Taking it Literally

When George Ade was in London recently, the newspapers devoted considerable space to comment upon the appearances, habits, methods of work, and general accomplishments of the apostle of modern slang. One of them, in the course of its comments, called attention to the fact that, like so many representative humorists, Mr. Ade was inclined to frequent little errors that showed his lack of familiarity with the subjects he was attempting to treat. Mr. Ade, in some of his slang classics, had referred to certain typical Italian eating houses in New York as "spaghetti joints." The English paper referred to this phrase with sadness, as showing how superficially the humorist had gone into the subject. "for he should have known that spaghetti is a plastic frainaceous edible, and consequently can have no joints."