

NORTH SHORE NEWS-LETTER

Volume 21

HIGHLAND PARK, ILLINOIS, SEPTEMBER 5, 1908

Number 36

A DOUBLE DROWNING.

Two Sons of Judge Wiemers the Victims while Bathing

While in bathing on Tuesday morning Edward Wiemers, the twelve year old son of Judge William F. Wiemers, Laurel Avenue, of this city, suddenly stepped into the hole surrounding the front of the breakwater at the foot of Laurel and was overwhelmed by the depth of the waves. His brothers Donald and Herbert, aged sixteen and thirteen respectively, hastened to his assistance.

With the natural instinct of one in deadly peril, Edward clung to Donald's body and both were sucked under the water by the terrible current running at the time. Herbert Wiemers, when seen by a reporter of the NEWS-LETTER directly after the fatality, said that Edward had tried to grab hold of him too but that he had evaded his grasp thinking the current would carry the two out to the sandbar, which is but a short distance from the end of the breakwater. Donald, however, became exhausted and unable to bear up under the added burden of Edward was overcome by the waves.

The bodies of the boys were rescued by Mr. Warren Harrison, a local contractor who was working on a house on the bluff near the scene of the fatality. Mr. Harrison recovered one of the boys and with the aid of Dr. Bergen, who had been summoned soon secured the other.

The remains were conveyed to the pumping station and every effort was made to revive them, but to no avail.

Donald Wiemers the elder of the two, was a member of the present Junior class at the High school. Although not prominent in any form of school activity he was intensely popular with his associates. Principal Sandwick in speaking of him characterized him as a boy of iron, with an inflexible will, high ambitions and aims. Donald desired to become a lecturer similar to Holmes or Elmendorf.

In leaving their home at 206 Laurel avenue in the morning the boys called to their mother that they were going swimming. Mrs. Wiemers thought little of the boys' departure for the lake, which is but a few blocks from the residence, for it was an ordinary occurrence for them to put on their bathing suits and go to the beach at the foot of Central avenue for a plunge.

J. L. Taylor, coroner for Lake county held an inquest and a verdict of accidental drowning was returned.

Mrs. Wiemers, who but recently came from a North Shore hospital, is in a serious condition as a result of the shock. She has been confined to the home for some weeks because of illness.

An active agitation is on foot to regulate bathing in the Lake by children. Principal R. L. Sandwick expressed an intention of calling on Mayor Joseph F. Leaming and taking active steps to secure the establishment of proper police patrol of the beach and the segregation of bathers into one place adequately provided with ropes and life-saving apparatus.

Highland Park News

Mr. H. M. Prior left on Monday for a visit in Southern Illinois.

Mr. Alden Baker left on Monday for a two weeks outing in Michigan.

Wanted—A street lamp to shed gleams of light in front of the Public Library.

Mr. Carl Pfanstiehl who has been enjoying a delightful trip in the East is expected home today.

Miss Mary Phillips visited in Wilmette last week as the guest of her uncle, Mr. John Hall Jennings.

Mrs. C. G. Phillips was the guest of Mrs. John Hall Jennings of Wilmette, at luncheon Wednesday.

Mr. Lyle Bittinger expects to enter either Northwestern University or Lake Forest College next year.

Miss Vida Sutton visited in Highland Park this week during the stay of the Robertson Players at Ravinia.

Miss Swenson, the librarian at the Public Library, left on Tuesday for her home in Chicago. Mrs. Mary A. Jennings the regular librarian assumed charge on her return from her vacation Tuesday.

Mr. Howard Hill, Professor in the department of history at the High school expects to arrive in Highland Park on Monday.

Mrs. F. M. Terry left Thursday for a trip to Boston, Mass., where she will be the guest of Mr. and Mrs. A. V. Steward of that city.

Miss Rose Brown and Miss Lydia Brown of Lake Forest visited Highland Park Thursday, as the guests of Miss Mary Phillips.

Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Spencer and family who have been away on their summer vacation are expected home today or tomorrow.

Miss Margaret Phillips entertained Miss Margaret Clynch, Miss Ermina Cary and Miss Margaret Cary at luncheon on Wednesday.

Mr. Samuel Levin received a postal from "his honor the Mayor" last Saturday stating that he and Mrs. Robertson would leave Scotland, August 29th.

For a second time we recommend to the consideration of our "Patres Conscripte" the deplorable conditions of the board sidewalks in the southern part of Ravinia.

Mr. Wm. Lowrie, our popular young play wright will produce his show "It happened in Rhymeland", Oct. 15, 1908 at Waukegan for the benefit of the hospital fund.

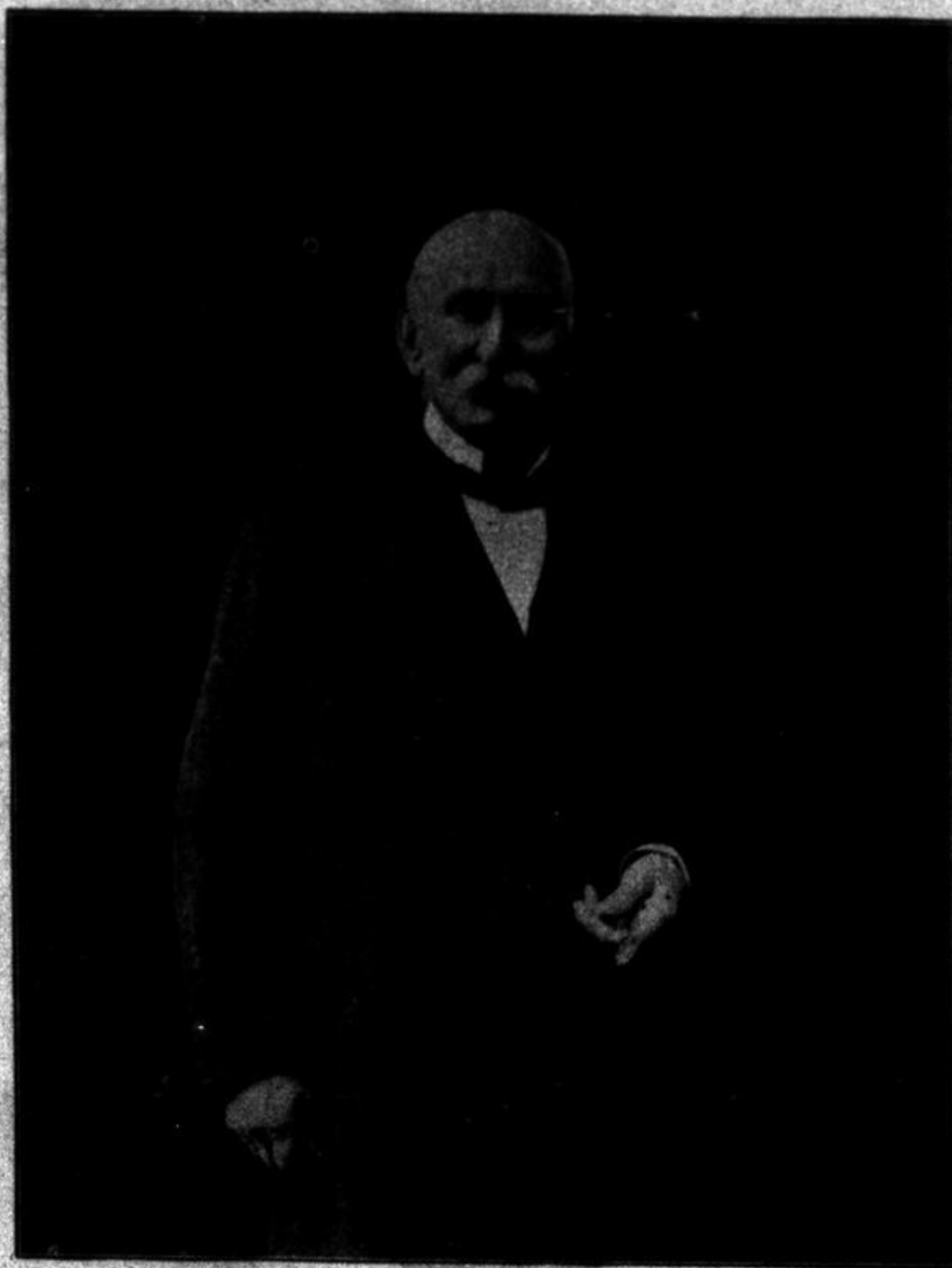
Mrs. M. Warner of Green Bay Road, gave a large birthday party in honor of her daughter, Miss Alice last Saturday evening. A number of Highland Park and Chicago people attended.

Miss Theresa Callow and Miss Theckla Hintz returned Monday evening after an extended visit with friends in Michigan. The young ladies report a fine time but declare that after all there's no place like home.

At the Saturday matinee Browning's poetic drama "A Blot in the Sutchon" will be given by the Robertson Company. Miss Vida Sutton formerly of the High school faculty will play the leading role of Lady Mildred.

Miss Annie McKensie left on Monday for a short trip into Michigan. Miss McKensie is feeling under the weather as the result of her summer's work at Ravinia Park and her many friends hope she will return much benefited.

The sad death of Mr. Fitt a prominent attorney of Limerick, Ireland, was made known in Highland Park on Thursday. Mr. Fitt is the father of Mr. Frank Fitt one of the younger set of this city. Mr. Fitt met his death by being struck by a trolley car while giving directions to a cab driver in whose cab he was riding. Mr. Frank Fitt is spending the summer with his aunt at East Northfield, Mass.



THE BIRTHDAY OF A PIONEER—COL. P. T. TURNLEY AT EIGHTY-SEVEN

Highland Park is wealthy in pioneer citizens. One of these is Col. P. T. Turnley who was born in East Tennessee, Sept. 6, 1821 and is therefore 87 years old today. In 1842 he entered the Military Academy at West Point and in 1846 he graduated in time, to go with his company to Mexico serving his country during the period of the Mexican war and remaining in the U. S. army until the close of the civil war in 1865. During many years of service he was frequently engaged in frontier duties which gave him a wide and eventful experience. The privations involved and the labor of that service impaired his health and he resigned the service.

In 1881 Col. Turnley became a citizen of Highland Park and has taken an active interest in the city ever since. In April 1886 he was elected Alderman of the first ward and was Mayor of the City from 1888 to 1891 inclusive.

Col. Turnley is well known for his active interest in public affairs and although as he says he has retired from them it will be remembered that only recently he wrote a vigorous protest against reckless automobile driving.

At his present great age he is still engaging himself in a work of literary labor.