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### JOHN S. MURPHY,

South of Square.

PONTIAC, ILL.



### STAR AND HERALD \$1.50 A YEAR.

We reduced the subscription price of the STAR AND HERALD to \$1.25 a year so that our subscribers would pay in advance. Hundreds of them have appreciated this fact and done so. All papers from away have to be paid in advance or no paper. The money is worth some thing. From January 1, 1893, the subscription price in all cases will be \$1.50, with this exception:

If paid in ADVANCE OR WITHIN THIRTY DAYS FROM EXPIRATION OF TIME, \$1.25 PAYS IT; if NOT paid within that time \$1.50 is the price. There will be no deviation from this rule.

The little slip on your paper or wrapper tells you the time your subscription expires, and if any mistake has been made you will confer a favor by so informing us immediately.

### CHRISTMAS 1892.

Christmas the Sabbath day, opened in the morning with a snow storm, which soon cleared away and the sun shown out bright. It was a beautiful day, such a one as all enjoy during the gladdest season of the year.

The festivities of the holiday season commenced Saturday night at the Congregational and Methodist churches by pleasant entertainments for the edification of the little ones.

At the M. E. church, which was handsomely decorated, a beautiful cantata entitled "The Frost Queen and Santa Claus" was presented, and proved a grand success. The cantata is very appropriate for the occasion and alike interesting to the little and the big ones. The different parts were well taken, and the little songs by the cutely dressed pretty little girls through the play were pleasant to the ear and eye. Also the choruses and quartettes by the M. E. choir and those that took part in the entertainment. But when "Old Santa Claus" made his appearance, was the time for the little ones to open their eyes with wonder, and the pretty faces were all aglow with excitement. We understand that Mr. Haise represented Santa Claus. We had no idea the general book keeper could cause such a transformation in himself. The genuine Old Santa would have to fix himself up in great shape to beat Mr. Haise. The entertainment lasted about an hour. At the close every little one in the house received a present of some kind, and went home happy. Mr. Naffziger, the superintendent of the Sunday school, opened the exercises and outlined the cantata. When Santa Claus came he presented him with a jumping-jack and D. B. Stevens with a doll baby, which caused considerable laughter. Ten cents admission was charged which proved about right as the church was crowded to the doors, and many were obliged to stand.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.  
Never was this church so beautifully decorated as for Christmas this year. Dr. Abbott interested himself in this matter and with Rev. Cole and others went to the country and gathered wagon loads of evergreens, and the ladies and young men of the church worked most all the week, and the result was that the church certainly looked beautiful. Beautiful wreaths surrounded each window, and the arch over the organ was tastefully arranged, with a large star in the center, a bell of evergreens being suspended over the rostrum, and everything presented a pretty holiday sight.

In the northwest corner of the church was arranged an imitation of an old fashioned well and a windmill, which when Old Santa made his appearance started to run, and pumped out candy, nuts, etc., by the bushel for the little ones. There was a nice literary and musical program arranged, which was carried out and everyone present enjoyed a good old-fashioned Christmas eve. Sunday morning a Christmas sermon was preached, and in the evening there was music, appropriate readings by Mrs. Cole, Misses McKay and Conant, and remarks by the pastor. The church will remain decorated probably until Feb. 1, and it is certainly worth while for anyone to go and see it.

### Bramhead-Millay.

Mr. John Bramhead, of Cooksville, and Miss Cora Millay, of Ellsworth, were happily married in Bloomington, Dec. 20th. The groom is a well-to-do farmer and the bride is a dressmaker, formerly of Dwight. The happy couple will go to housekeeping at once on the Bramhead farm, four miles north of Cooksville. We wish them happiness and prosperity.

### A Factory.

No one appears yet to take the initiative in trying to raise the amount to get a cannery started here. The people in town are in favor of some such enterprise, and so are the far-thinking farmers. All that is necessary is for some monied man to take hold of the matter and push it. Some such scheme as that adopted in other places might work well here. Let some enterprising man that owns property near the village donate twenty acres of land for a factory, upon condition that half or two-thirds, or three-fourths of it be subdivided and sold for say \$100 or \$200 a lot, the total proceeds to go into the factory. The farmer or giver could well afford to do this as it would increase the price of his remaining connecting land at least two-fold, and the buyer would have a lot for his money and stock in the concern. Twenty acres donated would bring this about if buyers could be found. Allowing eight large lots to an acre there would be 120 lots in fifteen acres, leaving five acres for factory purposes. The 120 lots sold for an average of \$150 a lot would bring \$18,000, sufficient to build a cannery and put in machinery enough to can almost anything, and give employment to at least fifty hands the year around and probably 300 hands during the corn season. What's the matter with that?

If some of the people who are continually kicking would devote half as much energy in getting a factory, they would be doing something for the good of the community and have less kicking to do.

### AN OFFER.

We publish herewith some extracts from a letter from a man evidently experienced in the canning business. The letter is from Maryland, and, by the way, shows that the STAR AND HERALD is read far and near:

EDITOR STAR AND HERALD:—In a recent issue of your valuable paper I saw an item in which you spoke that some of the business men of your town were thinking of going into the canning business. Now, I am a canner, having been in the business for about ten years, and understand it, and if you people will furnish the funds to run the business, or furnish sufficient money, I will move my machinery out and set it up in your town. I think the west has several advantages over the east, as we depend largely upon them for a market and freights and the difference in the cost of producing corn is a fair profit for a cannery anywhere, and it is in your favor. My plant has put up 21,000 cases of corn in one season (a case contains 24 cans), which is probably as much as a factory in your place would want to put up in one season. If you have anyone out there that has any ambition in this line and will go in, write me and I will give them the cost of turning out a case of canned goods. Next year will be a good year to can. The sooner your men make up their minds about it the better, as it cannot be fitted up in a week. I mean business.

Yours truly,  
J. W. FAMOUS.

We know nothing of Mr. Famous, but he evidently has a plant and understands his business, and it would be an easy matter to find out all about him. We would say in connection with the above that we understand that a cannery with an \$18,000 stock will put in sufficient machinery to make all cans used and also machinery for drying nuts, and making husk mattresses, etc. This latter work could be done in the slack season of the year and would give employment to quite a number.

The STAR AND HERALD would suggest that a meeting of citizens be called for next Monday night in the town house to take some action in this matter, get the views of our people, and move ahead. Mr. S. T. K. Prime, we believe, is chairman of the citizens improvement committee, and W. G. Dustin, secretary. That committee is supposed to be dead, but only sleepeth, and this is a good time to wake up. The STAR AND HERALD got its ears pulled once before for calling a public meeting, but we are willing to stand the responsibility of this meeting and earnestly request every business man in town who wishes to add to the prosperity of Dwight to spend an hour at the town house next Monday night at 7:30 sharp. If this meeting proves a failure the men who have done so much factory talk should forever hold their peace. If they want a factory here is a good way to get one easily, and there is no time to lose. We hope to see a good turn-out of farmers, also.

### Drill to be Repeated.

On account of the recent drill given in the opera house being at a time when people were very busy, it will be repeated next Thursday evening at Congregational church by request. An admission of 15 cents will be charged. Besides the drill by the girls and boys there will be a very nice musical program rendered.

### Military and Musical.

The entertainment given at the opera house last Friday evening under the auspices of the Congregational church choir, was what was predicted—one of the finest home entertainments ever given here. There was a good and appreciative audience and everything passed off pleasantly in front and behind the scenes. The musical part of the program was excellent.

The evening's entertainment commenced with the curtain raising on a pretty camp scene, with guns stacked in line in front, and the pretty young lady soldiers sitting and reclining in the rear, the whole having a background of the stars and stripes. As the curtain raised Mrs. Ubellar and Miss Cora Adams sang "Tenting on the Old Camp Ground," that old good song that is always appreciated, and the soldiers joined in the chorus, first sitting then standing up. After the song the reveille was sounded, and the command "fall in" given, and the girl soldiers broke the stacks and marched to the front and went through the manual of arms from command. This was followed by a nicely rendered song "The Songs we Sang," by Miss Mable Huey, while standing in front of the center of the military company, they joining in the chorus. After the song half the company marched off one way and the other half the other way, amid the cheers of the audience.

The girls were dressed in black skirts red waists, white gloves and red caps. A mandolin solo with piano accompaniment by Charlie and Cora Adams, was encored and surely deserved it. The recently organized lady quartette Mrs. Ubellar, Misses Cora Adams, Etta Calder and Lizzie Winkler, sang a lullaby, by Jakobowski, in a very fine manner, and received a hearty encore.

The drill by command by Walter Koehler, Maxie Miller, Roger Blaine and Jimmie Oughton followed. The boys were dressed in red zouave pants, blue jackets, blue fez caps and white gloves, and went through the manual very prettily, and received an encore.

The song "Magnetic Waltz," by Jennie Hamilton Ubellar, was very prettily rendered. Mrs. Ubellar has a very sweet voice and is a general favorite.

Next followed a short march by the young ladies, and then came the "silent manual" to music, which was indeed wonderful. The girls have only been under instructions about fifteen meetings and they are better drilled to day than many soldiers that have been drilled for years. The formation was in open ranks and the manual and loading and firing movements gone through twice, and then the ranks opened so as to change positions. Red and green lights were thrown on them while drilling, which had a pretty effect. The audience demanded very emphatically that the girls repeat the drill four times which they did.

Miss Cora Adams sang her best and sang "Dreaming as She Sleeps," so as to receive a hearty encore.

Then came the boys in the silent manual which was executed nicely. They were called to twice.

The "Serenade," by Messrs. Ely, Cole, Evans and Zimmerman, was very finely rendered.

The boys then gave the silent manual blindfolded, and went through it all very well.

The closing chorus was "The Star Spangled Banner," the girls and boys being formed in semi-circle and joming in the chorus.

The choir did not clear much out of the entertainment, as the expenses were about \$50.

Negotiations are under way to present the drill in some of our neighboring towns. There is one thing sure, if any of them want one of the prettiest entertainments ever given in this section they will make arrangements to get Company Q and the boys and singers to repeat the drill, etc. Saturday the entertainment was the talk of the town and many prominent citizens wanted it repeated in Dwight, but some of the girls are away this week.

They have also been requested to drill at the club entertainment next Tuesday night, and will probably expect.

Miss Maggie Kern deserves great credit for the able manner in which she furnished the music for the girls to drill by, and the choir wishes to return thanks to her.

The young ladies in the drill were regular in their attendance to drill, and were largely instrumental in bringing about success, and the choir wishes to return thanks to each and every one that assisted in the entertainment.

### For Sale.

Two hundred sacks of cement BLOOMINGTON figures. Inquire of M. Keeler of sewer, or at this office.

### Death of John Ferguson.

Christmas was indeed a sad day in the home of Mr. John Ferguson, of Campus. A loving husband and a kind, considerate father and a friend to all, passed away at 2:30 that day. The funeral was held Tuesday at 10 o'clock from the Catholic church in Campus. Father Hearne conducted the sad services. Many relatives, friends and neighbors, were present to pay their parting respects to the good man.

Mr. Ferguson was born in La Salle, Ill., in August 1839, and was 52 years of age last August. He spent his boyhood and early part of manhood in and near La Salle. About twenty-three years ago he was joined in wedlock to his surviving wife and the same year moved to Campus. The deceased has always been an industrious and hard working man, and had a fine farm and a comfortable, pretty home. He has resided on the farm continually, with the exception of one year he moved to Dwight to give his children better educational advantages. He, however, was never satisfied away from his old home, and moved back. He had been troubled with dyspepsia for a number of years, and for many months had not been well, and was dangerously sick a few months ago, but only got better to be stricken at last. During his last sickness his stomach refused to perform its functions, and he passed away on Christmas day as before stated. He leaves a widow and two daughters, Misses Marcella and Millie, to mourn his loss. Mr. Ferguson was one of those good, true men that always looked on the bright side of life and always had a good word for everyone. His friends included all that knew him, and they all extend sympathy to his family in the time of their bereavement. No father or husband was ever more devoted to his wife and children and no family was more devoted to a husband and father. Although his eyes are closed in death his memory will live long.

### PONTIAC PLUMS.

The Shroyer contest is causing considerable excitement. Ed. means business and Mr. Thompson will have to defend himself.

The "malt" vander flourishes like a green bay horse, during the holidays.

Christmas was duly celebrated by all the churches, and the people generally enjoyed "the gladdest of the year."

Happy New Year.

Mr. and Mrs. Jas. McKay, of Dwight, spent Christmas with relatives here.

Dick Thornton, of the STAR AND HERALD, of Dwight, smiled on his many friends here Christmas.

We have very bright prospects for a new shoe factory. The one we have is a grand success.

There is quite a boom in real estate in Pontiac. Seventy lots were sold last week. The money goes to enlarge the shoe factory. This is a novel and good scheme for raising money for factories.

All republicans and some democrats want to see Ralph Bradford serve his time out, and he is likely to do so. That he has made an excellent official no one can deny. He has also made many improvements in the office. This, coupled with the fact that he is a good, straightforward, honorable man, and is one of the boys, or one of the men, as the case may be, at all times, we await the result of democratic civil service.

We understand the saloon keepers of Pontiac say they will vote for no license next year. That they used to have but six days till 10 o'clock at night and now they have six and all night.

The result of the conteste case in Clinton, DeWitt Co., clerk, has encouraged Ed. S. H. his friends greatly. The was elected by 16 majority of the returns, but on the democrat gained more than elect him and the republic without a struggle. As may seem, there was every town counted in DeWitt. The judges and clerks had made returns honest enough, but undoubtedly were sleepy and tired and made takes that were overlooked. turns were canvassed by the clerk's office from by the returning officers and the ballots but never

ST. LOUIS  
PIONEER PULLMAN PALACE

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