

Table of Contents
Residence - Volume VII

<u>Location of Structure</u>	<u>Partial list of owners/occupants</u>
421 West William Street	Richard J. Oglesby James E. Bering Frank L. Evans Evans Grain Company Macon County Conservation District

Section I

See data sheet

Section II - The Oglesby House

- November, 1972 - Decatur Sunday Herald & Review - Oglesby Home.
April 3, 1966 - Glen R. Cooper column, Sunday Herald and Review -
Richard Oglesby House.
Oglesby Home by Mildred E. Price written for the Decatur elementary
schools, date not given.
October 3, 1943 - U. S. Grant Tree, a story of Grant's visit to Decatur
October 6 and 7, 1880, and the tree planted in his honor, Decatur H.
February 21, 1966 - Oglesby Home Furniture Sold, Decatur Herald.
August 30, 1975 - Sunday Herald & Review, Purchase of Two Historical
Buildings Approved by State.
January 8, 1876 - Decatur Daily Republican, an article pertaining to
the Oglesby family's move into their new house in
late December, 1975.

Section III - Richard Oglesby, the man.

- December 27, 1923, Decatur Review, The Story of Decatur, chapter 26.
December 28, 1923, Decatur Review, E. B. Hitchcock.
column, The Story of Decatur, Chapter 27.
December 29, 1923, Ibid, Chapter 28.
January 17, 1965, Decatur Sunday Herald & Review, Decatur Diary, by Rex
Spires, "Our Most Distinguished Citizen".
April 7, 1876, The Daily Republican, "Oglesby's Wit".
October 5, 1880, The Morning Herald, "The Veteran Visitors".
October 7, 1880, The Daily Republican, "The Great Reunion".
October 8, 1880, The Daily Republican, "The Grand Finale".
October 10, 1880, The Morning Herald, "Some Afterthoughts" (about the
great reunion of veterans).
April 25, 1899, Daily Review, obit., "Governor Oglesby Is Dead".

Section IV - Richard J. Oglesby's Family.

Register of Old Buildings
Macon County Historical Coordinating Council

Address: 421 W. William.

Legal description - Western Addition
W 50' of Lot 2 and E 20' of Lot 3
Block 5

Date of original construction: Circa 1874.

Name of original owner: Richard J. Oglesby.

History:

1. See attached record of C. Meyer's visit to the house, January 23, 1975, and conversation with Frank Evans.
2. See attached chronological listing of some of the events in Richard J. Oglesby's life.
3. See copy of the original item written for the Zonta Club of Decatur's 1975 book, Places and People in Old Decatur, before deletions were made to conserve space.
4. A partial chain of title to the property follows:

Feb. 27, 1857	John Whitney purchased Lots 1-5, Block 5, Western Addition. (Assumption: Whitney built a two-story, seven room frame house on the land later that year.)
Aug. 25, 1858	John Whitney died, and the property including the house were offered for sale at public auction.
Sept. 23, 1859	Richard J. Oglesby purchased the property as described above for \$2,600, supposedly with money from his father-in-law, Mr. White, this being a wedding gift, to his daughter, Anna White Oglesby and her husband, Richard J. Oglesby.
March 30, 1882	James Bering, a founder of Chambers, Bering and Quinlan Company, father of Alice Bering Evans (Mrs. Frank), grandfather of E. B. Evans and great-grandfather of the present operator of the Evans Grain Company (Frank) purchased the property from Richard J. Oglesby.
5. Data from available city directories:

1871-72	(first directory available) Oglesby, R. J., lawyer, corner Edward and West William.
1874-75	Oglesby, R. J., lawyer, res. s w corner West William and Edward.
1876	Same.
1877-78	Oglesby, R. J., U. S. Senator, res. s. w. corner W. William and Edward.

Present owner's name: Evans Grain Company.

History:

2. Some important events in Richard J. Oglesby's life:

- 1824 - Born in Oldham County Kentucky, son of Colonel Jacob Oglesby, a prosperous farmer and slave owner.
- 1832 - Orphaned at age eight, when his parents along with a brother and a sister, died of cholera.
- 1833 - Saw Uncle Tim, a family slave, sold for \$400 with Dick, aged nine, in tears, promising that some day he'd earn enough to buy Uncle Tim's freedom.
- 1836 - Came to Decatur to live with his Aunt Judy and Uncle Richard Oglesby.
- 1841 - Returned to Kentucky serving for one and one-half years as a carpenter's apprentice.
- 1842 - Back in Decatur, worked under E. O. Smith, a prominent builder. He also farmed a little, raised hemp one summer, manufacturing the rope that launched Decatur's first flat boat.
- 1844 - Studied law in Springfield under Judge Silas Robbins.
- 1845 - Admitted to the bar, and practiced law briefly in Sullivan.
- 1846 - In war with Mexico, retiring as a first lieutenant, after fighting at Vera Cruz and Cerro Gordo.
- 1849 - Joined a party of eight Decatur men, including Henry Prather, who was his brother-in-law, E. O. Smith and Samuel Powers in the gold rush. Drove a six-mule team from St. Joseph, Missouri, to Sacramento, California, in ninety-five days.
- 1851 - Returned from the trip with \$4500 in gold.
- 1851 - Purchased Uncle Tim's freedom.
- 1851 - Invested money from the land warrant received as a soldier in the Mexican War in what would become a Decatur subdivision, the Oglesby addition, naming one street Eldorado for the gold mine and another Cerro Gordo for the battle of that name.
- 1853 - Formed a law partnership with Sheridan Wait.
- 1856 - Began a twenty-month tour of Europe, Egypt, Arabia and the Holy Land, often telling that it was on Mt. Sinai that he committed to memory the ten commandments.
- 1857 - Gave a series of talks on his travels in Powers Hall, these credited with helping him develop "the wonderful magnetic power of his eloquence".. (Jane Johns)
- 1859 - Bought lots 1 through 5, block 5, Western Addition, probably with an 1857 house on it, built by John Whitney. Whitney died in 1858. This purchase (price, \$2600) was from Whitney's estate, at auction.
- 1859 - Married Anna White of Decatur.
- 1860 - On May 6th, Oglesby presented the slogan, "Lincoln the railsplitter for President", to the Illinois Republican Convention meeting in Decatur's temporary wigwam. Under Oglesby's skilful guidance, Lincoln received the convention's overwhelming endorsement of Lincoln for the presidency.

History Cont'd.:

2. Events in Richard J. Oglesby's life continued:

- 1860 - Elected to the state senate.
Resigned as state senator.
- 1861 - Began service in the Civil War.
- 1861 - Chosen colonel of the Eighth Illinois Regiment.
- 1862 - **Promoted** to Brigadier-General on April 1, 1862 in recognition of valor at the Battle of Fort Donelson.
- 1862 - Shot through the lung at the Battle of Corinth.
- 1862 - Commissioned Major General (November, 1862).
- 1863 - Assigned to the Sixteenth Army Corps, still suffering from the bullet he carried and would carry for the rest of his life. Tried to resign but General Grant detailed him to court martial duty in Washington, D. C.
- 1864 - Returned to Illinois in May to recuperate and later to become a candidate for governor.
- 1865 - Sworn in quietly as governor of Illinois on January 17, 1865, the inauguration delayed by the death of his five-year old son, Dickie. He died of diphtheria. (Dickie's burial - in Greenwood Cemetery - Decatur).
- 1865 - At Lincoln's death bed, April 15, 1865.
- 1865 - Made president of an association (May 11, 1865) to erect a suitable monument to Lincoln in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield.
- 1868 - Mrs. Anna White Oglesby died May 16th, in the governor's mansion in Springfield. Buried in Greenwood Cemetery, Decatur.
- 1872 - Elected to second term as governor.
Resigned, elected as U. S. Senator, (1872-1879).
- 1873 - Married ~~Emma~~ Gillett Keays in Elkhart on November 18, 1873.
- 1874 - Daughter, Felicite Oglesby, born at 421 West William, Decatur, August 27, 1874. (On July 23, 1924 she would marry Count Alessandro Cenci de Bolognetti in Rome. She died at age 80, on July 29, 1954.)
- 1874 - Lincoln's monument in Springfield dedicated, with Oglesby giving the oration, and President U. S. Grant and cabinet in the audience.
- 1875 - Son, Richard James Oglesby, born at 421 West William September 26, 1875. (He was to die at age 36 on November 8, 1913.)
- 1878 - Son, John G. Oglesby, born at 421 West William March 19, 1878. He was to become a lieutenant governor of Illinois. (His death was on May 26, 1938.)
- 1882 - Son, Jasper, was born at 421 West William February 10, 1887. (He was to die at age 53 on July 3, 1935.)
- 1882 - Richard J. Oglesby sold the house at 421 W. William on March 30, 1882 to James Bering, a founder of Chambers, Bering and Quinlan, and the great-grandfather of Frank Evans, the present operator of the Evans Grain Company, with offices on the second floor of 421 West William.

James Bering -
- daughter, Alice Bering Evans (Mrs. Frank).
- grandson, E. B. Evans.
- great grandson, Frank Evans.
- 1885 - Inaugurated to a third term as governor, twenty years after his first inauguration as governor.

1. History:

- a. The following are notes made on a visit to the house and a conversation with Frank Evans, January 23, 1975:

The exterior of the present structure is very much as it was when built, except that the seven room, frame house that formed an ell is gone. The diamond-shaped panes of glass in the windows, the ornamental brackets under the eaves, the bay windows, two in front and two in back, are all original. Only the small greenhouse attached to the rear of the house was added by the elder Mr. Frank Evans about 1952.

The front door (William Street) opens into a vestibule with a tile floor. To the left (east) in the vestibule, is an elevator which was added in 1953 when his grain company offices were placed on the second floor. The wide central first floor hall has a striking floor made of alternating walnut and maple boards, each about three inches in width. The hall runs the full length of the house, north to south, with a fireplace on the west wall and a slightly curving stair on the east wall with a niche for statuary where it turns upward toward the front of the house.

To the left front of the central hallway (northeast corner) on the first floor, is the parlor or living room, with its bay window on the north, and a carpet of over-all floral pattern of the same design and from the same source as some made for Williamsburg where Mrs. Frank Evans first saw it and ordered it for the very large parlor. At present a temporary wall divides the parlor into two rooms, one on the north, and one on the south, but this can be easily restored. During the remodelling, the parlor fireplace became concealed, but its mantel is stored and could easily be replaced.

Behind the large parlor is an entrance hall from the east porch, which was probably the entrance for guests. This hallway runs east to west, ending in a solid wall; that is, it does not connect with the north-south main, central hall.

Off this east hall, to the right (north) is the parlor (now partitioned into two rooms) and to the left (south) the library.

The library is an exceptionally beautiful room. The ceiling has a pattern of plaster and walnut, which must have required days of skilled workmens' time. There is walnut paneling about the room up to a dado - perhaps four feet above the floor. Beautifully built shelves of walnut are along the north wall and other portions of the room. The mantel on the west wall is of walnut with lovely tiles

Correction!!
→ *What appeared to be a hall prior to the removal of partitions in the living room, was really a part of the living room, readily seen as such, once the temporary walls were removed.*
C.M.

1. History Cont'd.:

- a. (Italian?) in the hearth and a portion of the mantel. There is a beautiful parquet floor. The old gas pipes for illumination are still imbedded in the walls with some evidence of openings where gas wall bracket lights once were.

To the front right of the central hallway (northwest corner) is another beautiful room, the dining room. The floor is the same as that in the central hall, alternating maple and walnut boards. There is a bay window on the north, and to either side a corner closet and cupboard with mirrors in the doors. In this room, the woodwork, including the mantel, is painted white. The crystal light fixture with round globes of etched glass once were illuminated with gas, but were converted to electricity by Mrs. Evans. Behind the dining room on the west are a butler's pantry, kitchen, and maid's room.

Upstairs are five rooms once used as bedrooms but presently used as offices. There are seven fireplaces, once responsible for heating the house, that are still in existence.

The 421 W. William residence now occupies the west fifty feet of Lot 2 and the east twenty feet of Lot 3, in Block 5 of Western Addition, not the whole of lots 1 through 5 as was true originally. There is not space, therefore, for a semi-circular drive or spacious lawn as formerly was true.

Mr. Evans recalled an anecdote told him about the east porch. When Mrs. Oglesby (Emma Gillett Oglesby) first saw it, she said, "It's too narrow. It must be wider", whereupon Mr. Oglesby ordered it done. The boards in the porch floor offer evidence of this change.

The visit to the house, conversation and write-up by Charlotte Meyer,
January 23, 1975.

History Cont'd.:

2. Events in Richard J. Oglesby's life continued:

- 1888 - Wedding of Olive Oglesby, daughter of Richard J. and Anna White Oglesby, to Chester A. Snider in the governor's mansion.
- 1889 - Retired from political life, living at his Oglehurst estate near Elkhart, Illinois.
- 1899 - Died at Oglehurst. Buried in a mausoleum in Elkhart Cemetery.

3. History:

Richard J. Oglesby, generally accepted as our most distinguished citizen, is said always to have considered Decatur as home, this despite the fact that he spent his first twelve years in Kentucky, his last ten years in Logan County, and was away from Decatur in public service many times. During the years he maintained Decatur as home, his life was full and varied.

Politically, he was our district's state senator, Illinois' thrice-elected governor, and the only Decatur resident to serve in the U. S. Senate. Here he first met Lincoln who was later to refer to Oglesby as his "intimate personal friend" and with whom his career would be interrelated. In 1860, Oglesby promoted Lincoln's candidacy for the presidency at a state Republican convention held in Decatur. With skilful timing and great showmanship he initiated and secured adoption of the slogan "Lincoln the railsplitter for president", achieving enthusiastic state endorsement of Lincoln. Later he was an important factor in Lincoln's nomination at the national Republican convention in Chicago. He was at Lincoln's bedside when he died, was president of the group to plan the monument in Springfield, giving the oration at the dedication with President U. S. Grant and his cabinet in the audience.

Militarily, he fought in the Mexican and Civil wars, achieving the rank of major-general in the latter. He carried a bullet in his body acquired at the battle of Corinth to the time of his death in 1899.

Personally, he has been described as a big man, with a big heart and a big brain. As a boy of nine he wept when he saw a family slave sold for \$400. He promised that when he grew up he'd earn enough to buy his freedom and upon his return from a successful 1849 gold rush trip he did just that. This experience observing the sale of a family slave may have influenced his being anti-slave from an early age, and resulted in his exerting strong influence during his first term as governor, in Illinois' becoming the first state in the union to ratify the 13th amendment, prohibiting slavery.

Richard Oglesby's first home in Decatur was a log cabin where he lived with his Aunt Judy and Uncle Richard Oglesby on arriving as an orphan, aged 12, in 1836.

When Richard Oglesby married Anna White of Decatur, in 1859, her father was said to have given them a home at West William and Edward. Records show that September 28, 1859, Richard Oglesby purchased at auction lots one through five in block five, Western Addition, for \$2600, from the estate of John Whitney. It is thought that a house built by Whitney in 1857 was a part of this purchase. It is presumed that this was the two-story frame house shown in the picture on the opposite page as attached to the right end of the larger, presently existing house. This older, 1857 house which became an ell on the newer one, housed kitchen and servants' quarters until it was moved away some years later.

The presently existing house at 421 W. William is variously reported as having been built in 1865, in the mid-1870's and in 1880. Oglesby was married

to his second wife, Emma Gillett Keays, on November 18, 1873, after beginning his term in the U. S. senate (January, 1873-1879).

Mrs. Jane Martin Johns writes the following in her Personal Recollections, published in 1912, page 122.

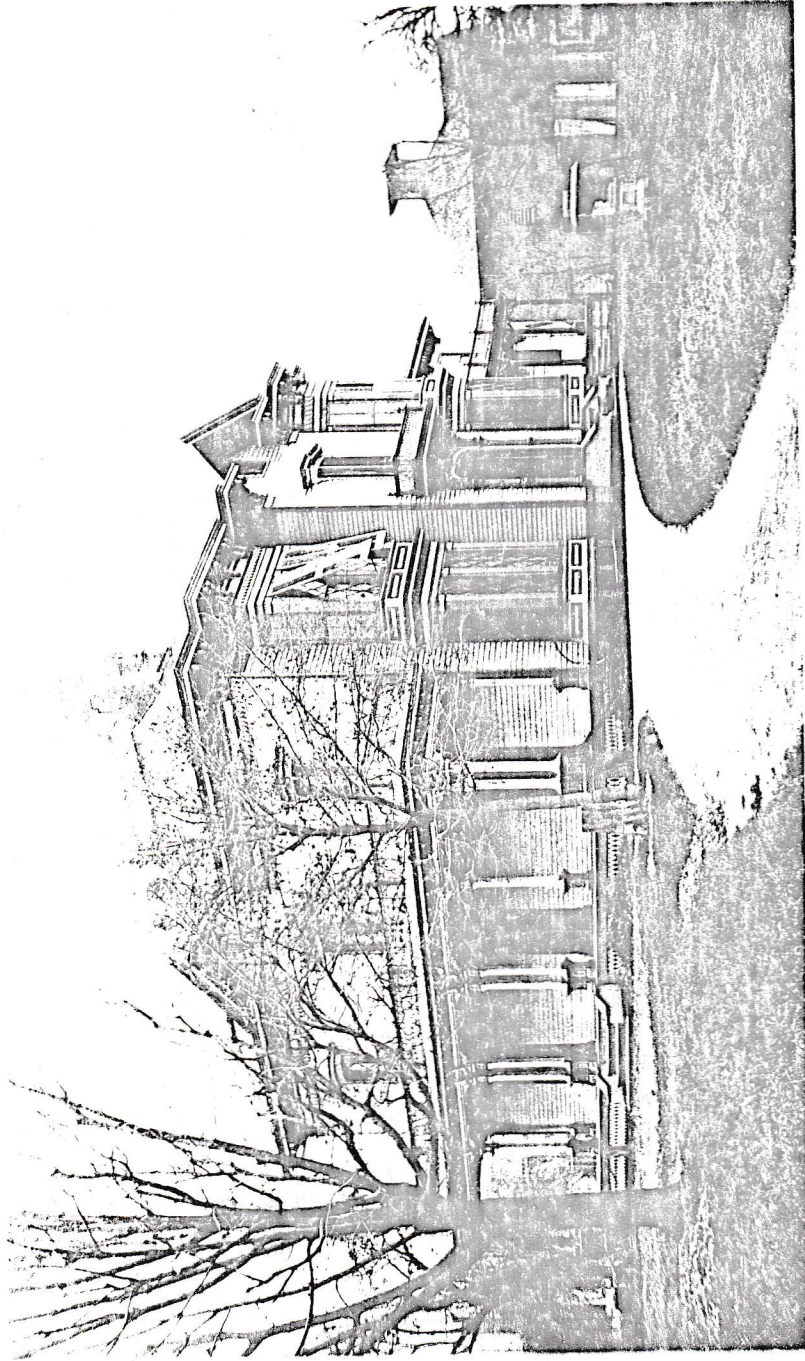
"During his (Oglesby's six years in the U. S. senate (1873-1879) he spent the greater portion of his time in Washington, though he kept his Decatur home open. The old house where he lived for many years, became one wing of a very handsome new home which he built and occupied after his retirement from official life. Four of his children were born in the new house, all of whom are still living. Richard J. Oglesby and Miss Felicite Oglesby now live in Rome, Italy with their mother. John is at present Lieutenant Governor of Illinois and Jasper lives at Oglehurst, Logan County."

* Since his and Emma Keays Oglesby's oldest child, Felicite, was born August 27, 1874, and their youngest child, Jasper, was born February 10, 1882, the "handsome new house" was occupied by the Oglesbys during that period 1874-1882. Records show that Richard Oglesby sold the property March 30, 1882, and moved to Logan County, probably first to Lincoln, Illinois, and later to Oglehurst near Elkhart.

* This information was secured January 23, 1975, from Richard J. Oglesby's step-granddaughter, Mrs. Susan Keays Green of Elkhart. Mr. Roy O. Schilling, now of 128 N. Woodlawn, Decatur, but a native of Elkhart, 'phoned Mrs. Green who secured the key to the Oglesby mausoleum in Elkhart Cemetery, copied down the above dates and 'phoned them to Mr. Schilling.

Dates she secured may be summarized as follows:

1. Felicite Oglesby (the Countess Alesandro Cenci de Bolognetti)
 - Born - August 27, 1874
 - Married - July 23, 1924
 - Died - July 29, 1954
2. Richard James Oglesby
 - Born - Sept. 26, 1875
 - Died - Nov. 8, 1913
3. John G. Oglesby (married Augusta Smith Carroll)
 - Born - March 19, 1878
 - Married - Oct. 21, 1929
 - Died - May 26, 1938
4. Jasper Oglesby
 - Born - Febr. 10, 1882
 - Died - July 3, 1935



THE OLD DICK OGLESBY HOME.

From Art Work of Decatur - 1896 -
The W. H. Parish Publishing Co. - Chicago

Oglesby Home

Touches of yesteryear's elegance still sweep through the house.

Lost, mostly, on the second floor which has been remodeled into offices.

Hidden, often, by dirt and drab, by falling plaster and age-worn carpeting.

But the old-time elegance is still very much a part of the Gov. Richard J. Oglesby home in Decatur.

The home at 421 W. William St. is, right now, a place of contrasts.

Of sometimes strange, ludicrous contrasts.

The dining room, below right, shows an age of many fireplaces. The chandelier has huge globes with intricate flamingo scenes. One is broken and replaced by a new, out of - place, globe. But the chandelier is still elegant.

And big — about two - and - a - half feet in diameter. But under the chandelier is a pingpong table. The house is a place of strange contrasts.

Back in the back, in the small greenhouse, left, a vestige of its heritage remains.

Propped against one of the many windows is a sign: Home of Gov. Richard J. Oglesby, 1824-1899, one of Illinois' most distinguished citizens.

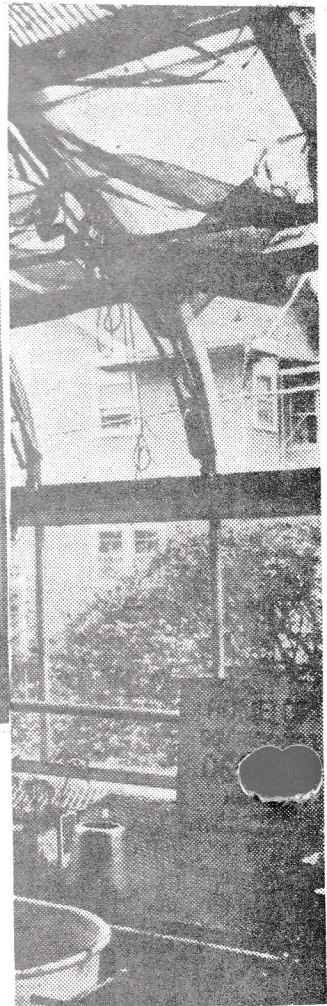
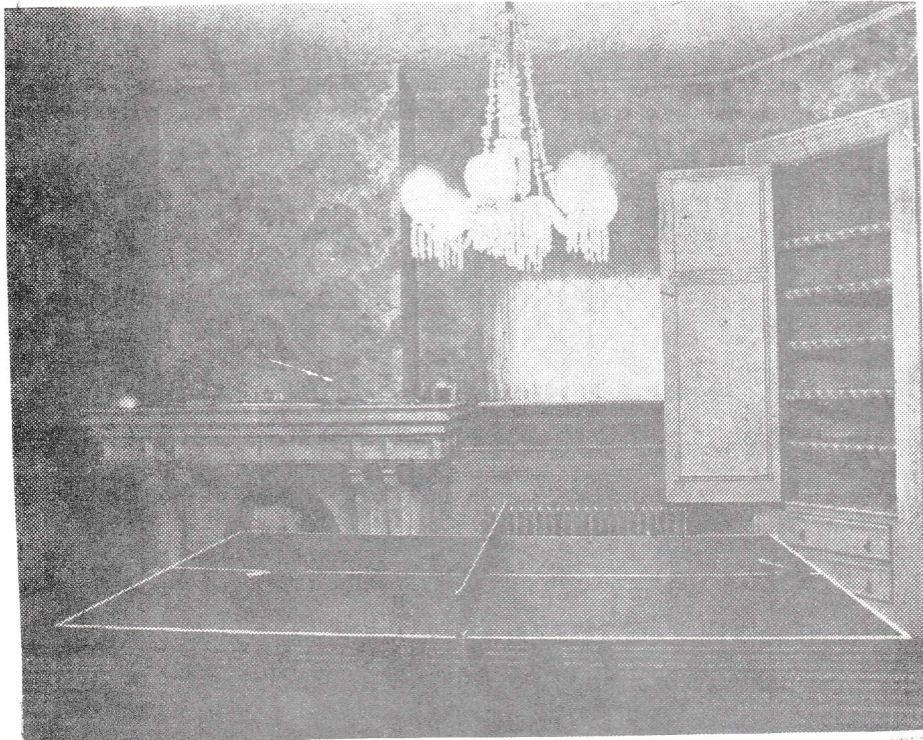
The heritage of that house with the long, slightly winding staircase was assured a place in the future last week when Gov. Richard B. Ogilvie signed a bill providing \$50,000 in state funds for the purchase of the old home.

The home is now occupied by the Evans Grain Co.

Its original owner was elected governor three times and was a civil war general and U.S. senator.



Staff Photos by Her [redacted]



Nov, 1972

By Glen R. Cooper
Of the Herald and Review

An attempt to sell the house that at one time was the home of Gov. Richard J. Oglesby has raised questions concerning the history of the structure.

The house at 421 W. William St. is now owned by E. B. Evans. The second floor of the frame house is used for offices of the Evans Grain Co. The main floor is unoccupied.

For many years there has been speculation and some historical notation that the present house isn't the way the structure appeared when occupied by Gov. Oglesby.

The traditional story is that half of the Oglesby house, in past years, was moved west on William Street and remodeled into the old Bering house. The Bering house, at 457 W. William St., is now owned by Dr. T. P. Leonard.

Evans says today that one section of the Oglesby house was moved but it was taken to a location on either North Church Street or North College Street. He said he was taken to that location as a young boy.

Old Frame House

A reasonable assumption is that the section of the Oglesby house that was moved was an old frame house that stood on West William Street when the property was purchased by Oglesby from John Whitney.

The Oglesby house now stands as it was built for Oglesby. Evans said Oglesby built the house in such a manner as to have it attached to the old Whitney house and that section was used as living quarters for servants and domestics.

A check of the abstract shows this sequence of events in the history of the lots involved.

On Feb. 27, 1857, John Whitney bought lots one through five of Block 5. This is the south side of William Street west of Edward Street.

There is an assumption here that in that year Whitney built a two-story frame house.

John Whitney died in 1858 and on Aug. 25 of that year the executors of the Whitney estate offered the land, and presumably the house, for sale at public auction.

Bought by Oglesby

Richard J. Oglesby bought the lots and the house on Sept. 23, 1859, for \$2,600.

It was shortly after this period that Oglesby is believed to have built the existing house and had it attached to the Whitney residence.

James Bering, founder of the Chamber, Bering, Quinlan Co., grandfather of Evans, bought the Oglesby house on March 30, 1882.

Sometime after 1888 Bering changed his plans and had the structure separated, with the smaller one moved away.

James Bering was a civil en-

gineer from the east and moved furnishings of the Berings to Mason County in search of a coal field that could be put in production.

He was an avid and careful amateur photographer who took pictures of hundreds of spots in Mason County and early Decatur.

Many of these photographs show the Oglesby house with the

Evans has hundreds of the old glass negatives and the camera his grandfather used.

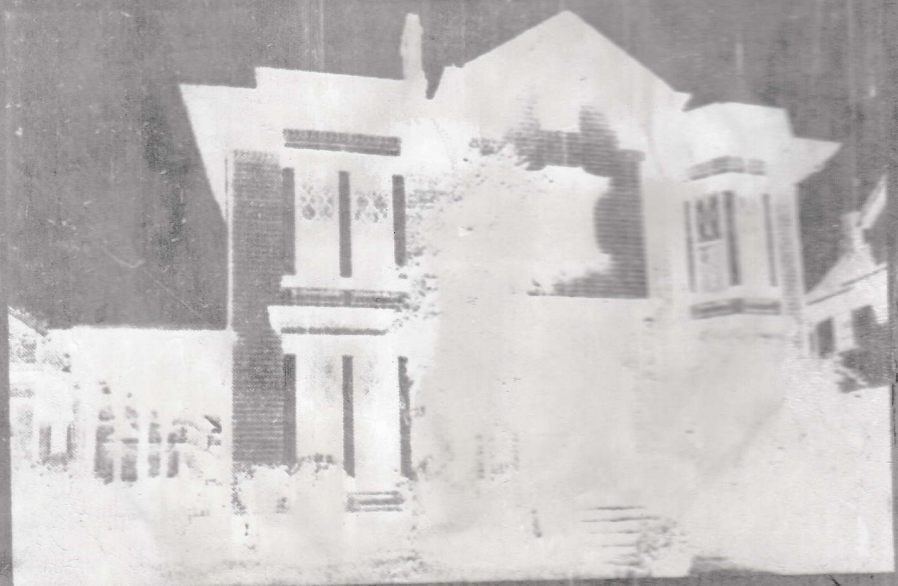
Evans said there were some minor changes made to the house soon after Bering purchased it and in following years. But in the main it is

now just as it was when Gov. Oglesby lived there.

Decatur, Illinois, Sunday, April 3, 1966



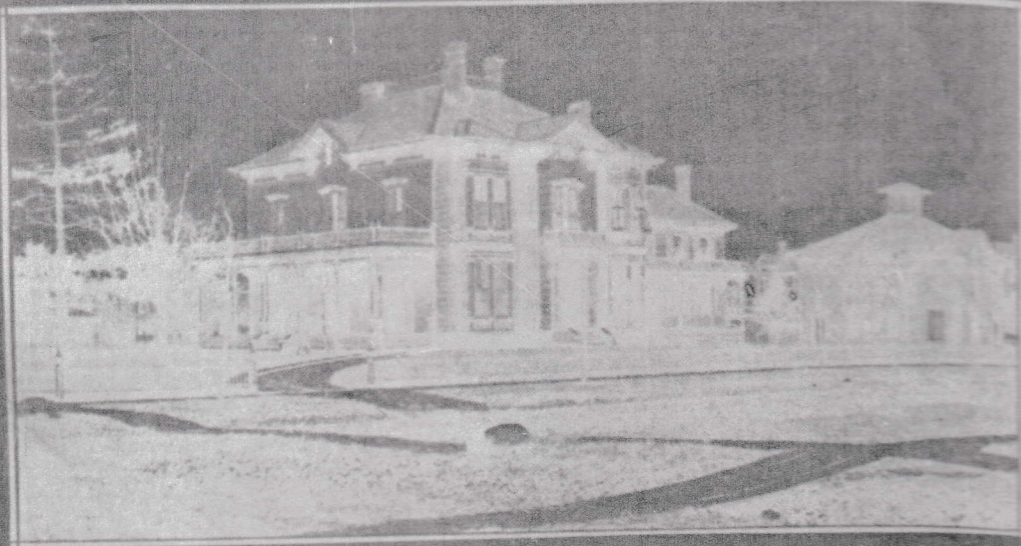
This 1888 photo shows Oglesby house, believed to be built in middle 1870s.



The old Oglesby house at 421 W. William St. as it is today.

Tuesday, September 17, 1935

BUILT TO STAY



For years this was known as the Governor Oglesby home. It was built by Mr. Oglesby in the middle 70's and occupied spacious grounds at the southwest corner of William and Edward streets. This picture

was taken in 1888 by the late J. E. Bering. Since then the porch and the ell have been taken off. Another residence occupies part of the lot and the Oglesby home is now the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Evans.

An article on houses completed in 1875
Decatur Daily Republican
January 8, 1876

Returning now to W. William west of Edward street, we are confronted with the imposing mansion of Senator Oglesby, which fronts on both William and Edward streets. The Senator has here a half block of ground which is susceptible of being laid out in the style and of being made one of the pleasantest sites in the city, and it is quite certain that the proprietor will bring it to the highest possible state of perfection in the matter of arrangement and adornment. The new mansion of Senator Oglesby was commenced quite early in the season, and has been carried forward with competence (9) and dispatch by the contractor, Mr. D. C. Shockley. It is a frame building and two stories high, with walls well-proportioned in height to the size of the rooms, having a spacious porch across its entire eastern front. As already indicated, its exterior is *(illegible)* in its internal arrangement and finish nothing has been omitted that can add to its attractiveness or convenience. Though the house is not fully completed it was so far advanced before its owner left for Washington on Monday last, that he saw his family safely ensconced within its walls. When the building is finished and the grounds ornamented according to the design of Mr. Oglesby, it will be a credit to himself and an ornament to the city, and we presume it will be the home of the Senator and his family during the remainder of his natural life."

Original print-out of microfilm
very difficult to read; therefore, it
is not included.

The above would seem to
indicate:
1st - that Mrs. Johns' book erred;
that the eldest of Gov. Oglesby's
children by his second wife
(Delicite) was not born in "
his handsome new house"
& he was born Aug. 27, 1874.
2nd - The "handsome new house"
was not occupied until ^{at least} late
December, 1875

Copy of a letter from William Le Baron Jenney (W. L. B. Jenney)
of Chicago, probable architect of the Governor Oglesby Mansion.
Original letter - Illinois State Historical Library.

Sanford Springs, W. L. B. Jenney.

Room 3811 Commercial Building.

S. W. Cor. Lake & La Salle Sts.

Chicago, August 20th 1869

Wm. R. J. Oglesby.

Declarator.

Sir:

Please excuse me for presenting my bill for services, I have put it off as long as I could manage it, and now find myself in need of funds to carry on my business.

The schedule of Charges, herewith enclosed, is the one furnished by the Institute and adopted by all architects in good standing throughout the country. This is little enough, for carefully studied, well executed work.

I have charged 3 per cent instead of 3 1/2 because there are still some drawings required in case the work is executed.

although not required for the estimate. I have based the charge on your proposed cost \$15000 - Should the work go on

for all parts that require it - make any
other tracings you may require - and shall
then charge the regular fee of $3\frac{1}{2}$ p. ct.
on the amount of the contracts or ^{estimates} ~~contracts~~
cash.

Should the work not go on, there will be
no further charge.

Hoping that the above may meet your
approval I have the honor to remain

Very Respectfully

Your Obedt. serv.

W. B. Fenney
Architect.

P.S. I have written my letter somewhat
apologetically, because few persons
are aware, until they have actually
had the experience of building, how
much, thought, study and expensive
labor is required to produce the
drawings and specifications for a
fine dwelling.

Office W.B. Jenney Architects.

Chicago, Aug 20th 1869

Mr. N. J. Oglesby
to W.B. Jenney, Architect
Ill.

1869
1870

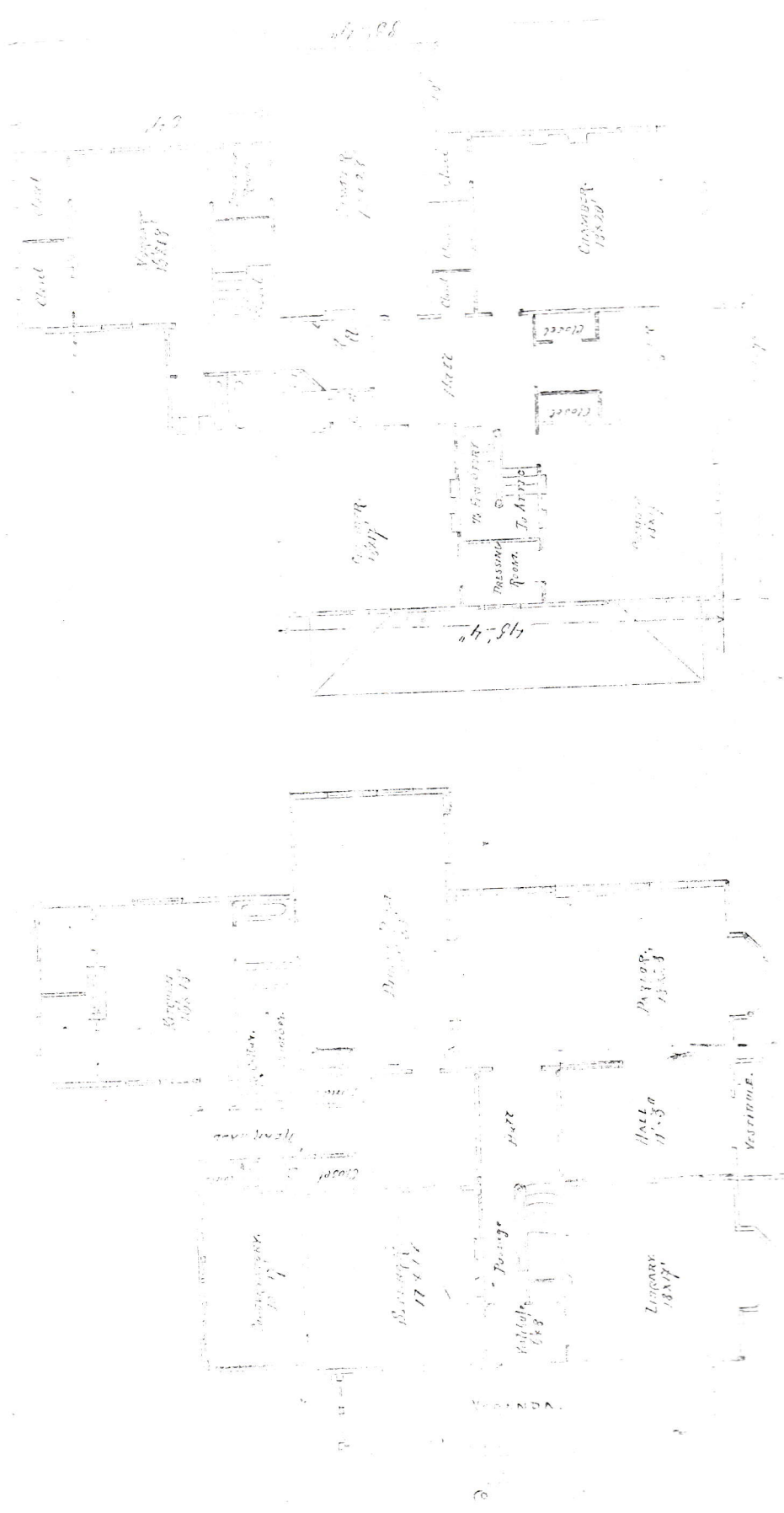
For Preliminary Studies, General Arrangements
and details + specifications.

3 per cent on proposed cost
of \$15,000 ————— \$ 450.00

Receipt Payment.

Copy of receipt for \$450 paid by Governor Oglesby
to William Le Baron Jenney for preliminary
sketches for a home. See sample of
the preliminary sketches on the following sheets
original of which are at the Illinois State
Historical Library in Springfield.

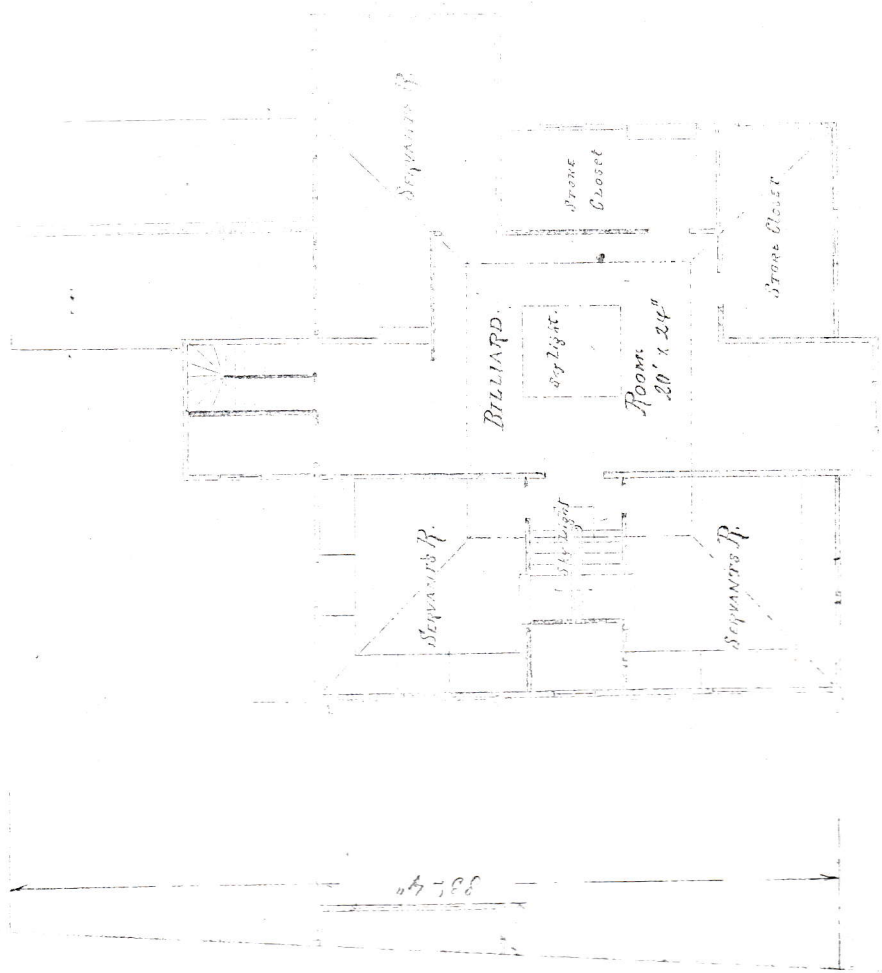
One of several preliminary sketches for a Governor Oglesby mansion which he received from Architect William Le Baron Jenney of Chicago.



SECOND STORY

1ST STORY

One of several preliminary sketches done for Gov. Richard J. Oglesby by Architect William Le Baron Jenney of Chicago. Original sketch in the State Historical Library, Springfield.



ATTIC

lies in the East and in the chief frontier country of Ohio and New Mexico. After the cessation by the charge of the state museum on the grounds of the Ohio State University, Columbus, and built the collection up from 2,200 specimens to nearly 50,000 in three years. He has recently published his master piece, "Prehistoric Implements," a large volume which classifies all the important and useful articles of the aborigines of the United States.

BLISS, Deles, manufacturer, was born at Truxton, Cornwall, N. Y., Jan. 26, 1841, son of George and Charlotte A. Bliss. His father d. Sept. 11, 1877; d. Mar. 17, 1877; a native of Rehoboth, Mass., was a direct descendant of Thomas



Bliss, the son of a wealthy land owner of Devonshire, England, who was born in 1600, and came to Massachusetts about 1635, settling at Rehoboth, where three generations were born and lived. In 1823 George Bliss moved to Truxton, where he carried on an extensive farming and lumber business. His wife was a daughter of Ebenezer Ames of Lorton, Mass. (b. Dec. 2, 1784; d. January, 1891). When Deles Bliss was five years of age his father disposed of his farm and other interests in Truxton, and the family removed to Herculaville, N. Y. Here he attended the public schools until his twelfth year, when he became a clerk in a general country store; a position he held for the next four years, continuing his studies as best he could, with the help of an hour's instruction a day from the Episcopal clergyman of the town. In 1857 he went to New York city, and entered the employ of F. C. Whitney & Co., wholesale jewelers, 12 Maiden lane, where, with his previous business training, he succeeded so remarkably that in the autumn of the next year he was sent south with a stock of goods as a traveling salesman. The following years he spent traveling up and down the Ohio and Mississippi rivers until the outbreak of the civil war, when he was forced to come north, and soon after resigned this position. Late in the same year he entered the employ of John McGraw & Co., lumber merchants in Jersey City, N. J., and soon after, his employers having decided to start, in connection with the already extensive plant, a department for the manufacture of boxes of all kinds, Mr. Bliss was selected to superintend that branch. He was the inventor of nearly all the advanced improvements in the manufacture of boxes, having introduced the planing now so universally used instead of the old method of stenciling, and was the first to put into practical use the present method of nailing boxes up by machinery. In 1864 the business passed into the hands of Anson Phelps Dodge, with which new firm Mr. Bliss has continued to be associated in various capacities, through many changes, until the present time (1900). The firm now known as the Dodge & Bliss Co., with their factories and mills at Jersey City, N. J., Tonawanda, N. Y., and Meredith, N. H., is the most extensive in the United States in the production of lumber boxes and box shooks, over which, as vice-president and general manager, he has a general supervision. Although the majority of his early associates in the business have passed away, Mr. Bliss continues to be as actively employed to-day as at any time during his long and busy career. He never completely severed his connection with his first enterprise, being now a stockholder and director in the

F. A. Bliss Co., jewelers, of Meriden, Conn., of which his younger brother is also a member. Mr. Bliss has never taken an active part in politics, exercising his right of suffrage independently as his judgment dictated. He is a member and vestryman of the Episcopal church at Englewood, N. J., where he has lived for the past twenty years. He was married, Nov. 5, 1864, to Emily, daughter of James F. and Charlotte (Bray) Fielder.

JENNEY, William Le Baron, architect and inventor, was born at Fairhaven, Mass., Sept. 25, 1822, son of William Proctor and Elizabeth Le Baron (deceased) Jenney. His family was founded in America by the children of John Jenney, a native of Norwich, England, whose wife and three children sailed for Plymouth, Mass., Aug. 23, 1623. Three of their descendants—Jahazel, Elanthon and Prince Jenney—took part in the colonial and revolutionary wars. The mother of Mr. Jenney was a direct descendant of Dr. Francis Le Baron, a surgeon on board a French privateer from Bordeaux that was wrecked in Buzzard's bay during the French and English war, after which he established himself in Plymouth as a physician, and was married to Hannah Wilder, of Hingham. Mr. Jenney was educated at Phillips Academy and at Harvard University, and completed his studies at the École Centrale des Arts et Manufactures in Paris, where he was graduated in 1836. Returning to the United States, he became engineer for the Tennessee Railroad Co. of New Orleans on the 25th of Tennessee, afterwards returning to France in 1839, where he was employed as engineer for an American company. At the outbreak of the civil war he enlisted as engineer. Immediately after the battle of Shiloh he was commissioned by Pres. Lincoln additional aid-de-camp, with the rank of captain, to date from Aug. 19, 1861, and was immediately assigned to engineer duty on the staff of Grant, the position he already occupied. He became chief engineer of the 15th army corps, and was stationed at Nashville during the



W. L. B. Jenney

Atlanta campaign, in charge of the engineer offices, manufacture of maps, etc., and compiled a map of Sherman's campaigns, which was published by the war department, and later copied in Sherman's "Memoirs." Capt. Jenney was brevetted major March 13, 1865, and resigned May 19, 1866, having participated in the engagements of Fort Henry, Donelson, Shiloh, Corinth, Vicksburg, Jackson, Mission ridge and Nashville. After some engineer work in western Pennsylvania, he went to Chicago in 1867 as engineer and architect. Here he introduced the use of pressed brick in fine office buildings, and in 1883 he invented for the Home Insurance office building the steel skeleton construction, a style of construction in which each story—walls, partitions and floors—is carried independently on the columns. Notable examples of Mr. Jenney's architectural work are the Leiter building, the Union League club-house, the Manhattan, the Young Men's Christian Association, the New York Life building, the Ludington, the Trude, etc., of Chicago, and the horticultural hall of the World's Columbian exposition. He was one of the commission of architects of the exposition and a member of the Union League Club; of the University Club of Chicago; fellow and vice-president of the American Institute of Architects; junior vice-commander of

the Illinois Commandery, Loyal Legion, and member of the Society of the Army of the Tennessee. He is the author of numerous magazine articles, principally on technical subjects, and of one book, "Principles and Practice of Architecture" (1869). He was married, May 8, 1867, to Elizabeth H. Cobb, of Cleveland, O., and has two children, Max Jenney and Dr. F. L. B. Jenney.

Biographical data on the probable architect of the Oglesby house.

This biography was written in 1900 — seven years before Mr. Jenney's death

Note Mr. Jenney's Civil War record. Did Governor (General) Oglesby perhaps meet Architect Jenney during the war?

Society. In 1813 he and John Adams, who was also in retirement, became reconciled and began a voluminous correspondence between Monticello and Quincy, Massachusetts; the experience and perspective that the two elder statesmen brought to bear on the problems and future of their country were unmatched, and the result was one of the most remarkable and extensive exchanges of view ever recorded. On July 4, 1826, the fiftieth anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence, both men died. At his own direction, Jefferson's tombstone recorded the three achievements that he himself valued most highly: "... author of the Declaration of American Independence, of the statute of Virginia for religious freedom, and father of the University of Virginia." To his contemporaries in Europe he was regarded as second among Americans only to Benjamin Franklin in breadth of intellect and weight of achievement; more a philosopher than the ever practical Franklin, Jefferson approached closely the ideal of the universal, Renaissance man. He was elected to the Hall of Fame in 1900.

Jeffries, John (1745-1819), physician and balloonist. Born in Boston on February 5, 1745, Jeffries graduated from Harvard in 1763 and received his medical degree seven years later from Marischal College, Aberdeen, Scotland. After practicing in Boston for a short time he became a surgeon on a naval vessel in 1771 and later worked in British military hospitals. Barred from America because of his Loyalist sympathies, he began to practice medicine in England and soon became interested in balloon flights. He made two notable flights in the company of the French aeronautical pioneer Jean Pierre (or François) Blanchard. During the first, on November 30, 1784, he made a number of careful observations with scientific instruments that he had procured at his own expense; they constitute the first scientific data obtained in the free air, to a height of more than 9000 feet, and accord well with modern observations. The second flight was the first aerial crossing of the English Channel. Jeffries and Blanchard set out from Dover on January 7, 1785. Halfway across, the balloon began to descend, and it was necessary to jettison all of the scientific instruments except the barometer; shortly thereafter even the outer clothes of the aeronauts and all of their food had to be thrown overboard. An updraft caught them near the French coast and they were carried safely inland to the forest of Guines, near Ardres, after about three hours aloft. They were received with jubilation by the people and dignitaries of Calais and Paris, and Jeffries was complimented by Louis XVI and dined with Benjamin Franklin, the U.S. minister to France. Jeffries returned to his native Boston about 1790 and established a flourishing practice, dying there on September 16, 1819.

Jenney, William Le Baron (1832-1907), architect. Born on September 25, 1832, in Fairhaven, Massachusetts, Jenney attended Phillips Academy, An-

dover, then Harvard's Lawrence Scientific School and the École Centrale des Arts et Manufactures in Paris, graduating in 1856. Settling in New Orleans, he became for a time an engineer with the Tehuantepec Railroad Company, then returned to Paris to further his studies in architecture, remaining from 1859 to 1861. Returning to the United States, he enlisted in the Union army and served capably as an engineer, having earned the rank of major by 1866, when he resigned. He worked in Pennsylvania as an engineer until 1868. Then he established an architectural and engineering firm in Chicago, Jenney, Mundie, and Jensen. In his early buildings, mainly office structures, he strove to get maximum light and to make hallways and entrances as spacious and attractive as possible. His concepts were developed in *Principles and Practice of Architecture*, 1869. With the Home Insurance Building, his major contribution, built in 1884-1885, he inaugurated skeletal construction, an internal framework of iron and steel beams that supported the walls and roof of the building and determined its outer form. The forerunner of the skyscraper, it was the first structure of its kind to use steel as a building material and also introduced the best plumbing system yet developed in an office building of its size. He went on to design the Leiter Building in 1889-1890, the Fair store in 1890-1891, and other structures in Chicago, further developing steel skeletal construction. He was later honored by the Bessemer Steamship Company of New York, which recognized his service to the steel industry by naming one of their ships after him. In 1905 he retired and moved to Los Angeles, where he died on June 15, 1907.

Jessel, George Albert (1898-), entertainer. Born in New York City on April 3, 1898, Georgie Jessel was the son of a poor playwright. He left school after only six months to help support the family; his grandfather was a tailor, and the boy sang for the customers while they were waiting to have their pants pressed. He prevailed on his mother to arrange an audition at the theater in Harlem where she sold tickets, and he was engaged as a member of a trio of boys, all under ten, who sang in the theater pit because the law prohibited the appearance on the stage of performers under sixteen. Another member of the trio was Walter Winchell. Gus Edwards put Jessel in an act with Eddie Cantor when he was ten, and he toured for years, but by the time he was sixteen he was no longer a cute child and the act broke up. He went to England, but when he returned from London in 1917, he could not find work. Sitting around with "the boys" one afternoon, he called his mother on the telephone and proceeded to tell her funny stories about the day's happenings. His friends recognized this as the basis of an act, and he developed and used it for more than 40 years; he published an autobiography in 1946 under the title *Hello Momma*. He had his first big success in 1925, when he left vaudeville to play the straight lead in *The Jazz*

From Van Doren, Charles, *Webster's American Biographies*,
G. C. Merriam Co., Springfield, Mass., 1974

22. Manhattan Building. 1890.

II-B

Architect: William L. Jenney.

431 South Dearborn (36 W). Map 3.

This and Burnham and Root's Rand McNally Building were the first tall office buildings to use skeleton construction throughout. Even the party walls are carried by the steel frame, in this case on beams cantilevered out, i.e., extending beyond their supporting columns. The building thus displays Jenney's interest in structural matters and his inventiveness in using the new material, iron or steel. The design, however, is not particularly impressive. The various materials and the different shapes in the bay windows, for instance, tend to produce an effect of indecision.



From Siegel, Arthur,
Editor, Chicago's Famous
Buildings, U. of Chicago
Press, 1965

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From Siegel, Arthur,
Editor, Chicago's Famous
Buildings, U. of Chicago
Press, 1965

Manhattan Building, Chicago, 1889-91.

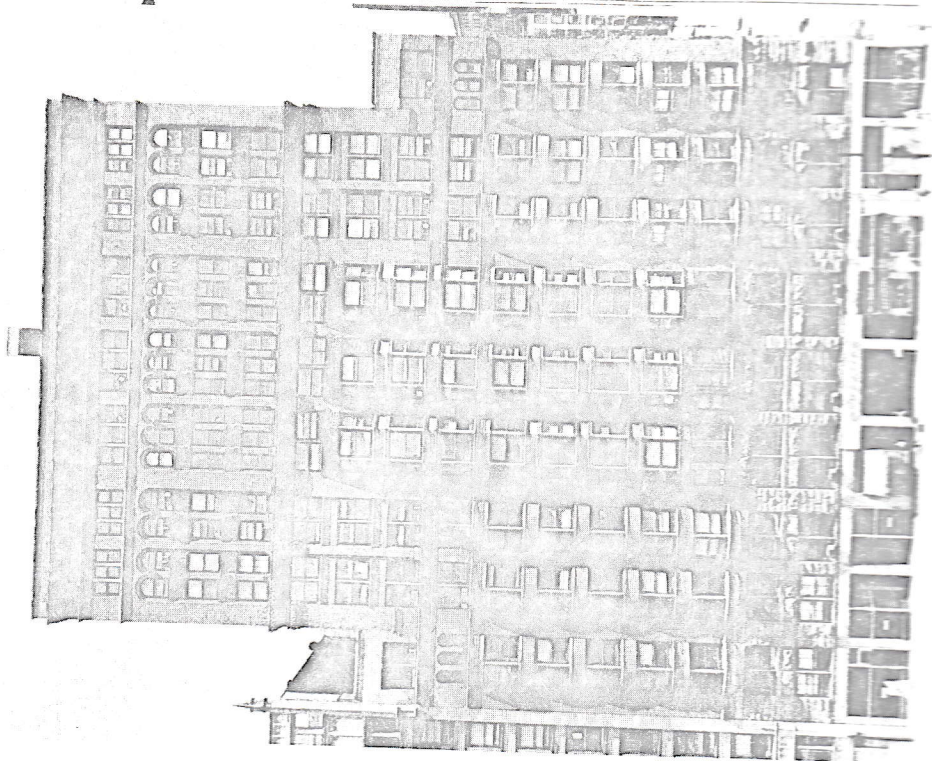
56

The productive years of Chicago building 1880-1900 produced the pioneer skyscrapers of the world. Of several architects connected with this momentous period, William LeBaron Jenney (1832-1907) stands out as the one man who designed the first acknowledged skyscraper, the Home Insurance Building (1883-85) which was destroyed in 1931.

The Manhattan Building is a representative example of Jenney's subsequent work. Originally it was twelve stories high flanked by nine-storied wings. Its front and rear façades illustrate a diverse treatment of window openings, and even more variety was seen when Jenney added four more floors to the central block. Some of the projecting bays are trapezoidal, some triangular. Elsewhere large sheets of glass fit simply into the structural framework. Near the top of the final building an arcaded motif was introduced. This mixture was to prove uncharacteristic of later skyscraper designs.

It was in the engineering aspects of skyscraper development that Jenney made his greater impact. In his Manhattan Building he introduced both diagonal and portal types of wind bracing. Another innovation was the cantilevering of the floors along each property line to avoid overloading the footings of the adjacent buildings. Thus the weight of these outermost bays is carried by the second file of piers. The exploratory achievements of Jenney are truly historic for the rise of the skyscraper in America. *HABS.*

Address: 411 South Dearborn Street.



*Ernst Hoeper, Frederick, Illinois
Architecture, a Selective Guide,
University of Chicago Press, 1968*

COMMERCIAL ARCHITECTURE IN ENGLAND AND AMERICA

Renaissance ornamentation with none of the discretion of McKim, Mead & White on their Kansas City and Omaha insurance buildings. Characteristic of the period are White's American Surety Building at Broadway and Wall Street, begun in 1894, and his James Building of 1897-8 at 1133 Broadway, both in New York, and Post's Park Building in Pittsburgh, completed in 1896. The latter's Havemeyer Building, completed in 1892, was by exception still somewhat Richardsonian.

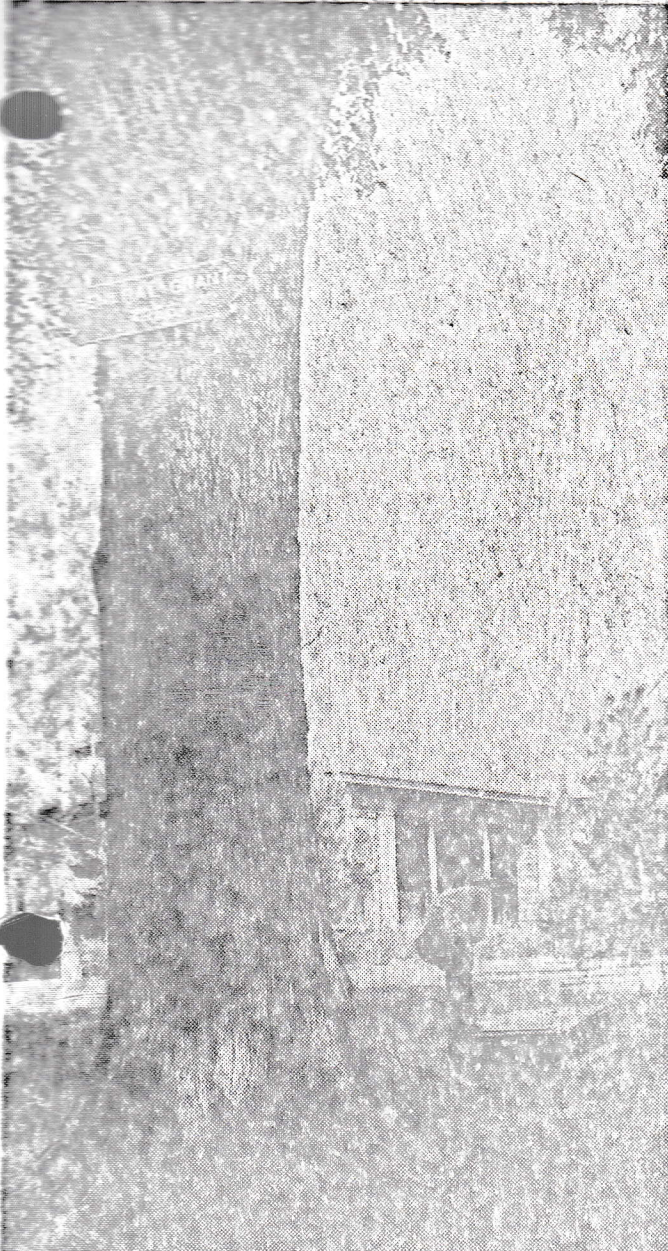
The maturing of an original sort of skyscraper design around 1890 is a Middle Western, and almost specifically a Chicago, story to which New York architects made no contribution. Boston's architectural leadership had ended with the death of Richardson; despite the prominence of McKim, Mead & White and their large Eastern following, leadership in this field passed almost at once to Chicago. It was most appropriate that Richardson's masterpiece, the Field store, should have been built there; the inspiration it provided, as we have already seen in the case of the Auditorium Building, played an important part in the succeeding Middle Western development.

In 1889-90 Jenney built for Levi Z. Leiter a large building on South Clark Street in Chicago now occupied by Sears, Roebuck & Company. In this he not only used the new 'skyscraper construction' for the exterior walls but also - with the presumptive aid of his assistant and later partner William Bryce Mundie (1863-1939) - arrived at an expression of its particular character as logical as that of the Tacoma Building and rather more monumental. Like all the other Chicago designers in these years, Jenney and Mundie were influenced here by the Field store. The uncompromisingly block-like shape of his tremendous building, with its heavy plain entablature and pilaster-like corner piers, is Richardsonian both in its scale and in its simplicity (Plate 117B). The various groupings of stone mullions that clad the main piers and subdivide the bays, lithe and light though they are, were clearly envisaged as Romanesque colonnettes and even carry modest foliate capitals. Despite the dichotomy of the solidly Richardsonian silhouette and the open screen-like treatment of the walls, the effect is coherent and dignified. In this respect the Sears, Roebuck Building is superior to Sullivan's very Richardsonian²¹ Opera House Building in Pueblo, Colorado, of 1890 which was burned in the 1920s. The Walker Warehouse in Chicago of 1888-9 better displayed his great talent.

Three buildings of 1890-1, two in Chicago by Burnham & Root and one in St Louis by Sullivan, express the wide range of creative possibilities in skyscraper design at this point. The most advanced is Burnham & Root's Reliance Building, at least in terms of direct structural expression, for it is a refined and perfected version of Holabird & Roche's Tacoma Building (Plate 115B). The light-coloured terracotta cladding of the vertical members, particularly on the flat oriels, is reduced to a minimum; the terminal member is a thin slab, not a cornice or an entablature; and the only stylistic reminiscence is in the cusped panelling - neither Romanesque nor Renaissance, but slightly Late Gothic in character - of the spandrels. Carried up only four storeys in 1890,²² though extended to its present thirteen storeys by D. H. Burnham & Company in 1894, the Reliance seems to have attracted less attention when first built than it does today.

Burnham & Root's other significant skyscraper of this particular moment, the sixteen-storey Monadnock Building begun in 1891, the last tall Chicago building with bearing

²⁴⁵
from Hitchcock, Henry-Russell, *Architecture in the
Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries*, *The Pelican History of
Art*, Penguin Books, Baltimore, Maryland, 1958



As the sign on the tree says, this is the "General Grant tree" at Fairview park, dedicated as a marker for the spot where General Ulysses S. Grant stood when he spoke at a Civil war veterans' reunion in Decatur on Oct. 6 and 7, 1880. Near the

tree a park visitor reads a plaque on a rock which not only calls attention to the general's historic visit here but points out that Fairview park—the fair grounds in 1880—was the site for the organization of several Civil war regiments.

Park Tree Is Reminder

Decatur Public Library
Decatur, Miss.

Sixty-three years ago this week General Ulysses S. Grant came to Decatur. A tree and a plaque on a rock in Fairview park are reminders of the visit, made on Oct. 5 and 7, 1880.

The tree—"General Grant Tree," a marker high up on the trunk says—stands near the southwest corner of the large pavilion. The plaque is on a rock next to the tree.

These two markers are the X on the spot where the general spoke briefly before an audience which records say numbered near 40,000. Decatur's population then was approximately 9,000. The event was a reunion of the Macon County Veterans' association, held for the 21st Illinois infantry regiment, Grant's first command in the Civil war.

The tree, an elm now of giant size, was dedicated by Dunham post, Grand Army of the Republic, on July 8, 1921.

Where Units Organized

The plaque, which was dedicated May 17, 1937, serves to mark not only the general's visit here but the fact that the area which is now Fairview park is the area in which organization of all Macon county Civil war army units took place. In those days the park was the fair grounds.

The plaque states that: "During the Civil war, Fairview park was the place where the organization of all regiments in Macon county took place. Among these regiments were the 116th Illinois infantry organized by Colonel Tupper, and the 41st Illinois infantry organized by Colonel I. C. Pugh. The 35th Illinois infantry was organized and quartered here. On October 6th and 7th, 1880, General U. S. Grant and John A. Logan and Governor R. J. Oglesby were present here at a reunion of the Macon County Veterans' association, held for Grant's regiment, the 21st Illinois infantry."

The plaque was placed by the Illinois department of the Sons of Union Veterans during a state encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Reunion Lasted 3 Days

The veterans' reunion, which would be a high spot in any written history of Decatur and Macon county, was a three-day affair—from Oct. 5 to 7.

General Grant came to Decatur on Oct. 6 via the Wabash from Chicago. His son, Jesse R. Grant, and General and Mrs. John A. Logan accompanied him.

A special committee from Decatur went to Bement to meet the general and former president—by then he had completed his second term of office—to travel the remainder of the way to Decatur with him. On the committee were General (later governor) R. J. Oglesby, James Millikin, W. C. Johns, I. A. Buckingham, Major Charles Emery, and Major Wharm of Wyoming territory.

8,000 At Train

Another committee — Mayor Henry W. Waggoner, A. T. Hill, John Ullrich, John A. Barnes, John K. Warren, James W. Haworth, and Charles P. Housum—and a

crushing throng, some 8,000 persons, met the train at Decatur.

The crowd at the station was so large that the only part of the reception planned for the arrival that could be carried out was a 21-gun salute by Battery A of Danville. Speeches and musical performances were smothered out. The general and his escorts had to skirt the crowd and race their carriages on ahead to the main part of the city in order to get the parade underway.

Following the somewhat disorganized parade, General Grant was taken to the home of General Oglesby, at the corner of Edward and William streets, now the home of F. L. Evans, 421 West William street.

General Spoke Briefly

At the Oglesby home the cheering only subsided when General Grant appeared on the east veranda. Then in response to Mayor Waggoner's welcome address, which had been scheduled to be given at the railroad station, the

general spoke briefly—the records say, "perhaps a hundred words." Then, according to the archives, he retired to get "some chicken and rest."

That night a reception was held in the Tabernacle, a building at the corner of North Main street and Prairie avenue, which then was the largest auditorium in the city.

The surviving members of the 21st regiment, who opened the evening's program with a business session, sat on the stage. Colonel McMackin presided. Captain Moss, a Topeka, Kan. naval officer, spoke.

Tells About 21st Regiment

When Grant and Logan appeared they were greeted with "thunderous" applause, after which Grant recalled the history of his experience with the 21st regiment. Logan, General Oglesby and Captain Harlan also gave talks.

The main part of the reunion was that held the following day in Fairview park, the fair grounds, named Camp Sheridan for the occasion. A parade, a mile-and-a-half long, from the city's business district to the park started off the show.

The speakers included Gen. Jesse H. Moore, General Grant, General Logan, Gen. G. A. Smith of New Mexico, Chaplain Wilkin of the 21st regiment, Rev. J. W. Cecil, and David Littler of Springfield.

Shook Hands With 5,000

News accounts, which do not quote the speakers, say General Grant's talk was the "longest public address he made while in Decatur," an indication that he was consistent in being brief.

A second reception was held in the Tabernacle that night, with General Grant standing for hours shaking hands with some 5,000 people.

After some extemporaneous talks, music by the band, and a vocal solo, "The Sweet Bye and Bye," by Mrs. A. W. Conklin, the reception broke up and the Grant party was taken to the train.



Staff photo by Dick Torgerson



Staff photo by Dick Torgerson

A Bidder Here?

Is there a bid among these faces at Sunday's auction of the Oglesby's furniture? Only auctioneer Neil Rich can see

the subtle signals collectors use to drive their competitors to the wall.

Auction Item

This early electric lamp with crystal fobs was one of a pair auctioned off at Rich's Auction House in Decatur

Sunday when the Oglesby collection of furniture was placed on the block by the current owner E. B. Evans.

Sale Draws Professionals

Oglesby Home Furniture Sold

2-21-1966

By Coleman T. Mobley
Of the Herald

When you have that empty feeling in the pit of your stomach as the tensions rise in the auction hall, you know you are still an amateur in the world of professional antique dealers.

Sunday the last remnants of the fine furniture which once filled the Victorian home of former Illinois Gov. Richard J. Oglesby on West William Street went on the block at Rich's Auction, 355 N. East St.

"What am I bid? What am I bid?" said the auctioneer Neil Rich through a microphone.

"This fine inlaid, English clock was part of the Oglesby home, ladies and gentlemen. What am I bid?"

The Oglesby furniture drew a

EDITOR'S NOTE — Herald reporter Coleman Mobley was assigned to cover the sale of items from the home of former Illinois Gov. Richard J. Oglesby. In the process, he got caught up in the spirit of the auction and ended up carting off two chairs, a wash basin — and a chamber pot. He was also \$77 poorer for the assignment.

large crowd of professional dealers and collectors, as well as Decatur bargain hunters.

"Sold at \$150 dollars," Rich said with a flourish, only acquired by much experience.

Fascinating Drama

The beginners at auction sales were fascinated by the drama of a family's final appearance on the stage of history.

Many of the pieces of furniture which were sold will be lost to any future Decatur restoration of the Oglesby home, one member of the Macon County Historical Society moaned.

"I hope that's not leaving town," another Decatur native said.

"I bought the hall-tree, and if they ever restore the home, I want to donate it," another

It takes several hours of just sitting and watching before anyone can muster enough courage to raise a finger to make a bid.

Most timid bidders seemed to start on smaller items such as a chamber pot or a wash stand or a sandwich glass globe from an old gaslight.

At times it was difficult to tell what was bid or who was bidding.

The caller's voice went on and on, pushing the price higher and higher, calling for an-

other half dollar.

A Decatur antique dealer sitting near the back of the auditorium noted that it takes much experience at auctions and study of furniture styles, different woods and the makes of china before knowing it is safe to bid.

"This is some of the oldest furniture that has been auctioned in Decatur in many years," the dealer said.

"The only way to know what you want is to come early, study everything, and gain experience by watching others," she said.

Some items seemed to go cheaply.

A walnut four poster bed sold for \$17.50.

The piano which the Oglesbys reportedly brought to Decatur by wagon went for \$20.

Two fireside chairs sold for \$72.

It was almost impossible to tell who was buying what items, as the pros just tipped their hats or winked an eye to signal the auctioneer.

Decatur Public Library
Decatur, Illinois

loc. Hist.

Ogilvie Signs Purchase Bill

Dec. 1, 1972
Gov. Richard B. Ogilvie signed a bill Thursday providing \$50,000 in state funds for the purchase of the Decatur home of Gov. Richard J. Oglesby.

The bill was passed unanimously by both the Illinois House and Senate.

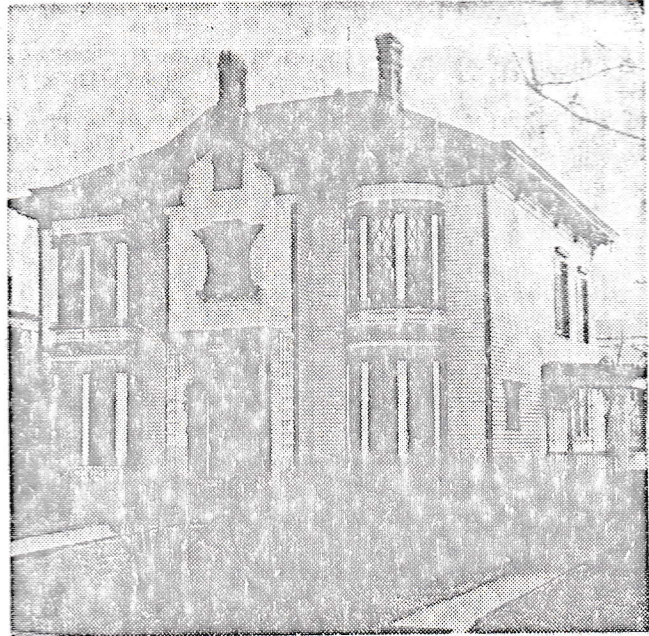
Rep. A. Webber Borchers, R-Decatur, introduced the bill in the House. Sen. Robert McCarthy, D-Decatur, guided it through the Senate.

Linley Hurtt of 173 N. Dennis St., one of the prime movers for state purchase of the old mansion, reported he had been notified last Thursday of the approval by the governor's office.

Borchers said he talked with Gov. Ogilvie this morning.

"The governor said he was happy to sign the bill. He explained he thought it was in the best interests of Illinois's historical heritage."

The house's original owner was elected governor three times, was a civil war general, a U. S. senator and one of those influential at the famed Wigwam Republican convention in Decatur promoting the nomination of Abraham Lincoln for president.



Herald and Review Photo

This is the Oglesby home at 421 W. William St.

Oglesby Home Bill Passes

Nov. 28, 1972
By unanimous votes in both the Illinois House and Senate, a bill for the state to purchase the Decatur home of Gov. Richard J. Oglesby has been approved.

Final Senate action came this morning following House action Monday afternoon.

The home, at 421 W. William St., will be purchased for \$50,000 and maintained as a historical site.

The bill, which was introduced by Rep. A. Webber Borchers (R-Decatur), was approved earlier by the General Assembly, but received an amendatory veto from Gov. Richard B. Ogilvie.

Sen. Robert McCarthy (D-Decatur) guided the bill through the Senate today.

Gov. Ogilvie is expected to sign the bill as it agrees to the removal of objectionable parts of the bill which brought about the previous veto.

Oglesby served as governor for three terms between 1864 and 1875.

Note: When Governor Dan Walker succeeded Governor Ogilvie, the former indicated that no appropriation had been included in the budget for the purchase.



Sat, August 30, 1975

Herald and Review Photo

The Oglesby Mansion, home of the state's only three-time governor.

Purchase of Two Historical Buildings Approved by State

Purchase and development of two Macon County historical sites by the Macon County Conservation District has been approved by the State Department of Conservation.

The two sites are the Governor Oglesby Mansion at 421 W. William St. and the Warnick Cabin on the Mount Auburn road.

Cost of purchase of the two properties, and initial restoration expenses of them, is estimated at about \$72,000, of which the state will pay half.

However, Rod Washburn, deputy director of lands for the Conservation District, said Friday that there have been no negotiations for purchase of the two properties and that their cost is not known.

Their purchase, he said, is also subject to approval by the district's board of trustees.

So far as is known the owners of the two historic sites are willing to sell them to the district, but no final agreements have been reached.

The Oglesby Mansion and the Warnick Cabin were identified by the Macon County Bicentennial Commission as suitable for purchase by the district as Bicentennial-Heritage projects.

According to Robert B. King, chairman of the Bicentennial Commission, historical preservation of both properties was first suggested in 1910.

Previous efforts to acquire both properties have been made from time to time, though not by the Conservation District, but without success.

The Oglesby Mansion, now occupied by the Evans Grain Co., was the home of Richard J. Oglesby, a three-time Illinois governor and military hero.

It was built about 1873 in an Italian architectural style and was the home of Oglesby during much of his long political and military career. On Oct. 6 and 7, 1880, former president and general U.S. Grant was a guest of Oglesby in the home.

Washburn said the home has been carefully preserved through the years, with the original mantels, fireplaces, doors, stairways and library still in place.

The Warnick Cabin was built about 1833 by William Warnick, the county's first sheriff. It has been known by a variety of names, including the Eight Mile House, the Thirty-Three Mile House, the Echel Tavern and the Huddleston Cottage.

The original cabin contained two rooms but additions were made starting during the late 1830s or early 1840s.

The building was extensively damaged by fire on July 28, but some of the original logs remain as the basis for a reconstruction.

No plans for reconstruction of the cabin have yet been formulated, according to Preston Schellbach, Conservation District director.

Funds Approved Sat., Aug. 30, 1975

Historical Sites To Be Restored

Purchase and development of two Macon County historical sites by the Macon County Conservation District has been approved by the State Department of Conservation.

The two sites are the Governor Oglesby Mansion at 421 W. William St. and the Warnick Cabin on the Mount Auburn road.

Cost of purchase of the two properties, and initial restoration expenses of them, is estimated at about \$72,000, of which the state will pay half.

However, Rod Washburn, deputy director of lands for the Conservation District, said Friday that there have been no negotiations for purchase of the two properties and that their cost is not known.

Their purchase, he said, is also subject to approval by the district's board of trustees.

So far as is known the owners of the two historic sites are willing to sell them to the district, but no final agreements have been reached.

The Oglesby Mansion and the Warnick Cabin were identified by the Macon County Bicentennial Commission as suitable for purchase by the district as Bicentennial-Heritage projects.

According to Robert B. King, chairman of the Bicentennial Commission, historical

preservation of both properties was first suggested in 1910.

Previous efforts to acquire both properties have been made from time to time, though not by the Conservation District, but without success.

The Oglesby Mansion, now occupied by the Evans Grain Co., was the home of Richard J. Oglesby, a three-time Illinois governor and military hero.

It was built about 1873 in an Italian architectural style and was the home of Oglesby during much of his long political and military career. On Oct. 6 and 7, 1880, former president and general U.S. Grant was a guest of Oglesby in the home.

Washburn said the home has been carefully preserved through the years, with the original mantels, fireplaces, doors, stairways and library still in place.

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The Governor Oglesby Mansion, Inc.

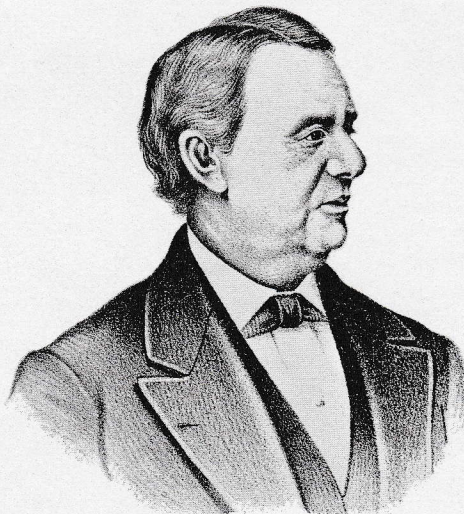


Prepared and provided by members of Zonta Club of Decatur.
For information contact Mr. Linley W. Hurtt, President
Governor Oglesby Mansion Corporation, 173 N. Dennis, Decatur, Illinois 62522, 422-3344

Richard James Oglesby

Richard J. Oglesby's record of public service undoubtedly justifies his long being called "Decatur's most distinguished citizen". In addition, his personal qualities qualify him as Decatur's most popular citizen of the nineteenth century. Although he spent his first twelve years in Kentucky, his last ten years in Logan County and was away from Decatur in public service many times, it was the forty-six Decatur years, 1836-1882, that were his rich and productive ones.

Politically, he was our district's state senator, Illinois' thrice-elected governor, and the only Decatur resident to serve in the U. S. Senate. Here he first met Lincoln with whom his career would be interrelated. In 1860 Oglesby promoted Lincoln's candidacy for the presidency at a state Republican convention held in Decatur. With skillful timing and great showmanship he initiated and secured adoption of the slogan "Lincoln the railsplitter for president" achieving enthusiastic state endorsement of Lincoln. Later he was an important factor in Lincoln's nomination at the national Republican convention in Chicago. He was at Lincoln's bedside when he died, was president of the group to plan the monument in Springfield at Oak Ridge cemetery, giving the oration at its dedication with President U. S. Grant and his cabinet in the audience.



Militarily, he fought in the Mexican and Civil wars, achieving the rank of major-general in the latter. Injured at the Battle of Corinth, he carried an ounce shot in his body for the remainder of his life while continuing as an active and productive public servant.

Personally, he has been described as a big man, with a big heart and a big brain. An experience observing the sale of a family slave may have influenced his being antislave from an early age and resulted in his exerting strong influence during his first term as governor in Illinois' becoming the first state in the union to ratify the 13th amendment prohibiting slavery.

Oglesby's first defeat (1858) as a political candidate was said to be a personal triumph, for his convincing earnestness, hearty good nature and superior eloquence impressed his most vigorous opponents. As a stump speaker he was said to have no equal. He was electric, moving, full of a penetrating enthusiasm. There was no sham. "His clean-shaven, expressive face and his bluff, hearty western manner gave his appearance a charm that was brightened by a physique of commanding proportions."

When President Lincoln in 1864 asked that Illinois Republicans nominate a strong candidate for governor because of the help and support he needed, Oglesby was his suggestion. Oglesby was delighted, was nominated, and immediately "made things lively." His agreement with Lincoln on major issues of the day contributed to his strong feeling of loyalty. With Lincoln under fire for his war policies, Oglesby never apologized for him. Instead he predicted that the time would come when Lincoln's almost God-like wisdom, foresight and forbearance would place him on the calendar of saints."

The Governor Oglesby Mansion

Richard J. Oglesby's first home in Decatur was a log cabin where he lived with his Aunt Judy and Uncle Richard Oglesby on arriving as an orphan, age twelve, in 1836.

When Richard Oglesby married Anna White of Decatur in 1859, her father was said to have given them a home at the southwest corner of West William and Edward. Records show that September 28, 1859, Richard Oglesby purchased at auction for \$2600, lots one through five, Western Addition, from the estate of John Whitney. It is thought that a house built by Whitney in 1857 was part of the purchase. It is presumed that this was the seven-room, two-story frame house later attached to the west end of the larger, presently existing house. This older house became an ell on the newer one, housing kitchen and servants' quarters until it was removed some years later.

The present house was probably built about 1874, after Oglesby's marriage to Emma Gillett Keays in 1873, while he was our United States senator (1873-1879). He has been quoted as saying that the new house was to be his place of retirement following his term in the senate. Sources relate that his four children by his second wife were born "in his handsome new house."

And it is a handsome house, possessing such features of the Italianate style as the low-pitched roof with belvedere or flat deck area at the roof's center, originally with a balustrade around it; overhanging eaves with decorative brackets as supports; grouping of windows; bay windows; and of course, verandas. The unusual, diamond-shaped window lead panes are the original ones. Only the solarium attached to the rear of the house is not original, it having been added about 1952.

On the interior, a vestibule with tile floor leads to a wide, central hall with three-inch alternating strips of walnut and maple flooring. This same type of flooring is in the dining room located on the front west side. In the central hall is one of the mansion's seven fireplaces, and across from it on the east wall is a slightly curving stairway of walnut with a niche in the wall for statuary.

The dining room has white enameled woodwork including the mantel and corner cupboards with mirrored doors. There is a semi-octagonal bay window, and an elaborate chandelier with globes of frosted glass originally lighted by gas.

On the left (east) front of the first floor is a spacious 16 by 30 foot living room with 12-foot ceiling and rectangular bay window.

Behind the parlor at the rear of the mansion is the especially beautiful library with walnut wainscoting, bookcases, mantel, and walnut-framed mirror over it. There is a parquet floor and an intricate ceiling design of walnut and plaster with the ceiling of the semi-octagonal bay window repeating in miniature the ceiling in the main portion of the room. The long, narrow diamond-paned double casement doors on the east originally opened on the veranda. That is where General (former president) U. S. Grant stood on October 6, 1880 to receive the cheers and shouts of the Civil War Union veterans in Decatur for a G.A.R. encampment, with Grant and son Jesse as the Oglesby's house guests.

Oglesby's plan to retire at the close of his senate term changed when he was urged to run for a third time as governor, twenty years after serving his first term. He won, and at the end of his 1885-1889 term, he retired, not to 421 West William, but to Oglehurst, an estate near Elkhart; he had sold the Decatur property March 30, 1882, to James E. Bering, grandfather of E. B. Evans, whose family in March, 1976 sold the property to the Macon County Conservation District which has an agreement with the Governor Oglesby Mansion Corporation, Linley W. Hurtt, president, to operate and restore it as a memorial to Governor Richard J. Oglesby.

Richard James Oglesby

— a chronological listing of some of the important events in his life —

- 1824- Born July 25 in Oldham County, Kentucky, son of Colonel Jacob Oglesby.
1833- Orphaned at age eight in June, when his parents died of cholera.
1833- Saw Uncle Tim, a family slave, sold for \$400 with Dick, aged 9, in tears, promising that some day he'd buy Uncle Tim's freedom. Oglesby later referred to this experience as the beginning of his strong anti-slave feelings.
- 1834-35 Worked in Kentucky for a year at the carpenter's trade.
1836- Brought to Decatur by his uncle, Willis Oglesby, and placed in the care of another uncle, Richard Oglesby, and his wife, "Aunt Judy". Continued his carpentry apprenticeship for six months under a prominent Decatur builder, E. O. Smith. Also worked at farming.
- 1842- Raised hemp one summer, manufacturing the rope that launched Decatur's first flatboat on the Sangamon River. Net earnings for the summer, \$6.50.
1844- Studied law in Springfield under the highly respected Judge Silas Robbins.
1845- Admitted to the bar, practicing law briefly in Sullivan, Illinois.
1846- In war with Mexico, retiring as a first lieutenant after fighting at Vera Cruz and Cerro Gordo.
- 1849- Joined a party of eight Decatur men, including Henry Prather, who was his brother-in-law, E. O. Smith and Samuel Powers in the gold rush. Drove a six-mule team from St. Joseph, Missouri, to Sacramento, California, in ninety-five days.
- 1851- Returned from the trip with \$4500 in gold, purchased Uncle Tim's freedom, and invested some of his gold, plus money from the land warrant received as a soldier in the Mexican War in what would become the Oglesby addition, naming one street Eldorado for the gold mine and another Cerro Gordo for the battle of that name.
- 1853- Formed a law partnership with Sheridan Wait.
1856- Began a twenty-month tour of Europe, Egypt, Arabia and the Holy Land. Saw this trip as a way of securing education in a manner more to his liking than reading or schooling.
- 1857- Gave a series of talks on his travels in Powers Hall, these credited with helping him develop "the wonderful magnetic power of his eloquence". (Jane Johns)
1859- Bought lots 1 through 5, block 5, Western Addition, with an 1857 house on it built by John Whitney. Was said to have been a wedding gift from the father of his bride, Anna White of Decatur.
- 1860- On May 6th, Oglesby presented the slogan "Lincoln the railsplitter for President", to the Illinois Republican Convention meeting in Decatur's temporary wigwam. Under Oglesby's skillful guidance, Lincoln received the Illinois convention's overwhelming endorsement of Lincoln for the presidency. The following week in Chicago, Oglesby assisted in the same, at the National Republican Convention.
- 1860- Elected to the state senate.
1861- Resigned as state senator to begin service in the Civil War. Chosen colonel of the Eighth Illinois Regiment, the first regiment to be tendered in Illinois.
1862- Promoted to Brigadier-General on April 1, 1862 in recognition of valor at the Battle of Fort Donelson. Shot through the lung at the Battle of Corinth. Commissioned Major General (November, 1865).
1863- Assigned to the Sixteenth Army Corps, still suffering from the bullet he carried and would carry for the rest of his life. Tried to resign but General Grant detailed him to court martial duty in Washington, D.C.
1864- Returned to Decatur in May to recuperate and later to become a candidate for governor. Elected to a term 1865-68.
1865- On January 17th, sworn in quietly as governor of Illinois, the inauguration delayed by the death of his five-year old son, Dickie.
1865- Jan. 31 - Led the Illinois legislature in this state's becoming the first in the nation to ratify the 13th amendment to the U. S. constitution, abolishing slavery.
1865- April 15 - At Lincoln's deathbed.
1865- May 11 - Made president of an association to secure funds and erect a suitable monument to Lincoln in Springfield's Oak Ridge Cemetery.
- 1868- Mrs. Anna White Oglesby died in the governor's mansion. Buried in Greenwood Cemetery, Decatur, near son Dickie. (May 16)
1872- Elected to second term as governor. Resigned eight days later when elected U. S. senator by the state legislature. Senate term - 1872-1879.
1873- November 18 - Married Emma Gillett Keays in Elkhart, Illinois.
1874- October 15 - Lincoln's monument in Springfield dedicated, Oglesby giving the oration with President U. S. Grant and cabinet in the audience.
- 1880- October 6, 7 - Entertained General Grant at 421 West William while Grant was in Decatur as honored guest and speaker at a national G.A.R. encampment. (The Grand Army of the Republic had been founded in Decatur April 6, 1866, an organization of Union soldiers in the Civil War).
1882- March 30 - 421 West William sold by Oglesby to James E. Bering, a founder of the Chambers, Bering and Quinlan Company.
1885- Inaugurated to a 3rd term as governor, twenty years after his first term.
1889- Retired from political life, living at his Oglehurst estate near Elkhart, Illinois, until his death in 1899.

By the Way — by Otto R. Kyle 2-3-65

DECATUR'S special school charter will be 100 years old this month. The bill for the special charter was introduced in the Illinois Legislature by Isaac C. Pugh of Decatur then serving as a state representative.

It passed both houses and was approved by Gov. Richard J. Oglesby of Decatur on Feb. 16, 1865. The charter provided for a school board of three members and the first board was composed of William L. Hammer, David P. Bunn and Caleb C. Burroughs.

Our 'Most Distinguished Citizen'

By Rex Spires

Of the Herald and Review Staff

Today marks the 100th anniversary of Richard J. Oglesby's first inauguration as governor of Illinois.

Often called "Decatur's most distinguished citizen," Oglesby was a U. S. senator for one term, rose to the rank of major general in the Civil War and was the only man elected governor of Illinois three times.

His life ended as it had begun — in tragedy. But, in between, he was a part of more leading events of his time and had more honors heaped upon him than Walter Mitty ever dreamed of experiencing or accomplishing.

Oglesby was a close friend of Abraham Lincoln and is credited with one of the most dazzling bits of showmanship in American political history. It occurred in Decatur and is considered to have been the impetus that gave Lincoln his first boost toward the presidency.

The state convention was to be held here and Oglesby's aim was to rally the delegates to pledge the state to Lincoln.

He recalled Lincoln's prowess at splitting rails, went to see John Hanks who still lived in the vicinity and asked him whether any of the rails they had split were still in existence.

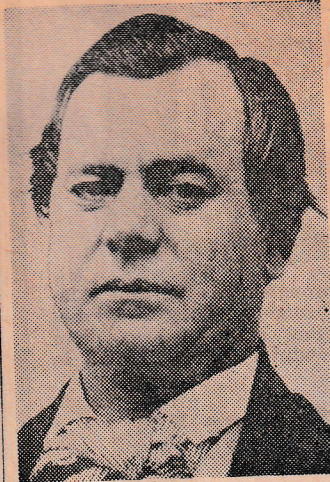
Hanks remembered a fence he and Lincoln had built on a farm west of Decatur with rails split from locust and black walnut logs. He and Oglesby went to the farm, gathered some of the rails and hid them in Oglesby's barn.

A week later, at a strategic moment in the state convention, Oglesby rose and announced that a former Democrat desired to make a contribution. At that point, Hanks appeared on the stage carrying the rails he and Lincoln had split in 1830.

'Railsplitter Candidate'

The rails bore a large sign which read, "Abraham Lincoln, the Railsplitter Candidate for President in 1860." The convention went wild, William H. Seward's forces were snowed under and Illinois, then and there, went on record for Lincoln.

Oglesby's scheme was so popular that it continued with Hanks and his rails becoming



Richard J. Oglesby

a feature of political gatherings everywhere. "Abe Lincoln, the Railsplitter" became a national political slogan.

His work during and following the 1860 Republican convention won him a state senator's position. However, fate intervened as the Civil War broke out and he resigned from the Senate to head the 8th Illinois Regiment as colonel.

Oglesby's valiant leadership at Fort Donelson brought him promotion to brigadier general. Shot through the lung in a battle at Corinth, he returned to Decatur to recover.

When he resumed his duties with the Union forces, it was as a major general. He attempted to resign in July, 1863, but Gen. U. S. Grant refused the resignation and assigned him to court martial duty in Washington.

In May, 1864, he was able to resign his commission to accept the nomination for governor of Illinois, which he won handily.

Not much is written about his inauguration, except the scheduled date was moved back to Jan. 17 because of the death of his son, Dicky, who died of diphtheria. He ran for governor again in 1873 and won, but was elected to the U. S. Senate by the Illinois Legislature.

Oglesby only served 10 days of his administration before leaving for Washington and the Senate. He retired to Decatur after serving six years in the Senate.

Coaxed out of retirement by friends, he won the governorship for the third time in 20 years in 1884. In 1889, he retired finally from political life.

Although not born in Decatur, Oglesby spent his youth and gained his maturity here. It was his home during the most stirring events of his life and his home when he achieved his greatest honors.

He built the house at 421 W. William St. and lived there many years.

Orphaned at an early age by a cholera epidemic which swept Oldham County, Ky., his death was equally as tragic. He died April 24, 1889 at the age of 76. He fell at his home in Elkhart, north of Springfield, striking his head against a piece of furniture. The fall caused a concussion and his death within an hour.

Probably because Decatur was not his last home, the city has done relatively little to perpetuate his name. A school was named for him, comprising about the only concrete retention of the Oglesby tradition.

DICK OGLESBY CRIED AT SALE OF SLAVE.

Telling How He Came to Decatur, Studied Law, Found Gold, and Kept a Promise Made in Childhood.

When "Uncle Tim" was sold down in Kentucky, an eight year old boy cried bitter tears, and vowed that when he grew to be a man he would buy him back again and set him free. Then and there that boy was against slavery and he remained an ardent abolitionist all the rest of his life.

"Uncle Tim" was a slave sold when Jacob Oglesby died in Oldham County, Ky., in 1833. His wife, Isabella Watson, died about the same time. His son Woodford and his daughter Isabella also died. All of them were victims of the cholera epidemic that swept the country in 1833. Two sons and four daughters were orphaned by this scourge. One of these two sons was called Dick, but his real name was Richard James Oglesby and before he died he was universally known as Decatur's most distinguished citizen and one of the greatest men that have ever lived in Illinois.

SOLD FOR \$400.

Jacob Oglesby had a small plantation and slaves and was able to provide for his wife and family of eight in a comfortable but modest manner, until his death. But he had not been able to lay by any money and he had some debts. After what property he left had been sold under the law's hammer, and the slave sold for \$400 was about to be led away by his new master, that Uncle Tim, who had been sniffing over behind a tree, ran to the big black man and, throwing his arms around him, choked out between sobs, "I'll buy you back some day, Uncle Tim. You just wait and see. Some day when I'm a man I'll set you free."

And Uncle Tim lifted him up in his strong arms and kissed his bear-stained face and said:

"Thanks, Marse Dick. You're a good boy and dis nigger hates to leave you. But don't you mind and don't you bother. You're poor and you'll never have money enough to buy me back. You'll have all you can do to keep a shirt on your back and bread in your stumstick. Good-bye, Marse Dick."

TO DECATUR IN 1835.

Three years went by, and their uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Willis Oglesby, Dick and his sisters, Amanda and Opabella, came to Decatur. Dick's education had been "very sketchy," as he used to say in later years. He had learned to read and write, back in Kentucky, and that was about all. He was just an ignorant eleven-year-old boy, happy-go-lucky, free from care, ate hunted and fished, played ball, and had fist-fights. There were several other boys in Decatur at that time, and some of them were tougher than young Oglesby. But he was always the leader in their boyish pranks and wild adventures. He had a quick brain and "a gift of gab," and the others usually followed him.

LEARNED CARPENTRY.

Except for one trip to Terre Haute in 1833, he lived in Decatur until he was seventeen, when he went back to Kentucky to learn the carpenter's trade. In 1842 he returned to Decatur and worked as a carpenter and at farming for a couple of years. At the end of one season's hard work on the Macon county farm he found that he had gained \$6.50, that being his share in the crop. His share

in "slaves." He went to Steve W. Robbins in Springfield and asked for the loan of a corner and some books so that he could study law. He was admitted to the bar in 1843, and he hung out his shingle in Kevilvan.

OFF TO WAR.

When war broke out on the Texas border, (his young lawyer was among the first to enlist, and he signed up at Decatur. He was elected First Lieutenant of Company C, Fourth Illinois Regiment, with K. D. Baker as colonel. They marched away and Lieutenant Oglesby served out the term of his enlistment, was honorably discharged and headed straight back to Decatur. Here he practiced law for one year, but he soon felt the need of more education and went to law school in Louisville, Kentucky, where he was granted a diploma after a year's study.

KEEPS HIS PROMISE.

It was back again to Decatur in the spring of 1845, just as the gold rush began, and he joined the migration to California. He was successful as a miner during two years, and when he returned to Decatur about the close of 1851 he was ahead \$4,500 in gold.

For two years Oglesby practiced law in Decatur. But before he had been here long he remembered "Uncle Tim," and long with went back to Kentucky and located the "black man, now grown old and somewhat bowed by the years of slavery. He sought him back and set him free.

When he told Uncle Tim that he had kept his vow, that good soul said:

"By God! By God! Has the little orphan boy lived to buy me and set me free?"

And he put his arms around Dick Oglesby and tried to lift him as in the old days.

"You can't lift me any more, Uncle Tim," said Dick Oglesby, and there were tears running down his cheeks but no other tears had done those many years back.

Dick Oglesby, the grown man, had made good on an orphan boy's promise and had come to be strong enough to lift his old friend out of slavery.

(More about Dick Oglesby will be told in the next chapter, tomorrow.)

PRODUCE BOAT.

The only satisfaction he got out of this business venture was the knowledge that his being broken by his own machine and wrecked on his own walk, was the rope with which the first fat boat on the Sangamon River was launched. The whole population of Decatur lined the banks when this boat, laden with Illinois country produce, was cast off. The fat boat went down the Sangamon to the Illinois river and thence to the Mississippi, and finally reached New Orleans.

The wise heads and the even backs were jubilant. They recalled the prophecy made by Abe Lincoln back in 1830 when he stood in front of the cotton gin in the village of Decatur and said:

"The Sangamon river will some day be a navigable stream up to the mouth of the world."

STUDIES LAW.

It is related that when he was sixteen, Dick Oglesby heard some of the Lincoln and Douglas debates, held in the Masonic hall

some. Maybe his business venture was the turning point in his career. At any rate, he often said that Lincoln's example had inspired him when he was a boy, and soon after the incident of the hemp crop, young Oglesby decided to study law and

NORTH WATER STREET IN 1836.



When Dick Oglesby came to Decatur as a boy there were but two buildings on what is now the bustling thoroughfare of North Water street—P. D. Williams' log cabin residence at the southwest corner of Main and Water streets, and the Macon county jail, a block away, on the southwest corner of

Dec. 28, 1923

The Story Of Decatur

By E. B. Hitchcock

CHAPTER 27.

INVESTED IN BOOKS.

Oglesby Surprised Everybody by Going Abroad, Entered Politics and Came Out of Civil War a Major General.

From the time he came to Decatur, Dick Oglesby had realized that he lacked education. He read books, when he was a boy, but books were not numerous in Decatur. "Uncle Billy" Warnick had a few standard volumes, but William L. Powers had not brought his extensive library to Decatur until 1850. As a lawyer, Oglesby had gathered a few necessary volumes together and he had read many books in Springfield and in Louisville. But, when he came back to Decatur after the profitable trip to California, he had considerable capital for those days and he invested part of it in books.

In 1835 Richard Oglesby and Sherman Wait formed a law partnership, and they had a pretty good library between them.

KNOWLEDGE GREW.

For five years Oglesby continued to practice law in Decatur and he did well, although he always said he was not cut out for a lawyer. All the time Mr. Oglesby was reading everything he could lay his hands on. Gradually his general fund of information grew and with it came back his old desire to see more of the world and to know how other people lived.

Then it was that Oglesby astonished his friends by announcing that he was going abroad, and he rather excused himself with his boon companions by saying that a year's trip of this kind would make up for his lack of an academic college education.

HIS TRIP ABROAD.

Oglesby entered his school of travel in April, 1850, when he began his tour of Europe, Egypt, Palestine, Arabia and Asia Minor. He cruised across the Holy land and when he came back to Decatur he brought with him two bottles of water from the River Jordan, with which his children were subsequently christened. He liked to tell that he first committed to memory the commandments on Mount Sinai.

This trip did more to establish Dick Oglesby as a personage than any other previous experience. He attracted immediate respect in this community. They came from long distances to hear his first public address, "A Lecture on the Holy Land," in Decatur, held on East Main street. He had to rush to get that first night when the meeting was adjourned to the following night, and resulted in a series of travel talks—the first of the kind in central Illinois—and made Dick Oglesby famous and the most popular speaker of these parts. The importance of this trip should never be over-

estimated as one of the most vital assets in Oglesby's career.

POLITICAL ADVANCES.

Evidence of his increased popularity was given in 1858 when Oglesby's political activities began when he made the race for Congress against Robinson. He succeeded in reducing the Democratic majority in the district from 4,000 to 1,900. Then in 1860 he was nominated and elected to the state senate, his election being the turning point in effecting a Republican majority in the upper house, for the first time.

GENERAL OGLESBY.

As soon as the first call for troops came in April, 1861, Oglesby resigned his seat in the senate. How he was elected colonel of the Eighth Regiment of Illinois Volunteer Infantry, commanded 4,000 men sent from Bird's Point to Bloomfield, Mo.; first entered Fort Henry at the head of his brigade in February, 1862; was appointed brigadier general by Lincoln for gallantry at Fort Donelson; was badly wounded in the lungs at Corinth—all this is part of the Civil war history that needs no detailed repetition in this account.

HIS FIRST HOME.

Before he was elected to the state senate, Richard J. Oglesby and Anna E. White were married in 1852. She was the daughter of Joseph White and lived where the First Presbyterian church now stands. The wounded general was brought back to his family in Decatur to recuperate in the home which Dr. Joseph King had built at the southwest corner of William and Edward streets, where the residence of the late Henry McCall now occupies the ground. The house then there was given by Joseph White to his daughter on her marriage. It was not until January, 1863, that General Oglesby could visit the state capital and accept the urgent invitation to make a speech about the war in the house of representatives.

President Lincoln promoted Ogles-



RICHARD J. OGLESBY

As he looked when he returned to Decatur as a major general of the Union army in 1862.

by to the rank of major general of volunteers, to rank as such from Nov. 23, 1862. He received his commission in July, 1863, but this was not accepted. Unable to continue his services in combat, he was made president of the general court of the state in Washington from December, 1863, to May, 1864.

AT LINCOLN'S DEATH.

General Oglesby arrived in Washington on the Good Friday on which President Lincoln was assassinated. He called at one of the White House, arriving just as the president and Mrs. Lincoln were starting out for a drive. He declined an invitation to drive with them and leered off from going to the theater with them that night. He made an appointment to meet President Lincoln the following morning and then retired to his hotel and was to bed fagged out with his journey. From that bed he was summoned to the deathbed of his chief, and was present there when Lincoln breathed his last.

Be it remembered that Richard J. Oglesby was president of the National Lincoln Memorial Association and of the Illinois delegation at that memorial in Springfield, Oct. 11, 1874. The Springfield Journal says:

"There comes a prouder propriety that Lincoln's sacred head and osseous, the eloquent and sympathetic Oglesby, should deliver the oration, and that the president and the cabinet should lead dignify by their presence to an occasion which will soon become historic."

Oglesby's career as governor and United States senator will be told to-

The Story Of Decatur

By E. B. Hitchcock

CHAPTER 23.

ALWAYS LOVED DECATUR

Governor Oglesby Was Unspoiled By His Popularity and Successes—Speeches Here Were Chats With Old Friends.

Three times elected Governor of Illinois and serving for six years as United States Senator from Illinois, is a political record of which any man may well be proud—and this was the record of Richard J. Oglesby. He was inaugurated for the third time as governor in 1885, and at the expiration of that term retired to the broad acres surrounding his home, called "Oglesby" at Elkhart, Illinois, where he died April 24, 1898, more widely loved than any other Illinoian of his time, except his good friend, Abraham Lincoln.

COMMUNITY LOSS.

It was this writer's high privilege to know Governor Oglesby in his later years, when he was a frequent visitor to the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. Edward Bering, 421 West William street, which was built by the governor and the second Mrs. Oglesby about 1898.

It is easy enough to recall the feeling of personal loss that swept throughout Decatur when it was announced that "Uncle Dick" Oglesby was dead. He had come here as a boy, he had made himself a part of the community life, his great capacity for friendship and his whole-hearted interest in everybody who came to Decatur endeared him to everyone. He used to say, "Oh, yes, I'm living somewhere else now, but Decatur was my first love!"

HE CAME TO TALK.

As a small boy, I went to hear a speech by the governor, which had no special political significance, but was just a sort of a conference with his Decatur friends. He simply stood in front of his audience and talked with the folks he knew, calling them by their first names and recalling incidents of their early days together right here in Macon county. He told stories, and everybody enjoyed them. He cursed a little. He wasn't a "distinguished visitor" for a minute—just one of us. Of what is today called eloquence there was no great amount, although he could be wonderfully eloquent, but there was the appeal of sympathy and sentiment and real human interest throughout, and that great gift of using vivid words.

One old fellow who had been sitting close by got up and went and covering his head and interrupting the speaker with the exclamation:

"You gotta go home, Dick. I've gotta' pretty old to stay up late nights. But I had to come just for a little while to make sure that you hadn't forgotten your old friends here and how to crack a joke and how to ease a tickle. Well, you ain't! Goodnight!"

NEVER FORGOT.

In his later years of affluence and prominence, Governor Oglesby forgot no detail of his early life in Decatur, nor did he ever mention that period of poverty and struggle without paying tribute to his beloved "Aunt Judy." She was the wife of Willis Oglesby, and she mothered Dick Oglesby and his sisters, after the death of their parents. She lived to see that hard-scram boy, grown to manhood, chosen by the people of Illinois as their governor; and she said to him once, "Well, Dick, I always thought you had it in you, but I often wondered if you'd ever get it out!"

FIRST FAMILY.

Anna White Oglesby died in the governor's mansion in Springfield June 15, 1868, and her body was brought back to Decatur, where it lies beside two infant children in Greenwood cemetery. She left two other children, Olive and Robert. Both are living. Mrs. Olive Oglesby



"AUNT JUDY" OGLESBY

Richard Oglesby's niece and mother in Decatur, and was widely loved and respected.

Under making her home with a daughter in Tulsa, Okla., but now on a trip around the world, and Robert Oglesby is living in New York, having made a considerable fortune in the Oklahoma oil fields some years ago.

SECOND MARRIAGE.

In 1878 Governor Oglesby married the second Mrs. Mary Ann, nee Legan, daughter of the late John Dean Legan, Legan county's wealthy cattle baron. That marriage proved true after his starting in the United States senate, which had some years after his second inauguration as governor. The second Mrs. Oglesby enjoyed living in Decatur, where her social graces and brilliant personal charms made her many friends. There they entertained with beautiful hospitality all the notable men and women who came to Decatur. Grant and Legan were frequent visitors there.

SON IS PROMINENT.

One son of the governor and his second wife, named for him, died several years ago. Another son, John D. G. Oglesby, has served the state as lieutenant governor and is now running the Oglesby estate at Elkhart and having his word to say in state politics. Miss Felicitie Oglesby and Jasper Oglesby are the other living children, residing at Elkhart. (To Be Continued.)

The Daily Republican.

HAMSHER & MOSSER, Publishers.

DECATUR, ILLINOIS: Saturday Evening, June 21.

National Republican Ticket.

For President, RUTHERFORD B. HAYES, of Ohio. For Vice President, WILLIAM A. WHEELER, of New York.

Republican State Ticket.

For Governor, SHELBY M. CULLUM, of Sangamon. For Lieutenant Governor, ANDREW SHERMAN, of Clark.

For Secretary of State, THOMAS B. SWANSON, of DeWitt. For Auditor of Public Accounts, THOMAS B. SWANSON, of DeWitt.

We are informed that Mr. Manly, one of the delegates from this district to the St. Louis convention, is an ardent advocate of the nomination of Judge Davis, and that therefore we were in error, yesterday, in guessing that he favored somebody else.

That republican candidate for the Vice Presidency is the author of the "Wheeler Compromise," the basis of settlement in Louisiana. He said, in an explanation of this measure:

"And now a closing word—the result of my personal observation in the South. We of the North delude ourselves in expecting that the masses of the South, so far behind us in many of the attributes of enlightened improvement and civilization, are, in the brief period of ten or fifteen years, to be transformed into our model Northern communities. That can only come through a long course of patient waiting, in which no one can have set certain bounds. There will be a good deal of unavoidable friction, which will call for forbearance, and which will have to be relieved by the temperate, fostering care of Government. One of the most potent if not indispensable agencies in this direction will be the devising of some system to aid in the education of the masses."

See column 2, next page

OGLESBY

Our readers will be glad to read the following report of Senator Oglesby's remarks at the great ratification meeting in Washington last Monday evening:

"I will discharge in a few moments, the pleasing duty devolving upon me to night, and then relieve you. Illinois hands over the banner of the Republic to the gallant state of Ohio. The speaker then referred in eloquent terms to the retiring executive, Ulysses S. Grant—one assaulted as no man has been in American history. His war-time with the love of his countrymen, and with the consciousness that his country needs him with grief and honor. That he is to be relieved of the great state of Ohio. Many friends of other distinguished men will be disappointed at their disengagement, but the delayed assistance are great and will be given to the nation."

...the result of my personal observation in the South. We of the North delude ourselves in expecting that the masses of the South, so far behind us in many of the attributes of enlightened improvement and civilization, are, in the brief period of ten or fifteen years, to be transformed into our model Northern communities. That can only come through a long course of patient waiting, in which no one can have set certain bounds. There will be a good deal of unavoidable friction, which will call for forbearance, and which will have to be relieved by the temperate, fostering care of Government. One of the most potent if not indispensable agencies in this direction will be the devising of some system to aid in the education of the masses."

HOME LIFE

Rutherford B. Hayes in His Family Relations—A Charming Picture of the Next President's Domestic Life.

(Special Correspondence Ind. Journal.) CINCINNATI, O., June 20.

The public services of Rutherford B. Hayes, and his convictions on the important topics now interesting and dividing the country, have been duly set forth. But there are, after all, two sides to a man's character. He might be a fine soldier and a renegade in social life. He might be a consistently firm and incorrupt executive, and still be vulnerable in his habits. What kind of a man is Governor Hayes in the quiet, domestic, social concerns of life? In brief, he is a model. View him in any light, and his life shines as a beacon and a guide.

He will be remembered, his name brought forward by all the States in convention, his influence broad and potent, associate of many great men, and your correspondents know that his name will give an important position in the country.

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TELEGRAMS

More Cabinet

MR. JEWELL TO

History of the Caldwell Tel

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The St. Louis C

CONGRESSIO

St. Louis, June 21. ...the result of my personal observation in the South. We of the North delude ourselves in expecting that the masses of the South, so far behind us in many of the attributes of enlightened improvement and civilization, are, in the brief period of ten or fifteen years, to be transformed into our model Northern communities. That can only come through a long course of patient waiting, in which no one can have set certain bounds. There will be a good deal of unavoidable friction, which will call for forbearance, and which will have to be relieved by the temperate, fostering care of Government. One of the most potent if not indispensable agencies in this direction will be the devising of some system to aid in the education of the masses."

Daily Republican June 21, 1876

Called Decatur's "Most Distinguished Citizen"

24 (36) 16

Richard J. Oglesby Received Many Honors—Impressions of Fellow-Lawyer.

(Eleventh in series of articles on early members Decatur bar.)

Decatur's most distinguished citizen, he has been called; lawyer, architect, traveler, soldier, and statesman. He was a veteran of two wars, rising from the rank of first lieutenant to that of major general. He was three times governor of Illinois, once United States senator, and wore other honors. Naturally he has been much written about and there is no danger that he will fade from the minds of Decatur people. But Judge Davidson's memoirs of early lawyers would be incomplete without an account of him and we are pleased to have the story told by one who knew him personally. Judge Davidson writes:

The first time I ever saw Oglesby was back in the 50's. He was a lawyer, he had been a soldier in the Mexican war, he had gone to California with the gold rush—bringing back with him a comfortable fortune—and he had at that time but lately returned from a trip to Egypt and the Holy Land.

IN DEMAND AS SPEAKER.

At that time even to look upon a man who had made such a journey was an event. When Oglesby returned from this tour he was in great demand as a speaker. He was invited out to Mt. Zion to speak on his travels and he entertained the audience for perhaps one and a half hours with the story of his tour.

ADAM'S VARIOUS GRAVES.

I remember he told of seeing the grave of Adam in at least three or four different places and at each place its genuineness was fully vouched for. He described the method of travel of the Egyptians. They went from place to place on burros or donkeys and it was astonishing, he said, what loads these animals could carry. He measured on his hand a space of about six inches and said that there was about that much of the animal's head and tail in sight when the donkey was loaded. He spoke of looking into the sepulcher where Christ was laid after the crucifixion. Of course his recollection was interesting from being

READY TO FIGHT.

My impression is that Oglesby came originally from Kentucky. He was a man of rather large frame, a bit corpulent, but of fine physique. He was genial, fond of a good story and had a great repertory of stories of his own which he had gathered here and there. Some of them were a bit of color, but that made little difference to Oglesby. As a lawyer he was not of the sort that digs legal information from precedents. But he was a fine contender for his points and he resisted personal attacks with his fists if his opponents had the temerity to attack him.

As an illustration, he was at one time trying a suit against one U. F. Linder, whose reputation as a great criminal lawyer extended far and wide. Linder in his comments would often become personal. In this case speaking on some point made by Oglesby, he rose to his toes and with appropriate gesture exclaimed: "Great God! What a mass of beef and onions!" This sally precipitated a fight in the court room. They were separated and both lawyers were ordered by the court to apologize.

ROSE RAPIDLY.

In conversation Oglesby was often profane and I have heard him use oaths in making public speeches. Particularly was this so during the tension of the Civil War. When the war broke out in 1861 Oglesby responded for service early and recruited the 8th regiment under the first call of the president. He rose to distinction rapidly and soon became a brigadier general and later a major general. At the battle of Corinth he was severely wounded, a minnie ball passing through his lung. His wonderful vitality and excellent medical attention brought him to recovery. He then was discharged from the service and came home.

In the fall of 1863 the Democrats of Ohio made C. L. Valandigham their candidate for governor of the State. He had caused great excitement throughout the north by his secession utterances in congress.

CALLED HIM TRAITOR.

That fall a mass meeting of Democrats was held in Long Creek, where Hon. John E. Eden of Sullivan was the speaker.

On that same day a meeting of Unionists was held in Sullivan and General Oglesby and Captain J. S. Post were the speakers. In returning to Decatur they took the route that brought them by the Eden meeting. It was largely attended and while Eden was speaking there were a lot of roughnecks on the road. Some man when he saw Oglesby and Post driving by in their buggy stopped their horse, Oglesby rose to his feet and delivered himself as follows: "Any man who will shout for Valandingham is a G—d—n traitor."

CHEERS FOR UNION.

I saw and heard this and for once I was scared. Revolvers were drawn on every hand and I expected nothing else but that he would be killed, but Oglesby was equal to the occasion. He asked the crowd for silence and told them that Eden and his were friends, and to go back and hear what he had to say. Jesse Vowell and his son Albert pushed their way through the crowd, took hold of the horse's reins and led Oglesby and Post out of the crowd. Then Oglesby rose and said: "Now let's have three cheers for the Union," and some bystander added "and for the constitution," and they were given with a will.

SAW LINCOLN.

The only sight I ever had of Abraham Lincoln was when he and Oglesby, who had been to a rally in Sullivan, were driving by my home on their way back to Decatur. That fall pictures had been seen in many Lincoln pictures was in evidence on that occasion.

GOVERNOR THREE TIMES.

Oglesby was three times governor of Illinois and he made a fine executive officer. He was once elected to the United States senate and served a term in that office. He once said: "When I entered the United States senate I looked about me and wondered how it happened that I ever got there, but I hadn't been there a great while till I wondered how any of us ever got there."

It was while I was a law student in the office of William E. Nelson that I got to know Oglesby best. He often came into the office and chatted with us and told some of his stories. While doing so he would take his pocket knife from his pocket and say: "Davidson, I wish you would whet my knife to a sharp edge," which I always did.

BURN WAS VEXED.

He was concerned in some way in the settlement of the estate of one of the Prathers and he employed Brower Bunn to make up his report for the county court. Evidently he had not been careful in preserving his papers and receipts concerning the estate. While Bunn would be trying to whip matters into shape Oglesby would be out in search of some paper. He would say: "Well, I know I have it somewhere and I will look it up." One time as he left the office Bunn was sorely vexed and exclaimed: "Yow, yow, yow! That man would confuse Jesus Christ." Macon county, the state of Illinois, and for that matter the entire nation will do honor to the name and memory of Richard J. Oglesby. On the 21st day of April, 1869, Governor Oglesby answered the call that all men and women will have to answer sooner or later, and he was laid away by loving hands.

Death—
April 24, 1899

(saved 2 terms)

Appointed

From Oglesby Public Library

TWO REUNION.

A Sketch of the First Day and its Characteristics.

Great Crowds—Enthusiastic and Cordial Greetings—Decorations, Notes, Etc.

The first day of the reunion was ushered in with the booming of cannon. The excitement and enthusiasm began early and continued with comparative vigor throughout the day. Heavy teams brought soldiers and wagons from all over the city to the highway bearing old soldiers and veterans who came to "fill the ranks." The scene on the street presented an interesting and unusual display of military and domestic life. Many greetings, friendly glances and kind words were exchanged. The day was a day of rejoicing and reunion. The streets were filled with a happy throng of old soldiers and their families. The day was a day of reunion and joy.

IN THE MORNINGS

The morning was a day of reunion and joy. The streets were filled with a happy throng of old soldiers and their families. The day was a day of reunion and joy. The streets were filled with a happy throng of old soldiers and their families. The day was a day of reunion and joy.

IN THE AFTERNOON

The afternoon was a day of reunion and joy. The streets were filled with a happy throng of old soldiers and their families. The day was a day of reunion and joy. The streets were filled with a happy throng of old soldiers and their families. The day was a day of reunion and joy.

The evening was a day of reunion and joy. The streets were filled with a happy throng of old soldiers and their families. The day was a day of reunion and joy. The streets were filled with a happy throng of old soldiers and their families. The day was a day of reunion and joy.

courted by the Decatur Grenadiers, and immediately followed by the Guards. The Decatur band, equipped with Paris Light Infantry, Paris band, Decatur drum corps, Taylorville Company K, Oakland Guards, and companies in great number followed in the rear. The procession proceeded up Edwards street to Water, thence south on Water to Main, thence west to the Old Square, thence North to France, thence west to Illinois, and thence north to General Ogden's residence. Here the march halted for a few minutes, but was proceeded on to the house of General Ogden, where Gen. John A. Ogden and his wife were to be entertained. All those who were invited to the reunion were present.

The Decatur band, equipped with Paris Light Infantry, Paris band, Decatur drum corps, Taylorville Company K, Oakland Guards, and companies in great number followed in the rear. The procession proceeded up Edwards street to Water, thence south on Water to Main, thence west to the Old Square, thence North to France, thence west to Illinois, and thence north to General Ogden's residence. Here the march halted for a few minutes, but was proceeded on to the house of General Ogden, where Gen. John A. Ogden and his wife were to be entertained. All those who were invited to the reunion were present.

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representation present, but often veterans are seen wending about in a vain search for some of the old comrades. It is a sad fact, which should be noted, that numbers of the old defenders of the flag are one by one dropping from the ranks never to return. As every reunion some have an interesting and the time is not far distant when the last soldier of the great civil war will have told his story. But though they may part from the flag of the earth, their paths will still ever be set many a peaceful heart with its blue veins be filled with the love of the Republic.

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because she was in trouble at one time determined to take an antidote.

The Post-Office

At about half-past ten yesterday afternoon a young man, carrying the money of the post office, pulled down a carriage, and made some noise in the street, and a man by the name of John L. Lytle, seeing a man just as if he were making off with the money, he ran after him and called out to him, but he ran on, and he was not seen again. The amount of money was about \$1000. It is thought that the man who was seen running off with the money was the same man who was seen running off with the money in the city of Decatur, Mo., in the month of August, 1879.

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only authorized in this city. boarding houses of this week! or fried, at plain station- te P. O. of candy from the city to buy clothing & Oct. e and on the 2 days every decision in the French and English. The Decatur band, equipped with Paris Light Infantry, Paris band, Decatur drum corps, Taylorville Company K, Oakland Guards, and companies in great number followed in the rear. The procession proceeded up Edwards street to Water, thence south on Water to Main, thence west to the Old Square, thence North to France, thence west to Illinois, and thence north to General Ogden's residence. Here the march halted for a few minutes, but was proceeded on to the house of General Ogden, where Gen. John A. Ogden and his wife were to be entertained. All those who were invited to the reunion were present.

To have any by firing up a...

Store for your
None better
to receive his
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system of deliv-
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From
column
previous
page

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There was no regular procession
military, milit-
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labor; and the result was that the stars and stripes were unfurled everywhere, the decorations were complete, giving a satisfaction to strangers because of their beauty, and to citizens because the work had been well and nobly done.

Dewey's cornet band, consisting of 21 musicians, arrived from Clinton in the morning, and played martial music as it came up from the depot. The Decatur band turned out in the afternoon, looking fine in its new uniforms, and discoursed music until three for the occasion when the members went to the depot. In the procession on the way to the General October's residence.

The public schools were decorated at twelve o'clock yesterday, and the scholars were granted a day and a half of vacation in which to enjoy the reunion celebration.

A committee consisting of Captain Henry Howard Ogilby, James Mitchell, H. H. H. and W. C. Johns went to Elwood yesterday noon to meet General Grant and accompany him from that village to Decatur.

B. J. Black, commander of the cavalry, announced that there will be a great deal of horses and saddles, and that all who can furnish riding hats are requested to bring them to the infirmary. The saddles were examined and returned to the owners undamaged. Good care of my horse is guaranteed.

Chicago, train
A lot of bun-
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the crowd became ever
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was were pitched on the fair grounds and by last evening they were all occupied. They are clustered in groups and as far as possible members of the same regiment inhabit the same camp. The tents are nearly all pitched on the north side of the ground.

The usual number of side-shows and catch-penny devices are doing a flourishing business. The amphitheater is well decorated, and a stand built up for musicians and speakers. A large number of veterans make their headquarters on the ground, and

DRAWING THE RATIONS

from the commissary department makes an interesting scene. The committee of subsistence occupy the exhibition building, and deal out the provisions from the south door. At supper time last evening the door was thronged with hungry veterans, some eagerly hastening up to the entrance with their skillets in their hands and some going away with arms full of substantial food. Inside the building the atmosphere would have made a hungry man frantic. On half a dozen counters were standing boilers of coffee. In the opposite corner of the room a pile of meat and chickens heaped up from a counter and near by was a remarkable composed of loaves of bread. Beyond the staff of life, a grove of tin dishes glistened in the candle light. A man hurries up from the door and exclaims, "rations for twelve men," whereupon twelve huge lumps of beef are wrapped in a paper and twelve loaves of bread are counted out. The "vets" surely get enough to eat and that of a good quality. The committee issue, besides bread and beef, coffee, dippers, potatoes, cocoa, and sugar. Some of the more fortunate ones received a meal of fried chicken. As the shadows of evening fell, the camp presented a lively appearance. Knots of men gathered about the camp fires and renewed old recollections, as they sipped their coffee or smoked their pipes. The younger and more hilarious portion—and there were a good many young last night whose heads were white with years—indulged in the old fashioned war tricks. The air was filled with their shouts and songs. Occasionally a shrill life or the beat of a drum would rise above the din. A load of straw made its appearance on the ground and was at once made the object of a race from all quarters. In less time than it takes to write it, the towering load had disappeared. A company of Paris boys are encamped on the south side of the entrance road. They are fine looking fellows, and seem to be bound to have the best time possible.

The tents were all comfortably furnished with straw and blankets, but very little sleeping was done during the night. Stealing into a neighbor's tent on a foraging expedition, kicking a new hat and numerous other old camp tricks served to enliven the hours until the gray morning foretold the coming day.

Some regiments have a fair sized

Some regiments have a fair sized

Some regiments have a fair sized

partisan character, and gave universal satisfaction. The meeting adjourned to meet in Edgingham, October 8, 1887.

NOTES

The Decatur Guards made a fine appearance in the Grant procession. As they came across Old Square they were a handsome sight.

A drum corps of veterans handled the sticks with as much energy and precision as any of the boys.

The 21st, Grant's regiment, expected to have the first place in the procession which escorted the ex-president. They justly complain because they were given a position so near the rear of the line.

The most demonstrative drum major we have ever seen, accompanied the Oakland band. His absurd postures are not noticed by his followers, and only serve to excite the amusement of the children.

The hackmen are happy. They have for a week past, with the exception of last night.

The meat for the veterans is supplied and cooked by the army.

To-day no teams will be allowed to enter the fair grounds.

A large number of new articles are expected to-day.

A New in a Week.

Two men, one named William and the other named John, were seen in the bank yesterday. Both were under the influence of liquor and had knives drawn. They were seen at once. They would have been shot at once, but in the few minutes of space which followed, a committee for a guard arrived. Both drew their coats, and pocket-knives and pistols in the bank counter, and prepared for a fight. In the meantime a young man had rushed in and shot all the men out of the counter. Here an opportunity for a robbery was afforded. The two clerks, who were alone in the bank, stood with their heads on their revolvers, prepared for any emergency, fortunately nothing serious occurred.

Alderman Hardy and J. H. Youngblood got on the inside, and by dint of jolts, thrusts, and a conspicuous display of Hardy's special-police star, the crowd was "fired out." The scene was one of excitement and trial to the bank clerks.

Attempted Suicide.

A young woman, formerly in the employ of F. Butzein, attempted to kill herself with twenty-five cents worth of chloroform, which she gulped down on Monday last. She took the drug at a house on South Siegel street where she is now living. When the inmates of the house learned what she had done they sent in great alarm for a physician. Dr. Weems was summoned first, and Dr. Moore was called afterward. The troubled girl had not taken enough of the drug to cause her death, and so she is recovering. She says she will herself

to Colomun 2
Reverse side

to Colomun 2
Reverse side

we make no doubt that evenings of the reunion interesting or less well our citizens and give the Grenadiers a week by a good entertainment.

The Bridge

The townships of Milan and Milan are from on the question of the new bridge at Wheeland, \$150 from our citizens and the improvement outside except by a vote of the question of these applications submitted to the and the report of the ready been burned. as determined by will be considered with

Amusement

There will be a call this company this (Wing at East House N. day, to make preparations in the parade on Tuesday at 9 o'clock. W. A. C. CURRAN, Secretary.

Firemen

You are requested to quarters of the fire which a m. day. to be full uniform participate in the parade. By order J. S. H. A. W. DUNN, Sec'y.

A. A. Bishop has not out, nor played out. all stand, and sells as ever. The rumor is a portion of his sense from the fact that large shipments to number that he is still and is ever ready to his customers.

At Decatur, by A. W. Palmer, Mrs. Julia Warren, of

highly perfumed to sulphur, sulphur tar glycerine and vaseline. Bank opposite P. O.,

The Davis sewing machine is the best by J. M. Storky & Co.

Attention, street a full supply of Goodness daily, store, first door west

No man who owns a who expects to own leaving the reunion shaking one of those for sale by J. O. Starr

BRIEFS.

stewed, or fried, at
 be streets yesterday at
 bers and plain station-
 opposite P. O.
 a box of candy from
 in the city to buy
 at J. M. Stanley & Co.
 will be sold on the
 the back store every
 one of customers in the
 these fine French suit-
 at J. Foley's.
 is delivered to any part
 nation for 10 cents a
 at the end of the week.
 one of men's furnishings
 Store.
 white Buck and Babb-
 any style at Miller's.
 hats and shoes,
 the black.
 ever we understand
 at J. M. Stanley & Co.
 back of all kinds of
 and give at Miller's.
 specialty of framing
 to it at bottom prices.
 re House, 22 south side
 and slippers cleaned or
 n's Dye House.
 r's Hat Store for your
 ves are.
 a hot coffee. None bet-
 than at Miller's.
 filled with Squibbs'
 Gule Bros', opposite
 and phones cleaned
 trified at Childen's Dye
 give to Miller's Oyster
 both Room, west side Old
 and low prices" my
 and home, all styles.
 for black.
 very expensive cleaned
 equal to new at
 of more both handled
 red cannot be credited
 at East Main street.
 in general health show
 a the largest stock of
 table and at the

SOME AFTERTHOUGHTS

About the Great Reunion of Veterans.

Now that the great reunion is over and all have had time to catch up lost sleep and rest, the solid man of the executive committee and the hurried man of business sit himself down, pulls his Havana, throats his thumbs in the armholes of his vest and cogitates. In summing up the reunion he says that over 3,000 veterans were in attendance, whereas not more than 2,000 were expected; that the preparations at first made were inadequate, but that by great exertions ample provision was made for all. He thinks further that as forty-thousand people were in the city, and each spent on the average from three to five dollars, an amount of money ranging from \$120,000 to \$200,000 was certainly left in the city. The amount may seem large at first thought, but when we hear that a large dry goods house banked in the two days of the reunion more than \$1,000 for sales made, and that some big saloons deposited \$1,000 to \$1,500 each, as the result of two days' selling donations of various kinds, we must see that taking these as a sample and reckoning in the price of private banking houses, banks, and all other lines of business, the total result can hardly fall short of the heavy amount above stated.

The veterans here could not have numbered less than 2,000, for when the registers were all filled on Wednesday night over 2,000 names were enrolled, and fully one thousand came in to receive their badges on Thursday. Besides the fact that over 3,000 neat citations were issued fully establishes the truth of the saying that 3,000 veterans were here.

The programme as previously arranged with admirable system, was carried out to the letter, and all was quite satisfactory.

The finance committee had secured about \$1,800 toward defraying the expenses of the reunion before its commencement, and \$300 was voted by the city council. This amount was of course inadequate, since the number of veterans who came was so largely in excess of what had been expected. But all bills will be paid. The responsible men who have managed the reunion do not intend that any bill, which was contracted by any member of the executive committee, shall go unpaid.

The reunion was unquestionably the grandest thing of its kind which has ever occurred in Central Illinois, and its like will not be seen for years to come. The remarkable success may be attributed to the thorough advertising which the committee inaugu- rated and kept up. The affair was ex-

A PURLOINING PAIR.

Their Work in the Country—The Plunderer Found and Rascals Caught.

Herman Myers and Charles M. Nichols, two frisky young burglars from Terre Haute, went through the houses of F. M. Browning and other farmers living about three miles south of the county bridge. The burglars pair baought their plunder to this city, where the "sway" was discovered. Meanwhile, Loring, Myers, and Nichols had walked on foot to Mt. Zion, to board the Midland train for Terre Haute. The Sheriff and special Policeman Williams got on their track, hurried after them and nabbed them before they got away from Zion. The pair was brought back to Decatur and lodged in jail. On being brought before Justice Peake they waived an examination and were sent back to jail. The police "go on to" the whole business through a colored prostitute whom the burglars had made promise to follow them with the plunder to Terre Haute. The police found that she had the plunder, and drizzled her into a confession of what she had done. Marshal Baker recovered the plunder, and returned it to the owners. The burglars, finding the matter in their hands, had fled from the city.

Prayed against the burglary, a fall and complete, and they are now incarcerated to a term in the penitentiary.

To-Day's Services.

U. S. CHURCH.

Preaching morning and evening, by Rev. L. Field. Sabbath School at 2 p. m. Next Sunday the new pastor of the charge, Rev. Mr. Lord, late of Stretor, Ill., will preach.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

Public worship at 10:30 a. m. to-day. The pastor will preach. Sunday School at 2 p. m. At 7 p. m. the children's meeting prevented last week by rain, will be held. All are made welcome.

CHURCH OF GOD.

Praise meeting at 9 1/2 o'clock; preaching at 10 1/2. Sabbath School at 2 p. m., monthly experience meeting at 8 p. m. In the evening at 7 o'clock ordinance meeting, consisting of washing saints' feet and the Lord's Supper.

BAPTIST CHURCH.

Sunday School at 9 a. m. Public worship, conducted by the pastor, at 10:30 a. m. and 7 p. m. Subject of morning sermon, "The grand test of human character." Subject of evening discourse, "Birthright sold out. All welcome to these services.

road depot this evening; but one may be expected there on the afternoon of the 17th instant.

PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS.

R. C. Crocker is in Pittsburg, Pa. Mrs. C. A. Gehrmann, of Springfield is here visiting with Theo. Gehrmann's, Mrs. John Taggart and Mr. and Mrs. Moses Stafford went to St. Louis yesterday to take in the last day of the fair.

Miss Millie Alvoy, who has been visiting with Mr. and Mrs. Brown, returned to her home in Buffalo, Ill., yesterday.

Wm. Dodson, the Wabash baggage-man, is on duty again. He has not yet fully recovered from the effects of the fat man's race at Elizabeth.

Rev. J. R. Lord is the new pastor of the United Brethren Church of our city. We extend him a hearty welcome to his new field.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Peters, of Elizabeth, returned to their home yesterday. During their stay here they were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Gehrmann. P. H. Brock and wife returned from Chicago yesterday. They will reside for the present with Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Stewart, at the corner of West William and Exchange streets.

J. K. Wright, "Lack John," dropped out of the ranks of commercial travelers, and leaves at home representing the Board of Trade and Educational Association of Indiana.

J. L. Shaw found his pocket book yesterday empty except of the substance. It had been stolen, there probably by the thief who was caught by the police last night.

The Bell Telephone company has not yet received permission to put up poles for telephone wires in the streets of Decatur, and no action seems to be contemplated by the council to change the present state of affairs. The company, therefore, complain bitterly and talk somewhat of withdrawing the exchange from the city. The cost of putting in the telephone wires and instruments was about \$1,000. The total receipts from rentals are about \$100 per month, while the rental paid for the transmitters and receivers amounts to \$42.50, leaving a net income of \$57.50 per month. Take out the necessary expenses for the running of the concern, and the remainder left makes a very small percentage of the total amount invested. Unless the council gives permission to extend the wire, one of two things will follow: either the present subscribers will be charged a higher rental, or the exchange will be withdrawn from Decatur.

Frank V. Hawley, business manager of the John T. Raymond combina-

All the rage to Joshua White Lyman Triu night.

You can buy ing watch for \$ Don't fail to lets and necklin W. Scudder.

The Wabash ere long be run depot on Madis

Hayden's cheaper and wood. For sal

The cigar gra grand hall on quite a swell named at least that end.

The Republi at the Court Wednesday e Jewell, of De

We are requ of the marria Decatur, and of Tower Hill formed the ce

The colored leading colory part of town which the bar impoving in Decatur is r

John Har and pocket of jail, will prove The officers in find the owner and chain wh

A new lot of furneries just opposite post

Try a "Key Gale Bros", of For all kin to Gale Bros.

A full supp at Hubbard Wayne's carr

Prescriptio land's drug a prices.

Attention, a full supply Cincinnati d store, first d

No man wh who expects leave the r chasing one for sale by J

INDIANA market, for Midland dep

A. A. Bb out, nor pu

These and other little things in his testimony threw all his story. The direct Williams was then sufficient the justice in binding over to await the action of the jury.

After the decision had been rendered, Harrison and his lawyer made a little confab, but the prisoner had not security for the required, as he was sent to the officers, who at once took him in the county jail.

at the Wabash Change.

A fine card on the Wabash was sent Sunday; the new train between Kansas City and Chicago made their first start at the time of the first train.

Leave Kansas City at 10:30 a.m.; Springfield, Mo., at 1:30 p.m.; Chicago at 10:30 a.m. on Monday; Hannibal at 9 a.m., and Toledo at 10 a.m.

Leave Toledo at 10:30 a.m. at 2:30 p.m. on Monday; Hannibal at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday; Kansas City at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday; all other stations as usual.

Another company of cyclists will arrive at the Fried house in Decatur next Wednesday morning, October 14th. Applicants for boys who were not supplied from the last company will find a sufficient number of boys in the company from which to make a selection. There will be but few, perhaps no girls in the company. All persons desiring boys are requested to apply on the day above mentioned.

Apply at your postoffice for a handbill giving full particulars. E. WRIGHT, Agent.

The new trains on the Wabash for Chicago were well filled yesterday. It seems that this line will soon grow to be a formidable competitor to the Chicago and Alton route. The free transportation to the business centre of the lake city and the free transfer to other depots is gaining for the Wabash great favor in St. Louis and Chicago.

ATTENTION, GARFIELD BOYS!—All members of the Boys' Garfield and Arthur Club are requested to meet at the Court House, Tuesday evening, at 8 o'clock sharp. I. M. CORNTHWAITE, Capt.

JAS. TULLAH, O. S.

No business of importance was transacted in the county court yesterday. A general rule was issued for all who had cases to plead by Wednesday morning.

WANTED.—A nice young girl to do light house work in a very small family. Good references required. Apply

at the best of refreshments will be served, and the ladies in charge of the entertainment will make every effort to make it enjoyable. All are invited to attend.

The city's force of laborers ought to be instructed to clean up the square once a week. This would be a profitable work for the chain gang that will soon come under Supervisor Sherb's care.

The sociable of the W. P. M. Society of the First M. E. Church, will be held at the residence of Mrs. Sherman, West Main street, at 7 o'clock this Tuesday evening. Members of the society and students are cordially invited to be present. M. S. CHAMBERLAIN, Secy.

John H. Lee has been writing much of late, and is expected to publish a book on the subject of the "Wabash and the West" in the near future. He is the best writer we have ever seen. His work speaks for itself.

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the News in its glowing account of the affair, publishes a list of presents a full column in length.

Albert Wicks, of Maroa township, has returned from a harvesting trip through Iowa and Minnesota. He reports that the yield of wheat in the great Northwest has not averaged above 15 bushels per acre. Illinois is the best country after all.

General Oglesby made an excellent speech to over 8,000 people at Jacksonville on Saturday. A great torch light procession, and the most splendid rally of the campaign are reported by the Jacksonville Journal. The account of the procession and the speech occupies over two columns of that paper.

Rev. I. P. Gooding, of the Universalist Church, will soon return to his home in New York. He does not intend to visit the West, and seems determined to be away from his duties in the West.

General Oglesby left for Jacksonville, Ill. He is expected to speak in this state at the following places: Chicago, Ill., Tuesday; Madison, Wis., Wednesday; Whiteside county, Thursday; Lee county, Friday; DeKalb county, Saturday. He will also speak at Alton, Mercer county, on Wednesday of next week; but beyond these appointments he does not know where he is to speak, although he has many other engagements to fill. He is very confident that the Republicans will carry this state by a good round majority; thinks it will be considerably over 20,000, but declines to state the number of thousands which the majority will roll up for his party.

The large part of the veterans at the reunion were Garfield men.

A full supply of painters' materials at Hubbard's drug store, opposite Wayne's carriage shop.

Prescriptions dispensed at J. T. Hubbard's drug store, from the purest medicines.

A new lot of toilet powders, and perfumeries just received at Cole Bros., opposite postoffice.

INDIANA Block Coal, best in the market, for sale by N. E. Adams, at Midland depot.

Finely perfumed toilet soaps also sulphur, sulphur tar, carbolic acid, glycerine and vaseline soaps at Cole Bro's, opposite P. O.

Cooks. Come and see them; price them, and we know you will buy one.

pickles, Mr. and Mrs. E. D. DeFournier; pickle dish, Mr. and Mrs. A. Leforgee; pickle fork, Mrs. John Ebert; silver napkin rings, Mr. and Mrs. M. P. Murphy; table spoons, Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Roe; majolica pitcher, Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Weems; do., Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Brayton; silver butter dish, four ladies; butter knife, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Priest. Ornamented purse containing silver to a handsome amount—many friends.

Voters' Register.

The boards of registration for Decatur township will meet in the four districts at 9 o'clock this morning, as required by law, and will remain in session for two days. The boards will then adjourn till October 26th. The registration books will be found in the districts at the places named below:

- First District—Neptune Hose House. Second District—Benj. Dill's Carpenter Shop. Third District—Firemen's Headquarters, on West Main street. Fourth District—The County Clerk's Office.

The freight on our railroads is increasing. A number of lines are being opened up to the West. The Chicago and North Western is one of the lines that are being opened up.

For all kinds of general medicine, call on Dr. C. C. Oglesby, opposite the Court House.

A grand lot of new material will be sold in the Court House on Monday, 12th, and 13th, the proceeds of which will be for the benefit of the new German Lutheran Church. All are invited to attend and help the cause.

HENRY AND LADIES UNDERWEAR.

In quantities to supply any demand and in quality and price to suit the most fastidious and economical.

A. A. Bishop has not well met, but our played out. He is still at his old stand, and will profit as ever. The rumor that he had sold a portion of his stock, doubtless arose from the fact that he was making large shipments to customers. He member that he is still at his old place and is ever ready to meet the wants

GOVERNOR OGLESBY DEAD

The Daily Review
Decatur, Illinois
Tuesday Morning
April 25, 1899

Concussion of the Brain Results from a Fall at His Home at Elkhart.

DEATH RESULTED WITHIN AN HOUR

Burial Will Be at Elkhart But the Time Has Not Been Determined—His Life—Incidents.

Special to The Review.
Elkhart, Ill., April 24.—Ex-Governor Oglesby died at his home today as the result of an accident due to the fall of a chair.
About 11:45 he went into a closet at the rear and while there had an attack of vertigo. He fell forward and as he fell struck his head on the sharp corner of a table. His right temple struck the table and the result was a concussion of the brain and death followed within an hour.
The doctor arrived in a few minutes, but was unable to do anything. The death certificate was filed in the name of Governor Oglesby. He died a single year in office after a career which was full of incidents and achievements.
Governor Oglesby had been apparently in good health for some time. He had been in the city of Elkhart.

BURIAL AT ELKHART.

Nothing has been decided as to the funeral except that the burial will be in the cemetery here at Elkhart. John D. G. Oglesby stated tonight that that much had been determined.

Miss Felicite Oglesby is in Paris with Miss Nina Gillett. She was cabled today of the death of her father. If she will start immediately for home the funeral will be delayed until her arrival. It will be tomorrow before she can be heard from.

Jasper Oglesby is at Blackhawk, Conn., and will be at home Wednesday. Mr. Chester Snider and Robert J. Oglesby are expected to arrive from Kansas City tomorrow night or Wednesday.

By Associated Press.

Elkhart, Ills., April 24.—Ex-Governor and former United States Senator Richard J. Oglesby died at his residence, Oglesburs, in Elkhart, at 1:05 this afternoon. The immediate cause of his death was a fall, his head striking the sharp edge of a piece of furniture.

The remote cause was vertigo, which caused the fall. The blow made a sharp dent in the right side of the temple, from which blood freely flowed. Death resulted from concussion of the brain.

His son, John, was the first to reach him and he was carried to a couch in the parlor. Dr. C. B. Taylor, the family physician, was immediately summoned, but arrived only a few moments before the ex-governor expired. The end came in about an hour from the time of the discovery of the body on the floor. He was unconscious from the time of his fall until he died, and gave no sign of recognition of members of his family. A few grains of sugar were lifted to the couch and the only indication of life.

Gathered about the former governor when he died were the members of the family who are now at Oglesburs, his wife and his sons, John, and Richard J. Jr. Robert is in Joplin, Mo., and Jasper, the youngest son, is at college in the east. His daughter, Felicite, is in Paris, while another daughter, Mrs. Chester A. Snider, lives in Kansas City.

It is thought the governor's body will be kept until his daughter, Felicite, reaches home. The body has been embalmed and no arrangements for the funeral have been definitely made. The interment will be in the Elkhart cemetery.

NEWS REACHES DECATUR

It Spread Rapidly and Was a Great Surprise.

The news of the death of Governor Oglesby was a surprise to the community and was received much as if he had been one of our well known citizens. He was looked on as a Decatur citizen. Many of our older people had known him intimately for many years. Intelligence of his death spread rapidly, and was the subject of much comment.

The news came to Decatur in a telegram to Peddewood, Burgess & Co. L. Burrows took the news to the residence of Jasper Peddewood and told Mr. Peddewood. He has been in Seattle for a month or so, and has not been down town a great deal, though he has been able to get about alone. He received the news without much shock. It was of course entirely unexpected.

L. Burrows and Miss Maud Burrows will leave this morning at 6:30 for Elkhart. L. L. Burrows was in Chicago and he was wired to go to Elkhart from there. It was expected that he would leave Chicago at 9 Monday night for Elkhart.

It was understood in a telephone message from Elkhart in the afternoon that nothing would be decided about the arrangements for the funeral until the arrival there of Mr. Burrows. Mr. Oglesby wished to consult with him.

A WONDERFUL CAREER

An Orphan at 8—A Gold Hunter—A Great Traveler—Soldier—Governor—Senator.

The death of Richard J. Oglesby was one of the most remarkable careers of any time.

Left an orphan at 8, he began at the age of 14 to make his own living. He was first a farmer, then a carpenter, then a lawyer.

He distinguished himself by bravery in the Mexican war. He was a successful gold hunter, after driving a mule team to the Pacific coast.

He visited England, France, Germany, Russia, Egypt, the Holy Land, meeting the nobility and dealing with a crowd of princes. He was elected to the state sen-

ate and resigned to go to the civil war. There he was promoted for his bravery. He was elected governor of Illinois. He was also elected to the legislature and was president of the association that built the Illinois monument.

He was elected governor again, resigned the office in 1876 to go to the United States senate. A third time he was elected governor of the great state of Illinois.

He will stand out in the history of Illinois for the winning course in which he was engaged and for the associations that he formed.

Richard J. Oglesby was born July 25, 1812, in Illinois. His father, J. Oglesby, was a soldier in the Revolutionary war. His mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Oglesby, was a native of Kentucky and had moved to Kentucky from Virginia.

Richard Oglesby became a farmer. He was afterwards elected twice to the legislature. The people of the State looked him to be a candidate. The election in 1852 took Richard Oglesby, in his own right, to the United States senate.

WANTED TO BEAT IT.

Richard was 47 years old. He went to the war with General William H. French. He was elected in 1858 to Congress, serving his term with honor. He became disappointed in law and moved back to Kentucky and then to Illinois. When then Richard Oglesby started out in the world alone, making four years' travel in a little boat on the lake. He was then in the possession of the State of Illinois and the House of Representatives.

He did not have much gold and still just about none. He went on a winter party in the north-west of the State and was a successful hunter. In all that season he made a fortune of the gold he found.

HE WENT TO CALIFORNIA.

When about 47 he went back to Kentucky to hunt the copper trade with James Smith, making his home with an older man, Mrs. James E. Smith. After a year there he came back to Illinois and did extensive work for James E. Smith, writing for him a number of books. Through industry and energy he was able to accumulate a fortune of \$100,000. He was then elected to the United States senate in 1876 and served two terms.

KNOWLEDGE.

Later he went into partnership with James Smith in Iowa. They owned a tract of land west of the city and among other things put in a crop of hemp. It was supposed that the hemp was to be used for paper, but it was used for rope and was sold up by Oglesby and some of the boys who were his associates and led to a lawsuit. The matter was never more of a lawsuit, but both of the sides were used in handling the law that time, they were not done the same with each other. It was followed by many other by the citizens, and the daily go along through the State of the Republic, not less than 100,000 miles and down to New Orleans. The

handling of the law was generally regarded by the citizens as a fulfillment of the duty made by Illinois in 1852 that the citizens were not to be deceived a mercantile system over to the citizens of the world.

A LAWYER.

In 1840 Oglesby first heard in the way of public speaking Lincoln and Douglas in the old court house in Decatur. Though but 16 he had become acquainted with Lincoln and developed an attachment for him. He had met Lincoln and other attorneys that came on the circuit to the court at the old Mason tavern. Oglesby after hearing that debate determined to become a lawyer. He was all his life influenced by the example of Lincoln.

In 1844 at the age of twenty, he went to study law in the office of Judge Silas W. Robbins at Lincoln. In 1845, after the usual examination he was admitted to the bar. He had not had much opportunity to get an education, but in this he was not far behind most of the men practicing in those days. He returned to Decatur and at once opened an office in the old brick court house at stood in the old square. He was in business for himself for a time.

IN MEXICAN WAR.

In 1846 when the war with Mexico broke out he enlisted for one year as first lieutenant of Company C, Fourth Illinois volunteers, commanded by Colonel Baker.

Lieutenant Oglesby marched with the regiment on foot over 700 miles through the interior of Mexico, and was in the battles of Vera Cruz and Cerro Gordo. In the latter he commanded the company. Out of forty-one, rank and file, the company lost ten killed and wounded. General Shields was wounded in this engagement and Lieutenant Oglesby was left for two days in charge of the wounded general on the field of battle.

At the close of the war Oglesby returned to Decatur and resumed the practice of law.

A GOLD HUNTER.

In 1849 Oglesby was one of the first to get the gold fever. He joined a party of eight made up in Decatur. Other members were Henry Prather and E. Smith. They went overland to California. Oglesby drove a six-mule team every mile of the way from here to Sacramento. The trip was made in ninety-five days and was one of uninterrupted interest and pleasure.

Oglesby's career as a miner was so successful that at the end of two years at six months, though he had lost \$3,000 deposited in a Sacramento bank and \$2,500 by the burning of Nevada City, he returned to Decatur with \$4,500 in gold. He then had more cash than any other young man in Decatur, though there were many promising young men here.

Soon after coming back to Decatur Oglesby joined in the law partnership of Oglesby and Waite.

A GREAT JOURNEY.

That continued until 1856, when Oglesby decided to take a trip to Europe. The journey was afterwards extended to Egypt, Palestine and Asia Minor.

He visited Liverpool, Dublin, Glasgow and reached London during a session of parliament. He took the greatest interest in the speeches that he heard there especially admiring as the most fluent speaker Lord John Campbell. In the house of commons he admired the speeches of Lord Palmerston, Lord John Russell, and D'Israeli.

Oglesby spent two weeks in Paris, then went to Berlin, Brussels, Waterloo, Cologne, Mayence, Bonn, Frankfurt, Leipsic, and Dresden.

WITH CROWNED HEADS.

He went to St. Petersburg, thence to Moscow, where he saw the coronation of Alexander as czar. After a visit at Warsaw he returned to Germany and was with a party of the Americans that was invited to attend William, then the crown prince, in a bear hunt in the king's forest, ten miles north of Berlin.

From there he went to Vienna, then to Trieste, and thence to Alexandria, Cairo and Upper Egypt were visited, and then he joined a caravan and went across the desert to the Holy Land. This was one of the most eventful trips of the many wonderful ones taken by Oglesby, as the journey was full of danger and they had camel racing and other sports not seen elsewhere in the world. They were led for a day and a night in a caravan.

Jerusalem, Capernaum, and all of the interesting places of the Holy Land were visited. On the return from the east, Constantinople, Athens, Rome, Florence, Milan, and Venice were visited. Then four weeks were spent at Paris and another stop was made at London. New York was reached in December, 1857.

A foreign trip of this length was at that time most unusual, and Oglesby was called on for a series of lectures, which were said to be most interesting. They were strengthened by a careful journal that had been kept throughout the journey.

FIRST NOMINATED.

At the time of the contest between Lincoln and Douglas in 1858 Oglesby became the Republican candidate for congress in the district as it was then arranged. But the district was Democratic and Honorable James C. Johnson went to congress while Oglesby remained to practice law.

In 1860 Oglesby was made Republican candidate for the state senate, and though the district had before been largely Democratic, he was elected at the same time that Lincoln was elected president. He served one term in the senate, but in 1861 was elected colonel of the Eighth regiment, Illinois volunteers, and resigned to go to the civil war.

IN THE WAR.

He served as colonel one year and led the right of General Grant's advances on Fort Donelson. He was on the field of battle three days in the attack on that stronghold. President Lincoln appointed Oglesby brigadier general for gallantry in that engagement.

In the autumn of 1862 at the battle of Corinth General Oglesby commanded a brigade. On the afternoon of the first day he fell upon the field of battle, it was thought, mortally wounded. The ball passed under the left arm, through the lungs, and lodged near his spine. It was six months before he was able to leave his home and he carried the bullet to the day of his death. On his recovery in 1863 he was promoted to the rank of major-general.

Still suffering from the wound he received his resignation in July, 1863, but it was not accepted. He was instead given a leave of absence.

HIS FAMILY

A Wife and Six Children Survive Him. Were Three Sisters.

Governor Oglesby was twice married. His first wife was Anna E. daughter of Joseph White. His second wife, Emma, daughter of John D. Gilbert, survives him.

By the first marriage he had three children, Richard, Robert J., and Olive. The first named died here and is buried with the first wife, his mother, at Greenwood cemetery.

Olive is now Mrs. Chester Sibley of Kansas City. Robert J. Oglesby had been for several weeks at Joplin, Mo., but was with his sister at Kansas City Sunday, and they will together come to Elkhart at once. The first wife was a sister of Mrs. Jesse Weston of Chicago and Mrs. Frank L. Hays of Decatur.

By the second marriage there were four children, Fidelity, John D. Gilbert, Richard J., and Jasper. The first named is in Paris, France, the second and third are at Elkhart and the fourth is at Blackhawk, Conn.

Mrs. Jasper Fidelity, who died about two years ago, and Mrs. Annanda W. Prather, who died March 21, 1861, were sisters of Governor Oglesby. Another sister, Mrs. Emeline Wilson, died in the spring of 1862, at her home of Pleasant, Ky.

He served on a general court martial at Washington until 1861. Then he was unanimously nominated as the Republican candidate for governor, and he was elected by 21,000 majority.

GOVERNOR FIRST.

The Chicago Tribune on Jan. 18, 1861, said of his inaugural address:

"The address is a manly, straightforward document, devoid of pretensions, replete with common sense, and ably written. It clearly proclaims that the same nerve, the same intelligence and patriotism which marked General Oglesby's conduct at Donelson and Corinth will distinguish his administration as governor."

WITH LINCOLN.

Being at Washington when Lincoln was assassinated, he went to the president at once and remained with him until the end. He came with the body to Illinois.

Oglesby was made president of the National Lincoln Monument association which put up the monument at Springfield.

At the end of his first term as governor he retired to private life, but was nominated and elected governor again in 1872. On the tenth day after his inauguration he was chosen United States senator for six years from March 4, 1873 and he resigned the office of governor to go to the senate.

He was elected governor again in 1884.

CALLED THIS HOME

Governor Oglesby Always Considered a Citizen of Decatur.

Governor Oglesby's last visit to Decatur was just two weeks ago, when he stayed three days at the residence of Jasper J. Peddecord. He always liked to come to Decatur and spoke of it as coming home. He always called Decatur his home. For several months he has spoken on leaving here as if he might never come again.

The last time he was here he and Jasper Peddecord took a walk about the business part of the city. Governor Oglesby was driven out to the home of L. Burrows and he spent an hour talking with Mrs. Burrows.

One of the last times Governor Oglesby made a speech in Decatur was when he welcomed Company H home from the war last fall. He stood in a carriage then on South Park street and spoke with much of his old-time fire and enthusiasm. He spoke of the time when he went to war and of the men that went with him. He said the boys of today didn't do as much as then, but that they would have done it if they had had a chance. He referred to the expansion of Uncle Sam's dominion in a way that brought out great applause.

LAST SPEECH HERE

His last speech here was at the Grand Army camp fire attended by General John C. Black about two months ago. He at that time said the little scrimmage with Spain did not amount to as much as a really quarrel in the old days in Macon county. But the war made him drop all connection with the confederates. They had fought side by side with the northern boys and that was enough for Uncle Dick. From that time on he would trust every confederate in the land. His talk showed, further, that he was very doubtful about the kind of expansion we were enjoying again. Those were his last words in Decatur.

Governor Oglesby was always in great demand for speeches here. He has made dozens, and where he moved away. One of the most interesting was at the time of opening the Powers Grand opera house in the fall of 1898. Then he told of many incidents in the '30's, mentioning some of the times he and other timers had at the tavern and other places.

Governor Oglesby moved to Lincoln about twenty years ago. From 1836 until about 1860 Decatur was his home. He bought the ground at the corner of William and Edward streets a few years after he came from California. That ground belonged to Dr. Joseph King. It was sold to Dr. Whitney, who died there, and the ground from the estate was bought by the state when he was first married. A small house was on the lot. This was the only house until the present handsome and substantial residence was erected about twenty-five years ago. The only change was made at the back of the present house. It was designed by the architect, and when Oglesby was elected governor the second time the house was sold to J. E. Young.

In 1860 Oglesby returned to Decatur near the family the Oglesbys moved to Lincoln about 1860 and after the death of John D. Gilbert moved out to the home place at Elbert.

AS A BOY OF 15

Willis Johnson, Sr., Knew Oglesby in the Early Days.

Probably no one in Decatur has known Governor Oglesby longer than Willis Johnson, Sr. Mr. Johnson came to Decatur a young man of 15 in 1837 and soon became acquainted with Oglesby, a boy of 15. Oglesby was one of the most active and wide-awake youngsters in the

town. He was then living with his sister, Mrs. Henry Prather.

"I knew him well in those days," said Mr. Johnson yesterday. "We had some great old times together. Oglesby did a little of everything. After he had learned the carpenter business he raised some hemp. We all thought that hemp could be raised here. Several farmers tried it. Dick put in about ten acres. They had to soak the hemp before it could be used. Dick put it in the branch that ran through the east part of town. Two horses were killed by drinking the water and then everybody had to keep their horses up until the water was clear again.

FIRST LAWYERS.

"When he first came back from Springfield a lawyer he opened an office in the old brick court house. He got a good deal of business. There were three other lawyers here, Everett & Everett, and Judge Post. I used to go to Dick when I wanted to know anything about the law. He didn't charge me anything. People were not then as they are now. There was a different feeling. I would rather live here then than now. We had plenty of everything but money and we didn't need that. When I had any law business Dick did it for me.

HE COULD FIDDLE.

"He used to make speeches, too. He was a great speaker. Once, though, he was getting a little the worst of it. He was making a Whig speech and a Democrat named Logan was making a speech on the other side of the old square at the same time. He was getting the crowd away from Dick, so Dick borrowed a fiddle and went to fiddling. It wasn't but a little while until he had the crowd away from the Democrat and Logan himself got down from his stand and came over and went to dancing to Dick's fiddling. He was an old-fashioned fiddler, he didn't know a note, but he was a good one and he played a great deal for his own amusement in the early days.

"We had great times in those days. We did as we pleased and no one tried to interfere with us. Dick trotted all the gals and went in all kinds of society. He was a gentleman in all of them, though, and he was always liked.

"The last time he was here was just about two weeks ago. I met Dick and Jasper Peddecord up here on the National bank corner. We stopped and had quite a talk. Peddecord said:

"Dick is breaking faster than we are, Willis. I won't allow him to go around by himself, now, but he doesn't know it."

LAI D OUT AN ADDITION

How Richard Oglesby Got His Start in the World.

L. Burrows was one of Governor Oglesby's most intimate friends in Decatur from the time of Mr. Burrows' arrival in this city in 1832. Mr. Burrows said:

"I first remember Mr. Oglesby as a partner in the law firm of Oglesby & Waite. The firm was at one time Oglesby & Tupper, and at another time Oglesby, Waite & Gallagher. The firm had an office in a one story brick building just east of the bank.

"Mr. Oglesby got his start in the world by his trip to California. About the time he got back from California he got a Mexican war land warrant. He put the California money with the land warrant and bought the ground that is now known as R. J. Oglesby's addition. He had the 2.5 million out. I was going by his office one day and he called me in.

"Here," he said, "I have two streets to name. What shall I name them?"

"I thought of the fact that he had got some of his money in California and some in the war, so I suggested that he name one street Eldorado and the other one Cerro Gordo. He said: 'That will do first

rate put it down,' and I wrote the names in on the plat.

"He sold the lots one at a time. It was several years before the last one was sold. They were sold at \$50 and \$75. There was not much demand for lots in those days. He would laugh with great pleasure when he sold a lot.

"It was at his suggestion that I bought the first part of the ground where I live on North street.

"Oglesby practiced law in Platt, Moultrie and Okech counties, besides our own counties. He was well acquainted with Lincoln and Judge David Davis. It was a great pleasure to sit in the old Macon tavern with those three men and hear them tell stories. All were formidable story tellers and all took great satisfaction in telling them."

Fruits, April 27, 1899

OGLESBY'S FUNERAL

Decatur Militia and G. A. R. Post
Have Precedence.

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

Messages of Condolence Come
from Everywhere.

A message from Elkhart gives the following particulars of the funeral of Governor Oglesby:

The governor's body will be interred temporarily in the crypt beneath St. John the Baptist's church, where the services will be conducted. Felicité Oglesby is expected to arrive in seven or eight days. A detachment of militia will be left here to keep guard over the body until permanent burial is made later. Precedence will be given in all points to the Decatur militia and Grand Army post. Bishop Seymour, assisted by Rev. F. D. Miller of this place, will conduct the service.

The St. John chapel in which Governor Oglesby's remains will be temporarily laid is a pretty little building set off in the woods just opposite Ogilthorpe. The building was erected at a cost of \$14,000. The walls are of solid stone, interior unfinished. A tile flooring completes the harmony of the structure. The windows are of stained glass. The building will probably seat 100 persons. It was erected in 1906 in memory of John D. Gilchrist. The crypt in which Governor Oglesby's remains will be placed is just under the chancel.

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

The following were chosen as honorary pallbearers:

- From Washington, D. C.: Senator S. M. Cullom.
- Judge Lawrence Weldon.
- Comptroller Charles G. Dawes.
- Vice President Garret A. Hobart.
- Chicago: Humphreys Washburne.
- T. B. Blackstone.
- Judge Joseph A. Gory.
- Hon. R. T. Lincoln.
- John S. Miller.
- K. C. BROWN.
- Judge C. C. Kellum.
- Judge J. C. Coker.
- Major General H. Harrison.
- Marshall Field.
- Judge W. B. Magruder.
- Patrick Palmer.
- H. H. Kellum.
- John E. White.
- George F. Upton.
- Frank Gilbert.
- Walter Penn Knox.
- Veter F. Lawson.
- DeWitt S. Phelps.
- D. B. Fagan.
- General John C. Smith.
- Postmaster Charles T. Gordon.
- General John C. Black.
- General Smith.
- Wagoner.
- General H. F. Kinn.
- Rich. Cox.
- W. B. Egan.
- J. Edward Barber.
- W. H. Reynolds.

- Springfield: Governor John R. Tanner.
- George N. Black.
- Charles Ricketts.
- John W. Bunn.
- General John M. Palmer.
- Dr. William Jayne.
- General John A. McTernand.
- Bloomington: Hon. A. E. Stevenson.
- Governor Joseph W. Fifer.
- James S. Ewing.
- Carlinville: General John L. Rhaker.
- Lincoln: Hon. E. P. Hanna.
- Hillsboro: Judge Jesse J. Phillips.
- Marysville: Congressman Ben F. Marsh.
- Danville: Congressman Joseph G. Cannon.
- Morris: Lieutenant Governor L. B. Ray.
- Greenfield: Lieutenant Governor W. A. Northwest.
- Clinton: Congressman Theodore Warner.

CONDOLENCE

Following are a few of the messages of condolence received by members of the family:

"Springfield, Ill. I sincerely condole with you on the death of your husband, of which I have just heard. He was my friend. What can I do for you?"

"JOHN M. PALMER."

"Chicago, Ill. I am deeply grieved at the death of the old and good friend of my father and myself, and beg you to accept my sympathy for yourself and your children. I shall attend the funeral."

"JOSBERT T. LINCOLN."

"Chicago, Ill. Accept our deep sympathy for you in your great bereavement."

"VORA EDITH ENGLISH TANNER."

"Springfield, Ill. I am appalled and grieved to hear of the death of Governor Oglesby. I tender for myself and Mrs. Cullom our sincere sympathy in your great sorrow."

"S. M. CULLOM."

"Bloomington, I am deeply grieved at the death of your husband. My wife and children join me in extending to you and to yours sincere sympathy."

"JOSEPH W. FIFER."

"Washington, D. C. Am very sorry to hear of the death of your distinguished husband. If it were possible, I would attend the funeral, but in consequence of the sickness of the chief justice and the condition of the court business, I am unable to leave. Mrs. Weldon and I join you in the most tender sympathy to you and your children in this sad hour of your great bereavement."

"LAWRENCE WELDON."

"Springfield. Please accept my sincere sympathy in your great loss."

"JOHN W. BUNN."

"New York City. Please accept for yourself and family my sincere sympathy."

"MARSHALL FIELD."

"Galesburg. Every Illinoisan will mourn the loss of our noblest citizen, Governor Oglesby, and will sympathize with you in your bereavement."

"CLARK E. CARR."

"Chicago. Accept my deepest sympathy."

"FRANK H. JONES."

"Springfield. Accept my deepest sympathy. The nation and state mourn with you."

"JAMES A. ROSE."

ONE DOLLAR FOR THE TRIP

Arrangements All Made to Take the
Decatur Crowd.

Final arrangements for the trip of those from Decatur wishing to attend the funeral of Governor Oglesby, including the G. A. R., have been completed. The party will leave Decatur on the regular Wabash train for Springfield at 10:28 Friday morning, special cars being attached. Elkhart will be reached at 1 o'clock. Returning, the special C. & A. train which will make the trip from Springfield leaves Elkhart at 4 p. m. A special train over the Wabash will bring the Decatur party home, arriving here at 6 o'clock. The fare for the round trip to Elkhart from Decatur will be but \$1. It is expected that 100 to 120 will go.

Company H will go to Springfield from Pana via the R. & O. S.-W., thence to Elkhart. A guard of honor will be left at Elkhart and the remainder of the company will return to Decatur, having been relieved of duty at Pana.

To Be a Military Funeral.

(By Associated Press.)

Springfield, Ill., April 25.—The funeral of former Governor Oglesby, Friday, at Elkhart, will be a military funeral. Governor Tanner has ordered companies D of Bloomington, H of Decatur, I of Jacksonville and K of DeKalb, all of the Fifth Illinois Infantry, and the Fifth regiment band to attend. Colonel Culver will be in command.

One of His Vetoes.

Stories of Governor Oglesby continue to come from all sides. The Bloomington Post-Intelligencer of Wednesday tells this one:

Hon. Isaac N. Phillips had a close personal acquaintance with Governor Oglesby. He knew and studied his character closely. He related a number of interesting events in the career of the soldier and statesman. The following happened between the years 1888 and 1893, when there were no constitutional restrictions on the members of the legislature like there are at the present time, and the members were permitted to pass special laws as they saw fit. There was a resident of eastern McLean county who, during the first term of Governor Oglesby, had been given permission by act of the legislature, to make all of the cheese used in this county. The bill came up before Oglesby for final signature, Judge Weldon being present at the time. The bill was a stunner for the executive. He picked up his pen and wrote the following: "I do not understand that Mr. Blank has any more right to make all of the cheese for McLean county, than he has to eat all of the cheese for that county." He signed his name and gave the above reasons for the veto. Turning to Judge Weldon he asked if anything more could be said and the judge informed him that the sentence was sufficient.

Friday, April 28,
1899

THE FUNERAL TODAY

About Sixty-five People Will
Attend from Here.

LEAVE ON WABASH AT 10:38

All Will Have a Chance to View
the Body.

No special train will be run for the people who will attend Governor Oglesby's funeral from Decatur today, but extra coaches will be placed on train 51, leaving Decatur on the Wabash at 10:38, and the passengers will go from Springfield on a special by way of the Alton.

It is said that about thirty-five members of Dunham post will attend, and it is likely that thirty other citizens of Decatur will go along. The fare for the round trip is \$1.

The full Goodman band will accompany the G. A. R. men to Governor Oglesby's funeral today. The band will meet at the G. A. R. hall at 9:30 to escort the members of the post to the depot. The Decatur delegation will leave here at 10:38 in special coaches attached to a regular train. The train arrives at Springfield at 11:40 and the coaches go on through to Elkhart over the Alton.

They return over the Wabash as a special train, arriving here at 6 p. m.

MILITARY PROMINENT

All Will Have a Chance to View the
Body.

The following further particulars about the funeral of Governor Oglesby today came from Elkhart:

A handsome rosewood metallic casket will contain the remains of the honored dead and it will be placed in St. John's chapel, while about it and between the large rafters of the chapel a canopy of purest white crepe will be placed. The burial service will be read at Oglehurst and there Bishop Seymour will deliver a short eulogy. The procession will then form with the G. A. R. of Illinois having the right of the line, in command of General John C. Black, department commander of the G. A. R. for Illinois.

The music for the services will be provided by the choir of St. Paul's pro-cathedral of Springfield. The funeral arrangements will be solely in charge of Undertaker John T. Boyden of Lincoln, and the governor of Illinois.

VIEWING THE BODY.

On Thursday the people of Elkhart were given an opportunity to view the remains. The order of procession will be Military band, National Guard, G. A. R., choir, clergy, honorary pallbearers, casket, family.

On Friday after the casket has been deposited in the chapel, those of the public who want to will be permitted to look upon the face of the beloved dead.

WOUND WAS SLIGHT.

It is stated that the features of Governor Oglesby were not disfigured in the least by the fall he received and which is thought to have been the immediate cause of his death. The wound is high up on the right side of the head. It is above the temple and the most severe cut is in the hair, so that there is little or no abrasion of the skin. There was no fracture of the skull and it seems almost incredible that such a wound could have produced death even in one so enfeebled as General Oglesby. It is thought by some that perhaps the real cause was the rupture of a blood vessel in the brain.

THE FAMILY.

John P. Gillett, a brother of Mrs. Oglesby, is ill at West Baden, Ind., and will be unable to attend the funeral. Mrs. J. P. Gillett has returned home to assist the bereaved family.

Mrs. Oglesby is bearing up bravely under her great loss, but it is evident that she is suffering the keenest pangs of sorrow.

PRESIDENT'S CONDOLENCE.

The following message was received: "Executive Mansion, Washington, D. C., April 25.—Mrs. Richard J. Oglesby, Oglehurst: The death of your distinguished husband will be deeply mourned. Mrs. McKinley unites with me in sincere sympathy."
WILLIAM MCKINLEY.

Military at Funeral.

Wednesday morning Adjutant General Reece issued an order for Companies B of Bloomington, H of Decatur, and I of Jacksonsville, all of the Fifth Infantry, Illinois National Guard, to report to Colonel Culver at Springfield not later than 8 o'clock a. m., and Company K of DeWanna, to report at Elkhart to Colonel Carter, not later than 12 o'clock noon, to attend the funeral of Governor Richard J. Oglesby.

The Fifth regiment band of Carleton has also been ordered to report to Colonel Culver and will accompany the soldiers to Elkhart. A special train of six coaches will leave at 12:30 o'clock Friday for Elkhart, carrying the militia, the band, the state officials and their wives and the invited guests.

The state house will be closed on the afternoon of the funeral.

CHICAGO COURTS HONOR HIM.

Chicago, April 25.—Out of respect for the memory of ex-Governor Richard Oglesby, and in order that the Judges may attend his funeral, the circuit, superior and branch appellate courts in this city will adjourn tomorrow. The clerk's offices will also be closed.

In the party which goes from Chicago to Elkhart tomorrow morning to attend the funeral will be a large delegation from the G. A. R., headed by Department Commander J. C. Black.

ORDER FLAGS HALF-MASTED.

Springfield, Ill., April 25.—Governor Tanner has issued a proclamation reciting the death of Hon. Richard J. Oglesby and directing that flags on all state buildings be half-masted and departments at the state capitol be closed from Friday noon, the day of the funeral.

Take the Wabash special train today 10:38 a. m. to Elkhart to attend the Oglesby funeral. Only \$1.00 round trip.

Bicycles on easy payments. Discount for cash. Illinois Outfery Co.

PAY, CASH.

Springfield, Ill. June 10th 1868

Mr Gov Rich Oglesby

THOS. C. SMITH & CO.,

SUCCESSORS TO

JOHN HUTCHINSON,

UNDERTAKERS

SOUTH FIFTH STREET

Carriages Furnished to Order.

6	For Full Exp. Full S. S. Services	
"	Metallic Basket Silver Mounted	140
"	House 8, Attendance 7	15
9	Carriages to General	32
	Rec ^d Part	\$ 187
	Thos. C. Smith	

Copy of the funeral costs for Mrs. Anna White Oglesby, the first wife of Governor Richard J. Oglesby. She died in the Governor's Mansion in Springfield during his first term. She is buried in Greenwood Cemetery, Decatur.

The original of the above receipt is among the Oglesby papers, Illinois State Historical Library, Springfield.

July 12, 1964

Decatur Sunday Herald and Review

Heritage Trail

Gov. Oglesby's Life Began, Ended in Tragedy

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the fifth in a series of articles prepared by the Decatur Heritage Committee sketching stories of local historical attractions.)

Like most leaders of men, the military and the political held a special attraction for Richard J. Oglesby, three times governor of Illinois.

His life began, as it ended, in tragedy. Orphaned early in life by a cholera epidemic which swept Oldham County, Ky., in the 1830s, young Dick Oglesby and his sister came to Decatur to live with his aunt and uncle.

After failing to sell ropes made of hemp which he raised as a young man, Oglesby went to Springfield to study law for a year and was admitted to the bar in Sullivan where he set up practice.

At the outset of the Mexican War in 1847, Dick joined the ranks of the gay enlistees and because of his popularity was elected 2nd lieutenant. Oglesby's leadership at Cerro Gordo and Vera Cruz resulted in his promotion to captain.

Savoring the life of a soldier, Oglesby reluctantly returned to Decatur to study for admission to the Macon County bar. Then he headed west with the California 49ers. Oglesby made his fortune and lost most of it in two years on the coast, returning to Decatur with \$4,500 to start a partnership in law with Sheridan Wait.

Wait was more conservative than Oglesby and the two made considerable money from the land warrant which Oglesby had received for his war service. About this time he laid out two streets which were later named by others for his military successes, Eldorado and Cerro Gordo.

Tours Europe

Oglesby's last began to itch again and he set out on a tour of Europe and the Near East. In May of 1864 he resigned in 1864, returning the next year his commission to accept the nomination for governor of Illinois. He was victorious but the was in great demand as a stump speaker and his eloquence did not disappoint the audiences. He married Anna White in 1865.

The fledgling Republican Party tried out its wings in 1854



Between terms Gov. Richard J. Oglesby lived in his home at 421 W. William St.

running Oglesby as an electoral delegate. He lost by a few votes.

After hearing the Lincoln-Douglas debates, Oglesby was convinced that Lincoln was the man to lead the Republican party. During the 1860 Illinois Republican convention in Decatur, he and John Hanks engineered Lincoln's dramatic nomination for President. Oglesby himself ran for state senator from Decatur and won.

Off to War

Upon the fall of Ft. Sumter and the start of the Civil War, Oglesby raised the 8th Illinois Regiment and resigned from the Senate to head the group as colonel. At Ft. Donelson the 8th fought bravely and Oglesby was promoted to brigadier general. Shot through the lung at Corinth, he returned to Decatur to recover.

In May of 1864 he resigned his commission to accept the nomination for governor of Illinois. He was victorious but the was in great demand as a stump speaker and his eloquence did not disappoint the audiences. He married Anna White in 1865.

An able administrator, Oglesby was in charge of the commission that built Lincoln's tomb.

In June of 1868, his last year as governor, his wife Anna died of his days lecturing and farming. She is buried in Greenwood Cemetery.

Builds House Here

Returning to Decatur, Oglesby built the beautiful house at 421 W. William St. which is now occupied by the Evans Grain Co.

He ran for governor again in 1873 and won but was in turn elected by the State Legislature to the U.S. Senate. Oglesby then married Emma Gillett Keys of Logan County. He retired to Decatur after serving his six years as Senator.

Coaxed out of retirement again by friends, he won the governorship for the third time in 20 years in 1884. In 1889 he retired finally from political life, to Elkhart, north of Spring-

field. Here he spent the rest of his days lecturing and farming. He died as a result of a head injury April 4, 1895 and was buried in Elkhart.

Oglesby Home

This is the home built by Richard J. Oglesby, a major-general in the U.S. army, three times governor, a state senator and United States senator. Oglesby was the son of Colonel Jacob Oglesby, a prosperous farmer of Oldham County, Ky. When Dick was eight, his father, mother, and two children died of cholera. He came with his uncles and aunts, the Richard and Willis Oglesby's, together with his three sisters to Macon County in 1836. Willis Oglesby went to Salem, Indiana taking Dick with him, but at fourteen he returned alone and made his home with his uncle Richard and aunt Judy Oglesby as well as his sisters, Mrs. Henry Prather, nee Amanda Oglesby, and Mrs. J. J. Peddecord, nee Ophelia Oglesby.

In the Mexican War he enlisted and served Cruz and Cerro Gordo. He then returned to Decatur to study law. In 1849 he joined Henry Prather, E. O. Smith, Samuel Powers and others for California and the Gold Rush. With the money he gained from these two adventures he laid out a new addition naming one of the streets Eldorado, for the El Dorado mine where the money came from, and the land grant he received north and west of the town for services in the Mexican War, he commemorated by naming another street Cerro Gordo.

It was Oglesby who conceived the idea of making his friend, Abraham Lincoln known as the rail splitter as shown in the pageant "The Golden Prairie".

In 1859 Mr. Oglesby married Miss Anna E. White. Her father gave them a home, now numbered 421 West William Street. She died in the governor's mansion in Springfield, June, 1868. With two of her children she is buried in Greenwood Cemetery. For a time the Oglesby's lived in the original house seen at the back in this picture. Afterwards Gov. Oglesby erected a beautiful and spacious new residence, and the old house which adjoined it was used for kitchen and servants'

Spelling error:
Keys (not Keys)
C.M.

Page 2--Oglesby Home

quarters. Soon after his election to the senate Mr. Oglesby married Mrs. Mrs. Emma Gillett Keys, the daughter of John D. Gillett, the Logan County cattle king. When he established his new home, Ogleshurst, in Logan Co. he sold his Decatur home to J.E. Bering. The original home in the rear was torn down after Wilson Bering bought the property in 1905. For many years it was the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Evans, and is used today for the offices of the Evans Grain Company.

Written by Miss Mildred E. Price, and duplicated by the Decatur Public Schools for use by Decatur elementary school teachers to accompany the projecting of a picture of the Oglesby house.

RICHARD J. OGLESBY

Richard James Oglesby was born in Oldham County, Kentucky, on the 25th day of July 1824. At the age of nine years his parents died leaving him in the care of an uncle who later moved to Decatur. He was admitted to the bar in November, 1845. At the age of twenty-one years, he was among the first to volunteer for service in the Mexican War. In 1856 he went to Europe and the Holy Land. After returning from Europe he practiced law until 1861 when he went to war. In this war he was elected as Colonel of the Eighth Regiment. He served about a year as Colonel, and led the right of General Grant's army in his advance upon Fort Donelson, which finally yielded with its 14,000 prisoners. This was the first great Union victory up to that time. On March 3, 1862, President Lincoln wrote to the Secretary of War asking that Colonel Richard J. Oglesby be appointed Brigadier General of Volunteers.

General Oglesby was wounded at the Battle of Corinth, Mississippi, on October 3, 1862.

LINCOLN'S LETTER ABOUT GENERAL OGLESBY

Washington, D. C.
October 8, 1862

Major General Grant
Jackson, Tennessee

I congratulate you and all concerned on your recent battle and victories. How does it all sum up?

I especially regret the death of General Hackelman; and am very anxious to know the condition of General Oglesby, who is an intimate personal friend.

A. Lincoln.

On October 10, General Grant replied:

"General Oglesby is shot through the breast and ball lodged in the spine. Hopes for his recovery."

In 1865 he became Governor of Illinois and held this office until January 1869. In 1872, he was again nominated for Governor, and elected. At the ensuing session of Legislature, he was elected as United States Senator from Illinois. He served in this capacity until March 4, 1879 after which he retired from public life.

At that time he was a resident of Decatur, but in 1882 he moved to Lincoln. In 1884 he was nominated a third time for Governor and elected. At the close of this term of office, he determined to retire permanently from public life.



Oglehurst April 28, 1899
Day of Governor's funeral

Governor Oglesby came to Elkhart in 1890. He had married Emma Gillett Keays, eldest daughter of John D. Gillett. Governor and Mrs. Oglesby built a new house on the same site James Latham had built his cabin in 1819. This house burned a year later and a new one was built farther up on the hill.

Governor Oglesby died April 24, 1899 at his home on Elkhart Hill. Four days later his funeral was held from his house. It is estimated that over 4,000 visitors were in attendance including Robert T. Lincoln, Governor Tanner and all the state officers, three ex-governors, namely Joseph Fifer, John R. Palmer, and Shelby M. Cullam, the later two becoming U. S. Senators; also Congressmen Cannon, Lowden, Marsh, Hickerson, and Warner; Judges, Kohlsaat, Longnecker Carter, and Holdon; General John C. Black, ex Vice-President Adlai E. Stevenson, William Penn Nixon, Melville E. Stone, a large representation of members of the legislature and scores of prominent public men from all over the state. The funeral oration was delivered by Bishop Seymour of Springfield who was assisted in the ritualistic work by Archdeacon F. W. Taylor. A boys' choir of thirty voices from St. Paul's Pro-Cathedral furnished music. The funeral cortege from the house to St. John's Chapel, located opposite "Oglehurst", included four companies of State Militia, the Fifth Regiment band, Goodman's band of Decatur, and the Decatur and Lincoln G.A. R. Posts. The casket was deposited in a bier in the chapel in the center of the structure under a canopy of white crepe. Internment took place May 8, 1899 in the Oglesby lot in Elkhart Cemetery in a vault of solid concrete twenty four feet high, one-half underground and eighteen inches thick.

GOVERNOR OGLESBY

His ability to handle excellent English was evidenced by his address delivered at a banquet of the Fellowship Club of Chicago, September 9 1894, on the occasion of a Harvest Home Festival.

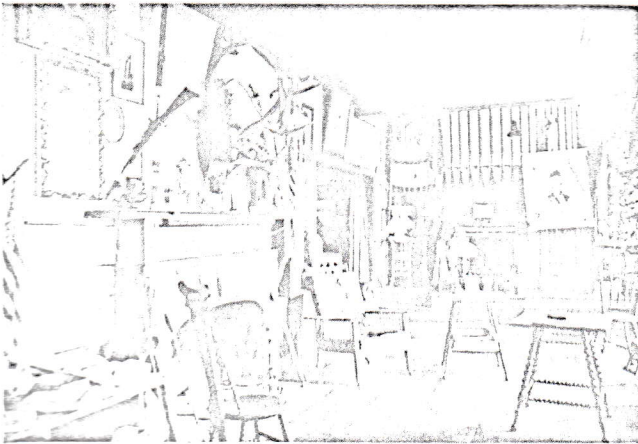
The following extracts are illustrative of the entire address:

"But now again my mind turns to the glorious corn. See it! Look on its ripening waving field. See how it wears a crown, prouder than Monarch ever wore, sometimes jauntily and sometimes after the storm the dignified survivors of the tempest seem to view a field of slaughter and to pity a fallen foe. And see the pendant caskets of the corn field filled with the wine of life and see the silken fringes that set a form for fashion and for art. And now the evening comes and something of a time to rest and listen. The scudding clouds conceal the half and then reveal the whole of the moonlit beauty of the night, and then the gentle winds make heavenly harmonies on a thousand thousand harps that hang upon the borders and the edges and the middle of the field of ripening corn until my very heart seems to beat responsive to the rising and the falling of the long melodious refrain. The melancholy clouds sometimes make shadows on the field and hide its aureate wealth and now they move and slowly into sight there comes the golden glow of promise for an industrious land. Glorious corn, that more than all the sisters of the field wears tropic garments. Nor on the shore of Nilus or of Ind does nature dress her forms more splendidly.

Aye, the corn, the Royal corn, within whose yellow heart there is of health and strength for all the nations. The corn triumphant, that with the aid of man hath made victorious procession across the tufted plain and laid foundation for the social excellence that is and is to be. This glorious plant transmuted by the alchemy of God sustains the warrior in battle, the poet in song, and strengthens everywhere the thousand arms that work the purposes of life. Oh, that I had the voice of song or skill to translate into tones the harmonies, the symphonies, and oratorios that roll across my soul, when standing sometimes by day and sometimes by night upon the borders of this verdant sea, I note a world of promise, and then before one-half the year is gone I view its full fruition and see its heaped gold await the need of man. Majestic, fruitful, wonderous plant. Thou greatest among the manifestations of the wisdom and love of God, that may be seen in all the fields or upon the hillsides or in the valleys."



Richard J. Oglesby

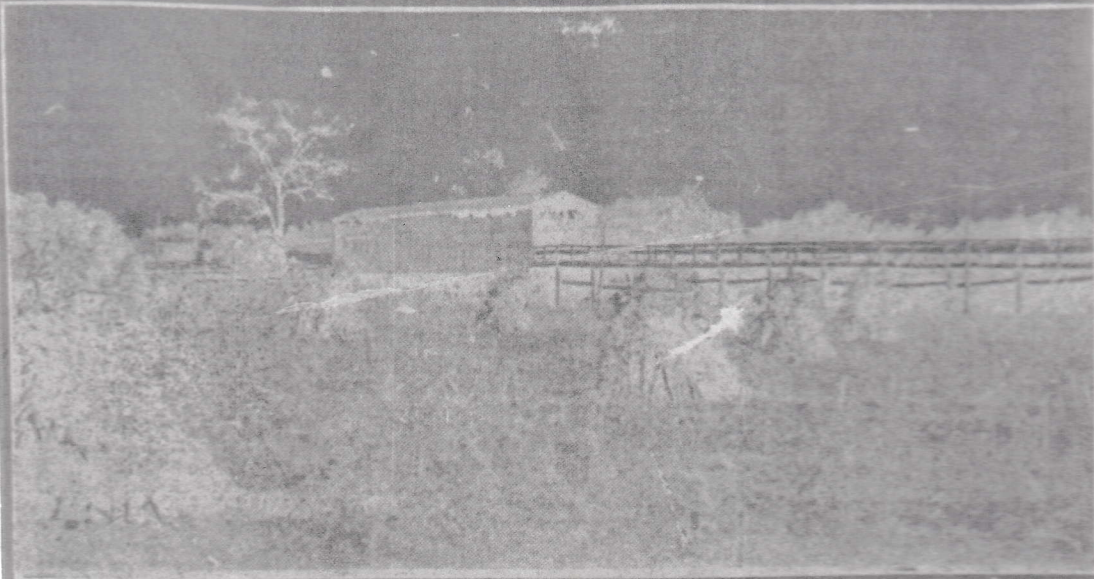


Interior Olgehurst



Tomb of Gov. R. J. Oglesby

PERHAPS YOU WILL RECALL



When the old county bridge at the dam was replaced by the present structure in 1913 at a cost of \$50,000. The old bridge was built in 1854-5. The county court record of June 7, 1855, contains this bit of Macon county history:

"Whereas, at the June term of this court, A. D. 1854, William Martin, J. L. Post and R. I. Oglesby were appointed commissioners to contract with Samuel Grubb & Son to build a bridge above high water mark across the Sangamon river at a point east of the Illinois Central railroad with tresseling across the bottom on each side of the river, for which it was agreed to

pay the sum of \$5,500."

The commissioners having contracted for the bridge and having accepted the work as completed in a satisfactory manner, \$3,500 having been paid on the job, the record of the court concludes:

"Whereas there remains unpaid the sum of \$2,000, the county clerk is hereby ordered to draw four county bonds for \$500 each in favor of Samuel Grubb, payable in 12 months, with interest at 10 per cent from date."

Before 1860 all business of the county was conducted by the county court.

Friday, September 20, 1935.

SIXTY-NINE YEARS AGO



Taken in 1866, the year the Grand Army of the Republic was founded in Decatur, this picture shows the old St. Nicholas hotel and the city omnibus with a "hack" and a buggy. Note the high-hats on the men, the lamp post on the corner and the four horse team which was needed to drag the bus through the muddy streets from the railroad station to the hotel up town.

On Feb. 22, 1856, 12 newspaper editors met in this hotel, then known as the Cas-

sell House to discuss opposition to the Kansas-Nebraska bill which advocated the extension of slave territory. At a dinner that night in the same hotel Abraham Lincoln and Richard Oglesby, both young attorneys, are said to have spoken.

The Cassell house was soon renamed the Oglesby and in the early 1860s it became the St. Nicholas. The photograph belongs to Mrs. L. W. Cook, daughter of Charles Laux, for many years the well known host of the hotel.

Knights Posed Threat to Peace

HJR 12-19-1965

By Rex Spires

Of the Herald and Review

Macon County came perilously close to insurrection and civil strife within its very boundaries during the Civil War because of a group known as the Knights of the Golden Circle.

More commonly called "Copperheads," this organization was primarily composed of antiwar Democrats and Southern sympathizers who, deeming it impossible to conquer the Confederacy, favored peace and opposed the war policy of President Lincoln and Congress.

The term "Copperhead" was first used by a New York paper in July, 1861, to describe the alleged resemblance of the "peace Democrats" to the venomous copperhead snake, which strikes from concealment without warning.

One description was: "A rattlesnake rattles, a viper hisses, an adder spits, a black snake wags its tail, a water snake blows but a copperhead just sneaks."

Thus, the antiwar Democrats were also called "sneak Democrats" and in the Midwest, where the strength of the Copperhead movement was greatest, the terms "Copperhead" and "Democrat" became virtually synonymous.

Locally Organized

For the first two years of the Civil War, branches of the secret antiwar society known as the Knights of the Golden Circle were on the whole locally organized, such as those in the Decatur area.

There are no records to show how large these groups got in Macon County, but it was believed they were of considerable numbers, since the majority of the county residents up to that time had come from Virginia, the Carolinas, Kentucky and Tennessee.

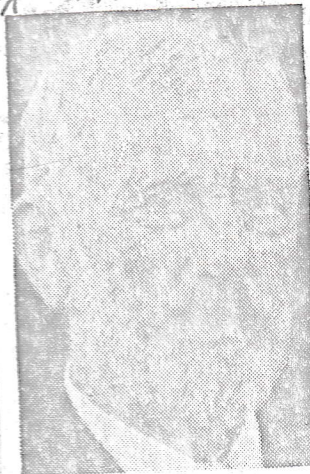
In its organized form, the Copperhead movement was one of secrecy, quasi-military discipline, the taking of oaths, elaborate ritual, and in its extremist sense, one of terrorism and taking of the law into private hands.

In Decatur, the Knights of the Golden Circle drilled secretly in halls by day and in open fields by night.

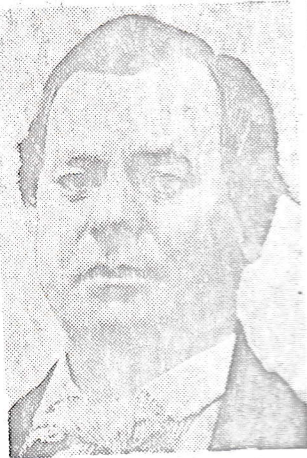
To offset these groups, those loyal to the cause of the North organized in the secret society of the Union League, which were armed and watchful against insurrection.

League Leaders

Among the leaders of the Union League here were James



James Millikin
...Union League leader



Richard J. Oglesby
...challenged Copperheads

Millikin, Jerome R. Gorin and Judge Charles Emerson, all men who would not have gone to these lengths unless they recognized the potential threat of the opposition.

An incident involving Richard J. Oglesby of Decatur, the only man to be elected governor of Illinois three times, came the closest to an all out riot.

In the fall of 1863, Oglesby had returned home to recuperate from a serious wound he received in the Battle of Corinth.

That fall, Gen. Oglesby and Capt. J. S. Post, also of Decatur, spoke at a Unionist meeting in Sullivan. On the same day and in the same town, John R. Eden of Sullivan was speaking at a meeting of antiwar Democrats.

On their way home, Oglesby and Post passed by the meeting place of the opposition. Some men on the road gave a cheer for Clement L. Vallandigham, Ohio legislator and chief spokesman for the Copperhead movement.

Oglesby brought his horse to an abrupt halt and loudly cursed the men, calling them traitors. A friend of Oglesby's, who witnessed this incident, later wrote:

"I saw and heard this and for once, I was scared. Revolvers were drawn on every hand and I expected nothing else but that he would be killed.

"But, Oglesby was equal to the occasion. He asked the crowd for silence and told them that Eden and he were friends and to go back and hear what he had to say."

After the buggy in which Oglesby and Post were riding was led through the crowd, Oglesby rose and said, "Now, let's have three cheers for the Union." Some responded and the crisis was averted.

The Rev. Nathan M. Baker, who was chaplain of the 116th Regiment of the Union Army, observed the tension which

then existed in Decatur while home on leave.

He later wrote, "An incident will show how raw and jumpy was the public nerve at this time. A rumor spread through Mount Zion Township that the Knights of the Golden Circle had taken armed possession of Decatur.


"And without stopping to consider the possibilities of its truth, a number of good citizens, like the Minutemen of old, grabbed their guns, mounted their horses and rode post haste to the relief of the county seat.

"The fact that the rumor was false does not detract in the least from the merit of the quick rally for defense."

Baker also wrote of outbreaks in Montgomery County, Bond County and one which threatened to be serious in Coles County.

Of the latter, he said, "Both Union Leaguers and Knights of the Circle started from here to reinforce their respective partisans, but the riot was quelled before they reached their destination."

In an article by Baker printed in 1923 he said, "The present generation will never realize how near we came to insurrection and civil strife right here in Macon County, or how critical conditions remained until after the presidential election of 1864 when the triumphant return of Lincoln to power cut off the last hope of the enemy behind the lines."



Firemen from the rural Lincoln and Elkhart departments chop a hole in the roof of the John L. Oglesby home at Elkhart in their efforts to

control a \$100,000 blaze. The Oglesbys, who were not home when the fire started, returned just as the blaze was controlled.

Elkhart Fire Destroys *Feb. 24, 1959.* Gov. Oglesby Papers

Elkhart, Feb. 24 (Special)

A \$100,000 fire swept through the home of John L. Oglesby in Elkhart today, destroying hundreds of documents, books and mementoes relating to his grandfather, Richard Oglesby, Illinois governor in the Civil War period.

The home was valued at about \$150,000.

Destroyed in the blaze were nearly all of the household furnishings, a valuable oil painting of Gov. Oglesby and other heirlooms.

John Oglesby's mother, Mrs. Maude Oglesby, who lives with her son and his family, said

damages would amount to at least \$100,000.

Oglesby said it is difficult to estimate the damage because of the loss of many items that cannot be replaced.

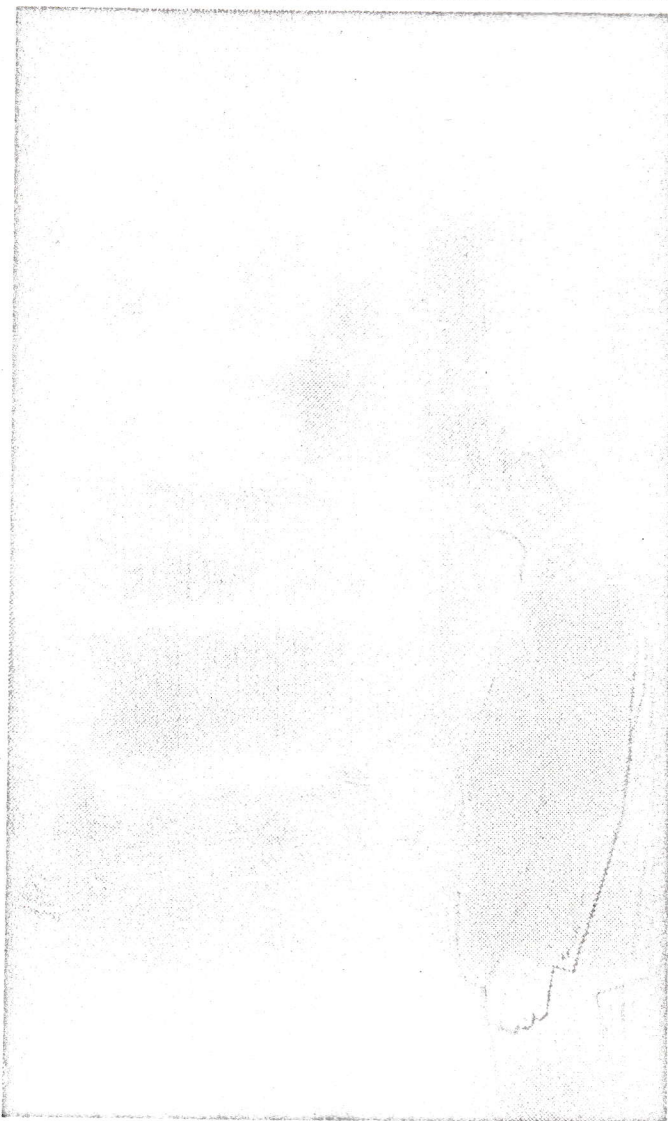
The fire was discovered about 2 p.m. by two employes of a farm about a half mile away from this Logan County community located between Springfield and Lincoln.

Rural Lincoln and Elkhart fireman chopped holes in the roof of the house during the hour-long fight against the fire.

Fenton S. Craner, Elkhart fire chief, said the cause of the blaze has not been determined, but it is a strong possibility that it started in the den library, the room in which the painting was hanging and in which most of the books and documents were kept. A badly burned television set was found there.

The Oglesbys were not home when the fire started. The house is on the northwest side of Elkhart Hill, the site of the first Logan County settlement.

Richard Oglesby was elected governor on the Republican ticket in 1864 and was re-elected again in 1872, but resigned 10 days after his inauguration to become U.S. senator. In 1884 he ran for governor again and was elected to an unprecedented third term.



James T. Hickey, with the Illinois State Historical Library, inspects some of the books and documents which were damaged or destroyed in a fire at the Elkhart home of

John L. Oglesby, grandson of former Illinois Gov. Richard Oglesby. This picture was taken in the den library, the hardest hit of the rooms.

DEDICATION OF MONUMENT

In Memory of Richard J. Oglesby, in Lincoln Park,
Chicago.

The unveiling of the monument of Former Governor Richard J. Oglesby in Lincoln Park, Chicago, on November 21, 1919, was an impressive event, in spite of the November rain. The knoll that is its site was filled with Illinois men and women who came to honor the "great son of a great state," and to his widow, who was present together with her son, Lieutenant Governor John G. Oglesby, and grandson Richard J. Oglesby.

Governor Frank O. Lowden made the unveiling address. "Governor Oglesby lived through many storms and never bowed his head," he said, and as he spoke the words there was a rift of clouds and the sun appeared as the flags were rolled back from the face of the statue. The burst of light brought out the strength the sculptor, Leonard Crunelle, emphasized in his modeling of the face.

Senator M. B. Bailey of Danville, secretary of the monument committee, presented the monument in behalf of the state in the absence of John S. Runnells, chairman, who is ill. It was Senator Bailey who introduced the bill which produced the monument.

"Richard J. Oglesby was a stranger to fear and chicanery," he said in his short address.

B. M. Winston accepted the monument for the Lincoln Park commissioners and John C. Cannon, superintendent and secretary of the board, was master of ceremonies.

A man who was a close friend both of Governor Oglesby and of Abraham Lincoln was invited to be present, but was unable to do so. He was John W. Bunn of Springfield, one of the monument committee.

In a talk with a friend at his home in Springfield, Mr. Bunn said: "He was the strongest character I ever knew, next to Lincoln. The statue is an excellent likeness and brings out the strength and determination which were inherent in the man."

*From Journal of the Illinois State
Historical Society, Vol. XII, Nos. 1-4
April 1919 to Jan. 1920, pages 596-597
Schrepp and Barnes, printers, Springfield,
Illinois, 1921*

Mrs. R. J. Oglesby, the widow, looking like a figure in a charming old portrait, in her black bonnet and cape, watched with serious eyes the sculptured face of her husband as she listened to Governor Lowden's address. Her two sons, Lieutenant-Governor John G. Oglesby and Jasper Oglesby, and her daughter, Miss Felicite Oglesby, also were present. Others who were there were Mr. and Mrs. Thomas W. Hinde, Mr. and Mrs. Potter Palmer, Miss Cudahy, Mrs. Jacob Baur, Miss Harriet Lowden, David E. Shanahan, speaker of the house; Carl Mueller, Henry L. Hertz, former collector of internal revenue, and Adjutant-General Frank S. Dickson.

The monument, for which Leonard Crunelle is the sculptor and Joseph Morrison the architect, is placed at the highest point in Lincoln Park. The feet of the statue are on a direct level with the tip of the statue of Gen. Grant. It depicts the former governor, hat in hand, wearing his army overcoat flung open. A bronze tablet behind the figure gives a resume of his life.

STATUES OF GOVERNOR RICHARD YATES AND
JOHN M. PALMER, TO BE ERECTED ON THE
CAPITOL GROUNDS AT SPRINGFIELD.

A statue of the War Governor Richard Yates, by the Sculptor Albyn Polacek, and one of Governor John M. Palmer, by Leonard Crunelle, will be placed on the State House Grounds at Springfield. The last session of the General Assembly, appropriated thirty-five thousand (\$35,000) each for the statues.

Leonard Crunelle who is to make the statue of Governor Palmer made the statue of Governor Richard J. Oglesby, which was recently dedicated in Lincoln Park, Chicago, mentioned in this number of the Journal.

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Sculptor Got Start in Decatur

By James M. Dedman

Leonard Crunelle, world-famous sculptor who died in 1944 at age 72, got his start in art in Decatur.

He was born in 1872 at Lens, Pas-de-Calais, France. When he was 17, his parents came to America and settled in Indiana.

His father was a miner, and Leonard followed in his footsteps as a miner's helper.

They sought work in Pana and finally came to Decatur. His father applied for work at the Decatur Coal Co. and was turned away.

The family started walking down the Illinois Central Railroad tracks.

When Mark Moran, superintendent of Mine 1, heard about the plight of the family, he sent for them and had them called back to Decatur where he found lodging for them and finally hired the father and young Leonard.

Leonard worked in the mines during the day and spent his evenings sketching with crayons on crude brown paper.

He was a quiet and retiring youth but seemed to make friends easily.

Mrs. Amos Waughop saw some of Leonard's sketches and realized the youth had talent. She arranged for him to take art lessons from a Laura Johns, a Decatur artist.

In the meantime, Leonard tried his hand at clay modeling. He brought up clay from the mine and washed it until it was free of coal dust.

Leonard was a friend of young James J. Moran, the son of the mine superintendent, who later founded the James J. Moran & Sons Funeral Home. The first bust Crunelle made was of his friend, "Jimmy."

When Crunelle was 19, the Decatur Woman's Club invited a well-known Chicago artist, Lorado Taft, to give a lecture and a demonstration of clay modeling for the club.

Mrs. Elmira Stoner, wife of Dr. A. J. Stoner, had learned of Leonard's talent as an artist and personally carried a ticket to the young man so that he could attend the lecture.

After the lecture, Crunelle was introduced to Taft and showed him some of his sketches.

Taft was so impressed with the young man that he offered to take him to Chicago to assist him in his work.

Taft was working on items for the World's Columbian Exposit-

Sunday Decatur Herald
and Review

Decatur

Diary

December 13, 1970.

tion that was to open in May, 1893, so a whole new world opened to Crunelle. As Taft's helper, he was able to learn more about sculptures.

It was during this time that he married the adopted daughter of the woman who encouraged him to take art lessons, Augusta Waughop.

It was not until 1895 that he seriously considered doing something of his own.

He did a bust of his 1-year-old daughter which he entitled "Little Marguerite."

It took Chicago art critics by storm and was sent to other parts of the country where it won acclaim for the young artist.

The statue of Sacagawea, Indian girl who guided Lewis and Clark, was done by Crunelle and

erected on the capitol grounds at Bismarck, N.D., in 1906.

The "Fairy Fountain" or "Design for a Fountain" won a \$100 prize for Crunelle offered by Montgomery, Ward & Co. in 1907 at the Art Institute in Chicago. It consisted of a group of his four children with the elder daughter as the central figure.

Crunelle has done a number of famous statues. Gen. Artemas Ward in Washington, D.C., Lincoln statues in Springfield, Dixon and Freeport, the statue of Gov. Richard Oglesby in Lincoln Park, Chicago, and of Gov. John M. Palmer in Springfield are a few of his works.

A monument 22-feet high to Negro soldiers of Illinois, placed at 35th St. and Grand Blvd. in Chicago is one of his larger works.

In Decatur, Mary W. French School has a relief, the Marian L. Dill Memorial, and the Decatur Public Library has an early bust of Dr. W. A. Barnes and E. A. Gastman. Gastman School also has a bust of Gastman done by Crunelle.

Decatur, Illinois, Sunday, December 13, 1970



Crunelle working on the head of George Washington.

MRS. RICHARD J. OGLESBY
(Emma Gillett)

Emma Gillett Oglesby was born February 11, 1845, at Cornland, Illinois, daughter of John Dean and Lemira Parke Gillett. She was married to Hiram David Keays of Bloomington, Illinois, in November, 1864, and he died in 1868. On November 18, 1873, she was married to Richard J. Oglesby, United States Senator.

For years Mrs. Oglesby was a prominent figure in the life of Illinois and of the nation. Her years as first lady of the state, as a member of the Washington official set, as a social leader, as a member of the board of Directors of the World's Columbian Exposition and her acquaintance abroad gained through travel, made her a nationally known figure.

Mrs. Oglesby was an unusually well-read woman. When she was sixteen years old, her father placed her under the tutelage of his cousin, a classical scholar, who laid out a course of reading for her. In her late years, having outlived most of her friends, she had recourse to books for companionship. Although she was more than eighty years old, she was as witty and mentally active as during her earlier years.

Mrs. Oglesby is survived by four children: Hiram Gillett Keays, Elkhart; Countess Cenci Bolognetti (Felicite Oglesby), John Gillett Oglesby and Jasper Oglesby. Her husband died April 24, 1899, and one son, Richard James Oglesby, Jr., died in 1913.

Mrs. Oglesby died November 25, 1928, and is buried beside her husband on the Oglesby estate, Oglehurst, Elkhart, Illinois.

from: Osborne, Georgia L., *Brief Biographies of the*
Figurines on display in the Illinois State Historical
Library, Springfield, Illinois, 1932.

MARRIAGE OF SENATOR
OGLESBY.

For some time past rumors have been afloat concerning the approaching marriage of our distinguished fellow-citizen, U. S. Senator Richard J. Oglesby, and numerous have been the speculations indulged in by the public relative to the happy event. We have refrained from mentioning anything about the affair in advance, preferring to await its consummation, and have now the pleasure of laying before our readers such particulars of the event as are in our possession.

Senator Oglesby was married at noon to-day, to Mrs. Emma Keyes, the widowed daughter of Hon. John D. Gillette, of Logan county. The wedding took place at the residence of Mr. Gillette, near Elkhart, the ceremony being performed by Rev. F. M. Gregg, rector of St. Paul's (Episcopal) church, Springfield, of which denomination the bride is a member. The wedding though largely attended, was a private affair entirely, the guests being almost exclusively relatives of the bride and groom. Only a few persons from Decatur were present; the following list comprises about all of them: Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Peddecord, Mrs. H. Prather, Miss Peddecord, Mrs. Venningholtz, Mrs. L. Burrows, Mr. and Mrs. V. H. Park, Mr. R. G. Peddecord, Mr. H. A. Fenton, Capt. M. F. Kanan, Miss McClellan, Miss Stamper. From Springfield, where the bride has a host of family connections, the attendance was larger, the guests from that city and Decatur filling a special train which left there for Elkhart at 8 o'clock this morning. The bride and groom leave to-morrow for Washington, going by way of Chicago and New York.

For the benefit of those of our readers who are curiously inclined we will state that the bride is a niece of V. H. Park, Esq., and Mrs. A. A. Murray, of this city. She was among the guests at the Rarode-Peddecord wedding in this city, October first, and created quite a favorable impression by her appearance of quiet dignity and lady-like bearing. When she returns here with her senatorial husband, as we understand she will during the holiday vacation of Congress, she will find a cordial reception awaiting her at the hands of our people, no less on account of her being the wife of our popular townsman than because of her own amiable and winning qualities. In wishing health, happiness and long life to the Senator and his bride we but echo the sentiments of all the people of Decatur, Macon County and the State of Illinois.

The Decatur Daily Republican
Tues., Nov. 18, 1873.

Verof
copy of the
news write-up
of Governor
Oglesby's marriage
to Emma Gillett
Hearp. Typed
copy of this
elsewhere.

Marriage of Senator Oglesby

"For some time past rumors have been afloat concerning the approaching marriage of our distinguished fellow-citizen, U. S. Senator Richard J. Oglesby, and numerous have been the speculations indulged in by the public relative to the happy event. We have refrained from mentioning about the affair in advance, preferring to await its consummation, and have now the pleasure of laying before our readers such particulars of the event as are in our possession.

"Senator Oglesby was married at noon today, to Mrs. Emma Keyes, the widowed daughter of Hon. John D. Gillette of Logan County. The wedding took place at the residence of Mr. Gillette, near Elkhart, the ceremony being performed by Rev. F. M. Gregg, rector of St. Paul's (Episcopal) church, Springfield, of which denomination the bride is a member. The wedding though largely attended, was a private affair entirely, the guests being almost exclusively relatives of the bride and groom. Only a few persons from Decatur were present; the following list comprises about all of them: Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Peddecord, Mrs. E. Prater, Miss Peddecord, Mrs. Vennigerholtz, Mrs. L. Burrows, Mr. and Mrs. V. E. Parke, Mr. R. G. Peddecord, Mr. A. H. Fenton, Capt. M. F. Kanan, Miss McClellan, Miss Stamper. From Springfield, where the bride has a host of family connections, the attendance was larger, the guests from that city and Decatur filling a special train which left there for Elkhart at 8:10 in the morning. The bride and groom leave tomorrow for Washington, going by way of Chicago and New York.

"For the benefit of our readers who are curiously inclined we will state that the bride is a niece of V. E. Parke, Esq. and Mrs. A. A. Murray of this city. She was among the guests at the Hurode-Peddecord wedding in this city, October first, and created quite a favorable impression by her appearance of quiet dignity and lady-like bearing. When she returns here with her senatorial husband, as we understand she will during the holiday vacation of Congress, she will find a cordial reception awaiting her at the hands of our people, no less on account of her being the wife of our popular townsman than because of her own amiable and winning qualities. In wishing health, happiness and long life to the Senator and his bride we but echo the sentiments of Decatur, Macon County and the state of Illinois."

Daily Republican (Decatur)
Tues., November 18, 1873.

Hiram Gillett Keays, Prominent Logan County Farmer, Is Dead

May 1937

Was Stepson Of Governor Richard J. Oglesby; Final Rites Will Be Held Saturday.

Hiram Gillett Keays, prominent livestock raiser and farmer of Logan county and member of a family outstanding in Illinois history, died at 6:45 p. m. yesterday at his home near Elkhart. He was 69 years old. Death followed an illness of several months. Mr. Keays, a half-brother of former Lieutenant Governor John G. Oglesby of Elkhart, was the eldest son of Mrs. Richard J. Oglesby by her first marriage. He was born near Elkhart on June 8, 1867. His father was Hiram David Keays.



HIRAM GILLETT KEAYS.

His maternal grandfather, John D. Gillett, was a pioneer resident and large landowner of Logan county. Following his father's death Mr. Keays' mother married Richard J. Oglesby, twice governor of Illinois.

Mr. Keays attended Adams academy at Quincy, Mass., and was graduated from Harvard university at Cambridge, Mass., magna cum laude, with the class of 1887.

On Oct. 14, 1896, he married Miss Lucy Cecelia Herod, daughter of Judge and Mrs. William Wirt Herod of Indianapolis. Mrs. Keays died in June, 1934.

For many years Mr. Keays was actively engaged in the business of raising fine livestock and in farming. He was an extensive landowner and his home is one of the show-places of Logan county. He was a member of the high school board of Elkhart for many years.

During the World war he served on the field board for the state draft. He was a member of the University club of Chicago.

Surviving are three children, John Dean Gillett Keays and Miss Susan Gillett Keays, both of Elkhart, and Mrs. William McClellan Drake, Chicago; two grandchildren, Susan and William Drake; his half-brother, John G. Oglesby, and a half-sister, Countess Felicite Cenci of Viareggio, Italy.

Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a. m. Saturday in the family chapel near Elkhart. Bishop John Chanler White and Rev. John A. Betcher of Lincoln will officiate. Burial will be in the Elkhart cemetery.

ILL., FRIDAY, AUGUST 25, 1939

Plan Funeral For John D. G. Keays

Jury Finds Elkhart Man Took Own Life.

Funeral services for John Dean Gillett Keays, of Elkhart, prominent Logan county landowner and nephew of former Lieutenant Governor John G. Oglesby, will be held at 11 a. m. Saturday at the Gillett memorial chapel on the Oglesby estate near the Keays home.

Bishop John Chanler White of

the Protestant Episcopal church, Springfield, will officiate and the services and burial will be in the Elkhart cemetery.

Keays, 41 years old, was found shot to death yesterday evening at his home near Elkhart. A verdict of suicide while despondent over ill health was returned today at an inquest conducted at the Keays residence by Coroner E. C. Goff of Lincoln.

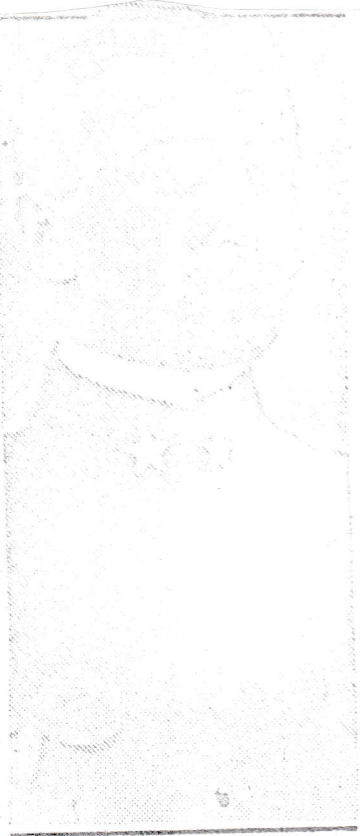
Witnesses testified Keays had complained of poor health after visiting a physician in Springfield yesterday afternoon and in conversation at dinner yesterday evening had threatened to take his life.

Testifying at the inquest were his sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Drake; brother-in-law, William Drake; Miss Evelyn Steinhour, a maid; and John Barry of the coroner's office. Jurors were J. B. Taylor, C. L. Brennan, R. B. Lanterman, James A. Havey, W. A. Gallion and Ray Schilling, all of Elkhart.

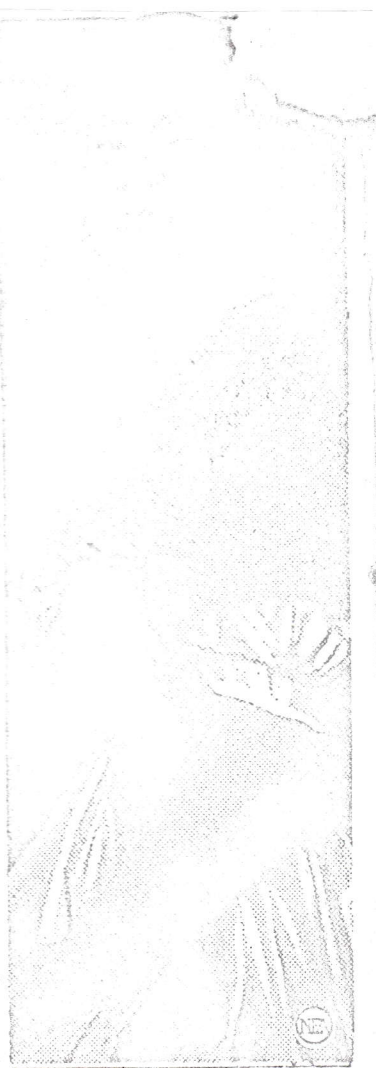
The body was discovered by Keays' brother-in-law, Mr. Drake, of the Chicago Drake hotel family. Three shots had been fired from a .38 calibre automatic pistol which was lying beside the body.

One or more of the shots had entered Keays' head, behind the left ear, and came out at an angle on the left side of the head on the rear. Two bullets had struck a picture hanging above Mr. Keays' bed, while a third had entered the ceiling, Goff stated.

Mr. Keays had been under treatment of a physician for several



COUNT ALLESANDRO
CENCI BOLOGNETTI



COUNTRESS CENCI BOL'GNETTI

The marriage of Miss Felicité Oglesby, daughter of the late Governor Richard J. Oglesby, three times governor of Illinois and twice a member of the United State senate to Count Allesandro Cenci Bolognetti, member of an old Italian noble family, was an event in Springfield history.

The wedding took place in Rome, Italy, at 11 o'clock the morning of July 23, 1924, and was solemnized in the Cenci chapel, the chapel of a cardinal. It was followed by a reception in the Rome apartments of Miss Oglesby's mother, Mrs. Richard J. Oglesby of Elkhurst, Elkhart, Ill.

The ceremony was witnessed for Miss Oglesby by her brother, Former Lieut. Governor John G. Oglesby of Illinois, Hiram Keays of Elkhart, and Henry P. Fletcher, American ambassador to Italy, and for Count Bolognetti by his cousin, Prince de Vicovara and his general during the World war, General Pe'tite of the Italian army. Miss Oglesby was attended by her brother and her mother was accompanied by Gen. Piola Caselli.

Following the wedding Count and Countess Bolognetti made a honeymoon trip to Valambros and Pieve di Cadore. They now reside in Rome.

Miss Oglesby was also in France during the World war, and with her mother spent a number of winters, prior to her marriage, in Rome. Count Bolognetti distinguished himself in two wars.

Born - 421 West Williams, Decatur, Ill.
August 27, 1874

Died - July 29, 1954

Governor Oglesby's Home

Richard Oglesby was called by Mrs. Jane Johns in her book, Personal Recollections, "Decatur's Most Distinguished Citizen." This home on West William was the scene of many famous gatherings in Decatur's history. Abraham Lincoln was a frequent guest there, for the two were great friends. The home is now occupied by Mr. Frank Evans.

The father of Governor Oglesby was a farmer and slave owner in Kentucky. Richard was born there in Oldham County, July 25, 1824. In 1833 the father, mother, and two children died of cholera. The home was broken up, and Dick and his three sisters were taken to the home of their uncle. At this time Uncle Tim, a slave of whom the boy was very fond, was sold and the small boy vowed that he would earn money and buy him back.

In 1836 the four children came with Uncle Richard and Aunt Judy Oglesby to Decatur. One of the sisters died soon after arrival. Amanda became Mrs. Henry Prather and Ophelia, Mrs. J. J. Peddecord. Young Dick attended a subscription school for a short time. He went for a time with another uncle to Indiana, but he did not like it and soon came back. He was a harum-scarum, fun loving boy, full of pranks and mischief.

Young Dick tried all kinds of trades. One summer he raised hemp and made rope which was used to launch the first flat boat on the Sangamon. For this he received \$6.50. He also tried carpentry, but then decided that he wanted to be a lawyer. For this he went to Springfield where he studied law in the office of Judge Silas W. Robbins. He had a difficult time at first with the hard words, but was admitted to the bar in 1845. He went to Sullivan to practice law but soon came back to Decatur.

War had been declared with Mexico and he enlisted as a private. Soon he was made a second lieutenant. He fought in the Battle of Cerro Gordo. After the war he attended law school in Louisville for three months before coming back to practice law in Decatur.

But word of the discovery of gold in California had reached Decatur. His love of adventure made him want to join the "gold rush." Together with Henry Prather, E. O. Smith and Samuel Powers he set out. Oglesby drove a team of six mules from St. Joseph, Missouri to Sacramento. It took the men ninety-five days to make the trip. After two years he returned to Decatur with \$4500 and new knowledge of the world. He entered into a law partnership with Sheridan Wait after his return.

For his service in the Mexican War he had received a grant of land. With this land and his gold he bought land west and north of Decatur, which he laid out in town lots. In naming the streets in his addition, he marked where he had received his money. Eldorado was named for the El Dorada mines, and Cerro Gordo for the Battle of Cerro Gordo where he had commanded a

Note: The present Oglesby house was not built until 1874. Miss Gries must be referring to the old, 7-room house that was once attached to the west side of the river house, the present one.

circled
April 15, 1865
See notation in left hand margin of this sheet.

company. Too, he remembered his promise to buy back Uncle Tim which he did and set the old slave free.

His California trip had whetted his appetite for more voyages, and in 1856 he left Illinois for a tour of Great Britain and Europe. Before he returned he had visited Egypt, Arabia, Palistine, and Asia Minor. He was gone more than a year and a half. Every one was so eager to hear of his trip, that it was decided that he should give "A Lecture on the Holy Land" in Powers Hall. At eleven o'clock he realized that he had talked for three hours and was not near the Holy Land yet in his travelogue. It finally took five lectures to complete his story. But he was such a good speaker that all wanted to hear more of his travels. No one in his audience had crossed the ocean.

In 1859 Mr. Oglesby married Miss Anna E. White. They lived in a home in 400 West William given to the bride by her father. In 1860 he was elected to the State Senate. Soon after the outbreak of the Civil War, he resigned from the Senate to become a colonel in the Eighth Illinois Regiment. He later became a brigadier general. He was seriously wounded at the Battle of Corinth. Upon his recovery he was given an army job in Washington and the rank of major-general. Then in 1864 he was elected governor of Illinois.

He was elected three different times as governor of the state and in between his terms he returned to Decatur. During his second term as governor, he was elected to the U. S. Senate and resigned as governor.

After his return from the war, the old house in which he had lived became the kitchen and servants' quarters of the new home he built there. Mrs. Oglesby had died while he lived in Springfield. In later years he lived in Logan County at Oglehurst. After his second marriage to Mrs. Emma Gillett Keyes, this home was sold to J. E. Bering. The original Oglesby home was later torn down. He died April 4, 1899. Decatur honored his memory by naming Oglesby School for him.

Written by Miss Mildred E. Price
for use with a slide of the Rich-
ard Oglesby house. On file in
The Resource Center, Decatur Public
Schools, 1974.



From Blue Book of the State of Illinois
1919-1920

Edited by Louis L. Emmerson, Secretary of State
Printed by authority of the State of Illinois

JOHN G. OGLESBY,
Lieutenant Governor.

JOHN G. OGLESBY, Elkhart, Lieutenant Governor (Republican), was born in Decatur, Illinois, March 19, 1878; educated in the public schools and St. Mark's, South Burrough, Massachusetts, and Harvard University. He left the University in his sophomore year to raise a troop of cavalry for service in the Spanish-American War. His troop was Troop K, First Illinois Cavalry, and he served as its captain until the end of the war, after which time he served in the militia with ranks of lieutenant, lieutenant colonel, and colonel. He was placed on the reserve list in 1905. He entered the employ of the Republic Iron and Steel Company at East Chicago, after the close of the war, beginning in the shipping department and was promoted frequently, rising to the position of iron inspector of the plant. Later he was private secretary to Governor Yates. He was elected to the House of Representatives from the Twenty-eighth Senatorial District in 1904 and re-elected in 1906, and was author of the Oglesby Primary Law. He was elected Lieutenant Governor in 1908, was renominated at the primaries in 1912 by the largest plurality of any candidate, but was defeated with the Republican ticket that year; elected Lieutenant Governor in 1916 by a plurality of 137,286. He is a farmer, and manages "Oglehurst," the estate of his mother, the widow of the late Governor Richard J. Oglesby, near Elkhart.

From Blue Book of the State of Illinois
1919-1920

Edited by Louis L. Emmerson, Secretary of State
Printed by authority of the State of Illinois

Social Side of News

Sunday Herald and Review
7/17/60

Mrs. LeForgee Recalled as Fairy Bridesmaid

Mrs. Charles C. LeForgee of 569 Powers Ln., is described as having been one of the "fairy bridesmaids" at the wedding in 1832 of Miss Olive Oglesby, daughter of Gov. Richard J. Oglesby. Mrs. Barnes, a niece of Gov. Oglesby was Miss Isabel Vennigerholz at the time.

In a story written in connection with the forthcoming wedding of Miss Diana Stratton, daughter of Gov. and Mrs. William G. Stratton, and Norman F. Weiskopf, the Oglesby wedding is mentioned as one that took place while the father of the bride was a governor in office. Miss Stratton will be the fifth.

The first was that of Lydia Matteson, daughter of Gov. and Mrs. Joel Aldrich Matteson, and John McGinnis Jr. in 1836.

Next in 1832, Miss Ella Cullom whose parents were Gov. and Mrs. Shelby Moore Cullom, was married to William Barret Ridgely.

Six years later, the mansion in Springfield was a scene of a similar event when Gov. Oglesby's daughter Olive was married to Chester Allyn Snider and Miss Vennigerholz was the "fairy bridesmaid."

Before the ceremony, the bridal attendants were presented pearl-studded fans as a gift from the bride.

Mrs. Oglesby, the governor's second wife, was the former Emma Gillette of Elkhart, and her own daughter, Felicite was the companion of Miss Vennigerholz in the wedding procession. Felicite later became the Countess Cenci Bolognelli who lived for many years in Rome and died there a few years ago.

Olive Oglesby had divided her time between Decatur and Springfield after the death of her own mother who was the former Anna White of Decatur.

Last wedding of a governor's daughter before the Stratton one planned for September was in 1915. Miss Eileen Dunne, daughter of Gov. and Mrs. Edward F. Dunne, became the bride of William J. Corboy.

Reminiscence of
Marriage of
Olive Oglesby
to
Chester Allyn Snider.

Olive Oglesby,
daughter of
Richard J. Oglesby
and
Anna White Oglesby

Monday, January 2, 1928.

*Decatur
Review*

Robert Oglesby Dies Suddenly In Tulsa

Son of Former Governor Richard Oglesby Born in
Decatur and Had Many Friends Here.

Robert Oglesby, formerly of Decatur and a son of Former Governor Richard J. Oglesby, died suddenly at 10 o'clock Sunday morning in his apartment at the Mayo hotel in Tulsa, Okla., according to word received by Decatur friends. He was sixty-one years old last October. His death was caused by heart trouble.

Robert Oglesby was born in Decatur Oct. 8, 1866. His father, Richard J. Oglesby, organized a regiment in Decatur and Macon county at the outbreak of the Civil war and became its colonel. He served as such throughout the war and after its close was twice elected governor of Illinois and later served a term as United States senator from Illinois. He and Abraham Lincoln were close friends and the latter often visited Mr. Oglesby when in the city.

WIDELY TRAVELED.

Robert Oglesby was educated at Racine, Wis., and Harvard university. He was a great traveler and had visited about every country on the globe. In 1907 he disposed of his property in Decatur, part of which was the building occupied by the Greider cafe at Water and East Main streets, and went to Chanute, Kan., arriving there just as the first oil was struck in that part of the country. Up to that time the country's principal oil supply came from Pennsylvania. The industry was new to the west. After working the new Kansas field for awhile Mr. Oglesby and H. W. Bartlett of Sapulpa, Okla., went to Tulsa, Okla., and bought land extensively in what later became the Cushing oil field.

FORMED CUSHING POOL.

Mr. Oglesby is credited with organizing the Cushing pool and a considerable portion of the fortune possessed by him at his death is said to have come to him through his interests in that pool. Later Mr. Oglesby leased his holdings to a large oil company and retired, moving to New York in 1918. That has been his home ever since, though he visited Decatur at least once every year. His last visit here was in February, 1927.

HAD HEART TROUBLE.

Mr. Oglesby had been afflicted with heart trouble for several years and had traveled extensively for his health. He was visited at his home in New York three weeks ago by Attorney C. C. LeForgee, a life-long friend. Mrs. LeForgee and her mother are cousins of Robert Oglesby. Mr. Oglesby was then under the care of a private nurse. About the middle of December Mr. Oglesby went to Tulsa, Okla., on a business trip, and was to have come from there to Decatur for a visit with Mr. Le Forgee and family.

He was not feeling well Saturday morning and he sent a number of messages to friends, stating that he intended to leave that day for Palm Beach, Fla., where his yacht is stationed. He seemed to be feeling very well when he retired Saturday night. When his nurse entered the room at 9 o'clock Sunday morning he was breathing heavily and he died an hour later.

STUDENT OF CLASSICS.

In his younger days Mr. Oglesby traveled all over the world. He had inherited some property from an aunt, Mrs. Amanda Prather, and the income from this enabled him to realize his ambition to see most of the world. He was a great student of classic literature and this doubtless increased his desire to travel extensively abroad. He made three trips around the world. His first trip was from New York to Shanghai, China, on an old oil tanker. It required five months to make that voyage. After spending some time in Shanghai he made an extensive tour of the Orient. He sent to Frank R. Shull, a life-long friend, letters giving complete details of this tour.

TOOK BICYCLE TOUR.

A bicycle tour of continental Europe was another interesting experi-

ence of Mr. Oglesby. This was taken in company with Hiram Keys of Elkhart, Ill. They extended their tour east as far as Constantinople, Turkey. They were in no hurry and spent considerable time in the various countries through which they passed, especially in France and Germany.

WENT TO YUKON.

At the time of the Alaskan gold rush in 1899 Mr. Oglesby was one of the first to go into the interior of the Yukon country. While he did not "strike it rich" he had many interesting adventures while in the northern country. These he related to friends and relatives and was finally induced to write an account of his adventures, which was later published in the Cosmopolitan magazine.

Mr. Oglesby was a member of the Harvard club, the Lotus club, the New York Yacht club and the Larchmont club of New York and the Tulsa Country club.

He is survived by his sister, Mrs. Olive Oglesby Snider of Tulsa, her daughter, Mrs. Herman Cornell, a half-sister Countess Cent Bonaparte of Rome, Italy, and two half-brothers, John and Jasper Oglesby of Elkhart, Ill.

The body will arrive in Decatur Wednesday morning. There will be a brief funeral service here, and the body will be buried in the Oglesby lot in Greenwood cemetery.

Robert Oglesby,

son of

Richard J. and

Anna White

Oglesby

Bishop White Officiates At Funeral Rites

By J. EMIL SMITH.

The little stone chapel in the graveyard at Elkhart received John G. Oglesby in death yesterday afternoon.

There the funeral rites of the Protestant Episcopal church were intoned for "the great son of a great American."

No spoken eulogy was offered. A deeper tribute than any spoken eulogy that might be made was manifested. It came from the hearts of the large assemblage that had gathered to give their last respects to the memory of one who had entered himself to his fellow countrymen.

The brief and simple service in the chapel merely included a reading of the Scripture and a prayer by Bishop John Chandler White, assisted by Rev. John A. Betcher, rector of Trinity Episcopal church at Lincoln.

Hundreds Give Tribute.

As the remains of the man, who in life had been a national as well as state figure, were borne into the house of worship and also during the service and the recessional, sacred organ selections were played by R. Albert Guest, accompanied by George Killius, violinist.

With hearts, laden with sorrow, hundreds stood reverently outside of the little chapel while the services were being held. The chapel was large enough only to seat the Oglesby family, pallbearers and a small number of Mr. Oglesby's intimate friends.

The large gathering at the cemetery had come to show their affection for the man who had served the state and nation both in war and peace, who had tilled its rich soil and contributed in many ways to the public good.

Was Neighbor And Friend.

An hour before the services for Mr. Oglesby, the townspeople of Elkhart met at the cemetery to place flowers on the graves of their soldier dead and the graves of others who had passed on through the years and to hear a patriotic program.

It was the day for their annual Memorial exercises. They advanced the program an hour to enable them to honor the memory of Mr. Oglesby.

John G. Oglesby was their neighbor and friend. To some he was "Squire" Oglesby. To others he was "Farmer John." To all he was one of them for he had lived among them.

Those in high stations of life and those in the humbler walks merged in paying their respects. John G. Oglesby had known them all. He

had been their friend and called them by their first names.

Governor Attends Rites.

Governor Horner, who had been out of the city, cancelled a speaking engagement to attend the services. He had long known and admired John G. Oglesby.

It was from the same chapel—built nearly forty years ago in memory of his grandfather, John D. Gillett—that John Oglesby's illustrious father, Richard J. Oglesby, thrice governor and once United States senator, and his mother, Emma Gillett Oglesby, had been buried.

As was done upon the deaths of the parents, following the funeral services, the remains of the son were borne to the Oglesby vault on the family lot in the cemetery and laid to rest.

The beautiful little burial ground where the departed members of the Oglesby family repose is not much more than a stone's throw from the Oglesby mansion-home at "Oglehurst." From a window in the combined library and living room of the historic home may be seen the tombstones that mark the graves of those buried there.

Rests Beside Parents.

Over nature's carpet of green and across a little bridge that spans a highway through the Oglesby estate, walked the pallbearers.

It was the same pathway that in life the master of "Oglehurst" had walked time and again in going to visit the last resting place of his father and mother and in going to the chapel for worship.

Fellow directors of the Springfield Marine bank, men who had been associated with John Oglesby for many years in the affairs of

this institution bore the remains to the tomb. They were:

George W. Bunn, sr., Robert C. Lanphier, Addison Corneau, Alonzo Hoff, Robert E. Miller, Herbert B. Bartholf, George W. Bunn, jr., and S. Leigh Call.

Final Military Rites.

At the tomb Bishop White offered a prayer. At its conclusion, G. Ernest Smith, principal of the Latham High school, on behalf of the Elkhart post of the American Legion, spoke briefly, saying:

"We are doing for our departed comrade what he would have done for us." A firing squad, composed of members of the Elkhart post, followed with a final salute.

Then came the sound of a bugle. It was taps that were being sounded—taps for the soldier dead.

A large American flag that draped the casket and which had been placed there by the members of the Elkhart post of the American Legion was removed and given to Mrs. Oglesby. A floral piece of lilies only remained.

The services were over.

John Oglesby, soldier, publicist and two-term lieutenant governor of Illinois, was sleeping the dreamless sleep of the dead.

May 28, 1938

John Gillett Oglesby.

No summary of the public service work performed by the late John G. Oglesby can furnish an adequate conception of the extent or the worth of these activities during his life. The story is but poorly told in the record of his legislative and administrative achievements as a public official.

Perhaps Mr. Oglesby's greatest contribution to his state and to the nation was his example of citizenship. It exemplified in the highest degree the spirit which dominated in the formation of America's system of government. His conception of what a citizen owes his country was that which inspired the ablest of the country's founders.

Born to affluence, Mr. Oglesby fitted himself for the practical work attending the management of the family estate. He was a farmer in the true sense of the term. Few men were closer to the soil and the problems with which the farmer is confronted. He could speak and act with the authority of actual information and no small part of what has been achieved in worthwhile agricultural legislation is due to his advice and suggestion. It is known, too, that had his judgment been followed, some serious political blunders in dealing with farmer's problems would have been avoided.

Throughout his career, John Oglesby kept in mind the fine example of his distinguished father, Richard J. Oglesby, in devoting his talents to the weal of his state and nation. He did not, however, presume upon the distinction of his family and his wealth, to thrust himself into high places. The distinction he gained was well earned by work in the least glamorous, most exacting positions.

The modesty of Mr. Oglesby and his unselfish willingness to do whatever was to be done, without thought of pecuniary reward or the publicity attending the work, cost him some of the acclaim which attended the careers of selfish ambitious contemporaries. It added immeasurably to the regard in which he was held by those who knew him best.

In the years to come, John Gillett Oglesby will grow in the world's esteem as the great son of a great American, whose ideals were expressed in purposeful patriotic endeavor for the advancement of his country and the well-being of its people.

The state had a good servant in John G. Oglesby and the state's capital had in him a worthy, earnest legislative friend. Springfield was not only his home but quite as much his heart's home. "Oglesby" in the hearts of the people. He was the first to see the

DEATH CLAIMS EX-OFFICIAL AT OGLEHURST

Twice Lt. Governor
And State G. O. P.
Leader.

Colonel John G. Oglesby, 60, twice lieutenant governor of Illinois and for many years prominent as an Illinois Republican political leader, died at 4:35 Thursday afternoon at Oglehurst, his country home near Elkhart, that had been founded by his father the late Richard J. Oglesby, thrice governor of Illinois and a major general in the Civil War.

Mr. Oglesby, known nationally as an agriculturist, died by preference on the soil he loved so well.

Ill six months with a complication of diseases, he was removed at his own request Wednesday night from the Presbyterian hospital in Chicago to Elkhart, where he wanted to spend his last hours. He lapsed into unconsciousness after the ambulance trip, and passed away in his father, the late Richard J. Smith Carroll Oglesby, and his niece, Mrs. William Drake, of Elkhart, were with him when the end came.

Funeral Sunday.

The funeral services will be held at 3 o'clock Sunday afternoon in the Gillett Memorial Chapel, at Elkhart, with burial in the Oglesby family vault.

In charge of the services will be Dr. John A. Betcher, rector of Trinity Episcopal church, Lincoln, and Bishop John C. White, of Springfield.

Last fall Mr. and Mrs. Oglesby made a trip to Europe, where they visited the Countess Alessandro Cenci in Italy, in the expectation that his health might be improved. He had recently failed rapidly.

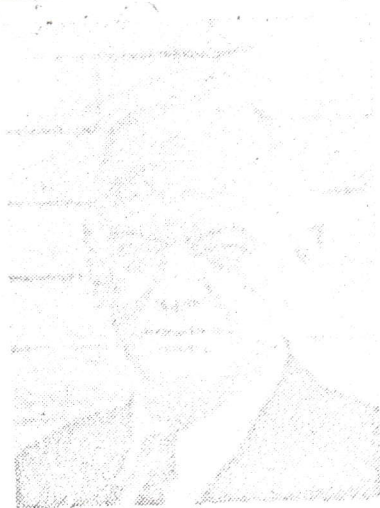
A National Figure.

John G. Oglesby was a national figure as well as prominent in Illinois. He was in charge of the farm block campaign of President Herbert Hoover for re-election, and recently had been named on a national committee of 100 to help reorganize the republican party.

He was held in high regard by President Roosevelt, who several times called him to the White House for a discussion of agricultural affairs. He was a student at Harvard when Roosevelt was in school there. At Harvard Mr. Oglesby was a room-mate of W. K. Vanderbilt.

The Oglesby family has figured prominently in Illinois history since before the Civil War. His father established the family home on Elkhart Hill following his retirement

1878-1938



JOHN G. OGLESBY.

Former Lieutenant Governor and prominent Republican leader, agriculturalist and business man, who died at his home at Elkhart.

Horner Pays Tribute To J. G. Oglesby

Governor Henry Horner headed a large number of Illinois officials and former business and political associates of John G. Oglesby, in paying tribute to his character.

The governor said:

"I have lost a true friend whose comradeship I had learned to prize. His political partisanship was the kind that should prevail among men. Whatever his view might be, he was always generous and liberal with those who differed from him. There was no bitterness in his soul. He was gentle and kind under an exterior that sometimes seemed to be hard and brusque. He served Illinois well in public office, but he served Illinois best as a private citizen who gave to her social, economic and agricultural problems the benefit of honest and careful and intelligent thinking, uninfluenced by personal desires and selfish ends. He spoke freely and emphatically, but not until he had first fortified himself with the facts which he marshaled in convincing array. We may truthfully say that his death is untimely and a public misfortune."

Mr. Oglesby's mother was Emma Gillett, daughter of John D. Gillett, the cattle king. She was prominent in the social affairs of the state and was a member of the woman's commission of the Columbian exposition, held in Chicago in 1893.

Upon the death of his father, John G. Oglesby carried on the family tradition both in the field of agriculture and public affairs.

Father Inaugurated In 1865.

The elder Oglesby was first inaugurated governor on June 16, 1865, was returned to office on Jan. 13, 1873, and again on Jan. 30, 1885. From 1873-79 he served as U. S. Senator, succeeding Lyman Trumbull of Chicago, and resigning as governor to become senator.

John G. Oglesby was a member of the board of directors of the Springfield Marine Bank. He also was vice president of the Chicago and Illinois Midland Railway Co.

Mr. Oglesby frequently referred to himself as "Farmer John." He was a member of the Logan County Farm Bureau board of directors, and took pride in holding a commission of justice of the peace at Elkhart.

Managed 6,000 Acres.

He supervised the farming of 6,000 acres which came under his control as part of the 20,000-acre estate handed down to his family by his maternal grandfather, John D. Gillett.

As a breeder and feeder of Short-horn cattle, Mr. Oglesby attained more than local prominence and on one occasion his carload entry of steers was awarded the grand championship at the International stock show in Chicago.

Mr. Oglesby married Augusta Smith Carroll on Oct. 21, 1929. Besides his wife and sister, Countess Alessandro Cenci-Bolognetti, he is survived by the following nieces and nephews: Mrs. William Drake and John G. Keays, Elkhart; Mrs. Robert Green, Mexico, Mo.; Richard J., and John Louis Oglesby, Elkhart, and Emmapean and James Oglesby.

John G. Oglesby was born March 19, 1878, in Decatur, where he received his preliminary education in the elementary schools. He then entered St. Mark's preparatory school at Southboro, Mass., and following this, in 1896, he became a student at Harvard.

Raised Cavalry Troop.

He left the university in 1898, one more year to enlist in the Spanish-American war. Returning to Illinois he raised a cavalry troop composed of farmer boys and was made captain of Troop K, First Illinois cavalry. Mr. Oglesby served with the regiment until the conclusion of hostilities, when he was mustered out of the service, a part of the time acting as major of the third squadron.

His military training actually had started a few years before, when, at the age of 15, he enlisted as a private in the Illinois national guard. After the Spanish-American war, he continued to serve in the militia, with ranks of lieutenant, lieutenant colonel and colonel. He was placed on the reserve list in 1905, at his own request, with the rank of colonel.

Illinois State Register
Springfield, Ill.

At the cessation of the war, Colonel Oglesby entered the employ of the Republic Iron and Steel Co. in East Chicago, beginning in the shipping department but later being promoted to the position of iron inspector. Upon the nomination of Richard Yates as governor he was drafted to serve as his campaign secretary. When Yates was elected governor, Colonel Oglesby was requested to continue in state service as his secretary, which position he retained until 1904. In that year he was elected to the house of representatives from the district composed of Logan, DeWitt and Mason counties.

Colonel Oglesby served so well that his constituents re-elected him in 1906 and in the latter term he was made chairman of the primary elections commission. This post took on added significance, when, after the state supreme court held that the primary law passed by the previous session of the legislature was unconstitutional, Colonel Oglesby drafted a law that would meet the objections of the court. This measure, known as the Oglesby primary

(Continued on Page Eight)

law, was passed and became a law.

Became Lt. Governor.

Before the close of his second term as legislator, Colonel Oglesby was nominated for lieutenant governor on the Deneen ticket and served four years in that capacity during the second term of Charles S. Deneen. The democrats were swept into power in 1912 because of the split in the republican ranks occasioned by the Bull Moose movement, but when the republicans came back in 1916, Oglesby again was returned as lieutenant governor, under Governor Frank O. Lowden.

During the world war, as chairman of the military committee of the Illinois Council of National Defense he planned and organized the Illinois Volunteer Training corps and the Illinois Reserve militia.

Defeated by Small.

Governor Lowden determined not to seek another term in 1920, and Oglesby was brought forward as his successor. The primary campaign was especially vicious and Oglesby was nosed out by a margin of less than eight thousand votes by the ultimate winner, Len Small of Kankakee. The margin of victory was furnished by returns from Chicago.

A movement for him to run for governor in 1926 was started after the Grass Roots convention, held in Springfield. In answer to the movement he filed his petition and in a statement said: "My plans, however are subject to the welfare and best interests of the republican party. Harmony is more important than eye raid and I shall hold my personal ambition subordinate to my party's welfare and the interests of the people of the state."

Mrs. Jasper Oglesby To Push Charge

According to the Illinois State Register Sunday, Mrs. Maude B. Oglesby, of Elkhart, at Crown Point, Ind., Saturday accused her husband Jasper Oglesby, son of the late Richard Oglesby, of Illinois, of matrimony.

It was announced by Chief Deputy Prosecutor John Underwood, at Crown Point, that Mrs. Oglesby would appear before the lake county, Ind., grand jury Wednesday to present her charges.

Jasper Oglesby has been missing from Elkhart for some time, and Circuit Judge Frank Lindley recently issued a writ here for his appearance for failure to pay \$150 monthly alimony to Mrs. Maude Oglesby for the use of herself and their two sons.

Prosecutor Underwood announced Mrs. Oglesby told him her husband had obtained a license to marry Miss Myrtle Nicholson of Elkhart at Crown Point in June, 1930, and that he married her under the name of Ernest Oglesby.

When asked about her husband using the name of Ernest Oglesby, she said he obtained the marriage license in Crown Point in 1930, Mrs. Oglesby said she knew nothing about that. She said she had never seen the name of Mrs. Jasper Oglesby.

Mrs. Oglesby stated she thought her husband had obtained a divorce from his first wife, as a divorce license, although Mrs. Maude B. Oglesby, where he she did not know when she was granted the divorce.

Illinois State Register
Springfield, Ill.
Courtesy Roy O. Schilling

Jasper Oglesby Dies in Lincoln

July 3, — 1935.
Death of Former Resident, Son of Governor, Ends Long Illness.

Jasper Ernest Oglesby, 53, former resident of Decatur and a son of the late Governor Richard J. Oglesby, died at 4:20 a. m. today at his farm home at Cornland, a short distance south of Lincoln. He suffered a stroke several years ago and had been in poor health ever since.

Mr. Oglesby was born in Decatur, Feb. 10, 1882, in the home now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Frank J. Evans, 421 West William street. He was still a child when the family moved to Springfield. He was twice married. He leaves two sons by his first marriage, Richard, II, of Springfield, and John Oglesby of Elkhart. His second wife, who survives him, was the former Myrtle Nicholson; by her he leaves two children, James E. and Emma Jean Oglesby, Cornland. He also leaves a sister, Mrs. Felicitie Cenci of Elkhart and Italy, a brother, John G. Oglesby, former lieutenant governor of Illinois, in Elkhart. There also is a half-brother, Hiram G. Keays of Elkhart and a half-sister, Mrs. Olive Snyder, New York City. With Illinois Terminal.

He was a half-brother of the late Robert Oglesby, who was perhaps the best known member of the family in Decatur as he was a frequent visitor here and owned some property in Decatur.

Jasper Oglesby was a nephew of Mrs. Will Barnes of Decatur. He was employed for some time as a trainman for the Illinois Traction System, and in August, 1910, was appointed inspector by the same company. Later he retired on account of poor health. The body is at the Sheets funeral home in Lincoln, awaiting completion of funeral arrangements.

Illinois State Register
Springfield, Ill. ↔ Decatur Review
Courtesy Roy O. Schilling

Jasper B. Oglesby, Son Of Governor, Dies At Cornland

July — 3, 1935

Funeral Services Will Be Held Tomorrow.

Lincoln, July 3.—Jasper Ernest Oglesby, youngest son of the late Richard J. Oglesby, former governor of Illinois, and a brother of John G. Oglesby of Elkhart, former lieutenant governor, died at 5:20 a. m. today at his home in Cornland. He was 53 years old. Death followed an illness of three years after a stroke of paralysis.

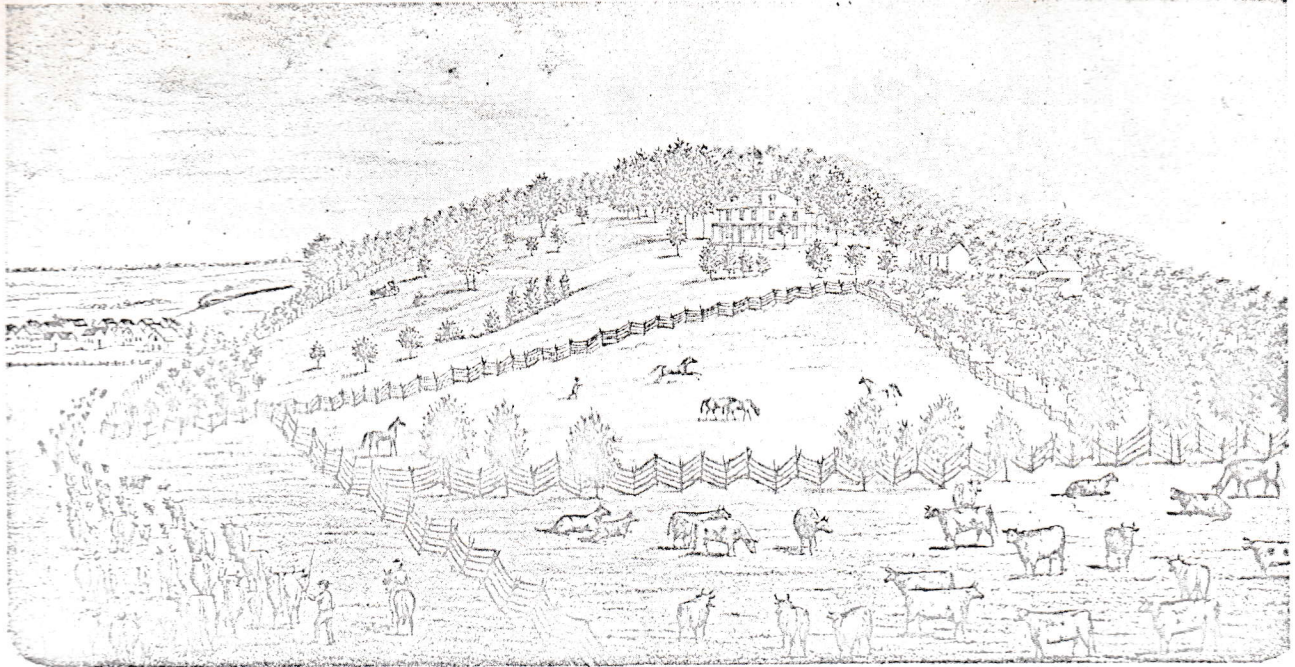
The body will be removed Thursday evening to Oglehurst, the home of the Oglesby family at Elkhart. Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a. m., Friday at St. John the Baptist chapel. Rev. John Betcher will officiate and interment will be made in Latham cemetery at Elkhart.

Pallbearers will be: James B. Taylor, Underwood Cassidy, James A. Havey, Charles Stahl, John Melvin and M. B. Drake.

Mr. Oglesby was born on Feb. 10, 1882, in Decatur, a son of Richard J. and Emma Gillett Oglesby. He spent practically his entire life in Logan county, residing for the most part in Elkhart. The last three years he had been living in Cornland.

He held membership in the Episcopal church.

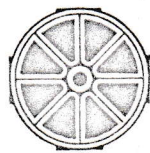
Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Myrtle Nicholson Oglesby; four children, Richard J. Oglesby, John Louis Oglesby, Emma Jean Oglesby and James Edward Oglesby; his brother, John G. Oglesby, Elkhart; one sister, Countess Alessandro Cenci Bolognetti of Rome, Italy, formerly Felicitie Oglesby, and a half-brother, Hiram G. Keays, Elkhart.



FARM RES. OF JOHN D. GILLETT, ESQ., ELKHART PARK, LOGAN CO. ILL. T. 16 N. R. 3 W.

This drawing showing the farm residence of John D. Gillett on Elkhart Hill and also the village of Elkhart on the left was taken from the Logan County Atlas which was published in 1873.

John D. Gillett purchased this farm and moved here from near Cornland on September 14, 1869. The old house burned on February 14, 1871 and Gillett then built the present home.

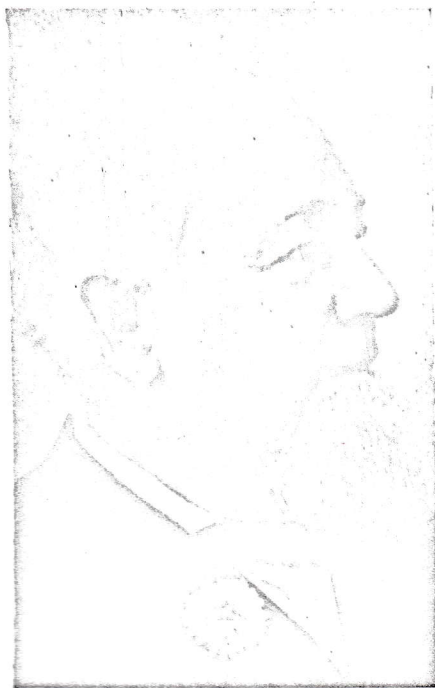


Elkhart Centennial 1855-1955
Published by Zeldman's Print Shop
Lincoln, Illinois, July, 1955.

JOHN D. GILLETT

For many years Elkhart was one of the largest shipping points on the C. & A. railroad, due to the large stock raising farms of John D. Gillett. Mr. Gillett was called the "cattle king" of the world.

John D. Gillett was born at Fair Haven, Conn., April 28, 1819. He was a descendant of a family of Huguenots which were driven from France by religious persecution and sought refuge in England and in 1631 emigrated to the United States and settled in Lebanon in what was then the colony of Conn. His father, Eliphaz, was captain of the brig "John" of which he was sole owner and was engaged along West Indies coast wise trade. He was born in 1791 and married Amarilla Sanford Five children, two sons and three daughters were born to them. Both his grandfathers were soldiers in the war of the Revolution. When John was three his father died and he was reared by his widowed mother and went to Lancasterian school at New Haven. When he was 17 he sailed to Georgia and spent two years in the mercantile business and afterwards returned to New Haven and attended Pearl's Academy six



John D. Gillett

months. In the fall of 1838 he started for Illinois, going by steamboat to St. Louis, by stage to Springfield, and then on foot to Bald Knob where an uncle resided. He immediately began to work on the farm receiving at first \$8 a month. In 1840, after spending two years at Bald Knob, he came to Logan County and improved a farm in Elkhart Township, residing there 28 years. This farm is now operated by Albert Johnson and it lies just north of Cornland.



Willow Point Farm

In 1868 he moved to Elkhart Hill. By 1852 he owned some 12,000 acres of land and in that year with R. B. Latham entered about 7,000 acres more. At his death he owned 16,500 acres of land.

He raised some of the finest stock cattle in the United States. He was engaged extensively in shipping fine stock in European markets. He was a Republican in politics but never held any political office.

On May 31, 1842 he was married to Miss Lemira Parks. Her father, Elisha Parke, settled in Logan County in 1837 and built the first jail in Logan County. Mr. and Mrs. Gillett had eleven children: S. Emma who died young, Anna S., Grace, Eliphaz Parke who died at 4 years, Lemira Nina, May, Kate, Jessie Dean, John Parke, Ada and Charlotte Lancroft. The family were members of the Episcopal Church in Springfield. The old house in Elkhart was destroyed by fire in February, 1871. A new one was built which is now the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Drake.

John D. Gillette died at Mackinack Island August 27, 1883.

Elkhart Centennial 1855-1955
Published by Eldmar's Print Shop
Lincoln, Illinois, July, 1955.

Jessie D. Gillett Estate \$469,000, Inventory Shows

Petition to probate the will of the late Miss Jessie D. Gillett of Elkhart, who died Sept. 6, was filed in county court Saturday, listing personal property not to exceed \$69,000 and real estate valued at \$400,000. Two nephews, John Dean Gillett Hill of Lincoln, and William Barnes, jr., of Decatur, were nominated executors.

The will, drawn July 22, 1935, made a number of bequests to relatives. Business property in Lincoln owned by Miss Gillett was left to her sister, Mrs. Charlotte Gillett Barnes, and niece, Mrs. Joan Dean Gillett McArthur, and nephew, William Barnes, jr., of Decatur, and Mrs. Lemira Gillett McClure Hunt.

The Gillett farms, Westway, Overway, and Piatt Acres, were left to Mrs. McArthur and William Barnes, jr.; the Edgefield farm to the descendants of Edgar Logan Hill, with reversion rights, if any, to the Springfield diocese of the Episcopal church; the Northfield farm to Mr. and Mrs. John Dean Gillett Hill of Lincoln; Broadwell place to Mrs. Hunt with reversion rights, if any, to the Episcopal Church Cathedral Foundation, Washington, D. C.; and Indian Acres farm in Menard county and South Acres farm in Sangamon county one-third each to descendants of Edgar Logan Hill, John Dean Gillett Hill and Mrs. Hunt.

The bequests under reversion rights to the Episcopal church are as a memorial to the parents of Miss Gillett, the late John Dean, and Lemira Parke Gillett.

Katherine G. Hill Dies After Long Illness In Logan

Was Daughter Of One Of Founders Of Lincoln.

Lincoln, May 23.—Mrs. Katherine Gillett Hill, 80, extensive Logan county landowner and daughter of the late John D. Gillett, pioneer Logan county "cattle king" and one of the founders of the city of Lincoln, died at 10 p. m. Wednesday at the Deaconess hospital. She had been in ill health for several years and was removed to the hospital from her home, 119 Lincoln avenue, when she suffered a heart attack.

The parents of Mrs. Hill came to Logan county in 1839 and Mr. Gillett made extensive purchases of government lands. At the time of his death in 1888 he owned 12,000 acres of Logan county land and held a partnership with Robert Latham, one of his business associates, in 5,000 acres also. Mr. Gillett, Colonel Latham and Virgil Hickox founded the city of Lincoln in 1853 and they named the town for Abraham Lincoln; their attorney.

Mrs. Hill is survived by two sons and one daughter, John Dean Gillett Hill and E. Logan Hill of Lincoln and Mrs. Lemira Gillett McClure, Washington, D. C.; and three sisters, Mrs. Charlotte Barnes, Decatur, and Miss Jessie D. and Nina Gillett, Elkhart.

Funeral arrangements are pending arrival of Mrs. McClure. The funeral and burial will be private and will probably be held Saturday.

Funeral services for Mrs. Oglesby will be held at 2:30 o'clock Wednesday afternoon at St. John's Memorial chapel at Elkhurst. Rev. Edward Hamilton, pastor of St. Paul's Episcopal church, this city, will have charge of the services. The family request that no flowers be sent.

Mrs. Oglesby was Miss Emma Gillett, daughter of John H. and Elmira Parke Gillett. She was born Feb. 11, 1845 at Cornland, and on November 1864

married to Hiram David Keays of Elmhurst. Mr. Keays died in 1868. In November, 1873 of her father's house in Elkhurst she was married to Governor Richard James Oglesby, inaugurated in January, 1874, and for his second term as Governor. Shortly after his inauguration, however, he was elected to the United States senate by the legislature and the Oglesbys took up their abode in Washington. They returned to the executive mansion in Springfield, when Governor Oglesby was elected in 1884 to the office of governor for the third time.

For many years Mrs. Oglesby took a prominent part in various societies in the state. She was a member of the National Woman's committee of the World's fair in Chicago in 1893 and also president of the Illinois Women's state committee of the World's fair board.

Mrs. Oglesby lived abroad for about eight years, making her home in Rome from 1904 until 1912. Her love for books dated back to her childhood and at the close of her school days a course in reading was laid out for her by a cousin, a clerical scholar. Beginning with the Bible, the authors included Shakespeare, Plutarch, Rollin, Gibbon, Robertson, D'Aubigny, Guizot, Motley, Parkman and Bancroft. Many of these books and those of the same rank formed part of her reading during the later years of her life, while recent biography, fiction and travel came under her notice also.

Famous For Hospitality.

Elkhurst has been famed for years for its hospitality and many persons prominent in national and international life have been entertained there. One of the customs which prevailed for many years was the great Christmas dinners for servants and their families on the farm comprising the estate. Mrs. Oglesby always took personal charge of these dinners and spent much of her time looking after the well-being of those on the estate.

The spacious rooms at Elkhurst contain a treasury of art objects, representing decorations and curios gathered in travels in Spain and Italy, and on every hand are mementoes of the political campaigns of her husband and son, Col. John G. Oglesby, who served two terms as governor of Illinois.

Mrs. Oglesby is survived by four children: Hiram Gillett Keays, Elkhurst; Mrs. Felleite Oglesby, Genoa, Belgium; John Gillett Oglesby, and Jasper Oglesby, at home. Richard James Oglesby, jr., died in 1913. Precedent also is survived by following sisters: Nina Gillett Paris, France; Jessie Dean Gillett, Elkhurst; Mrs. Katharine Gillett Hill, Lincoln; and William Barnes, Decatur.

Obituary, Mrs.
Emma Gillett Oglesby.

1928

William Barnes, President Of Citizens National Bank, Dies After Five Days' Illness

BANK PRESIDENT DIES



William Barnes, Jr., president of the Citizens National bank and at 55 a veteran Decatur business and civic leader,

died this morning in the Decatur and Macon County hospital—an institution that his father, Dr. Will Barnes, was instrumental in building.

Served Many City Business, Civic Interests

William Barnes, Jr., president of the Citizens National bank, died in the Decatur and Macon County hospital at 6:30 a. m. today. He was 55.

Mr. Barnes suffered a cerebral hemorrhage at his home in Southmoreland place Wednesday morning, and he remained unconscious until his death. His condition during the five days of illness remained critical; but the attending physician had reported "slight improvement" Friday.

MR. BARNES joined the Citizens National bank in 1927 as a director and trust officer, and was elected president of the bank in January, 1929.

Besides his continuous service with the bank, he was a director of the A. E. Staley Mfg. Co.

During Mr. Barnes' term as president, the Citizens bank has made wide increases in business.

As president, he gave extensive authority to key personnel, and the bank gained the accounts of many of the city's large businesses, particularly new industries.

Mr. Barnes was a member of the American Bankers association, the Illinois Bankers association and the Macon-Dewitt County Bankers federation.

Although he attended most conventions and conferences of these groups, he rarely took an official part. Those duties, however, frequently were carried by other officials of his bank.

IT WAS THROUGH the initiative of Mr. Barnes and others that the Citizens building north of the bank was erected in 1930. He believed it would be a good investment for himself and others. A corporation was formed to buy the land at the corner of Water and William streets and build an office building needed by Decatur. The property had

*Wm Barnes, Jr., son of Charlotte
Gulotta Barnes, sister of Emma
Lilite Neay Oglesby, and Dr Will
Barnes.*

ple.

Mr. Barnes was chairman of the Macon county chapter of the American Red Cross six years, Red Cross drive chairman eight years, president of the Community Chest, drive chairman for the Chest and until his death was serving as first vice president of the Decatur and Macon County Hospital association. He had been on the hospital board since 1945.

He also was a member of the board of directors of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

He was a member of the Country Club of Decatur, of which he was president in 1933, the Decatur club, University Club of Chicago, and Chicago Golf club. He was a member of St. John's Episcopal church.

THE BANK PRESIDENT worked with the Decatur Association of Commerce in many activities. He had been a member of the lake conservation committee of the association since its organization several years ago. He was on the A. of C. board for three years from 1935 to 1938.

He had a keen interest in golf. Generally, he played in a foursome with A. E. Staley, Jr., E. B. Evans and W. M. Bering. He followed his father's interest in encouraging golf and served on several tournament committees. He also was a hunting enthusiast.

In March of 1938, Mr. and Mrs. Barnes moved into their house in Southmoreland place. It is one of the finest homes in Decatur and one of the few that is air conditioned. Before moving to the Southmoreland home, which overlooks Lake Decatur, the family lived at 131 South Taylor avenue.

MR. BARNES was born in Decatur on Dec. 10, 1894, a son of Dr. and Mrs. Will Barnes.

He attended Milton academy, Milton, Mass., and Phillips Exeter academy in Exeter, N. H., before entering the University of Wisconsin where he took a course in agriculture.

From 1920 to 1927 he operated and supervised farms in Logan and Macon counties. He later retained this interest in farming and was active in the bank's farm department.

He was married Dec. 29, 1917, to Valette LeForgee, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. C. LeForgee. Mr. LeForgee has been a prominent Decatur attorney 50 years.

Mr. Barnes leaves his wife; two children, William, III, Decatur, and Mrs. Gloria Barnes Van Norden, New York City; his mother, Decatur; two grandchildren, and a sister, Mrs. S. W. McArthur, Elkhart. Mr. Barnes' mother is the former Charlotte L. Gillett of Elkhart, Ill.

THE BODY is at the Dawson & Wikoff funeral home where friends

may call after 7 p. m. Tuesday. The body will be taken to St. John's Episcopal church at noon Wednesday and services will be there at 2 p. m. Wednesday. Burial will be in Elkhart cemetery, Elkhart.

The Citizens National bank will close at 1 p. m. Wednesday for the funeral.

Mr. Barnes' Father Was Hospital Builder

Mr. Barnes' father, Dr. Will Barnes, who died in 1930, was one of Decatur's most colorful figures and a leader in the development of the city. He was first a physician and surgeon.

From the standpoint of community service his greatest accomplishment was his part in the establishment and building of the Decatur and Macon County hospital. He contributed his own time and money to the project and induced others to assist.

He was also an entomologist of note. His collection of moths and butterflies, which contained about 700,000 types, now is in the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D. C.

William Barnes, Jr., once said "I have chased bugs for my father all the way from Alaska to Mexico."

Dr. Barnes was one of the organizers of the Country Club of Decatur and served as president from its founding in 1900 to 1921.

Mrs. F. L. Evans, *January 21, 1947* Prominent Civic, Club Leader, Dies

Death Unexpected; Funeral to Be 2:30 p. m. Thursday

Mrs. Frank L. Evans died just before midnight last night in her home at 421 West William street.

Her death marked the unexpected end of 70 years of leadership in the social and cultural life of Decatur. Mrs. Evans was as active as ever in the recent holiday social festivities. She was one of the four living charter members of the Study Class, which was organized 46 years ago next Feb. 11.

Mrs. Evans was treated by her physician for a mild illness Monday afternoon. She died quietly during the night.

Mrs. Evans was Alice Bering, born Jan. 8, 1872 in Slootsburg, N. Y., the daughter of James Edward and Elizabeth Morrison Bering. Mr. Bering, a civil engineer, came to Decatur in 1876 because his sister, Mrs. Lowber Burrows, was here. The following year Mrs. Bering and the children moved to Decatur, where her husband joined in organization of the Chambers-Bering-Quilian Co.

Married in '99

Alice Bering and Frank Lewis Evans were married in the family home here by Rev. W. H. Penhallegon Sept. 21, 1899. Mrs. Evans leaves her husband and one son, Edward Bering Evans; there are two grandsons, Edward Tait Evans, now in Decatur, and Frank Evan Evans, in school at Tucson, Ariz.

Mrs. Evans' brother, Wilson M. Bering, died May 19, 1933. A sister, Ida Isabella Hitchcock, died Dec. 29, 1894; she was the mother of Edward Bering "Ted" Hitchcock. Children of Mr. Bering are W. M. Jr. and Horace, of Decatur, and Mary Isabelle, who is engaged in social service work in St. Louis.

Shortly after coming to Decatur, Mrs. Evans' parents bought the James home at Governor R. J. Gilchrist and West William street in North Decatur, which was the home of Mrs. Evans since

she began with a small group of girlhood friends, studied under a private tutor. Later she attended the Richmond Female Institute at Richmond, Va., and Welles college in Auburndale, N. Y.

Took World Trips

The Study Class and travel were the two chief interests of Mrs. Evans though her activities in the life of the community were many. Mr. and Mrs. Evans made many extended trips, chief of which were world tours in 1928 and 1934.

One of the group who organized the Study Class in 1901, Mrs. Evans frequently entertained the class at its annual spring party closing the year's activities. She was elected chairman of the class in 1943, and topic chairman this year.

She was active in the Stephen Decatur chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, a leader in the work of the Macon County Humane society, this year a co-chairman of the social committee of the Art Center, and a member of PEO, the Country Club of Decatur, the French Huguenots society of Philadelphia, and the League of Women Voters.

A gracious hostess and a frequent guest, Mrs. Evans was generous in opening her lovely old home, one of the most beautiful in Illinois, for meetings of various groups in which she was interested. The Governor Oglesby mansion has generous quarters and originally had a large garden and lawn. Mrs. Evans was a member of the neighborhood, the study class, and the study class, which were regularly presented by Mrs. Evans.

Decatur, Illinois, Monday, March 10, 1958.

Frank Evans, Retired Grain Broker, Dies

Frank L. Evans, retired Decatur grain broker, died at 3 a. m. yesterday in his home at 421 W. William St.

Mr. Evans, 89, retired in 1950 from actual management of the Evans Elevator Co. He had served as president-treasurer of the company since 1904, when he formed and incorporated a grain elevator business.

He began working in a Decatur grain elevator in 1897. In 1899, he formed a partnership where he worked until 1904.

Mr. Evans was employed with the Standard Oil Co. in Decatur and Indianapolis before he began work in the grain elevator business.

In 1918, he was named the food administrator for the city of Decatur. Mr. Evans had a personal



Frank L. Evans

interest in the food situation ever since the necessity for food control became evident during World War I.

Mr. Evans graduated from Decatur High School and attended the University of Michigan.

Some of his civic memberships include the Decatur Club, the Country Club of Decatur and the Sunnyside Country Club.

Country Club Member

A lifelong member of the Country Club of Decatur, Mr. Evans was made an honorary member in 1953 in recognition of his activities there.

In 1919, Mr. Evans was elected president of the Decatur Club.

Mr. and Mrs. Evans enjoyed many extended trips in the United States and in 1926 and 1934, they went on world tours.

After his retirement, Mr. Evans began growing orchids. He had more than 100 plants of different varieties in the greenhouse at the rear of his home.

He was born March 1, 1869 in LaFayette, Ind., a son of Thomas L. and Ann E. Childs Evans. He came to Decatur with his family in 1878, moving from Champaign.

Mr. Evans and Alice Bering were married in the Bering family home here Sept. 21, 1899.

Mrs. Evans, a prominent civic and club leader here, died Jan. 20, 1947.

Mr. Evans leaves one son, Edward B., Decatur; one sister, Mrs. Mattie Evans Wiley, Seattle, Wash.; two grandsons, Edward T. and Frank E., both of Decatur; and four great-grandchildren.

Before their deaths, Mr. and Mrs. Evans lived in the former home of Gov. R. J. Oglesby. Mrs. Evans' family purchased the home in 1882, and it was their home ever since their marriage.

Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a. m. Tuesday in the Dawson & Wikoff Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will be in Greenwood Cemetery.

Friends may call at the funeral home from 4 to 8 p. m. today.

10/24/76

DECATUR SUNDAY HERALD AND REVIEW



Staff photo by Ron Ernst

UMBRELLAS RAISED and coats pulled tight, a crowd observes dedication ceremonies at the Oglesby Mansion Satur-

day. In the foreground is a plaque commemorating the acquisition of the historic building by the Macon County Con-

servations District. It was a bicentennial project aided by the state Department of Conservation.

Oglesby's Mansion Dedicated During Day-Long Celebration

Decatur
Sun. H.K.

10)24/76

Dedication ceremonies for the Oglesby Mansion were Saturday at the Decatur home of the man who was elected three times as Illinois governor during the mid-1800s.

The Oglesby Mansion, former home of Richard J. Oglesby, is at 421 W. William St.

Two bronze plaques, one donated by the Daughters of the American Revolution, outlining Oglesby's record, and another marking the home's acquisition as a landmark site, were unveiled.

Rifle salutes punctuated flag-raising ceremonies at the mansion.

The flag was donated by the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic. The honor guard was from American Legion Post 105.

A four-man ribbon-cutting team consisted of Oglesby Mansion, Inc. president Linley Hurtt, Mayor James Rupp, Decatur landowner A. Webber Borchers and Preston Schellbach, director of the Macon County Conservation District.

Each man snipped the ribbon, opening the mansion as a historical site.

More than 150 persons at the ceremonies crowded into the mansion to hear George Cashman, retired curator of Lincoln's Tomb in Springfield, speak on the accomplishments of Oglesby.

Oglesby was elected Illinois governor in 1865, 1873 and 1885. Shortly after his second inauguration, he resigned to appoint himself a U.S. Senator.

The Mansion had been refurbished by the Gov. Oglesby Mansion, Inc. group. Members of the Oglesby Volunteer Com-

mittee worked to prepare the mansion for Saturday's ceremonies.

The home was partially furnished by antiques owned by group members.

A mannequin was placed in the dining room wearing a replica of the dress worn by Oglesby's wife at the 1885 inauguration in Springfield.

The mansion's greenhouse, behind the main building, was filled with plants furnished by the Decatur Garden Club.

The club members also grew flowers placed around the mansion for Saturday's celebration.

The mansion was purchased by the Macon County Conservation District for \$23,000 from the estate of the late Edward B. Evans. It is the district's first acquisition of historical property.

Complete exterior refurbishing of the mansion is to be finished in late spring, with interior work to be under way for the next several years.

Earlier Saturday, more than 200 persons appeared at the "patriotic luncheon" sponsored by Gov. Oglesby Mansion, Inc.

Not only did the participants receive a noontime meal, but there was also an historical skit and "an honorary dentist dressed in a Civil War uniform.

"This fellow has done so many things in the history field," said master of ceremonies Ralph M. Colburn as he introduced guest speaker Maj. Gen. Wayne C. Temple of the Illinois State Militia.

Temple spoke about Abraham Lincoln, Lincoln's second cousin John Hanks, and most importantly, Decatur's Richard J. Oglesby.

Describing Oglesby as "a very great leader" and "a kind, great-hearted man," Temple, an historian and archivist, told his audience that the illustrious man was placed in charge of erecting the wigwam for the Wigwam Convention held in Decatur in 1860.

It was during that convention that Oglesby promoted the slogan "Lincoln the Railsplitter for President."

Hurtt said he was more than satisfied with the luncheon turnout that included a large number of Decatur's community leaders.

"I had settled the other day for 125 people," Hurtt explained, adding that "ticket reports have just been wonderful."

Saturday was officially proclaimed Oglesby Day in Decatur.