

THE COMING OF DOWIE.

Characteristics of "Elijah the Restorer"—His Campaign Hopes.

For once Chicago, wicked city of the West, is ready to extend hands of hearty sympathy to New-York, her hated rival for New World metropolitan honors.

Opinions differ as to the reason for the coming of this "prophet for profit." Members of his "Christian Catholic Church in Zion" will listen to no hint of ulterior motive.

"New-York is, after Chicago, the most wicked city in the world," say they. "Our prophet, the Divine Healer, the Restorer and Messenger of the Covenant, will make it clean. Glory to the new Elijah!"

That fraction of Chicago—about ninety-nine-hundredths—which has not felt the cleansing effect of the Dowie pounce has another story.

"Life needs money," they say, "and New-York pays well for every sort of show, from grand opera to circus ring buffoonery. Refined religious vaudeville ought to be a drawing card. Dowie will invest. Every dollar he calls himself—plans an Eastern 'tour de force.' He has elected to hold out the right hand of fellowship to the Manhattan Islanders, and even more to their brothers and sisters of the neighboring boroughs. Not Dowie's hand alone, either, but also the hands of 2,000 faithful followers. Every hand is warranted clean and can be grasped with impunity, thanks to the 'Zion' scrubbing process."

Options must be obtained on every inch of ground. A single failure meant the abandonment of the entire site. The smaller plots paid for were the greater commission he would give the broker. The greater commission he would give the broker. The greater commission he would give the broker.

And what manner of man is he who has done all this? He is Scotch by birth and parentage and a Congregational clergyman by education, having been ordained after a period of study at the Edinburgh Theological Seminary. He left the Congregational Church in Melbourne, Australia, in 1878 where he set up a church of his own, denouncing it the "Christian Tabernacle." It was there that he developed his healing theories, trying them with wonderful lack of success during a fever epidemic. Some say that he was forced to leave Australia, but Dowie denies it, and no one seems to have definite information.

He again came into the public eye in San Francisco about 1888, attracting attention by his fervid utterances in street corner meetings. In two years the metropolis of the Pacific Coast became too small for him and he advanced upon Chicago with this legend on his banner, "Fight the Devil on His Own Ground." He is sixty years of age, possesses of remarkable constitution and tremendous energy.

His wife, Jane, is second to him in power in the church, with the official title of "overseer." His son, William Gladstone Dowie, a young man of twenty-five, has just completed his education in an Eastern college. Many of the "followers" believe that he will succeed his father as head of the sect. His daughter, who is an American, was in this country last summer she greatly admired this contrivance, and, knowing that her husband and children were fond of American ideas, decided to get them the next best thing by having her pics made with an American rolling pin.

When the clerk read, in the monotone which the tired muscles of his throat has performed made inevitable: "Introduced by Mr. Fowler: An act to amend the Forest, Fish and Game law, in relation to mink, skunk, muskrat and foxes."

Assemblyman Burnett was acting Speaker at the time and he brought down his gavel as if to kill something. The clerk blew his nose as if he felt a draught, while a series of coughs came up from the well of the House. The bill was going through on the run, with no one daring enough to stop it, when, to the consternation of every one else, Assemblyman Sheldon, of Cattaraugus county, shouted: "I move to strike out."

All eyes were turned on Assemblyman Fowler. Now, if ever in his life, he had a chance to become eloquent. Much to the disappointment of the Republicans, Mr. Fowler said in a subdued voice: "I don't think this bill should be defeated. There is no politics in it. It does not call for an appropriation or an investigating committee. It simply applies to the skunks of Chautauqua County."

Mr. Sheldon made some comment on the fact that the Democrats hoped to pose as the farmers' friend by befriending the skunks, and that the skunk vote of Chautauqua County might elect a Democratic President in 1904. He found out, however, that he had made a mistake for once by making a strong argument, and withdrawing his objection, he permitted the bill to pass as quickly as it could and be rushed over to the Senate. There is no doubt that the bill will pass the Senate in view of the fact that a farmer has taken advantage of his proposed law by establishing a skunk farm at Lamberton, on the road between Westfield, the home of Speaker Nixon, and Fredonia, the home of Mr. McKinstry, his clerk. He is E. Le Vera intends to raise skunks for their pelts, and, despite a round robin petition of his neighbors that he be compelled to stay away from church, Mr. Le Vera believes that there is more advantage in the skunk business than in New-York City real estate.

The Democrats are planning to unite with the pro-skunk faction of the Republicans for the purpose of defeating Mr. Fowler for re-election. His townspeople, on the other hand, are so gratified with what he has done that they will urge his nomination for Congress as soon as the air of Chautauqua County has sufficiently cleared.

From The Toronto Mail and Express. Rudyard Kipling, it appears, is fond of apple pie baked on the American system. To gratify his taste a glass rolling pin specially used in the manufacture of these pies has just been forwarded to the novelist from Wanamaker's. The glass rolling pin has all the usual advantages of the merit of always being sweet and clean, and of being hollow, so that it can be filled with ice to cool the pie crust. When

where we live, why, let the boys have a chance. "But how can they catch them?" asked an incredulous New-Yorker. "By the tail," was the prompt answer. "I've seen a nimble boy sneak up, catch a skunk by the tail before he knew what was the matter, and then hit the animal over the head as the body hung down limp and powerless."

"Did you ever try it?" some one asked. "Oh, no," was the reply. "I never thought I was quick enough." The bill was referred to the Committee on Fisheries and Game, and the committee let it out at the first opportunity. As soon as the skunk bill appeared in the Assembly freed from the committee there was a general retreat. Nobody undertook to stop it until it came up finally for a third reading. Then the clerk read, in the monotone which the tired muscles of his throat has performed made inevitable: "Introduced by Mr. Fowler: An act to amend the Forest, Fish and Game law, in relation to mink, skunk, muskrat and foxes."

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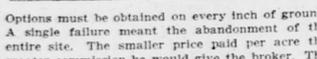
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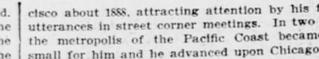
TO DESCEND ON WICKED NEW-YORK, TO PURGE IT OF ITS SINS AND SOMETHING ELSE AS WELL



JOHN ALEXANDER DOWIE. The prophet.



MISS ESTHER DOWIE. The prophet's daughter, now dead.



OVERSEER JANE DOWIE. Wife of the prophet.

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CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY STIRRED UP BY SKUNKS.

SENTIMENT DIVIDED FOR AND AGAINST THE MALODOROUS ANIMALS—ACTION IN LEGISLATURE.

One cannot touch on skunks lightly in Chautauqua County. The subject is an exceedingly serious one. The skunks have even been carried into politics, and have taken a prominent part in the public life of the county. The greater number of the Republicans are fighting the skunks, whereas a certain minority, which believes that the question should be thoroughly aired before a final decision is reached, have taken sides with the polecats. For this reason the Republican leaders dread the skunks of the county more than they do the Democrats, and fear that by a coalition between the Democrats and the pro-skunk contingent of the Republicans the skunks will thus control the patronage of the district.

According to many farmers of Chautauqua County, the skunk is their best friend. He lives upon the grubs and bugs, which would otherwise infest their crops, kills the moles that would eat the roots of their vines, and by other similar means he co-operates with them in the most peaceful and happy way. True, a skunk will occasionally dig and wayward young rooster; but for such fatalities the chickens themselves are said to be generally to blame.

The skunks proved themselves such a useful part of the community that the farmers two years ago took steps to cultivate their acquaintance still more intimately. Several different methods of rearing skunks were proposed. One suggestion was to establish a kindergarten for young skunks, for the purpose of teaching them good manners and of cultivating a greater respect in them for the human race. But it was decided to procure appropriate legislation for the skunks, which would at the same time increase the Republican majority. A bill was accordingly introduced two years ago by the legislature which proposed for a close season for the killing of the skunk in Chautauqua county, and imposed a penalty on any one who would dare kill a skunk except on his own premises or within the limits of an incorporated village. The Democrats, with remarkable sagacity, did not oppose the bill, knowing that the time might come when they, instead of the Republicans, could champion the cause of the skunks, and thus win the farmer vote.

The dream of the Democrats has at last been realized. In the two years since the bill was passed the skunks of Chautauqua County have increased at an astounding rate. Not only did the birth rate far exceed the death rate among the native skunks of that region, but, according to the farmers, there was a large immigration thither from other counties, where the life of the skunk is not held so sacred. Skunks are even said to have come from other States, while several Canadian regiments, according to one story, tried to ford Niagara in a vain effort to reach the promised land.

Arrance, however, at last came with good fortune. Like some members of the human race who suddenly rise from a humble origin, the skunks became discontented with their former surroundings. They were no longer content to grub and dig and work for the farmers. Such a life they came to regard as mere serfdom. The more ambitious yearned for city life, the brilliant society of Jamestown and Fredonia and the stir and bustle of Westfield. Accordingly the skunks began to migrate cityward.

The entrance of the skunks into the metropolitan life of the county won for them instant recognition and a position of prominence by no means ignored. The entry to whom birth or wealth had given positions of prominence in the community made way instantly on the approach of these debutants from the country. Should one of these newcomers desire the audience of a man of affairs, no matter how many may have been in line before him, he was never kept waiting. Indeed, the skunks, on several occasions, and certain people of prominence, jealous of their prerogatives, would have laid violent hands on the interlopers had they not known that by such an act they would be in bad odor in the community. A few talked of shooting the skunks, but the law stood in the way.

The ambition of the polecats at last came to a downfall. They finally took a step too far. A family of them on finding a vacant furnished flat house in Jamestown were so pleased with its modern appointments, its exposed plumbing and glass mirrors, that they decided to occupy it for light house-keeping. They had made themselves entirely at home, when the owner of the apartment came in. No words are reported to have been spoken, and actions speak stronger than the original dweller in the flat-house was evicted, but there was a general exodus from the block.

At such times there is always a hero. Thus it was that J. Samuel Fowler, the Assemblyman from the 1st Assembly District of the county, and a native of Jamestown, saw the opportunity of becoming a knight errant and took advantage of it. As soon as the legislature opened he aired the troubles of his townsmen in the lower house by introducing a bill permitting the slaughter of skunks in his county except for the months between May 1 and October 31. When pressed for an explanation by his colleagues he said simply: "There are too many skunks in Chautauqua County. We've got to kill some."

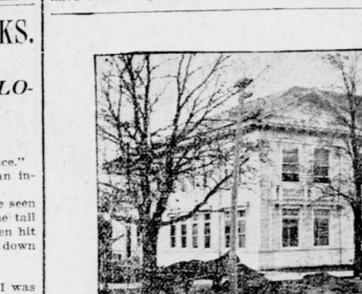
Mr. Fowler was ably supported by Louis McKinstry, of Fredonia, Chautauqua county, the clerk of Speaker Nixon. Mr. McKinstry clearly convinced many Republicans at first as to the measure in conversation with them that it would benefit the small boys of the county, and thus assure them of a good vote in future years. He said he knew of boys who had caught in the open season from ten to twenty skunks, whose pelts, worth \$2 apiece, brought in quite a fortune to these country lads.

"If there are too many skunks," he said, "up

BIRDS BEING EXTERMINATED.

Few Wild Pigeons Left—Slaughter for Slaughter's Sake.

Washington, Feb. 7 (Special).—Wild pigeons have been slaughtered just for the fun of slaugh-



AN OFFICE BLOCK IN ZION CITY.

tering until there are few left," said a man connected with the Smithsonian Institution. "Wild pigeons are fast becoming extinct, along with hundreds of other American birds and animals, and Americans are responsible for it. Out West a few years ago men would go to a pigeon roost at night and cut the trees down, just to see how many of the birds they could kill. The Ohio Valley and other regions were full of them, and in many of these birds morning and evening. Unless stringent laws are adopted and enforced animal after animal and bird after bird will be exterminated. The Creator put them here for some purpose, and yet some people seem to think that the best thing to be done is to wipe them off the face of the earth. Many of the most valuable species of animals at present inhabiting the world will inevitably be rendered absolutely extinct within a few years unless something is done."

"Fashion, to a great extent, is responsible, but the whole truth is that man, and especially the American, is by nature the most destructive creature on the earth. The marked and rapid changes being wrought in the fauna of the world are largely attributable to his insatiable appetite for killing."

Lincoln, five-cent, chocolate, face of Lincoln; heretofore face of Grant. Postoffice authorities say that this interchange of faces on the four and five-cent stamps was determined upon from the fact that a five-cent stamp is the required amount to carry letters to foreign countries, and that it "would be well to have foreigners become more familiar with Lincoln, the great American emancipator." The fifty-cent stamp which is now in use and bears the face of Jefferson and is orange color will be displaced by a stamp with a new design, which has not yet been decided upon. Commodore Perry's features which now appear on the black one-dollar stamp will permanently disappear to make room for the well known features of Admiral Farragut.

Designs for a new two and five dollar stamp have also been submitted, but not yet approved. The present stamp of the two dollar denomination is sapphire color, and bears the face of Madison, while the five dollar stamp is dark green and has Marshall's face.

The Postoffice Department is also considering the advisability of adding to the present series a twenty-five-cent stamp. This, it is argued by the Postoffice Department authorities, is a commercial

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CHANGES IN POSTAGE STAMP DESIGNS.

HOW THE PRESIDENTS HAVE BEEN HONORED BY USE OF THEIR LIKENESSES.

If it be true that "republics are ungrateful," then it must at least be admitted that Uncle Sam is doing all in his power to show his gratitude and recognition of the eminent services rendered to their country by America's greatest men by immortalizing their features on the Government's valuable papers, such as bonds, paper money, treasury warrants and postage stamps. It is at present engaged in changing those stamps which have been in use for twelve years, a period which has been in use for the ordinary life of a stamp, and much longer than the ordinary life of a stamp, and Edwin C. Madden, third assistant postmaster general, who is in charge of this branch of the Postoffice Department, is making every effort to replace the old stamps with a series of new ones which will be an improvement in design as well as in color and artistic execution.

The following changes have been determined upon, the new issue being printed at the Bureau of Printing and Engraving: Two-cent, carmine, full face of Washington; heretofore profile; four-cent, dark brown, face of Grant; heretofore face of

Lincoln; five-cent, chocolate, face of Lincoln; heretofore face of Grant. Postoffice authorities say that this interchange of faces on the four and five-cent stamps was determined upon from the fact that a five-cent stamp is the required amount to carry letters to foreign countries, and that it "would be well to have foreigners become more familiar with Lincoln, the great American emancipator." The fifty-cent stamp which is now in use and bears the face of Jefferson and is orange color will be displaced by a stamp with a new design, which has not yet been decided upon. Commodore Perry's features which now appear on the black one-dollar stamp will permanently disappear to make room for the well known features of Admiral Farragut.

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WEST POINT AND ITS BEGINNING. How This Strategic Place Was Occupied in the Revolution.

The antiquity of Fort Putnam, at the West Point Military Academy, has been a question of dispute the last few days, but it will probably soon be righted, and its proposed restoration to original condition, or something like it, will be carried out. How the Military Academy came into being, and various other facts about it, are of interest to every loyal American. The tract of land owned by the government at West Point contains about 2,100 acres, and was first settled in May, 1773. The greater part of this area was purchased from Stephen Moore on September 19, 1790, for \$11,800. The smaller and southerly portion was bought from Oliver Hartley on May 12, 1824, for \$200,000. The tract, which is now owned by the State of New-York, ceded jurisdiction over that part of the property on which the principal edifices connected with the institution stand, and only "reserved the right to execute any process, civil or criminal, wherein the real or personal property of the United States was affected."