STRUGGLING KERR.

HE TRIES TO EXPLAIN HIS FIGURES TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE.

A Labyrinth of Figures—Which Show up the Reckless Management—Very Little That Kerr Can Explain.

Senators Morton, Drew, Rice and Doran, of the St. Peter asylum investigating committee, met at the capitol yesterday morning and proceeded with their inqury into the financial management of the institution. Their secretary was ready with the books and accounts which the committee wished to submit to the Rev. Aaron H. Kerr, secretary and treasurer to the board of trustees. There was also present Mr. J. Stone, who acted as stenographer for the committee.

Mr. A. W. Gage, one of the builder-contractors who had been subpœnaed from Winona, was first questioned relative to his contract with the trustees, Senator Doran conducting the examination.

A. W. GAGE SWORN.

I reside at Winona; am a carpenter and builder; contracted with the hospital for insane in 1871; the paper produced is a copy of my contract; the amount of contract was $10,030; the papers shown me are not in my writing; that is not my signature; I did not sign either of them.

Mr. Kerr—Here are the originals.

Mr. Gage—(Shown the originals), I believe that is my signature; that I believe to be a settlement for the whole amount of the contract except a small bill of extras. This bill shown me is the bill for extras. There is one item which is wrong; we are charged with $65 as having been paid to us when it should not be in the bill; the $65 was allowed to Breen, and was left in Mr. Kerr's hands for Nat Breen & Co., as appears in my memorandum (produced) the $65 ought to be deducted in place of being added; the entire amount I got from the State was $10,088.17 according to my memorandum; the bill shown—(filed in State department)—with voucher attached was not signed by me, nor was this, (shown a copy of the first.)

The bill and voucher attached, which had been filed at the capital, and which Mr. Gage said he did not sign, was shown to Mr. Kerr, and that gentleman asked to explain the $65 item and another allowance for lumber, $350, posted into the ledger, which was reduced to $231.60.

Mr. Kerr—Now, then, very well. We looked over our accounts. Here's a voucher: There was due to you, Mr. Gage, $3,156.83. Here is a memorandum of a statement put in before the board at the annual meeting. The board authorized the payment of $3,156,83, as due to Mr. Gage. I settled with you on January 19th, paying you in check, and I suppose I put in that voucher.

Mr. Gage's attention was called to the difference between $350 and $231.60, Mr. Gage explaining that it was afterwards found the lumber was not worth more than $231.60, which he allowed the asylum for it. It was found that Mr. Kerr charged himself with the difference, $118.40, in a subsequent voucher.

Mr. Gage (examination continued)—I did not receive the $65. The only money I received was $10,088.17, as my memorandum book shows.

Mr. Kerr—I acknowledge I ought to have deducted $65 from Mr. Gage's account. It is a matter between myself and Mr. Gage. He has promised, if it can be made to appear that the money was paid to him, he will refund it.

Mr. Doran—It is $130 due the State, Mr. Kerr, as the $65 being added instead of being deducted was doubled.

Mr. Kerr—Yes; he says he will pay that amount, but if he did not receive it I will make it good.

MR. KERR WAS THEN SWORN;

had his attention called to the printed report for 1867; said there appears a balance on hand of $222.73; it should appear in the next year's report; but I was not treasurer till '67; before that, I superintended some of the work; I made all the entries, but I was not treasurer; I recorded the amounts of money entered for building; I suppose I received the money; the books are mine, though I was not treasurer; I am not responsible till Dec. '67; but I received the money; Mr. Brown was the authorized treasurer, but he did not open any books; I made all the entries; Mr. Brown paid money as well as I.

Senator Rice—There is not a voucher filed paid by Mr. Brown.

Mr. Kerr—My impression is that there is a record somewhere showing that the trustees allowed me the balance for compensation. I did not report that balance of $222.73 on hand. I suppose it was settled by the trustees allowing the balance as compensation.

Senator Doran—If you had been allowed compensation would it not appear in the books?

Mr. Kerr—I suppose so—I should think it ought to.

Senator Doran—Your own books show that there was a balance of $222.71 left entirely out. The printed report shows $222.73. How do you account for that $222.73?

Mr. Kerr—I can give no explanation.

Senator Doran—In report for 1869 the balance in State treasury is $1,707.50 and cash on hand $126.16. The first is carried forward, but not the latter. How do you account for that $126.16, Mr. Kerr?

Mr. Kerr—Have you examined my books?

Senator Doran—They are here—the report is just a copy of the book. The $126.16 is left out of both. Is there any explanation?

Mr. Kerr—No, there is no explanation. I see it is omitted.

Senator Doran—For 1870 your balance is all right, $28.36, and current fund $5,434.55, which are brought forward. Now we are at the time scrip was issued, we will refer to your scrip book. [Produced.]

Mr. Kerr—Yes, this gives an account of the scrip issued. We issued scrip to the amount of $26,169.30, which is to be accounted for.

Mr. Doran—As a member of the board, did you have any authority to issue the scrip?

Mr. Kerr—Whether we had or not, we did it. That's all there is of it. We paid 12 per cent. on the scrip.

Mr. Doran—The different sums were issued to the parties named in the book?

Mr. Kerr—Yes, sir.

Mr. Doran—I understand it was all issued to parties for labor already done.

Mr. Kerr—Yes, sir.

Mr. Doran—G. W. Dryer was paid several sums; was that for work?

Mr. Kerr—That was for current expenses, and what he did not use he returned. The $200 entered to me was for my salary.

Mr. Doran—The last item is Mr. Dryer, $1,394.18.

Mr. Kerr—I did not give him that amount, but made it out and destroyed it.

Mr. Doran—Who did you give that $1,394.18 to?

Mr. Kerr—I have said it was entered to balance up the account of scrip. It was never put into Mr. Dryer's hands; it was destroyed. I issued it to make it even with the appropriation.

He was next questioned about the interest paid on scrip $3,701.29 without any receipts, Mr. Kerr saying the back of the scrip which was destroyed would have shown it. His attention was then drawn to the discrepancy between his voucher for $3.701.29 and his books, showing an overcharge for interest of $128.99. In explanation all he could say was that he thought he had allowed Snyder and Damren $90 for interest on account due before the 10th of March.

Mr. Doran (handing witness the scrip book)—Will you look at that book and tell us when you made that memorandum there in pencil?

Mr. Kerr—I cannot tell you when I made it.

Mr. Doran—Did you make it since the committee was up to St. Peter?

Mr. Kerr—No, sir.

Mr. Doran—Are you sure of that now?

Mr. Kerr—Yes; well—

Mr. Doran—Do you swear on your oath?

Mr. Kerr—Well; that is my understanding of it, sir. I got that book out. I did not know it was wanted—if it could have been called for, it would have been found.

Mr. Doran—What I want to call your particular attention to is to look at that again and swear on your oath that that memorandum was not made since we were at St. Peter.

Mr. Kerr—Well, sir, I am willing to say so, sir. I don't know when that was entered, though. The transactions are away back for some years, and I cannot make any recollection of them.

Mr. Morton—Do you remember in St. Peter Senator Doran drew your attention to the fact that Snyder and Damren had over-drawn their account $90?

Mr. Kerr—I don't remember.

Mr. Morton—Don't you remember making an acknowledgement that Snyder & Co. had overdrew $90?

Mr. Kerr—I don't remember.

(He made the statement August 23d, at the afternoon session,)

Mr. Kerr—To the best of my belief that penciled note was made long before the investigation in August.

The committee here adjourned till 2 o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Mr. Doran showed Mr. Kerr a receipt.

Mr. Kerr—That had no business to be here; it is not entered on the books. It might be a private receipt for that matter.

Mr. Doran—You issued to Mr. Dryer $3,000 in scrip?

Mr. Kerr—The scrip was issued to Mr. Dryer, some of which he got discounted, as he wanted it; the other he returned.

He was then questioned about the $90 overpaid Damren & Snyder, he stating that it was paid in scrip, and he thought it was for interest. His attention was next directed to Leahy's account and erasures made on both sides of his ledger. He knew nothing about the erasure.

Mr. Doran asked why it was Leahy was allowed interest on scrip from March 10th, when it was not paid him till November; and why he was paid at all before the work was done.

Mr. Kerr—He had completed the work.

Mr. Smith produced Leahy's contract, which stipulated that 20 per cent. should be kept back.

Mr. Kerr said he commenced his contract in 1869, and it was finished in 1870. He supposed 20 per cent. was kept back till final settlement. He thought it was all right when he paid him. The trustees made the final settlement.

Mr. Morton—The contract provided for the payment of the estimates and interest at 7 per cent., not 12 per cent. He would ask the chairman to summon Mr. Rugg, who was Mr. Leahy's bookkeeper; he could tell all about it. You have paid in interest to Leahy $1,500.70.

Mr. Doran—The work according to his bill was not done till 1871, and interest was paid from the 11th of March. He was virtually paid all that was due except $91.83 on the 11th of March, 1870, and final settlement was not made till July. 1871.

Mr. Morton showed that the work was not finished till December, 1870, according to Leahy's own bills.

Mr. Kerr's attention was next directed to a pencilled memorandum in the trustees' book, a resolution by Strait allowing $200, which had been changed to $300 for the year.

He was asked why it had been changed. An expert's glass being applied, showed the 2 distinctly under the 3. Mr. Kerr remembered no more about it than that there was a balance of $222.

There were two entries the same year on a January, written in ink, allowing Mr. Kerr $300, the other was written in pencil under the minutes, which were written in ink, and signed; the memorandum purported to be a resolution by Strait in July, voting $300 to Kerr for services; under the 3 was plainly seen a 2. He was asked by Mr. Morton if it was his custom to keep his record in pencil.

Another voucher was shown Mr. Kerr, in which that gentleman claims $27.22 balance on settlement of hospital scrip. He could give no explanation, but Secretary Smith showed him that the voucher must have been made out to balance the account, the $27.22 exactly making the difference between the amount in scrip-book and the ledger. Mr. Kerr acknowledged that it must have been so.

In the matter of voucher 1,185, for $2,911.38, purported to have been paid to Charles Ostrander for building a barn, the same amount appearing in the building account in various payments, Mr. Kerr explained that voucher 1,185 was simply made out to transfer the cost from the building fund to the current fund. Mr. Doran thought his explanation was correct.

The board then adjourned till this morning at 9 o'clock.

CITY GLOBULES.

A man who gave the name of McMullen, who was madly flourishing a knife at Leitner's, on Third street, was run in last night.

A thirteen year old incorrigible, named Chas. J. Peterson, was sent to the reform school yesterday. He is the son of a widow.

The court decided that Wm. Albertson committed a trespass in seizing Mary McGillicuddy's trunk, as noted in the GLOBE, and ordered him to return it.

Judge Flint will be busy this morning. A clog dancer, two or three tramps, several sneak and clothes-line thieves and one very crazy drunk will be the "cases," and hard cases they are, every mother's son of them.

Officer DeCorsey captured the captain of the gang of clothes thieves on lower Seventh street at midnight. He had on him one of the shirts stolen. Parties can have their property by calling at the city hall this morning.

A rumor of a row in West St. Paul, in which knives and bludgeons played an important part, turned out to be founded upon a little pleasantness among a few boys who were disturbing the neighborhood by their jollity.

Special Agent Clarke, of the internal revenue office, is on a tour of inspection through the Northwest, and is at present visiting St. Paul. This may account for the cleanly appearance of the collector's offices of this city, although Brother Barnard says he has intended to clean up for six months past.

"Mississippi Red," a well known thief and desperado, who has been "doing time" in Louisiana for several years past, and who, years ago, paid a flying visit to St. Paul, which didn't seem to please our citizens, was encountered on the levee by Capt. Clark yesterday. He was politely requested to leave town, and as he is naturally of an obliging disposition, he complied with that request.

Mr. T. H. Lyles has succeeded in engaging Mr. Howard Cossley, of Washington city, as foreman of his elegant and comfortable hair dressing saloon and bath rooms, No. 7 Wabashaw street. Mr. Cossley is a thoroughly practical man, who knows his business in all its branches and is fully conversant with the latest styles of hair dressing, and no doubt, under the joint superintendence of him and Mr. Lyles, these fashionable and popular parlors will become still more popular. Both Mr. Lyles and his patrons may be congratulated on the acquisition of Mr. Cossley.

THE COURTS.

District Court.

[Before Judge Brill.]

Ætna Life Insurance company vs. Ignatius Donnelly et al. Order for judgment.

[Before Judge Wilkin.]

A. R. Capehart vs. Mary Kennedy, administratrix, etc. Action for forcible entry and detainer, and for possession of premises. Motion heard by full bench to dismiss proceedings and remand to municipal court. Motion granted and papers returned.

Probate Court.

[Before Judge O'Gorman.]

In the matter of the estate of Ann Ryan, deceased. Will admitted to probate, and administrator ordered to give bond in the sum of $600.

In the matter of the estate of Sherman Finch. Examination of administrator's account adjourned to Oct. 8.

Municipal Court.

[Before Judge Flint.]

CIVIL.

John W. McClung vs. H. G. Manson, A. M. Radcliffe and A. D. Condit; action on lease. Decision filed ordering judgment in favor of the plaintiff and against each of the defendants for $99, with interest and costs. Judgment entered. Defendant A. D. Condit thereupon gave notice of appeal.

Isaac W. Webb vs. J. McElroy Moir; action to recover of alleged livery bill. Case tried and submitted.

CRIMINAL.

Joseph M. Connallin; assault with a dangerous weapon. Defendant had a preliminary examination and was held in the sum of $500 to await the grand jury, and in default of bail was duly committed to jail.

James Donnell; drunkenness. Fined $3, which he paid.

City vs. Walter K. Mulliken; selling fruit without a license. Continued to Sept. 19, 1878, at 9 A. M., for trial.

Mary McGillicuddy; charged with assault and battery on Julia A. Albertson. Set for trial Sept. 19, 1878, at 9 A. M.

William Albertson; charged with larceny of trunk and contents from Mary McGillicuddy. Defendant acquitted, and trunk delivered to Mary McGillicuddy.

State vs. Charles J. Peterson; incorrigible conduct. Committed to State Reform school.

Soldiers Additional Homesteads for sale by MORTON, MOORE & Co., Pioneer Press building.

AID FOR THE SOUTH.

Another Meeting of Ladies—Reports Showing Good Work Already Done and More is to Follow—Entertainment at the Athenæum—More Masonic Relief.

The meeting of the ladies interested in the work of relief for the sufferers at the South, was held yesterday afternoon at the House of Hope, and all present were much gratified and encouraged by the known results of canvassing done by the ladies to whom districts were given. Seven hundred and ninety-six dollars and fifty-two cents was the amount paid over to the treasurer, Mrs. Geo. Farwell, as the result of three days' effort on the part of those who kindly gave their time to the cause.

The above amount, being only a part of what is pledged, will be sent to-day to the "Ladies Relief society" at New Orleans, to be used as the managers shall decide.

The ladies desire especially to acknowledge one case of wine from Mr. Geo. Benz, and five bottles of wine from a friend. Nothing is as yet decided as to what will be done as regards an entertainment to be given for the same cause.

New districts were given to workers as follows:

Mrs. Cheney—Cedar, Robert and Minnesota streets.

Mrs. Bird—Hopkins and De Sota streets.

Mrs. Pettit—Eleventh, Twelfth and Thirteenth streets.

Mrs. John Mattocks and Mrs. Charles Thompson, Woodward avenue and Westminister street.

Mrs. Jane Hale, Stillwater street and vicinity.

During the continuance of the labors of this board of workers, Mrs. Dr. McMasters has consented to remain at the helm, to guide and assist all who may enlist their energies in behalf of the good work which is progressing so bravely.

Another meeting is called for Monday afternoon at 3 o'clock at the same place, and again, all who can, are urged to assist, as many streets still remain without any one to solicit in them, and it is not desirable that any should be slighted.

THE GERMAN SOCIETY.

The concert and dramatic entertainment at the Athenæum Sunday evening next, by the German society, for the benefit of the yellow fever sufferers, is now completely outlined and promises to be a grand success, both in an artistic sense, and also in the far more important feature, under the circumstances of yielding a large return for the noble object for which it is given. The entertainment will open with the comic opera in two acts, of "the Jolly Students," before given with marked success at the Athenæum. This will be followed by the rattling little comedy of "A Cure for Mothers-in-Law," its first presentation in this city. This comedy was written by King Louis I, of Bavaria, under his nom de plume of Dr. Fastenrath, and is pronounced one of his brightest and best productions. The Mænnerchor, Polymnia and the dramatic division of the German society with Seibert's orchestra, will take part in the presentation of the programme, a guarantee that it will be well done. Notwithstanding the high character of the entertainment, and the worthy object for which it is given, it has been determined to place the admission at the very low sum of 50 and 25 cents. As the expenses will be a merely nominal sum, the hall and the services of those participating having been tendered free, a very liberal sum for the relief fund is expected, as the house will undoubtedly be packed to its greatest capacity, while a very large number of tickets will be taken by persons to aid the good cause, not attending the entertainment.

MASONIC RELIEF.

Grand Secretary Pierson acknowledges the receipt of contributions to the Masonic relief fund for the benefit of yellow fever sufferers from Lansing lodge, of Lansing; Star lodge, of Rushford; Ashlar lodge, of Eyota; King Hiram lodge, of Jordan; Mount Moriah lodge, of Hastings; Chain Lake lodge, of Fairmont; Palestine lodge, of Duluth, and Zion commandery, of Minneapolis, making the total fund collected up to date $1,910.75. Second contributions were received from the three last named bodies.

MISCELANEOUS.

In addition to the contributions heretofore announced, the following sums have been received by Gov. Pillsbury for distribution: Sunday school, Two Rivers, Morrison county, $7.37; Swedish Lutheran church, Spring Garden, Goodhue county, $10.62; West St. Paul Building association, $25.75, a total of $43.67, or a grand total contributed through the hands of the Governor of $198.67.

At its regular meeting last evening Eureka Lodge No. 9, Ancient Order United Workmen, voted the sum of $70 for the yellow fever sufferers, remitting the amount to the supreme lodge of the order for distribution.

PERSONAL.

Hon. James N. Castle, Stillwater, was in the city yesterday.

Gen. W. T. Clarke, inspector of United States internal revenue, from Washington, D. C., is in St. Paul, with headquarters at the Merchants.

Mr. George H. Clark, business agent of the Charlotte Thompson Dramatic company, is in the city, arranging for the appearance of his company at the Opera House for three nights and a matinee week after next.

Mr. J. E. Knowlton, manager of the Clark House, Duluth, and Messrs. A. J. Sawyer and R. Stone, prominent residents of that city, are visiting St. Paul, the first named with headquarters at the Merchants and the two last at the Metropolitan.

Arrivals at the Clarendon: F. V. Bingham, Northfield; W. S. Davis, Owatonna; B. St. M. Le Breton, New Orleans; H. R. Gogreve, New Orleans; C. J. Monroe, South Haven, Mich; P. J. Johnson, Indianapolis; E. E. Wise, Mendota, Ill.; Thos. Clark, Chicago.

Metropolitan arrivals: A. C. Roberts, St. Louis; Arthur F. Eden, John A. Peebles and wife, Miss McCue, Winnipeg; Mrs. D. W. Maratta Columbus; J. B. Eldridge, New Orleans; Thos. S. Salisbury, Boston; E. C. Whitney, W. H. Sherwood, John P. Badger, Otto Richter, New York; John W. Hay, Chicago; M. O. Allen, Mrs. James McDonald, Rochester; A. B. Johnson, Utica, N. Y.; D. W. Rich, Minneapolis; A. J. Sawyer, Duluth; E. Hass and family, Binghampton; R. E. Jomond and wife, Port Huron; Col. S. A. Robertson, Mendota; Geo. H. Bayne, Baltimore; W. M. Wharton, Philadelphia; C. H. Whipple, Faribault; F. M. Gibson and family, U. S. A.; Mrs. McIntosh, Washington; F. J. Swain, N. Y.

The Merchants hotel has a steam elevator and all the modern improvements, with rooms graded from $2.50 to $3.00 per day. The following were among the arrivals yesterday: J. Paulson, Willmar; C. E. Blood and wife, Red wing; W. P. Symons, New York; Mrs. McDonaln. Brainerd; H. H. Bradley, M. Harris, W. F. Brown, L. Brown, C. Clark, New York; G. H. Clark, agent Charlotte Thompson; P. Cohen, Lead City, Black Hills; C. S. Woodraff, Hastings; G. H. Stansbury, Buffalo; W. Hebord and wife, Augusta; G. Wills, Keokuk; E. C. Whitney, New York; J. H. Gay and wife, St. Louis; W. E. Hale, Minneapolis; D. S. Sperry, M. Abraham and wife, J. P. Zimmerman, Chicago; V. P. Frary, Leavenworth, Kansas; F. M. Miles, Miles, Iowa; Miss Offley, Fort Randall; N. Ackerman, Mansfield, O.; Mrs. J. Macnider, A. R. Macnider, Brainerd; J. R. Summers and wife, Northfield: R. E. Bennett, New York; J. Bronnery, Deadwood; J. Thompson, Dubuque; H. Benson, Milwaukee; N. Bontan, New York; J. Minerer; Milwaukee; T. Kerby, New York; H. C. Tillinghust, Chicago; S. Sanchey, Marquette; J. J. Paxton, New York; H. C. Stone, Chicago; J. M. Pain, N. P. Junction; M. H. Bryan, Pine City; H. Derby and wife, Chicago; Mrs. S. P. Stewart, Northfield; Mrs. Bliss, Mrs. Fonda, Howard Lake; C. M. Wheeler, Marquette.

We shall commence receiving fresh fish and oysters Thursday morning, and will be prepared to supply our customers with the choicest in the market.

H. K. TAYLOR, No. 8 East Third street.

THE METHODISTS.

THE MEETING OF THEIR ANNUAL CONFERENCE AT ROCHESTER.

The Start from St. Paul—How the Ministers Enjoyed the Weekly "Globe"—A Sketch of Bishop Foster—Opening of Conference—Charges Against a Clergyman—The First Day's Proceedings.

[Specially Reported for the Globe.]

ROCHESTER, Sept. 18, 1878.—To a practical eye, a Methodist conference or a camp meeting could have been seen in the dim distance this morning just before the train left the depot at St. Paul. There was a sprinkling of white chokers and high cut coats, (and this is not always an indication of old Methodism), but the "grip" sack, and "why, how do you do brother," with the generous, extended hand for a hearty grip and shake, are sure indications that Methodist blood flows near the surface. But, in comes Donnelly, the little giant, who is going to shake 'em up this fall in the old fashioned style; Michael Doran comes next, and soon Hall comes hurriedly in after a few hours' nervous sleep and pleasant dreams, and next comes Sister Bishop and Mrs. Hackett, two of St. Paul's strong advocates of temperace, and what, with *ordinary* passengers, we soon have such a make-up as is not seen every day in the week; and we were, what the conductor termed as he struggled along through passes and half-fare tickets, "a great crowd."

At every station we had an accession of laymen and preachers until we found ourselves a "full train" winding our way—some to the Greenback convention at Northefild, some to the Women's temperance union convention at Owatonna and the balance to the Methodist conference at Rochester. At Faribault we fell in with Hon. T. S. Buckam, who, with his wife, father, and sister are on their way for the tour of Europe. They will sail from New York on the 2nd proximo, and be gone from four to six months.

At Owatonna we remained about an hour, and were just in time to see the parade of Forepaugh's mammoth circus. Here we met Mrs. Foster, the great temperance lecturer, who is about returning home after a long and successful lecturing season. Some one asked her to go to theconference. She said she would like to, but had ties at home that called her in that direction. At this, a gentleman called her away to give her an introduction to Charley De Graff, and I expect he now wears a blue ribbon.

THE BISHOP.

Bishop Foster, while waiting for a transfer, took a stroll over the village and came back as full of wonder and surprise as did the spies Caleb and Joshua, who came back ladened with the fruit of the country to which they had been sent. He says: "It is wonderful, wonderful, to see this great country. I was up here twenty years ago, but little did I dream of such vast improvements and such vast resources. Thriving towns and great farming interests in every direction."

By the way, speaking of the bishop, as he is one of the recent appointments, it is but just to say that he is considered one of the strong men of the church. He is of a commanding appearance, and looks more in years than he really is—58. The weed on his hat denotes him a widower. He is a native of Ohio, although at present a resident of Boston. He has been a bishop in the church since 1862, and, although not a graduate of any institution of learning, yet he does belong to that class of some of our greatest men known as "self-made men," and at the time of his election to the bishopric, was president of the Drew Theological Institute. The bishop will, next year, make the tour of the Orient, for the purpose of officially visiting the missions in that far off, wonderful land.

After leaving Owatonna, I took upon myself the office of missionary, and distributed the WEEKLY GLOBE, (the Rarus and Edwin Forest edition,) among the ministers. At first I hesitated, but, as my observation has led me to believe that a good minister loves a good horse, I thought I would chance it." In a minute or two you could not see anything but Rarus. I passed Bishop Foster by, thinking, perhaps, he would rather have the *Northwestern Christian Advocate*, (and probably he would for regular Sunday reading,) but brother Tom McClary came to me and says: "Have you got another one of them? you passed the bishop by, and I gave him mine." "Certainly," says I, "I am glad, brother McClary, that you appreciate a good paper." The newsboy took the alarm, and came to me and said: "See here 'squire, you're spoiling my whole business. I can't sell these men anything in a thousand miles." "Well," says I, "I'm sorry for that, but you spoke too late."

AT ROCHESTER.

We reached Rochester about 1 o'clock and the task of billeting ministers about town was entered into by Rev. W. C. Rice, resident pastor. This was no easy task when we remember that 136 ministers and forty-one wives had with this train reported themselves present. The good people of Rochester, taxed as they are by the county fair now in progress, and other local causes, have responded nobly to the call for accommodations for the members of the conference.

The conference sermon was preached in the evening by Rev. E. R. Lathrop. Rev. W. C. Rice, of Rochester, pastor in charge gave out the hymn,

"Jesus lover of my soul," etc.,

and said the congregation would sing without instrumental music, to show the style Methodist ministers adopt where the congregation are too poor to buy an instrument. The ministers feeling pretty happy over an afternoon spent in hand-shaking and greeting, made the welkin ring in true Metodistical style. The conference sermon is probably preached under more difficulties than any other, from the fact that the ministers are tired after their journey and are somewhat unsettled. Mr. Lathrop preached a most excellent sermon from the eleventh chapter of Matthew, and it was well received.

The church, a beautiful little brick edifice, with a seating capacity of about 450, neat in all its appointments, with the alter and preacher's stand most tastefully decorated with flowers, was filled to overflowing. Rev. Rice took this occasion to say to the sisters of the church, that if they thought the minister's wives came to visit them it was a mistake. They came to attend conference and have a good time, and if their entertainers should attend the love feast at 9 o'clock, at the expense of a good dinner, it would be quite excusable.

A very large portion of the members of the conference are young men, who have taken upon themselves this life work in deep earnest. They are, in the main, educated men and men of character.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, 9 A. M.

The twenty-fourth annual conference convened this morning and the usual sacrament—the supper established by the Lord Himself with almost His last breath—was enjoyed, presided over by the bishop. The watchmen from the walls of this Methodist Zion, to the number of 140, with many of their wives and members of the congregations of this and other churches, took a happy part in this time-honored custom.

This annual conference gathering is an oasis in the itinerant's life that is looked forward to with a great degree of pleasure, and it is no wonder he enjoys it. They come up from their several fields of labor, both far and near, full of hope, fear or anxiety; and this opening service was wisely ordained by the fathers of the church to dispel aught from the minister's heart, but "love for the brethren." The bishop called upon Rev. Dr. Hobert, whose familiar face has been seen at the Methodist conference for the past quarter of a century, to open the meeting with the usual religious services. The reverend gentleman selected for his lesson the fourth chapter of Second Corinthians. After reading the lesson all joined in singing:

High on His everlasting throne and without organ, drum or cymbal the ministers made music that gladdened the hearts of the hearers, when Rev. C. Hobert asked all to join him in prayer to the giver of all good for His blessing on the members of the conference this beautiful morning. After prayer Bishop Foster invited Cyrus Brooks, D. Cobb, T. M. Gossard and David Brooks to come forward and assist him in consecrating the elements, after which Rev. Cobb took charge of the meeting, calling to his assistance Revs. J. F. Chaffee, Chauncy Hobart, J. R. Creighton and other brethren to further carry on the service. The number of communicants on this occasion was 253.

ROLL CALL.

After this part of the meeting was brought to a close with prayer by the bishop, the conference roll was called by the secretary, Bro. Crist, and all answered to their names excepting the following: A. H. Abbott, A. R. Akers, John Benson, Jabez Brooks, A. P. Burtich, L. D. Brown, W. M. Bear, E. H. Bronson, W. I. W. Cunningham, Thos. Day, A. Davis, Geo. Galpin, Jacob Gleason, Norris Hobart, H. H. Holland, Robert Hoover, Alonzo Hitchcock, H. S. Hilton, C. M. Heard, D. C. John, John Kearns, Chas. L. Libby, I. M. Marsh, Z. C. Norton, J. C. Ogle, Boyd Philips, S. N. Phelps, J. W. Powell, Robert Price, John Quigely, J. D. Rich, Geo. W. Richardson, Abner H. Reed, C. H. Savidge, Samuel Spates, Aaron H. Stephens, H. L. Satchwell, L. Smith, John H. Stuntz, N. Tainter, M. D. Terwilliger, Ezra Tucker, Harvey Webb, R. Washburn, Geo. N. Dorsey, Andrew R. Cass.

The secretary was elected in the person of H. J. Crist, who called to his assistance Rev. H. C. Jennings.

The bar of the conference was fixed and a committee asked to report. The committee on nominations asked a little time for deliberation before reporting, and the time was taken up by the bishop, who told what the session of conference should be, not an occasion for conviviality, but one where the burdens of the church and the important conference work should be taken on, not only by the grave men of the conference, but by the youngest members thereof. In his experience he said he had noticed before coming here, that there was a tendency to linger in the lobby and outside the bar of the conference during the prayer service, and asked if it was becoming as Christian ministers to thus deport ones self. I will not attempt to follow the bishop in his kindly talk to the ministers when he said he hoped he would not be pained by seeing a recurrence of this at this conference. He admonished the members to be careful in their speech in and out the conference room in regard to any trouble that might be upon them. Carry these burdens to God and the clouds will dissipate. Let all our deliberations be in a dignified manner and as becomes ministers of the Lord Jesus Christ. Let our sojourn in this city and in the families where we will temporarily reside, be of such a pleasant religious character as to be long felt after we have gone. The bishop's remarks were listened to with attention, and at the conclusion the committee on nominations made its report, which was adopted and standing committees were appointed.

Dr. Hitchcock, of the book concern of Cincinnati and Chicago, was introduced to the conference, and stated that he would be obliged to be expeditious in the settlement of accounts, as he wished to visit the Iowa conference early next week.

NUMBER TEN.

The tenth question was taken up and Elder Gossard, of the St. Paul district, made his report in writing, which showed that notwithstanding the hard times, considerable attention was given to church building and paying church debts. Two charges had been established, one at Wadena and another at Moorhead. The year has brought forth its fruits, for which we are thankful. One case in point is the lifting of the debt on the First M. E. church at St. Paul. The debt was $6,000, but by a united effort it has been wiped out, and the church now stands free from debt.

S. W. Lloyd, John Stafford, H. J. Crist, David Tice, J. H. Macomber, Silas Bolles, S. T. Sterrett, N. M. Learned, W. W. Rork, S. G. Gale and Ezra Tucker passed in character and gave an account of the several moneys received.

CHARGES PREFERRED.

The case of G. W. T. Wright was called, when Rev. Chaffee handed in a written document which purported to be charges against the Doctor, but it was referred to a court for consideration. The suggestion was made that the conference resolve itself into a committee of the whole for a consideration of the charges. Brother Tice hoped that the suggestion would not be acted upon, because it would consume too much time of the conference.

The subject is under discussion while we go to mail.

Bev. S. W. Lloyd, of the M. E. conference, preached the missionary sermon to a crowded house to-night. The committee of eleven to take testimony in the Dr. Wright case was approved by the bishop. To worldly men, the matter would not seem very serious, but there is to be no white-washing.

News Notes From the National Capital.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 18.—The committee of the land office will urge upon Congress the importance of the re-organization of the office. The committee says: "More clerks are needed, and salaries sufficient to command the services of competent men."

Isaac C. Cohen, arrested for disorderly conduct in the agricultural department building, when refused admission to the room of the commissioner with his labor delegation, was in the police court to-day, and placed under bonds of $200 to keep the peace for thirty years. The court reserved a decision until the expiration of that time, allowing the case to stand open for that period.

The secretary of war returned to-day. Edward McPherson, chief of the bureau of engraving and printing in the treasury department, having become the political editor of the Philadelphia *Press*, has resigned his office in treasury, to take effect on the appontment of his successor, and will at once enter upon his editorial duties.

Mails For the Fever Districts.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 18.—The post office department is taking measures to deliver mails to all quarantined cities in the South, and where routes were cut off by railroads ceasing to run on account of quarantine regulations, or otherwise, postmasters are instructed to try some other method to serve the public by delivering the mails regularly.

DAILY WEATHER BULLETIN.

OFFICE OF OBSERVATION, SIGNAL CORPS, U. S. A. INGERSOLL BLOCK, THIRD STREET, ST. PAUL, MINN.

Observations taken at the same moment of time at all stations.

Meteorological Record, Sept. 18, 1878, 9:56 P. M.

	Bar.	Ther.	Wind.	Weather.
Bismarck	29.93	55	NW	Clear.
Duluth	29.79	58	NE	Cloudy.
Fort Garry	29.83	44	NE	Cloudy.
Pembina	29.78	48	N	Cloudy.
St. Paul	29.66	69	SE	Threat'.
Yankton	29.64	73	N	Clear.

DAILY LOCAL MEANS.

Bar.	Ther.	Rel. Hum.	Wind.	Weather
29.775	66.2	58.7	S	Clear.

Amount rainfall or melted snow —; Maximum thermometer 80; minimum thermometer 47.

R. J. LEWIS, Sergeant Signal Corps, U. S. A.

Fire Underwriters.

CHICAGO, Sept 18.—The ninth annual convention of underwriters of the Northwest met this morning and listened to addresses from various Eastern gentlemen. At 2 o'clock the president, J. S. Blackwelder, of St. Louis, delivered the annual address, which was attentively heard by the large audience present. It dealt chiefly with statistics and the question of needed legislation on insurance matters.

DIED.

ALLEY—On Tuesday morning, Sept. 17th, Dr. James T. Alley, in the 48th year of his age.

The friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral services from his late residence, No. 194 St. Peter street, on Friday afternoon, the 20th inst., at 3 o'clock.

HATS AND CAPS.

OPENING!

Thursday, Sept. 19.

OPERA HAT HOUSE!

(Opposite Postoffice.)

LATEST STYLES OF

Hats & Caps

FOR MEN AND BOYS

At Lowest Prices.

The Only Exclusive Retail Hat House in St. Paul.

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To Match Suits.

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248-50

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143-6mos

CONTRACT WORK.

GRADING L'ORIENT STREET.

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS, CITY OF ST. PAUL, MINN., Sept. 14, 1878.

Sealed bids will be received by the Board of Public Works in and for the corporation of the city of St. Paul, Minn., at their office in said city, until 12 M. on the 26th day of September, A. D. 1878, for

GRADING L'ORIENT STREET FROM GLENCOE STREET TO PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE,

in said city, according to plans and specifications on file in the office of said Board.

A bond with at least two sureties, in a sum of at least 20 per cent. of the gross amount bid must accompany each bid.

The said Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

H. M. RICE, President.

Official: R. L. GORMAN, Clerk Board of Public Works. 244-54

CONTRACT WORK.

GRADING LAFAYETTE AVENUE.

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS, CITY OF ST. PAUL, MINN., Sept. 17, 1878.

Sealed bids will be received by the Board of Public Works in and for the corporation of the city of St. Paul, Minn., at their office in said city, until 12 M. on the 30th day of Sept., A. D 1878, for

GRADING LAFAYETTE AVENUE FROM GROVE STREET TO COLLINS STREET, WITH STONE CULVERT AND GUTTERS,

according to plans and specifications on file in the office of said Board.

A bond, with at least two sureties, in a sum of at least 20 per cent. of the gross amount bid, must accompany each bid.

The said Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

H. M. RICE, President.

Official: R. L. GORMAN, 247-57 Clerk Board of Public Works.

Serving Assessment Notices.

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS, CITY OF ST. PAUL, Minn., Sept. 17th, 1878.

Sealed bids will be received by the Board of Public Works, in and for the corporation of the city of St. Paul, Minnesota, at their office in said city, until 12 M. on the 26th day of September, A. D. 1878, for serving such personal notices as are required to be served by said Board under the assessment law.