1870–71.

William Lee, President.
Parker Paine, Treasurer.
John Mattocks, Secretary and Superintendent.

Heinrich Wadelstaedt.	D. W. Ingersoll.
J. G. Donnelly.	W. S. Combs.
John Rogers.	M. B. Farrell.
Michael Cummings.	J. G. Green.
William Gies.	Herman Trott.
Henry Meyerding.	Monroe Sheire.
J. Fletcher Williams.	

1871–72.

William Lee, President.
Wm. S. Combs, Vice President.
Parker Paine, Treasurer.
John Mattocks, Secretary and Superintendent.

I. F. A. Studdart.	Henry Meyerding.
Louis Demeules.	H. Von Minden.
J. G. Donnelly.	D. W. Ingersoll.
John Rogers.	Monroe Sheire.
Thomas Grace.	George A. Hamilton.
William Gies.	Hermann Trott.

1872–73.

I. F. A. Studdart.	(Record lost.)
Parker Paine.	H. Von Minden.
(Record lost.)	D. W. Ingersoll.
Louis Demeules.	(Record lost.)
J. G. Donnelly.	Monroe Sheire.
Thomas Grace.	George A. Hamilton.
William Geist.	(Record lost.)
(Record lost.)	

1873–74.

George M. Gage, Superintendent.
D. W. Ingersoll, President.
W. S. Combs, Secretary.
Parker Paine, Treasurer.

S. C. Arbuckle.	Thomas Grace.
I. F. A. Studdart.	William Geist.
E. F. Berrisford.	Albert Wolff.
J. B. Chaney.	George L. Farwell.
J. G. Dennelly.	Monroe Sheire.
Henry Meyerding.	George A. Hamilton.

1874–75.

J. H. Donaldson, President.
George A. Hamilton, Secretary.
George L. Farwell, Treasurer.
L. M. Burrington, Superintendent.

S. C. Arbuckle,	I. F. A. Studdart,
J. G. Donnelly,	E. F. Berrisford,
J. B. Chaney,	B. Mueller,
Henry Meyerding,	Thomas Grace,
D. W. Ingersoll,	W. S. Combs,
Albert Wolff,	Monroe Sheire.

1875–76.

There is no record of this year among the archives of the board of education. The inspectors for this year were probably made up from the board of the year preceding and the one following.

1876-77.

I. F. A. Studdart, President.
J. C. Terry, Secretary.

C. W. Carpenter,	H. Meyerding,
J. H. Murphy,	Adam Fink,
Patrick Flynn,	Albert Scheffer,
R. O. Sweeney,	A. Erdman,
Thomas Grace,	George Watson.

1877-78.

J. H. Murphy, President.
C. D. Kerr, Vice President.
A. G. Manson, Secretary.
Albert Scheffer, Treasurer.

M. Hagan,	George Benz,
I. Thompson,	H. G. Haas,
H. L. Young,	W. R. Merriam,
O. O. Cullen,	R. E. A. Withey.

1878-79.

J. H. Murphy, President.
C. D. Kerr, Vice President.
A. G. Manson, Secretary.
W. R. Merriam, Treasurer.

M. Hagan,	J. G. Donnelly,
Alfred Dufresne,	O. O. Cullen,
George Benz,	J. J. McCardy,
Albert Scheffer,	R. E. A. Withey.

1879-80.

J. H. Murphy, President.
J. J. McCardy, Secretary.
Albert Scheffer, Vice President.
F. A. Renz, Treasurer.
B. F. Wright, Superintendent.

G. W. Turner,	J. G. Donnelly,
Alfred Dufresne,	O. O. Cullen,
Charles E. Otis,	George Benz,
James H. Weed,	Edmund Rice, Jr.,
C. H. Lienau.	

1880-81.

C. H. Lienau, President.
E. J. Abbott, M. D., Vice President.
J. G. Donnelly, Secretary.
F. A. Renz, Treasurer.
B. F. Wright, Superintendent.

J. H. Murphy, M. D.	G. W. Turner.
Alferd Dufresne,	Charles R. Otis,
H. H. Athey,	George Benz,
James H. Weed,	G. A. Hamilton,
Wm. Richeson, M.D.,	

1881-82.

C. D. Kerr, President.
E. J. Abbott, Vice President.
J. G. Donnelly, Secretary.
F. A. Renz, Treasurer.
B. F. Wright, Superintendent.

A. B. Wilgus,	J. H. Murphy, M. D.
J. Oppenheim,	L. A. Gilbert,
H. H. Athey,	George Benz,
R. Schiffman,	G. A. Hamilton,
C. H. Lienau,	

1882-83.

J. Oppenheim, President.
R. Schiffman, Vice President.
J. G. Donnelly, Secretary.
George Reis, City Treasurer, Treasurer ex-officio.
B. F. Wright, Superintendent.

J. H. Murphy,	J. T. Kerker,
C. D. Kerr,	George Benz,
H. H. Athey,	L. A. Gilbert,
G. A. Hamilton,	William Berlandi.
A. B. Wilgus,	

SCHOOL BUILDINGS.

The following table will show the dates at which the public school buildings have been erected or acquired:

Washington school in	1857
Adams school in	1858
Jefferson school in	1858
Franklin school in	1863
Baldwin school in	1865
Neill school in	1870
Vine Street school in	1870
McLean school in	1871
Madison school in	1872
Rice school in	1873
Lincoln school in	1875
River school in	1875
Humboldt school in	1878
Monroe school in	1880
Jackson school in	1880
Van Buren school in	1881
Webster school in	1881
Garfield school in	1382
High school in	1882

VALUE OF SCHOOLS.

The following table shows the cost of each school building and site at its acquisition and the present valuation, as put upon them by the city comptroller:

	Cost.	Val'tn.
Washington school	$18,000	$22,000
Adams (torn down)	20,000	......
Jefferson (rebuilt)	40,000	45,000
Franklin (12 rooms added)	30,000	60,000
Neil	5,000	15,000
Vine (disposed of)	3,000	.....
McLean, now Harrison	5,000	4,500
Madison	40,822	50,000
Rice	4,817	5,000
Baldwin (sold to city)	5,000	7,500
Lincoln	22,572	23,500
Humboldt	7,800	9,000
River (improved $2,500)	......	9,000
Monroe	12,000	15,000
Jackson	11,500	13,000
Van Buren	16,000	22,000
Webster	16,500	19,500
Garfield	16,000	18,500
High	......	90,000

CONCLUSION.

St. Paul has to-day a system of free schools of which she may well be proud. Although not perfect, it has acquired such a degree of excellence that there is not much room for censure, taking into consideration the many disadvantages that have had to be encountered. In the beginning without means, this same obstacle had to be met each year, for, although what has seemed adequate means have often been passed for the relief of the schools, yet our city has grown at such an extensive rate that to keep pace with the constant demands was utterly out of the question without an unlimited exchequer. The legislature finally came to a realizing sense of the importance of the subject and opened the way for great benefits in the future, which with business-like management on the part of the board of education will lead to an educational system in St. Paul second to none in the country.

CATHOLIC FREE SCHOOLS.

The Roman Catholic denominational schools of the city are free schools, but the money for their support is supplied by the Catholic church, and no part of it is raised by taxation, nor do they participate in the benefits of the state school fund. There are six of these schools in the city, taught by thirty-three teachers, and having an attendance of about 1,830 pupils. The sexes are educated separately, and all the branches taught in the Grammar schools and part of the High school course are embraced, giving boys and girls a good practical common school education. The policy of the church is to take charge of the education of the children of its parishioners, and with this end in view the parish school was organized in the city about the year 1855, by the Brothers of the Holy Cross, and with the growth of the city school accommodations have been increased. The following schools are now in operation, with doors open ten months in the year:

The Cathedral school, with nine teachers and an average attendance of about 550 pupils. The boys are in charge of the Christian Brothers and the girls are in charge of the Sisters of St. Joseph.

The School of the Assumption (German) has eight teachers and about 600 puplils. The girls are taught by the Sisters of St. Joseph and the boys by lay teachers.

St. Mary's church parish school is taught by thd Christian Brothers and the Sisters of St. Joseph. There are seven teachers and about 400 pupils.

St. Joseph's church parish school has three teachers and about 150 pupils, taught by the Sisters of St. Joseph.

St. Louis' church parish school (French) has 200 pupils and is taught by four teachers, Sisters of St. Joseph.

St. Adelbert church parish school (Polish) has eighty pupils and two teachers. This school has but recently been established, but is in a flourishing condition.

GERMAN DUELISTS.

A Fatal Affair Between a Student and an Officer of the Imperial Guard—An Accident in a Wurzburg Shop Causes a Fatal Meeting at Five Paces in the Guttenberg Forest.

[Philadelphia Press.]

A tragedy was enacted recently in the little town of Wurzburg, Germany, which threw the whole population into great excitement. While a Capt. Emmerich, an officer of the Imperial guard, was out shopping with his wife, he entered a grocery store where he made some purchases, and was on the point of leaving when he stumbled against a student named Scheyer. This young man felt himself aggrieved, and said so aloud, to which the officer, in the presence of his wife, insultingly responded. The natural result was a challenge. As young Scheyer knew the captain to be both a good shot and an expert swordsman, he demanded the duel to take place with pistols at a distance of five paces. This novel proposition did not suit Capt. Emmerich, and he wished to ignore the cartel; but a meeting of honor of officers was held, and they compelled their brother-officer to accept the conditions, arguing that, as the injured and aggrieved person, Scheyer had the choice of everything according to the code of dueling. As a refusal would have stigmatized him as a coward throughout the regiment, Capt. Emmerich reluctantly consented to the arrangements. The combatants met in the forest of Guttenberg and the five paces were duly measured. At the word fire they both wheeled, two reports broke the silence, and Capt. Emmerich fell to the earth. His second ran to his assistance, but the fatal bullet had done its work; he lay dead with a gaping hole through his brain. The student's aim had been good. He escaped unhurt and when he found the captain was dead hastily quitted his friends and has not yet been traced. It is, however ascertained that he has left Germany.

The captain leaves a widow and a child who is only a few weeks old. Since the particulars of the affair have got abroad the officers who composed the meeting of honor have been severely criticised for their action in the matter. This system is unfortunately too prevalent in Germany, and there seems to be a deal of hostility between the student and soldier. The slightest act, sometimes only a gesture, will raise a discussion which invariably ends in this sanguinary manner. Had Capt. Emmerich refused to follow the commands of his brother-officers his life would have been a source of constant misery to him. Snubbed by his superiors, shunned by his equals, and derided by the men under him, he would probably have ended by taking his own life, as an officer did some time ago. This officer refused to submit to some conditions that did not seem fair to him, and would not fight. He bore their covert sarcasm for a short while, and allowed the inhabitants of the town to point the finger of scorn at him, but finally out of shame he committed suicide.

The German laws relating to dueling are very stringent, but the trouble is that they are not adhered to. This last duel will no doubt arouse the authorities, who, until the present, have winked at those so-called petty breaches of the law. When a man dare not walk the streets on a muddy day for fear of splashing some hot-headed and sensitive student, who will immediately ask for satisfaction, it is about time for the authorities to step in and interfere.

Remember This.

If you are sick Hop Bitters will surely aid Nature in making you well when all else fails.

If you are costive or dyspeptic, or are suffering from any other of the numerous diseases of the stomach or bowels, it is your own fault if you remain ill, for Hop Bitters are a sovereign remedy in all such complaints.

If you are wasting away with any form of Kidney disease, stop tempting Death this moment, and turn for a cure to Hop Bitters.

If you are sick with that terrible sickness, Nervousness, you will find a "Balm in Gilead" in the use of Hop Bitters.

If you are a frequenter, or a resident of a miasmatic district, barricade your system against the scourge of all countries—malarial, epidemic, bilious and intermittent fevers—by the use of Hop Bitters.

If you have rough, pimply, or sallow skin, bad breath, pains and aches, and feel miserable generally, Hop Bitters will give you fair skin, rich blood, and sweetest breath, health, and comfort.

In short they cure all Diseases of the Stomach, Bowels, Blood, Liver, Nerves, Kidneys, Bright's Disease. $500 will be paid for a case they will not cure or help.

That poor, bedridded, invalid wife, sister, mother, or daughter, can be made the picture of health, by a few bottles of Hop Bitters, costing but a trifle. Will you let them suffer?

Busted on Grammar.

The Kansas City *Times* criticises the New York *Sun* as follows: The *Sun*, that awful scourge of ungrammatical newspapers, makes the following frightful announcement in startiing display type; "Sweeney's Bank Bursted." "Bursted," indeed. If Sweeney's bank is "busted," why does not Mr. Dana say so in pure, mellow Richard Grant White English? The *Sun* replies as follows: We must confess we were never entirely satisfied with bursted. We suspect that it ought always to be spelled without an r.

☞The Diamond Dyes for family use have no equals. All popular colors easily dyed, fast and beautiful. 10 cents a package.

MUSIC AND DRAMA.

Record of the Dying Year in the Domain of Thespis.

TRAGEDY, COMEDY AND MUSIC.

All the Leading Lights Catering to the Amusement of St. Paul.

THEIR MERITS AND DEMERITS.

Social and Dramatic Associations of Our German-American Citizens.

The Year's Record.

The year has not been a notable one in the way of amusements. This has been due to a variety of circumstances. In the first place it was intended a year ago to tear down the Opera house early in the spring for the purpose of rebuilding, and no bookings were made later than the 1st of May, which date was set for the closing. When the plans were changed it was too late to secure first class attractions and Manager Hains wisely concluded to make no engagements with the barn-stormers who always have dates to spare for a city like St. Paul. A few companies were found, however, which had some dates to fill, and these were secured to help while away the summer season. There were many good organizations that were anxious to come here, and could have been booked early in the season for later dates had it not been for the advertised closing of the house, Several operatic companies and various dramatic organizations were in correspondence with the manager with a view to a visit to our city, but finding no time open were obliged to make arrangements elsewhere.

It may be remarked that St. Paul has a most enviable reputation in the theatrical profession. It is reckoned as the best city of its size in the Union for really good dramatic or musical organizations and one of the worst in the country for the "barn-stormers." As a consequence there is no difficulty in obtaining the very best class of entertainments going, all circumstances being favorable. When the new Opera house is completed in September next, we may confidently look for a brilliant round of amusement events that will cast all past seasons into the shade.

The first entertainment of the year was given by the Emma Abbott company on the 4th of January, when "Patience" was presented in a highly acceptable manner to a crowded house. Then came Haverly's Minstrels, followed by Miss Ada Gray, Frank Mordaunt, Herne's "Hearts of Oak" and Neill Burgess in the "Widow Bedott." None of these were very successful, though none of them lost money. The month was further enlivened by entertainments by some of our local socities, among them being a chamber concert by Julian Pinkham, a concert by the Arion society, and the annual masquerade by the German society.

February opened auspiciously with four nights of English Comic opera by H. B. Mahn's company, an organization rather weak as a whole but containing some excellent voices. The patronage was satisfactory to the management, even though some of the operas were not wholly satisfactory to the patrons. We were next favored by a visit from Rossi, the famous Italian tragedian, who gave us a polyglot edition of "Othello," "King Lear" and Hamlet." The season was not as profitable as it ought to have been. Anna Dickinson followed with an attempt to personate "Hamlet" and "Claude Melnotte" The novelty of her appearance was sufficient to attract large audiences; the merits of her acting were not overwhelmingly numerous. We next had a concert by the Carreno-Donaldi company which was satisfactory if not brilliant or remunerative. "Furnished Rooms" were to let for two nights with but few applicants. Rose Eytinge in "Felicia" did a remunerative business for two nights and a matinee. The play was well constructed, and her company composed of thorough artists. Adelaide Cherrie, who was advertised as "the most beautiful woman on the stage" played "Only a Farmer's Daughter" to slim honses. She was only fair of face, mediocre as an actress, and had an execrably bad play and a worse company. A few local entertainments filled up the vacant dates.

March came in with Joseffy, and went out with McAuley. The Joseffy concert was an artistic success and reasonably well patronized. A brief season of "Fun on the Bristol" was then enjoyed heartily, followed by a brief season of comic opera given by the Hess Acme company, very acceptable performances. Sprightly Minnie Palmer in "My Sweetheart" laughed and sang her way into the hearts of the people, and the inimitable Vokes Family gave us some "Fun in the Kitchen." Roxana was missing, but the rest of the folks made the evenings lively. Oscar Wilde expounded his dogma of æstheticism to a crowded house of curious people who went to see him much as they did later in the season to see the two-headed girl. Fanny Davenport, fair, fat and for-tunately an admirable actress gave a few charming personations which were thoroughly enjoyed by the large audiences present. She is always welcome here, and no matter how often she comes she cannot wear that welcome out. Aldrich and Parsloe, two of the most conscientious as well as fortunate actors in the profession, gave two renditions of "My Partner" to good business. Ben. McAuley returned with "A Messenger from Jarvis Section," on the last of the month, after playing it with great success throughout the country for four years, and did a fair business. It will be remembered that this play received its first public presentation on the St. Paul stage. The judgment as to its merits then rendered by the GLOBE has been endorsed by the press and public in every part of the country.

Annie Pixley began the month of April in "M'liss." Her company was a good one, substantially the same as during the previous year. She played to good business, and increases rather than diminishes in popularity. Thomas W. Keene followed in a round of tragedy, giving representations of "Macbeth," "Othello," "Richard III" and "Bertrucio." A visible improvement in the methods of this artist was noticeable, and it is manifest that he is a close student of the best schools of the drama. His strict adherence to the ideals of Colly Cibber is regarded as a blemish by some Shakspearean scholars, and we are of opinion that occasional departures from that version might not be without advantage in rounding out the delineations. His improvement since his first appearance here is most gratifying, and we look to see him take a place in the very foremost rank of tragic artists at no very distant day. "Hazel Kirke" followed Keene. It was not the original company that visited us in 1881, and did not give as complete satisfaction. It was fairly patronized, however. M'lle Litta, assisted by the Mendelssohn club of Minneapolis, gave a concert on the 20th that was fairly successful. She was followed by Robson and Crane in their laughable specialties. They did a splendid business.

May was ushered in by Willie Edouin's "Sparks" company, a small but perfect organization of fun-makers. The Tennessee Jubilee singers gave two performances, and were followed by the Rentz female minstrels, who fortunately gave but one performance. Frank Mayo in "Davy Crockett," and Tony Denier's "Humpty Dumpty" troupe each gave us a night. Both were good and well patronized.

June is always a dull month in the drama, as most of the companies forsake the road and are engaged in reorganizing. Coup's and Sells' circuses visited the city and carried away a mint of money. Tony Pastor, with his magnificent company of specialty performers did well; the Jolly Pathfinders succeeded in amusing large audiences; Morton's Big Four minstrels furnished a small installment of burnt cork opera, and the Liliputian Comic Opera company closed the month with four performances that were quite a novelty in their line.

August was almost barren of interest. The Chicago Church Choir company gave a good performance of "Patience;" Roland Reed gave some excellent bits of character acting in "Cheek" and Sol. Smith Russell came in at the heel of the hunt with his "Edgewood Folks," a composition that gives him an opportunity to display his peculiar talents, but leaves the rest of the company in the shade.

Commencing on the 4th of September John McCullough gave us a week of tragedy, beginning his season here. His company was the same in all material respects as for several years past, and no blemishes due to lack of rehearsal were noticed. Mr. McCullough's audiences were limited only by the capacity of the Opera house, and his performances were, as usual, as perfect as art could make them. Success in his chosen field has in no way abated his industry and studiousness. He is careful of the smallest detail of stage business and elocutionary inflection, and it is always a rare treat to be able to sit through one of his performances and watch their rare beauties. Mr. McCullough appeared on this occasion in all of his leading roles. Clotilde Stephany gave two performances of "Oudarde" to only moderate houses; Sol Smith Russell returned for two nights; Charles A. Gardner gave us German dialect in a very mediocre play called "Karl," and Billy Rice closed the month with three very good minstrel performances.

October brought us some very excellent entertainments. Mr. and Mrs. McKee Rankin drew well in "'49" and "The Danites," and their performances were in every way satisfactory. The Hess Acme opera company, recruited somewhat, returned for three nights and a matinee, and were as usual well received. Denman Thompson filled fair week with "Joshua Whitcomb," and as usual drew full houses. Margaret Mather followed the next week in a round of tragedy. Opening with "Romeo and Juliet" with a large audience, they continued to increase with each performance. No debutante has ever appeared in this city who has won such universal approval as Miss Mather. Her conception of the characters she portrays is rarely artistic; her elocution is well nigh faultless; her acting is well schooled, and her face is wonderfully expressive of the varied emotions that sway her characters. Add to these a rich and tasteful wardrobe, a liberal management and enthusiasm in the mimic art, and it is easy to see that Miss Mather will succeed ere long in placing herself upon the highest round of the ladder of fame. It is to be hoped that she will return to our new Opera house.

Briggs' Boston operatic minstrels began the month of November with a single performance. Then came John Dillon, who did reasonably well, and Ben Maginley in "A Square Man," who did not succeed as well as he deserved. From the 9th to the 11th inclusive the ex-Rev. George C. Miln and Col. Burleigh appeared. Their engagement was not altogether a successful one either from a financial or dramatic standpoint. Both of the "stars" have much to learn before they can expect to occupy the niche in the temple of fame to which they aspire. Five nights and two matinees by the Boston Ideal Opera company were largely patronized. The company is first-class in every respect—undoubtedly the best that has visited St. Paul during the year. The company concluded with a grand testimonial sacred concert on Sunday evening, the 26th, for the benefit of Manager Charles Hains. The house was crowded to suffocation. The Harris commedy company gave three very acceptable performances on the 17th and 18th, and were followed by Rose Eytinge, who did but an indifferent business, owing to the fact that the plays selected were old and worn threadbare. The company was a good one, however, and ought to have better opportunities for a display of their talents.

December has not been particularly notable. Thatcher, Primrose & West's minstrels did a large business and gave the best minstrel performances seen here in many a day. They were followed by the original "Big Four," but the people had been surfeited with minstrelsy and did not cotton kindly to the four. Charles Wyndham, with his admirable comedy company from the London Criterion filled the last three nights of last week and did a fairly remuenerative business. The company is composed of finished artists, and is without doubt the best ever seen in St. Paul. During the week just closing we have had Collier's "Lights o' London," a spectacular melodrama of rare excellence. The scenery is exceptionally fine, and the performance symmetrical and in every way praiseworthy. Its patronage has been excellent.

Besides the entertainments mentioned, we have been favored with lectures on a variety of subjects, under the auspices of our various local societies. John F. Finerty, Gordon E. Cole, Col. Bob Ingersoll, Mrs. Mary A. Livermore, and several others entertained large audiences. We have also enjoyed elocutionary and musical entertainments by the Misses Banning, Miss Lenora Austin and her associates; the Choral society, the German society, and other organizations of amateurs, all of which were well patronized and highly enjoyable.

Wood's Opera House.

In August last Col. J. H. Wood, formerly proprietor of Wood's museum at Chicago, saw a chance for a money-making enterprise in this city. He accordingly rebuilt the old McMillan packing house on Seventh street near Jackson, transforming it into one of the handsomest little theaters in the West. It was opened to the public without much flourish of trumpets; but the uniform excellence of the performances soon attracted public attention and patronage. It has ever since drawn excellently. At first it was thought that the location was a little out of the way, but results have demonstrated the wisdom of Col. Wood's judgment. There has been a constant round of sensational melodrama, presented by good artists, with occasional variety specialties to season the evening's enjoyment. The house has been crowded nightly, and Col. Wood has determined to enlarge the theater at the close of the spring season, to nearly double its present capacity, and to keep it open constantly. There is no doubt but the enterprise will prove a continued success.

Das Gesellschaftlich - Musikalische Deutsch-Amerikanerthum.

He was one of their own nationality, a trifle ironical no doubt, or mayhap, different from his class, somewhat dyspeptical or socialistically sour. At any rate it was a Teutonic author who first said that where two Germans meet or congregate there will be found *three* different opinions but certainly *one* society or association, and though we consider part of this assertion slanderous, the latter portion of it is literally true, as the history of St. Paul will amply testify. Keeping regular and even step with the growth and prosperity of our city from the earliest times of its modest village infancy to its present metropolitan proportions and municipal pride, has been the development of its German element, so-called, comprising fully one-third of our total population, faithfully contributing its full and honest share of toil and muscle, brain and energy, and intellectual and physical labor towards our present prosperity. No small share of this has been done directly and indirectly by and through the various social organizations established and maintained in almost every portion of the city by our German-American fellow-citizens. Hardly a week passes, but an entertainment of some social nature takes place under the auspices of some one of these societies, and to their credit be it said, good order and decorum always prevail, whether the entertainment consists of a State Saengerfest continuing for four or five consecutive days, or a brilliant masquerade with all its incentives to boisterous joviality, a concert, a ball, or only a summer garden picnic. This much by the way, and now for a classified enumeration of the organizations coming under our caption, with a brief review of each, taking them in the order of seniority, which brings us first and foremost to

THE GERMAN SOCIETY.

This is the oldest German society in the city and state. It was organized in the winter of 1852–1853 as a reading club—by several pioneer Germans under the name of the German Reading society, of St. Paul, and as such was incorporated by the territorial legislature of 1854. The first officers of the society were: John Peters, president; F. Greiner, (now register of deeds of Carver county.) treasurer; John Karger, secretary of the original members; Mr. F. A. Renz, our ex-city treasurer; Mr. Paul Faber and Chas. Hoffman, Esq., are still on the roll and as active as could reasonably be expected. The first house, a little frame structure eighteen by eighteen feet, belonging to the society, still remains standing as a sort of squatter in what is now Bernheimer and Arnold's addition, near the southern terminus of Forbes street, having been removed in 1876, to make room for the addition to the original Athenæum, built in 1859. In 1865, the war and hard times having taxed the energy of the remaining and surviving members to the utmost, new blood was infused by combining the reading society with the singing society then just reorganized under the name of "Liederkranz," and which consisted of the postbelium members of the Freie Maennerchor, (Prof. Rohr) the Germania (Prof. Conrad Zenzius) and the more recent Concordia (Prof. Papa Esch) and in 1870 this flourishing combination was re-incorporated under the name by which this article is captioned. The objects of the German society are mental and physical improvement, which it aims to accomplish by sustaining a library, lectures, the culture of song and music and the dramatical. The members of the society, numbering about one hundred and fifty, are divided into three divisions, viz: the Mænnerchor or musical division, consisting of nearly thirty male and twenty-four female voices, under the baton of Prof. Richard Stempf; the dramatical division, with a membership of about thirty lady and gentleman ameteurs, and the passive members. The society at large is in a most flourishing condition, being practically without liabilities and owning real estate and personal property of the value of probably $18,000. The divisions are given great liberty of action and are but under nominal restraint, amounting to a gentle, parental supervision by the society at large. They are not hindered in their desires or actions by any cumbrous or irksome red-tapeism or parliamentarian machinery, and hence the activity especially of the dramatic division is something great and the results correspondingly happy. Grand operas, operattas, melodrama, and the drama generally in all of its variegated forms, find a home and assiduous exponents within the walls of the Athenæum, and regular practice is had by both divisions, the Mænnerchor meeting every Wednesday and Saturday and the dramatic division, subject to the call of the stage manager. The present officers of the society (and ex-officio of the Mænnerchor) are: J. H. Kahlert, president; Albert Glaetzner, vice president; Otto Dreher, general manager and chairman of trustees; Wm. Bickel, financial manager and trustee; Wm. Platte, supply manager and trustee; Gus-Gustave Stoltze, secretary; John J. Penner, treasurer, and Max Toltz, librarian. The officers of the dramatic division are: John J. Penner, president; Wm. Platte, vice president; Otto Dreher stage manager; Paul Kuehn, assistant manager and requisteur, and Gustave Stoltze, secretary and souffleur.

The society contemplates making solid and substantial improvements during the coming year, comprising a new front to the building, an enlarged gallery with elegant an comfortable seats, new entrance to dining and refreshment rooms and will continue to add to their stage scenery as occasion may require until the rejuvenated stage shall become a very bijou and model in its way. Such stars as can be prevailed upon to add their lustre to our domestic histrionic lights are to be invited, and in the matter of masquerades the society is even now preparing to surpass and eclipse all of its previous efforts in this line where they have as yet had no successful rival.

The membership is composed of the best class of citizens, comprising some of the oldest settlers as well as the more recent arrivals. The deliberations of the society are guided in the true spirit of tolerance and good will toward every shade of political or religious belief, and be he Christian or unbeliever, Jew or Gentile, Democrat or Republican, nothing is contained in the laws or by-laws, nor said or done, that would in any manner hinder him from becoming a member, so long as he is a good and respectable citizen. Such and of such is the veteran "Deutsche Verein," like wine of noble vintage, grows stronger and better with increasing years, worthy of general approbation and emulation.

Next in order is

THE ST. PAUL LIEDERKRANZ.

A German singing society, organized on Nov. 23, 1867, by the following gentlemen: J. Moosbrugger, Carl Rapp, J. Sausen, Jos. Deising, Geo. Reis, John Wagner, Nick Christophel, Jno. Wagner, Jr., Anton Haenle, B. Orthaus, Frank Roedler, H. H. Miller, John Schillo, Adam Fetsch and Joseph Hermann. The first officers of this society were: H. H. Miller, president; Geo. Reis, vice president; Jacob Moosbrugger, secretary; John Wagner, treasurer. Like the Maennerchor, this society has carried off several prizes awarded at various state singing festivals for competitive efforts, and as a vocal organization comprising a male and female chorus, has always occupied a prominent position, especially with its very fine mixed chorus. The society, beside regularly cultivating four-part singing, has given several larger musical compositions, such as "Columbus," Romberg's "Lay of the Bell," "Leonardo and Blandine," and other works, rendering them in costume, and with all necessary scenic and mechanical effects and appurtenances. The society at present consists of twenty-two active, and sixty-eight passive, members, while the chorus contains twenty ladies and twenty-two gentlemen, under the experienced, faithful and able direction of their long time director, Prof. J. T. Kerker, whose conscientious work and musical ability are fully appreciated and ably seconded by his fellow officers and members.

The Liederkranz meets for practice regularly every Tuesday and Thursday evening at their hall, corner of Ninth and Exchange streets, and is at present rehearsing a large concerted piece, entitled "Woerther See," by Thomas Koschat, which they intend to produce at an early day. The financial standing of the society is better than for some years past, and the inventory of musical, cash and other assets can safely be estimated as of the value of fifteen hundred dollars. The present officers of the society are: Peter Heck, president; Joseph Elles, secretary, and Joseph Hanggi treasurer. Liederkranz signifies a "ring, or wreath of song." May this "wreath" become more closely knit with its riper age, and may this "ring of song" be ever tuneful and never broken.

THE CONCORDIA

singing society was first organized as a Druidic vocal club on the 10th of January, 1874, and the membership was for some time restricted to members of the Druidic order, rendering their songs on various occasions within the ceremonial of the order only. Some years since the barrier was removed, and in 1880 the Concordia, no longer limited to Druids, became an integral part of the Minnesota Sængerbund, like Mænnerchor and Liederkranz, and in its aims and objects, end and means, is on precisely the same footing as its colleagues of the other societies. The Concordia at present consists of twenty-five active and fifty-one passive members, meets for practice every Thursday evening at Stein's hall, E. Third street, and is officered by Julius Schneider, president; Julius Tietz, vice president; Adolph Jarshishek, secretary and treasurer, and H. Wolf, librarian, all under the vigorous leadership of Mr. Peter Christophel, who some time ago became the successor to Mr. Anthony Jurka, the first leader, who wielded the baton for a long term of years. The Concordia contains very good material and is especially fortunate in possessing considerable of the humorous element which enables them on their festival occasions to successfully entertain their always numerous friends and patrons. A number of public concerts has been given by this society and each succeeding effort shows diligent study and a big step forward. The Concordia is a valuable acquisition to our musical circles and can be depended upon, whenever and wherever called upon or appearing, while their name is a happy augury for future harmony as exemplified in and hy the past.

Fourth in the order of seniority as a St. Paul society but really third as to public organizations and appearance, is the singing society

THE ST. PAUL ARION,

an offshoot of the Liederkranz, from which in 1876, a number of young and energetic members withdrew for the purpose of organizing a new society, which if not more congenial to their musical ambition, was to be more in accordance with their idea of liberal and more exclusively youthful social companionship, and so like their "mythological prototype," they boldly cut loose, and launched forth upon their free and independent "Delphin of Song." The society was officially organized and gave its first concert and ball at the Athenæum on January 1, 1877, consisting then of nineteen members under the direction of Mr. Frank Griebler, while Capt. Otto Dreher the Nestor of the Saengerbund, on behalf of their comrades in song, delivered the address of welcome and the "baptismal charge." The first officers were: Henry Thielen, president; Joseph Hassler, secretary, and Carl Hildebrand (its inspiring genius and inmost well-spring), treasurer. Dauntless of ambition, vigorous in youthful membership, and tireless in application to work and study, the Arions made herculean efforts to catch up to their seniors, and three years ago succeeded in carrying off the first prize from a hotly contested field at the sængerfest held in Minneapolis, so that now they can be safely classed as the peer of any society in the state, particularly in the cultivation and rendition of the four-part song for male voices, the society rather priding itself on this specialty; and having as yet shown no inclination to divide the honors of bass, baritone or tenor, with soprano or alto, albeit they are not woman haters, as their frequent entertainments to their lady friends will satisfactorily demonstrate. The present membership is about 135, of whom some thirty are on the active list. The officers of the society are: Peter Hermes, president; Wm. Eugler, vice president; Gustav Hennecke, secretary; Wm. Straub, treasurer; Louis Amort, corresponding secretary and John Vandesmay, librarian. Prof. Hans Saro, a very accomplished musician and pleasant gentleman, is the present director of the Arions, who meet for practice every Tuesday and Friday evening at their hall on West Third, near Market street. Financially, the condition of the Arions is most excellent and their inventory of cash, music and miscellaneous effects will reach a valuation of near two thousand dollars. The members composing the society are mostly young men, belonging to the toiling class, and considering this fact, they deserve all the more honor and praise for bringing to and maintaining their fine organization in such a commendable state of efficiency. There is little danger of demoralization with such material, and the Arions may be safely trusted with an advance position in the onward and upward march of our city's general progress, for they have fully proved that they can take care of themselves.

Last and youngest amongst our German vocal organizations is

THE ST. PAUL GERMANIA,

organized in February, 1878, by Hermann and Chas. Reichow, Paul Quehl, E. G Krahmer, Geo. Decker, Alb. Schwab, Wm A. Lindeke, Aug. Passavant, Jr., and Gus. Coffers, all young men and mostly natives of St. Paul. Their present membership numbers forty-five passive and fifteen active members, with Mr. Theo. Henninger, director; E. G. Krahmer, president; Albert Fritsche, vice president; Sam. Reichert, secretary; Albert Schwab, treasurer, and Adolph Krahmer, librarian. They meet for practice at Turner hall every Tuesday and Friday, and have on several public occasions given proof of their musical efficiency, while their financial condition is also highly satisfactory. They are now at work rehearsing a number of new and pleasing compositions to be produced on the occasion of their anniversary concert and ball in February next. And thus having given a brief and truthful history of our German social and vocal organizations, we bid them all a hearty God speed and a happy and prosperous New Year!

J. H. Haverly has completed arrangements with Col. Mapleson for his entire Italian opera company for a tour of Haverly's Western theaters, including Haverly's theater at San Francisco.

The will of Edward Clark, of Otsego county, N. Y., bequeathed to the heirs $1,380,000, considerable property in New York and elsewhere, including Femleight mansion and thirty-five acres of land in the village of Femleight, on the Susquehanna. He also bequeaths $50,000 to the general fund of Williams college, and requests his son John H., who at the subscriber's death will have sufficient interest in the Singer Manufacturing company to be elected director, to watch over and protect the family interest in that concern.

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