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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1903.

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Circulation During November

W. B. Carr, Business Manager of The St. Louis Republic, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of full and complete copies of the Daily and Sunday Republic printed during the month of November, 1903, all in regular editions, was as per schedule below:

Date.	Copies.	Date.	Copies.
1 (Sunday)	106,880	16	101,490
2	98,430	17	103,780
3	98,550	18	102,820
4	102,150	19	102,250
5	100,000	20	102,250
6	100,120	21	102,710
7	104,260	22 (Sunday)	109,540
8 (Sunday)	100,160	23	102,230
9	102,410	24	102,120
10	101,880	25	103,640
11	103,060	26	103,230
12	102,870	27	102,350
13	101,740	28	102,500
14	103,190	29 (Sunday)	109,460
15 (Sunday)	108,450	30	102,460

Total for the month	3,097,470
Less all copies spoiled in printing, left over or filed	70,903
Net number distributed	3,026,567
Average daily distribution	100,885

And said W. B. Carr further says that the number of copies returned and reported unsold during the month of November was 7.50 per cent. W. B. CARR.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this first day of December.
J. F. FARISH,
Notary Public, City of St. Louis, Mo.
My term expires April 25, 1905.

WORLD'S—1904—FAIR

A SENSIBLE PRESENT.

As a reward of carefulness ninety-nine Transit Company conductors and thirty-one motormen will receive each a bonus of one cent an hour for the time each worked during the last year. The men who will receive the rewards are those who have not had an accident during the year. Each will receive about $22.

This news item is reprinted from The Republic of Thursday; not for the purpose of noting that the street railway corporation will divide $4,192 among one hundred and thirty conductors and motormen to-day, but to commend that judgment of the officers. It has a particular significance for all citizens, not less than for the beneficiaries.

Street railway managers who are deserving of the title give especial attention to prevention of accident, and that manager who has the best record in this respect has the best reputation with corporation directors, provided his other abilities are adequate. If the motives of the directors and managers are different from public opinion, the object is nevertheless the same.

The small bonus is not a present, but an emblem of duty well performed. It is not only a reward but an accentuation of the paramount obligation of a street railway employe, which is a scrupulous regard for the safety of the public. The bonus is a welcome reward to each recipient, but the lesson is the phase which strikes the public.

To the people of St. Louis the point is that the company emphasizes the employe's chief duty.

The bestowal of small presents to all employes often seems patronizing. It is an act which, while gracious and appropriate, is meaningless and ineffective. But the presentation of a bonus, for a sufficient cause and in recognition of the principal duty of service, is an act with a broad influence for good.

FIRST REGIMENT TROUBLES.

The disrupted condition of the First Regiment has been a disgrace to the city.

Neither of the two retiring officers, Colonel Sinclair or Lieutenant Colonel Holtcamp, is to held responsible for what has affected all the regiment's line. Both are gentlemen to be held personally in high esteem and, with the active co-operation of a capable staff and of the community, either could successfully command the principal body of militia in St. Louis.

The merit of their contentions upon any of the various points which have been at issue between them is not and has not been of importance. The significant fact has been that their relations were far from harmonious, with the result that the regiment has been divided into factions which have conducted a bitter fight against each other. As a result a break came which deprived the organization of its needed quota of officers and which so far discredited it that the backing of public-spirited citizens could not be secured.

It now appears that a way for a solution of these internal disputes is open. Colonel Sinclair and Lieutenant Colonel Holtcamp have placed their resignations in the hands of the line officers and in due time Governor Dockery will act.

A complete reorganization of the staff officers should follow. A regiment which is a credit to St. Louis will be a necessity during the World's Fair period. It would seem that this result can be obtained only by securing a new commander who will appoint Majors and a staff that can work together. From the viewpoint of outsiders who are entirely unbiased concerning previous factional differences, the better course would be to choose a Colonel who has not been identified with either side.

No trouble will be encountered in recruiting all the companies to a full strength. The yearly maneuvers, provided for under the Dick bill, and the State encampments offer attractions sufficient to induce as many young men as are needed to enlist. But the gentlemen with whom rests the power of selecting the future executives should hold in mind the attitude of the community. They cannot expect enthusiastic support until evidence is given that the officers are working with a will and working all together.

ROOSEVELT AND THE FAR EAST.

Rather than waste words upon Roosevelt in Panama it were better to watch his far Eastern policy closely. If he gets us mixed up in that hotbed of strife, it will be time for the country to express an opinion and express it forcibly.

The Caribbean, the Isthmus, the American Continent; here is our natural sphere and here we may well strive to hold the paramount influence. As the unfortunate result of the Spanish war, the Philippines were saddled upon us, a circumstance which means that we must defend Hawaii and maintain Pacific naval stations. Happily, the Philippines are isolated and a line around them can be drawn. We can say: "Thus far we go; not one inch farther." It would be far better if we could sell or get rid of the Philippines in some fashion. Still, this being impracticable, the rule must be hard and fast that with those former island possessions of Spain ends our vested responsibilities.

It seems that our exact relations with Korea and China are somewhat misty. Some negotiations are on as to opening a Korean port and as to the approval of the commercial treaty with China. That is the substance of the situation.

We are after all we can legitimately get in business openings, but we may not commit the nation in such manner as to involve us in the grinding process which inevitably will occur before Japan, Russia, Germany and England find out just how much of the Chinese Empire they can appropriate. A few commercial interests and some of the more insistent missionaries are pushing us along. But they must be regarded as distinctly minor factors in our foreign policy.

Our Uncle Sam is a very stalwart individual, but he must be free to lie back occasionally in his extensive granaries and take rest and nourishment; and to devote his chief attention at all times to matters pertaining to his half of the world. China and Japan would very gladly concede him so much that he would be driven to take part in case the storm bursts. They know his natural trend toward the right, and know that if he did roll up his sleeves and start in to do battle he would not be so utterly blind to their interests as are the others. But Uncle Sam has no business doing the heroic, fighting fruitless fights in a strange corner of the globe while his own good citizens at home pay the bills in blood and gold.

Roosevelt's impetuosity undoubtedly makes him an unsafe man. Upon an unconfirmed report he sent battleships to whoop things up in Turkey, and he acted with unnecessary haste over Panama. Now he has some dickers on with Korea and China, in connection with which a single rash move, a single impolitic step would entangle us in the most dangerous mess of contemporary world politics.

To nine hundred and ninty-nine out of every thousand citizens of the United States the entire Asiatic commerce is not worth an American life. Every able-bodied man would cheerfully share the duty of taking arms in defense of our interests and prestige on the American Continent, but no logic requires us to do the like all over the earth. In any cause which truly involved our principles and sympathies and which brought foreign attack, we could lick the whole of Europe. Otherwise—well, it is not worth our while.

CHRISTMAS INGREDIENTS.

When we look around us this Christmas morning, let us resolve to be happy and resolve to carry out the resolution. If there are reasons for sorrow and anger, there are more reasons for the development of good humor. The joy of the day depends upon the spirit of the individual.

It should be remembered that Rockfeller isn't as rich as he would like to be, perhaps, and that the price of Standard oil may be scarcely high enough to meet educational requirements. It should be remembered that Carnegie is worrying about plans to get rid of his money; that Root isn't certain whether Roosevelt is a good subject for campaign management; that Kratz is homesick away down in Mexico, and that other people are unhappy, more or less.

It is encouraging to think of the troubles of Rockfeller and Carnegie. Your wife may give you a box of stogies; your husband may give you a twenty-five cent belt buckle, telling you it is sterling silver; everything you get may be good for nothing. But think of the donor's good intentions, remember the misfortunes of the trusts and the men who hold the good stock. President Roosevelt and Mark Hanna declare that this is a glorious country, and that the Republican party is the glory-keeper. So, though the trusts are the trustees, this is a happy day. Somebody has made money out of cotton and there are enough dollars to have about emptied the retail stores. The raw material for a merry Christmas is at hand. Nobody has cornered it all.

PASS THE JOY TO OTHERS.

Christmas Eve was ushered in downtown with the usual tooting of horns, and was marked uptown in the homes by many a scene of domestic delight. Those queerly constituted individuals who think that a celebration is necessarily a noisy demonstration have hideously expressed their sentiments. The wiser homebodies to whom the Christmas Eve is the fireside night of all the year have entertained the children with the ever-beautiful Christmas stories, have tucked the little ones into their beds, and have then silently and surreptitiously played Santa Claus.

And this is Christmas day. It is the feast day of all the year. Though its significance is chiefly religious, nothing of the austere attaches to it. It has nothing for the one which it may not have for the other. In the one man's heart may be stirred the emotions and his mind may be turned to the thoughts which center about the birth of Christ more than nineteen hundred years ago. Another that appeal may not reach; his heart may be dead and his mind steeled. But in all may be awakened that joyful sentiment of good will toward men; in all may be called forth in living truth the better element of human nature which rejoices over the morality and humaneness of the Sermon on the Mount and the Golden Rule.

Does not every one whose good fortune it was to be reared in a good home, in looking backward through the years, recall that the happiest hours of childhood occurred at the dawn of each Christmas? With what expectancy, with what bated enthusiasm does youth steal down the stairs at daybreak, unconscious of the cold, unconscious of aught, but consumed with a desire to know whether Kriss Kringle in his goodness has acted with his wonted generosity! From that instant until night again closes in pure joy reigns in the household.

He that contributes such an experience to boy or girl confers the greatest blessing in the gift of man or woman; for if the child have many moments of perfect happiness, it augurs much for the future character. These things should be remembered by those upon whom the years have set their mark, and to whom is no longer the possibility of surrendering absolutely to unalloyed lightsomeness. They should remember that the nearest approach to the old ecstasy may be found in providing it for others.

CARROLL'S ELOQUENCE.

The irrepressible Charles Carroll, formerly of St. Louis, at present a resident of Guadalajara, Mexico, has come to the aid of his steadfast friend, Charles Kratz, who also claims abode in the far-Southern mining town. Mr. Kratz is the fugitive in whom Circuit Attorney Folk is interested and whose return is enthusiastically advocated.

While a member of the City Council, Mr. Carroll was noted for fantastic, if not grandiloquent, speechettes, which he was in the habit of delivering with characteristic zest. He was considered the moving spirit of the legislative combine, and if his beautiful sentences appeared to challenge popular views the result was the more to the credit of his oratorical powers.

Upon the departure of Mr. Carroll for Mexico it was feared that St. Louis would have to plod along in intensifying quiescence, without a citizen capable of stirring the popular emotions. But it is quite appropriate and gratifying to receive, at this joyous season, inspiring excerpts from a speech rendered in defense of Mr. Kratz. It cost considerable money to get Mr. Carroll's forensic rhetoric by wire, but the treat is well worth the expense.

Messrs. Carroll and Kratz were bosom friends as Councilmen and they are said to be partners as mine operators, as well as true comrades in exile. Like twin brothers whose sympathies are one, it is but natural and fit that Mr. Carroll, orator that he is, should raise his voice in behalf of the persecuted member of the twain.

"The feeling against Kratz," says the eloquent Mr. Carroll, "has been used and is still being used to further the ambition of designing politicians." Again: "Kratz stands ready to prove his innocence to the satisfaction of any one authorized to investigate." Again: "Having faith and confidence in the officials of Mexico, he made extensive investments in Jalisco, purchased large tracts of land north of Guadalajara, which promises to become historical owing to many natural advantages. He has also invested heavily in mining property."

To those who may have been fortunate enough to hear some of Mr. Carroll's able efforts in the City Council, with which he glorified St. Louis, the delightful description of Kratz's enterprise in Mexico is dulcet with recollection. When Kratz returns to run for Governor, may Carroll also return to speak Kratz's praises from the summits of the Ozarks.

Between Schwab's and Morgan's stock schemes and the excesses of some labor leaders, the American public is being persuaded that industrial enterprises are dangerous investments. If the unwillingness to invest becomes a settled opinion, good-by to prosperity, to profits and to good wages. Everybody would better be careful.

Had it been John Drew's, instead of Otis Skinner's, wardrobe that was robbed, the American stage would have suffered a tremendous sartorial slump. As it is, Skinner is not greatly shorn of his art and the effects will not be noticeable before the footlights.

"We want the canal and we are in a fair way to get it, and if we do not get it now it will be our own fault." Thus Georgia's Governor gives the logic of the situation in a nutshell.

Mr. Schwab will have trouble in inducing any one who has had experience with his securities to accept any of them even as a gratuity.

Away with the highwayman! We insist upon giving our Christmas presents voluntarily.

To die in Chicago at present is to proclaim one's self a scab.

RECENT COMMENT.

An Episode.

Washington Letter to New York Sun.

Harvey W. Scott, the veteran editor and proprietor of the Portland Oregonian, and friend of statesmen, met Senator Hoar of Massachusetts in the Senate elevator to-day.

"How do you do, Senator," said Mr. Scott, extending his hand.

"I will tell you why I must refuse to shake hands with you," replied Mr. Hoar.

"Why is it?" asked Mr. Scott.

"Because your newspaper once published an editorial cruelly reflecting on a dear friend of mine. At the time the late Senator Morrill of Vermont was re-elected to the Senate for what proved to be his last term, your paper published a paragraph saying that the reason Mr. Morrill refused to die was that he was too stingy to pay funeral expenses."

"I did not write the editorial and never heard of it before," protected Mr. Scott.

"That makes no difference," said Mr. Hoar. "You were the editor and were responsible. So I cannot shake hands with you."

"Then I turn my back on you," said Mr. Scott, and he did so.

They Also Collect the Rent.

Boston Globe.

The collecting fad is one of the oldest habits known to mankind. The philosophers of Greece searched for the manuscript of the learned who preceded them. That search is still being pursued by scholarly collectors.

What is being sought? Simply more knowledge concerning the creation and the first human inhabitants of this world. Is it folly thus to dig into the misty past? By no means. Those engaged in these collections have the time and money to devote to them, and they are making valuable researches.

There are various types of collectors. Each is indulging his own taste. One is after books on a special subject, another has a penchant for first editions, others seek rare prints, some search for special paintings, many desire gems or antique furniture, and so it goes, through a long list. What concern is it of ill-tempered critics of these so-called faddists are spending their money for what they derive in the fields of art, literature and science, or on household articles of antique design?

Campaign in Arkansas.

Washington Post.

Governor Jeff Davis of Arkansas, in his persistent effort to convince his people that he is qualified for a position in the United States Senate, has licked another Judge of the State Supreme Court.

Old One Revamped.

Baltimore American.

The man who fights
And runs away
Will do the same
In every fray.

Time to Keep Still.

Detroit Free Press.

"Theodore Roosevelt will be the next President," says Senator Alger. Now, will Mr. Hanna's friends be good enough to stop shuffling their feet and disturbing the meeting?

A Christmas Surprise.

Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

Now, just as Christmas comes along,
Long e'er the New Year's brew is strong,
There burst upon the merry scenes
The January magazines!

Steal Common.

Washington Star.

Steal common and steal preferred are very popular in St. Louis and Grand Rapids.

STENALTY-CLIPPARD WEDDING; CHRISTMAS BALL FOR CHILDREN.

MISS ELSA HEYER,
Whose engagement to Walter Friederich is announced. The wedding will take place early in the spring.

The marriage of Miss Jessie Stevally, daughter of Mrs. Joseph Stevally, to John E. Clippard, of Marble Hill, Mo., took place on Wednesday, December 23. The ceremony was performed in the parlors of the First Christian Church, the Reverend J. L. Brandt officiating. Only intimate friends were present.

The bride was attended by Miss Alfreda Borggraefe, while A. M. Branch acted as best man. A reception followed the ceremony, after which the newly married couple departed for a trip to the South. After the bridal tour Mr. and Mrs. Clippard will return to St. Louis to live.

UNION CLUB BALL.

The Union Club will give its annual Christmas ball for children of club members on to-morrow evening at the club house.

The ball will open at 8:30 o'clock, and the floor will be reserved exclusively for children until 11, when members may participate in the dancing. Only children of club members will be admitted on the floor.

MRS. PRIEST'S RECITAL.

Mrs. Lizzie Priest Leland will give the first of a series of three piano recitals to-morrow afternoon at Hennerman Hall, No. 3723 Olive street, at 3:30 o'clock. Mrs. Leland will play an extensive programme of Schubert, Schurmann, Rafff, Liszt and Chopin music.

GAVE HISTORICAL SKETCH.

Mrs. Henry H. Evans entertained Chapter O, of the P. E. O. Club, from two to five on Monday afternoon at her home, No. 5237 Washington avenue. The spirit of the season pervaded the well-filled parlors and the meeting was bright and interesting. During the business hour there were discussed various important details of current social and philanthropic affairs of the chapter. The literary feature was an art lecture by Mrs. Maria J. Johnston. She gave an historical sketch of Alexander the Great, with descriptions of the painting and sculpture found in that age. The types of Proxitelles, Scopes and Lysippus were especially dwelt upon. Mrs. Johnston had prefaced her subject by having met the P. E. O's on Saturday before at the Museum of Arts, Nineteenth and Locust streets.

TUXEDO BOWLING CLUB.

The Tuxedo Bowling Club met on Wednesday evening. A feature was the high game of 87 by Miss Minnie Scharf. Refreshments were served at 10:30 o'clock and after that bowling was resumed until a late hour. Those present were:

Misses—
Della Stander, Maud Jaeckel,
Eva Dobler, Emma Zimmermann,
Nellie McHugh, Minnie Scharf,
Minnie Tillman, Carrie Becker.
Mamie Mathews,
Messieurs—
Laurence Simon, William Dienlin,
John Woeger, Albert Miller,
Hugo Simon, William Schenk,
Charles Dobler, Charles Seller,
John Scheble, Robert Schenk.

RABBIT'S PAW GIRLS.

The "Rabbit's Paw Girls" were entertained at euchre by Miss Mildred Roediger at her home, No. 3921 Kennerly avenue, Monday evening. The first prize was won by Miss Tode Phelan, second by Miss Nell Barry and the consolation by Miss Marguerite Barry.

Refreshments were served. The guests were:

Misses—
Nell Barry, Rose Lawrence,
Marguerite Barry, Kate McAdam,
Tode Phelan, Anna McAdam,
Marge Phelan, Jo Hickey,
Cora Lawrence, Mildred Roediger,
Emma Lawrence, Anna Morris.

ENTERTAINS EUCHRE CLUB.

Miss Mollie Rinkel entertained the Wednesday Evening Euchre Club at her home, No. 1326 Aubert avenue. Prizes were awarded to Miss Nell Sutter, Mrs. Ralph Patterson, John Sheart and Leslie Blackmore. The next meeting will be held Wednesday evening, January 6, at the home of Miss Lillian Sutter, No. 4903 Cook avenue. Among those present were:

Messieurs and Mesdames—
Harry A. Rinkel, Ralph Patterson.
Misses—
Carrie Giesler, Nell Sutter,
Lillian Russell Sutter, Millie Hartnagle,
Clara Siesle, Lulu Rinkel.
Messieurs—
G. Marion Johnston, Dave Fletcher,
Leslie Blackmore, John Wenz,
Dick Nelson, Burton.
John Stuart,

JERSEYVILLE CLUB DANCE.

The Jerseyville Commercial Club has sent out invitations for its annual dance to be given New Year's eve at the Commercial Hall. Many young St. Louis people will attend. The officers are: President, J. M. Page; first vice president, Doctor W. E. Holland; second vice president, S. D. Stanley; secretary, John N. Stone; treasurer, George M. Seago.

DIEL-DANES ENGAGEMENT.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Danes announce the engagement of their daughter, Florence, to George F. Diel. At home to friends afternoon and evening Wednesday, December 30, No. 240 South Beaumont street.

PERSONAL MENTION.

Mrs. George Scott, who has been traveling abroad for the last four months, has returned and will reside at the West End Hotel for the winter.

Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Johnson have gone to Seymour, Ind., to spend Christmas.

Mr. A. Von Schrader of Washington, D. C., is a guest at Hotel Beers.

Miss C. Rohde, assisted by Miss G. Hunt, will receive January 1 at her home, No. 3542 Cook avenue.

Mrs. Edward Fox of Iowa avenue entertained her euchre club on Wednesday. The house and luncheon table were trimmed with holly and red ribbons and the tally cards were hand painted in holly.

Miss Elsie Metzger of Lemp avenue is spending the holidays with friends in Indianapolis, Ind.

Mrs. W. H. Owen and Miss Owen are at the Hotel Beers.

Miss Anne Lee of New York is the guest of Miss Belva Dula.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles D. Bishle of Cleveland avenue will spend the holidays at Aurora, Ind. She expects to return January 5.

Louis A. Pechmann, Jr., is home for the Christmas holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Hill of Wichita, Kas., are occupying apartments at Hotel Beers.

Miss Mabel Wright is home for the holidays from a New York school.

Miss Eugenia Howard has returned from Bryn Mawr for the holidays.

Miss Lucille Hopkins departed Wednesday to spend Christmas in Cleveland with her sister, Mrs. Dudley Harde, who was Miss Mildred Hopkins.

ATLAS PUBLISHED IN 1796.

Believed to Be Oldest Book of Kind Issued in United States.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Carbondale, Ill., Dec. 24.—Mrs. Anna W. Spence, who lives in Alexander County, has in her possession an atlas twenty-one years older than the Indiana geography and still older than the Connecticut book which was claimed to be the oldest in the country.

The atlas owned by Mrs. Spence was published by "John Reid, Bookseller and Stationer, No. 106 Water street, New York, in 1796."

It contains only maps, mostly tinted by hand. There is a map of the United States, being "an accurate map of the United States of America, according to the treaty of peace of 1783." All the others are according to the surveys of 1795 and 1796."

Southern Illinois was known then as "army lands," with Fort Massac as an important point. Everything north of Kentucky and west of Pennsylvania was then the "Northwestern" territory.

The size of the book is 11 by 17 inches and contains twenty maps, all intact.

It is believed to be the oldest geography in the country.

VISITORS AT ST. LOUIS HOTELS

—H. B. Maxson, secretary of the National Irrigation Congress, is at the Southern.

—R. H. Mason and wife of Greenville, Tex., is registered at the Lindell.

—Mr. and Mrs. J. Raimon of Paris, Tex., are at the Planters.

—Mrs. H. S. Roller of Boonville, Mo., is a guest at the New St. James.

—Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Conner of Boonville, Mo., are staying at the Moser.

—C. H. Watson of Flat Fiver, Mo., is at the Planters.

—J. A. Moss of Edwards, Miss., is registered at the Lindell.

—Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Palmer are stopping at the Southern.

—H. M. Cormack of Clarksville, Mo., is a guest at the Moser.

—Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Hoard of Sherman, Tex., are staying at the Planters.

—Doctor F. W. Taube of Zacatecas, Mexico, is on the guest list of the Southern.

—Mr. and Mrs. G. R. Anderson of New Orleans are at the Lindell.

—Thomas B. Smith of Warrensburg, Mo., is registered at the Laclede.

—William A. Rothwell of Moberly, Mo., is stopping at the Planters.

—O. R. McBride of Boonville, Mo., is a guest at the Laclede.

—F. C. Hubbard of Muscogee, I. T., is staying at the Southern.

—A. H. Bolte, former Lieutenant Governor of Missouri, is at the Laclede.

—J. W. Taylor is registered at the Southern.

At Chicago Hotels.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Chicago, Ill., Dec. 24.—St. Louis persons registered at hotels here to-day are:

Auditorium—J. L. Butterfield, C. G. Emory, J. W. Nute.
Sherman House—C. R. Green, V. O. Topping.
Victoria—J. Henry, J. H. Weston.
Great Northern—G. D. Allen, G. W. Hardy, F. W. Johnston, J. O. Lamberger, P. D. McConnery, C. S. Peabody, F. W. Whitcomb.
Morrison—S. A. Baker, D. A. Reece, W. M. Wells.
Brevoort—S. R. Courtright, J. A. Gilbertson, J. W. Jones.
Saratoga—S. A. Weber.
Palmer House—J. S. Brush, G. O. Jordan, S. B. Snyder.
Grand Pacific—A. C. Prichard, T. M. Zeigler.

Missourians in New York.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

New York, Dec. 24.—Among the arrivals at the hotels here to-day were the following from Missouri:

St. Louis—L. Abbott, J. Bell, Winsonia; H. Fischlowitz, Herald Square; J. T. Long, Hoffman.

FAIR GROUNDS TAXATION.

Suit Brought to Restrain Collection of Assessments.

The St. Louis Fair Association brought suit yesterday in the Circuit Court to restrain the collection of $18,554.31 taxes assessed against the Fair Grounds property.

The suit is directed against L. F. Hammer, Jr., City Collector, and John J. O'Brien, President of the Board of Assessors.

It is averred that the association is an agricultural society and that its objects are to encourage and promote agriculture and the improvement of live stock, and that under the law it is exempt from taxation. The taxes were assessed for 1902, 1903 and 1904.

Assessor O'Brien raised the point that the fair association was not entitled to exemption on account of its maintaining a race track. The matter was submitted to City Counselor Bates, who gave an opinion that the association was not exempt.

GRANTS HOLIDAY PARDONS.

Governor Dockery Liberates Prisoners to Celebrate Christmas.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Jefferson City, Mo., Dec. 24.—Governor Dockery to-day granted two holiday pardons to long-term convicts, as follows: Kirk Powell, a negro, convicted September, 1891, in Jasper County, murder in the second degree, sentenced to the Penitentiary for life; "Sis" Abernathy, convicted September, 1896, Scott County, murder in the second degree, sentenced for ten years. She had only about three months to serve.

The 2,200 prisoners at the Penitentiary will be served with turkey and cranberries and will be allowed the liberty of the yards.

TO TEST TELEPHONE RIGHTS.

Farmer Objects to Company Crossing His Land.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Bloomington, Ill., Dec. 24.—A suit, the outcome of which will interest every farmer and land owner in Illinois, was filed in the Circuit Court to-day by J. W. Stover, a well-known farmer of this county, against the Interstate Telephone and Telegraph Company to establish the company's right of crossing land with poles and wires without the permission of the owner as granted by a law made by the last Legislature.

Vandiver Starts Home To-Day.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Washington, Dec. 24.—Representative Vandiver will depart for Cape Girardeau Friday, to take further part in the State campaign.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO TO-DAY IN ST. LOUIS.

From The Republic, Dec. 25, 1878.

A record was established in that there were no Christmas disturbances. Not a single arrest was made for a breach of the peace.

Francis Scott, 14 years old, of Tenth and O'Fallon streets, shot a hole through his right hand with a revolver with which he was celebrating.

John Bamberger sent to Captain Lee of the Central Police District a wagonload of bread for distribution among the poor.

F. F. Hilder distributed several wagonloads of coal among the destitute families of the city.

Ben T. Warwick of the Missouri Glass Company was married to Miss Mary Wallace, daughter of J. C. Wallace of Lebanon, Mo.

A notable music service was that rendered at St. John's Catholic Church. In the choir were Mrs. S. A. McPheeters, Misses Nina Russell and Blanche Adams, Mrs. E. French, Mrs. E. Myers, Mrs. Dusauchal Ehlert, C. H. Russell, C. K. Alexander, S. C. Edmonds, D. F. Elwanger, R. S. Poppen and E. M. Read.

Henry Leibwitz of Prairie and California avenues rescued three young men who were intoxicated and had fallen in the snow near his home. They would have frozen to death had he not stumbled across them. It was with difficulty that they were revived.

John J. Knox, Comptroller of the Currency, arrived from Washington, D. C.

Much skating was indulged in at Lafayette Park, the artificial lake being crowded.

Doctor J. H. McLean provided apples for desert for the inmates of the jail and various city institutions.

POEMS WORTH KNOWING.

TELL ME NOT OF JOYS ABOVE.

BY THOMAS MOORE.

TELL me not of joys above,
If that world can give no bliss,
Truer, happier than the love
Which enslaves our souls in this.

Tell me not of Houris' eyes—
Far from me their dangerous glow,
If those looks that light the skies
Wound like some that burn below.

Who, that feels what love is here,
All its falsehood—all its pain—
Would, for even Elysium's sphere,
Risk the fatal dream again?

Who, that midst a desert's heat
Sees the waters fade away,
Would not rather die than meet
Streams again as false as they?