ST. PAUL NEWS.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Yesterday's Meeting Taken up Principally in Considering the Right-of-Way Over the Levee.

The Robert Street Bridge on Deck Again, But Once More Tabled—Miscellaneous.

One of the first matters considered yesterday, by the board of directors of the chamber of commerce, was that of the

WEST ST. PAUL LEVEE.

Last week this matter was referred to the committee on legislation, which reported, in writing, through Mr. Murray, that the communication must have been drafted under a misapprehension of the facts in regard to the levee. C. D. Gilfillan and the other citizens who originated the scheme of a levee 200 feet in width along the bank of the Mississippi river in the Sixth ward, did so for the purpose of securing at an early day without a large cost property that might in the future, under proper restrictions and limitations, be given railroad corporations as a right of way for the purpose of enabling them to get within the city with their respective roads, and with this intention and understanding they secured legislation which authorized the city to appropriate $20,000 towards the improvement. As yet but one railroad company has made application for the right of way over the levee, viz: The Minnesota & Northwestern Railroad company, and for the purpose of enabling other railroads to extend their lines to and within the city; the common council refused to grant that railroad corporation a right of way more than fifty feet in width over and across the Sixth ward levee, this, notwithstanding the fact that quite a number of the citizens of the Sixth ward, in their zeal for a new line of railroad, were quite willing that a grant of 150 feet should be made. One hundred and fifty feet in width of the lower levee remains unappropriated, which is ample for two more railroads, and fifty feet in width for levee purpopes.

It is expected and intended by the common council, that any railroad corporation securing the right of way along and across the Sixth ward levee will grade so much of the levee as may be given it for a right of way to such grade as would be approved by the common council, and this they will be required to do, thus relieving the property holders of the Sixth ward from an assessment for levee improvement to that extent. The committee declares its belief that the interests of the Sixth ward will be carefully guarded, and that any concessions made to any railroad company will be made with a view to enhance and promote the best interests of the Sixth ward, and recommend that the communication from the Sixth ward be placed on file. The report was adopted.

ROBERT STREET BRIDGE.

Gen. Bishop's resolution in regard to the proposed Robert street bridge was taken up, and Mr. Murray moved to lay it on the table. Mr. Merrill offered a substitute, that a good bridge be built at Robert street, when both the resolution and the substitute were tabled.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A communication from Senator McMillan as to the bankrupt law was received, read and filed.

A circular, from the national board of trade, Boston, Mass., announcing that the fifteenth annual meeting of the national board will be held at Washington, on the 28th of January next, and asking St. Paul to send representatives, was received.

Mr. McClung reported verbally as to the Scandinavian college, between the two cities. The college would open with 300 or 400 pupils.

Mr. Ingersoll reported that the two committees from Minneapolis and St. Paul had not agreed in regard to union grounds for a fair between the two cities, and further time was given the committee.

Mr. Noyes called attention to the fact that it was proposed to increase the amount for which suits could be brought in the United States circuit courts so as to limit the business. He was very strongly opposed to this and thought it would be better to multiply the courts. For senators and representatives will be requested to oppose the proposed change in the law.

Mr. Noyes reported that no doubt satisfactory arrangements could be made with the United States authorities in regard to the interference of the Robert street bridge with the government building.

Capt. Berkey called attention to the quantities of rubbish and inflammable matter in the cellars of our warehouses and stores, and expressed the idea that it would be best to call upon the health officer to look into the matter. Mr. Oppenheim explained about the insurance patrol they have in all cities of 100,000 people. No doubt we would have one here. Mr. Murray explained that Dr. Hoyt the health officer had taken steps to have the matter attended to.

OPENING OF U. S. CIRCUIT COURT

Arguments in an Important Suit—A Number of New Cases Commenced—The Calendar.

The December term of the United States circuit court opened yesterday morning, Judge Nelson presiding.

Among the cases taken up was that of E. L. Hospes & Co. against the Northwestern Manufacturing & Car company, of Stillwater. The suit was brought incidentally to enforce the payment of a judgment for $364, the ulterior object being for the appointment of a receiver to collect the outstanding debts of the concern, take charge of all the machinery and sequestered property and to manage and conduct the business in the interest of the creditors.

The case came up yesterday on a motion to dismiss the action and remand it to the state court. It was argued at great length by the counsel and taken under advisement.

The following suits were begun in the United States circuit court yesterday:

Andreas Frink vs. The Milwaukee & St Paul Railway company. An action to recover possession of a tract of land in Rice county, and for $15,000 damages for withholding the same.

John S. Turnbull et al. vs. Josiah Bartlett and others. An action to recover $10,475 damages alleged to have accrued from a breach of contract, by which plaintiffs purchased land near Moorhead.

Bridget Hynes vs. The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad company. An action to recover $550 for injuries received by a railroad accident at Rosemont on the 15th of last February.

By Patrick Hynes vs. the same Railroad company. For $550 damages resulting from injuries received in the same accident.

By Amos J. Vannalsatine vs. The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad company. An action for $10,000 damages for injuries sustained by the plaintiff and his wife on the 9th of August last. They were alighting from a platform when the cars started suddenly and threw them to the ground, inflicting injuries.

Dark Work of a White Man.

Thomas White, a coal black son of Africa, was arraigned in the police court yesterday afternoon on complaint of Mattie Lucas, a good looking Mullatto woman, on the charge of attempting to burn down her house. White was arrested in Minneapolis by Detectives Dan O'Connor and Kenally, and he was bound over until to-day in the sum of $750. The woman Lucas and the divorced wife of White reside at the corner of Fifth and Exchange streets and the alleged attempt at arson took place on the 2nd inst.

On the night of that day the inmates of the house were awakened by smoke and an investigation showed that the hallway was on fire. After the blaze had been squelched it was found that the hallway had been saturated with coal oil and then set on fire. White, who is jealous of his former wife, had been seen skulking around the premises and he is supposed to be guilty of attempting to burn down the house. He will have a hearing to-day.

SLIGHTLY ON THE MASH.

A Tough Citizen Wanted to Kiss a Lady on the Street—Monday in the Police Court.

Yesterday was a quiet Monday in the police court and hizzoner had but very little dirty linen to wash. The most notable case on the docket was that of Herman Lavy. Herman is a would-be masher, especially when he is loaded with tanglefoot and when under the influence of the seductive budge he makes some very bad breaks. He was on the mash last Sunday and in passing up West Seventh street he attempted to kiss a highly respectable young lady. He displayed excellent taste in his choice, but it was a bad way to achieve a conquest and he was sent out for ninety long days.

James Bohen, a gentleman of the cloth, so far forgot the sacred character and dignity of his office as to become boiling drunk. He made a baby show of himself on the street, the result being that he was run in. He promised to take the pledge yesterday, and the court let him go.

Chris. McManus had also been as full as the proverbial boiled owl. He ran down Jackson street yelling fire, the only evidence of a blaze being in his strong and inflamed breath. He will lay low for five days.

Raymond Reed, a citizen and a brother, called John Blank, another gem'men of color, some very tough names and John had him yanked. Reed was put under bonds to keep his nasty tongue to himself.

THE COURTS.

U. S. Circuit Court.

[Before Judge Nelson.]

Chas. Jay et al. vs. P. Rahilly; continued.

C. Hemingson vs. St. Paul, M. & M. R'y Co.; same.

S. Mann et al. vs. J. W. Ladd et al; same.

P. P. Pettijohn vs. J. J. Home; transferred to equity.

F. S. Kirkland vs. J. V. Ditman; notice of continuance.

J. D. Lyle et al. vs. N. P. R'y Co.; transferred to equity.

E. A. Grady vs D. M. Osborne & Co.; continued to the 12th.

John McDonald vs. N. P. R'y Co.; motion for continuance.

Hastings & Dakota R'y Co. vs. C. H. Sullivan; continued.

Brunswick Billiard Co. vs. E. A. Boyd et al.; motion for continuance.

Geo. D. Moore & Co. vs. C., St. Paul, M. & Omaha R'y Co.; leave to amend answer.

Mary Ann Jones vs. same; dismissed.

Bradner Smith Paper Co. vs. Cedar Falls Paper Co.; motion to strike out amended complaint.

H. H. Hodgson vs. the Western Union Telegraph Co.; set for the 22d inst.

Ernest L. Hospes et al vs. the Northwestern Manufacturing & Car Co.; motion to remand to the state court; argued and submitted.

Supreme Court.

OPINIONS.

Anton Scheffler, appellant, vs. The Minneapolis & St. Louis Railroad company, respondent.

Syllabus—In an action for the next of kin under section 2, chapter 77, general statutes of 1878, on account of the death of a person, damages are to be computed with reference to the reasonable expectation of pecuniary benefits from the continuance of the life of the deceased.

A railroad company does not owe a mere trespasser upon its track the duty of having an engineer running a train look to see if he is there, but if, after having seen him, the engineer does not exercise proper care to avoid striking him, the company is liable for the consequences.

The Carlisle and other similar tables offered for the purpose of showing the "expectation," or probable duration of life, are to be received (if at all) upon judicial notice of their genuineness and authoritativeness. No legal proof of genuineness or authoritativeness is required, but it is proper for a court to inform itself in the premises by reference to books or other sources of information. Such tables are not conclusive, but their value in a given case is largely analogical. They must speak for themselves and not by the mouth of a witness merely testifying to their contents.

The probable duration of life is a proper element to be considered in estimatiug damages in an action under the statute before cited.

The order refusing a new trial is reversed and a new trial awarded. BERRY, J.

Edward Jordan, respondent, vs. James W. Humphrey, appellant.

Syllabus—The effect of a simple reversal of a judgment depends upon the grounds upon which the reversal is based, as expressed in the "opinion" of the court.

Part of the issues in this action were tried in the district court by a jury and part by the court. Upon appeal from the judgment this court, in its "opinion," determined that there was a mistrial of the issues tried by the court and that as to them there should be a new trial. With reference to a new trial the "opinion" also considered the question of the sufficiency of the evidence to support the verdict.

No motion had been made below to set aside the verdict or to grant a new trial of the issues determined by it. The order and judgment here simply reversed the judgment appealed from. Held, that the effect of the reversal is to set aside the judgment, and the findings of the trial court, and to grant a new trial of the cases tried by the court, and to leave the plaintiff (if so advised) to move below to set aside the verdict and for a new trial of the issues determined by it, with an intimation that the evidence is not sufficient to sustain the verdict.

The order of denial is accordingly affirmed. BERRY, J.

District Court.

COURT CASES.

[Before Judge Wilkin.]

Maria Langerbouse vs. Frank Langerhouse; continued until next general term.

O. G. Hospes vs. M. A. Schultz and Geo. W. Becht; argued and submitted.

Martin Brockman vs. John Wagner; argued and submitted.

Adjourned to 10 a. m. to-day.

JURY CASES.

[Before Judge Brill.]

Chas. A. Fordice vs. Chester Hitchcock; motion to dismiss granted and proceedings stayed for twenty days.

James Cady vs. John M. Closky; continued on payment of $10 cost.

State of Minnesota vs. Wm. A. Case; continued as to two suits.

John Duffy vs. Frederick Althen; on trial.

Adjourned to 9:30 a. m. to-day.

DECISIONS FILED.

[By Judge Simons.]

Felicite Gassner vs. Philip Gassner; divorce granted on the ground of desertion.

Joseph Chapron vs. Clotilda Chapron; divorce granted on the ground of desertion.

Probate Court.

[Before Judge McGrorty.]

Estate of James McNally, deceased; will admitted to probate.

Estate of Pearson S. Peterson, deceased; letters issued to Emma L. Peterson and Richard Peterson.

Municipal Court.

[Before Judge Burr.]

C. D. Curtis, drunkenness; fine of $5 paid.

C. McManus; same; five days.

Jas. Bohen, same; fine remitted.

H. Long, disorderly; ninety days.

R. Reed, abusive language; bond given to keep the peace.

Thomas White, arson; continued until today.

The detractor may, and often does, pull down others, but he never, as he seems to suppose, elevates himself to their position. The most he can do is maliciously to tear from them the blessings which he cannot enjoy himself.—[Johnson.

MINNESOTA FINANCES.

Synopsis of State Auditor Braden's Forthcoming Report,

Discussing the Funds, Methods of Assessment, with Tables Showing the Revenue and Disbursements.

The revenue fund from which the general expenses of the state are paid is overdrawn $102,439.07. There has been no balance over liabilities in the fund for several years. Over $500,000 has been expended in replacing structures destroyed by fire, absorbing all estimated receipts from taxes, and in addition $190,000 received from revenue loans of 1883. The estimates for the year ending July 31, 1885, show a deficit of $37,000. It will be necessary to make some provision for the overdraft during the year ending July 31, 1886. The proper method will be to consolidate the state institution fund with the revenue fund. The former fund is derived from taxes paid by railroads. If the consolidation is made the state will soon be in a condition to take up all outstanding text book warrants, amounting to about $39,785.85. The present rate of one mill state tax will probably be sufficient to meet anticipated expenses. The annual charge upon the state institution fund has been permanently increased by the provision requiring an amount sufficient to pay the interest on the railroad adjustment bonds to be set apart annually.

This requires about $100,000 per annum. The estimated receipts for three years show a surplus sufficient to warrant a transfer to the revenue fund of a sum sufficient to meet the annual overdraft on that fund. The auditor favors the consolidation of the two funds. There are orders outstanding against the text book fund of $39,785.88. The statutes appropriate $50,000 for a revolving fund, which is intended to be self-supporting through payments by counties. This is not the case, as some counties are tardy in making payment, and owing to the unusual pressure on the revenue fund, the state has not been in condition to fully comply with the requirements of the law. The law should be amended making payments due the state compulsory on the part of counties ordering books. If the funds are consolidated as suggested, these difficulties will be largely obviated. The $31,507.06 received from the internal improvement fund in 1882 has all been expended in payment of appropriations for bridges. The amount due for 1883 has not been received. Reports of bridges constructed in 1883 have been received sufficient to exhaust all, or nearly all due. Appropriations for bridges were made by the last legislature for two years.

Many bridges were built in 1883, but money not being available, the contractors are still awaiting amounts due. These difficulties may be avoided in the future by dividing the bridge appropriation, making part payable in 1886 and the remainder in 1887. The permanent school fund has now an accumulation of $6,255,632.38. The sales of school lands for 1883 and spring sales of 1884 amounted to 117,584 acres at the average price of $5.80 per acre. The entire sales for all years amount to 908,145 acres at an average of $6.02 per acre. The original grant embraced one-eighteenth part of the state, or about 3,000,000 acres to this will be added one-half the proceeds of swamp lands which may become the state's property after grants have been filled. The ultimate accumulation of this fund is likely to reach $18,000,000 or $20,000,000. The payments of principal, excluding that required at sales, on all classess of lands from Dec. 1, 1882, to July 31, 1884, was $432,497.36, and 809 patents were issued. The auditor recommends the repeal of the law providing for double interest on land purchases not paid on June 1 and the provision for abatement of the penalty and would have the law amended by making the interest 12 per cent. on interest not paid June 1. This will more effectually protect the state and be more satisfactory to all concerned. The permanent university fund now represents an accumulation of $662,788.30. The entire grant subject to sales for this fund amount to 169,353 acres with 18,000 acres yet to be approved to the state. This fund will eventually amount to about $1,000,000. The statute provides no method for giving a railway right of way over university lands, this should be provided for and the law made retroactive. The internal improvement land fund now amounts to $1,300,605.71 and 224,848 acres have been sold at an average of $5.59 per acre, leaving 274,838 acres unsold. The interest is used in paying interest on Minnesota 4½ adjustment bonds and the fund will be used in paying these bonds when they mature. The board of investment, consisting of the governor, treasurer, auditor, president of university, regents and chief justice held meetings on Aug. 27, 1883, Oct. 27, 1883, Dec. 12, 1883, and March 29, 1884, and voted at the respective meetings: to sell 299,000 goverment 6s, at a premium of 31¼ per cent. and invest the proceeds in Minnesota 4½ adjustments; to sell 150,000 Missouri 6s and invest in Minnesota 4½s; to purchase 110 4½ adjustments, exchanging therefor Missouri 6s at 20 per cent. premium; to sell 381 Missouri 6s and invest in Minnesota 4½s on United States' bonds. The net gain to the state by these transfers amounts to over $105,000. A judicious investment of the trust funds has become a difficult problem. The law might be amended, permitting loans to school districts and counties for erection of school and county buildings only. Let the issue be long time 5 per cent. bonds limiting the amount to 3 or 5 per cent. of the assessed valuation.

The efficiency of the law for the collection of taxes is attested by the promptness attending their payment. Our methods of assessment cannot be as heartily commended. The constitution provides "that all the taxes levied shall be nearly as equal as may be, and such property shall have a cash valuation and be equalized and uniform throughout the state." The fundamental principles to be kept in view in making assessments are first, how to get all the property listed; second, how to obtain a fair and equitable valuation. Property divides itself into two classes—visible property, as lands, live stock, machinery, merchandise, etc.; invisible property, as stocks, bonds, money, etc. The former may be easily listed and the difficulty, therefore, is with the latter class. A correct assessment of the invisible property would add many millions to the tax list and reduce the unjust burden now resting on the visible property of the state.

The difficulties attending assessments are great. They are enumerated as follows: Refusal on the part of the owner to properly list his property; want of knowledge regarding its value on the part of the officer, and reluctance as to what may be considered a censorious inquiry concerning private affairs, are the stumbling blocks that lie in the way. A thorough assessment is not inquisitorial, and the disclosing of private affairs is not the real objection, but a desire to avoid taxation lies at the bottom.

The law permitting deductions of debts from credits is radically wrong to prove which several examples are given. Nothing is more easy than to create debts for the purpose of evading assessments, and it is through this door of deductions that a vast amount of property escapes its fair proportion of taxation. The scheming, adroit, unscrupulous man who unfairly reduces his assessments, arbitrarily assesses his more conscientious neighbor and transfers to other shoulders the weight of an unjust proportion of public burdens. This is not only unjust, but it has a tendency to lower the moral tone of a community by compelling men in self defense to subscribe to property statements known to be untrue. A person having ten times as much property as his neighbor should pay ten times as much tax. The rule however is the more property a man may own the less is his proportionate tax.

The assessed value of structures and of thirteen classes of personal property, constituting the insurable property of the state, was in 1884 valued at $92,000,000, while the aggregate insurance policies in 1883, and which of necessity covered only a portion of this property, amounted to $188,000,000, demonstrating that its taxable value did not exceed, perhaps, one-third of its insurable value.

The question of how the difficulties attending assessments can be overcome are discussed, and the following recommendations made: First, do away with deductions from credits on account of indebtedness. Second, substitute county assessors in place of township assessors. Under our present system the judgment of over 1,200 assessors must be harmonized, or the attempt made. A change to county assessments is every way desirable, and will secure greater uniformity without entailing additional expense.

Suppose the law would not permit a greater insurance on property than its assessed valuation, or that the law required all notes, bonds, securities, etc., to be stamped "listed for taxation 188—" and signed by the assessor, then suppose the law should forbid payment unless they bear such endorsement. I scarcely prepared to endorse the last two suggestions, but believe such enactments would add $50,000,000 to our tax lists. Such medicine is not palatable. The disease however demands heroic treatment. Perhaps we are drifting into that millenium eraadvocated by Mr. George and other economists, when all revenue shall be raised on land only.

Balance December 1, '82	$143,098 58
Receipts for eight months, ending July 31, 1883, from the following sources:	
State taxes	$308,995 61
Railroad taxes	479,698 28
Insurance Co.'s and fees	55,304 81
Principal paid on state lands	329,624 60
Sales of timber on state lands	40,491 73
Interest on state land contracts	230,086 25
Interest on invested trust funds	124,899 07
Bonds redeemed	48,000 00
Bonds issued rev. loan '83	190,000 00
School text books	19,255 79
Seed grain loans unpaid	6,721 56
Taxes telegraph companies	4,530 60
Keeping inmates reform school	16,601 50
Keeping U. S. convicts	1,595 38
Int. on dep. state funds	3,218 16
Miscellaneous	16,265 64
	$1,875,188 99
	$2,018,297,57

The disbursements were as follows:

Legislature and impeachment court expenses	$85,416 71
Executive expenses	45,285 81
Judicial	62,983 54
Printing, paper and stationery	34,409 29
Printing laws in newspapers	26,832 40
Library books	4,095 64
Support of state institutions	304,435 03
Public building and repairs	273,166 66
Grounds for public buildings	32,972 97
Fuel and lights, Capitol and Market house	9,737 25
Interest on state indebtedness	185,059 68
Redemption of state bonds	30,000 00
Bonds—invested school funds	404,800 00
Apportioned school fund	91,643 16
Historical society	2,759 31
Minnesota National Guard	10,368 21
School text books	29,235 97
Fish commission	5,000 00
State boards—immigration, health, agriculture, etc	13,517 57
High school and institutes	3,470 88
Expenses, sheriffs and requisitions	3,179 50
Wolf and horse thief bounties	11,415 00
Selling and selecting lands	8,260 25
Bounties for tree planting	2,402 61
Road and bridges	10,653 88
Miscellaneous	32,805 81
Total	$1,714,711 13
Balance July 31, 1883	303,586 44
Receipts during year ending July 31, 1884, state taxes	553,946 13
Railroad taxes	622,602 46
Insurance companies' taxes and fees	67,161 38
Telegraph companies' taxes	5,643 00
Principal paid on land contracts	292,725 61
Interest paid on land contracts	279,620 79
Interest on invested funds	169,522 22
Timber on state lands	108,363 50
Inmates in reform school	7,127 23
Sale of 299,000 U. S. 6s	389,784 76
Sale of 671,000 Mo. 6s	712,135 59
Above bonds sold for investment	46,000 00
School text books	21,438 81
Price on exchange of 98 Mo. 6s for 98 4½s	6,340 00
Interest in state deposits	10,039 40
Keeping U. S. convicts	1,299 50
Price rent and labor	5,467 18
U. S. government, 5 per cent of land sales	31,507 06
Miscellaneous	37,828 50
	$3,362,562 72
	$3,666,149 16

The disbursements were as follows:

Executive expenses	$66,966 36
Judicial expenses	82,982 83
Printing, paper, stationery, etc	18,814 19
General statutes, court reports, library, etc	8,306 93
Support of state institutions	445,823 67
Public buildings and repairs	238,523 47
Grounds for public buildings	25,600 00
Fuel and lights for capitol	5,000 00
Interest over state indebtedness	195,179 73
Redemption of state bonds	46,000 00
Bonds for invested school fund	1,070,948 52
Bonds for invested university fund	37,000 00
Appropriation school fund	299,232 83
Historical society	4,987 18
School text books	21,953 08
Minn. Nat. Guard to equipment	16,506 30
Fish commission	5,000 00
State board immigra'n health, ag'l and hort'l societies	14,138 65
High school and institute	25,810 46
Expenses, sheriffs and requisitions	4,057 85
Wolf and horse thief bounties	13,730 00
Selling and selecting lands	9,154 54
Bounties for tree planting	6,367 75
Roads and bridges	31,388 02
Miscellaneous	36,881 73
	$2,729,354 12
	$936,795 04
Balance July 31, 1884, to the credit of—	
State institution fund	184,863 01
Permanent school fund	434,803 90
General school fund	253,576 57
Forestry fund	53,435 34
Permanent university fund	28,752 51
General university fund	6,473 61
Internal improvement fund	119 14
Redemption fund	5,474 61
Internal improvement land fund	16,135 11
Internal improvement land fund interest	52,396 52
School text books	367 86
Stump land	2,836 02
Total	$1,038,284 11
Revenue fund over drafts	$102,329 07

Incorporation.

Articles of incorporation were filled with the secretary of state yesterday of the Ham's Forks Coal Mining company for the mining transportation and selling of coal and such other minerals as may be found in connection therewith in Winter county, Wyoming territory, upon their section and township property. The capital stock is placed at $2,500,000 divided into shares of $25 each, of this 30,000 are to be issued to present incorporators as full joint non-assessable stock in consideration of the real estate assigned the corporation, and 20,000 shares are to be designated "Treasury Stock" to be devoted to the raising of a fund with which to complete the purchase of said property from the government and to pay current expenses. The 30,000 shares of stock are to be non-transferable until said treasury fund has been fully provided for. O. J. Johnson, Hervin Brinknell, J W, Cochran, H. A. Anderson, H. C. Peterson and P. P. Swanson, of Minneapolis, and Harrison Church, Alonza A. Bailey and Isaac C. Winslow, of Winter county, Wyoming Territory, are the incorporators.

Real Estate and Building.

The following transfers of real estate by warranty deed were yesterday filed in the register's office:

B F Schurmeir to P A Bengston, lot 19, block 19, Arlington Hills addition, $400.

A S Gaston to Edward Carlin, lot 9, block 1, McKenty's Out Lots, $550.

Wm Funk to Albert Baillif, lot 2, block 25, Woodbury & Case's addition, $375.

D M Robbins to Elmore Lowell, lots 5, 6, 7 and 8, block 5, Ewing & Chutes' addition, $6,750.

D D Merrill to Minnesota & Northwestern Railroad company, part of lot 2, block 3, West St Paul Proper, $2,000.

BUILDING PERMITS.

Building Inspector Johnson issued the following permits to build yesterday:

Simon Elinger, one and a half story frame dwelling on south side of Edmond, between Kent and Mackubin, $575.

B Anderson, one and a half story frame dwelling on south side of Cook, between Payne and Edgerton, $1,000.

Napoleon Gautier, one and a half story frame double dwelling on the north side of Susan, between Anita and Cambridge, $1,000.

Mortgage Filed.

The Farmers' Loan and Trust company of New York filed a mortgage given it by the St. Paul City Railway company on its whole property with the secretary of state yesterday to secure $500,000 of its first mortgage bonds, dated April, 1882, and payable fifty years thereafter, of which $335,000 have already been issued, the remaining $165,000 only to be issued at the rate of $10,000 per mile of built and equipped track. The new bonds to be issued will be $1,000 each, bearing six per cent. gold interest, payable on the first days of April and October of each year, and are to be used in taking up the first mortgage bonds and to pay all the indebtedness of the road.

THE RAILROADS

A Decision Against the St. Paul.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—A decision was rendered in the supreme court to-day in the railroad case of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad company, plaintiff in error, against Duane O. Ross. This was a suit brought by an engineer of a gravel train against the company to recover damages for injuries sustained by him in a collision with a freight train due to the carelessness of the conducter of the latter. The court below charged the jury if, in their opinion, the accident was caused by the negligence of the conductor of the freight train, and without contributory negligence to the part of the plaintiff, the railway company was liable, because superior and inferior officers were created by the company, as between the two, in the operation of its train, and they were not within the reason of the law fellow servants engaged in the same common employment. This court holds the charge was correct, and the judgment of the circuit court is affirmed.

A New Departure.

NEW YORK, Dec. 8.—Under the lead of the New York Central railroad the railroads began the issue of continuous trip tickets only to the west. This is in one sense a blow aimed at the ticket brokers, as it prevents the scalping process by not allowing passengers to stop over and obtain a rebate. In another way it is thought to indicate a possibility of an agreement between the different roads ultimately leading to a restoration of rates to a paying basis. Tickets to Buffalo cannot be purchased now for less than $4.40 anywhere.

New Freight Rates from Chicago to the Seaboard.

CHICAGO, Dec. 8.—The new freight rates to the seaboard from Chicago went into effect to-day. These are forty cents per 100 pounds for cattle, seventy cents on dead meat as against twenty cents and thirty-two and one-half cents respectively previously in force. The commission men at the stock yards here claim that the advance is a boom for live stock shippers and stock yards interests east of Chicago, and a blow at the dressed beef trade of the city. Should the rates remain in force it is claimed it would naturally turn toward more southern cities

Rail Notes.

F. B. Clark, and T. W. Teasdale of the St. Paul & Omaha road, have gone to Chicago.

Mr. Boyden, general northwestern freight agent of the Milwaukee & St. Paul road, has gone to Chicago.

The Milwaukee & St. Paul, and the Union Pacific roads have issued a special tariff on lumber, lath and shingles, in car loads of not less than 20,000 pounds.

Mr. Hannaford, general freight agent of the Northern Pacific road, has gone to Chicago to attend the transcontinental meeting, to be held in Chicago.

P. E. Plumb has been appointed agent at Burkhard's, Wis., a station on the northern division of the St. Paul & Omaha line. Freight can be forwarded without prepayment.

Hereafter the rates on wheat and flax from stations on the Nebraska division to St. Paul and Minnesota transfer will be five cents per 100 pounds, lower than rates published in tariff No. 26 of Feb. 26, 1884.

The Chicago, Iowa & Kansas Railroad company, of Kansas, have filed at Topeka, Kansas, articles of agreement and consolidation with the Chicago, Iowa & Kansas Railroad company of Nebraska.

The managers of all the roads leading out of New York westward yesterday agreed to limit all reduced-fare tickets to one continuous trip to the destination on the train upon which the journey was begun.

Mr. C. J. Eddy, general passenger agent of the Fargo Southern, and Mr. D. R. Taylor, general superintendent of the same, were in town yesterday, conferring with the Northern Pacific and the St. Paul & Manitoba people as to freight.

Railroad men yesterday received information, through a circular, that A. J. O'Reilly is appointed general agent in charge of the freight and passenger business of the Louisiana, New Albany & Chicago Railway company south of the Ohio river, with headquarters at Louisville, Ky.

Conroy, Ia., located on the Council Bluffs division of the Milwaukee & St. Paul road, between South Amana and Williamsburg, distant from South Amana three miles, and five miles from Williamsburg, has been opened. As no agent has been appointed shipments must be prepaid.

A. L. Stokes, general freight and passenger agent of the Oregon Railway & Navigation company, with his wife, passed through St. Paul yesterday for Chicago, to attend the meeting of the Transcontinental association to be held in the latter city. There are fifteen lines in the association, consisting of all the lines west of the Missouri river. This is the meeting that was to have been held at Denver, and was finally changed to Chicago. It is expected that there will be some pretty lively times at the meeting before it closes.

The Medora Stage company's line to the Black Hills was opened Oct. 6 last, and at present stages are running as follows between Medora and Deadwood, connecting with express trains of the Northern Pacific road, both east and west bound: Leave Medora 6 a. m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays; arrive at Deadwood at 6 p. m. Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Leave Deadwood at 6 a. m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays; arrive at Medora 6 p. m. Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. It is 193 miles from Medora to Deadwood.

DRESSMAKING.

Some Information About the Business Given to a Reporter.

"Why, I have done nothing all day but run to that door to answer inquiries after work!"

So exclaimed one of our fashionable *modistes* yesterday to a GLOBE man. This set the reportorial votary to thinking and asking questions,

"Are times so dull, then, that people seeking for work trouble you so much?"

"Oh, yes, indeed. I have never seen such a dull season since I have been in the business."

"Are your callers all sewing girls, or married women, too?"

"Well, mostly girls who depend upon needle work for a living, but then there are married women, though not often. And yesterday I had a girl come in here from a distance of seventy miles to get a chance to serve as an apprentice."

"Are there any certain periods during the year when your trade falls off perceptibly?"

"Well, it generally begins to slacken about Christmas, and don't begin to be brisk again till March, though we generally have enough work to keep us going."

"Are the advertisements in the want colums of the newspapers an indication of the state of your line of business?"

"Yes, as a general thing. I take several papers, fashion papers from the east and our home papers, and it is very seldom indeed that you now see advertisements for sewing girls, though the demand for house servants seems to be greater."

"How do you account for this unusual dullness? Is is because women are getting along with less dresses, and making them wear longer, or do you have many to make over?"

"No, I never undertake that class of work, because, as a rule, when a woman wants a dress made over she never wishes to pay what to us is a fair price. It may seem strange, but there is very little difference between making a new dress and remaking an old one."

"Then you sometimes have trouble about price?"

"Not as a rule, but now and again we have a customer who wants work done for almost nothing. In such cases, it is often good policy to come down on the price, but those people who object to our prices are generally given to understand that we do not care for their custom, and when we do come down such people often make lots of trouble for us by telling other customers how they had got work done for so much less than usual. Of course the others think we are unfair if we do not treat them the same way; but the majority of people are willing to pay fair prices for good work, and the class of people mentioned are more the exception than otherwise."

Right here the fair speaker was called to wait on another caller, and as this one wanted to "try on" some work being done, the reporter had to thank his informant hurriedly an "skip."

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS.

Several Assessments Confirmed and Other Miscellaneous Business Transacted.

At yesterday's meeting of the board of public works all the members were present, and the following business was transacted.

The following were referred to the engineer for plans and specifications: Grading St. Peter street from Marton street to University avenue; grading and guttering Whitall street from Westminster street to Payne avenue; grading University avenue from Rice to Grant street; grading Wabashaw street from Bluff to Rice streets; sewer on Tenth street from Wabashaw to St. Peter street; grading Park avenue from Martin street to Sherburne avenue.

The matter of the confirmation of the assessment for grading Mt. Airy street came up and was adjourned to Dec. 22, at 2 p. m.

The engineer was instructed to square up lots 1 and 2, block 13, Clark's addition, for sewerage.

The matter of opening Arcade street from Wells street to the north line of the right of way of the St. Paul & Duluth Railroad company was referred to the committee on assessments.

The matter of opening and extending Brewster avenue from University avenue to Bluff street was sent back to the council with an adverse report.

The matter of opening, widening and extending Sturgis street, from Seventh to Garfield street, was referred to the committee on assessments and clerk to give first assessment notice.

The matter of opening, widening and extending Delos street, eighty feet wide from Fillmore avenue to Eaton avenue, was referred to the engineer for plan of land to be taken for a strip seventy feet wide.

The resolution of Ald. Starkey in the common council requesting the board to report the condition of the Seventh street improvement, and when said street will be open to public travel, as the terms of contract require, was referred to the engineer to report.

The assessment for construction, relaying and repairing sidewalks, under contract of George W. Reese, (estimate No. 3) for term beginning April 1, 1884, after making corrections, was confirmed.

The assessment for relaying pavement on Jackson street, between south line of Fourth street and Seventh street, after abating $58.35 on Humphrey's property, was confirmed.

The assessment for opening, widening, and extending Portland avenue, between Avon and Victoria streets was adjourned to Dec. 22.

Estimate No. 5 of J. C. McCarthy for grading Winnifred and Starkey streets, amounting to $2,550, was approved.

The contracts of Patrick H. Thornton for grading Mississippi street, and Patrick Doherty for constructing a sewer on Oak street, were referred to the city attorney to draw up and the president to execute said contracts.

The communication of M. L. Ward stating that with 120 other men working on the grading of Oakdale avenue for Smythe & Farrell, they had not received one-half their dues, asking the allowance of a sufficient estimate to relieve their sufferings and necessities for the winter, was placed on file.

The petition of Barlow Burns for $600 damages to her property by the change of grade on Sherman street was referred to the committee of the whole board to view the premises.

Adjourned.

Historical Society.

The Historical society held a business meeting last evening. Gen. Sibley, president of the society, occupied the chair.

The following gentlemen were elected life members: Hon. Milo White and John R. Jones, Chatfield, and Prof. N. N. Winchell, Minneapolis.

A communication was received from the Union League of New York city, asking the society to endorse a petition to congress for repeal of duty on works of art. The request was granted and the petition signed by the officers.

The secretary read the biennial report to the legislature which was approved.

A committee was appointed to propose names for the triennial election of councillors on January 19. Adjourned.

Sorry We Can't Answer.

To the Sporting Editor of the Globe:

Dear Sir: Can you please furnish readers of your paper with fielding and batting averages of the St. Paul Base Ball club of 1884, and oblige? READER.

[There are several reasons why the GLOBE cannot answer the above question, the chief of which being that the St. Paul Base Ball club retained the season through almost nothing save its name and uniform. But three of the players played the whole season, O'Brien, Ganzel and Barnes, the last named leading the other two in batting. Had the Northwestern league continued in existence until the date of going into winter quarters, we should have been able to present the information desired, but since the disintegration of that organization, the formation of the Northwestern leaugue quartette, its collapse, and the dropping of the St. Paul team into the Union association for a limited period, we have been entirely unable to enumerate the gyrations of the sphere to safe localities in the field at the hands of "our boys," or to discover who is entitled to the bun as a muffer. In other words, we plead innocence of any knowledge on the subject, but we hazard the guess that Barnes was most successful with the willow and Carroll and Tilley as fielders.—Ed.]

MONTICELLO.

[Special Correspondence of the Globe.]

MONTICELLO, Dec. 6.—A frame building situated on Main street in lower Monticello, and known as the Basket factory, burned down last night between the hours of 8 and 9 o'clock.

Barker Bailey, one of the oldest residents of Monticello, died on Wednseday morning last at the age of eighty-three. He was one of the first settlers in this township.

SHAKOPEE.

[Special Correspondence of the Globe.]

SHAKOPEE, Dec., 8.—Rain Saturday night. Snow all day Sunday.

Sleighing to-day.

The December term of court begins to-day. There are forty-three cases on the calendar. The term will probably last fifteen days. Among the