PASSED BY THE SENATE.

Both the Senate Railroad Bill and the High License Bill Get Through,

Though the Former is Characterized by Senator Hall as Failing in the Purpose Intended,

And the Latter is Shorn by Amendment of its Local Option Feature.

O'Brien's Bill Throwing the Burden of Proof on Saloon Keepers Barely Gets Recommended to Pass.

Final Passage of the Measure Prohibiting Insolvent Debtors From Preferring Certain of Their Creditors.

Another District Judge in Hennepin—More Bills Introduced in the Senate Than at any Previous Session.

Doings of the Day.

The senate met at its usual hour yesterday, with Senator Pillsbury presiding, and did an immense amount of work and some talking. Ten new bills were introduced, making the last senate file at the close of the morning session No. 498, being the largest number of bills ever introduced into the Minnesota senate. Twelve house bills were placed upon their final passage, and twenty-two senate bills were passed, the most important of which was the bill regulating railroads, which received 39 affirmative votes and 2 in the negative. Senator Hall, in explanation of his negative vote, said he had hoped to see legislation accomplished at this session which would really do something toward the regulation of railroads, but this bill did nothing of the kind, and the only feature of merit about it was embraced in the bill relating to an open market and the free shipment of grain. That being the case he would not vote for the bill. Senator Hickman entertained like views and he voted in the negative. Before the bill was placed upon third reading Senator Steenerson, by unanimous consent, was permitted to offer an amendment, which was adopted, requiring the railroad commissioners to make investigations and suggestions in their biennial reports for the guidance of the legislature in its future enactments upon railroad matters.

The committee on finance reported the bill appropriating money to the state normal schools with majority and minority reports, the majority recommending the passage of the bill, while the minority disapproved of such large appropriations. The majority report was adopted.

THE LIQUOR QUESTION.

Senator O'Brien's bill relating to the sale of intoxicating liquors had a tight squeeze to get through the senate, barely the requisite twenty-four votes being recorded in the affirmative, and to get that number it was necessary to visit the committee rooms and bring out every senator who could be induced to vote for it. The main feature of the bill is to throw the burden of the proof upon the defendant, and make him establish the fact that his liquors are not intoxicating.

The high license bill got before the senate yesterday just before adjournment of its morning session, and Senator Wilson sent up amendments eliminating from the bill its local option features in cities and villages, and an effort was made to refer the bill and pending amendments to the committee of the whole. The bill was recommended for passage by a vote of 14 to 23.

THE AFTERNOON SESSION

of the senate was chiefly devoted to the consideration of bills in committee of the whole, there being sixty-four upon general orders. Those not disposed of were not considered, on account of the failure of the state printer to have the printed bills ready for distribution. A large number were laid aside on this account, and the printer should increase his facilities or give out a portion of his work to other printing establishments, for the public business is suffering delay upon this account.

The bill fixing the salary of the state board of health gave rise to some wrangling, when an amendment was pending to increase the compensation from $2,000 to $2,500. The bill as originally drawn allowed a salary of $2,500 and the finance committee cut it down. Upon the question of fixing it at the original amount some of the senators from the finance committee voted in the affirmative.

The adjutant general's contingent in the general appropriation bill gave rise to some discussion, and the item was stricken out, it having been stated that the amount paid for clerk hire was less than the amount appropriated, and that there was a balance in favor of the office from that source.

The house bill providing for the location of a third hospital for the insane was recommended for passage after amendments, allowing the governor to appoint the commissioners, and also providing that it should be located north of the south line of Anoka county projected east and west to the boundaries of the state, had been adopted.

THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S CONTINGENT.

After the committee rose quite a tilt took place between Senators O'Brien and Doran relative to the adjutant general's contingent, Senator O'Brien taking the ground that he was unjustly treated if not granted the small contingent asked, and that it was showing disrespect to the military department of the state. Senator Doran, after laughing heartily, arose and said he was opposed to the bill, and that, little at a time, these expenses and contingents were multiplying. He said it was a small affair, and he would not care so much about it but for the offensive presence of the adjutant general upon the floor of the senate lobbying for it upon the ground that the Democrats were trying to beat him out of it. A vote was taken, and the adjutant general will enjoy the contingent for the two years to come.

The bill proposing to transfer the swamp land grant of the Duluth & Winnipeg Railway company to the St. Paul, Brainerd & Northwestern Railway company, was reported back without recommendation by the judiciary committee, they not being able to agree. The bill was referred to the committee of the whole.

It appears that one or more of the clerks of committees have not been quite so attentive to their duties as they might have been, and a resolution was offered and adopted making it necessary that they should certify to the amount of work they have done and have their account vouched for by the chairman of the committee they are hired to serve. The committees have hired clerks for work and not merely to find places for needy constituents. The resolution will probably have a wholesome effect.

The next session of the senate will be at 11 o'clock Monday next.

In the House.

Chaplain Harrington was still on the sick list yesterday and the house was under the necessity of proceeding to business without the usual devotional exercises.

A resolution by Mr. Collester, chairman of the judiciary committee, was adopted authorizing the appointment of an assistant clerk, to date from the 16th.

It is proposed to give Hennepin county another district judge, making four in all.

THEY DIE HARD.

Mr. Evans, who has steadily opposed the state fair appropriation, yesterday morning introduced the following resolution, which went through without attracting any attention. Later Mr. Drake, who was absent when the resolution was adopted, asked that the vote be reconsidered, which was done, Mr. Evans himself making the motion. The resolution reads:

Resolved, That the state auditor be and is hereby instructed not to issue his warrant for any part of the money appropriated by section 3 of house file No. 250, until he shall be furnished a certificate of the attorney general that the premises discribed in section 1 of said bill have been conveyed to the state in fee simple.

Mr. Muzzy has called the turn on wild mustard by declaring it a nuisance.

Mr. Burlingame proposes to increase the revenues of the state by imposing a tax of 5 per cent on business done in the state by foreign insurance companies.

The committee on taxes and tax laws was authorized to employ a clerk.

Six hundred and six bills have been introduced in the house, and still the pond is far from dry.

Mr. Pattee proposes to empower Prof. Noyes of the deaf, dumb and blind asylum to solemnize marriages so far as it concerns pupils of those institutions. Now, when young pupils of the institution are united in marriage, the services of Prof. Noyes are generally required as an interpreter, and as the power to perform the ceremony would simplify the matter, and be much more agreeable to the contracting parties. Mr. Pattee put in a bill for that purpose and got it passed under suspension of the rules.

The bill making an appropriation of $7,000 for farmers' institutes, indefinitely postponed Friday, is again on general orders, the vote for postponement having been reconsidered yesterday.

The St. Paul extension bill coming back from the senate, the house refused to recede from its amendment, and a committee of conference was appointed. The point of difference between the two houses is merely a clerical error.

INTEREST ON SCHOOL BONDS.

The action of the senate rejecting the proposition of the house that in future sales of state lands the purchase money could run for fifteen years at 5 per cent. interest., the interest to remain at 7 per cent. if paid before the expiration of that time, coming up in the house, Mr. Snider of Hennepin moved the house recede from its position, arguing that the fifteen year limit was in the interest of speculators. This position was controverted by Messrs. Drake, Burlingame, Dyar and Durant, who argued that the limit had exactly the contrary effect and was for the protection of the school fund, and in the interest of the small purchaser who desired the land for improvement rather than speculation. Finally Mr. McMillan stated he was not ready to act on the question, and he knew several in his vicinity in the same position. He therefore moved the bill and senate action lie on the table, which motion prevailed by a vote of 35 yeas and 22 nays. Later in the session, Mr. Burlingame moved the bill be taken from the table, upon which Mr. McMillan stated he had inquired into the matter and was satisfied the house position was in the interest of the small purchaser and the school fund, and he was ready to act. Mr. Valentine protested against the hasty action proposed as having a strange and tricky look. Mr. Burlingame resented the imputation implied in Mr. Valentine's remarks, asserting that he had called the bill up at the request of the party who moved to lay it on the table. Then Mr. Muzzy spoke in support of the house position. The bill was then taken up, when Mr. Snider renewed his motion that the house recede, and the discussion was renewed, Mr. Snider repeating his argument. Then for the second time this session a state officer was invited to the floor, Mr. Braden, and he explained the purpose of the clause, and that in his opinion it would benefit the settler, while making a better investment of the permanent school fund, it being abundantly practiced and bringing in 5 per cent. as against 3½ per cent. at which the fund is now invested. After some other talk Mr. Durant moved the previous question, which was ordered. The motion of Mr. Snider was to recede, which was lost. Mr. Snider then moved the bill lie on the table. Lost. A motion of Mr. Durant's was then adopted, for a committee of conference, and the speaker appointed, Messrs. Durant, Drake, Snider, Turrell and Myers.

The bill for taxing telegraph lines, etc., was referred back from the special committee with amendments, providing for a tax on telegraph companies of 4 per cent. on gross earnings; ¾ per cent. on gross earnings of telephone companies; 3 per cent. on gross earnings of express companies; 2 per cent. on gross earnings of sleeping cars, and 1 per cent. on the gross earnings of dining cars. The report was adopted and the bill sent to the committee of the whole.

ROUTINE REPORT.

The Senate.

The senate met at 10 o'clock and was called to order by Senator Pillsbury.

SAW DUST PETITION.

Senator Billson presented the petition of people of Duluth asking that saw dust be not thrown into the St. Louis river.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

By Senator Buckman—Legalizing certain public printing in Morrison county. Passed under suspended rules.

By Senator Billson—Authorizing the state land commissioners to lease certain school lands.

By Senator Castle (by request)—To provide for furnishing clerks of courts with Minnesota reports.

By Senator Castle—Providing for the inspection of gas meters by the inspector of mineral oils.

By Senator Ward—Appropriating $2,000 to bridge the Des Moines river, Jackson county.

By Senator Ward—A memorial of citizens of southern Minnesota, asking investigation relating to railroad land grants.

By Senator C. D. Gilfillan—Relating to the duties of the Mississippi and Rum River Boom company as to logs delivered below the falls of St. Anthony.

By Senator C. D. Gilfillan—Amending the charter of the Mississippi and Rum River Boom company.

By Senator Morrison—Amending the charter of Rochester, Olmsted county. Passed under suspended rules.

By Senator Wheat—Authorizing the trustees of the Rochester asylum to contract for repairs on buildings.

HOUSE BILLS PASSED.

Regulating the catching of fish in Polk county.

Amending the charter of the village of Wadena, Wadena county.

Authorizing the commissioners of Hubbard county to issue $5,000 bonds to fund its debt.

Authorizing Aitkin county to issue bonds to fund its debt.

Repealing the acts giving Crow Wing justices of the peace jurisdiction in Aitkin county.

Fixing the salary of the probate judge of Hennepin county at $1,500 and $300 for clerk hire.

Authorizing the supervisors of Belle Creek, Goodhue county, to have a survey and plat made of said township.

Amending the charter of the village of Zumbrota, Goodhue county.

Authorizing Chippewa county to issue $20,000 bonds to fund its debt.

Repealing the charter of the village of Lansing, Mower county.

Regulating the catching of fish in the Minnesota river, Chippewa and Yellow Medicine counties.

Authorizing Blue Earth county to issue $10,000 bonds to refund Minnesota river bridge bonds.

SENATE BILLS PASSED.

Authorizing the adjutant general to compile the military record of the Renville rangers.

Amending chapter 16, statutes of 1878, relating to the sale of intoxicating liquors. Ayes 24, nayes 14.

Authorizing the consolidation of religious corporations.

Creating a commission to supervise the publication of the geological and natural history survey of the state.

Increasing the liability of safe deposit companies.

Regulating the admission of evidence in civil actions.

Amending the statutes of 1883, relating to the incorporation of villages.

Amending the act granting aid to the Cannon River Improvement company.

Authorizing the trustees of the hospital for the insane to sell certain real estate.

Authorizing the insuring of the state institutions.

Relating to records in the offices of clerks of district courts.

Relating to equal civil rights.

Relating to chattel mortgages.

Prohibiting deception in the sale of dairy products.

Regulating offensive trades and employments.

Preventing the pollution of sources of water supply.

Amending chapter 132, general laws of 1883, relating to boards of health in towns and cities.

Proposing an amendment to article 8 of the constitution, allowing state school funds to be loaned to school districts.

Legalizing certain acts of officers of Cook county.

Legalizing the incorporation of certain villages.

THE RAILROAD BILL.

Senator Steenerson offered the following amendment to section 9 of the bill for the regulation of railroad companies, which was unanimously adopted: "Said commissioners shall also investigate and consider what, if any, amendment or revision of the railroad laws of this state the best interests of the state may demand, and they shall make a special biennial report on said subject to the legislature." The bill was then read a third time and passed by the following vote:

YEAS.

Billson,
Blake,
Castle,
Christiansen,
Clarke,
Clement,
Compton,
Comstock,
Craig,
Doran,
Fletcher,
Gilfillan, C. D.,
Goodrich,
Greenleaf,
Griggs,
Houlton,
Johnson,
Knudson,
Langdon,
Lawrence,
Morrison,
O'Brien,
Peck,
Peterson,
Pillsbury,
Rice,
Sackett,
Sergeant,
Severance,
Steenerson,
Truax,
Van Hoesen,
Waite,
Ward,
Welch,
Wells,
Wheat,
Wilkins,
Wilson—39.

NAYS.

Hall,
Hickman—2.

THE HIGH LICENSE BILL.

The high license bill was then taken up and Senator Wilson sent up a large number of amendments, the effect of which were to eliminate the local option feature of the bill in cities and villages, and allows any one to sell who takes out a $500 license.

Senator Peck moved to refer the bill and amendments to the committee of the whole. Lost, 12 to 19.

Senator Wilson's amendments were adopted, after which the report of the committee was adopted by the following vote:

YEAS.

Billson,
Blake,
Clarke,
Clement,
Compton,
Comstock,
Craig,
Greenleaf,
Hall,
Hickman,
Houlton,
Johnson,
Knudson,
Lawrence,
Pillsbury,
Sergeant,
Severance,
Ward,
Wells,
Wilkins,
Wilson—22.

NAYS.

Christiansen,
Doran,
Fletcher,
Gilfillan, C. D.,
Goodrich,
Griggs,
Langdon,
Morrison,
Peck,
Peterson,
Rice,
Sackett,
Van Hoesen,
Waite,
Welch—15.

Recess till 3:30.

Afternoon Session.

The senate reconvened at 3:30, Senator Goodrich, president pro tem., in the chair.

RESOLUTIONS.

Senator Langdon offered a resolution requiring committee clerks to certify to the number of days actually employed, the same to be approved by the chairmen of such committees. Adopted.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

By Senator Comstock—Requiring publication of time of expiration of time of redemption of lands sold for taxes.

By Senator Castle—Regulating the catching of fish in Ramsey, Hennepin and Washington counties. Passed under suspended rules.

By Senator Wilson—Amending the general laws of 1879 relating to the right of way of railways.

By Senator Waite—Legalizing the issue of bonds by the town of Wakefield, Stearns county, in issuing bridge bonds.

By Judiciary Committee—Amending the statutes of 1878, relative to the payment of costs in the supreme court.

HOUSE BILLS PASSED.

Relating to registers of deeds and the records in their offices.

To prevent insolvent debtors from giving preference to creditors.

Relating to millers' and manufacturers' insurance companies.

Authorizing and requiring each town in Brown county to support its own poor.

SENATE BILL PASSED.

Relating to plats of cities and villages, and their effect as evidence in certain cases.

IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE,

Senator Rice in the chair, the following bills were considered and recommended to pass: Authorizing destruction of bonds by internal improvement fund; relating to practice of dentistry; appropriating money on account of state prison fire; providing for index digest, Minnesota reports; appropriating money for James R. Walker; preventing spread of contagious cattle diseases; reimbursing employes of state prison; relating to public warehouses; appropriating money for state board of health; amending general statutes relating to county commissioners; amending general statutes relating to taxes; appropriating money for state institutions; amending general laws relating to drainage; relating to drainage and duty of county commissioner; salary of secretary state board of health; amending statutes relating to printing and distribution of laws; relating to driving and booming logs; appropriating money for state government; amending section 36, chapter 73, general statutes 1878; appropriating money for Mississippi river commission; appropriating money for certain purposes; relating to third hospital for insane; detaching property from Carman school district; relating to employment bureaus; relating to religious corporations; legalizing certain roads in Anoka county; a joint resolution relating to repayment of interest; relating to the city of Northfield; a joint resolution relating to the direct tax law.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

A large number of reports from the various committees were sent up to the president's desk, among which were several "woodchucks" for preventing the spread of small pox and other things calling for state money, most of which were recommended for indefinite postponement.

The senate adjourned till Monday at 11 o'clock.

The House

Called to order at 10 a. m. by Speaker Gibbs.

Mr. Nachbar presented a petition for woman suffrage.

On motion of Mr. Lee, his bill for taxing telegraph, telephone and other companies was ordered referred to a special committee.

INDEFINITELY POSTPONED.

Report of judiciary committe: Of Mr. Thacker for a sound system of surveys and for the preservation of the records of the same; of Mr. Stephens, to amend ch. 11, statutes of 1878, relating to taxes; of Mr. Reese, to amend sec. 13, ch. 39, statutes of of 1878, relating to chattel mortgages; of J. Smith, for an act to regulate the amount of toll that may be taken by any custom mill in the state, of Mr. Evans, amending the statutes of 1878, relating to assessment and taxation of omitted property.

Report of committee on education: Of Mr. Skinner, to incorporate the Martin Luther college at New Ulm; of Mr. Caine, to appoint and maintain a state entomologist.

Committee on insane: Senate bill of Mr. Morrison, for the location of a third hospital for the insane.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

By Mr. Howes—Relating to the public printing of Morrison county.

By Mr. Holland—Fixing the salary of the county attorney of Goodhue at $1,000. Rules suspended and bill passed.

By Mr. Wear—Legalizing the assessment of real estate and personal property in Lake City in 1884. Rules suspended and bill passed.

By Mr. Knox—Establishing a municipal court for Duluth. Rules suspended and bill passed.

By Mr. Downs, H.—Giving Hennepin county another district judge.

By Mr. Myers—To reimburse L. H. McKusick for expenses in the election contest brought by W. L. Wynkoop. It appropriates $1,000.

By Mr. Reese_For the protection of fish in Kandiyohi county. Rules suspended and bill passed.

By Mr. Griffin—Relating to the corporation of detective organizations.

By Mr. Pattee—To provide clothing and transportation for pupils of the deaf, dumb and blind institute.

By Mr. Pattee—To amend section 4, chapter 61, Statutes of 1878, relating to the solemnizing of marriages in the deaf, dumb and blind asylum. Rules suspended and bill passed.

By Mr. Spaulding—To amend sections 11 and 16, chapter 42, statutes of 1878, relating to official trusts.

By Mr. Wendelschaffer—To amend chapter 221, special laws of 1881, relating to town paupers in LeSueuer county. Rules suspended and bill passed.

By Mr. Muzzy—Declaring wild mustard a common nuisance.

By Mr. Burlingame—To increase the revenues of the state by taxing foreign insurance companies.

By Mr. Warner—To authorize the supervisors of the town of Cambria, Blue Earth county, to maintain a free ferry on the Minnesota river. Rules suspended and bill passed.

By Mr. Canning—To amend the charter of Crookston. Rules suspended and bill passed.

By Mr. Reinhard—Amending special laws relating to sessions of the board of commissioners of Stearns county. Rules suspended and bill passed.

By Mr. Collester—To legalize certain acts of the commissioners of Waseca county. Passed under suspension.

By Mr. Olson—Amending statutes relating to partition fences in Houston county. Passed under suspension.

By Mr. Byorum—To authorize the city council of Minneapolis to pay the widow of Robert Laughlin $1,000, and the widow of David Winckler, $2,000. Passed under suspension.

By Mr. Spaulding—Amending laws relating to the preservation of game.

By Mr. Holland—To amend the act regulating the salary and fee of the county auditor of Goodhue county, fixing the salary at $2,000 and clerk hire at $1,400. Passed under suspension of the rules.

By Mr. Bruce—To provide for the payment of the bonded indebtedness of the town of Sauk Centre, Stearns county. Rules suspended and bill passed.

Recess to 2 p. m.

Afternoon Session.

SENATE BILLS PASSED.

To confirm the grant of the city of Fergus Falls to the Fergus Falls Water and Gas company.

Allowing the commissioners of Stearns county to pay certain claims.

To legalize certain publications in Morrison county.

Relative to fish ways in Fillmore and Houston counties.

To authorize the village of Nicollet to pay over $500 to aid in the construction of a school house.

To regulate the catching of fish in Chisago and Green lakes, Chisago county.

To legalize the survey of the town of Excelsior, Hennepin county.

To legalize bonds voted by Fergus Falls for school purposes.

Relating to the state salt lands, transferring the same to the regents of the State university.

For the compensation of the judges of the district court of Hennepin county.

Legalizing the personal tax levy in Logan county for 1880 and 1881.

Amending special laws relating to terms of court in Martin county.

Adjourned to 2:30 p. m. Monday.

CHESS.

[Original contributions invited. Items of chess news from all over Minnesota and the new Northwest especially desired. Address the Chess Editor.]

Chess Directory.—St. Paul Chess Club, 326 Wabasha, corner Fourth. Tuesday and Friday evenings. Visitors are cordially received.

To Correspondents.

C. H. Hatheway, Minneapolis.—Obliged for the favor; have answered by letter.

A. Seelinger, city.—We accept your 4'er with pleasure. The couple idea is very good, indeed, even if the query which naturally arises as to one piece, "What is he there for?" does reveal it rather early. The mating piece is elegantly managed. Did you not neglect to include the solution? That is a part of the puzzle which chess editors are too busy to dispense with. The exception made in this case should not be considered a precedent.

Problem 23.

(Solvers' Tourney, Problem 12.)

Contributed by Wm. A. Shinkman to the Chicago Mirror of Sports, and said to have a very unusual number of mates—how many do you make them out to be? Its motto is "The Promoted Queen."

BLACK—8 PIECES.

WHITE—10 PIECES.

White to play and mate in two moves.

Sixth American Chess Congress.

Our other departments must be carried over until next week, in order to make room for the following circular letter intended for every chess player and chess patron in America, and which is so important and calls for such immediate and energetic action on the part of every one interested in chess progress, that it has a right to the floor. It should have been published here last week and would have been, had the number of the Times-Democrat which contained it succeeded in reaching this office. Every chess reader this paper appeals to, will, we are sure, take a lively interest in the grand enterprise proposed and give quick response to the call for contributions. Let who can, send $5, $10, $25; but never mind the amount, chip in whatever comes handy, from $1 up. The sum subscribed is of less importance than some subscription. Time now presses, and prompt responses are vital to the full success of the plan.

ROOMS OF THE NEW ORLEANS CHESS, CHECKERS AND WHIST CLUB, NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 7, 1885: Dear Sir—Five years have now elapsed since the conclusion of the Fifth American Chess Congress held in New York in 1880: five years, during which it is safe to say that the cause of Caissa has flourished and expanded throughout our country to a degree never before known in the history of American chess. In nearly all our principal cities, large and enthusiastic clubs and associations have been formed, and the ranks of those already in existence greatly augmented. The two most eminent chess players of the day have visited our shores and made interesting and successful tours through the States, and one of them has since taken up his permanent abode with us. The chess press of the country, in 1880 so limited as to numbers, has since developed into a power in the land and nearly forty weekly columns and monthly magazines now voice the sentiments of the American chess public. Mainly under the influence and guidance of this powerful lever chess among the masses has, beyond cavil, taken a firmer hold, assumed a wider spread and popularity than ever before attained; a popularity at once evidencing the advance of the American people at large to a higher plane of intellectuality, and foreshadowing the fairest hopes for the future of "the game of games" in this country.

Moved by the consideration of these concurring and auspicious circumstances; by the further fact that the existence of the present great World's Exposition in the city of New Orleans renders the time and the place, for many reasons, doubly fitting; and finally, by the unanimously expressed affirmative opinion of the chess press of the country, the authorities of the New Orleans Chess, Checkers and Whist Club have thought it advisable to bring the subject of a sixth American Chess Congress in definite shape before the chess players of the country. To this end they have caused the appointment of the undersigned as a special committee, charged, on behalf and under the auspices of the club, with the duty of taking those steps necessary to accomplish the object in view.

The committee, thus burdened and empowered, have not failed to realize immediately the responsibilities of their position, the inherent difficulties of the undertaking and the reliance that they must perforce place upon the prompt, generous and active assistance and support of all American chess players, organized and individually not only of this city and its local club, but of the whole country at large. To these, therefore, and to you, dear sir, as one of them, they forward this circular letter, at once as a preliminary statement of their plans and an invitation for your co-operation and support."

At the moment it is necessarily impracticable to announce any detailed programme, as this, of course, will depend essentially upon the financial support extended to the committee, but it may nevertheless be now stated that they intend to inaugurate:

1. A Grand Tournament, to begin in the city of New Orleans on or about the first Monday (the

7th) of April, 1885; to be open to all comers at a moderate entrance fee; to involve a first prize of not less than $500 and others in proportion according to the funds at the committee's disposal and the number of players enrolled.

2. A Minor Tourney, for the exclusive participation of players who receive odds from first-class players; this tourney to be held, however, only if the funds on hand, in the opinion of the committee, warrant the step.

3. A Problem Tourney, with appropriate prizes.

4. A Congress of Chess Players, to take appropriate action upon all matters that may advance the interests of American chess.

5. A Book of the Congress, to include a full account of the tournament, all games played, problems entered, list of subscribers and other kindred and interesting matters.

Every subscriber of $5 and upwards to the tournament fund, and each group of five or less subscribers together forwarding that sum to receive one copy of this book within a reasonable time after the adjournment of the congress; and also one entrance ticket good for admission to the congress hall during the entire session.

With this preliminary outline of "good intentions," and promising a definite statement as to programme, rules for the tournament and problem tourney, and all other details at the very earliest practicable moment, the committee once more asks your earnest and active assistance in the good work—not only in giving your own subscription and co-operation, but by inducing those of your friends. The financial question is, of course, the principal difficulty in any undertaking of this kind, and, in the light of past congresses, it is estimated that about $2,500 will be required to make the present a thorough success. The governing committee of the New Orleans Chess, Checkers and Whist Club, as an earnest of the good will and patronage of that organization have guaranteed officially $500 toward the needs of the congress, and while as much more will, the committee confidently believe, be secured by individual subscriptions among members and citizens, and it will evidently be necessary that the chess players and chess organizations of the country at large shall respond to this appeal as promptly as the nationality of the undertaking and the common brotherhood of the followers of Caissa ought surely to induce. The history of past congresses, and especially of the last, has shown too great a tardiness in responses to the appeals of managing committees; a tardiness arising evidently from mere procrastination, but which (though eventually "funds came in in a flood tide") nevertheless "seriously hampered the action of the committee," and up to the last moment left it "in the unpleasant situation of having to base its calculations upon promises rather than upon the actual state of the treasury."

The committee earnestly trust that in the present case no such delay will occur, and to avoid the uncertainty described above, have affixed hereto a species of contract, which, in case you are not able to forward cash at the moment, they beg you will fill out with as liberal a sum as you can see your way to subscribe, detach and promptly forward to P. N. Strong, Treasurer, P. O. Drawer 483, New Orleans, La.

If, by the 15th of March next, the Managing Committee have not received cash and subscription guarantees as below, sufficient to secure the success of the congress on the basis proposed, the project will be regretfully abandoned and all funds returned to subscribers.

Greeting you in the genial brotherhood of Caissa, and requesting your prompt attention and co-operation, we remain, faithfully yours.

CHAS. A. MAURIAN, Chairman;
FERNAND CLAIBORNE, Secretary;
P. N. STRONG, Treasurer;
LEON L. LABATT,
LUCIEN LYONS,
JAS. D. SEGUIN,
HENRY F. WARNER,
CLARENCE O. WILCOX,
Managing Committee.

[N. B.—All communications other than subscriptions should be addressed to Fernand Claiborne, Secretary, P. O. Drawer 483, New Orleans, La.]

(FORM OF SUBSCRIPTION GUARANTEE ANNEXED.)

........................1885.

I hereby subscribe   Dollars to the fund of the SIXTH AMERICAN CHESS CONGRESS, to be held at New Orleans in April next, as per the foregoing letter, and promise to remit said amount on or before March 7, 1885, to P. N. Strong, Treasurer, P. O. Drawer 483, New Orleans, La.

HOW GRANT WAS INTERVIEWED.

A Clever Reporter Who Got the Best of the General's Reserve.

From the New York Mail and Express.

When Gen. Ulysses S. Grant touched terra firma, having completed his famous trip around the world, he made a solemn pledge to his most intimate friends that under no circumstances would he be interviewed by any newspaper representative. This arrangement was entered into for the purpose of obviating the possibility of interfering with the sale of the book written by Minister to China John Russell Young, then well-nigh completed.

Gen. Grant reached the Fifth Avenue hotel in due season, and, as was expected, was besieged by newspaper men. He declined to say anything whatever about his trip beyond stating that he had enjoyed it, and so on. For two days the siege was kept up, but the general held the fort. Finally one of the leading morning papers singled out a man from the city staff and detailed him to get a story out of the general at any cost and under any circumstances.

Proceeding to the Fifth avenue hotel, the reporter held a council of war with the veteran clerk Carr. "There is no earthly use," said he, "in sending up your card. He has already positively declined to see some of the best-known newspaper correspondents in the country. If I were in your place, do you know what I would do? I'd send up my card and face the music. Take the role of a Wall street blood. He'll never discover you."

The card was sent up, and word came back that Gen. Grant would see the gentleman. As the story goes, the scribe weakened at the knees, but finally braced up and mounted to the suite of rooms occupied by the voyager round the world. The old soldier was in full dress; Mrs. Grant and a number of ladies were present. The reception-room was redolent with the perfumes of the choice exotics that had been sent to the hero of Vicksburg. The reporter bade him welcome, was introduced to the ladies, and held a long chat with Gen. Grant, who unexpectedly gave a succinct and interesting account of his voyage. The following morning the daily came out with a clean "beat" of a column and three-quarters. It was used all over the country, and the storm that burst over Gen. Grant's head can be more easily imagined than described. Letters and telegrams were thrown at him by the hundred, and he was charged by his friends with having violated the sanctity of his promise. he tried hard to explain, but it was no use, so finally he came out with a statement to the effect that he was not aware of having been interviewed by any newspaper man.

About six months afterward, the Ninth regiment was reviewed by Gen. Grant in the Madison Square garden. Before the review began Gen. Shaler, knowing nothing, of course, of the circumstances, introduced the writer of the article to the general. He repeated the name over and over, and then, fixing his piercing orbs on the reporter, recognized him as the one who had caused him so much trouble. He told the whole story to Gen. Shaler.

"It has been a wonder to me ever since," said he, "how this young man here could have made so much out of so short a conversation, and without taking any notes to keep so close to the truth. You may depend upon it, however, that I have kept my eyes and ears open since, and he will be a mighty smart reporter who will catch me napping again."

Gambling in London Clubs.

A good deal of gossip is afloat just now with reference to gambling in high quarters. The inland revenue people are waking up, and there is talk of parliamentary action to put down the gambling clubs. Some time since the Park club was closed after five men had been fined £500 each for illegal gambling. The owner of the club, which was instituted purely and simply for gambling purposes, it was said paid his customers' fines and legal expenses, which, if all that is said of the profits he made out of the institution be true, he could well afford to do. A story is current this week that at an old-established West End Club recently two officers of doubtful reputation managed to "pluck a pigeon" at ecarte one night to the tune of £26,000. At one time the "pigeon," who, by the way, was considerably obfuscated, stood to lose £100,000, but the amount was subsequently reduced by a change of luck to the first-named sum. When next day one of the winners called with bills drawn out for the payment of this huge debt, the loser had only a very hazy recollection of what had transpired on the preceding night, and refused to pay, and has referred the matter to a mutual friend to arbitrate. The police have got wind of the affair, and the club may be closed. Baccarat has been declared illegal, and there seems to be no reason why an exception should be made in favor of ecarte.

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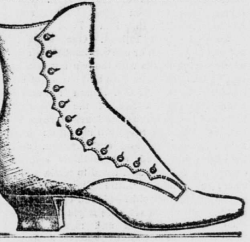

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PRINCIPAL OFFICE, PITTSBURGH, PA.

(Organized in 1865.)

O. B. Scaip.......................President.
H. H. Schenck....................Secretary.

Attorney to accept service in Minnesota, M. S. Dickerson, Minneapolis.

Cash Capital, $250,000.

I. ASSETS.

Value of real estate owned	$65,933 96
Loans secured by mortgages on real estate	60,901 45
Market value of all other bonds and stocks	211,409 63
Loans secured by bonds and stocks as collateral	22,038 00
Cash on hand and in bank	14,941 04
Premiums in course of collection	23,068 08
All other assets	1,107 03
Total admitted assets	$400,429 19

II. LIABILITIES.

Capital stock paid up	$250,000 00
Reserve for reinsurance	74,303 45
Unpaid losses	25,559 24
Other liabilities	9,547 58
Total liabilities including capital	$359,410 27
Net surplus	$41,018 92

III. INCOME IN 1884.

From premiums received	$145,074 19
From interest and dividends	17,057 77
From rents and all other sources	5,139 67
Total income	$167,271 63

IV. EXPENDITURES IN 1884.

Losses paid	$109,810 49
Dividends	17,500 00
Commissions and brokerage	29,329 03
Salaries of officers and employes	7,974 53
Taxes	4,040 15
All other expenditures	7,947 30
Total expenditures	$176,601 56
Excess of expenditures over income	$9,329 93

V. MISCELLANEOUS.

Total risks in force Dec. 31, 1884	$9,862,000 00

BUSINESS IN MINNESOTA IN 1884—FIRE.

Risks written	$339,338 00
Premiums received	5,432 53
Losses paid	4,114 15
Losses incurred	4,815 62

STATE OF MINNESOTA,
DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE,
ST. PAUL, February 18, 1885.

I, A. R. McGill, Insurance Commissioner of the state of Minnesota, do hereby certify that the Boatman's F. & M. Insurance company above named, has complied with the laws of this state relating to insurance, and is now fully empowered through its authorized agents to transact its appropriate business of fire insurance, in this state for the year ending January 31st, 1886.

A. R. McGILL,
Insurance Commissioner.

U. S. BRANCH

London and Provincial

Insurance Company.

PRINCIPAL OFFICE, LONDON, ENG.

J. C. MILLS, U. S. Manager, New York.

Attorney to accept service in Minnesota, A. R. McGill, St. Paul.

I. ASSETS.

Market value of U. S. Bonds	$349,000 00
Loans secured by bonds and stocks as collateral	53,583 33
Cash on hand and in bank	2,714 43
Premiums in course of collection	27,804 73
All other assets	1,696 46
Total admitted assets	$434,800 95

II. LIABILITIES.

Reserve for reinsurance	$173,360 28
Unpaid losses	50,288 73
Other liabilities	1,194 78
Total liabilities, including capital	$224,843 79
Net surplus	$209,957 16

III. INCOME IN 1884.

From premiums received	$337,163 33
From interest and dividends	11,917 75
Total income	349,081 08

IV. EXPENDITURES IN 1884.

Losses paid	$207,880 96
Commissions and brokerage	50,612 49
Salaries of officers and employes	31,700 00
Taxes	12,911 34
All other expenditures	22,488 54
Total expenditures	$325,593 33
Excess of expenditures over income	$76,512 25

V. MISCELLANEOUS.

Total risks in force December 31, 1884	$31,289,290 00

BUSINESS IN MINNESOTA IN 1884—FIRE.

Risks written	$426,811 00
Premiums received	8,032 68
Losses paid	7,307 08
Losses incurred	6,021 34

STATE OF MINNESOTA,
DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE,
ST. PAUL, February 21, 1885.

I, A. R. McGill, Insurance Commissioner of the state of Minnesota, do hereby certify that the London and Provincial Fire Insurance company above named, has complied with the laws of this state relating to insurance, and is now fully empowered through its authorized agents to transact its appropriate business of fire insurance in this state for the year ending January 31st, 1886.

A. R. McGILL,
Insurance Commissioner.

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