Chicago, 15c, an advance of 1 cent above former rates; the schr L. L. Lamb with wheat to Buffalo at 2½c.

LAKE MICHIGAN.

CHICAGO.

The schr Kate Gillett has gone into one of the dock of the Chicago Dry-Dock Company for repairs.... The Coast Wrecking Company's tug Rescue, on her way to this port to raise the schr John Dunn, is expected here to-day.... The cargo of the prop J. S. Hurd, of Leopold & Austrian's Lake Superior line, ashore in the Nesbish Rapids, has been lightered off and placed on the prop Norman. A steam-pump from the tug Leviathan has been placed aboard of her as an extra precaution, and she is now on her way to this port for repairs.... The steam-barge Redmond Prindiville, which ran upon Racine Reef Wednesday afternoon, has been pulled off, and arrived here yesterday morning leaking.... The schr E. Scoville left here yesterday afternoon with a cargo of lumber for Evanston.... The barge Morning Star, of the prop Mendota's tow, left here for Buffalo yesterday afternoon, light, in tow of the prop Tecumseh.

IMPORTANT TO MARINERS.

Maj. G. L. Gillespie, Major of Engineers, U. S. A., in charge of harbor-improvements at this port, has issued the following important notice to mariners:

Until the close of navigation, the lights at the entrance of Chicago River, on works of improvement, will be maintained in the following order:

On North Pier extension, a ship lantern showing a white light; on north end of United States breakwater, a red light; and on south end of breakwater, a green light.

Vessels entering by the main channel will bring the two white lights of North Pier in range, and keep the red light on the port side.

During violent storms, mariners are urged to round the south end of the breakwater, keeping the green light close on the starboard side. Behind the breakwater there is plenty of water and good holding-ground.

No trouble or expense will be spared to maintain the lights during all kinds of weather.

THE YACHT-RACE.

The Commodore of the yacht fleet has given orders to the effect that all the boats which intend to participate in the race to take place Saturday should be at the foot of Twelfth street at 12 o'clock, sharp, in order to be ready to start at the usual hour.

GOING INTO WINTER QUARTERS.

Owing to the cold weather during the last two weeks the passenger traffic on the various steamboat lines has greatly fallen off, especially on those running to Lower Lake ports. The Anchor Line, finding the business no longer profitable, has decided to withdraw its splendid iron passenger steamers for the season as fast as they arrive at Buffalo. The China will not leave, as advertised, but has been laid up. The prop Winslow, of the Lake Superior line, left for Buffalo in a evening with orders to lay up for the season. The India, now on her way from Chicago, will also be laid up. The freight-boats of this line will continue to run. The freight-props Gordon Campbell, Thomas A. Scott, and Annie Young, are tied up at Buffalo. The two latter have not made a trip this season.

BUFFALO.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

BUFFALO, N. Y., Sept. 23.—The schr Harriett Ross is ashore at Ashtabula. An expedition from here was at work on her to-day, with prospects of success in getting her off. The Ross had cleared from that port with a cargo of coal for Buffalo, and, being driven back by a stress of weather, went ashore in trying to enter the harbor.

Three of the passenger steamers of the Anchor Line are to go into winter quarters. The China has already been laid up, and the crew paid off. The India and Japan, on their way down, will be tied up in arrival.

VESSELS PASSED PORT HURON.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

PORT HURON, Mich., Sept. 23.—DOWN—Props Sanitac, Westford, Alaska, Lincoln and consort; schrs Jennie White, John Magee, Joseph Paige, Mary Copley.

UP—Props Manistee, Marine City, Algona, Jenness and barges; schrs Marco Polo, May Guthrie, John Schantz, American, Three Brothers, Delos DeWolf, Mediterranean, William Home, Brannan, Seabird.

WIND—South, light; weather, fine.

The prop Scotia, which was ashore and scuttled at Presque Isle, has been released, and has departed for her destination.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

PORT HURON, Mich., Sept. 23—10 p. m.—DOWN—Props Pacific, Bay City and barges, Glasgow and barges; schr Iroquois.

UP—Props Idaho, Newburg, Sovereign, Dubuque and barges; schrs Christine Nilsson, Wauconda, Melvin S. Bacon, A. Muir, Daniel G. Ford, Belle Hanscom, S. A. Wood, Standrew.

WIND—South, gentle; weather, fine.

ILLINOIS & MICHIGAN CANAL.

BRIDGEPORT, Sept. 23.—ARRIVED—Danube, Ottawa, 4,500 bu corn, 900 bu rye; D. T. Wright, Morris, 6,100 bu corn; Gen. Sherman, Morris, 6,000 bu corn; prop Montauk, Lockport, 750 brls flour, 5 90 brls meal; prop China, LaSalle, 3,000 bu oats, 10,121 bs seed; Cayuga, Romeo, 7,000 bu oats; Brilliant, Romeo, 5,500 bu oats.

CLEARED—Gen. McClellan, Joliet, 88,772 ft lumber, 10 brls salt; Maple Leaf, Lockport, 1,000 pcs. timber, 10 m shingles, 50 m lath; prop Montauk, Lockport, 4,200 bu wheat; Monte Cristo, Seneca, 84,936 ft lumber, 22 m shingles, 15 m lath.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The schr Higgie & Jones will be sold Saturday by the United States Marshal.... The Committee appointed to examine the wreck of the schr Board of Trade have reported, recommending an immediate settlement with Capt. McGraw.... A pier of protection has been constructed around the tower at Skilligalee. The fog-signal to be used is known as a "Siren," and will be one of the first put in service on the lakes.... The schr Union Jack, which sunk a few days ago near the mouth of Detroit River, loaded with corn, is to be raised.... The scow Sea Star, laden with lumber from Kalamazoo River for Chicago, was towed into St. Joseph Tuesday with 3 feet of water in her hold, and minus her entire deckload, consisting of about 40,000 feet, which was thrown overboard to lighten the vessel.... The prop Scotia, which was ashore and scuttled at Presque Isle, has been released, and is now on her way home.... A special from Petoskey says that the prop Colorado, laden with grain and merchandise from Chicago to Buffalo, and four schooners, ran into Little Traverse Bay harbor Sunday, and lay in there sheltered from the storm, and put to sea again Monday morning, although the sea was still running heavily. At 9 o'clock that morning it was snowing there furiously.... Latest advices from the schr Czar, ashore on False Presque Isle, Lake Huron, are to the effect that she was breaking up, and would prove a total loss. She is laden with iron-ore. The Czar was built in Oswego in 1862, measured 383 tons, and rated B 1. She was owned by Harrison & Hearns, of Cleveland, and insured for $10,000 on a valuation of $12,500.

BUSINESS AT CLEVELAND.

Business on the docks is unprecedentedly dull for this season of the year. The hopes of those who have all along been predicting a lively time during the fall season, are being dashed to the ground, and, instead of the words of encouragement held out to the questioner some time since, nothing is now heard but the most gloomy forebodings concerning the business of the two or three months yet remaining before navigation closes. There is plenty of coal to go forward, in fact the docks may be said to be overloaded, but shippers refuse in most cases to pay the rates asked by carriers, and carriers in their turn refuse to carry at the rates offered by shippers, on account of the slim prospects of getting remunerative down freights. One dollar or even 90 cents may be good rates up, but for 2¾ to 2½ cents back on grain, and with no certain prospects of getting anything even at these figures, makes the vessel-owners rather distant in their dealings, and helps to create a general feeling of distrust all around, which is fatal to business. A great number of the larger lake crafts are also finishing up their coal contracts for the season, and their size and capacity for carrying grain, even at the above figures, at which they can make something, on account of being able to carry large loads, throws out the smaller vessels, which, on account of their size, cannot make anything, as they cannot stow away enough to overbalance their expenses, which are nearly as heavy as in the larger class of vessels. "How long, O how long, are these things to continue?"—*Leader.*

THE COURTS.

McCormick Is Heard From---Suit for Damages for False Imprisonment.

Badly-Mated Husbands and Wives---A Deluge of New Suits.

Perjury Trial in the Criminal Court—Probate Business.

CHICAGO.

M'CORMICK'S SIDE OF THE QUESTION.

A few days ago Snow & Co. filed a bill in the Circuit Court, an abstract of which was given in THE TRIBUNE at the time, in which they stated that F. A. McCormick was the contractor to build an engine-house on Thirty-fifth street, and that he owed them a large sum of money as sub-contractors, which he refused to pay. They also made some other severe charges, and, therefore, asked for an injunction to prevent him from collecting the amount due him from the city lest he should omit to pay them, and leave them in difficulty.

Yesterday Mr. McCormick, the defendant, filed with the Board of Public Works a sworn statement or affidavit, in which he states the defense which he proposes to make to the above-named suit.

After stating in the affidavit that he is sole contractor, and that he understands that a number of charges have been made to the Board of Public Works against him by the complainants, and that he is desirous of preventing any injury to himself, he says the facts in brief are as follows: Snow & Co. executed a contract, as they allege, to do the mason work for $4,000, but they were not to be paid until the entire contract was fulfilled and the work had passed inspection. They have not, however, finished their part of the work yet, and have been so dilatory in what they have done that they only roofed the building last week, and there is now only three weeks in which to finish it, according to the terms of the contract. McCormick also claims that he has paid Snow & Co., at two different times, and sends with his affidavit two checks drawn in their favor to prove his statement. Part of the money so paid, he says, was to his own knowledge used in paying laborers, while the remainder was converted to their own private use. McCormick further charges that he was compelled to employ other parties to do some of their work, as he learned that they were not responsible. He, however, proposes to keep his contract in future, and not pay them anything, for his own protection, until their contract was completed.

The defendant next indignantly denies the charge of his insolvency, and claims that he is at the present time worth $30,000 above all debts against him; that he can on twenty-four hours' notice control more money than the whole engine-house costs. He also offers to increase his bond for the completion of the engine-house, and the payment of all just claims against it, to the sum of $50,000. In view of all these facts, the defendant asks that the Board of Public Works will ignore the charges of Snow & Co., and pay him the amounts due him, so that he can finish the contract by Oct. 15, as he agreed to do. All of which statements, as he confidently sweats, "are correct and true without exception."

HEAVY SUIT FOR DAMAGES.

A suit was begun yesterday afternoon in the United States Circuit Court, by E. M. Austin against James S. Waterman, of Sycamore, in which $50,000 damages are claimed for an alleged false imprisonment and malicious prosecution. Col. Austin was arrested last winter at Sycamore on a charge of larceny. Three indictments were found against him, but only one was tried, and on this he was acquitted. Mr. W. W. O'Brien being his counsel. The other indictments were then dropped. The present suit was brought to recover damages for that prosecution.

DIVORCES.

John D'Arment complains that his wife, Annie, has committed adultery, and he regards that as sufficient cause for divorce.

Annie E. Baumann says that she has an ordinary amount of patience, but that it has all been exhausted in trying to live with her husband, George H. Baumann. Not only does George get drunk, but he abuses her, attacking her with knives and revolvers, until she is afraid to live with him longer. He has repeatedly been arrested for his riotous conduct, and she claims that her only chance to preserve her life is by getting a divorce from him.

Peter Lynch is also a candidate for a divorce. His trouble is that he was arrested in 1869 at the suit of Mary McManon on a charge of bastardy, and while under duress was induced to marry her. They separated as soon as the services were performed, and have never lived together. Complainant therefore charges the defendant with having deserted him, and asks for a divorce on that ground.

George Wilson says that he lived with his wife Mary in all innocence and ignorance for nearly two years, and until July last, when he learned to his sorrow that she had transferred her affections to a livery-stable keeper, and was in the habit of making assignations with him. Complainant also charges that she is an habitual drunkard, and for these reasons desires a divorce.

ITEMS.

Judge Blodgett was in his rooms yesterday, but transacted no business.

In the habeas corpus case of Patrick Murphy, a hearing was had yesterday, and the prisoner remanded to jail.

The motion for an injunction in the case of Shook & Palmer vs. McKee Rankin, to restrain him from playing "The Two Orphans," will be heard to-day before Judge Drummond.

To-day is the last day of service in the Superior Court.

UNITED STATES COURTS.

Abraham W. Seaver, of Massachusetts, filed a bill against David Nichols and wife, Randolph Nichols, Martin Conley, H. M. Holden, the First National Bank of Kansas City, and W. M. Bush to foreclose a trust-deed for $7,000 on the E. ½ of the N. E. ¼ of Sec. 3, 17, 11, and the W. ½ of the N. W. ¼ of Sec. 2, 17, 11, and the N. ½ of the N. E. ¼ of Sec. 10, and the N. W. ¼ of the N. W. ¼ of Sec. 11, 17, 11.

The Third National Bank of Chicago sued A. C. Stedman for $1,500.

Watrous, Lewis & Co. sued Cusher and Benjamin Friedberg for $1,500.

Andrew Olson brought suit for $2,000 against Ezekiel Morrison.

H. P. Card and B. O. Babcock began a suit for $1,000 against Orville Olcott.

Olive A. Lunt began an action in trespass to recover $2,500 damages from August Wallbaum.

David E. Taylor brought suit for $3,000 against the New York, Chicago & San Francisco Insurance Company.

The Chicago Seed Company sued the First National Bank of Chicago for $3,000.

A. O. Russell, R. J. Morgan, J. M. Armstrong, and J. F. Robinson filed a precipe against Julia A. Bird, B. W. Putnam, and Joseph G. Gibbons, claiming $2,500.

Lemuel N. Baldwin also filed a precipe indicating his desire to collect $6,000 from Asa Vail and Ellen P. Vail.

F. F. Webster brought suit for $2,000 against James A. Clybourne.

The Commercial National Bank in like manner indicated that it would like to have Ira P. Bowen and Thomas B. Kent pay it $1,000.

Charles D. Hinman filed a bill against William Hansbrough, to foreclose a mortgage for $8,000 on Blocks 4 and 5 in Pitner's Subdivision of the southwest ¼ of Sec. 27, 38, 14.

Jackson Willsey began a suit for $1,000 against the Commercial Insurance Company of St. Louis.

M. W. Powell sued J. C. Caldwell and D. J. Wren for $1,500 each.

F. W. Clarke brought suit for $1,500 against R. C. Meldrum, and another for a like amount against D. N. Webster.

CIRCUIT COURT.

Russell, Morgan & Co. filed a bill against Julia A. Bird and B. W. Putnam to foreclose a mortgage for $1,500 on the undivided ½ of the undivided ½ of the west ½ of the west ½ of the east ½ of the northwest ¼ of Sec. 35, 39, 13.

COUNTY COURT.

In the estate of B. Moody the will was proven, and letters testamentary were issued to John H. Clough and James J. Noble, under bond for $18,000.

In the estate of Ellen Byrones an order of attachment was issued against John F. Ryan, the executor, returnable to-day at 9 o'clock.

An order was made confirming assessment-rolls Nos. 46, 47, 49, 52, 53, and 59 of the Town of Lake.

In the estate of Henrieh Kohl the will was proven, and letters testamentary were granted to Dorothea Kohl, under bond for $7,200.

In the matter of Thomas Tilley, an insolvent debtor, a jury was waived, and the Court found in favor of the debtor, and ordered his discharge.

In the estate of Mark Merritt, the will was proven, and letters testamentary were granted to George A. Hamilton under bond for $8,000.

The will of Alice B. Jacobson was filed and admitted to probate in the County Court yesterday. The instrument bore date of Feb. 26, 1874, and letters testamentary were granted to Augustus Jacobson under bond for $5,000. The will provides that an equal undivided one-half of so much of the E. ½ of the E. ½ of the N. W. ¼ and of Sec. 25, 39, 13, as lies north of the west fork of the North Branch of the Chicago River, said land having been deeded to deceased as a wedding gift, shall revert to her husband; that her brother, Henry T. Blow, of St. Louis, and her husband shall share alike in all other of her estate of every kind. The witnesses to the will are Harriet Clarke and Abel L. Adams. The estate is valued at $100,000 a part of which is located in the State of Missouri.

CRIMINAL COURT.

George M. Parsons, of the late firm of French, Shaw & Co., doing a wholesale paint and oil business on East Randolph street, was arraigned in the Criminal Court yesterday morning on the charge of perjury, on an indictment found by the last Grand Jury. The circumstances of the case are as follows: It appeared that one James A. Whitaker held two promissory notes of the firm in question for $ 00 each, which had been given to satisfy a claim of last them for whitelead, etc. In August, Whitaker brought suit on the notes in the Circuit Court, and Parsons came forward for the firm of French, Shaw & Co., of which he was a member, and made affidavit of merits in the suit, setting forth that the firm had an offset to the notes in question growing out of a shortage on the material purchased of the plaintiff. The affidavit led to a continuance of the suit for judgment on the notes.

Mr. Whitaker then went before the Grand Jury and caused the indictment of Parsons for perjury, as he claimed to have been committed in making the aforesaid affidavit.

The impaneling of the jury was a tedious process, which was completed about noon. Assistant State's Attorney Burnham and John Van Arman conducted the prosecution, and Messrs Bradley and Tuttle the defense. The evidence adduced by the prosecution tended to show that the full amount of seed was delivered, hence the offset could not have been any shortage to offset to the notes in question, and that the affidavit must necessarily have been false. Thirteen witnesses were examined for the prosecution, after which that side of the case was rested, and the Court adjourned. The defense will commence this morning and occupy most of the day.

In the matter of The People vs. W. W. Wilcox, of the Town of Cicero, ten additional days were given to plead, answer, or demur to the information.

JUDGMENTS.

SUPERIOR COURT—JUDGE GARY.—W. H. Callender vs. The Agricultural Insurance Company, of Watertown, N. Y., $456.—J. Callaghan vs. M. Evans and J. Hickey, $314.23.

CIRCUIT COURT—CONFESSIONS—MacLachlan, Campbell & Co. vs. Lachlan and Thomas MacLachlan, $10,-646.75.

JUDGE ROGERS—George M. Grows vs. Walter G. Addison, $5,047.60.

JUDGE BOOTH—John Anderberg vs. Enos and Selina Hughes, $113.—Maria A. Conkey vs. J. R. Shinherd, $107.22.—Honorah Washington vs. Patrick and Ann Cosgrove, $10.88.—H. B. Kimball et al. vs. use of Sheridan, Receiver vs. Daniel J. Wrenn, $164.49. —J. McDonnell vs. Patrick Grady, $30.80.—First National Bank of Morris vs. William H. Emerson, $685.29. —Valentine Blatz vs. Charles Peck, $504.70.—James McLean vs. George Wise, the Murray Iron Works, the Perkins' Engine Company, and Kirkwood & Dunkley, $50.—A. W. Allen vs. William I. Proudfoot, $116.76.

ELSEWHERE.

ILLINOIS SUPREME COURT.

OTTAWA, Ill., Sept. 23.—Supreme Court proceedings to-day:

MOTIONS DECIDED.

No. 21. Grinnell et al. vs. Cockerell; petition for rehearing denied, but the opinion will be modified.

25. Eames et al. vs. Dar Germania Turn Verein; petition denied.

29. The Michigan Central Railroad Company vs. Carrow; for use, and cause remanded.

In Nos. 31, Kelley et al. vs. Kellogg et al.; 32, Hapwood vs. Rumsey; 33, Stone et al. vs. Daggett et al.; 34, Stone et al. vs. Harding; and 35, Thompson vs. Reynolds, petitions for rehearing were denied.

121. Davidson et al. vs. Lighten; motion to dismiss allowed.

183. Holcomb vs. The People; motion overruled.

219. Lynch et al. vs. Swain; same.

45. Frost et al. vs. Chittick et al.; dismissed.

339. Miller vs. The People ex rel.; motion denied.

On motion of the Attorney-General, No. 67 on the civil docket was transferred to the people's docket, and the 6th day of October was fixed for calling the people's cases.

Charges of unprofessional conduct were preferred against K. J. Hill by the Chicago Bar Association.

710. The Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad Company vs. McMillan et al.; motion to strike the exhibit from the record.

712. Doyle vs. Conlin; motion to strike bill of exceptions from the record.

418. Scott vs. Hendrickson; motion for additional security on the appeal bond.

Motion to strike No. 96 from the docket and consolidate it with No. 157, Berger et al. vs. Peterson, allowed.

16. People's docket—The people ex rel. Moses vs. Smith; motion for rule to show cause why his name should not be stricken from the roll of attorneys.

128. The Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company vs. Hampton; suit dismissed by agreement.

780. Allen vs. Shepard; motion for extension of time to file abstract of record.

781. The Chicago Christian Union vs. Kinley, and 782, Keller vs. Ellis et al., dismissed, with 5 per cent damages.

156. The Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company vs. The People, etc., placed at the foot of the docket by agreement.

709. Stewart vs. Same. The Hibernia Banking Association; motion to set aside the order of dismissal.

200. Cushman vs. The People ex rel. Rumsey; same motion.

693. Bingham et al. vs. Atha et al.; motion to dismiss the appeal for want of a bill of exceptions.

CALL OF THE DOCKET.

61. Henle vs. Wilson; taken.

62. Williams vs. Hall; passed.

63. Lyon vs. Culbertson; taken.

84. The People ex rel., etc., vs. The Board of Trade of Chicago and the Directors thereof is now being argued by Messrs. Swett and Hardy Herrick, the attorneys for the appellant, and Lawrence & Winston, Campbell & Lawrence, and Dent & Black for the appellees.

LICENSES GRANTED.

The following were granted license to practice law in this State on foreign license: M. T. Curry, B. W. Sharp, William W. Gurley, A. V. Larimer, W. E. Leffingwell, M. C. White, J. F. Scott, and H. Martin; Leslie Carter, on diploma.

THE WARD WILL CASE.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

DETROIT, Sept. 23.—The time of the Circuit Court in the Ward will case was to-day wholly occupied by the address of Theodore Romeyn, in behalf of the contestants of the will. He went into Ward's family history to show that, both in his ancestry and posterity, he was of a family of insane and idiotic proclivities. The pressure came upon the charge of spiritualism, the belief in which they claim influenced him in the bestowing of his bequests, and made him, on that subject at least, to all intents insane. One of the Fox mediums is here to testify on this point, and the interesting points of the trial are now at hand.

NEW YORK CANAL-FRAUDS

The Indictment Against George D. Lord.

BUFFALO, N. Y., Sept. 21.—George D. Lord and William H. Bowman, of Rochester, arrived here to-day at 2 p. m. in charge of officers sent from this city for their arrest, accompanied by their attorney, W. F. Cogswell, of Rochester, and were arraigned before Judge Clinton. The charges against Lord are bribery and conspiracy.

Bail was fixed at $25,000 on the charge of bribery, and at $5,000 on the charge of conspiracy, Thomas Leighton, of Rochester, qualifying as bondsman.

W. H. Bowman was next arraigned for conspiracy with George D. Lord and others. He pleaded not guilty, and was admitted to bail in the sum of $5,000, his surety being Charles O. Morse, of Rochester.

The indictment against Lord covered fifty-two pages of legal cap, and contains seven counts, in substance as follows:

That on the 1st day of February, 1871, John Hand owned a claim against the State of New York for work done for the State under three several contracts entered into by him: one for dredging Black Rock Harbor, one for dredging the Erie Basin, and one for dredging the Ohio Basin. That the price paid and to be paid for said work and dredging was insufficient to pay for the expenses incurred in doing said work, and that the claim of said Hand for compensation over and above the price agreed to be paid by the State was a large amount, viz., $35,415.14. That it was understood and agreed between Hand and Lord that to obtain the allowance and payment of the claim, an act authorizing payment of the same must be passed by the Legislature. That for the purpose of procuring the enactment of the law authorizing payment of the claim a bill entitled An act for the relief of John Hand must be introduced in the Legislature and Assembly, and was such a matter as might be brought before Lord in his official capacity as a member of the Assembly. That as such member of the Assembly, on the 23d of February, 1871, at Buffalo, he did feloniously, willfully, and corruptly receive and accept from Hand an agreement and assignment made by Hand, whereby Hand assigned and promised and agreed to pay to Lord, as such member of Assembly, two-thirds of any and all additional moneys over and above the amounts provided to be paid by the express terms of the several contracts of Hand with the people of the State of New York on the several contracts as stated above that might be paid or awarded to be paid on account of any additions or award by the Board of Canal Commissioners to Hand by being introduced and brought before the Assembly and Legislature upon its becoming a law; and that Lord, a member of the Assembly, might have, collect, and receive all moneys paid and awarded to be paid to Hand by the proper officers of the State to pay the same, and that the assignment and agreement obtained as aforesaid, willfully, and corruptly received and accepted by Lord, with the understanding by Lord that his official action, as member of the Assembly, upon said bill, was to be influenced thereby, to wit: That Lord, as such member of Assembly, would support, favor, and vote for the passage of said bill so introduced into the Assembly when the same should be put upon its passage therein, against the form of the statute in such cases made and provided. That the bill entitled "The act for the relief of John Hand" was introduced into the Legislature and Assembly as aforesaid, on the 1st day of February, 1871, was passed on the 19th of April, 1871, and that Lord, as a member of the Assembly, willfully, corruptly, and feloniously gave his official influence and vote in favor of said bill and its passage, and when it was introduced and passed by the Assembly. That one Lewis Bennett was interested in Hand's claim, and had charge, management, and superintendence of said works; that Bennett and Hand claimed the price to be paid by the State to Hand was inadequate. That Hand had an equitable and just claim against the State for the additional sum of $35,415.14 on account of three several contracts, and that to obtain the allowance and payment of this amount by the State an agreement was entered into at the city of Buffalo, Feb. 8, 1871, between Bennett, Hand, and George D. Lord, as a member of the Assembly, that a bill must and should be introduced into, and passed by, the Legislature and Assembly authorizing, requiring, and directing the payment of the said amount. The fifth clause charges the receiving, accepting, and entertaining a proposition by Lord from Bennett for two-thirds of his allowance, spoken of before, and charges that this was received by Lord for his official vote, action, and influence, and that Lord was a member of the Assembly, on the 9th day of February, 1871, at Buffalo, received of and from Lewis J. Bennett his promise and understanding to make and furnish George D. Lord a gift and thing of value, to wit: The agreement and promise of Hand to give and pay to one John Riley two-thirds of the amount expected to be awarded as additional allowance expected to be awarded as before set forth, and this promise of Hand was accepted by Lord as a member of the Assembly, with the understanding that his official action was to be influenced thereby.

Lewis Bennett and Thaddeus C. Davis, of Buffalo, were in town, arraigned on charges of conspiracy to defraud the State of New York, and were admitted to bail in the sum of $5,000 each to appear from day to day.

RELIGIOUS NEWS.

THE IRA BROWN TRIAL.

The investigation of the charges preferred against Ira Brown by C. A. Maydwell was begun last night in the Ada Street Methodist Church. The members of the Committee were: H. F. Lazier, Charles W. Barnes, William T. Smith, A. Scranton, Dr. T. C. Duncan, A. J. Bell, Brother White, Brother Lindsley, Brother Gage, Brother Richardson, and Brother Powers. The defendant, Ira Brown, and his attorney, Morton Culver, were in attendance, and there was a good muster of the members of the congregation.

The Rev. A. Gurney stated that he was authorized to preside at the trial, and accordingly took the chair.

Devotional exercises were then held, and after other preliminaries the President read the charges and specifications, which have already appeared in THE TRIBUNE.

When the defendant was called upon for his plea, Mr. Culver asked for the reading of the commission by which the Court was held. This was done and Mr. Culver then objected to the Court proceeding any further, as the authority was insufficient; no time or place for the trial was specified.

The President overruled this objection, as he was authorized to try cases any time during his year of office.

Mr. Culver entered an exception to the jurisdiction of the Court, and then made formal objections to the charges, and nearly all the specifications, which were severally overruled.

The examination of the committee-men was next undertaken by Mr. Culver. They all knew more or less about the matter. Some a limited prejudice against the defendant, and one important individual, in answer to the usual question, said he thought if the charges were true Brown ought to be "bounced,"—a remark which greatly tickled the audience.

Objections were entered to Rev. H. Gage and T. C. Duncan "for cause," and both gentlemen were excused from service on the Committee. Their places were not supplied, as five is a sufficient number, according to the discipline of the church, to try such cases.

Mr. James Frake, attorney for the Church, then addressed the jury, going over the facts connected with the trouble. They believed that the various suits against the church were instituted by defendant with a view to injure it, and that he had attempted to bribe members of the press to color up matters from his standpoint.

In cross-examination witness said this occurred a few minutes before the legal injunction was served.

Mr. E. F. Stoer testified to a conversation held with Brown, during which the latter said he had induced Thomas to "go back" on the Trustees of the church. Defendant also said he had employed Thomas in his office, but was scarcely able to define his duty.

The reporter of THE TRIBUNE was next called and stated that defendant had on one occasion offered him $25 to "write up" the church and tone down anything uncanny which attached to him in connection with his recent "bounce" by the Rev. Mr. Deming.

The witness was subjected to a stiff but stupid cross-examination by defendant's counsel, who, like many other petitfoggers, thinks a great deal can be effected by a few greenbacks.

Mr. R. W. Vervey deposed that Brown had characterized the church fight as a mean, dirty business, and that himself and party would continue bringing suits until the church was beaten.

The inquiry was adjourned to this evening.

THE FIRST CHURCH.

It is not yet settled who the new pastor of the First Methodist Church is to be. The Board wish to retain Dr. Thomas, and if that is impossible will then turn their attention to C. G. Trusdell, Superintendent of the Relief and Aid Society. Some of the members favor the Rev. Mr. Jewett, of the First Church at Aurora, who will probably be called if neither of the others can be secured. The Rev. Mr. Caldwell, of Joliet, who has been spoken of in connection with the First Church, is the candidate for Ash Street Church. There is, however, a considerable feeling in his favor for the First Church in case Dr. Thomas cannot be retained.

The Rev. J. M. Caldwell has for the past two years been connected with the First Methodist Church of Joliet. He came to the Church under anything else than favorable auspices, for at the time the congregation was divided, one party seeking the establishment of another church, and the other adhering firmly to the old organization. He entered upon his work there with a deep earnestness, and eschewing all bias, which was an extremely difficult task under the circumstances, he has succeeded in almost doubling the size of the congregation, and in awakening a new religious interest, which is felt throughout the city. He is a gentleman of fair natural ability, a close student, and an humble and devout Christian. He is full of energy, possessed of good social qualities, and although not a man of the common people, is looked up to and calculated to win the esteem of those among whom he labors, even outside of his church relations. In the pulpit he is plain, practical, and impressive, and by his industry and religious zeal has won an enviable reputation as a revivalist.

CHRIST CHURCH.

A meeting was held last evening at Christ Church for the purpose of electing delegates to the Synodical Convention to be held in this city Sept. 29. Mr. William Aldrich, Senior Warden, presided, and Dr. J. N. Hyde acted as Secretary.

Bishop Cheney, Mr. C. S. Hutchins, and Mr. Charles Follansbee were appointed to nominate delegates, and they reported the following:

Delegates—Gurdon L. Hubbard, William E. Wheeler, Sam H. Moore, Levi C. Merrick, Alfred S. Barton, Charles H. Lunt, Dr. C. R. Hyde, Charles S. Field, Henry A. Porter, James W. Finlay, J. W. Harrell, C. C. Greenly, L. P. Morehouse, William Edmonds, Henry L. Hatch, C. P. Buckingham, P. F. Chase, Dr. Charles R. E. Koch.

Alternates—Peter Van Schaack, Charles Farzo, James H. Gilbert, John H. Mott, Dr. H. F. Hurlbut, Dr. Aaron Gibbs, E. A. Hibbard, John N. Staples, John Benham, Henry White, F. W. Tourtellotte, Josiah Stiles, Charles B. Maurau, Henry Sumner, Dodge, W. Keith, Charles Follansbee, Sr., John H. Bowers, Lawson A. Pierce.

The report was accepted and the meeting adjourned.

THE HALSTED STREET M. E. CHURCH.

Messrs. T. W. Harvey, F. R. Bradley, H. J. Thompson, John Culver, S. A. Kean, D. R. Dyche, O. Huse, E. J. Decker, H. W. Matthews, and Perley Lowe, prominent Methodists of this city, have undertaken a work which is set forth in the following circular:

We have undertaken to erect a block on Halsted Street M. E. Church property, on Halsted street, near Canalport avenue, at a cost of about $25,000. A part of the amount—say $10,000—we shall borrow, and depend upon the liberality of the people for the balance. In the building, which will be nearly 100 feet square, we provide an audience-room adapted both for church, Sunday-school, and social purposes. There will also be four stores and basements, and a hall and several offices. This arrangement will give to the Halsted Street M. E. Church society an audience-room, parsonage, and janitor's services; and when the loan is paid, which will require about ten years, the income will be used in missionary and charitable work in the crowded portions of the city, so that your donation now will not only help place this society on a substantial basis, but will do good in similar work for many years to come. Halsted Street Church is the only English-speaking evangelical church in a neighborhood of about 16,000 people.

DUBUQUE.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

DUBUQUE, Ia., Sept. 23.—The Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church is in session and disposing of routine business delegated to the several committees.

HE FINANCIAL PROBLEM.

II.

To the Editor of The Chicago Tribune:

CHICAGO, Sept. 21.—Once more I desire space in your columns to bring to the notice of *thinkers* about Finance (not tinkers of currency) three points in which existing Finance seems to me to be deficient, or in error.

And I would like to have a few axiomatic truths kept in mind, as: (a.) "*Value is purchasing power.*" (b.) "*The value of all commodities is governed by the law of supply and demand,*"—this formula necessarily including all the influence of cost of production, for increased cost diminishes demand, and diminished cost increases supply, many things often exchanging for much more, and others for much less, than the cost of their production. (c.) "*Gold and silver are only commodities.*"

1. Finance errs in supposing that gold (or silver) as *the standard of value*, possesses inherently a certain fixedness of intrinsic value that cannot change or be changed (except the slow changes caused by *relative* increase or decrease of the total supply from the mines of the world), as compared with the entire volume of other commodities, each seeking exchange with the other—which slow changes of value being *inevitably* through the action of the law of supply and demand, must be accepted *as such* in all systems of Finance)—that is, Finance errs in supposing that *all other* changes of relative value between gold and other commodities, are *always* in the commodities and *never* in the gold. I mean to say that the value of the gold may and does change just as the value of other commodities does under variable influences constantly acting, other than the above exception, and that the contrary doctrine, as I think, leads to some of the fundamental errors of past and present financial systems.

2. Finance errs when it makes the measure of value gold (and silver in small sums), the sole legal tender, or lawful medium of exchange to pay debts—"specie payment on demand." This enacted impossibility works a great deal of unnecessary mischief, and is only very remotely, inwardly or deeply actively the cause of keeping credit at par with gold when it is so at par, or apparently at. The demand for gold thus created, and at times made active, must and does increase its value in proportion to the intenseness of this demand, else there is no such thing as science in finance.

3. This science errs in making a distinction between the different forms of exchange-medium-of-exchange, which are in use exchanging commodities everywhere and liquidating debt; and errs also in making a distinction between other commodities and gold and silver, as *commodities* in the practical working of specie-paying actual demand finance; thus mixing things that ought to be kept entirely distinct, and must be so kept if we are ever to have a system of finance working satisfactorily in harmony with natural law. I mean to say that Finance is in error in not recognizing the fact—*a scientific, philosophical, and fatal fact*—that in this financial problem, *credit—all credit* is the factor upon one side, and *all commodities*, including gold and silver, are the factors on the other side of this *undivided* problem. This mixing of gold and credit in the financial system is fatally evil, not limiting the relation between the two just as the relation between the two sexes is limited naturally, so far as the office of exchange is concerned; gives a very variable value to the gold at certain times unnecessarily (this shall be logically and scientifically demonstrated), and therefore, together with the same effect under Head 2, makes it a very unjust measure of value.

Now, I wish not to be misapprehended here: *I do not say* that gold cannot be steadily and just measure of value, for I do know and believe that it is the best, in every respect, measure of value that the world has had, or can have; but I do say that it is not, as it is, the best estate it must *be left to come to*, if we are to have the natural law of supply and demand. What I do say is: that existing financial systems destroy its natural steadiness of value.

The "authorities" and teachers of the science have not seen this important truth—that the value of gold in the existing systems of finance does fluctuate very greatly, *and blindly* (which is the reason, perhaps, that it has not been before perceived); these erroneous idea of fixed intrinsic value (at any present time) also adding to prevent this discovery.

The value of gold is now always constantly acted upon by two diametrically opposite influences, and the natural steadiness of value that it otherwise would have is thereby destroyed, factitiously changed, which ought not to be. If gold is to be the measure of all other values, it ought to be subject to no changes of value except the "inevitable" and very slow ones spoken of under Head 1, so that it may be the most just measure attainable.

The two opposing influences that I speak of, are: *on one side* the various demands for gold (and silver), as for use in the arts; for use as a convenient and customary medium of exchange—one or two commodities against hundreds of thousands possibly, as the case may be; this demand is suddenly and greatly increased; and the degree of the force of this neutralizing influence of credit is very much changed, lessened, *it acts on the other side*; and the value of the gold *must* also change spasmodically, else there is no such thing as science in finance.

And there can be no approximately correct test or measure of the *degree* of this change at any time or in any way. Neither can there be any such test or measure of the degree of the force of these two opposing influences, which are thus acting constantly upon the value of the measure (gold) by delivery; but it is a measure fixed, and the only measure, that these changes in value. All other commodities being subject to constant and frequent and irregular changes of value relative to each other, and to gold at its natural, steady value, cannot therefore be relied upon to test or measure these changes in the value of gold (its measure), except perhaps loosely and uncertainly by estimating general averages.

The only remedy is, to put an end to these factitiously-produced variations in the value of the measure; to restore it from the adverse influences of these opposing forces, by dealing with it in finance as in it used under my third head; but still adhering to it fixedly as the one only possible, steady measure of value if well used; unless we take the kindred commodity, silver, as the measure, which might do. This method will surely solve the problem for all some of the present practical difficulties of this puzzling financial problem.

If any persons *doubt is if this can be done*, because it has not here before been done, or its importance seen in nearly 6,000 years of financial and barter experience, let me remind them that the circulation of the blood in the human body was unknown for nearly as long a period; that the simple truths of astronomy which every school-child now understands; the daily and yearly motions of the earth on which these sk