

THE REPORTER.

By WHITE & WILLIAMS.

D. G. GRAHAM, Associate Editor.

\$1.50 PER YEAR STRICTLY CASH IN ADVANCE.

Entered at the P. O. at Downers Grove, Ill., as second class mail matter.

THE ILLINOIS LIBEL LAW.

A bill has been introduced in the lower house of the general assembly by Representative Revelle to repeal the existing libel law which should not be passed.

The statute enacted by the legislature two years ago was drafted by Axel F. Hatch at the request of the Illinois Press Association. Its object was to find in some degree a remedy for the injustice to newspaper proprietors of the then existing law of libel, which inflicted the same penalty for a simple mistake as that imposed upon a malicious libeler. While tending to discourage speculative suits, the present law in no way affects, limits or abridges the criminal statutes against defamers of character, nor does it interfere in any way with the full and complete recovery by civil suit of actual damages sustained.

There has been no complaint whatever with the working of the law, and the agitation for its repeal is prompted wholly by the desire of machine politicians to wreak revenge on the newspapers of the state for criticisms fully warranted by facts, and against which there could be no recourse under any libel law at all in harmony with the spirit of the age and with freedom of the press.

Thorough consideration and opportunity for full discussion of the merits of the present law were given at the time of its passage two years ago, and the measure should not be repealed now without giving to the public full reason for such repeal.

Residents of the North Side want some arrangement made whereby they can communicate with the pumping station and sound the alarm in case of fire. During the late fire residents of that portion of the village were either comfortably sleeping or leisurely preparing for the morning meal—the sound of the fire bell not being sufficiently loud to disturb their domestic occupations. A resident suggests a system of fire alarms connecting with the pumping station and the village hall and when a fire occurs warning to be given by blowing the whistle at the water works. This would be an excellent plan provided the requisite amount of steam was up to blow the whistle. Failing in this it would be well, as another resident suggests, for the person ringing the fire bell to put a little force in the stroke of the hammer on the bell.

If the private postal bill goes through the Senate, every person will have a right to manufacture his own postal cards within certain restrictions. They must be of the same weight as the government's and of as good a quality, but the design is optional. To each, however, a one cent stamp must be attached. The popularity of the private postal cards in Europe has led to its demand in this country where at present it is unlawful to send private postal cards. It will be remunerative to the government as saving the cost of a postal and the sale of a one cent stamp. What a grand opportunity the advertisers will have of inventing postal cards.

Probably the immigration bill which has just been recommended by the house after a brisk fight and on a close vote will meet with the approval of a majority of American citizens. The bill proposes that no immigrant who cannot read and write either the English or some other language shall be permitted to enter. The educational test is not only the best for building up the country, but the best for those persons who want immigration restricted on general principles. It will materially lessen the influx of foreigners, but the class of aliens barred out will be the undesirable class. The others will be as welcome to these hospitable shores as ever.

The clerks of DuPage DeKalb, Grundy, Bureau and Kendall counties are arranging for a convention of circuit clerks to be held for the purpose of devising a plan for changing the practice, or rather, for taking the initiative in preparing a uniform plan by which the present perplexing task of making long drawn out fee bills can be simplified and avoided by substituting some plan by which a specific sum can be collected at the commencement of each suit in lieu of all costs in each case.

Col. Charles P. Bryan of this district, has introduced a bill in the general assembly which, if passed, will prove of great benefit in securing full and true assessments of notes, bonds and other evidences of indebtedness. The measure requires township assessors to stamp bonds, notes and other evidences of indebtedness, and making the same uncollectable unless so stamped.

The dearth of support caused the demise of another Wheaton newspaper. They sprung up at the county seat like a mushroom in the night, only to succumb to the blinding rays of non-support. The Intelligencer, established about two months ago, has given up the ghost.

Barr Bros. desire to announce that they are prepared to saw your wood with power saw, anywhere at any time. We also wish to state that they carry a full line of firewood, sawed any size ready for stove, any quantity reasonable.

Liver Pills

Like biliousness, dyspepsia, headache, constipation, sour stomach, indigestion are promptly cured by Hood's Pills. They do their work

Hood's Pills

easily and thoroughly. Best after dinner pills. 25 cents. All druggists.

Prepared by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

The only Pill to take with Hood's Saraparilla.

SUPERVISORS' PROCEEDINGS.

Proceedings of the board of supervisors of DuPage county, at a special meeting called by the chairman of the board, on Friday, January 29th, 1897.

Chairman. All members present.

Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

All bills and communications on file were read and referred to the proper committees.

Moved by Supervisor Hammerschmidt that the resolution of the committee, the county officers be dispensed with. Carried.

Moved by Supervisor Hammerschmidt that report of building committee be read. Carried.

Supervisor Betts then read the following report of Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen of the Board of Supervisors:

Your building committee beg leave to submit the following report on furniture for the DuPage county courthouse. We have examined all furniture in use, and in view of construction in roller-shutter, file cases, drawers for blanks, etc., have requested bids for the same from several parts which were received and opened on the 26th inst. just among which is the Grand & Evans Co., St. Louis, Art Co. and one from the Grand & Evans Co., Milwaukee, for the sum of \$166.35 which is \$95.03 less than the bid of the St. Louis Art Co. your committee would highly advise more time to examine the material furniture in use, and to award the contract to the lowest and best bidder. We have also received bids and examined wood furniture in desks, counters, chairs, tables, judge's platform, jury boxes, etc., and find bid from J. H. Kampf, Chicago, \$1,200.00, and bid from C. H. Hay, Sandries, per bill, \$1,243.44. After examining the quality of furniture scheduled, and price being \$208.46 lower than any other bid, we would recommend that the contract for wood furniture be awarded to said J. H. Kampf.

THOMAS BETTS, Chairman Building Com.

Moved by Supervisor McClinton that report of committee on furniture be adopted and J. H. Kampf be awarded contract for wood furniture. Carried.

Moved by Supervisor Chandler that board take a recess of 20 minutes for members to examine plans of different metallic furniture firms.

Moved by Supervisor Barbard that report of committee on metallic furniture be adopted. Carried.

Moved by Supervisor Christie that meeting adjourn until 2 o'clock p.m. Carried.

Moved by Supervisor McClinton that for low rates of payment on fees and salaries be accepted and adopted. Carried.

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