

but I infer that he washes his hands of it by turning the subject over to the tax department.

I note your claim of the company having paid their proportion of the special assessments. If my information is correct, it has been their policy to enter objections to every special assessment made by the City of Highland Park, in which they are interested, and by delays and other legal devices force a reduction of the amount assessed to them, before the work could proceed, and never paying in proportion to the other property owners; also that your company are now, and have been for the past two years or more, holding up an improvement on St. Johns' avenue, a street extensively traveled by the majority of our citizens in going to and from your depot, for the purpose of largely reducing the assessment made upon your company by the commissioners. I am not complaining, as it is the right of your company if they think proper to exercise it; but I submit there is nothing in your company's past record to justify any claims of a friendly consideration for the interests of Highland Park.

The officials of your company assured several of our citizens two years or more ago, that it would erect a new passenger depot, and make several improvements in its yard at Highland Park. Our citizens were greatly pleased at this announcement, and accepted it as an evidence of its interest and pride in their little city. Not a thing has been done in that direction. One among the most important stations on the Milwaukee division of your road, from which your company derive an annual revenue, exceeding any general tax ever levied by the city council, is neglected while stations of minor importance are richly provided for. Is this because our people will put up with anything? Is it necessary to become "chronic kickers" before your company will listen to their just complaints? Must we fight for all the consideration we obtain? I would prefer it otherwise. A broad and generous policy will produce better results in the end, than constant friction. I have done my full share, during 23 years' residence in Highland park, towards promoting a spirit of harmony between the city and your company, believing it for the best interest of all concerned; but if the present policy of your company toward us is to continue, it must strain our relations, to say the least.

I began life in the west forty-two years ago, in the employ of the old

Galena and Chicago Union railroad company in Chicago, and since that early day, many years of my life have been connected with railway service and management, in consequence of which I have been enabled to look on both sides of all questions arising between your company and the city and have always been disposed to deal fairly with both.

As you are not responsible for the policy of your company, I will esteem it a favor if you will kindly cause this letter to be placed before President Hughitt at your early convenience, and remain,

Yours very truly,
(Signed) J. C. CUSHMAN.

W. TILLMAN, SR.

Father W. Tillman, Sr., an honored and highly esteemed citizen of Highland Park, died on Oct. 1st. 1897, after a brief illness, at the age of 70 years, 10 months and 29 days. He was born in Bliedenhausen, Germany, Nov. 13, 1826, came to America in 1847, and lived for many years in Waukegan. In 1870 he moved to Highland Park, where he has faithfully tilled the soil and labored hard while he was able. His two sons, William, Jr. and Richard, are also hard working men. Father Tillman was a beloved member of the First United Evangelical church here, and the large attendance at the funeral services in that church on Sunday afternoon, conducted by his pastor (Dr. H. H. Thoren), was an expression of the esteem in which the departed was held in this community. The remains were interred in the North Northfield cemetery, where they await the resurrection morn. He was the oldest member of his church society, and this was the first funeral in the new church. By his death we mourn the loss of an honest and industrious man, and an upright conscientious christian. Mr. Tillman leaves one brother, (Rev. Tillman of the Missouri M. E. conference) who was present at the funeral, five children and twelve grandchildren.

The influence of this exemplary life lives on, and may the good be multiplied and intensified by the memory of the touch with such a child of God.

A fire alarm was turned in Friday afternoon for a blaze started in the ravine down near Mr. Millard's. The fire department turned out in good shape and soon extinguished it.

There was a fine bit of humor in Alderman Cushman's congratulations of Mayor Evans on his safe return from Joliet Tuesday evening.

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