

to do with those packed in trolley cars, elevated roads or suburban trains."

Please Explain.

We find the charge is still made by many honest, intelligent, and well meaning people that Alderman Davidson is personally responsible for the long delay in paving St. Johns Avenue. We have no doubt many such sincerely believe it although the originators of such accusations know perfectly well, or have had the opportunity of knowing well, that there is no truth in it. We ask those of our readers who still think the charge is correct to explain the following proposition:

HIGHLAND PARK, ILL., June, 1898.
In the County Court of Lake County, Illinois. In the matter of the application of the City of Highland Park for the confirmation of a special assessment for grading, curbing, and paving St. Johns avenue in said City with Macadam from the south line of Laurel Avenue to the south line of Sheridan Road.

We, the undersigned, owners of property fronting on St. Johns avenue along the line of said improvement, do hereby consent and agree each with the other and with said City of Highland Park to withdraw all objections to the confirmation of said assessment and the proceedings thereunder provided the assessments against our respective lots of land are so modified that after the cost of paving that portion of said street occupied by the Bluff City Electric Street Railway, being a space fifteen and one-half feet wide, shall be first deducted, the remainder of the total cost of said improvement shall be charged equally upon all the property fronting on the line of said improvement in proportion to its frontage, and if said assessment is so reduced or a recast assessment is made conforming to said reduction, we agree to make no objections thereto and do hereby authorize our attorneys to withdraw all objections and consent to confirmation thereof.

Name.	Description of property.
Northwestern Military Academy, by H. P. Davidson, President.....	Lot 7, Block 60
T. H. Spencer.....	Lot 1, Block 60
Sarah B. C. Emerson.....	Lot 1, Block 65
On the condition that in determining the above frontage the frontage on my lot is made not to exceed two hundred and fifty feet.	
Francis Thorp.....	Lots 22, 23, 24, Block 50

The principal bone of contention on the part of the property owners on St Johns avenue was the fact that the proposed improvement was unnecessarily costly, included a parkway which they did not want, and about two-thirds of the whole cost was assessed on the east side. It was for this last reason mainly and for others incidentally, that they went into the court. In their position all the property owners were a unit. To solve this problem, when a senior alderman of the third ward two years ago secured the strip of land opposite the Northwestern Military Academy, a piece of land practically worthless and already saddled with over \$2000 assessment, he went to Mr. K. R. Smoot and had him draw up the above paper, whereby he voluntarily

assumed nearly \$1,000 additional assessment on the strip in order to reduce the property on the east side opposite to it to one-half the whole cost, less the part to be paid by the trolley. This was done on condition that the property owners should take the matter out of court and pave the street. As this was the main question at issue the property owners readily assented and agreed to waive the matter of the objectionable parkway. The document was signed by all the property owners except the Chicago & Northwestern railway Co., and Mr. Thompson. The paper was then sent to Mr. Thompson's agent in Chicago to secure his signature. At just this point the council took a very unfortunate position in the face of remonstrance. The council had previously taken nearly one-half of the street and made a present of it to the Bluff City Electric Street Railway Company in the form of a franchise. While the above paper was in the hands of Mr. Thompson's agent the council, not satisfied with previous actions, granted about four feet more of the street to the trolley and authorized them to place their poles on the east side, saying to the property owners through their leader, the ex-alderman of the Second Ward, that they were not entitled to any consideration on that street and they should not have any. The result was two of the property owners immediately demanded that their names should be withdrawn from the above paper; the others never did withdraw them.

Now we ask, how do those who still insist that Alderman Davidson was responsible for the delay in paving that street explain their charges in the light of the above paper, dated June, 1898? We grant this is all now a back number and we insert it here only because the opposition to Alderman Davidson's re-election persist in harping upon it. But this is all settled now; St. Johns avenue is bound to be improved this spring and the property owners now are only waiting for the administration to settle with the Chicago and Northwestern railway, which they have assumed the responsibility of doing.

LOCAL BRIEFS.

Mrs. Keeley of Dayton, Ohio, is visiting her sister, Mrs. W. A. James.

See Sweetland's fine assortment of Easter cards. They are the finest in town.

Miss Muffat of this city takes the place of Miss Kittie Kenny as cashier at Gieser Brothers.

Judge Fullerton has rented his palatial and elegant "Ravinoaks" for the season to a Chicago millionaire.

An electric car was off the track and delayed traffic a while Monday afternoon near the north end of town.

Rev. and Mrs. C. N. Dubs, formerly of the Evangelical church in this city and Deerfield, go soon to China as missionaries.

Vernon Cassard has sold his summer home on the Exmoor Club grounds to W. T. Baker of the Chicago Board of Trade.

Use Sweetland's Dandruff Cure and Hair Tonic. It will stop hair falling out in a short time; removes dandruff; it is a natural food for the scalp.

The family of W. R. Kenny, after many years residence in the Park have gone to Ravenswood for their future home. Mr. Kenny is in the government service in Havana superintending the sewerage of that city.

Alderman Allen Goodridge Clam-pitt has taken the Kenny residence, which the Brands are decorating for early occupation. Glad to have Mr. Clam-pitt move into the city and be "folks among folks".

W. B. White has returned from his winter in Florida. We are sorry to hear he has rented for the season his beautiful home, but congratulate A. B. Spalding on securing the same for the season. It is a charming place.

The old Reliable laundry building up near the Electric Light plant has been dismantled and the brick part torn down so the electric road tracks can be laid there at once. The new laundry building up on Vine avenue is progressing rapidly. It is a large substantial brick structure and will be good for a term of years. With this equipment the St. Peter boys will do a fine business.