

JOINT MEETINGS ON THE GREGG BEQUEST.

FIRST SESSION—JUNE 8, 1878.

The Common Council and Board of Aldermen of the City of Indianapolis met in the Council Chamber, on Saturday evening, at half-past seven o'clock, pursuant to the following call :

To the Common Council and Board of Aldermen of the City of Indianapolis :

Gentlemen.—You are requested to meet this evening, June 8th, 1878, at 7½ o'clock P. M.

I have a dispatch from the City Attorney, from Richmond, Virginia, stating that he has an offer of a compromise of the Gregg-will case, recommending its acceptance, and we wish your advice in the premises.

Respectfully,

J. CAVEN, Mayor.

PRESENT—Hon. John Caven, Mayor, in the Chair. Also, Aldermen Chandler, Coburn, Foster, Grubbs, Mussmann, Piel, Ridenour, Snider, Stratford, and Wiles—10. And Councilmen Anderson, Bermann, Brown, Cummings, Layman, Marsee, Maus, Morris, Morse, McGinty, McKay, Off, Showalter, Steeg, Walker, Wiese, and Wright—17. Total present—27.

ABSENT—Councilmen Bruner, Dill, O'Brien, Reading, Reasner, Rodibaugh, Sindlinger, and Tucker—8.

Mayor Caven briefly addressed the meeting in explanation of the matter by it to be considered, and stated that he had invited the Board of School Commissioners to be present and participate in the deliberations.

With the consent of the Convention, the City Clerk, as Secretary, called the roll of said Board, with the following result :

PRESENT—Hon. W. A. Bell (president), and Commissioners Austin H. Brown, Robert Browning, H. G. Carey, John Coburn, George Merritt, Peter Routier, and Clement Vonnegut—8.

ABSENT—Commissioners Joseph J. Bingham (secretary), C. C. Hines, and William F. Reasner—3.

The Secretary then read the following telegram from City Attorney Hawkins :

Richmond, Va., June 8.

Hon. John Caven :

We can compromise Gregg-will case so that, after payment of costs, we will re-

ceive one-third of estate—about \$25,000. Esq. Sullivan and counsel here, as well as myself, are strongly of the opinion that we should do so, as the case is very complicated. Telegraph me your opinion.

R. O. HAWKINS.

Alderman Ridenour, for the purpose of properly bringing the matter before the meeting, for discussion, moved that the suggestion of the City Attorney be accepted and approved.

By request of School Commissioner Coburn, the Secretary read the first communication from William Sullivan, Esq., as presented to the Common Council on July 16th, 1877 [see Council Proceedings 1877-1878, pages 243 to 247]. Also, the second communication from same gentleman, as presented to the Common Council on August 13th, 1878 [see Council Proceedings 1877-1878, pages 339 to 343].

Commissioner Coburn advised delay in accepting compromise terms offered; and, on his recommendation, it was ordered that a telegram be sent to City Attorney Hawkins, asking said officer to secure a reasonable postponement of closing case by compromise, until this city could be made more thoroughly acquainted with the details of the proposed compromise.

On Alderman Stratford's motion, the motion made by Alderman Ridenour was laid on the table.

Alderman Stratford moved (seconded by Councilman McKay) that a select committee of three, to consist of one School Commissioner, one Councilman, and one Alderman be appointed by the President, and be charged to immediately correspond with the City Attorney by telegraph and mail. Which motion was adopted, and Mayor Caven appointed School Commissioner Coburn, Councilman A. L. Wright, and Alderman Stratford as such select committee.

On School Commissioner Merritt's motion, His Honor, Mayor Caven, was added to above select committee.

Alderman Foster suggested that select committee dispatch City Attorney Hawkins that this Convention was of the opinion that terms of proposed compromise were not entirely satisfactory according to its present understanding, and ask that gentleman as to what pressing emergency existed for now closing the case by accepting the offered proposition.

On Alderman Grubbs's motion, it was ordered that when this meeting adjourn, it adjourn to meet on next Monday evening.

On Councilman Wright's motion, the Presidents of the Common Council and Board of Aldermen were requested to convene Special Sessions

of their respective bodies immediately after the adjournment of this meeting.

On motion, the Joint Meeting then adjourned.

JOHN CAVEN, Mayor.

Attest: BENJ. C. WRIGHT, City Clerk.

SECOND SESSION—JUNE 10, 1878.

The Common Council, Board of Aldermen, and Board of School Commissioners of the City of Indianapolis met in the Council Chamber, at nine o'clock A. M., instead of the hour to which adjournment was had, by reason of the following call:

To the Board of Aldermen, Common Council, and Board of School Commissioners
of the City of Indianapolis:

Gentlemen:—The committee appointed by you at the meeting held on last Saturday evening, have received an important dispatch from City Attorney Hawkins, to which a prompt answer is required. You are, therefore, requested to meet in the Council Chamber this (Monday) morning at nine o'clock, for the purpose of considering said telegram and to give instructions to Mr. Hawkins through your committee.

Respectfully,

J. CAVEN, Mayor.

PRESENT—Hon. John Caven, Mayor, and President of the Joint Meeting, in the Chair; also, Aldermen Coburn, Foster, Grubbs, Mussmann, Piel, Ridenour, Snider, and Stratford—8; Councilmen Anderson, Bermann, Brown, Bruner, Cummings, Layman, Marsee, Morris, McKay, Off, Reading, Reasner, Rodibaugh, Showalter, Steeg, Walker, Wiese, and Wright—18; and School Commissioners Bell, Bingham, Brown, Browning, Carey, Coburn, Hines, Merritt, Reasner, Routier, and Vonnegut—11. Total present—47. N. B. Taylor, attorney of Board of School Commissioners, was also present, and was extended the usual courtesies.

ABSENT—Aldermen Chandler and Wiles—2; and Councilmen Dill, Maus, Morse, McGinty, O'Brien, Sindlinger, and Tucker—7. Total absent—9.

Hon. John Coburn, for the select committee appointed on Saturday evening, submitted the following report; which was duly received:

Indianapolis, June 10, 1878.

Gentlemen:—The undersigned Committee, appointed by you on Saturday night the 8th instant, to communicate with Messrs. Wm. Sullivan and Roscoe O. Hawkins, now in Richmond, Virginia, relative to the bequest of Thomas D. Gregg, deceased, respectfully report that, upon adjournment Saturday night, we at once sent the following dispatch:

To R. O. HAWKINS, Richmond, Va.:

At meeting of Aldermen, Councilmen, and School Board, we were appointed Committee to say before entertaining proposition to compromise, we want to know sit-

uation of case, and whether another will is produced. What delay can be obtained for consultation?

JOHN CAVEN.
JOHN COBURN.
I. W. STRATFORD.
A. L. WRIGHT.

The Committee also addressed a letter to Messrs. Sullivan and Hawkins by mail, making more explicit inquiries.

To the dispatch the following answer was received on yesterday (Sunday) afternoon:

Richmond, Va., June 9, 1878.

To Hon. JOHN CAVEN and others:

Case has been on trial before jury since Monday last, and evidence all in. Unless settled will have to proceed. I must give answer by to-morrow.

There is strong evidence of a will executed in 1876, by which we take only one-fifth. There are several complicated law questions involved. The estate is all personal property, and there is strong evidence that decedent's domicile was in New Hampshire. The law of that State requires three witnesses to will; and if the domicile is established as being in that State, both wills are void, and heirs-at-law living here take the estate. Counsel here most urgently advise the settlement, in which I join.

If compromised, balance of estate will be divided between Dallas county, Iowa, and the heirs-at-law. Answer.

R. O. HAWKINS.

We determined at once to call a meeting for this morning at 9 o'clock, and accordingly inserted notices in this morning's Sentinel and Journal, since prompt decision and action are necessary.

JOHN COBURN.
J. CAVEN.
I. W. STRATFORD.
A. L. WRIGHT.

On School Commissioner Bell's motion, the compromise proposition was accepted, and Hon. John Coburn was instructed to dispatch City Attorney Hawkins to that effect.

On School Commissioner Carey's motion, it was ordered that the city's representatives in Virginia be instructed to compromise on terms most favorable to this municipality.

On motion, the Joint Meeting then adjourned *sine die*.

. JOHN CAVEN, Mayor.

Attest: BENJ. C. WRIGHT, City Clerk.

PROCEEDINGS OF COMMON COUNCIL.

SPECIAL SESSION—JUNE 8, 1878.

The Common Council of the City of Indianapolis was assembled in Special Session, immediately after the adjournment of the preceding First Joint Meeting.

PRESENT—Hon. John Caven, Mayor, and, *ex officio*, President of the Common Council, in the Chair, and the following members: Councilmen Anderson, Bermann, Brown, Cummings, Layman, Marsee, Maus, Morris, Morse, McGinty, McKay, Off, Showalter, Steeg, Walker, Wiese, and Wright—17.

ABSENT—Councilman Bruner, Dill, O'Brien, Reading, Reasner, Rodibaugh, Sindlinger, and Tucker—8.

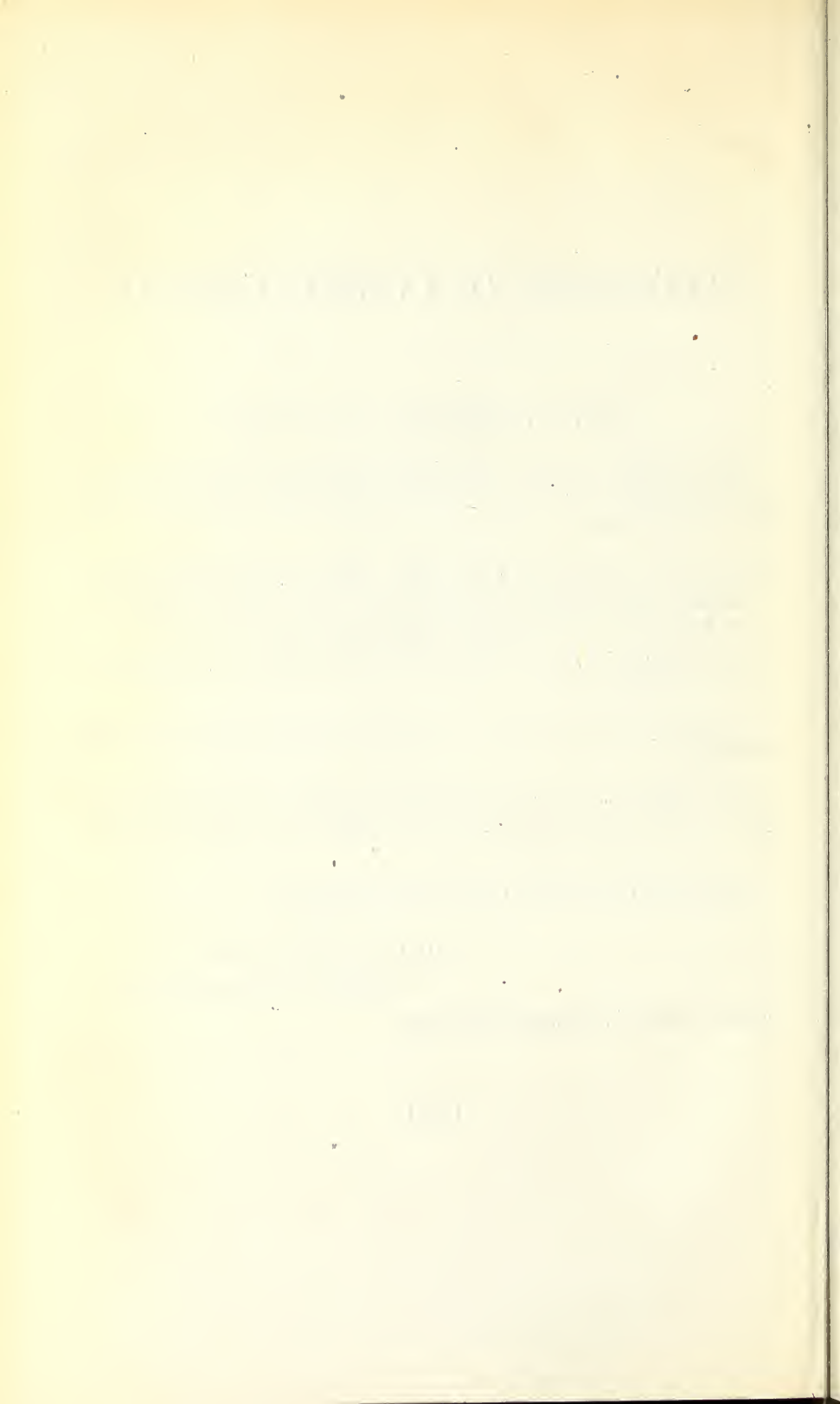
Councilman Wright offered the following motion; which was duly adopted:

Moved, That the City Clerk be directed to advertise for sealed proposals to do the city printing, advertising, publishing city delinquent-tax list, and furnishing stationery for the City of Indianapolis, for the ensuing year. Bids to be submitted at next meeting of the Council.

On motion, the Common Council then adjourned.

JOHN CAVEN, Mayor,
President of Common Council.

Attest: BENJ. C. WRIGHT, City Clerk.



PROCEEDINGS OF BOARD OF ALDERMEN.

SPECIAL SESSION—JUNE 8, 1878.

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Indianapolis was assembled in Special Session, immediately after the adjournment of the Common Council.

PRESENT—Hon. William D. Wiles, President, in the Chair, and Aldermen Chandler, Coburn, Foster, Grubbs, Mussmann, Piel, Ridenour, Snider, and Stratford—10.

ABSENT—None.

The following message was received from the Common Council :

To the Board of Aldermen :

Gentlemen.—At a Special Session of the Common Council, held this evening, the following motion (which I herewith transmit, for your action upon same) was duly adopted :

Moved, That the City Clerk be directed to advertise for sealed proposals to do the city printing, advertising, publishing city delinquent-tax list, and furnishing stationery for the City of Indianapolis, for the ensuing year. Bids to be submitted at next meeting of the Council.

Respectfully submitted,

BENJ. C. WRIGHT, City Clerk.

On motion, the action of the Common Council, in adopting the motion set forth in preceding message, was duly concurred in.

On motion, the Board of Aldermen then adjourned.

W. D. WILES, President.

Attest : GEO. T. BREUNIG, Clerk.