

## Mr. Earling Will Not Resign.

*Special to The New York Times.*

CHICAGO, Dec. 18.—A rumor was current in railroad circles in Milwaukee early today that A. J. Earling, President of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad, had tendered his resignation with a request that it be acted upon immediately. To-day Mr. Earling said that there was absolutely no truth in the rumor that he had resigned or intended to resign. He said he was unable to understand why the rumor had gained circulation.

### Brief Railroad Items.

The new freight classification of the Trunk Line Association has been issued. The classification, which makes many changes, both advances and reductions, will take effect Jan. 1, 1901.

Charles E. Lambert, General Passenger Agent of the West Shore, who has been suffering from erysipelas for over a month, although still quite weak, was about again yesterday and attended the Passenger Committee meeting of the Trunk Line Association.

Denial was made by President Fowler of the New York, Ontario and Western Railroad yesterday that his company is negotiating for additional coal properties. Mr. Fowler says that the company purchased all the properties contributory to its road before others began to buy.

In order to secure the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic in Denver next September, the Rock Island Route has served individual notice to all lines in Western Passenger Association territory to the effect that it will make a rate of one cent per mile to Denver and return.

Melville E. Ingalls, President of the Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago and St. Louis, said yesterday that the traffic situation in the territory through which his line passes is in excellent condition. "We are doing all the business we can handle," said Mr. Ingalls, "and our only trouble is that we cannot get cars enough to carry the freight. We are getting tariff rates right along, and there is no rate cutting, as far as I know, in our territory. That affliction seems to be confined mostly to Western roads."

## QUILL CLUB MEETING.

### Members Discuss the Subject, "What Our Crowded Districts Need."

The Quill Club had its eighty-seventh regular meeting at the Hotel Manhattan last evening. The Rev. Charles P. Fagnani presided. Following the dinner there was a discussion of "What Our Crowded Districts Need."

The Rev. Robert L. Paddock, after saying that he rejoiced that the red light in his district had gone out, spoke of the heroes and heroines who are living and fighting amid darkness, vice, and poverty. "With our freedom," he said, "would we not feel ashamed if we were not better men than they?" Picturing conditions on the east side, he said that the boys fear above all the "cop," which represents to them the law. And so, having only the crowded street and dark hallways for a playground the boy begins to drink, gamble, and frequent evil places.

"If we were in their places," he said, "we would probably go to the devil faster than they do."

After referring to the excellent work of the Settlements and urging the needs of model tenements, Mr. Paddock said: "There is danger in a locality where it is known that girls are being sold for \$40 and kept as though enslaved. As a club, agree to look into this thing and cast your votes, if necessary, for those who would not tolerate this state of affairs."

The Rev. William T. Elsing made a plea for better homes in the tenement districts. He told of a visit to Commissioner York, as a result of which the pushcarts were finally driven from Rivington Street on Sundays, and said that with the right sort of effort much could be done.

"You should serve God below Fourteenth Street as you labor to make money there," he said.