

mainly, of attending the bridges. But after the construction of the Oneida Street Bridge, it not only refused to support Spring Street Bridge, but, as was asserted, maliciously and wilfully run a vessel against it and broke it down. The West Warders considered that they had just cause for wrath and retaliation, and thereupon arose a great controversy. The Trustees of the West Ward claimed absolute jurisdiction, territorially, to the middle of Milwaukee River, and a resolution was brought forward in the Board of Trustees to that effect. But the Trustees of the South Ward joined with those of the East Ward—and the decision of the majority was that the river was common ground—that although it had two banks yet the water between was common territory, and to be held and occupied in common by all concerned. This was something of a damper to the valorous members of the West Ward. For, mind you, the object of gaining an agreement in Council by the West Warders, that the centre of the river was the boundary of each Ward, was that they might, under the right of absolute and undivided authority in their own dominions, and upon finding that the middle of the river was the boundary of the Ward, then proceed to remove exactly so much of all of the bridges as laid west of that line, out of the river. The proposition, however, after having been stoutly and ably argued, was lost. But under the old maxim, there is no great loss without some small gain, it was incidentally settled that the boundary of each Ward *did* actually go to the water's edge at low water mark, and here the West Warders took their stand—absolute authority and control in their own territory! The Chestnut Street Bridge was a huge structure, standing upon high massive abutments, with an immensely heavy draw, running off upon the west side, on a sort of rail-road track. It was found that the entire abutment on the west end of the bridge stood considerably upon the undisputed territory of the West Ward. Whereupon the Trustees of the West Ward ordered that so much of said bridge as rested upon and was located in said