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DECISIONS IN COMMERCIAL LAW.

YOUNG V. WARD.—When a married woman,
living in a house furnished by her husband and
supporting herself during his temporary absence
in search of employment, lets lodgings and sup-
plies necessities to the lodger, she cannot re-
cover from the lodger the money due as earned
by her in an employment or occupation in which
the husband has no proprietary interest, ac-
cording to the Court of Appeal.

BEATTIE V. WENGER.—The doctrine of pres-
sure, says the Court of Appeal, may still be
invoked in order to uphold a transaction im-
peached as a preference, when it is not attacked
within sixty days, or when an assignment for
the benefit of creditors is not made within that
time.

FREEMAN V. DICKENSON.—Leaving drain-
tiles in a pile at the side of a highway, while
repairs thereto are being lawfully made, is not
negligence, according to the Court of Appeal,
and does not constitute a nuisance, and no
action lies for injuries resulting from a horse
taking fright at the tiles and running away.

HARNWELL V. PARRY SOUND LUMBER CO.—
Where a book-keeper is engaged for the term
of one year, and his employment is continued
after the expiration of that time, there is no
presumption that it is to continue for another
year, says the Court of Appeal. The employer
may dismiss him at any time upon reasonable
notice, and in this case, there being no evidence
of usage to the contrary, three months' notice
was held to be reasonable.

PETMAN V. CITY OF TORONTO.—The exten-
sion of a street was petitioned for as a local im-
provement by the requisite number of owners,
and the petition was acceded to by the council,
he cost being estimated at \$14,000, and an
assessment for that sum being adopted by the
Court of Revision, after notice to the persons
interested. After some delay, the council pur-
chased the land required at a price much greater
than the estimate, and passed a by-law levying
over \$36,000 for the work. No work was done
on the ground, and no notice of the second
assessment was given. The Court of Appeal
decided that the by-law was invalid, and that
an opportunity of contesting this assessment
should have been given to the parties interested.

HOPE V. MAY.—An agreement by the debtor
to give to his creditor, upon default in payment
or upon demand, a chattel mortgage upon his
"present and future goods and chattels," con-
fers no title upon the creditors as against the
debtor's assignee for the benefit of creditors,
according to the Court of Appeal.

MUNICIPAL LIABILITY FOR STREET ACCIDENTS.

Edwin F. Byrne, while driving with a friend
in the city of Syracuse, on a street where there
were tracks of a surface railroad, finding the
road rough on one side of the street, made an
attempt to cross to the other side over an ele-
vation formed in the centre of the street on
which to lay tracks, and, while doing so, the
wagon was overturned and broken, and he was
thrown to the ground, sustaining quite severe
injuries to his shoulder and spine. The Court
of Appeals has affirmed a judgment in Byrne's
favor in his suit against the city of Syracuse,
holding that the fact that the obstruction was
placed by the railroad company did not exoner-
ate the city from liability, the obstruction
having been on the street a sufficient length
of time to arrest the attention of the proper
city officials. It was the duty of the city either
to require the railroad company to restore the
street to a reasonably safe condition, or to make
such restoration itself.

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