

## The United States

vs

Samuel C. Eason, Lavina C. Eason, Uriah M. Short, City of Grand Rapids, Myron H. Norton, Louisa M. Petts, Amos Rathbone, Leonard A. Merrill, Isaiah J. Whitfield, Susan A. More, Trustees of Westminster Presbyterian Church and Society of Grand Rapids, Frances E. Bonnell, Mary Chubb, Daniel F. Tower, Jacob C. More, John Crissman, Lavina E. Worts, George Kendall, Alonzo Platt, Elizabeth W. Powers, Erastus Spaulding and Ransom E. Wood.

On February 27th, 1874, Leonard A. Merrill, one of the defendants, appeared in Court and demanded a jury to assess the value of the property required by the Government. On March 2nd, 1874, the following jury was selected: Henry Grinnell, Darwin D. Cody, Julius Berkey, John T. Elliot, William D. Roberts, William H. Ramsey, Henry Jewett, Ezra T. Nelson, George A. Allen, James M. Barnett, William Morman and Arthur R. Antisdel.

The hearing was at once had, proofs were submitted, and the jury viewed the premises. Arguments of counsel and the charge of Judge Withey followed and on March 6th, 1874 the jury allowed \$68,064.85 to the owners of the premises as follows:

|                                      |             |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| Amos Rathbone .....                  | \$ 6,100.00 |
| Louisa M. Petts .....                | 5,969.00    |
| Mary Chubb .....                     | 7,021.10    |
| Westminster Presbyterian Church..... | 14,075.00   |
| Frances E. Bonnell.....              | 2,200.00    |
| Leonard A. Merrill .....             | 6,349.00    |
| Isaiah J. Whitfield .....            | 4,660.00    |
| Susan A. More .....                  | 8,805.00    |
| Samuel C. Eaton .....                | 3,156.00    |
| Uriah M. Short .....                 | 2,163.75    |
| Daniel F. Tower .....                | 7,575.00    |

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\$68,064.85

In April following the Treasury Department decided to build upon the site indicated and in June Congress appropriated \$70,000 to purchase the site. On August 6th, 1874, an order of confirmation of the jury findings was made and soon after the money was deposited with the Court and paid to the proper parties. The usual conveyances were made and recorded and the Government