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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT.

Letter to the Departments.

The following circular letter has been sent by the Mayor to the respective heads of the several departments of the city government:

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
MAYOR'S OFFICE,
NEW YORK, January 4, 1875.

DEAR SIR—You will have observed that, in my first message to the Honorable the Common Council of this date, I have called attention to the practice which has, in some of the departments, prevailed of sending persons to Albany to affect or influence legislation, having particular reference to the department represented.

I avail myself of this method of inviting your special attention to the views I have there expressed; and, relying upon your concurrence in them, I shall expect your co-operation in putting an end to the practice mentioned.

Very respectfully,

WM. H. WICKHAM,
Mayor.

Message to the Common Council.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
MAYOR'S OFFICE,
NEW YORK, January 4, 1875.

To the Honorable the Common Council:

GENTLEMEN—For the first time in the history of the Government of the City, the Common Council consists of but one Board of Representatives of the People. Since the year 1857 there have existed in the administration of our local affairs various legislative bodies, the most prominent of which were a Board of Supervisors, a Board of Aldermen, and a Board of Councilmen—subsequently known as Assistant Aldermen. In addition to these Boards, several Commissions were, from time to time, created by law, in each of which were vested combined legislative and executive powers. The results of this divided authority were not satisfactory, and the legislative powers and duties of the Supervisors, Aldermen, and Assistant Aldermen have been concentrated in the Board of Aldermen, which now alone constitutes the Common Council.

During the period the legislative power of the Government was so divided, the Common Council possessed but little influence in civic affairs. It was vested with no authority whatever over some of the Executive Commissions or Departments—the officers of which had absolute control in all matters relating to the particular purposes of the Government with which they were severally identified, and each Department was allowed to exercise powers having a more material influence upon the well-being of the City than had those left to the Common Council itself.

This system, as might have been expected, proved most pernicious. The source of the power and influence of the Departments being the State Legislature, the City was governed at Albany and not in New York. While the Common Council of the City was ignored, the Legislature was led to pass upon scheme after scheme presented by one or another of the Departments, designed to increase its own powers and patronage. On the statute book there is evidence conclusive that the officers of the Departments thought far more of the influence they could secure and the patronage they could command, than they did of their official duties. They rivaled each other in jealous contentions; and their zeal was most prominent in promoting their own interests, while they overlooked those of the City.

The last remnants of this system should be eradicated. Recent legislation, while implying the necessity for such a change, is deficient in the provisions necessary to secure it. In my judgment, the entire legislative powers of the Government should be vested in the Representatives of the people in the Common Council assembled, to

be exercised subject to the approval of the Mayor. This is a necessary step toward improving the government of the City. We require "Home Rule" in all our local affairs. We can govern ourselves, and ought to be at liberty to do so. Errors or wrongs committed can be more easily detected and remedied here than at Albany. All matters relating to the Government should be fully and freely disclosed, in order that the influence of the public judgment upon them may be directly felt. Without this no efficient control in the Government can exist. To secure this control your powers should be so enlarged as to make the Common Council the real source of all legislation with regard to our local affairs.

Although, under existing laws, the powers of the Common Council are far from being such as are necessary to attain fully the objects stated, they are, I am advised, sufficient to enable you to adopt such measures as will lead to great improvement in our affairs.

The Charter, section 90, provides that "whatever provisions and regulations * * * may become requisite for the fuller organization, perfecting and carrying out of the powers and duties prescribed to any department by this Act, shall be provided for by ordinance of the Common Council, who are hereby authorized to enact such necessary ordinances." Your action in the exercise of the authority thus already conferred may be made a test of the policy of conferring still further powers upon the Common Council in the government of the City; and the administration by you of the trust now confided cannot fail to have either a beneficial or injurious influence upon the future management of our affairs. A strict account is certain to be demanded of you. It shall be my duty to point out to you from time to time the particular measures which, in my opinion, if adopted by you, will remove some of the causes of the present general dissatisfaction with the management of the Departments in the past; but the responsibility will be with you to enact these and such other provisions as may be necessary to enable the Mayor to require, and, if need be, compel, from the several heads of Departments, such an administration of the affairs of the City committed to their charge, as will lead to greater efficiency in the future, and a reduction of expense in securing it.

FINANCES.

What the liabilities of the City really are, I am not, at present, in a position to inform you. Public attention has hitherto been directed principally, if not, indeed, exclusively, to that portion of the indebtedness which has assumed the form of one or other of the various descriptions of bonds and stocks issued by the City. The information furnished to me by the Comptroller is to the effect that this class of indebtedness was, on the 31st day of December, 1874, as follows:

FUNDED DEBT—	
Payable from the Sinking Fund.....	\$22,931,563 36
Payable from Taxation.....	95,399,993 88
	\$118,241,557 24
TEMPORARY DEBT—	
Payable from Assessments.....	\$20,851,000 00
Payable from Building Lien.....	3,700 76
	20,854,700 76
REVENUE BONDS—	
Payable from Taxation of 1874.....	2,707,500 00
	\$141,803,758 00
Less Sinking Fund.....	26,615,778 00
	\$115,187,980 00

But, in addition to these amounts, there is a floating debt which has been variously estimated at from ten to twenty millions of dollars. Many of the claims constituting this indebtedness are in litigation. Some—it may be many of them—are fraudulent, and all such must be resisted. Those, however, which are not fraudulent ought to be paid. If the proper officers of the Government are now without authority to adjust and settle such claims, it ought to be conferred. All information which can be obtained in reference to this floating indebtedness I shall direct to be communicated to you.

The time has arrived when, in my judgment, the actual financial condition of the City should be definitely ascertained and published in detail. The tax-payers should be in possession of the fullest information on this subject, and without such information it will be impossible to devise or carry out any practical measures of effectual relief.

Our revenues for the ordinary purposes of the government of the City are from two sources: First, Taxation; and, second, what is known as

the General Fund—the latter being a fund made up of all other moneys received by the City not set apart by law to increase the Sinking Fund. The largest amount received from the General Fund in any one year has been \$3,000,000.

Our expenditures are determined by the appropriations made by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, acting in concert with the Common Council. Appropriations are made annually "of the amounts required to pay the expenses of conducting the public business of the City and County in each Department and branch thereof, and also of the Board of Education."

The amounts so appropriated, after deducting the General Fund, are declared by law to be the sums to be raised annually by taxation; and in imposing this tax the Supervisors are authorized and required "to levy, in addition to the aggregate amount thereof, such sums, not exceeding three per cent. of the said aggregate amount, to provide for deficiencies in the actual product of the amount imposed and levied."

While the entire amount of the sums appropriated is expended for the purposes or requirements of the year (or, by transfer of any surplus to meet other expenditures, it may be, in succeeding years), there are deficiencies of revenue every year to meet these expenditures. For instance, for 1874 the entire appropriations amounted to \$34,822,391.79, to provide for which there were: First, the revenues of the General Fund, amounting to \$3,000,000; and, second, taxation, amounting to \$31,822,391.79. The sum added by the Supervisors to meet deficiencies was \$490,425.13, making a total of \$32,312,816.92 to be raised by taxation.

For the year 1874 we spent, or will spend, the entire appropriation of \$34,822,391.79. The General Fund may contribute its proportion of the expenditure—\$3,000,000—but the revenue from taxation will, as it has for some years past, fall short. The taxes are not payable, and are never collected until the fall of the year. For the first nine months the government is carried on upon borrowed money—borrowed upon Revenue Bonds in anticipation of the taxes of the year. As the taxes are collected, the Revenue Bonds are paid; the entire issue of these bonds, in any one year, is paid up either before the close of the year in which they are issued, or in the first months of the ensuing year.

I have ascertained that, for several years past, the uncollected taxes from personal property have amounted annually to about \$1,000,000. This is irrecoverably lost to the City, and no provision has been made, so far as I know, to provide otherwise than as I have explained for that loss. The taxes levied and which are collected are never received within the year for which they are imposed; and frequently a term of years is allowed to pass before particular taxes are paid; the delay allowed by law is extensively taken advantage of—the only penalty being an increase of interest upon the taxes in arrears.

With our expenditures annually exceeding our income set apart by law to meet them, confusion in our finances is inevitable; and no skill in management can extricate such a system from that confusion. The system itself must be changed to secure improvement in results.

In no official report which I have seen has any information been laid before the public showing the extent to which the taxes are paid within the year in which they are imposed, or the average period within which the arrears are paid. The periodical reports of the financial officers of the City should give the particulars, as nearly as can be ascertained, of all unpaid taxes and assessments at the date of such reports, with all other information which would go to present, as clearly as possible, a statement of the real financial position of the City—its debts on the one hand and the outstanding claims due to it on the other—that the public may be able to judge, as each successive statement appears, whether any improvement has been made in our finances since the date of the statement preceding. A first step toward furnishing such periodical information is the preparation, at as early a date as possible, of a balance sheet showing the financial position of the City at the close of the past year; and I shall heartily co-operate with you in whatever measures may be necessary to procure such a balance sheet.

MUNICIPAL EXPENDITURES.

The appropriations for the year 1875, as finally determined by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, amount to \$36,956,472.23.

This amount, together with the sum to be hereafter fixed by the Board of Supervisors to provide

for deficiencies, less a credit of \$3,000,000 carried from the General Fund, will be imposed by tax during the year, upon the real and personal estate of the City and County subject to taxation. The tax for the year will be about three per cent. upon the assessed value of all taxable property.

In this Final Estimate of \$36,956,472.23, there has been appropriated for—

State Taxes.....	\$6,630,940 14
Common Schools for the State.....	1,381,445 86
Interest on the City Debt.....	9,300,000 00
Payment of Stocks and Bonds falling due, etc.....	1,454,763 33
Fourth Avenue Improvement.....	1,598,767 50
Taxable Charities.....	825,905 00

—or a total of \$21,191,821.83—leaving a balance of \$15,764,650.40.

Over this sum of \$21,191,821.83 the City authorities have really no control. The acts of the Legislature, under which the appropriations covered by the amount are required to be made, are mandatory, and the Board of Estimate and Apportionment was a mere ministerial agent in carrying those laws into effect.

The balance of \$15,764,650.40 includes appropriations, for salaries alone, in the aggregate amount of \$9,564,931.00. These salaries are divisible into two classes—those fixed by acts of the Legislature, which the City authorities cannot regulate—and those fixed by the Heads of Departments within the limit of the amounts appropriated to them respectively for that purpose by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment.

The former (those fixed by acts of the Legislature) are as follows, for:

Police, including Commissioners and force.....	\$3,147,400 00
Fire, including Commissioners and force.....	897,600 00
Mayor, Aldermen, Chamberlain, and Heads of Departments (excepting Commissioners of Police, Fire, and Docks).....	229,500 00
Judiciary.....	897,345 00
Total.....	\$5,171,845 00

The latter (salaries for subordinates of the Departments) are as follows:

Finance Department.....	\$235,000 00
Law Department.....	75,850 00
Department of Public Works.....	140,000 00
Department of Public Parks, estimated.....	300,000 00
Department of Buildings.....	86,500 00
Department of Charities and Correction.....	290,500 00
Department of Health.....	137,036 00
Department of Taxes and Assessments.....	112,300 00
Mayoralty.....	35,000 00
Common Council.....	20,000 00
Board of Education.....	2,686,500 00
Police Department—Superintendent, Clerks, etc.....	56,000 00
Fire Department—Clerks, etc.....	188,400 00
Miscellaneous, about.....	30,000 00
	\$4,393,086 00

Deducting the amounts thus appropriated for State taxes, interest, payment of debt, Fourth Avenue improvements, taxable charities, and for salaries, from the entire appropriations of the year, there remains a balance of only \$6,199,719.40, which is the amount available as a fund for the ordinary purposes of the City Government, among which the following items of special appropriations are comprised:

Supplies for Department of Charities and Correction, including \$90,000 for Out-door Poor.....	\$841,000 00
Cleaning Streets.....	800,000 00
Supplies, repairs, etc., for Public Schools.....	793,500 00
Lamps and Gas.....	750,000 00
Maintenance and Government of Parks and Places (exclusive of salaries), about.....	284,000 00
New apparatus, horses, supplies, buildings, etc., for Fire Department.....	230,000 00
Supplies, rents, repairs, construction, etc., Police Department.....	183,925 00
Sheriffs, Coroners, Jurors, and Witnesses' fees.....	162,000 00
Election expenses.....	160,000 00
College of the City of New York.....	150,000 00
Contingencies of Departments.....	147,750 00

Construction, repairs, supplies, and cleaning public offices.....	142,500 00
Printing, Stationery, and Blank Books.....	137,500 00
Repairing and Maintaining Croton Aqueduct.....	120,000 00
School Moneys to Corporate Schools	103,000 00
Repaving and repairs to Stone Pavements.....	100,000 00
Judgments.....	100,000 00
Repairing and renewal of pipes, etc.	80,000 00
Rents.....	75,000 00
Repairing and cleaning sewers.....	75,000 00
Assessments and Taxes on Corporation Property.....	50,000 00
Repairing and keeping in order Wooden and Concrete Pavements	50,000 00

How far all or any of the appropriations made for the government of the City, not fixed by act of the Legislature or by contract, are susceptible of reduction without impairing the efficiency of the services required, I cannot at present state. But the whole subject of appropriations for the government of the City is one which shall receive my early and most earnest attention.

CLAIMS AND LITIGATIONS.

The appropriations made for the year being designed to meet and cover every object and purpose of the Government, a provision was very properly inserted in the Charter "that no expense shall be incurred by any of the Departments, Boards, or officers thereof, unless an appropriation shall have been previously made covering such expense."

As, therefore, there can be no legal liability incurred for the City beyond the appropriations lawfully made for the purposes of the Government, there ought to be no great difficulty experienced in meeting our liabilities after ascertaining that they are proper obligations. Past mismanagement has, no doubt, involved us in a vast amount of litigation; but this legacy of the past can form no proper excuse or pretext for forcing current claims against the City to be put into litigation before the creditor can secure the amount to which he is justly entitled. In resisting improper claims, and protecting the City against liabilities for which it is not by law responsible, I shall aid the executive officers of the Government with all the power I can command, but this power I shall as unhesitatingly so exercise as to secure to every just and honest creditor a speedy settlement of his claim. It shall be my endeavor to see that no unnecessary delay takes place, on the part of the proper officers of the Government in passing upon claims presented to them for adjustment and settlement. There must be discrimination; the unjust must be separated from the just; and as to the latter, vexatious and costly litigation will not be permitted.

STATE TAX.

The laws under which this city is required to contribute so largely to the State tax are so manifestly unjust that a revision of them should be persistently insisted upon by the City authorities. Of the entire State tax, amounting to \$15,727,482.08 for 1874, this City has to pay \$8,012,386.00, or more than one-half of the whole amount, and the law requires that this sum be paid five months before the City can collect or impose a cent of it. We have to pay the entire tax, whether it is ever received by the City or not. That it never is all received by us is shown, for instance, by the annual loss which the City sustains in the \$1,000,000 of personal taxes which cannot be collected. The City is required to raise by tax this year, for the support of the Common Schools of the State \$1,381,445.86, and for Asylums and Reformatories, \$414,443.76. We support our own normal and public schools, at an annual cost of \$3,583,000, and although we never send our children or pupils to other parts of the State we have in addition to pay for the public and normal schools of the State, about one-third the entire State tax levied for their support. We maintain our own Asylums and Reformatories at our own cost, and at the same time are compelled to contribute one-half of the expenses of all the Asylums and Reformatories supported by the State. How far relief in this matter of State taxation is to be obtained through the proceedings of the Committee appointed at the last session of the Legislature to investigate and report upon the subject, may be determined, when the report of that Committee is presented.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The present condition of the Public Works of the City has attracted of late universal attention. The subject is one which is not free from difficulty. All our public works are carried on with borrowed money—partly on the security of the credit of the City, and partly on the special security of assessments to be imposed upon the property more immediately benefited. That the works which have been completed on the northern part of the island are or will become of vast public benefit, is admitted by all. The only question is how far some

of those works, and others which are projected, may not be beyond our present requirements. According to the information furnished to me by the Comptroller, the City is in advance on account of the Public Works payable in whole or in part from assessments, to the amount of \$20,851,000.

Pursuant to the provisions of a law enacted in 1872, the City has to pay the interest on all money it borrows on account of its Public Works, without any claim of relief against the property benefited. This interest forms a burden in our annual tax levy. And as the interest charged continues until the amount advanced is returned to the City by the assessments imposed upon the property benefited, it is manifest that the ability of the City to prosecute its public works successfully depends, in a great measure, upon the proper application of the machinery required to secure as speedy a return as possible of the advances made. Proper attention has not been given in the past to this important feature connected with our public improvements. Works commenced several years since have made little or no return for the large advances which the City has made for them; and this delay, which operates to the benefit of the property-owners who are in arrears with their assessments, goes far to cripple the energies of the City in carrying on other and equally important works, which are anxiously desired, not only by the parties more immediately interested, but by the citizens generally.

I am in favor of proceeding with our public works at a pace as rapid as is required to keep up with the growth of the City; and I consider that this may be accomplished without increasing the debt beyond its present sum. With care and attention, there ought to be no difficulty in securing, out of the large amount of assessments imposed and to be imposed, a return sufficient to carry on, as extensively as the requirements of the City demand, all the most pressing of the works in progress or contemplated. As I view the matter, the property-owners have the solution of the question much in their own hands. The assessment debt is exclusively theirs, and if they desire that further work be prosecuted, it is but due to the City that this debt owing by them should be paid, and the City be thus placed in a position in which it can obtain further sums to be applied to new works.

The construction of the roadway or drive adjoining the Riverside Park should be at once proceeded with. The property-owners in that district, under the compulsion of law, had to pay a large assessment upon their property for the lands taken to form this roadway and the proposed park adjoining. How or when the park itself should be improved, I am not at present prepared to say; but the drive of avenue forming its eastern boundary is imperatively required, and the construction of this roadway is but an act of justice to those who have paid so heavily, upon the understanding that that work should be at once prosecuted to completion. It will secure access to an extensive tract of ground, the value of which will be thereby considerably enhanced, and this increased value will inure to the benefit of the City as an accession to its taxable fund. I recommend this subject to your early consideration, and trust that you will concur with me in the propriety of having the necessary measures enacted for the prosecution of the work mentioned.

There is a difference of opinion as to the merits of the projects known as the Morningside and Riverside Parks. Were it an open question, it may be doubted whether at the present day the idea would be entertained of subjecting the City to the expense of laying out a park on the site chosen for the Morningside Park. But work upon the road or avenue running from One Hundred and Tenth to One Hundred and Twenty-second street, known as Morningside avenue and forming the proposed boundary of this Park on the west, has been proceeded with to a considerable extent. The money already expended in the construction of this road will be entirely lost to the City if the work is permitted to remain as at present; and, even if further prosecution of that work is only temporarily delayed, the expense of completing it will be much increased, because, in its present unfinished condition, it is subject to great damage by the elements. That this avenue will be a public benefit when completed, there can be no question. The work upon it should, therefore, be prosecuted without any unnecessary delay. I submit the subject to your favorable consideration and prompt action.

In this connection it may not be improper to suggest that the immediate prosecution of the work upon the Riverside roadway and Morningside avenue will give labor to many who are at present suffering through enforced idleness. It is, to be sure, no part of the business of Government, as such, to furnish work for any of its citizens. But in all large cities the public works provide for a portion of the community, who are dependent principally upon them for employment. The suspension of these works is a serious misfortune to those so dependent. Such persons desire not charity, but honest employment; and, as their

labor, when properly directed, contributes to the wealth of the City, it ought to be secured, when it is practicable to do so.

The manner in which our public works should be carried on, whether by day's labor or by contract, is a subject which must necessarily come before you, and as to which you will be called upon to act. Apart from those special laws passed by the Legislature authorizing the construction of particular works, the Charter provides that any work to be constructed by or on behalf of the City, at an expense exceeding \$1,000, shall be by contract, on sealed bids and proposals, unless otherwise ordered by a vote of three-fourths of the members elected to the Common Council.

Of course, it is not for me now to anticipate when or under what circumstances you may consider it for the public interest to exercise the power thus vested in you, but the circumstances, in my judgment, should be of an extraordinary character, and the benefit to the City should be clear and unmistakable, to warrant you in permitting a departure from the rule requiring the public works of the City to be executed under contract. But, when let by contract, the work must, pursuant to the provisions of the Charter, be given to the lowest bidder. It is worthy of your consideration whether this provision ought not to be modified. The lowest bidder is not, in every instance, a proper person to be entrusted with the performance of the work, and it may be found that the interests of the City require that some discrimination in the matter ought to be vested in its officers. I must not, however, be understood as favoring what is known as special contracts. To all such I am uncompromisingly opposed.

There has been a well-grounded dissatisfaction with the manner in which some of the public works have been constructed—the pavements for instance; and the question recurs, how can we secure an improvement in this respect? Some improvement would undoubtedly be obtained if every contract is made to contain specifications requiring that the work, when completed under it, shall be as substantial as work of that character can be made; and, to secure this, a different system of inspection from that now in operation is necessary. No person should be placed, as inspector, superintendent or otherwise, in charge of any public work of the City, no matter of what description it may be, whose character and practical knowledge of the particular kind of work to be done are not of themselves a guarantee that thoroughness on the part of the contractors will be exacted before the work is allowed to be accepted by the City.

As this entire matter of inspection of public works is regulated by ordinances passed by the Common Council, the subject is one which it is peculiarly in your power to remedy.

Many of the pavements south of Forty-second street, and those of some of the avenues, are today impediments to travel. Our experience has developed the fact that wooden pavements, as heretofore constructed, cannot be maintained in such a condition as to make them useful or safe. All the streets and avenues in which this pavement has been laid, and those in which other pavements are in a condition to impede travel, ought to be repaved with trap or granite blocks—the only classes of pavements which have met the requirements of our commerce and traffic, and the best from a sanitary point of view. The City authorities, however, are not in a position to remedy the evils from which we are suffering in these respects. The Charter, section 115, provides that "No street, avenue, or public place in the City of New York, which has been once paved, and the expense thereof paid for by the owners of the adjoining property by assessment, shall hereafter be paved at their expense, nor shall any assessment therefor be imposed unless the same shall be petitioned for by a majority of the owners of the property (who shall also be the owners of a majority of the front feet) on the line of the proposed improvement." As the City has no authority to issue its bonds for paving streets except on the security of assessments to be imposed, in all cases where assessments are prohibited, the City is prohibited from issuing bonds or borrowing money upon bonds for improving or renewing the pavement of any street or avenue in the City which has already been once paved.

Under the law, the property-owners alone can apply the remedy, and it will be well for them to consider whether, if they delay taking action in the matter, the business in the streets upon which their property lies may not be driven away to other localities more favorable because provided with streets better paved.

The law has made a distinction—the reason for which it is difficult to perceive—between the public works of the City which lie to the north and those to the south of the Harlem river. The care of all the streets, roads, avenues, and sewers of the City to the south of the Harlem river, except those in public parks and places, is under the supervision of the Department of Public Works; while the care, maintenance, and supervision of the streets, roads, avenues, and sewers to the

north of the Harlem river, are under the control of the Department of Public Parks. This distinction ought to be abolished. That part of the City lying to the north of the Harlem river, should be accurately surveyed, and the line of streets, roads, and avenues should be delineated on a plan by which all building operations in that part of the City can be regulated. An appropriation has been made by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment for this work, and I shall see that it is proceeded with and completed as early as circumstances will permit.

The accommodation provided for crossing the Harlem river is insufficient. The present bridges at Third avenue and at McComb's Dam do not adequately provide for the increasing travel and traffic there. Legislative authority has been obtained for tunneling the river; but that work cannot be done immediately, and the demand for increased accommodation must, in the meantime, be met in some other way. An additional bridge, of a temporary character, is urgently required and ought to be erected. If there is authority for the work, and the means can be provided, no delay should occur in proceeding with it.

No other extensive works in this part of the City are at present called for. The one work required, in addition to those already in progress, and the new bridge recommended, is the construction of sub-drains through the low-lying lands, and this is demanded for sanitary purposes. The district should have the full benefit of our water system.

The importance of the Croton Water system cannot be overestimated. Our growing population and the multiplied requirements of the arts and of business demand an increased supply of water. To provide for the consumption we must look in advance, and prepare in time the reservoirs required for husbanding the supply. Authority has been obtained from the Legislature for the construction of new works in Putnam County in connection with our water system. The works authorized have been let by contract, and will be constructed under the supervision of competent civil engineers.

CENTRAL PARK.

Our Central Park is a property of which we are justly proud. The expense incurred in constructing and ornamenting it has been returned to the City in the enhanced value of the property surrounding it and the consequent increase of the taxable fund of the City. This property has been well administered, and the trust we have received requires from us the greatest care in its management. It is a question how far, considering the present amount of the liabilities of the City, it is desirable to proceed with new works of construction in the Park. My own opinion is, that so much has been done, and done so well, in this respect, that, for some time to come, it will be desirable to follow a conservative course. If the roads and grounds are well cared for during the next few years, Nature will in that time do far more to add to the beauty and attractions of the Park than any new works now entered upon can accomplish. An essential in the proper preservation of the Park is the maintenance there of an efficient police force; and this must be secured if the Park is to continue to be the scene of enjoyment and recreation for all classes of our citizens.

DOCKS.

The natural advantage of the City, with its extensive water frontage, have secured to it that commerce which has made New York the metropolis of the country. To develop these advantages to their utmost, the construction of better wharves and piers, and of increased terminal facilities for our commerce, is necessary. Too little attention has been given to this important subject in the past, and now, as a consequence of this neglect, we find ourselves exposed to the just complaint that the commerce of the City is subjected to inconvenience and expense as compared with that at other ports, which cannot but operate detriment to our interests. Work upon the new docks, as projected, should be pushed forward as speedily as they can be properly built. I will aid in carrying on these works as far as my power and influence extend. There is not a dollar we invest in this undertaking which will not, if properly applied, become a paying investment from the day it is made. The demand for increased accommodation is so urgent, that the wharves, when completed, can be readily let at a rent which will make a large return upon the entire cost; and those rents, set apart as they are by law, to the Sinking Fund for the redemption of the debt of the City, will become a fund from which the entire cost of construction will in due time be met. The present revenue from our docks is scarcely in excess of \$500,000 per annum. Our income from this valuable property, even in its present condition, ought to be much larger. Many of our docks and piers, because of improvident action in the past, are maintained not for the benefit of the City, but for individuals. Leases were obtained from the City at almost nominal rents, and the property leased has, in

when properly directed, contributes to the wealth of the City, it ought to be secured, when it is practicable to do so.

many instances, been sub-let, securing an income to the lessee largely in excess of the amount paid for the property to the City. The whole subject of leasing dock or wharf property should receive your early attention.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

The building known as the New Court-house should be completed. I am opposed to all Commissions made independent of the regular officers of the Government, for any special purpose whatever. There are at present three such Commissions in existence—one for the completion of this Court-house, another for the completion of the Third District Court-house, and the third is what is known as the Armory Commission. All three should be abolished. The two Court-houses can be completed more economically, and the work upon them can be better done, under the supervision of one or more of the regular responsible officers of the government than in any other manner. There is a fund available for the completion of the New Court-house which is ample for this purpose, and the work should therefore be proceeded with, after proper plans shall have been prepared and approved of, and contracts made with responsible parties, under suitable penalties for having the work finished within the limitations of the contract.

How to deal with our armories is a question, the answer to which cannot much longer be postponed. The National Guard is a valuable auxiliary in maintaining peace and order in the City, and in view of this, the efficiency of the Guard must be provided for. To secure this efficiency, the various regiments should be furnished proper quarters. For some time, the City has withheld payments of the rents of all the armories leased from third parties, and all the regiments quartered in such premises are liable, at any moment, to be turned into the street. This state of affairs ought not to continue. The subject of furnishing armories in buildings erected and owned by the City is one worthy of your early consideration; but until provision is made, in this or in some other manner, for providing the regiments with permanent quarters, temporary accommodations must be secured for them. The Seventh Regiment, which is one of the best, is virtually without any armory. The premises occupied by it at Tompkins' Market were, some months ago, injured by fire and rendered unfit for use, and the damage has not yet been repaired. The building is owned by the City, and should long ago have been repaired. No private property of such value would have been allowed to remain so many months in a damaged condition. A lease has been executed by the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund of the block of ground belonging to the City, bounded by and situated between Sixty-sixth and Sixty-seventh streets and Fourth and Lexington avenues, for the erection of an armory for this regiment. It seems but just to the regiment that a proper building should be there erected for them without further delay.

I consider it my duty to institute an inquiry into all the facts and circumstances connected with leases of armories, and will communicate to you the measures which, in my opinion, ought to be adopted to put an end to the present unsatisfactory condition of affairs.

POLICE DEPARTMENT.

There is no branch of the City Government upon which the public welfare depends so much as upon the Police Department. Charged as it is with the duty of preserving the public peace, it should be so administered as to be and to show that it is beyond the reach of political or partisan influence. I am in favor of a non-partisan Police Board, in the fullest sense of the idea conveyed by that expression. Our police system must not be managed under party influence or for party purposes. Promotion and advancement in the force should not be the result of political influence, nor should this influence be allowed to interfere with discipline. Appointments on the force ought never to be conferred unless the Commissioners are fully satisfied of the personal fitness and capacity of the applicant, and merit should be the only standard of promotion from the ranks. There are many radical and wholesome changes in the Department which can yet be made before the force will exhibit the discipline and general efficiency which the public is entitled to exact from it. This Department, in addition to the duty imposed upon it for protecting the public peace, is charged with the supervision of elections. The importance of a faithful performance of this latter duty cannot be overestimated. Past experience has informed us as to the wrong which may be done by a negligent and illegal administration of this trust; and there should be no cause for complaint upon that subject again. So far as any power or discretion is vested in me, my endeavors shall be, in reference to this Department, to carry into practical operation the views above expressed.

STREET CLEANING.

The work of cleaning the streets and avenues of the City is at present under the care and manage-

ment of the Police Department. This is an important matter, closely related as it is to the health of the City. The Police Department was established for a very different purpose; and, in my opinion, it is not consistent with a system of good government to impose duties upon any Department which must necessarily, to a large extent, divert the attention of the chief officers from the performance of the duties with which they are specially and more appropriately charged.

By the Charter, the power is vested in you to "regulate the cleaning of the streets, avenues, sidewalks, and gutters, and removing ice and snow from them." This is an extensive grant of legislative power, and vests in you full control over the entire subject. It appears to me advisable to relieve the Police Department of the duty of cleaning the streets, leaving it charged, however, with the duty of enforcing such ordinances and regulations in reference to those matters as you may adopt for removing the nuisances of filth, garbage, ice, and snow, as well as obstructions of all kinds, from the streets and avenues. I would suggest that, with proper specifications as to the work necessary to be done to secure clean streets and avenues, a contract should be authorized to be entered into by responsible parties, either in separate districts or for the entire City; and that the Department of Police be required to see that the work demanded by the contract is faithfully performed. As any contract which may be made cannot extend beyond the year—the appropriation only being for the year—no delay which can be avoided ought to take place before the subject is considered by you.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The Fire Department should be maintained in a condition of thorough efficiency. We are frequently reminded, by the unfortunate experience of other cities, of the disasters to which we may be subjected by fire which cannot be controlled. Our principal security against such a calamity rests in the training and discipline of our firemen, the completeness of the machinery at their disposal, with an abundant supply of water, and proper facilities for applying it when required. Too much care cannot be devoted to perfecting these various details. Their importance demands unceasing watchfulness, that we may be found prepared for any emergency which may arise.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

The Department of Health is vested with exclusive powers in matters relating to the public health, but these powers, under the present management of the Department, are not likely to be exercised except for the public good.

TAXES AND ASSESSMENTS.

In the administration of the Department of Taxes and Assessments a revision is required of the rolls of personal property subject to taxation. The fact that the tax on personal property falls short, to the extent of one million dollars annually, shows the necessity which exists for immediate action. I will at once communicate with the Commissioners on the subject; and whatever measures can be taken to obviate this loss, shall receive my co-operation.

THE CITY PRISON.

Some alterations must be made to provide increased accommodation in what is known as the City Prison. The subject has been frequently referred to in the presentments of Grand Juries. Action ought to be no longer delayed. I do not recommend the project of erecting a new prison, as I am satisfied that, with a moderate outlay, accommodation can be secured within the limits of the present building to meet the present requirements. The outlay for this purpose should be a part of the ordinary expenditures of the government. If the moneys required can be provided under existing authority, I shall at an early date communicate to you a more detailed statement of my views in reference to the matter, so that, if you approve, the work, which is urgent, may be at once commenced.

MARKETS.

The best plan for dealing with the City market property is a subject, the consideration of which I earnestly recommend to you. The revenues of the City received from this source form no adequate return on the value of the investments. Such undertakings as public markets can, I think, be better conducted in the public interest in the hands of private individuals than under City management. The subject should be thoroughly investigated, and, if it is considered advisable, the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund should be requested, by you, to dispose of all the market property, under the powers conferred, and subject to the conditions imposed by the Charter. In disposing of this property, if such a course is resolved upon, due regard should be had to the interests of those who have invested in market privileges.

CITY ORDINANCES.

The present condition of the ordinances of the City has been a frequent subject of complaint.

Laws have been passed by the Legislature, year after year, which have had the effect of modifying or annulling provisions of City ordinances theretofore existing, and still not formally repealed. The result is that, with regard to many of our ordinances, it is difficult to determine how far they are of binding effect. This confusion should be terminated. In many matters to which the ordinances of the City relate, such as its hack system, places of public amusements, weights and measures, street railroads, and obstructions in streets, they are systematically disregarded. So manifest have been the evils resulting from this disregard of authority, that the subject, some time since, attracted the attention of the Bar Association of the City, and after some communication between that Association and your predecessors, an understanding was arrived at by which it was left to the Bar Association, through a committee of its members, to suggest a revision and codification of existing ordinances, and to prepare drafts of such additional ordinances as are needed to meet the requirements of the situation. So far as I am informed, no progress has been reported by that committee. Further delay in the matter cannot but be prejudicial to the interests of the City. Until that work is completed, efficiency in many Bureaus of the City Government cannot be expected. It should be proceeded with under the direct authority of the City itself, and I therefore recommend that you authorize the Mayor to appoint one or more qualified persons to have the work prosecuted to completion as speedily as it can be properly accomplished. When that is done, and the revision has received your approval, it will be my duty to see that the police and all executive officers of the City, charged with the enforcement of the regulations enacted, shall discharge their duty fearlessly and impartially.

CITY RECORD.

The CITY RECORD was established by the Charter of 1873 as the official journal of the Corporation. The design was to do away with the abuses which had grown up in the matter of Corporation advertising, while giving publicity to the transactions of the various Departments of the City Government. All advertisements for the City, and the publication of notices required by law or ordinances to be published in Corporation papers, are required to be inserted, at the public expense, only in this journal. Brief advertisements, however, calling attention to any contracts intended to be awarded, or bonds to be sold, and referring for full information to the CITY RECORD, may be inserted in two morning, two evening, and two weekly papers, published in the English language and in one one paper published in the German language, to be designated annually by certain officers of the City Government.

The system of Corporation advertising in the past was not only too expensive, but led to great losses to the City in the matter of assessments vacated because they had not been advertised in all of the Corporation papers. This has been remedied by establishing the CITY RECORD, and the paper should be continued. But it is a question whether the present system is not too limited, and whether sufficient publicity of the particulars of contracts to be awarded, of bonds to be sold, and of notices to tax-payers and property-holders, is given to the public. The brief advertisements authorized to be published in the papers mentioned do not meet the purpose. I therefore recommend that authority be conferred upon the officers having this matter in charge to adopt such measures as will give more particular and extended publicity to such subjects relating to the Corporation as may be deemed best for the public interest.

RAPID TRANSIT.

The question of speedy communication between the extremes of the City is forcing itself upon public attention. The schemes are many which have been suggested to accomplish this purpose, but the results have not been satisfactory. Charters have been granted by the Legislature, conferring valuable franchises, but from these no advantage to the citizens generally has resulted. So earnest is the desire manifested for securing rapid transit in the City, that a board of civil engineers, self-constituted, but including gentlemen most eminent in their profession, has now undertaken to prepare plans to overcome, if possible, the obstacles hitherto encountered. All that I can do, acting within the powers conferred upon me by law, shall be willingly done towards accomplishing this much-needed improvement.

To some extent, a remedy has been provided by tunneling Fourth avenue, above Forty-second street. This work, when completed according to the required plans, with four tracks from Harlem river to Forty-second street, will give an unobstructed course to passenger trains for or from the north, east, and west, into and out of the City. As provided by the law authorizing the improvement, two of the tracks are to be devoted exclusively to rapid transit within the City; and, as it is probable that the Harlem River Railroad Company will soon extend the four tracks from Harlem

river northerly to the new City limits, we may soon have rapid transit from the northern boundary of the City to Forty-second street—a distance of ten miles—and over a route which is nearly the axial line of the City. If this work could be extended southerly to the City Hall—three and one-half miles—the problem of rapid transit would be partly solved. The City's proportion of the expense of the improvement on Fourth avenue is \$3,200,000. I approve of the action taken by my immediate predecessor in discontinuing the litigation connected with this improvement. The work should be completed as speedily as possible, and the obligation of the City should be promptly met. Upon the west side of the City we have the Elevated Railroad, which, running in connection with trains on the Hudson River Railroad, brings the western portion of the northern part of the island into easy communication with the southern part of the City. I shall watch with interest all developments in reference to this important subject, and shall aid, as far as I can, all practical measures which may be presented to secure to the City the full benefits of rapid transit.

BROOKLYN BRIDGE.

I am of opinion that the work upon the bridge across the East river to Brooklyn should be continued. This I do not consider an open question. If it were so, the erection of a bridge upon the present site would not receive my approval. The project, however, has now so far advanced that it should, without any unnecessary delay, be prosecuted to completion. The tower on the Brooklyn side is substantially finished. On the New York side the tower has been carried a few feet above the springing of the arches, and can be completed during the coming working season. The Brooklyn anchorage is within twenty feet of completion, and will require about three months' work to finish it. The castings required to support the cables of both towers are made. A consolidation of the Cities of New York and Brooklyn into one municipality is but a question of time. When this bridge is completed, that union may become a fact.

ALBANY LEGISLATION.

The practice to which I have referred, of officers of Departments applying for and obtaining special legislation at Albany as to matters affecting particular interests of the City, must entirely cease. It should be your endeavor, as it will be mine, to protect the City against special legislation of any and every kind and form. How injurious it has been in the past cannot be estimated. I find that within the last ten years, by mandatory laws passed at Albany, this City has been compelled to raise upon its bonds the enormous amount of eighty millions of dollars; and as to the benefit secured to the City by this expenditure, I am satisfied that, in every sense, the interest of the City would have been more advanced at less than half the outlay, if those obligations had been determined by its local government, and the moneys raised applied under its own direction to promote, not special, but the general interest of the City.

This is an evil which operates to the disadvantage of the City in many respects. The facilities it affords for raising money have made it one of the most fruitful causes of the subjection of local self-government. It has become a matter of common remark with those who have their interests to serve through this class of legislation, that Albany is the place for them to carry on their operations. But this must cease. With your aid I shall, by every means at my command, resist every description of legislation which affects the local government of this City, and which is not promoted by you for the general good. On this matter we must not permit any compromise—no influence, whatever it may be, to a contrary course, should receive countenance at our hands.

With the view of determining what legislation it may be advisable to promote to secure improvements in the government of the City, I recommend that you avail yourselves of the experience of the heads of the Departments who are familiar with the operations of the Government, and are, therefore, the better able to suggest where improvement can and ought to be effected. The heads of all Departments are allowed by the Charter the privilege of attending your meetings and taking part in your deliberations as to all matters relating to their Departments respectively. This privilege ought particularly to be taken advantage of as to all measures upon which it is considered desirable to have legislative action, and, by following the course indicated, you are not only most likely to promote the interests of the City, in securing the legislation best suited to obtain improvement in the administration of its affairs, but your action will also have a tendency to produce harmonious action among the heads of Departments themselves—which is greatly to be desired.

The Government of this City is a complicated matter, and, in attending to its various interests, unceasing watchfulness is necessary. When to act and how to act in discharge of the duties we are required to perform, are questions to be kept

continually before us; and, relying upon that aid promised to all who, in singleness of purpose and purity of motive, desire to overcome evil with good, I will at all times endeavor so to perform my duty that, under my administration as Chief Magistrate, improvement in the affairs of the City may be secured.

WM. H. WICKHAM, Mayor.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

BOARD OF ALDERMEN.

MONDAY, January 4, 1875, 12 o'clock M.

ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD.

Pursuant to the provisions of section 4 of chapter 335, Laws of 1873, as amended by section 1, chapter 757, Laws of 1874, and section 1 of chapter 515, Laws of 1874, the Aldermen elected at the election held November 3, 1874, now alone constituting the Common Council of the City, appeared in the chamber of the Board, No. 15 City Hall, at 12 o'clock M. precisely, having previously taken and filed the oath of office required by law.

Gen. Joseph C. Pinckney, Clerk of the Common Council, called the members of the Board to order, and read the following certificate from the County Clerk:

STATE OF NEW YORK, CITY AND COUNTY OF NEW YORK.

I, William Walsh, Clerk of the County of New York, do hereby certify that it appears from the statements and declarations of the Board of County Canvassers of the County of New York, duly recorded in my office on November 18, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and seventy-four,

That—

SAMUEL A. LEWIS, JOHN W. GUNTZER, WILLIAM L. COLE, MAGNUS GROSS, SAMUEL B. H. VANCE, and OLIVER P. C. BILLINGS,

by the greatest number of votes, were duly elected Aldermen-at-Large of the City and County of New York.

That—

EDWARD J. SHANDLEY, PATRICK LYSAGHT, and JOHN ROBINSON,

by the greatest number of votes, were duly elected Aldermen for the Fourth Senate District of the City and County of New York.

That—

JOHN J. MORRIS, EDWARD GILON, and GEORGE B. DEANE, Jr.,

by the greatest number of votes, were duly elected Aldermen for the Fifth Senate District of the City and County of New York.

That—

JOSEPH P. STRACK, JOHN REILLY, and CHESTER H. SOUTHWORTH,

by the greatest number of votes, were duly elected Aldermen for the Sixth Senate District of the City and County of New York.

That—

PETER SEERY, ROBERT POWERS, and HENRY E. HOWLAND,

by the greatest number of votes, were duly elected Aldermen for the Seventh Senate District of the City and County of New York.

That—

HENRY D. PURROY, ANDREW BLESSING, WILLIAM H. MCCARTHY, and STEPHEN N. SIMONSON,

by the greatest number of votes, were duly elected Aldermen for the Eighth Senate District of the City and County of New York.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal this 26th day of December, A. D. 1874.

[L.S.]

WM. WALSH, Clerk.

The Clerk then called the roll, and the following members answered to their names:

ALDERMEN

Oliver P. C. Billings, Andrew Blessing, William L. Cole, George B. Deane, Jr., Edward Gilon, Magnus Gross, John W. Guntzer, Henry E. Howland, Samuel A. Lewis, Patrick Lysaght, William H. McCarthy, John J. Morris, Robert Powers, Henry D. Purroy, John Reilly, John Robinson, Peter Seery, Edward J. Shandley, Stephen N. Simonson, Chester A. Southworth, Joseph P. Strack, Samuel B. H. Vance.

By Alderman Gross—

Resolved, That Alderman John Reilly be and he is hereby appointed Temporary Chairman of this Board of Aldermen, for the purpose of organization.

Which was adopted.

Aldermen Gross and Robinson were appointed a Committee to conduct the Temporary Chairman to the Chair;

Who, having performed the duty assigned them, were discharged.

Alderman Reilly, on taking the chair, thanked the members of the Board for the honor conferred upon him in selecting him to preside temporarily over their deliberations.

He then instructed the Clerk to call the roll of members, as provided in section 6 of chapter 335 of the Laws of 1873, when each one was to announce his choice for President of the Board.

Which proceeding resulted as follows:

In favor of Samuel A. Lewis for President—

Aldermen Blessing, Cole, Gilon, Gross, Guntzer, Lysaght, McCarthy, Powers, Purroy, Seery, Shandley, Strack, and Reilly—13.

In favor of Sam'l B. H. Vance for President—

Aldermen Billings, Deane, Howland, Morris, Robinson, Southworth, and Simonson—7.

In favor of Oliver P. C. Billings for President—

Alderman Vance—1.

In favor of John Reilly for President—

Alderman Lewis—1.

Alderman Seery moved that a Committee of two be appointed to conduct the President to the chair.

The Temporary Chairman appointed Aldermen Seery and Vance as such Committee;

Who, having performed the duty assigned them, were discharged.

The President, upon taking the chair, addressed the Board as follows:

It would be affectation if I denied the fact that your action appointing me to preside over your deliberations impresses me with the high compliment you have paid me. I fully appreciate it, and feel grateful for it, and in return shall, with your aid and indulgence, endeavor to so fulfill the duties of the office as to give you no just cause for unfavorable criticism.

Custom has almost made it the duty of his Honor the Mayor to transmit to the Board of Aldermen, on its organization, a message embodying such views and suggestions as he deems proper for its consideration. This obviates the necessity of calling your attention to several subjects which I might appropriately lay before you.

We have been selected by a large majority of our citizens to perform many and important duties, and, although the power of this Board is limited, it is expected to bring to its aid such care, intelligence, and judicious action as to secure strict economy, integrity, and capacity in the various Departments of the City Government. Let us so conduct the office to which we have been elected that our citizens may feel assured that the confidence they have reposed in us is not misplaced, and the trust confided to us rigorously observed.

The problem of developing our City without increased taxation can only be solved by the most careful economy. In this respect we should at least set the various Departments an example.

MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS.

By Alderman Reilly—

Resolved, That Francis J. Twomey be and is hereby elected Clerk to this Board of Aldermen.

Alderman Deane offered the following as a substitute:

Resolved, That Joseph C. Pinckney be and is hereby appointed Clerk of this Board of Aldermen.

The President put the question whether the Board would agree to accept the substitute.

Which was decided in the negative by the following vote:

Affirmative—Aldermen Billings, Deane, Howland, Morris, Robinson, Simonson, Southworth, and Vance—8.

Negative—The President, Aldermen Blessing, Cole, Gilon, Gross, Guntzer, Lysaght, McCarthy, Powers, Purroy, Reilly, Seery, Shandley, and Strack—14.

The President then put the question whether the Board would agree with the resolution offered by Alderman Reilly.

Which was decided in the affirmative by the following vote:

Affirmative—The President, Aldermen Billings, Blessing, Cole, Deane, Gilon, Gross, Guntzer, Howland, Lysaght, McCarthy, Morris, Powers, Purroy, Reilly, Robinson, Seery, Shandley, Simonson, Southworth, Strack, and Vance—22.

By Alderman Lysaght—

Resolved, That James Walsh be and he is hereby appointed Sergeant-at-Arms of this Board of Aldermen.

Alderman Billings offered the following as a substitute:

Resolved, That Frank Keckeissen be and is hereby appointed Sergeant-at-Arms of this Board of Aldermen.

The President put the question whether the Board would agree to accept the substitute.

Which was decided in the negative by the following vote:

Affirmative—Aldermen Billings, Deane, Howland, Morris, Robinson, Simonson, Southworth, and Vance—8.

Negative—The President, Aldermen Blessing, Cole, Gilon, Gross, Guntzer, Lysaght, McCarthy, Powers, Purroy, Reilly, Seery, Shandley, and Strack—14.

The President then put the question whether the Board would agree with the resolution of Alderman Lysaght.

Which was decided in the affirmative by the following vote:

Affirmative—The President, Aldermen Billings, Blessing, Cole, Deane, Gilon, Gross, Guntzer, Howland, Lysaght, McCarthy, Morris, Powers, Purroy, Reilly, Robinson, Seery, Shandley, Simonson, Southworth, Strack, and Vance—22.

By Alderman Purroy—

Resolved, That the Rules and Orders of the late Board of Aldermen, so far as applicable, be and they are hereby adopted as the Rules and Orders of this Board, until otherwise ordered.

The President put the question whether the Board would agree with said resolution.

Which was decided in the affirmative.

By Alderman Cole—

Resolved, That a Committee of Three be appointed to wait upon his Honor the Mayor, and inform him that the Board of Aldermen is now duly organized according to law, and is now prepared to receive any communication he may desire to transmit to this Board.

The President put the question whether the Board would agree with said resolution.

Which was decided in the affirmative.

The President then appointed as such Committee,

Aldermen Cole, Vance, and Gilon.

By Alderman Vance—

Resolved, That a Committee, to consist of three members, be appointed to revise the Rules of this Board.

Alderman Gross offered the following as a substitute:

Resolved, That a Special Committee of Three be appointed by the President of the Board, to revise the Rules and Orders of the Board, adopted September 28, 1870, and amended April 15, 1872, or any further amendments thereto since that time made, with a view of adapting them to the changed condition, obligations, and requirements of this present Board; and that said Committee shall report at the next meeting of this Body.

Resolved, That the aforesaid Committee shall especially and carefully inquire into the fact, whether the Standing Committees, under the present Rules existing, do fully cover the realm over the interests and proper direction of which the Board of Aldermen is called upon to watch, or additional Committees may be required to answer that purpose.

The President put the question whether the Board would agree to accept the substitute.

Which was decided in the affirmative by the following vote:

Affirmative—The President, Aldermen Blessing, Cole, Gilon, Gross, Guntzer, Lysaght, McCarthy, Powers, Purroy, Reilly, Seery, Shandley, and Strack—14.

Negative—Aldermen Billings, Deane, Howland, Morris, Robinson, Simonson, Southworth, and Vance—8.

The President put the question whether the Board would agree with the substitute.

Which was decided in the affirmative.

And the President subsequently appointed as such Committee—

Aldermen Gross, Vance, and Purroy.

By Alderman Morris—

Resolved, That a Committee, to consist of three members, be appointed for the purpose of arranging for such alterations as they may deem necessary in the Chamber formerly occupied by the late Board of Assistant Aldermen; that upon the completion of the work, the said Chamber shall be designated as the Chamber of this Board of Aldermen; and that the Commissioner of Public Works be and he is hereby directed to cause the necessary improvements to be made in said Chamber herein designated, under the direction and supervision of the Committee herein provided.

The President put the question whether the Board would agree with said resolution.

Which was decided in the affirmative.

And the President subsequently appointed as such Committee—

Aldermen Reilly, Morris, and Powers.

Alderman Strack moved that when this Board adjourn it do adjourn to meet again on Thursday next, the 7th inst., at 2 o'clock P. M.

The President put the question whether the Board would agree with said motion.

Which was decided in the affirmative.

By Alderman Morris—

Resolved, That Burton N. Harrison be and he is hereby appointed a Commissioner of Deeds in and for the City and County of New York, in place and stead of James Dollard, Jr., who failed to qualify.

The President put the question whether the Board would agree with said resolution.

Which was decided in the affirmative by the following vote:

Affirmative—The President, Aldermen Billings, Blessing, Deane, Gilon, Gross, Guntzer, Howland, Lysaght, McCarthy, Morris, Powers, Purroy, Reilly, Robinson, Seery, Shandley, Simonson, Southworth, and Strack—19.

The Committee appointed to wait upon his Honor the Mayor, and inform him of the organization of the Board, here appeared, and reported that they had performed the duty assigned them, and that his Honor the Mayor would communicate with the Board in writing immediately.

The report was accepted, and the Committee discharged.

By Alderman Seery—

Resolved, That the officers of this Board, and the compensation or salary of each, shall be as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Position and Per Annum. Includes Clerk, Assistant Clerks, Messenger, Librarian, etc.

The President put the question whether the Board would agree to accept the substitute.

Which was decided in the negative by the following vote:

Affirmative—Aldermen Billings, Deane, Howland, Morris, Simonson, Southworth, and Vance—7.

Negative—The President, Aldermen Blessing, Cole, Gilon, Gross, Guntzer, Lysaght, McCarthy, Powers, Purroy, Reilly, Robinson, Seery, Shandley, and Strack—15.

The President put the question whether the Board would agree with the resolution offered by Alderman Seery.

Which was decided in the affirmative by the following vote:

Affirmative—The President, Aldermen Blessing, Cole, Gilon, Gross, Guntzer, Lysaght, McCarthy, Powers, Purroy, Reilly, Robinson, Seery, Shandley, and Strack—15.

Negative—Aldermen Billings, Deane, Howland, Morris, Simonson, Southworth, and Vance—7.

MESSAGE FROM HIS HONOR THE MAYOR.

The President laid before the Board the following message from his Honor the Mayor:

[For the message, see first page.]

The message from his Honor the Mayor having been read, Alderman Blessing offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the message of his Honor the Mayor be entered at length in the minutes, published in the CITY RECORD, and one thousand copies printed in document form.

The President put the question whether the Board would agree with said resolution.

Which was decided in the affirmative.

By Alderman McCarthy—

Resolved, That the various subjects embraced in the message of his Honor the Mayor, be referred to the appropriate Committee of this Board, when appointed.

The President put the question whether the Board would agree with said resolution.

Which was decided in the affirmative.

(G. O. 1.)

By Alderman Reilly—

Resolved, That the Kingsbridge Road, from the northerly line of One Hundred and Fifty-fifth street, to the Harlem river or Spuyten Duyvil Creek, be regulated, graded, and curbed, the sidewalks flagged four feet in width; and that the roadway be constructed on the Tilford-Macadam plan, according to the specifications for such roadway as constructed on the Boulevard; and that the labor and work required for such regulating, grading, curbing, flagging, and roadway be done by days' work; and that the materials required therefor be procured by the Commissioner of Public Works in such manner as he may deem for the best interests of the City and the property-owners;—all to be done under the direction of the Commissioner of Public Works; and that the accompanying ordinance therefor be adopted.

Which was laid over.

(G. O. 2.)

By Alderman Reilly—

Whereas, A new assignment of the apartments in the City Hall, now occupied by the Mayor and the Boards of Aldermen and Assistants, is rendered necessary, by reason of the needs of the Mayor for more enlarged office accommodations, and the vacation of the apartments occupied by the Board of Assistant Aldermen after January 1, 1875; be it therefore

Resolved, That his Honor the Mayor and the President of the Board of Aldermen be and are hereby authorized to assign and apportion the

different apartments above mentioned to the uses, respectively, of his Honor the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen, and the Commissioner of Public Works be and he is hereby authorized and directed to cause the said apartments to be refitted, refurbished, and altered in such a manner and to such an extent as may be determined upon by the said Mayor and President of the Board of Aldermen, and under their direction and supervision; the expense to be taken from the appropriation for "Public Buildings—Construction and Repairs."

By Alderman Gross— Whereas, By chapter 335 of the law passed April 30, 1873, and entitled "An act to reorganize the local government of the City of New York," in section 5 it is provided "that the Comptroller, the Commissioner of Public Works, the Corporation Counsel, and the President of each Department shall be entitled to seats in this Board, and to notice of its meetings, and shall have the right to participate in its discussions, but in no wise shall be considered as members of this Board, and shall not have the right to vote in it;" and

Whereas, In section 14 of the same act it is further provided that "no additional allowance beyond the legal claim which shall exist under any contract with the Corporation, or with any department or officer thereof, or for any services on its account or in its employment, shall ever be passed by the Common Council, except by the unanimous vote thereof;" and

Whereas, In section 17 of the same act it is further provided that "the Common Council shall have the power to make, continue, modify, and repeal such ordinances, regulations, and resolutions as may be necessary to carry into effect any and all of the powers now vested in or by this act conferred upon the Corporation;" and

Whereas, In section 90 of the same act it is further provided that "whatever provisions and regulations, other than those herein specially authorized, may become requisite for the fuller organization, perfecting, and carrying out of the powers and duties prescribed to any department by this act, shall be provided for by ordinances of the Common Council, who are hereby authorized to enact such necessary ordinances;" and

Whereas, In section 91, section 98, and in other sections of the same act, as well as in various other acts amendatory thereto, and passed subsequently by the Legislature of the State, the powers and duties of this Board are established, spoken of, and referred to in a manner, as not to leave a doubt, that according to the intents of the law-making body at the seat of the State Government, the Board of Aldermen is looked to and expected, and, besides his Honor the Mayor, to a certain extent made responsible for the securing of an able, honest, and economical administration of our municipal affairs in all their different departments, branches, ramifications, and relations; and

Whereas, It seems that this intent and purpose of the law-making power of the State has not yet been carried to its full effect by the ordinances of the Common Council heretofore enacted to this end; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Committee on Law Department, when appointed, be and the same is hereby requested and instructed forthwith to cause a compilation and codification of all the ordinances existing and in force which have a bearing or give direction as to the management of the different Departments and all other branches of the City Government; and, if deemed advisable or necessary, to propose to this Board such other and additional ordinances as, in their judgment, seem to be required to carry into fuller effect the several provisions above cited and alluded to of the act commonly called the "City Charter," and of the acts amendatory to it;

Resolved, That all of the above be referred to the Committee on Law Department, whenever appointed.

The President put the question whether the Board would agree with said preamble and resolution.

Which was decided in the affirmative.

Alderman Lysaght moved that the Board do now adjourn.

The President put the question whether the Board would agree with said motion.

Which was decided in the affirmative. And the President announced that the Board stood adjourned until Thursday next, the 7th inst., at 2 o'clock P. M.

FRANCIS J. TWOMEY, Clerk.

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS.

NEW YORK, January 4, 1875.

The following comprises the operations of the Department of Buildings for the week ending January 2, 1875.

W. W. ADAMS, Superintendent of Buildings.

New Buildings.

No. of plans and specifications filed, etc. 6
No. of buildings embraced in same 16

Table with 2 columns: Description and Count. Includes 'Classified, as follows: First-class dwellings 6, Tenement houses 8, First-class stores 1, Frame buildings (in Upper District) 1, Total 16' and 'Plans passed upon, including those previously filed 12, Approved 11, Disapproved 1, Total 12'.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Count. Includes 'Altered Buildings. No. of plans and specifications filed 10, No. of buildings embraced in same 11' and 'Classified, as follows: French Flats 1, Tenement houses 5, First-class stores 2, Manufactories and workshops 2, Frame buildings 1, Total 11'.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Count. Includes 'Buildings examined and plans relating thereto passed upon, including those previously filed 16, Approved 8, Amended and approved 1, Disapproved 3, Pending 4, Total 16'.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Count. Includes 'Special Applications. Number filed and examinations made 10, Approved 7, Disapproved 3, Total 10'.

Building Operations during the Month of December, as reported by the District Inspectors.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Count. Includes 'New buildings commenced 50, New buildings completed, including those previously reported commenced 82, Alterations to buildings commenced 39, Alterations completed, including those previously reported commenced 58, New buildings in progress 552, Alterations in progress 93'.

ROBERT MCGINNIS, Chief of Bureau.

BUREAU OF VIOLATIONS AND APPLICATIONS.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Count. Includes 'Operations for the week ending Jan. 2, 1875: Complaints received from outside sources 5, Violations of the law reported 6, Unsafe buildings reported 15, Surveys held on unsafe buildings 0, Violation cases sent to the attorney for prosecution 1, Unsafe building cases sent to the attorney for prosecution 0, Violation notices served 5, Unsafe building notices served 27, Buildings surveyed as to general condition 512'.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Count. Includes 'The classification of the unsafe buildings reported is as follows: Unsafe walls 7, chimneys 3, balustrades 3, generally 1, cornice 1, Total 15' and 'Operations during the Month of December, 1874: Unsafe buildings reported 90, Violations of the law reported 100, Surveys held on unsafe buildings 70, Complaints received from outside sources 22, Violation notices served 183, Unsafe building notices served 147, Violation cases sent to attorney for prosecution 24, Unsafe building cases sent to attorney for prosecution 0, Buildings surveyed as to general condition 2,254'.

ANDREW OWENS, Chief of Bureau.

BUREAU OF FIRE-ESCAPES AND IRON WORK.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Count. Includes 'Abstract of operations during the week ending January 2, 1875: Buildings reported for fire-escapes 34, Fire escapes provided 20, Arch girders tested (all approved) 1, Iron beams tested (all approved) 12, Iron lintels tested 0, Notices for fire-escapes served 30, Cases sent to the attorney for prosecution 0' and 'Operations for the month of December, 1874: Buildings reported for fire-escapes 52, Fire-escapes provided 189, Arch girders tested (all approved) 11, Iron beams tested (all approved) 58, Iron lintels tested (all approved) 2, Notices for fire-escapes served 71, Cases sent to the attorney for prosecution 6'.

CHAS. K. HYDE, Chief of Bureau.

Bills Incurred.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes 'To Edwin Dobbs, for services as member Board of Examiners \$60 00, To Henry Dudley, for services as member Board of Examiners 60 00, To John Banta, for services as member Board of Examiners 60 00, To James M. McLean, for services as member Board of Examiners 50 00, To T. Donaldson, for office expenses 38 98, To Ferris & Browne, for repairing maps 60 00, To Bremner & Greene 30 00'.

LAW DEPARTMENT.

OPINION OF THE COUNSEL TO THE CORPORATION.

At the time of the annexation to the City of New York of a portion of the County of Westchester, a litigation was pending, involving the Public Schools of the Town of West Farms. At the request of the Comptroller, the Counsel to the Corporation reviews the facts and the law bearing upon the case, and concludes with advising that officer that the litigation cannot be pursued with advantage to the interests of the City of New York, or of public education in that locality.

LAW DEPARTMENT—OFFICE OF THE COUNSEL TO THE CORPORATION, NEW YORK, Dec. 30, 1874.

HON. ANDREW H. GREEN, Comptroller.

SIR—Your letter to me of the 22d instant acknowledges the receipt of my letter to you of the 16th instant, enclosing a stipulation in the case of The Mayor, etc., v. William H. Wilkins, that no further steps should be taken for the possession of the school property affected by such action until the first Monday of January, 1875. You also state that, considering the uncertain issue of any proceedings which are now pending to set aside the sale under foreclosure, and the great loss which would result in case the same should be sustained, the question arises whether it is desirable to postpone action until such date, and you request me to advise you as to the course to be pursued in this matter, and whether it is proper further to continue the litigation.

As I informed you in my letter of the 16th instant, I had intended to submit this whole matter again to the Board of Education, and take the instructions of that body. Since receiving your letter, however, I have conferred with the Hon. William H. Neilson, the President of the Board of Education, and Albon P. Man, Esq., a prominent member of the Board, and, after such conference and consultation, and with the approval of those gentlemen, I have concluded to advise you to pay the money due under the Wilkins' mortgage, without further litigation. My reasons for giving you such advice are as follows:

Some time previous to the passage of the act annexing to the City of New York the towns of Morrisania, West Farms, and Kingsbridge, the Board of Education of School District No 1, in the town of West Farms decided to erect a new school-house at Fordham. They accordingly purchased a lot and proceeded to erect such building. The Board of Supervisors of the County of Westchester refused to raise money for such purpose; but, by a mandamus issued out of the Supreme Court, were compelled to raise the sum of \$18,000, which was used in building this school-house. In order to raise the further money necessary to complete the same, said Board of Education executed a mortgage to William H. Wilkins upon the lot so purchased and the building which was being erected thereon, as well as upon all the other real property used for school purposes in said district; and said Board, to secure the advances to be made for completing the building, also executed a mortgage to said Wilkins upon all the chattel property used for school purposes in said district. After receiving this security, Mr. Wilkins advanced between thirty and forty thousand dollars, which were used for completing the building. These mortgages became due before the first of January, 1874, when the annexation act took effect, and in December, 1873, Mr. Wilkins commenced a suit to foreclose the mortgage upon such real estate by the service of papers upon said Board of Education, and obtained a judgment in such suit, by default, prior to the first of January, 1874. In the early part of this year this matter was referred by the Board of Education to the Counsel to the Corporation for such action as he might think proper, but without any specific recommendation on the part of the Board as to what that action should be. After such examination as I was able to make, I was inclined to the opinion that any litigation would be fruitless, and the Board of Education at one time adopted a resolution requesting the Board of Apportionment to appropriate sufficient funds to pay the amount due under the mortgage. Subsequently, however, counsel who had been employed by me to examine the subject, advised that an effort should be made to have the judgment in the foreclosure suit opened and the case heard upon its merits; and the Board of Education adopted a resolution authorizing and requesting that such action should be taken. A motion was accordingly made before the Supreme Court, in Brooklyn to open default. That motion was denied, and thereupon, under the decree, a sale was had of the building erected at Fordham, and of all the other real property used for school purposes in the old town of West Farms. The property was bid in by Mr. Wilkins who, however, agreed to assign his judgment if the money due under the

mortgage should be paid within thirty days. A motion for a re-sale having been made, it was denied, unless the money due under the mortgage should be paid on or before the 3d instant. Under the advice of Mr. Killian, the counsel employed by me, and with the approval of Mr. Man, a suit was therefore commenced in the nature of a bill of review, to set aside the judgment obtained by Mr. Wilkins, and a preliminary injunction was obtained restraining him from receiving a deed or taking possession of the property. This injunction, however, was subsequently set aside by the Supreme Court, and thereupon Mr. Wilkins received, and placed on record, a deed of all the property covered by the mortgage, and proceeded to take possession of the new building at Fordham. He also addressed a letter to this Department, stating that he should proceed to take possession of all the other school-houses in said school-district, and of the chattel property used for school purposes; and he also gave notice that, having bought in all the property for a sum much less than that due under his mortgage, he should proceed at once against the City of New York for the deficiency. This was the position of affairs when I received your letter of the 22d instant, and is the position now, the motion for an injunction pendente lite standing adjourned to the first Monday of January, 1875, with the stipulation, on the part of Mr. Wilkins, that, in the meantime, he will take no further steps to obtain possession of the school property. Under these circumstances I deemed it my duty to confer, as above-mentioned, with members of the Board of Education, and to thoroughly examine the questions of fact and law connected with the matter, for the purpose of determining whether any advantage could be derived to the City from continuing this litigation.

The grounds on which it is sought to maintain the suit brought by the City against Wilkins are, so far as I am informed, three in number: First—That there was fraud in the original purchase of the lot upon which the school-house has been erected, and in the execution of the mortgage. Second—That the Board of Education of the Town of West Farms had no authority to execute the mortgage in question. Third—That the City of New York was a necessary party to the foreclosure suit, and that, therefore, the proceedings were void on account of this defect of parties.

With regard to the first, I am satisfied that, whether there was or was not any fraud in the original transaction, no such fraud can be established in a court of justice.

With regard to the second and third points, with great deference to the views of other gentlemen who are inclined to differ somewhat from me, I am clearly of the opinion that neither of them is tenable. Entertaining such views of the matter, I see no course left but to stop the litigation. If it should go on, the following results would happen:

First—Mr. Wilkins would undoubtedly take possession of the other school property, both real and personal, as there is nothing to prevent him, and the schools in what was known as the Town of West Farms would all be closed. This result I regard as certain.

Second—Mr. Wilkins has now the title, not only of the new building at Fordham, but of all the other school property, and, if my views of the law are correct, and the City should fail in the suit which has been brought, the City would not only lose the new building at Fordham, which has cost over \$70,000, but also all the other school property, valued at many thousands more.

Third—The very best result that could be hoped for from proceeding with this suit would be that the judgment obtained by default in the foreclosure suit should be opened and the City allowed to come in and defend the case upon its merits. As I have above stated, I do not think, after careful examination of the matter, that any fraud in the original purchase of the lot or the execution of the mortgage can be established. The only result, therefore, of proceeding in this matter would be an expensive and protracted litigation, and that the City in the end would have to pay the full amount of the mortgage, with interest, costs, and counsel fees. Under these circumstances I do not feel justified in proceeding further with the litigation in this matter, and I accordingly advise you that, if Mr. Wilkins will now accept the amount due him under the decree obtained in the foreclosure suit, you should pay the same to him at once. He must, of course, reconvey to the City the property bid in by him and execute a full release of all claims of every description against the City of New York and the Board of Education of the Town of West Farms. This disposition of the matter meets the approval, as above stated, of Mr. Neilson, the President of the Board of Education, and of Mr. Man.

I am, sir, Yours respectfully, E. DELAFIELD SMITH, Counsel to the Corporation.

Contract Clerk's Office, No. 21. Engineer in charge of Sewers, No. 21. Boulevards and Avenues, No. 18 1/2. Bureau of Repairs and Supplies, No. 18. Lamps and Gas, No. 13. Incumbrances, No. 13. Street Improvements, No. 11. Chief Engineer Croton Aqueduct, No. 11 1/2. Water Register, No. 10. Water Purveyor, No. 4. Streets and Roads, No. 13.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC CHARITIES AND CORRECTION.

Central Office, No. 66 Third avenue, 8 A. M. to 5 P. M. Out Door Poor Department, No. 66 Third avenue, always open entrance on Eleventh street. Free Labor Bureau, Nos. 8 and 10 Clinton place, 8 A. M. to 5 P. M. Reception Hospital, City Hall Park, northeast corner always open. Reception Hospital, Ninety-ninth street and Tenth avenue, always open. Bellevue Hospital, foot of Twenty-sixth street, East river, always open.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

NOS. 127 AND 129 MERCER ST., 9 A. M. TO 4 P. M. Commissioners' Office, Chief of Department. Inspectors of Combustibles, Fire Marshal.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

NO. 301 MOTT STREET. Commissioners' Office, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M. Sanitary Superintendent, always open. Register of Records, for granting burial permits, on all days of the week, except Sunday, from 7 A. M. to 6 P. M. and on Sundays from 8 A. M. to 5 P. M.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC PARKS.

Commissioner's Office, 36 Union Sq., 9 A. M. to 5 P. M.

DEPARTMENT OF DOCKS.

Commissioner's Office, 346 and 348 Broadway, corner Leonard street, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M.

DEPARTMENT OF TAXES AND ASSESSMENTS.

Commissioners' Office, brown stone building, City Hall Park, 32 Chambers street, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M.; on Saturday 9 A. M. to 3 P. M. Surveyor's Bureau, 19 Chatham street, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M. Board of Assessors.

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS.

Superintendent's Office 2, Fourth avenue, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M.

BOARD OF EXCISE.

Commissioners' Office, 299 Mulberry st., 9 A. M. to 4 P. M.

BOARD OF EDUCATION.

CORNER GRAND AND ELM STREETS. Office of the Board, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M. Superintendent of Schools, 9 A. M. to 5 P. M.

COMMISSIONERS OF ACCOUNTS.

Office, No. 32 Chambers street (basement).

COMMISSIONERS OF EMIGRATION.

CASTLE GARDEN. Commissioners' Office, 9 A. M. to 5 P. M. Superintendent's Office, 9 A. M. to 5 P. M.

THE CITY RECORD.

Office, No. 2, City Hall, northwest corner basement, 8 A. M. to 6 P. M.

MISCELLANEOUS OFFICES.

HOURS 9 A. M. TO 4 P. M. Coroners' Office, 40 East Houston street. Sheriff's Office, first floor, southwest corner of New Court-house. County Clerk's Office, first floor, northeast corner of New Court-house. Surrogate's Office, first floor southeast corner of New Court-house. Register's Office, Hall of Records, City Hall Park. District Attorney's Office, second floor, Old Court-house 32 Chambers street, 9 A. M. to 5 P. M.

COMMISSIONER OF JURORS.

Commissioner's Office, New County Court-house, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M.

COURTS.

SUPREME COURT.

General Term, Special Term, Chambers, Circuit Part I, Circuit Part II, second floor, New Court-house, 10 A. M. to 3 P. M.

SUPERIOR COURT.

Part I, Part II, Third floor, New Court-house, 11 A. M. to 4 P. M. Clerk's Office, Third floor, New Court-house, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M.

COMMON PLEAS.

Third floor, New Court-house, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M.

GENERAL SESSIONS.

No. 32 Chambers street, 10 A. M. to 4 P. M. Clerk's Office, 32 Chambers street, room 14, 10 A. M. to 4 P. M.

OVER AND TERMINER.

General Term, Special Term, No. 32 Chambers street, room 11, 9 A. M.

MARINE COURT.

General Term, room 17; Special Term, room 15; Chambers, room 18; 10 A. M. to 3 P. M. Clerk's Office, room 19, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M. No. 32 Chambers street

SPECIAL SESSIONS.

At Tombs, corner Franklin and Centre streets, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, 10 A. M.

JUSTICES' (OR DISTRICT) COURTS.

First District—First, Second, Third, and Fifth Wards, southwest corner of Centre and Chambers streets, 10 A. M. to 4 P. M. Second District—Fourth, Sixth and Fourteenth Wards, No. 514 Pearl street, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M. Third District—Eighth, Ninth and Fifteenth Wards, No. 12 Greenway avenue, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M. Fourth District—Tenth and Seventeenth Wards, No. 163 East Houston street, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M. Fifth District—Seventh, Eleventh and Thirteenth Wards, No. 154 Clinton street, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M. Sixth District—Nos. 289 and 321 Fourth avenue. Seventh District—Nineteenth and Twenty-second Wards Fifty-seventh street, between Third and Lexington avenues, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M. Eighth District—Sixteenth and Twentieth Wards, southwest corner Twenty-second street and Seventh avenue, 9:30 A. M. to 4 P. M. Ninth District—Twelfth Ward, One Hundred and Twenty-fifth street near Fourth avenue, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M. Tenth District—Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth Wards, northeast corner of Third avenue and Southern Boulevard, Harlem Bridge, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M. POLICE COURTS. First District—Fourth, Twentieth, Twenty-fourth, Twenty-fifth, Twenty-sixth, Twenty-seventh, and portion of Sanitary

Precinct, Tombs, corner Franklin and Centre streets, 7 A. M. to 3 P. M. Second District—Eighth, Ninth, Fifteenth, Sixteenth, Twentieth, Twenty-fifth, Thirty-third, Twenty-eighth and Twenty-ninth Precincts, Greenwich avenue, corner of Tenth street, 9 A. M. to 6 P. M. Third District—Seventh, Tenth, Eleventh, Thirteenth, Seventeenth, Eighteenth, and portion of Sanitary Precinct, No. 69 Essex street, 8 A. M. to 4 P. M. Fourth District—Nineteenth, Twenty-first, Twenty-second, Twenty-third and Nineteenth Sub-station, Fifty-seventh street, between Third and Lexington avenues, 8 A. M. to 5 P. M. Fifth District—Twelfth Ward, One Hundred and Twenty-fifth street near Fourth avenue, 8 A. M. to 4 P. M.

SUPREME COURT.

In the matter of the application of the Commissioners of the Central Park for and in behalf of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty of the City of New York, relative to the opening of Eleventh avenue northwardly from the northerly line of the Road or Public Drive to the southerly line of the street leading from Kingsbridge road, near Inwood street, to the Harlem river, near Sherman's creek, in the City of New York.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE COSTS, charges, and expenses incurred by reason of the proceedings in the above-entitled matter, subsequent to the entering of a rule made at a Special Term of the Supreme Court, held at the City Hall, in the City of New York, on the 29th day of July, 1874, referring back to the Commissioners of Estimate and Assessment herein their report for amendment and correction, will be presented for taxation to one of the Justices of the Supreme Court, at the Chambers thereof, in the New Court-house, at the City Hall, in the City of New York, on the 16th day of January instant, at 10 1/2 o'clock in the forenoon.

Dated New York, January 4, 1875. EMANUEL B. HART, SAMUEL A. LEWIS, HENRY A. SMITH, Commissioners.

In the Matter of the Application of the Commissioners of the Central Park, for and in behalf of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty of the City of New York, relative to the opening of Eleventh avenue, northwardly from the northerly line of the road or Public Drive to the southerly line of the street leading from Kingsbridge road, near Inwood street, to the Harlem river, near Sherman's Creek, in the City of New York.

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, COMMISSIONERS of Estimate and Assessment in the above-entitled matter, hereby give notice to the owner or owners, occupant or occupants of all houses and lots and improved or unimproved lands affected by the decision of this Court, made July 29, 1874, by the Honorable Justice Lawrence, in this proceeding, and to all others whom it may concern:

First—That we have completed our amended estimate and assessment in accordance therewith, and that all persons interested in any of the lands affected thereby, and who may be opposed thereto, are required to appear at the office of the Commissioners, No. 82 Nassau street (Room 24), in the City of New York, on the 28th day of December, instant; and that we, the said Commissioners, will hear parties so opposing, within the three days next after the said 28th day of December, and for that purpose will be in attendance at our said office, on each of said three days, from one to three o'clock P. M. Second—That the abstract of the said amended estimate and assessment, together with our maps and other documents which were used by us in making our said amended report, are deposited in our office for the inspection of whomsoever it may concern, there to remain until the 12th day of January, 1875. Third—And that our amended report herein will be presented to the Supreme Court of the State of New York, at a Special Term thereof to be held in the New Court-house, at the City Hall, in the City of New York, on the 18th day of January, 1875, at the opening of the Court on that day, and that then and there, or as soon thereafter as counsel can be heard, a motion will be made that the said report be confirmed.

Dated New York, December 18, 1874. EMANUEL B. HART, SAMUEL A. LEWIS, HENRY A. SMITH, Commissioners.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

HEADQUARTERS FIRE DEPARTMENT, CITY OF NEW YORK, 127 AND 129 MERCER STREET, NEW YORK, January 2, 1875.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT NINE (9) Horses will be sold at auction, to the highest bidder, for cash, on Thursday, the 13th inst., at 10 A. M., at the Hospital Stables, No. 109 Chrystie street. JOSEPH L. PERLEY, ROSWELL D. HATCH, CORNELIUS VAN COTT, Commissioners.

HEADQUARTERS FIRE DEPARTMENT, CITY OF NEW YORK, 127 AND 129 MERCER STREET, NEW YORK, Dec. 28, 1874.

SEALED PROPOSALS FOR FURNISHING THIS Department with the following articles, to wit:— 30,000 lbs. of Hay of the quality and standard known as good sweet Timothy. 15,000 lbs. of good clean Straw. 600 bags of White Oats, 80 lbs. to the bag. 400 bags of fine Feed, 60 lbs. to the bag. All of which is to be delivered to the various company quarters from time to time, and in such quantities as the Department may require—will be received at these headquarters until 12 o'clock, noon, Monday, January 11, 1875, at which time the bids will be publicly opened and read. Two responsible sureties, residents of this city, will be required, who must each justify in the amount of one thousand dollars. Proposals must be indorsed. Proposals for furnishing Forage. Blank proposals and information will be furnished upon application to these headquarters. The Commissioners reserve the right to reject any or all of the proposals submitted.

JOSEPH L. PERLEY, ROSWELL D. HATCH, CORNELIUS VAN COTT, Commissioners.

HEADQUARTERS FIRE DEPARTMENT, CITY OF NEW YORK, 127 AND 129 MERCER STREET, NEW YORK, Dec. 30, 1874.

SEALED PROPOSALS FOR FURNISHING TWO Steam Pumps, with the necessary appliances, for use on the Steam Fire Propeller, which is being built for this Department, will be received at these Headquarters until 10 o'clock, Wednesday, January 13, 1875, at which time the bids will be publicly opened. Two responsible sureties will be required with each proposal, who must each justify in the amount of one thousand dollars. Blank forms of proposals and further information can be obtained upon application at these Headquarters. Proposals to be indorsed as above. The Commissioners reserve the right to decline any and all proposals if deemed to be for the public interest. JOSEPH L. PERLEY, ROSWELL D. HATCH, CORNELIUS VAN COTT, Commissioners.

POLICE DEPARTMENT.

CENTRAL DEPARTMENT OF THE MUNICIPAL POLICE, NO. 300 MULBERRY STREET, PROPERTY CLERK'S OFFICE, ROOM 39, NEW YORK, December 21, 1874.

OWNERS WANTED BY THE PROPERTY Clerk, 300 Mulberry street, Room 39, for the following property, now in his custody without claimants: Lot buttons, two barrels spirits, basket wine, gold and silver watch, bag coffee, ten barrels flour, set harness and blankets, pocket case surgical instruments, truck, bag and contents, two revolvers, six coupons State of Georgia and New Hampshire.

C. A. ST. JOHN, Property Clerk.

POLICE DEPARTMENT—CITY OF NEW YORK, PROPERTY CLERK'S OFFICE, 300 MULBERRY STREET, NEW YORK, December 31, 1874.

OWNERS WANTED BY THE PROPERTY Clerk, 300 Mulberry street, Room 39, for the following property now in his custody without claimants: Bag of wool, lot of male and female clothing, two trunks and contents, four bags and contents, three boxes of raisins, basket of wine, gold and silver watch, kid gloves, seven revolvers, load of furniture, and small amount of money.

C. A. ST. JOHN, Property Clerk.

DEPARTMENT PUBLIC WORKS.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE, 19 CITY HALL, NEW YORK, December 31, 1874.

CONSUMERS OF CROTON WATER ARE hereby notified that the water rents for 1874 are now due, and are payable at the office of the Water Register, Room No. 10, City Hall, from 10 A. M. to 4 P. M. each day. A penalty will be added to all water rents remaining unpaid on the 1st of August.

GEO. M. VAN NORT, Commissioner of Public Works.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE, ROOM NO. 19, CITY HALL, NEW YORK, December 31, 1874.

PROPOSALS, ENCLOSED IN A SEALED ENVELOPE, with the title of the work and the name of the bidder indorsed thereon, will be received at this office, until the 13th day of January, 1875, at 12 o'clock, M., at which time they will be publicly opened and read, for

MASON AND IRON WORK.

required for Constructing a New Roof on Tompkins Market, a building situate on Third avenue, between Sixth and Seventh streets, in the City of New York.

Bidders must be practical mechanics, regularly engaged in the business of performing the special work they propose to do, by their own employees, under their own supervision, without the intervention of a sub-contract, setting forth the sum of money for which they will furnish all the materials and labor, scaffolding, cartage, etc., requisite to perform the work as shown on the plans, and in accordance with the specifications now on file in the office of the Contract Clerk, Room 21, City Hall.

The amount of security required will be \$1,500. The Commissioner of Public Works reserves the right to reject any or all proposals if, in his judgment, the same may be for the best interests of the City. GEO. M. VAN NORT, Commissioner of Public Works.

THE CITY RECORD.

COPIES OF THE CITY RECORD CAN BE OBTAINED at No. 2 City Hall (northwest corner) basement for three cents each.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC CHARITIES AND CORRECTION.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC CHARITIES AND CORRECTION, CORNER OF THIRD AVENUE AND ELEVENTH ST., NEW YORK, December 31, 1874.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH AN ORDINANCE OF THE Common Council "In relation to the burial of strangers or unknown persons who may die in any of the public institutions of the City of New York," the Commissioners of Public Charities and Correction report as follows:

At New York City Asylum for Insane, Ward's Island, December 30, 1874—John Doe, age 27 years; 5 feet 6 1/2 inches high, brown hair, blue eyes. Had on mixed coat, pants and vest, striped shirt, slouched hat. This patient was transferred from City Prison. There has been no person to visit him, nor could any information be obtained of his friends or relatives. No effects found on his person.

By Order, JOSHUA PHILLIPS, Secretary.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC CHARITIES AND CORRECTION, CORNER OF THIRD AVENUE AND ELEVENTH ST., NEW YORK, December 28, 1874.

PROPOSALS FOR COAL FOR OUT-DOOR POOR.

PROPOSALS, SEALED AND INDORSED AS above, will be received by the Commissioners of Public Charities and Correction, at their office, until 10 o'clock, A. M., of the 11th day of January, 1875, at which time they will be publicly opened, for furnishing and delivering free of all expense:

2,000 tons White Ash Stove Coal of the best quality. Each ton to consist of 2,000 pounds, to be well screened, and delivered in such quantities after the 11th day of January, 1875, in such parts of the City, south of Fortieth street, as may be required and ordered from time to time. To be subject to such inspection as the Commissioners may direct, and to meet their approval as to the quality, quantity, time, and manner of delivery in every respect.

The award of the contract will be made as soon as practicable after the opening of the bids. No proposal will be considered unless accompanied by the consent, in writing, of two householders or freeholders of the City of New York, with their respective places of business or residence, to the effect, that if the contract be awarded under that proposal, they will, on its being so awarded, become bound, as sureties, in the estimated amount of fifty per cent. for its faithful performance, which consent must be verified by the justification of each of the persons signing the same for double the amount of surety required. The sufficiency of such security to be approved by the Comptroller.

No proposal will be accepted from, or a contract awarded to, any person who is in arrears to the Corporation upon debt or contract, or who is a defaulter, as security or otherwise, upon any obligation to the Corporation.

Blank forms of proposals and specifications, which are to be strictly complied with, can be obtained on application at the office of the Department.

ISAAC H. BAILEY, EDWARD L. DONNELLY, TOWNSEND COX, Commissioners.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC CHARITIES AND CORRECTION, CORNER OF THIRD AVENUE AND ELEVENTH ST., NEW YORK, Dec. 28, 1874.

PROPOSALS FOR 3,500 TONS OF COAL.

PROPOSALS, SEALED AND INDORSED AS above, will be received from Producers by the Commissioners of Public Charities and Correction, at their office, until 10 o'clock A. M. of the 11th day of January, 1875, at which time they will be publicly opened, for furnishing and delivering 3,500 tons of White Ash Coal of the best quality to be well screened and in good order, and each ton to consist of 2,240 pounds. All of said coal to be delivered in about the following sizes and quantities, free of all expenses, at the following places during the months of January and February, 1875, in such quantities as may be called for.

At Blackwell's Island— 1,400 Tons Grate Size, 100 Tons Stove Size.

At Ward's Island— For Insane Asylum, 375 Tons Grate. For Inebriate Asylum, 125 Tons Grate.

At Randall's Island For Nursery Hospital, 30 Tons Stove Size, " " " 100 Tons Nut Size, " Infant's " 300 Tons Grate Size, " Nursery, 100 Tons Stove Size, " " 100 Tons Nut Size.

At Hart's Island— For Industrial School, 50 Tons Stove Size, " Convalescent Hospital, 40 Tons Stove Size.

At foot of East Twenty-sixth street, East river— For Bellevue Hospital, 125 Tons Grate Size, " " " 75 Tons Stove Size, " " " 200 Tons Nut Size, " Steam Boats, 195 Tons Grate Size.

At Third avenue and Eleventh street— For Central office, 20 Tons Stove Size.

At such points as may be required for the City Prisons— 150 Tons Stove Size.

At Park Hospital— 15 Tons Stove Size.

Proposals to state the particular description of Coal to be delivered as known in the market, from what mine produced, and all particulars to enable the Board to arrive at a proper decision.

The award of the contract will be made as soon as practicable after the opening of the bids. No proposal will be considered unless accompanied by the consent, in writing, of two householders or freeholders of the City of New York, with their respective places of business or residence, to the effect, that if the contract be awarded under that proposal, they will, on its being so awarded, become bound as sureties in the estimated amount of 50 per cent. for its faithful performance, which consent must be verified by the justification of each of the persons signing the same for double the amount of surety required. The sufficiency of such security to be approved by the Comptroller.

No proposal will be accepted from, or a contract awarded to, any person who is in arrears to the Corporation, upon debt or contract, or who is a defaulter, as security or otherwise, upon any obligation to the Corporation.

Blank forms of proposals and specifications, which are to be strictly complied with, can be obtained on application at the office of the Department.

Any information required will be furnished on application at this office.

ISAAC H. BAILEY, EDWARD L. DONNELLY, TOWNSEND COX, Commissioners.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC CHARITIES AND CORRECTION, CORNER OF THIRD AVENUE AND ELEVENTH ST., NEW YORK, December 30, 1874.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH AN ORDINANCE OF THE Common Council "In relation to the burial of strangers or unknown persons who may die in any of the public institutions of the City of New York," the Commissioners of Public Charities and Correction report as follows:

At Fourth District Prison, Fifty-seventh street, December 28, 1874—Charles Davis, age 28 years; resident of Jersey City; was dressed in dark business suit. No further information could be obtained.

At New York City Asylum for Insane, Ward's Island, December 28, 1874—Hugh Mensel, age 38 years, 5 feet 8 inches high; transferred from City Prison June 19, 1872. Had on pepper-and-salt clothing, white unbleached cotton shirt. There has been no person to visit him, nor could any information be obtained of his friends or relatives. No effects found on his person.

At Third District Prison, Essex Market, December 29, 1874—Charles Mosback, native of Germany, age 31 years; was dressed in dark gray pants, dark coat. The above person died one hour and a half after admission. No further information could be obtained.

By Order, JOSHUA PHILLIPS, Secretary.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC CHARITIES AND CORRECTION, CORNER OF THIRD AVENUE AND ELEVENTH ST., NEW YORK, December 29, 1874.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH AN ORDINANCE OF THE Common Council "In relation to the burial of strangers or unknown persons who may die in any of the public institutions of the City of New York," the Commissioners of Public Charities and Correction report as follows:

At Alms-house, Blackwell's Island, December 22, 1874—Michael Bergan; age 63 years; born in Ireland. Had on coat, pants, drawers, two shirts and socks. He stated that he had two sons in the City, but did not give their residence, and that one of them turned him out of his house. No effects found on his person.

At Morgue, Bellevue Hospital, December 25, 1874, from Sixteenth Precinct Station-house—Unknown man, about 25 years of age; 5 feet 7 inches high; light hair; blue eyes. Had on black frock coat, black diagonal striped vest, black pants, blue woolen socks, white shirt, rubber shoes. No effects found on his person.

By Order, JOSHUA PHILLIPS, Secretary.

DEPARTMENT OF TAXES AND ASSESSMENTS.

DEPARTMENT OF TAXES AND ASSESSMENTS, NO. 32 CHAMBERS STREET, NEW YORK, January 2, 1875.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE BOOKS of Annual Record of the assessments upon the Real and Personal Estate of the City and County of New York, for the year 1875, will be open for inspection and revision, on and after Monday, January 11, 1875, and will remain open until the 30th day of April, 1875, inclusive, for the correction of errors and the equalization of the assessments of the aforesaid real and personal estate.

All persons believing themselves aggrieved must make application to the Commissioners during the period above mentioned, in order to obtain the relief provided by law. By order of the Board, ALBERT STORER, Secretary.

DEPARTMENT OF DOCKS.

DEPARTMENT OF DOCKS, Nos. 346 and 348 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, December 26, 1874.

TO CONTRACTORS.

PROPOSALS FOR BUILDING FOUR (4) DECK SCOWS.

SEALED PROPOSALS FOR BUILDING FOUR Deck Scows indorsed as above, and addressed to "Jacob A. Westervelt, President of the Department of Docks," will be received at this office until 11 o'clock A. M., of Monday, January 11, 1875, at which time the bids will be publicly opened and read.

The award of the contract will be made as soon as practicable after the opening of the bids. Any bidder for this contract must be well prepared for the business, and shall give security for the faithful performance of his contract, in the manner prescribed and required by ordinance.

The time allowed for building said Scows is three months from the date of signing of the contract.

Bidders will state in the proposals the price for building said Scows in conformity with the specifications and agreement, by which the bids will be tested. The price is to cover all expenses necessary for the delivery of the Scows and the complete fulfillment of the contract.

Shall the lowest bidder or bidders neglect or refuse to accept this contract within forty-eight (48) hours after written notice that the same has been awarded to his or their bid, he or they shall be considered as having abandoned it, and as in default to the Corporation; and the contract will be readvertised and relet, and so on until it be accepted and executed.

Bidders are required to state in their proposals their names and places of residence; also that the bid is made without any connection with any other person making any estimate for the same work; and that it is in all respects fair, and without collusion or fraud; and also that no member of the Common Council, Head of a Department, Chief of a Bureau, Deputy thereof, or Clerk therein, or other officer of the Corporation, is directly or indirectly interested therein, or in the supplies or work to which it relates, or in any portion of the profits thereof; which proposals must be verified by the oath, in writing, of the party making the estimate, that the several matters stated therein are in all respects true. Where more than one person is interested, it is requisite that the verification be made and subscribed by all the parties interested.

Each proposal shall be accompanied by the consent, in writing, of two householders or freeholders of the City of New York, with their respective places of business or residence, to the effect that if the contract be awarded to the person or persons making the bid, they will, on its being so awarded, become bound as sureties for its faithful performance; and that if said person or persons shall omit or refuse to execute their contract, they will pay to the Corporation any difference between the sum to which said person or persons would be entitled on its completion, and that which the Corporation may be obliged to pay to any higher bidder to whom the contract may be awarded at any subsequent letting; the consent above mentioned shall be accompanied by the oath or affirmation, in writing, of each of the persons signing the same, taken before a Judge of any Court of Record in this county, that each is a householder or freeholder in the City of New York, and is worth the amount of the security required for the contract, over and above all his debts of every nature, and over and above his liabilities as bail, surety or otherwise; and that he has offered himself as a surety in good faith. The adequacy and sufficiency of the sureties offered to be approved by the Comptroller of the City of New York after the award is made and prior to the signing of the contract.

Bidders are informed that no deviation from the specifications will be allowed, unless under the written instructions of the Board of Docks.

No proposal will be accepted from, or contract awarded to, any person who is in arrears to the Corporation, upon debt or contract, or who is a defaulter, as security or otherwise, upon any obligation to the Corporation.

The drawings which will form part of the specifications and agreement can be seen at the office of the Engineer-in-Chief of the Department.

Blank forms of agreement can be obtained upon application at the office of the Department.

JACOB A. WESTERVELT, SALEM H. WALES, WILLIAM BUDD, Commissioners of the Department of Docks.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

OFFICE CLERK OF THE COMMON COUNCIL, No. 8 CITY HALL.

THE STATED SESSIONS OF THE BOARD OF Aldermen will be held in their Chamber, room No. 15, City Hall, on Thursday of each week, at 3 o'clock, P. M.

JOSEPH C. PINCKNEY, Clerk.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, BUREAU FOR THE COLLECTION OF ASSESSMENTS, ROTUNDA, COURT-HOUSE, NEW YORK, December 30, 1874.

NOTICE TO PROPERTY-HOLDERS.

PROPERTY-HOLDERS ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the following assessment list was received this day in this Bureau for collection:

CONFIRMED DECEMBER 10, 1874.

Macadamizing the Sixth avenue, from One Hundred and Tenth street to the Harlem river; also setting curb-stone, and flagging four feet in width through the sidewalks of the same.

All payments made on the above assessment on or before the first day of March, 1875, will be exempt (according to law) from interest. After that date interest will be charged at the rate of seven (7) per cent. from the date of confirmation.

The Collector's office is open daily from 9 A. M. to 2 P. M. for the collection of money, and until 4 P. M. for general information.

SPENCER KIRBY, Collector of Assessments.

CITY OF NEW YORK—DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, BUREAU FOR THE COLLECTION OF TAXES, COURT-HOUSE PARK, 32 CHAMBERS STREET, November 25, 1874.

TO TAXPAYERS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, THAT ONE PER cent. will be added to all taxes unpaid on the 1st of December; also an additional one per cent. on December 15. On all taxes remaining unpaid on January 1, interest at the rate of twelve per cent. per annum, calculated from the date the books were received by the Receiver of Taxes to the day of payment, will be added. No money will be received after 2 o'clock P. M. Office hours from 9 A. M. to 2 P. M.

MARTIN T. McMAHON, Receiver.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, BUREAU FOR THE COLLECTION OF ASSESSMENTS, ROTUNDA, COURT-HOUSE, NEW YORK, November 18, 1874.

NOTICE TO PROPERTY-HOLDERS

PROPERTY-HOLDERS ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the following assessment lists were received this day in this Bureau for collection:

CONFIRMED NOVEMBER 5, 1874.

Regulating, grading, curb, gutter, and flagging Eighty-fourth street, from Boulevard to River Drive.

Regulating, grading, etc., Twenty-fourth street, from Eleventh avenue to Hudson river.

Curb and flagging Tenth avenue, between Forty-sixth and Forty-seventh streets.

Flagging Fifteenth street, south side, between Ninth and Tenth avenues.

Paving Second avenue, from Sixty-third to Sixty-sixth street.

Paving Sixty-fifth street, from Third to Fifth avenue.

Fencing vacant lots on Madison avenue, from Sixty-ninth to Seventieth street, and on Sixty-ninth and Seventieth streets, from Fourth to Fifth avenue.

Fencing vacant lots on west side of Boulevard, between Sixtieth and Sixty-first streets, and on north side of Sixtieth street, 125 feet west of the Boulevard, and on south side of Sixty-first street, 100 feet west of the Boulevard.

Underground drains, between Sixty-second and Sixty-ninth streets, and between Boulevard and Hudson river.

All payments made on the above assessments on or before the 17th day of January, 1875, will be exempt (according to law) from interest. After that date interest will be charged at the rate of seven (7) per cent. from the date of confirmation.

The Collector's office is open daily from 9 A. M. to 2 P. M. for the collection of money, and until 4 P. M. for general information.

SPENCER KIRBY, Collector of Assessments.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, BUREAU FOR THE COLLECTION OF ASSESSMENTS, ROTUNDA, COURT-HOUSE, NEW YORK, November 24, 1874.

NOTICE TO PROPERTY-HOLDERS.

PROPERTY-HOLDERS ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the following assessment lists were received this day in this Bureau for collection:

CONFIRMED NOVEMBER 17, 1874.

Sewer in One Hundred and Thirteenth street, between Third avenue and Harlem river.

Sewer in Eleventh avenue, between Fiftieth and Fifty-first streets, and in Fiftieth street, between Tenth and Eleventh avenues.

All payments made on the above assessments on or before January 23, 1875, will be exempt (according to law) from interest. After that date interest will be charged at the rate of seven (7) per cent. from the date of confirmation.

The Collector's office is open daily from 9 A. M. to 2 P. M., for the collection of money, and until 4 P. M. for general information.

SPENCER KIRBY, Collector of Assessments.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, BUREAU FOR THE COLLECTION OF ASSESSMENTS, ROTUNDA, COURT-HOUSE, NEW YORK, December 18, 1874.

NOTICE TO PROPERTY-HOLDERS.

PROPERTY-HOLDERS ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the following assessment lists were received this day in this Bureau for collection:

CONFIRMED DECEMBER 10, 1874.

Paving Forty-eighth street, from Tenth to Eleventh avenue.

Flagging sidewalks on the south side of Thirty-fourth street, between Lexington and Fourth avenues.

Flagging east side of Lexington avenue, between Thirty-sixth and Thirty-seventh streets.

Flagging north side of Thirty-sixth street, between Lexington and Third avenues.

Flagging Fifty-eighth street, between Fifth and Sixth avenues.

Curb, gutter, and flagging East Eleventh street, between Dry Dock street and East river.

Curb, gutter, and flagging Thirteenth avenue, east side, between Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth streets (half block).

Curb, gutter, and flagging Madison avenue, east side, from Sixty-third to Sixty-fourth street.

Flagging sidewalks in Fifty-sixth street, between Ninth and Tenth avenues.

Regulating, grading, setting curb and gutter stones, and flagging Fifty-sixth street, from Third avenue to East river.

Regulating, grading, setting curb and gutter stones, and flagging Sixty-fourth street, between Ninth and Tenth avenues.

Regulating, grading, setting curb and gutter stones, and flagging Ninety-second street, between Eighth avenue and Boulevard.

Sewers in Lewis street, between Sixth and Eighth streets.

Sewer in Madison street, between Gouverneur and Scammel streets.

Sewer in Tompkins street, between Broome and Delancey streets.

Sewer in Cannon street, between Broome and Delancey streets.

Sewer in Twelfth street, between Fourth avenue and Broadway.

Basin on the northeast corner of Tenth street and Broadway.

All payments made on the above assessments on or before the 16th day of February, 1875, will be exempt (according to law) from interest. After that date interest will be charged at the rate of seven (7) per cent. from the date of confirmation.

The Collector's office is open daily from 9 A. M. to 2 P. M. for the collection of money, and until 4 P. M. for general information.

SPENCER KIRBY, Collector of Assessments.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, BUREAU FOR THE COLLECTION OF TAXES, December 1, 1874.

TO TAXPAYERS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO ALL PERSONS who have omitted to pay their taxes for the year 1874, to pay the same to the undersigned, at the Bureau for the Collection of Taxes, before the 1st day of January, 1875.

On all taxes remaining unpaid on the 1st day of January, 1875, interest at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum will be charged from the day on which the assessment rolls and warrants were delivered to the Receiver of Taxes to the date of payment.

No money will be received after 2 o'clock P. M. Office hours from 9 A. M. to 2 P. M.

MARTIN T. McMAHON, Receiver of Taxes.

DEPARTMENT PUBLIC PARKS.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC PARKS, 36 UNION SQUARE, NEW YORK, Dec. 31, 1874.

PROPOSALS FOR COAL.

PROPOSALS, IN SEALED ENVELOPES, WILL BE received at the office of the Department of Public Parks, until Wednesday, the 13th day of January, 1875, at 9:30 o'clock, A. M., when they will be publicly opened, for five hundred tons of Coal; four hundred tons of which shall be suitable for furnaces, and one hundred tons of which shall be suitable for grates.

All to be delivered on the dock foot of Seventy-ninth street, East river, New York City.

The terms of the contract, settled as required by law, may now be seen, and forms of proposals obtained, at the office of the Secretary, as above.

Proposals must state the particular description of Coal proposed to be delivered.

No proposal will be considered unless accompanied by an obligation, in writing, of two responsible householders or free-holders of the City of New York, their respective places of business or residence being named, to the effect that they will become bound as sureties in the sum of two thousand dollars for the faithful performance of the contract, should it be awarded upon that proposal.

Each proposal must state the name and place of residence of the person making the same; the names of all persons interested with him therein; that it is made without collusion with any other person making an estimate for the same work; and that no member of the Common Council or other officer of the Corporation is directly or indirectly interested therein, or in any portion of the profits thereof.

The Department reserves the right to reject any or all proposals. Proposed sureties must verify their consent before a Judge of a Court of Record in the County of New York.

Proposals must be addressed to the President of the Department of Public Parks, and indorsed "Proposals for Coal."

H. G. STEBBINS, President, PHILIP BISSINGER, DAVID B. WILLIAMSON, THOMAS E. STEWART, Commissioners D. P. P.

WM. IRWIN, Secretary D. P. P.

CORPORATION NOTICES.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE FOLLOWING Assessment Lists have been received by the Board of Assessors from the Commissioner of Public Works:

No. 1. Building underground drain, between One Hundred and Tenth and One Hundred and Twenty-fourth streets, and between Fifth and Eighth avenues.

No. 2. Sewer in Attorney street, between Grand and Broome streets.

No. 3. Sewer in One Hundred and Thirtieth street, between Third and Fourth avenues.

No. 4. Sewer in Avenue B, between Eighty-sixth and Eighty-seventh streets, with branches in Bloomfield and Bogert streets.

No. 5. Sewers in Thirteenth avenue, between Gansevoort and Bloomfield streets, with branches in Bloomfield and Bogert streets.

No. 6. Belgian pavement in Third street, from Goerck street to the pier foot of Third street.

No. 7. Belgian pavement in Fifty-sixth street, between First avenue and the East river.

No. 8. Belgian pavement in Fifty-eighth street, between Third and Fourth avenues.

No. 9. Sewer in Spring street, between Broadway and Crosby street.

No. 10. Basin on northeast corner of Thirty-third street and First avenue.

No. 11. Basin on southeast corner of Thirty-third street and First avenue.

No. 12. Basin on northwest corner of One Hundred and Sixteenth street and St. Nicholas avenue.

No. 13. Flagging south side of One Hundred and Twenty-first street, between First avenue and Avenue A.

The limits to be assessed are embraced as follows, viz.:

No. 1. All the property from One Hundred and Tenth to One Hundred and Twenty-third street, from Fifth to Eighth avenue.

No. 2. Both sides of Attorney street, from Grand to Broome street.

No. 3. Both sides of One Hundred and Thirtieth street, from Third to Fourth avenue, to the extent of half the block at the intersecting streets, and north side of One Hundred and Twenty-ninth street, from Lexington to Fourth avenue.

No. 4. Both sides of Avenue B, from Eighty-sixth to Eighty-seventh street, and both sides of Eighty-seventh street, from Avenue B to Avenue A, and east side of Avenue A, between Eighty-sixth and Eighty-seventh streets.

No. 5. West side of Thirteenth avenue, from Gansevoort to Bloomfield street, and on both sides of Bloomfield and Bogert streets from Tenth avenue and West street to Thirteenth avenue.

No. 6. Both sides of Third street, from Goerck street to the East river, to the extent of half the block at the intersecting streets.

No. 7. Both sides of Fifty-sixth street, between First avenue and East river, to the extent of half the block at the intersecting streets.

No. 8. Both sides of Eighty-eighth street, between Third and Fourth avenues, to the extent of half the block at the intersecting streets.

No. 9. Both sides of Spring street, between Broadway and Crosby street.

No. 10. North side of Thirty-third street, from First avenue to East river, to the extent of half the block at the intersecting streets.

No. 11. All the property in block bounded by Thirty-second and Thirty-third streets, from First avenue to East river.

No. 12. All the property on the northerly side of One Hundred and Sixteenth street, from Seventh to Eighth avenue, and the westerly side of St. Nicholas avenue, from One Hundred and Sixteenth to One Hundred and Seventeenth street.

No. 13. All the property south side of One Hundred and Twenty-first street, between Avenue A and First avenue.

THOMAS B. ASTEN, Chairman.

OFFICE BOARD OF ASSESSORS, 19 Chatham Street, NEW YORK, Jan. 5, 1875.

CORPORATION NOTICE.

SALE OF LANDS FOR UNPAID ASSESSMENTS.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN BY THE UNDERSIGNED, COLLECTOR OF ASSESSMENTS, appointed by the Comptroller of the City of New York, pursuant to provisions of chapter 618 of the Laws of 1873, that payment is required of the several amounts of assessments, interest, and charges upon the lots, premises, and parcels of land, as hereinafter set forth, within sixty days from the date of this notice, to wit: On or before the twenty-sixth day of February, at the office of said Collector, corner of Mott street and Railroad avenue, Tremont, Twenty-fourth Ward, New York City, and if default is made in the payment of the said amounts the property which is the subject of such assessments, as hereinafter described, will be sold at public auction, at the hotel of Lewis H. Combes, on Railroad avenue, near Fifth street, Morrisania, present Twenty-third Ward, New York City, on the Twenty-seventh day of February, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, for the lowest term of years which any person or persons shall offer to take the same, in consideration of advancing the assessments, commissions, interest, charges of notice and advertisement

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO THE owner or owners, occupant or occupants of all houses and lots, improved or unimproved lands, affected thereby, that the following assessments have been completed and are lodged in the office of the Board of Assessors for examination by all persons interested, viz.:

No. 1. For regulating, grading, setting curb and gutter and flagging in One Hundred and Thirteenth street, from Third avenue to the Harlem river.

No. 2. For regulating, grading, curb and gutter and flagging Eightieth street, from Eighth avenue to the River Drive, except between Eighth and Ninth avenues.

No. 3. For curb and gutter and flagging One Hundred and Ninth street, from Third avenue to Harlem river.

No. 4. For setting curb and gutter and flagging north side of Eleventh street, from Avenue D to the East river, also on east side of Avenue D, from Eleventh to Thirteenth street.

No. 5. For curb and gutter and flagging Third street, from Goerck street to the East river.

No. 6. For flagging sidewalks on both sides of Tenth avenue, between Fifty-second and Fifty-third streets.

No. 7. For flagging sidewalks on south side of St. Mark's place, commencing at Second avenue, and running east to No. 48 St. Mark's place.

No. 8. For flagging sidewalks on Fifty-first street, between Tenth and Eleventh avenues, and on north side of Fifty-first street, from Eleventh avenue to Hudson river.

No. 9. For laying Belgian pavement in One Hundred and Thirtieth street, from Eleventh avenue or Boulevard to Hudson River Railroad.

No. 10. For laying Belgian pavement in Eighty-fifth street, from Avenue A to Fifth avenue.

No. 11. For laying Belgian pavement in Twenty-fourth street, from Eleventh avenue to the North river.

No. 12. For laying Belgian pavement in Fifty-second street, between Fourth and Fifth avenues.

No. 13. For laying Belgian pavement in Bank street, between West street and Thirteenth avenue.

No. 14. For laying Belgian pavement in Thirteenth or Exterior avenue, between Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth streets (half the block).

No. 15. For laying Belgian pavement in Thirty-first street, between Fourth and Lexington avenues.

No. 16. For laying Belgian pavement in Eleventh street, from one hundred feet east of Avenue D to the East river.

No. 17. For laying sewer in Lexington avenue, between Sixty-seventh and Sixty-eighth streets.

No. 18. For laying sewer in Fifty-sixth street, between Sixth and Seventh avenues.

No. 19. For laying sewers in Lewis street, between Houston and Sixth streets.

No. 20. For laying sewer in Fortieth street, between First and Second avenues.

No. 21. For fencing vacant lots on Fifty-seventh street, between Fifth and Sixth avenues.

The limits embraced by such Assessment include all the several Houses and Lots of Ground, Vacant Lots, pieces and parcels of Land, situated on

No. 1. Both sides of One Hundred and Thirteenth street, from Third avenue to the Harlem river, to the extent of half the block at the intersecting streets.

No. 2. Both sides of Eightieth street, from the Eighth avenue to the River Drive, to the extent of half the block at the intersecting streets.

No. 3. Both sides of One Hundred and Ninth street, from Third avenue to the Harlem river, to the extent of half the block at the intersecting streets.

No. 4. All the property on east side of Avenue D, from Eleventh to Thirteenth street, to a point one hundred feet east of Avenue D.

No. 5. Both sides of Third street, from Goerck street to East river, to the extent of half the block at the intersecting streets.

No. 6. Both sides of Tenth avenue, between Fifty-second and Fifty-third streets.

No. 7. Property known as Ward No. 3279, in Seventeenth Ward.

No. 8. Both sides of Fifty-first street, from Tenth to Eleventh avenue, and north side of Fifty-first street, from Eleventh avenue to Hudson river, and to the extent of half the block at the intersecting streets.

No. 9. Both sides of One Hundred and Thirty-eighth street, from Eleventh avenue or Boulevard to Hudson river, to the extent of half the block at the intersecting streets.

No. 10. Both sides of Eighty-fifth street, from Avenue A to Fifth avenue, to the extent of half the block at the intersecting streets.

No. 11. Both sides of Twenty-fourth street, from Eleventh avenue to the North river, to the extent of half the block at the intersecting streets.

No. 12. Both sides of Fifty-second street, between Fourth and Fifth avenues, to the extent of half the block at the intersecting streets.

No. 13. Both sides of Bank street, between West street and Thirteenth avenue, to the extent of half the block at the intersecting streets.

No. 14. East side of Thirteenth or Exterior avenue, between Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth streets (half the block).

No. 15. Both sides of Thirty-first street, from Lexington to Fourth avenue, to the extent of half the block at the intersecting streets.

No. 16. Both sides of Eleventh street, from one hundred feet east of Avenue D to East river, to the extent of half the block at the intersecting streets.

No. 17. Both sides of Lexington avenue, from Sixty-seventh to Sixty-eighth street, and east side of Lexington avenue, one hundred feet north of Sixty-eighth street, and north side of Sixty-eighth street to a point two hundred and ten feet easterly of Lexington avenue.

No. 18. Both sides of Fifty-sixth street, from Sixth to Seventh avenue, to the extent of half the block at the intersecting streets.

No. 19. Both sides of Lewis street, from Houston to Sixth street, to the extent of half the block at the intersecting streets.

No. 20. Both sides Fortieth street, from First to Second avenue, to the extent of half the block at the intersecting streets.

No. 21. Both sides Fifty-seventh street, between Fifth and Sixth avenues, to the extent of half the block at the intersecting streets.

All persons whose interests are affected by the above-named assessments, and who are opposed to the same, or either of them, are requested to present their objections in writing to Thomas B. Asten, Chairman of the Board of Assessors, at their office, No. 19 Chatham street, within thirty days from the date of this notice.

THOMAS B. ASTEN, JOHN MCHARG, MUNSON H. TREADWELL, VALENTINE S. WOODRUFF, Board of Assessors.

OFFICE, BOARD OF ASSESSORS, NEW YORK, Dec. 30, 1874.

and all other costs and charges of said sale accrued thereon. Office hours, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M. Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Dated December 24, 1874.

CHARLES CLARK, Collector of Assessments.

Assessment for the Expense of Opening, Widening, and Straightening Third Avenue, in the Town of Morrisania.

(INTEREST FROM APRIL 1, 1874.)

SOUTH MELROSE.

Table with columns: STREET, NO. OF VILLAGE MAP, SIZE OF LOT, NO. OF ASSESSMENT MAP, SIDE OF STREET, NAME, AMOUNT. Lists properties in South Melrose.

NORTH NEW YORK.

Table with columns: STREET, NO. OF VILLAGE MAP, SIZE OF LOT, NO. OF ASSESSMENT MAP, SIDE OF STREET, NAME, AMOUNT. Lists property in North New York.

MELROSE.

Table with columns: STREET, NO. OF VILLAGE MAP, SIZE OF LOT, NO. OF ASSESSMENT MAP, SIDE OF STREET, NAME, AMOUNT. Lists property in Melrose.

NORTH MELROSE.

Table with columns: STREET, NO. OF VILLAGE MAP, SIZE OF LOT, NO. OF ASSESSMENT MAP, SIDE OF STREET, NAME, AMOUNT. Lists properties in North Melrose.

EAST MELROSE.

Table with columns: STREET, NO. OF VILLAGE MAP, SIZE OF LOT, NO. OF ASSESSMENT MAP, SIDE OF STREET, NAME, AMOUNT. Lists property in East Melrose.

BENSONIA.

Table with columns: STREET, NO. OF VILLAGE MAP, SIZE OF LOT, NO. OF ASSESSMENT MAP, SIDE OF STREET, NAME, AMOUNT. Lists property in Bensonia.

GROVE HILL.

Table with columns: STREET, NO. OF VILLAGE MAP, SIZE OF LOT, NO. OF ASSESSMENT MAP, SIDE OF STREET, NAME, AMOUNT. Lists properties in Grove Hill.

MORRISANIA.

Table with columns: STREET, NO. OF VILLAGE MAP, SIZE OF LOT, NO. OF ASSESSMENT MAP, SIDE OF STREET, NAME, AMOUNT. Lists properties in Morrisania.

Assessment for Laying out and opening Broadway and Franklin Avenue, Twenty-fourth Ward, in the Town of West Farms.

(CONFIRMED SEPTEMBER 7, 1870.)

Table with columns: STREET, LAND MAP NO., PLOT NO., NAME OF OWNERS, AMOUNT OF ASSESSMENT. Lists properties in West Farms.

RYER FARM.

Table with columns: STREET, LAND MAP NO., PLOT NO., NAME OF OWNERS, AMOUNT OF ASSESSMENT. Lists properties in Ryer Farm.

EAST TREMONT.

Table with columns: STREET, LAND MAP NO., PLOT NO., NAME OF OWNERS, AMOUNT OF ASSESSMENT. Lists properties in East Tremont.

EAST TREMONT—(Continued).

Table with columns: STREET, LAND MAP NO., PLOT NO., NAME OF OWNERS, AMOUNT OF ASSESSMENT. Lists properties in East Tremont.

SOUTH BELMONT.

Table with columns: STREET, LAND MAP NO., PLOT NO., NAME OF OWNERS, AMOUNT OF ASSESSMENT. Lists properties in South Belmont.

BELMONT.

Table with columns: STREET, LAND MAP NO., PLOT NO., NAME OF OWNERS, AMOUNT OF ASSESSMENT. Lists properties in Belmont.

Assessment for Laying Out and Opening Central Avenue.

(CONFIRMED JULY 6, 1868.)

Table with columns: NAME, COMMISSIONERS' MAP, TOWN MAP, ASSESSMENT. Lists properties in Central Avenue.

Assessment for Laying Out and Opening Central Avenue—(Continued).

Table with columns: NAME, COMMISSIONERS' MAP, TOWN MAP, ASSESSMENT. Lists various property owners and their assessed values.

Assessment for Straightening Central Avenue—(Continued).

Table with columns: NAME, COMMISSIONERS' MAP, TOWN MAP, ASSESSMENT. Lists various property owners and their assessed values.

Assessment for Straightening Central Avenue. CONFIRMED MAY 16, 1870.

Table with columns: NAME, COMMISSIONERS' MAP, TOWN MAP, ASSESSMENT. Lists various property owners and their assessed values.

Assessment for Grading Willis Avenue, between One Hundred and Thirty-eighth and One Hundred and Forty-seventh streets.

(CONFIRMED SEPTEMBER 17, 1872.)

Table with columns: NAME OF STREET, SIDE, NO. OF LOT, SIZE, NAME OF OWNER, AMOUNT OF ASSESSMENT. Lists street names, lot numbers, sizes, owners, and assessment amounts.

Dated December 24, 1874.

CHARLES CLARK, Collector of Assessments.